

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 2ND, 2014

PRESENT: MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR
 COUNCILLOR BOB KENDEL
 COUNCILLOR NEIL KROG
 COUNCILLOR PATRICK O'DOHERTY
 COUNCILLOR GARY SMITH
 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN
 COUNCILLOR CHER WYERS

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	D. Allin
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	R. Shepherd
CORPORATE OFFICER	D. Heinrich
MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING	S. Bird
DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER	S. Winton
MANAGER OF BUILDING AND BYLAW SERVICES	W. Kopan
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS	R. Huston

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:00 am

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

Adopt agenda
September 2nd, 2014

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the September 2nd, 2014 agenda as presented.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

PRESENTATIONS FROM STAFF

Corporate Services
Volunteer Appreciation Night - Call for Nominations - Policy #204

MOTION: WYERS

RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend Council provides notice to the public calling for nominations from the public for exceptional volunteer service in the City of Grand Forks in accordance with Council Policy #204 at the September 2nd Regular Meeting

CARRIED.

Chief Financial Officer
Introduction of Inventory Policy #807

The Chief Financial Officer advised that this policy was requested by the auditors and is directed at the larger items that Public Works would have in inventory.
The Chief Administrative Officer advised that any excess inventory is a cost to the organization because it ties up capital and space.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to adopt Inventory Policy #807 at the September 15th, 2014 Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED.

Chief Financial Officer
City Hall Rebuild contingency resolution for financial plan amendment

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that this is strictly for contingency in terms of cash flow and the ability to move forward with some of the work at City Hall. It does not include additional items that are outside of the scope of the fire rebuild.

MOTION: SMITH

RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to include an \$80,000 contingency plan amendment, to be funded from surplus at the September 2nd, 2014 Regular Meeting of Council

CARRIED.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Monthly Highlight Reports from Department Managers
Staff request for Council to receive monthly activity reports from department managers.

Ms. Donna Semenoff requested more information with regard to the voting machines, such as year of the voting machine model and any training received with regard to the USB cards.

The Corporate Officer provided an update on staff training on the voting machines, and the process for using the machines during the election. She spoke further to the USB cards and how the USB cards work in the voting machine.

MOTION: KROG

RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to receive the monthly activity reports.

CARRIED.

PROPOSED BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION

Chief Financial Officer
2015 Annual Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw
The Mayor advised that this is the Bylaw brought forward without changes as requested by Council at the August 18th COTW meeting.
Councillor Wirischagin declared a conflict of interest and removed himself from the meeting at 9:29 am.
The Mayor advised that the passing of the bylaw by Council will reduce the tax collected from the identified organizations.

MOTION: SMITH

RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council give first three readings to Bylaw No. 2004 "2015 Permissive Tax Exemptions" at the September 15th, 2014 Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED.

Councillor Wirischagin returned to the meeting at 9:31am.

INFORMATION ITEMS

CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

LATE ITEMS

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

QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Nigel James

He spoke with regard to:

- Council developing a policy that identifies a protocol for addressing Council in a Council meeting
- Individuals who are non Grand Forks residents recusing themselves from discussions regarding taxation of residents of Grand Forks
- Agenda cover sheet be provided to the Public instead of the whole agenda package
- Identifying which Councillor is responsible for what issues or topics to better facilitate dialogue between Council and the public
- The painted dugouts at Dick Bartlett Park, which look great
- 68th Avenue bicycle paths and elevated intersections
- Traffic calming throughout the center of town
- The three-way stop sign at 72nd

The Chief Administrative Officer spoke with regard to the bike lanes, advising that the Manager of Operations is looking at "sharrows", which is a lane that is shared by pedestrians and bicycles.

Mr. Les Johnson

He spoke with regard to:

- A comment that was put forth online from Julia Butler regarding the cost of a pit meter being \$2500.00.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that there are many factors that determine the cost of the pit meter such as the size, depth and slope of the hole required for the meter, restoration costs, and safety requirements. The cost will vary slightly for each installation and the home owner will need to pay the difference between the cost of the standard meter install and the pit meter install in the event that the owner is requesting a pit meter outside of the pit meter criteria for City paid installations.

Ms. Donna Semenoff

She spoke with regard to:

- The cost of having a pit meter vs a standard meter installed

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the cost of the installation of a typical meter is outlined in Neptune's contract with the City. However, the information is sensitive and is not available to the public.

Ms. Christine Thompson
She spoke with regard to:

- Providing customers with an estimated cost of having a pit meter installed.
- The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the City would provide a cost estimate to residents who request a pit meter.

Ms. Donna Semenoff
She spoke with regard to:

- The reading of meters and billing cycles
- The Chief Administrative Officer advised that this will be determined by the water rates committee and there are many factors that will need to be considered before this is determined, but ideally meters will be read on a monthly basis to better assist residents to conserve water.

OTHER BUSINESS

In-Camera Meeting

Due to the early finish of the COTW meeting, Council determined by unanimous resolution to hold the In-Camera meeting On September 2nd, 2014, at 10:15 am instead of 1:30pm that same afternoon.

MOTION: SMITH

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL CONVENE AN IN-CAMERA MEETING AS OUTLINED UNDER SECTION 90 OF THE COMMUNITY CHARTER TO DISCUSS MATTERS IN A CLOSED MEETING WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO SECTION 90(1)(e), ACQUISITION, DISPOSITION OF EXPROPRIATION OF LAND OR IMPROVEMENTS THAT COULD REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO HARM THE INTERESTS OF THE MUNICIPALITY; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT PERSONS, OTHER THAN MEMBERS, OFFICERS, OR OTHER PERSONS TO WHOM COUNCIL MAY DEEM NECESSARY TO CONDUCT CITY BUSINESS, WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM THE IN-CAMERA MEETING.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADJOURNMENT

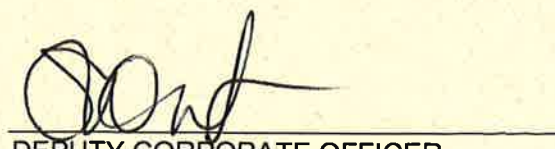
MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER -
SARAH WINTON

SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING