

**Regular Council Meeting**  
**Monday, April 13, 2026**

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Monday, April 13, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the municipal council chambers.

In attendance were Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Gordon Prost, Florence Newman, Martin Kreger and Brent Helgeson (v).

Giving regrets were Councillors Joel Hagarty and Daniel Armstrong.

Chief Administrative Officer Shara Lavallee recorded the minutes.

**M I N U T E S**

**1) Opening Ceremonies, Moment of Silence, and Salute to the King.**

Mayor Deborah Ewald opened the meeting at 5:48 p.m. with a moment of silence and a salute to the King.

**2) Additions, Deletions or Amendments.**

Motion #26-034 - Gordon Prost – Florence Newman

THAT the agenda be accepted as presented.

Carried

**3) Disclosure of Interest.**

No conflicts were declared.

**4) Presentations/Delegations.**

No delegations were present.

**5) Adoption of Minutes.**

Regular Council March 9, 2026

Motion #26-035 - Gordon Prost – Florence Newman

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of March 9, 2026, be approved as presented.

Carried

Public Meeting March 2, 2026

Motion #26-036 - Martin Kreger – Gordon Prost

THAT the minutes of the Public Meeting of March 2, 2026, be approved as presented/amended.

Carried

Public Meeting April 7, 2026

Motion #26-037 - Florence Newman – Gordon Prost

THAT the minutes of the Public Meeting of April 7, 2026, be approved as presented.

Carried

**6) Financials (as of March 31, 2026)**

Motion #26-038 - Gordon Prost – Martin Kreger

THAT approval be granted for the year-to-date financial statements (as of March 31, 2026) along with the accounts payable for the month of March 2026 which have been paid in the following amounts:

Town General	\$	220,972.18
Water	\$	36,341.31
Sewer	\$	961.91
Cemetery	\$	30.06
RRHCC	\$	3,641.12

Carried

**7) Reports from Unfinished Business.**

There was no unfinished business to report.

**8) New Business – Committee Reports (as needed).**

- a. Public Works/Water & Sewer/Recycling – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Martin Kreger, Brent Helgeson, Gordon Prost (Chair) and Joel Hagarty

Employee Incentive Bonus

Motion #26-039 - Gordon Prost – Florence Newman

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves the Employee Incentive Bonus for Sean Forster in the amount of \$500.00 for successfully challenging the Water Treatment Operator certification exam.

Carried

RFP #21-206 – WTP Generator

Motion #26-040 - Martin Kreger – Gordon Prost

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby awards RFP #21-206, for the replacement of the water treatment plant generator, to Lake of the Woods Electric in the amount of \$579,937.00 CND (taxes not included and retroactive to March 17, 2026).

Carried

- b. Rainy River House/Medical Centre – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Gordon Prost and Daniel Armstrong

By-law 1966-26 – Clinic Lease Agreement

Motion #26-041 - Florence Newman – Gordon Prost

THAT By-law 1966-26, to authorize the municipality to enter into, and to designate signing officers for, the Rainy River Clinic Leasing of Property Agreement with Riverside Health Care Facilities (retroactive to March 11, 2026), having been read in open council, be hereby approved.

Carried

**9) Other Business**

- a. Statutory Indemnification of the Integrity Commissioner

Motion #26-042 - Gordon Prost – Florence Newman

WHEREAS the *Municipal Act, 2001* (Ontario) authorizes municipalities to appoint an Integrity Commissioner to perform statutory duties, including those set out in Part V.1 of the Act;

AND WHEREAS the Integrity Commissioner is required to carry out duties in good faith and in accordance with applicable legislation, bylaws, and codes of conduct;

AND WHEREAS it is in the interest of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River (Town) to provide indemnification to the Integrity Commissioner for actions undertaken in good faith in the performance of statutory duties;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Town shall indemnify and save harmless the Integrity Commissioner, and any person acting under the authority of the Integrity Commissioner, from and against all costs, charges, and expenses, including legal fees, reasonably incurred in connection with any civil, criminal, or administrative action or proceeding arising from the performance or intended performance of their statutory duties, provided that such duties were carried out in good faith.
2. The indemnification provided herein shall be consistent with the provisions of the *Municipal Act, 2001* (Ontario) and any other applicable legislation.
3. The Town may, at its discretion, provide for legal representation for the Integrity Commissioner in respect of any such action or proceeding.
4. This indemnification shall not apply where the Integrity Commissioner is found to have acted in bad faith, engaged in willful misconduct, or failed to act within the scope of their authority.
5. This resolution shall come into force and effect immediately upon adoption.

Carried

b. By-law 1967-26 – Code of Conduct Policy

Motion #26-043 - Gordon Prost – Martin Kreger

THAT By-law 1967-26, to establish a Code of Conduct Policy for the Town of Rainy River, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.

Carried

c. By-law 1968-26 – Provision of Notice

Motion #26-044 - Florence Newman – Martin Kreger

THAT By-law 1968-26, to prescribe the form and manner and times for the provision of notice for the Town of Rainy River, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.

Carried

d. By-law 1969-26 – Recognition Policy

Motion #26-045 - Martin Kreger – Florence Newman

THAT By-law 1969-26, to establish a Recognition Policy for the Town of Rainy River, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.

Carried

e. AORS – Legislation Amendments for Safe Working Conditions for Municipal Workers/Public Works Professionals

Motion #26-046 - Florence Newman – Martin Kreger

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Association of Ontario Road Supervisors (AORS) request regarding municipal staff that have, been subjected to abusive and aggressive behaviour from members of the public; and their efforts to advance measures that will strengthen protections for municipal workers and contractors; and that the province and municipalities will work together to better safeguard the individuals who work tirelessly to maintain critical services and keep our communities functioning safely.

Carried

f. Emo – Tax Rate for Railway Rights-of-Way Per Tonne-Mile Concept

Motion #26-047 - Martin Kreger – Florence Newman

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of Emo in their resolution to call upon the Minister of Finance of the Province of Ontario to undertake ongoing consideration of municipal taxation for railroad rights-of-way properties based on a per tonne-mile concept.

Carried

g. Emo – Provincial Libraries Operating Grant

Motion #26-048 - Florence Newman – Martin Kreger

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby supports the Township of Emo in their resolution to urge the Provincial Government to support the increase of the Public Library Operating Grant (PLOG) and to restore the PLOG to present-day value, addressing the impact of inflation, rising costs of living, and other pressures accumulated over more than 25 years.

Carried

h. RRFDC Request for Financial Support/Per Capita Contribution for 2026-27

Motion #26-049 - Martin Kreger – Florence Newman

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves the payment of per capita funding for 2026-2027 to the Rainy River Future Development Corporation (RRFDC) in the amount of \$5,264.00 (which represents a \$7.00 per capita contribution based on a population of 752).

Carried

i. Use of Corporate Resources for Municipal Elections Policy Review

The policy was reviewed and there were no changes required besides the standard updates.

**10) Confirming By-law.**

By-law 1970-26 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

Motion #26-050 - Florence Newman – Martin Kreger

THAT By-law 1970-26, to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of April 2026, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.

Carried

**11) Next Meeting – Monday, May 11, 2026.**

**12) Adjournment.**

Motion #26-051 - Martin Kreger – Florence Newman

THAT there being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Carried

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Mayor

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Chief Administrative Officer