

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Thursday, July 30, 2015

PRESENT:

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

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
ACTING CORPORATE OFFICER
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGIST

D. Allin
S.Winton
D. Sheets

GALLERY

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR CHRIS HAMMETT
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN

CALL TO ORDER

- a) The Mayor called the meeting to order at 10:10am

ADOPTION OF MEETING AGENDA

- a) The Mayor amended the agenda to include a verbal report from the CAO regarding a request from the Greenwood City Council and to include a discussion regarding an application for a grant for a Sanitary Sewer Extension Study. These will be placed under late items.

MOTION: KROG / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the July 30th, 2015 Special Meeting Agenda as amended.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a) Manager of Development & Engineering Services - Development Variance Permit

Request for a Development Variance Permit at 6135 - 18th Street for an increase in accessory building height, and an increase in overall floor area of all accessory buildings, in order to construct a garage.

Council discussed the request.

MOTION: THOMPSON / KROG

RESOLVED THAT Council approve the request for a Development Variance Permit at 6135 - 18th Street for an increase in accessory building height, and an increase in overall floor area of all accessory buildings, in order to construct a garage, and further to direct Staff to complete the necessary statutory requirements for the Development Variance Permit Application, as requested.

CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

BYLAWS

LATE ITEMS

a) Verbal report from the CAO regarding a request from The City of Greenwood to speak with him.

The CAO advised that:

- The City of Greenwood is undergoing some changes
- He met with Greenwood's Deputy Corporate Officer
- There is no structure or process in place
- He would like to discuss the sharing of Grand Forks services with the City of Greenwood. This would be for a short period of time while they get back on their feet.
- Good opportunity for succession planning
- He believes the continuity is important, as is a review of the organization
- The City of Grand Forks could assist Greenwood by doing an organizational review, and ensuring that they are meeting statutory obligations in the way they are running the organization
- He suggested that initially it would just be a chat with the Greenwood Council to determine what they would be looking for from the City
- Fits in with strategic priorities, economic development, and regional partnerships
- Opportunity to discuss sharing of services ie. bylaw, corporate services, financial

Council discussed:

- Subcontracting out the CAO and CFO
- Rate for this
- Concerns with current work load
- Revenue generation and overtaxing our staff (CAO and CFO)
- Lawsuit with Council in Greenwood

CAO advised:

- Some smaller communities share services amongst communities
- The arrangement would simply provide guidance to Greenwood and not to be the CAO
- This would assist with getting their governance in order
- He would provide a review and then provide direction
- Greenwood is not in the position to hire an experienced CAO at this time
- This arrangement would be reviewed after at least one year

Council discussed:

- Amount of time required by CAO to assist with this process is a concern
- Need for a clearly defined agreement
- Greenwood may need to consider calling the Province for assistance, they have had challenges for a long time
- Would want to be very careful with the involvement
- An initial look at Greenwood could be good for both organizations, without making a commitment

CAO advised:

- CAO offered to chat with Wendy the Deputy Corporate Officer
- He did that and discussed where the Greenwood Council is at
- He advised that this is definitely a decision of Council
- The City would need to be cautious
- The Greenwood City Council is interested in having an initial discussion
- Would like the initial meeting and then report back to Council for further discussion.

Council discussed:

- Contract basis
- Hourly rate
- Plan with objectives and deliverables
- Assessment first
- How this fits within the CAO's current contract

CAO advised:

- He feels that he does have the capacity to take on a initial assessment of the City of Greenwood.
- First step is a conversation of what they have done to date to help the situation
- They would like to call a meeting in August and it would not conflict with any City business

MOTION: THOMPSON / ROSS

RESOLVED THAT Council approve the request from the City of Greenwood for CAO, Doug Allin, to discuss the challenges the Greenwood City Council and the organization are facing and options for moving forward.

CARRIED.

COUNCILLOR BUTLER OPPOSED THE MOTION

b) CAO - Grant application for a Sanitary Sewer Expansion Study

Infrastructure Planning Grant

- Would be for the waste water system in Ruckles area and the future of the sewage plan for that area
- Grant would be to complete a conceptual plan for the area
- Prepare us for future grant opportunities because there would be a conceptual vision in place - shelf ready project
- Grant applications require a resolution of Council before they can be submitted
- When there is available money it is worth Council's consideration to apply
- All areas of town could be included in the grant application
- Would be prudent to submit this application as is and then join all areas at a later date

Council discussed:

- There are conceptual plans for Johnson Flats but not Ruckles
- This is a planning grant
- If any work was to be undertaken then all areas of the City would be tied into the project
- The difference between a septic tank and field and a sewer system and the pros and cons of each
- Fit within the Asset Management Program
- Funding streams may be different for repairing old and building new
- Election may have an impact on funding that is made available

MOTION: THOMPSON / ROSS

RESOLVED THAT Council approve that staff proceed with the submission of a grant application to the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, to apply for funding in order to undertake a Sanitary Sewer Expansion Study.

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLVED THAT Council adjourn the meeting at 11:34am

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR FRANK KONRAD


ACTING CORPORATE OFFICER –
SARAH WINTON