

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 2015.

PRESENT:

MAYOR FRANK KONRAD
COUNCILLOR JULIA BUTLER
COUNCILLOR NEIL KROG
COUNCILLOR COLLEEN ROSS
COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN

ACTING CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
ACTING CORPORATE OFFICER
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT & ENGINEERING
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS
MANAGER OF BUILDING INSPECTION AND BYLAW
SERVICES

D. Heinrich
S. Winton
R. Shepherd
S. Bird
R. Huston
W. Kopan

GALLERY

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR HAMMETT - ATTENDANCE TO DEER

*MANAGEMENT MEETING
SW*

CALL TO ORDER

- a) Call the meeting to order
The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- a) Adopt Agenda
January 12th, 2015 Regular Meeting Agenda

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council Adopts the January 12th, 2015, Regular Meeting Agenda as presented.

CARRIED.

MINUTES

- a) Adopt Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes
December 15th, 2014

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the December 15th, 2014, Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED.

- b) Adopt the Regular Meeting minutes
December 15th, 2014.

MOTION: BUTLER / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the December 15th, 2014, Regular Meeting minutes as amended.

CARRIED.

- c) Adopt the Special Meeting to Go In-Camera
December 15th, 2014

MOTION: KROG / ROSS

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the December 15th, 2014, Special Meeting to go In-Camera minutes as presented.

CARRIED.

- d) Adopt the Special Meeting minutes
January 6th, 2015

MOTION: BUTLER / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the January 6th, 2015, meeting minutes as amended.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

- a) Councillor Ross
She reported that:
- She reviewed and short listed at least 20 CAO candidates
 - She reviewed and provided links for CETA and crafted a resolution with regard to opting out of CETA
 - She met with Roly Russell to discuss RDKB issues
 - She is looking forward to attending the RDKB Local Government 101 session
 - Met with Graham Watt and discussed a 1/2 day workshop for Council and staff on water conservation
 - She has been approached by several members of the community regarding the Medicine Tree
 - The Agricultural Society would like a representative from Council on the committee
 - She read and reviewed the subdivision bylaw
 - She attended the January 6th Special Meeting where a motion was passed to send Councillor Hammett and one staff person to the Deer Workshop
 - She advised that she would like to see Grand Forks have their own Climate Action Plan.

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- b) Councillor Krog
He reported that he had an RDKB report later in the agenda
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- c) Councillor Wirischagin had no report but made a motion for Councillors to attend the RDKB 101 session.

MOTION: KROG / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council members wanting to attend the RDKB 101 session may do so with expenses covered.

CARRIED.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council appoint Councillor Butler to sit on the Grand Forks and District Recreation Commission as representative for the City of Grand Forks.

CARRIED.

d) Councillor Thompson's report is attached.

MOTION: THOMPSON / BUTLER

RESOLVED THAT Council direct the Manager of Operations to bring a report on the status of the water meter project to the COTW Meeting on January 26th.

CARRIED.

e) Councillor Butler's report is attached.

- She spoke with regard to the snow removal and clearing practices of City staff. The Manager of Operations advised that there is a snow removal policy that is followed.
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f) Mayor Konrad's report is attached.

MOTION: THOMPSON / BUTLER

RESOLVED THAT all reports of members of Council, given verbally at this meeting, be received.

CARRIED.

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

a) Corporate Officer's Report

Councillor Krog

He reported that:

- He attended the RDKB Kettle River Water Shed Committee Meeting

MOTION: ROSS / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Councillor Krog's report regarding the RDKB was received.

CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS

- a) Chief Financial Officer
Rotary Spray Park Joint Project - Exclusion from Purchasing Policy 802

The Chief Financial Officer spoke with regard to the spray park and reviewed the joint project and history of the project. She further explained the request to exclude the purchase of equipment from the purchasing policy.

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council waive the quote requirements of Purchasing Policy 802 for the Rotary Spray Park Joint Project between the City of Grand Forks and the Grand Forks Rotary Club for the purchase of spray park equipment.

CARRIED.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a) Arlene Parkinson - Association of Kootenay and Boundary Local Governments
Notice of Annual General Meeting and Second Call for Resolutions 2015.

Council discussed including the resolution brought forward by Councillor Ross regarding CETA.

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council determine if there are issues of concern to the City, which cannot be resolved at the local level, that could be submitted to the AKBLG Conference in the form of a resolution.

CARRIED.

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- b) Electrical Utility Consultant, Alex Love
Electrical Utility Rates 2015

The City's Electrical Consultant reviewed his Memorandum on the Electrical Utility Rates 2015.

He spoke with regards to:

- Rate adjustments
- The revenue and expense forecast
- Rate options
- Manual meter reading

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- Recommendations: Grand Forks implement a manual meter reading option, rescind policy 1205, and implement a rate increase of 3.125 to all electrical energy and basic charge rates, effective March 1, 2015.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council receive for Information as the Electrical Utility Rates for 2015 will be introduced at the COTW on January 26th, 2015.

CARRIED.

- c) Councillor Christine Thompson - Amendment to the Procedure Bylaw
Request from Councillor Thompson that an amendment to the Procedure Bylaw be made. The amendment states:

THAT the City of Grand Forks Procedure Bylaw No. 1946 be amended to include the following:

1. Written reports from members of Council attending conferences, seminars or workshops that extend beyond one day out of the City, must be included on the Regular Meeting agenda no later than the second Regular Meeting of Council following the conclusion of such conference, seminar or workshop. At the discretion of Council, failure to provide such written report may result in the offending member of Council not being authorized to attend future conferences, seminars or workshops.
2. Verbal reports from members of Council attending conferences, seminars or workshops lasting one full day or less will be accepted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Order of Business at Regular Meetings, Section 12.3(1) be amended to reflect these changes.

Councillor Thompson advised as to why she is recommending the amendment.

Council discussed the proposed resolution.

MOTION: THOMPSON / BUTLER

RESOLVED THAT Council directs staff to proceed in bringing forward a staff report with regard to the proposed amendments to Procedure Bylaw No.1946, 2013, to the January 26th, 2015, Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council.

CARRIED.

COUNCILLOR WIRISCHAGIN WAS OPPOSED TO THE MOTION.

- d) Councillor Colleen Ross - CETA
Resolution from Council to opt out of the Canada/EU Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA)

Councillor Krog advised that if this resolution is taken to AKBLG then it needs to be refined. He further advised that this resolution has been brought forward in the past

and was not accepted because it had already been addressed at UBCM in some capacity.

Councillor Ross spoke with regard to taking the resolution to the AKBLG, and amending the motion for this purpose.

Councillor Ross withdrew the resolution.

City of Grand Forks British Columbia Opting Out of Canada/EU Comprehensive Economic Trade Agreement (CETA)

WHEREAS The Canada/EU CETA is an ominous trade agreement between Canada and the European Union which includes rules that will limit the power of provincial and municipal governments to use their purchasing decisions to create local jobs, protect the environment and support local economies. And,

WHEREAS, purchasing power has long been a key policy tool for municipalities, and is becoming even more important in the face of the extraordinary economic, social, environmental and ecological pressures currently confronting Canadian communities. Procurement choices can play a crucial role not only in promoting local economic development, local food production and green technologies, but also in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and the community's ecological footprint through regional sourcing of goods and services.

And,

WHEREAS coverage of transit and energy procurement appears to violate the fourth of seven principles for free and fair trade from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, which states that: "There may be industries of strategic significance to a particular region, such as transit, or projects where considerations of quality, public benefit, environmental protection or business ethics means that a local government may wish to implement minimum Canadian-content levels;" and,

WHEREAS The City of Grand Forks already has an open and fair procurement policy, and it is not the international norm for municipal governments, or even most WTO member countries, to be covered by procurement agreements such as the one proposed in the CETA; and

WHEREAS other aspects of CETA related to municipally-delivered services and investment rules that could result in corporate lawsuits against municipal policy have not been disclosed in the federal government's technical briefing on the CETA.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council requests:

The Province of British Columbia issue a clear, permanent, written exemption for the City of Grand Forks from the Canada-EU CETA, and that it otherwise protect and guarantee the powers of municipalities, hospitals, school boards, utilities, universities and other sub-federal agencies to use public procurement as one of many tools to create local jobs, protect the environment, and support local development; and that

The Province of British Columbia disclose to municipalities and the public its procurement, services and investment offers to the EU, explain the impacts CETA

would have on

municipal governance, and give M.U.S.H sector bodies the freedom to decide whether or not they will be bound by CETA provisions; and that

This resolution be sent to the provincial and federal government ministers responsible for CETA negotiations, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, the British Columbia Hospital Association, the BC University Association and the BC School Board Association, federations of labour, labour councils and unions representing workers in municipalities, provinces and territories and any other relevant bodies for consideration and circulation.

- e) Chief Financial Officer
Council Benefits

MOTION: BUTLER / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council determines to join the UBCM Benefits program and include covering the cost of Medical Services Plan.

CARRIED.

- f) Jack Koochin
Idling Bylaw; noise and air quality

Staff advised that Council requested that staff bring correspondence back to Council for direction in responding to requests from the public.

The Bylaw Officer advised Council that he has met with Mr. Koochin with regard to this issue but that he has not been able to connect with the neighbour as of yet.

Council directed staff to respond with a letter advising of the receipt of the letter.

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

Receive for information

CARRIED.

- g) Mayor Frank Konrad
Response to Hudson's Hope, Site C Dam, as per Council resolution December 15th, 2014.

MOTION: BUTLER / THOMPSON

Receive for Information

CARRIED.

COUNCILLOR WIRISCHAGIN OPPOSED THE MOTION.

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- h) Vancouver Island and Coast Conservation Society
Proclamation - A Day for Our Common Future

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

Receive for Information, the City does not issue proclamations

CARRIED.

- i) Gene Koch
Universal Water Metering Project

Council discussed the issue with regard to:

- Water meter installations
- The BC Building Code Appeal Board
- Filing of complaints

The Building Inspector advised that the BC Building Code Board of Appeal was contacted to determine the legality of the meter installations. The BC Building Code Board of Appeal confirmed in writing that the authority having jurisdiction (City of Grand Forks) may install the meters with a certified installer in order to meet the needs of the project. He further read the letter from Mr. Zachary May from the BC Building Code Board of Appeals.

The Mayor advised that:

- Mr. May does not have authority to make this call
- That the Board of Appeal cannot make a ruling on the plumbing code
- That the City was responsible for providing a supervisor on each installation
- That Council does not have the expertise or jurisdiction to initiate a water meter program

Councillor Thompson advised that at the COTW Meeting on January 26th the Manager of Operations will provide an update on the water meter program.

The Mayor advised that he has received numerous complaints.
Councillor Wirischagin called for point of order.

MOTION: BUTLER / THOMPSON

Receive for Information

CARRIED.

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- j) Gene Koch
Termination of Doug Allin

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

Receive for Information and endorse the response from the Acting Corporate Officer to Mr. Koch.

CARRIED.

- k) Gene Koch
Emeral Developments

The Manager of Dev and Engineering provided an update on Emeral Developments and confirmed that this is not a registered company.

MOTION: BUTLER / WIRISCHAGIN

Receive for Information

CARRIED.

- l) The Mayor recessed the meeting at 8:38pm
The Mayor reconvened the meeting at 8:50pm
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BYLAWS

- a) Chief Financial Officer
Bylaw 2007 - The City of Grand Forks 2015 Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw

Council was advised that this bylaw is adopted annually.

MOTION: KROG / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council give first three readings to Bylaw No. 2007 - "The City of Grand Forks Revenue Anticipation Borrowing Bylaw - 2015".

CARRIED.

- b) Manager of Development and Engineering
Subdivision and Development Repeal Bylaw No. 1424-R, 2014.

MOTION: ROSS / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council receive the Subdivision and Development Repeal Bylaw No. 1424-R, 2014 and give the bylaw final reading.

CARRIED.

- c) Manager of Development and Engineering
Subdivision, Development and Servicing Bylaw No. 1970

Councillor Butler advised that she would like to see several amendments and clarification to sections of the bylaw before adoption.

MOTION: BUTLER / KROG

RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to receive notes and respond to Councillor Butler's questions regarding the bylaw at a later date.

CARRIED.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council give final reading to Subdivision, Development and Servicing Bylaw 1970, 2014.

CARRIED.

- d) Manager of Operations
Electrical Utility Regulatory Repeal Bylaw No. 1543-R, 2014

MOTION: ROSS / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council give the Electrical Utility Regulatory Repeal Bylaw No. 1543-R, 2014 third reading.

CARRIED.

- e) Manager of Operations
Electrical Utility Regulatory Bylaw No. 1975, 2014

Councillor Butler proposed an amendment to the bylaw be made to include the Opt-Out Program and manual read option.

The City's Electrical Utility Consultant - Alex Love, recommended that the manual read option remain in the Rates Bylaw

MOTION: BUTLER / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to include the amendments regarding the Opt-

Out Program and manual read option to the Electrical Utility Bylaw.

Councillor Butler withdrew the motion.

f) Councillor Butler proposed amendments to the bylaw.

Including:

1. Schedule B. that the City of Grand Forks may allow commercial Photo-Voltaic services.
2. That the title of Section 11 Read: Photo – Voltaic Services as opposed to Residential Photo-Voltaic Services.
3. That the first sentence of Section 11.3 be amended to read: Independent Power Producers (IPP) projects or commercial projects not covered in section 11.1 require special considerations.

MOTION: BUTLER / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council give the Electrical Utility Regulatory Bylaw No. 1975, 2014 third reading as amended.

CARRIED.

LATE ITEMS

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA

a) Craig Lindsay - Grand Forks Gazette
He spoke with regard to motions made

Mr. Murray Rennie
He spoke with regard to charges for reading of gas meters

Council discussed equal billing and manual reading of meters

The Chief Financial Officer spoke with regard to equal payments and the implications of billing, i.e. issues risk, customer awareness.

Ms. Donna Semenoff
She spoke with regard to RF and meter readings

Mr. Les Johnson
He spoke with regard to meter reading

Mr. Gene Koch
He spoke with regard to:

- Water meters
- BC Plumbing Code

- Emeral Developments
- The former CAO's separation agreement
- Perceived veil of secrecy around finances
- Increase in employees

Councillor Thompson advised that the SOFI will identify the general amount of the severance for Mr. Allin

A/CAO advised the increase in employees is due to the addition of casual employees

Mr. Les Johnson

He spoke with regard to discussion that takes place in a public forum and the risk to the City by doing so.

Mr. Nigel James

He spoke with regard to:

- Long term effects of Council decisions
- Council committee listings and access to Councillors
- The discussion of Council benefit package added to the January 6th Special Meeting
- The fire truck and the costs associated with the purchase of the truck

The Mayor advised that the cost to the City of the benefits for Council has been an ongoing discussion.

A/CAO advised that the actual cost hasn't been figured, but the estimate is an annual cost of \$15,000 in extended health and \$5,000 for MSP.

Mr. James Hamilton

He spoke with regard to:

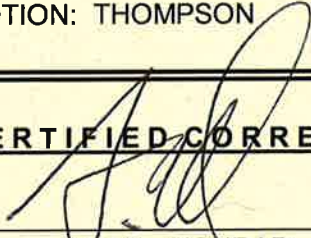
- Bylaws

ADJOURNMENT

a) The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 10:02pm

MOTION: THOMPSON

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR FRANK KONRAD


ACTING CORPORATE OFFICER - SARAH WINTON