

CITY OF GRAND FORKS COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS MAY 3, 2021



Settle down.

#1. STREET VENDORS



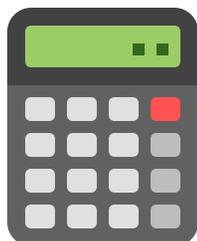
Council directed staff to develop regulations pertaining to street vendors on both public and private property. These regulations will not apply to this year's Market Avenue closure, which is being co-ordinated by the Downtown Business Association. There has been a significant increase in requests from vendors to participate in events as well as to sell their goods on public property throughout the community. Council will be discussing these new regulations during their May 17 meeting.

#2. AFTER-HOURS ANSWERING SERVICE



Staff presented a new answering service using a single phone number as a point of contact for all after-hours needs. Call center staff will dispatch the request to the correct City department, ensuring calls are received and the correct information is collected. This approach will eliminate the need for citizens to determine which after-hours number to call.

#3. TAX RATES



Per the Community Charter, Council adopted the 2021 Tax Rates Bylaw No. 2079, which sets the tax rates for municipal revenue and the amounts to be collected on behalf of other local governments or public bodies (Regional District, Schools, Hospital). The City's mill rate (tax rate per \$1,000 assessed value) dropped this year, but due to increased property assessments and requisitions from other services, 2021 shows an average 2% increase over 2020 tax notices, bringing the expected tax revenue to \$3,959,028. The average municipal tax on a median \$272,000 residential property will be approximately \$1,244, up \$34.13 from 2020 where median residential property values were \$253,000.

#4. ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT



Council approved development permit 2104 to allow a single family residential home to be built on 6th St with a reduced setback requirement from the rear property line. Council also gave third reading to Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 2039-A18 which, if approved, would re-zone an existing property from R1 (Single and Two-Family Residential) to R3 (Multi-Family Residential). This amendment brings an existing use into zoning compliance. Council further approved the Planning and Development team to pursue a grant opportunity that would fund an update to some planning and development processes.

The above are only a few of the things accomplished at the last meeting.

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Agenda & Video

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