

Regular Council Meeting
Monday, May 11, 2026

The regular monthly meeting of the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River was held on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. in the municipal council chambers.

In attendance were Mayor Deborah Ewald and Councillors Gordon Prost, Florence Newman, Daniel Armstrong and Brent Helgeson.

Giving regrets were Councillors Joel Hagarty and Martin Kreger.

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 5:35 p.m. with a moment of silence and a salute to the King.

2) Additions, Deletions or Amendments.

Addition Library Levy Letter (9c)

Motion #26-052 - Gordon Prost – Florence Newman

THAT the agenda be accepted as amended.

Carried

3) Disclosure of Interest.

No conflicts were declared.

4) Presentations/Delegations.

No delegations were present.

5) Adoption of Minutes.

Regular Council April 13, 2026

Motion #26-053 - Brent Helgeson – Gordon Prost

THAT the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of April 13, 2026, be approved as presented.

Carried

Public Meeting April 13, 2026

Motion #26-054 - Gordon Prost – Florence Newman

THAT the minutes of the Public Meeting of April 13, 2026, be approved as presented.

Carried

6) Financials (as of April 30, 2026)

Motion #26-055 - Brent Helgeson – Gordon Prost

THAT approval be granted for the accounts payable for the month of April 2026 which have been paid in the following amounts:

Town General	\$	279,795.68
Water	\$	32,427.49
Sewer	\$	2,323.18
Cemetery	\$	2,030.00
RRHCC	\$	691.62

Carried

7) Reports from Unfinished Business.

There was no unfinished business to report.

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

a. By-law 1971-26 – Debentures (OILC) – Second Street Refurbishment

Motion #26-056 - Gordon Prost – Florence Newman

THAT By-law 1971-26, to authorize long-term borrowing pursuant to the issue of debentures to Ontario Infrastructure and Lands Corporation ("OILC") in the principal amount of \$546,328.75 towards the cost of the capital work(s) for the Second Street Refurbishment, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.

Carried

b. Insurance Policy Renewal

Motion #26-057 - Brent Helgeson – Gordon Prost

THAT the Town Council of The Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby accepts the proposal for general insurance and risk management services as submitted by Westland Insurance Group Ltd. in the following amounts all pro-rated for an 18-month term (plus applicable taxes):

- Total Policy Premium of \$236,284, and
- CFC Cyber Renewal of \$5,575 (incl. CFC Fee).

Carried

- c. Property/By-laws/AMBIS – Mayor Deb Ewald and Councillors Brent Helgeson, Gordon Prost (Chair) and Joel Hagarty

AMBIS CBO Remuneration

Motion #26-058 - Florence Newman – Brent Helgeson

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves an increase submitted by the AMBIS Committee of 1.88% to the Chief Building Official's (CBO) remuneration, as evidenced in the published CPI 2025 Ontario Index from Statistics Canada, and attached herewith, to be effective, May 1st, 2026.

Carried

By-law 1972-26 – Misc. User Fees Amendment for Building Fees

Motion #26-059 - Daniel Armstrong – Brent Helgeson

THAT By-law 1972-26, to amend the Misc. User Fees By-law (Section 2 - Property Services), having been read in open council, be hereby approved.

Carried

Updates will be made to the website etc. to reflect these changes.

By-law 1973-26 – Zoning By-law Amendment for Minimum Residential Lot Size in Urban Areas

Motion #26-060 - Daniel Armstrong – Florence Newman

THAT By-law 1973-26, to amend Zoning By-law 1614-15, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.

Carried

Updates will be made to the website etc. to reflect these changes.

9) Other Business

a. Flag Design

Motion #26-061 - Daniel Armstrong – Brent Helgeson

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves the new flag design for the Town of Rainy River as attached.

Carried

A design selected needs the date amended and quotes should be sought for flags and fridge magnets.

b. Recreation Board Support/Permission Letter – EASE Grant Project

Motion #26-062 - Florence Newman – Daniel Armstrong

THAT the Town Council of the Corporation of the Town of Rainy River hereby approves a letter of support and permission to the Rainy River Recreation Board for the Community Ballpark Accessibility Improvements project under the EASE Grant (Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone).

Carried

c. Library Levy

Discussion of the levy increase request was tabled until the June Committee of the Whole meeting.

10) Confirming By-law.

By-law 1974-26 to Confirm the Proceedings of Council

Motion #26-063 - Daniel Armstrong – Brent Helgeson

THAT By-law 1974-26, to confirm the proceedings of Council at its meeting held on the 11th day of May 2026, having been read in open council, be hereby approved.

Carried

11) Next Meeting – Monday, June 8, 2026.

12) Adjournment.

Motion #26-064 - Daniel Armstrong – Brent Helgeson

THAT there being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Carried

Mayor

Chief Administrative Officer