

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Monday, July 20th, 2015

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

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	D. Allin
CORPORATE OFFICER	D. Heinrich
MANAGER OF BUILDING AND BYLAW SERVICES	W. Kopan
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS	D. Reid
FIRE CHIEF	D. Heriot
CORPORATE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT	D. Popoff

GALLERY

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR NEIL KROG
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN

CALL TO ORDER

RESOLVED THAT the Mayor called the COTW Meeting to order at 9:01 am

CARRIED.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

- a) Adopt agenda
July 20th, 2015, COTW

MOTION: THOMPSON

Adopt agenda as presented.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

- a) Donna Semenoff
Information in making a decision about how our City wishes to promote water conservation

Mayor Konrad declares at this time that he wishes to recuse himself and is not entitled to participate in the discussion or vote on the next item of business before this meeting, by reason of advisement from the Corporation's lawyers, Young Anderson, based on their opinion of a perceived indirect pecuniary conflict of interest, directed at himself.

Also based on their advisement, that the remainder of Council should encourage him to recuse himself.

Furthermore, he wishes to invoke his right under the Community Charter, Sections 100 and 104, respectfully, that he, Mayor Konrad, is not declaring, nor admitting to this perceived conflict of interest; for in his opinion, as Mayor, there is no conflict of interest, and never was.

Furthermore, for the record, this action obstructs his ability to perform his elected official duty, as Mayor for the citizens of Grand Forks.

And that he wishes to leave this meeting at this time and request that the minutes record his leaving the meeting for the reasons as stated above.

Mayor Konrad left the COTW Meeting at 9:05 am.

Councillor Hammett was appointed as Acting Mayor.

- Donna Semenoff spoke in regards to the Kerr Wood Leidal recommendation, Urban Systems audit, water conservation proposal, addressing RF concerns, and metering

- as time ran out, Gloria Koch asked if Donna could please finish, this is very important?

MOTION: BUTLER

RESOLVED THAT the COTW hear about Donna's fundraiser opportunity.

CARRIED.

Donna Semenoff continued by explaining that the fundraiser idea was to sell reusable water bottles with perhaps the Grand Forks logo on them. Possibly businesses around the City could sell the bottles and donate proceeds to the City?

Discussion:

- perhaps have Chamber of Commerce involvement
- leak detection, conservation
- testing on industry meters
- federal guidelines, information on YouTube to diminish rays by mesh screening

MOTION: BUTLER

RESOLVED THAT the COTW receive the presentation from Donna Semenoff.

CARRIED.

Mayor Konrad returned to the COTW Meeting at 9:29 am.

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- b) WildSafeBC - Brydie Todd
Request to consider granting permission to attend the BC ATV Jamboree in Greenwood and the Rock Creek Fall Fair in her capacity as the WildSafeBC Community Coordinator for Grand Forks

Discussion:

- reasons for requesting permission are for the opportunity to reach many people in a short amount of time, not asking for any addition funds, just to be able to work outside of the City boundaries
- expenses above and beyond come from the Deer Committee budget and they would determine
- Deer Committee would like to spend budget on deer issues, that is why request is coming before Council
- Deer Committee could have a recommendation to have the resources within the region to provide funds for educational purposes

MOTION: HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT the COTW receive the presentation from Brydie Todd of WildSafeBC and approve permission for attendance at events named.

CARRIED.

PRESENTATIONS FROM STAFF

- a) Manager of Operations
Water restrictions and Yellow Flag Program

Discussion:

- other municipalities' sprinkling regulations, irrigation, Columbia Basin Trust
- watering during holidays away from home, aquifer, and rivers
- Councillor Thompson - if no underground sprinklers, timers will not work, purchase of numerous hoses and sprinklers would be necessary, cannot support motion
- Councillor Hammett - Stage 2, still does not reduce hand watering restrictions, agrees to cut time back to two days
- Mayor Konrad inquired if we can split the City in half for water regulations?
- CAO - yes; however, explained infrastructure and pumps, stewardship to aquifer, snow packs
- Mayor Konrad inquired if the Yellow Flag Program was for public awareness or to issue fines?
- Mgr. of Operations replied that for now it is for awareness
- Councillor Thompson - spoke regarding the City receiving criticism on social media, will the City be doing the same awareness?
- CAO - provided list of City's 20% reduction already
- Karin Bagn - would like to support Councillor Butler's motion
- school regulations for water usage? City is working together and communicating with the school, the school has their own well
- Respectful Workplace Policy re shaming public with Yellow Flag Program
- Councillor Ross - motion does not speak to not using Yellow Flag Program, shaming only if residents do not adhere to the news and media, spreading out throughout the

City so pumps are not used to a maximum

- Councillor Butler - quoted the Water Use and Regulation Policy, concern flags will put a higher demand on City pumps
- Councillor Ross - friendly amendment, would like "vegetable gardens" inserted into the amended motion
- Councillor Butler - would agree if also flower gardens, trees, and shrubs were inserted as well
- Roma Hamilton read her letter submitted to City with Bylaw amended requests
- conservation, property values, suggestion to target larger major users instead

MOTION: BUTLER with Amendment below

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to implement Stage 2 water restrictions immediately and to implement the Yellow Flag Program to increase public awareness.

AMENDMENT TO ORIGINAL MOTION: BUTLER

RESOLVED THAT the COTW amend Stage 2 watering restrictions to include:

- 1. prohibit vehicle and driveway washing, except for commercial car washes**
- 2. vegetable and flower gardens are exempt from Stage 2 restrictions**
- 3. homeowners are encouraged to purchase a timer for their outside taps and water between 12(midnight) and 4 am as per the requirements for timed underground sprinklers.**

MOTION DEFEATED.

SECOND AMENDMENT TO ORIGINAL MOTION: BUTLER

RESOLVED THAT the COTW amend Stage 2 watering restrictions to include:

- 1. prohibit vehicle and driveway washing, except for commercial car washes**
- 2. homeowners can water vegetable and flower gardens, trees, and shrubs on odd/even days from 7am-9am and 10pm-midnight**
- 3. homeowners are encouraged to purchase a timer for their outside taps and water between 12(midnight) and 4 am as per the requirements for timed underground sprinklers.**

CARRIED.

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- b) Manager of Operations
2015 Capital Project - JD bleachers

MOTION: HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to revise the 2015 Financial Plan to include \$2,890 additional funding for the JD bleachers capital project, to be funded from the current operating budget, at the July 20, 2015, Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED.

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- c) Manager of Operations
Water Meter Input - Public Consultation

Mayor Konrad declares at this time that he wishes to recuse himself and is not entitled to participate in the discussion or vote on the next item of business before this meeting, by reason of advisement from the Corporation's lawyers, Young Anderson, based on their opinion of a perceived indirect pecuniary conflict of interest, directed at himself.

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And that he wishes to leave this meeting at this time and request that the minutes record his leaving the meeting for the reasons as stated above.

Mayor Konrad left the COTW Meeting at 10:37 am.

Councillor Hammett was appointed as Acting Mayor.

Discussion:

- CAO spoke in regards to the approximate 89 submissions from the public, which is 4% of Grand Forks water utility accounts; 35 were against the Water Meter Program and 49 were for the program
- looking for a recommendation from Council that the Water Meter Program be completed by the end of 2015
- Councillor Butler spoke to the original motion by Councillor Wirischagin, should not have been an against/for submission, but a compromise/solution to the problem of water conservation, proceed with mock billing, CAO and asset management, water audit, cost effective means
- Councillor Ross inquired on how City can assist residents to move forward to complete Water Meter Program?
- CAO replied that input provided, receive more data and make decisions, provided example of Peachland water consumption and cost analysis data
- Councillor Butler inquired do we want all these extra studies done? Costly.
- Councillor Ross provided a suggestion previously how to move forward with the water metering - postcards to all residents with their choice of the options
- CAO - yes, this suggestion could be undertaken and communicated to residents

MOTION: ROSS

RESOLVED THAT the COTW receive the information compiled for the Water Meter Input - Public Consultation.

CARRIED.
Councillor Butler Opposed.

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT the City of Grand Forks continue with the recommendation by the CAO that the Water Meter Program be installed and completed by the end of December 31st, 2015.

CARRIED.
Councillor Butler Opposed.

Mayor Konrad returned to the COTW Meeting at 11:11 am.

- d) Chief Administrative Officer
City of Grand Forks Draft Strategic Plan 2015-2019

MOTION: BUTLER

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to table the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan to the August 17, 2015, Regular Meeting.

CARRIED.

- e) Monthly Highlight Reports from Department Managers
Staff request for Council to receive the monthly activity report from department managers

MOTION: BUTLER

RESOLVED THAT the COTW receive the monthly activity reports.

CARRIED.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a) Gary Smith - Deer Committee
May 19th and June 16th, 2015, Deer Committee Minutes

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT the COTW postpone the information and the Deer Committee minutes as presented by Gary Smith to the July 20, 2015, Regular Meeting.

CARRIED.

PROPOSED BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION

- a) Mgr. of Bldg. Insp. & Bylaw Services
Introduction of the Schedule 12 - A3, amendment to the Municipal Ticketing & Information Bylaw No. 1957

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to receive the report from the Bylaw Enforcement Officer and determine to discuss and further directs staff to

present to Council to consider the first three readings of the proposed Schedule 12 A-3 at the August 17, 2015, Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED.

b) Mgr. of Bldg. Insp. & Bylaw Services

Introduction of the Water Restrictions Bylaw No. 1973 A-1, amendment to include, under Section 12 Offences and Prohibitions a new clause, 12.12 Any Person who contravenes any of the provisions of the Stage 1 through Stage 4 Watering Restrictions may be subject to a fine as described in Schedule 12 - A3 of the Municipal Ticketing and Information Bylaw No. 1957.

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And that he wishes to leave this meeting at this time and request that the minutes record his leaving the meeting for the reasons as stated above.

Mayor Konrad left the COTW Meeting at 11:25 am.

Councillor Hammett was appointed as Acting Mayor.

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT the COTW recommends to Council to receive the report from the Bylaw Enforcement Officer and determine to discuss and further directs staff to present to Council to consider the first three readings of Bylaw 1973 A-1 at the August 17, 2015, Regular Meeting of Council.

CARRIED.

Mayor Konrad returned to the COTW Meeting at 11:26 am.

INFORMATION ITEMS

CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

LATE ITEMS

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

QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

IN-CAMERA RESOLUTION

- a) Chief Administrative Officer
Immediately following the COTW Meeting, Council will hold an In-Camera Meeting

MOTION: ROSS

RESOLVED THAT the 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)(a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality; 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 whom Council may deem necessary to conduct City business, will be excluded from the In-Camera Meeting.

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

- a) The Mayor adjourned the COTW Meeting at 11:28 am.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR FRANK KONRAD


CORPORATE ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANT - DAPHNE POPOFF