

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

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2014.**

**PRESENT:**

MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR  
COUNCILLOR BOB KENDEL  
COUNCILLOR NEIL KROG  
COUNCILLOR PATRICK O'DOHERTY  
COUNCILLOR CHER WYERS

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
CORPORATE OFFICER

D. Allin  
D. Heinrich

GALLERY

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

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**Amendments to the Agenda:**

- Referred from the Committee of the Whole meeting of January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014, with regard to the presentation made by Jim Gustafson regarding the West Kootenay Hospital Survey questions
- Approve staff's request for an additional COTW meeting on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014, at 9:00 am

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

- a) Adoption of the January 27th, 2014 Regular meeting agenda.

**MOTION: O'DOHERTY / KENDEL**

**RESOLVED THAT THE JANUARY 27TH, 2014 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.**

CARRIED.

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**MINUTES**

- a) Regular Meeting Minutes from January 13th, 2014

**MOTION: KENDEL / O'DOHERTY**

**RESOLVED THAT THE JANUARY 13TH, 2014 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.**

CARRIED.

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**REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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**REPORTS, QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (VERBAL)**

Corporate Officer's Report - Verbal Reports of Council

- a) Members of Council may ask questions, seek clarification and report on issues.

Councillor O'Doherty

He reported that:

- He attended on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, a Water Meter Open House hosted by the City and advised that the event produced a great turn out
- He advised that the Border Bruins are still in the hockey playoffs to date
- He advised the GFI organization is getting ready for this year's GFI scheduled for the end of June

Councillor Wyers

She reported that:

- She provided information regarding her absenteeism from the December 16<sup>th</sup> Council meeting advising that her father had passed away; she further thanked City Staff for the beautiful flower arrangement and the kind words expressed at this difficult time.
- On January 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, she reported her attendance at an AKBLG executive meeting in Cranbrook where the group met with Minister Coralee Oakes. She spoke with regard to the White Paper with regard to the upcoming Election and that local government feedback is welcomed until the end of January. She further advised that the next election term may be for four years, but that it has to go to the legislative table prior to the approval of the extended time line.
- She reported on her attendance on January 9<sup>th</sup> to a Boundary Restorative Justice Society meeting
- On January 11<sup>th</sup>, she reported her attendance to the Story of Food information session hosted by the Boundary Regional Agricultural Society.
- On January 15<sup>th</sup>, she advised of her participation at an air quality webinar hosted by the Ministry Of Environment. The stakeholders included the BC Lung association and the topic was "managing wood smoke in BC".

- On January 16<sup>th</sup>, Councillor Wyers reported on her attendance at a Kettle River Water Shed management Advisory Group, and further advised on her attendance to the Border Bruin fundraiser held at the Gem theatre
- On Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>, she reported her participation at the Water Meter open house and advised that she was pleased to see the amount of public who showed up
- She attended an overview of the Head Start program on December 12<sup>th</sup> regarding the asset needs assessment. Members of the group attended via skipe including the girls from our area. The girls had to go out in the community to conduct interviews and ask a set of specific questions. This group met again on January 10th to evaluate their responses from the interviews.
- She reported on her participation to the Dog Sled races at Jewel Lake this last weekend and that she was the MC for the event. She advised that there were 18 teams registered and 15 teams completed the course. She commented that the event was an outstanding success.

#### Councillor Kendel

He reported that:

- He reported on his attendance on January 14<sup>th</sup> to a monthly meeting of the Boundary Museum and Interpretive Center, and advised they are excited about their future contribution in assisting with some of the design elements of restoring City Hall.
- On January 22<sup>nd</sup> he reported his attendance to the City's Water Meter Open House and advised that there were a lot of meaningful conversations that evolved.
- He asked if Staff could come up with a couple of items for swag packages for the Samboree participants such as City Pins or possibly camping coupons.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the city would work with the Boundary Regional Chamber of Commerce to develop something for the participants of the Samboree.

#### Councillor Krog

He reported that:

- On January 22<sup>nd</sup>, he reported on his attendance at the City's Water Meter Open house and advised that there were a lot of different questions with regard to water usage on lawns, yards and pools.
- He reported on his attendance on January 24<sup>th</sup> to a Family Literacy Day in conjunction with the Writer's Guild Society, where people stood up and told stories about their families

#### Mayor Taylor

He reported that:

- He advised that the Mayor's Hwy 3 Coalition Meeting last week was very interesting and that the Ministry of Transportation was in attendance. At the meeting, it was identified that highway from Princeton through to Manning park was one of the next big projects, in addition to lots of work at the Hwy 33 turnoff at Big White was been planned for.
- He advised that Marguerite Rotvold is the Chair of the West Kootenay Hospital Board.

- He spoke with regard to the Animal Control program and commented that it was nice to see the Regional representation today at the Committee of the Whole along with the commissioners. He advised that the City may need to consider taking the three dog limit out of our bylaws.

**MOTION: KENDEL / WYERS**

**RESOLVED THAT THE VERBAL REPORTS GIVEN BY COUNCIL BE RECEIVED.**  
CARRIED.

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**REPORT FROM COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY**

- a) Corporate Officer's Report- Verbal Report from the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary
- The Mayor advised that the Regional District was doing some reorganization and that Mark Andison is second in command at an administrative level.
  - The Mayor advised that budget meeting is ensuing tomorrow morning with regard to our shared services with the Regional District, and that Roxanne Shepherd will also be in attendance at that meeting.
  - The Mayor advised that there was a Rural Development Institute Meeting and that he wasn't able to attend, but advised that he does have the package of information with regard to the meeting

**MOTION: KROG / O'DOHERTY**

**RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY, GIVEN VERBALLY AT THIS MEETING, BE RECEIVED.**  
CARRIED.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS**

- a) Verbal Report and PowerPoint Presentation from the Chief Administrative Officer with regard to a short overview of the successes and changes in 2013.

**MOTION: O'DOHERTY / KENDEL**

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVE THE PRESENTATION FROM THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER WITH REGARD TO THE 2013 CITY OVERVIEW.**  
CARRIED.



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**REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE**

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**INFORMATION ITEMS**

- a) Grand Forks International Baseball Tournament

**MOTION: O'DOHERTY / KROG**

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE ISSUING OF A SPECIAL OCCASION LIQUOR LICENSE TO THE GRAND FORKS INTERNATIONAL FOR THE SIX DAY EVENT FROM JUNE 25TH, 2014 - JUNE 30TH, 2014 AT THE JAMES DONALDSON PARK SUBJECT TO THE GFI OBTAINING THIRD PARTY (PARTY ALCOHOL) LIABILITY INSURANCE, NAMING THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS AS AN ADDITIONAL INSURED ON THAT POLICY FOR THE SIX DAY EVENT; ALL GFI LIQUOR PROVIDERS TO HOLD A SERVING IT RIGHT LICENSE CERTIFICATE; AND ICBC "DRINKING AND DRIVING" WARNING POSTERS TO BE DISPLAYED.**

CARRIED.

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- b) Correspondence from the AKBLG – Last call for resolutions is February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Councillor Krog advised that he had a couple of resolutions for consideration; Councillor Wyers advised that the deadline is February 10<sup>th</sup>, but that Council could ask the AKBLG for an extension to address and consider the resolutions at the February 11<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting since February 10<sup>th</sup> is a Statutory Holiday. Councillor Krog advised that he would send out the proposed resolutions beforehand, for Council's consideration.

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- c) Correspondence from the District of Invermere – Correspondence to the Province with regard to a request for assistance to legal fees with regard to the Deer issue their community had. RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION.

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- d) From Michelle Caskey of the BC Lung Association - Thank you to the City. RECEIVE FOR INFORMATION

**MOTION: O'DOHERTY / WYERS**

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVE THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION ITEMS AS PRESENTED.**

CARRIED.

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**BYLAWS**

- a) Chief Financial Officer - Bylaw No. 1993, Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw

**MOTION: O'DOHERTY / KROG**

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL GIVE THE FINAL READING TO BYLAW NO. 1993 - ELECTRICAL UTILITY REGULATORY AMENDMENT BYLAW.**

**CARRIED.**

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- b) Chief Financial Officer - Bylaw No. 1994, Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw

**MOTION: KENDEL / WYERS**

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL GIVE THE FINAL READING TO BYLAW NO. 1994 - THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS REVENUE ANTICIPATION BORROWING BYLAW - 2014.**

**CARRIED.**

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**LATE ITEMS**

**MOTION: KENDEL / WYERS**

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL SUPPORT THE REQUEST WITH REGARD TO THE PRESENTATION MADE BY JIM GUSTAFSON AND THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO PROVIDE FEEDBACK FOR COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION WITH REGARD TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN QUESTIONS WITH CONSULTATION FROM THE INTERIOR HEALTH AUTHORITY.**

**CARRIED.**

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**MOTION: O'DOHERTY / KENDEL**

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVE STAFF REQUEST FOR AN ADDITIONAL COTW MEETING ON FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2014 AT THE JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR MEETING.**

**CARRIED.**

**QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA**

FRANK TRIVERI – Advised that he has been a residence at Grand Forks since 1972. He advised that the school system does have discussions with regard to all levels of government in the education program.

He advised that he would like to impose some questions with regard to Water Meters:

- Is it Council's policy not to acknowledge correspondence from residents? He was advised that he was sent an invitation to the Water Meter Open House and responded that he did receive the invitation
- He asked what the cost was of the Water Meter installation. He was advised that the request for proposals will be going out to tender, and that funds are coming from Gas Tax funds and the total cost is yet undetermined.
- He asked why Council didn't go for a referendum to the Public on water meters? He was advised that the project is for the protection of the aquifer and that this is a process doesn't usually go as a referendum question.
- If it's desirable to have user pay, is it not desirable to have user pay for other services, for example, garbage services? The CAO spoke with regard to another local government who bases garbage collection on weight, but advised that this process comes at a cost.
- He asked if there will be any differentiation in water rates based on lot size? He was advised that the establishment of water rates will be a long process and that the information will be provided to the public in an ongoing basis. Mr. Triveri asked that Council considers these variables.

LARRY PODMOROFF – He advised that residents have three billings for water presently. The Mayor advised that residents will be able to measure their water usage during the mock billing.

DONNA SEMENOFF – She advised that she appreciates Council's efforts on conservation initiatives. Her concern is health and the radiation water meters can potentially give off. Second area of concern is gardens and concerns about food costs and food security. Thirdly, she has concerns about the potential increasing prices of water down the road and the international demand of water that could drive the price of our water up. She advised, in the USA, they charge equal for sewage as they charge their residents for the usage of water. She asked about the placement of small pipes when Grand Forks plans to increase its population and how smaller pipes relate to fire protection, and why does the City have larger pipes now.

She advised that she is asking for a motion to repeal the installation of water meters and that the water meters should be put on the ballot during the election.

The Mayor asked Council if they would entertain a motion to repeal the installation of water meters; hearing none – no motion was put on the table.

The CAO addressed some of her questions with regard to fire flow and radiation coming from meters.

CHRISTINE THOMPSON – She advised Council at the COTW meeting on how she was impressed with the budget process of this AM. She encouraged members of the public to attend all of these meetings.

JULIA BUTLER – Had concerns with water meters and her business of landscaping. She said that Council is being strong armed by the Province with regard to loss of grants if the City does not put in water meters. Concerns with the future imposed rates that would be afforded the residents.

LES JOHNSON – Advised that the people from the Province hear the concerns of the people.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

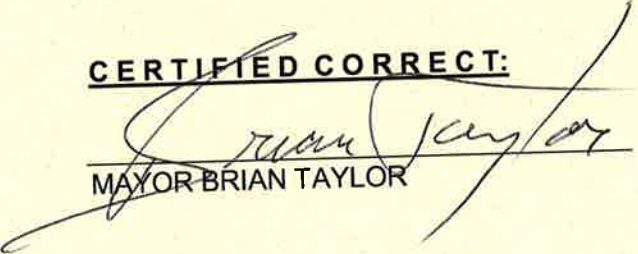
**MOTION: O'DOHERTY**


**RESOLVED THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 9:10 PM**

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**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR

  
CORPORATE OFFICER- DIANE  
HEINRICH