

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**Wednesday, February 17, 2016**

**PRESENT:**

MAYOR FRANK KONRAD  
COUNCILLOR JULIA BUTLER  
COUNCILLOR CHRIS HAMMETT  
COUNCILLOR COLLEEN ROSS  
COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
CORPORATE OFFICER  
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
(during tax sale resolution)

D. Allin  
D. Heinrich  
R. Shepherd

GALLERY

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- a) The Mayor called the meeting to order at 1:17 PM

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**2. ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA**

- a) Adoption of the Special Meeting Agenda for February 17th, 2016

MOTION: BUTLER / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT February 17th, 2016 Special Meeting be adopted as presented.**

CARRIED.

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**3. REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

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**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Corporate & Administrative Services - 2016 AKBLG Resolutions

MOTION: THOMPSON / HAMMETT

**RESOLVED THAT Council receives, discusses and adopts the final resolutions, as presented or modified thereof, and further directs Staff to submit those resolutions, prior to the deadline of February 26th, 2016, as adopted by City Council, to the Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments (AKBLG) for those members' consideration and vote at the AKBLG Annual General Meeting held in April 2016.**

CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON / HAMMETT

**RESOLVED THAT Mr. Barry Brandow, who is in the gallery, be allowed to speak with regard to the Gilpin Grassland resolution.**

CARRIED.

MOTION: HAMMETT / THOMPSON

**WHEREAS the Class A Gilpin Grasslands Provincial Park has two roles: the primary role being to protect a remnant grassland and ecosystem and an uncommon riparian area along the Kettle River; and, a secondary role being to maintain low impact recreation and interpretive opportunities within a scenic area of the Kettle River Valley; and**

**WHEREAS the BC Parks document titled Gilpin Grasslands Provincial Park: Management Direction Statement 2009 provides that ongoing consultation with the City of Grand Forks is required to ensure local community needs are considered, and where appropriate, addressed within the management of Gilpin Grasslands Provincial Park, and that such consultation has never occurred;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM encourages BC Parks follow their own mandate and engage in consultations with the City of Grand Forks, and other communities throughout BC as needed, relative to community needs being considered and appropriately addressed within the management of Gilpin Grasslands Provincial Park and similar areas throughout the province that need protecting from livestock.**

CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON / ROSS

**WHEREAS IN 1988, the Province surveyed Municipal Tax Collectors to obtain information on the effectiveness of Tax Sale and comments on the process, and**

**WHEREAS the Tax Sale process is both onerous and costly to municipalities;**

**BE IT RESOLVED that the Province of British Columbia be requested to conduct a survey of Municipal Tax Collectors in 2016 to obtain current information on the effectiveness of Tax Sale and their comments in the process.**

CARRIED.

Councillor Thompson asked if the Chief Financial Officer could provide a "fan-out" to BC Tax Collectors for them to provide comments with regard to her resolution and the tax sale process, and further if the Chief Financial Officer could provide information to Councillor Thompson on what the actual cost was to the City with regard to the Court case on the tax sale property that was located on Highway #3 a few years ago.

MOTION: BUTLER / ROSS

**WHEREAS the privatization of water resources and infrastructure is becoming commonplace worldwide and;**

**WHEREAS privatization can lead to decreased access for the public, increased prices and decreased product and service quality;**

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT the City of Grand Forks requests the Provincial and Federal Governments to take steps to protect the aquifers, surface water and public water/waste water infrastructure of BC from purchase by private corporate interests.**

CARRIED.

MOTION: ROSS / HAMMETT

**WHEREAS forestry activities surrounding our municipalities can have direct and deleterious impact on municipal watersheds by accelerating spring runoff, increasing erosion and sediment from forest service roads and clear cutting, increasing risk of flooding downstream, reducing summer water levels in lakes and rivers and directly impacting water supply and water quality in municipalities, and**

**WHEREAS communities and regional district citizens often are not aware of proposed logging plans in their watershed, and there is no legal requirement for forest licensees (including BC Timber Sales) to consult with or seek approval from local municipalities prior to implementing their annual road building and harvesting operations;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ministry of Forest, Lands and Natural Resource Operations require all licensees to widely advertise in print and online, of all of their (Forest Stewardship Plan) FSP's, and actively solicit public and local government input so that all parties have an opportunity to bring forth their concerns, before specific forest harvesting planning and layout begin, and that no less than 60 days be given for the consultation process.**

CARRIED.

MOTION: ROSS / BUTLER

**WHEREAS** the forestry industry provides important employment throughout the province, and long term employment stability is essential, and requires a long term plan for timber harvesting in order to create stable employment, and

**WHEREAS**, the allowable annual cut (AAC) may be too high over the long term, and at the current rate, forests are being logged too quickly;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the methodology by which allowable annual cut is determined, and approved by the Chief Forester under the Forest Act, be re-evaluated so that stable, long term employment be assured and watershed and wildlife spaces be protected.

CARRIED.

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5. **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS**

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6. **REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE**

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7. **BYLAWS**

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8. **LATE ITEMS**

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9. **ADJOURNMENT**

- a) The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 PM

MOTION: BUTLER

**RESOLVED THAT** meeting be adjourned at 2:26 PM


CARRIED.

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**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
MAYOR FRANK KONRAD

  
CORPORATE OFFICER - DIANE HEINRICH