

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
MONDAY FEBRUARY 23RD, 2015

PRESENT: MAYOR FRANK KONRAD
 COUNCILLOR JULIA BUTLER
 COUNCILLOR CHRIS HAMMETT
 COUNCILLOR NEIL KROG
 COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON
 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	D. Allin
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	R. Sheperd
CORPORATE OFFICER	D. Heinrich
DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER	S. Winton
MANAGER OF BUILDING AND BYLAW SERVICES	W. Kopan
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS	R. Huston
FIRE CHIEF	D. Heriot
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF	K. McKinnon

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:01am.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

Adopt Agenda
February 23rd, 2015, COTW

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

Council requested that the letter from the RCMP be removed from the agenda and the proper letter from the RCMP be included.

RESOLVED THAT COTW adopt the February 23rd, 2015, COTW agenda as amended.
CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

The Grand Forks and Boundary Regional Agricultural Society and Learning Garden
Project Team

Learning Garden

Mr. Graham Watt and Mr. Cavin Gates, representatives of the project planning team for the Learning Garden, provided a brief overview and presented the intention for the project to Council.

They spoke with regard to:

- food production
- demonstrating local food production in the Boundary through the use of permaculture and forest gardens
- integration of agriculture and humans
- the use of a green house and accessible garden space
- development of integrative programs that includes Silver Kettle Village
- drought resistant alternative planting
- the project being ready to move forward

Mr. Gates advised that a License of Occupation was provided by the City in 2014 for the project.

Mr. Watt requested continued support from the City and advised:

- the gardens would demonstrate deer resistant, water conserving options for the majority of gardens
- overall budget depends on the order and pace of the build for the area, as well as in-kind contributions
- Gas Tax funding would either come from RDKB or the City
- keeper of the garden would be the Ag Society
- would like a paid coordinator, but at this time have a volunteer coordinator
- looking at various granting opportunities such as Vancouver Foundation
- running programs as educational and recreational
- planning to repurpose and reuse items that are in the community
- launch is April 10th, components for year one are: fencing, path layout, water infrastructure, tool shed built.
- the main greenhouse will be integrated into the Aquatic Centre to use excess energy

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that for insurance and auditing purposes clarifying insurance and ownership of the asset would be necessary.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT COTW recommends Council consider adopting a resolution stating "the City of Grand Forks commits to supporting the Learning Garden at the Aquatic Centre through collaboration and in-kind support, including:

- **assistance in purchasing externally (grant) funded supplies and materials**
- **support for use of City equipment by volunteering staff**
- **assistance with installation of infrastructure, paths and landscape features, and delivery of fill and other materials**
- **sponsoring of grant applications requiring charitable status and involving the City staff and equipment (i.e. Phoenix Foundation)**
- **public outreach about the project in City newsletters and promotions, at the March 9th, 2015, Regular Meeting of Council.**

CARRIED.

PRESENTATIONS FROM STAFF

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

The Chief Financial Officer advised that a variance report provided for the last quarter is not necessary as it would be part of the audit. She further advised that a quarterly variance report could be provided if Council determines to do so.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that unless amendments are made to the financial plan then a variance report would not typically be provided to Council.

The Chief Financial Officer advised that there is a financial folder on the Council drive that will have financial information placed in it. The financial statements are on the City website and the 2014 statements will be placed in the financial folder for Council.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT COTW receives the monthly activity reports.

CARRIED.

Chief Administrative Officer - Verbal presentation
Asset Management

The Chief Administrative Officer spoke with regard to Asset Management and provided a verbal presentation to Council.

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT the Committee of the Whole receives the presentation from the Chief Administrative Officer with regard to Asset Management planning.

CARRIED.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Cannafest Kootenays

At the January 26th, 2015, Regular Meeting, Council passed a resolution to table the request from Mr. Chuck Varabioff regarding the music event. He has since submitted additional information regarding the event.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the RCMP will enforce federal requirements and law enforcement of the event.

Council discussed:

- that Mr. Varabioff has stated that he will not be providing medical marijuana at the event.
- concerns with regard to the condition of the field after the event
- security deposit requirement
- possible issue with occupant load
- ambulance and emergency services at the event
- requirement to carry third party liability insurance and naming the City as an additional insured
- requirement of approval from the RCMP

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that Council could request that a report be brought back to Council or staff could process the request as they normally would.

MOTION: THOMPSON

THAT COTW recommend that Council receive the additional information regarding the music event, as submitted by Mr. Varabioff, for discussion, and refer to the February 23rd, Regular Meeting for decision.

CARRIED.

PROPOSED BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION

INFORMATION ITEMS

CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

LATE ITEMS

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

QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Fil Mauro

He spoke with regard to

- proposed rates structure for water meters

Councillor Wirischagin requested a staff report outlining alternative options for rates

and charges with regard to water meters and advised that he will make a motion for this at the Regular Meeting.

Ms. Donna Semenoff

She spoke with regard to

- the best way to present requests to Council

Mr. Les Johnson

He spoke with regard to

- being very clear in communications

Ms. Donna Semenoff

She spoke with regard to

- how the City pays a fee for water to the province
- using information from installed water meters to help determine rates

Ms. Gloria Koch

She spoke with regard to

- public input regarding water meters

Ms. Donna Semenoff

She spoke with regard to

- electrical meters reflecting opt out costs

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the City operates under the BC Memorandum of Understanding, along with all 5 electrical utilities in the Province and Fortis, who work together to control the rates. The discussion is led by Alex Love, and the information is brought back to Councils. Opt out costs will be reflected in the budget and Council can direct staff as to the rates.

He further advised that Council always has the option to amend a bylaw.

The Mayor recessed the meeting at 10:23 am

The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 10:31am

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Chief Financial Officer

Summary of the operating and capital budgets.

IN-CAMERA RESOLUTION

Chief Administrative Officer

MOTION: THOMPSON

THAT COTW recommends 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) (c) labour relations or other employee relations and 90 (1) g litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality;

Be it further resolved that persons, other than members, officers, or other persons to who Council may deem necessary to conduct city business, will be excluded from the In-Camera Meeting.

CARRIED.

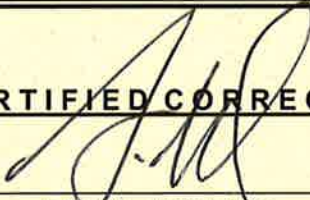
ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 11:02am.

MOTION: THOMPSON

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



MAYOR FRANK KONRAD



DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER -
SARAH WINTON