

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY, MAY 25, 2015

PRESENT:

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

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CORPORATE OFFICER
DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT & ENGINEERING
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS

D. Allin
D. Heinrich
S. Winton
R. Shepherd
S. Bird
D. Reid

GALLERY

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- a) Adopt agenda
May 25th, 2015, Regular Meeting agenda

The Mayor advised that there two late items to be added the agenda with regard to grant application information and a press release regarding in-camera information.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council amend the May 25th, 2015, Regular Meeting agenda to include two late items regarding grant funding and a press release of in-camera information.

CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the May 25th Regular Meeting agenda, as amended.

CARRIED.

MINUTES

- a) Adopt minutes
May 4th, 2015, COTW Meeting minutes

MOTION: BUTLER / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the May 4th, 2015, COTW Meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED.

- b) Adopt minutes
May 4th, 2015, Public Hearing minutes

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the May 4th, 2015, Public Hearing minutes as presented.

CARRIED.

- c) Adopt minutes
May 4th, 2015, Regular Meeting minutes

MOTION: KROG / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the May 4th, 2015, Regular Meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED.

- d) Adopt minutes
May 7th, 2015, Special Meeting to go In-Camera minutes

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the May 7th, 2015, Special Meeting to go In-Camera minutes as presented.

CARRIED.

- e) Adopt minutes
May 7th, 2015, Special Meeting minutes

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the May 7th, 2015, Special Meeting minutes as presented.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS, QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

- a) Corporate Officer's Report
Written reports from members of Council

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / ROSS

RESOLVED THAT all written reports from members of Council, be received.

CARRIED.

Councillor Butler spoke with regard to a proposed motion within her report.

MOTION: BUTLER / KROG

WHEREAS the Community Charter Section 8 (3) (i) and 64 (c) gives Council the authority to regulate public health and the emission of smoke, dust, gas, sparks, ash, soot, cinders, fumes, or other effluvia that is liable to foul or contaminate the atmosphere,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Council directs Staff to investigate if there is any risk to school children, hospital patients or the City well in relation to conventional farming practices (including the spraying of herbicides and pesticides) that have recently commenced on the border of the school playground and hospital, and further that Staff advise Council as to any remedial action that may be undertaken.

MOTION DEFEATED.

Councillor Ross spoke with regard to two motions she would like Council to consider.

MOTION: ROSS / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council for the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks does not support the commodification or the privatization of its water.

CARRIED.

MOTION: ROSS / BUTLER

WHEREAS the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks does not support the commodification or the privatization of water;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Corporation of the City of Grand Forks will not purchase bottled water in individual serving size bottles

CARRIED.

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

- a) Corporate Officer's Report
Verbal reports from Council's representative to the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

Councillor Krog advised that there is no report as the RDKB has had no meetings

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Councillor Krog's report on the activities of the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, given verbally at this meeting, be received.

CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS

- a) Corporate Services
Proposed Council Technology Allowance Policy

Councillor Thompson advised that she would like to amend the agenda to read:

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council determines to adopt the policy known as "Council Technology Allowance Policy No. 115, to be amended to read that "at the beginning at the term of council, that a one-time allowance of up to \$2,000 of a computer would be provided by the City, and further with an option for members of council to opt out to choose an existing city computer."

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council tables this Policy No. 116 "Council Technology Allowance Policy", for discussion at a later date.

CARRIED.

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- b) Manager of Development & Engineering Services
Proposal to set up a Steering Committee regarding transitional housing

Dave Smith made a presentation with regard to special needs housing to Council. He spoke with regard to the stakeholders who are already involved in partnership to support the homeless. In his presentation, he suggested that a Transition Housing

Project Steering Committee be set up, and further that a workshop with the Stakeholders and the committee be arranged.

Council asked about the costs associated with the project. The Chief Administrative Officer advised that once the committee is set up, the cost components would be brought forward but aren't determined yet.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / ROSS

RESOLVED THAT Council authorize staff to proceed with setting up a Transition Housing Project Steering Committee (THPSC); and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the THPSC provide assistance and recommendations to Council regarding steps necessary to facilitate the development of transition housing in the community.

CARRIED.

- c) Manager of Development and Engineering Services
Pickleball in Grand Forks: converting one tennis court at Barbara Ann Park into four pickleball courts

The Manager of Development and Engineering spoke with regard to the advertising process done by Staff and that the City received correspondence from persons both in support and not in support of the proposed repurposing.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / KROG

RESOLVE THAT COUNCIL authorizes the repurposing of one tennis court into four pickleball courts, with portable net systems at an approximate cost of \$7,256 with funds to come from the slag fund.

Councillor Krog spoke with regard to amending the motion to have the City approach the Pickleball players for their contribution to supply the separator net for the courts, and further that the Option 2 with regard to the repurposing of one tennis court, as Council's decision, be contingent on the agreement of the Pickleball group.

AMENDED MOTION

MOTION: KROG / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVE THAT COUNCIL authorizes the repurposing of one tennis court into four pickleball courts, with portable net systems at an approximate cost of \$7,256 with funds to come from the slag fund, and further that the Pickleball players be approached to supply the separator net and that this option 2 is contingent on agreement of the Pickleball group.

CARRIED.

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- d) Manager of Development and Engineering
Disposition of Lot 5, Plan KAP86416, DL 534, SDYD, PID #027-468-216 to Argosy Construction Group Inc.

MOTION: KROG / HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to proceed with the disposition of Lot 5, Plan KAP86416, DL 534, SDYD, PID #027-468-216 to Argosy Construction Group Inc. for the amount of \$120,000 plus GST.

CARRIED.

- e) Corporate Services/Administration
Proposed budget amendment for additional staff support

Council spoke with regard to the request from a criminal lawyer, and that the City is receiving advice from the City's lawyer on this matter, and was suggested that \$20,000 may not be enough. It was further discussed that surplus funds are used for emergency purposes and that the funds required for this issue should be borne by a tax increase next year.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL determines to authorize the budget amendment in 2015 for additional administration staff support in the amount of up to \$20,000 to accommodate additional work required through Freedom of Information requests and the Ombudsperson request.

CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT the required funding for the additional staff support for the Freedom Of Information and Ombudsperson matters to come from an increase in next year's taxation rates.

CARRIED.

COUNCILLOR BUTLER AND MAYOR KONRAD OPPOSED THE MOTION.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

INFORMATION ITEMS

- a) UBCM
2015 Asset Management Planning Program - grant approval and terms & conditions

MOTION: KROG / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information.

CARRIED.

- b) BETHS & Whispers of Hope
Transfer of current lease on Multi Agency Accommodation Project (MAAP)

Councillor Thompson spoke with regard to the information that came from the group in April as information in the newspaper. Councillor Butler advised that Council needs to work with this group to come to an agreement.

MOTION: BUTLER / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL receives for information purposes, the transfer of the existing lease from Habitat For Humanity South East BC (HFHSEBC) to Boundary Emergency Transition Housing Society and Whispers of Hope in the event that HFHSEBC were to give notice to withdraw from the lease.

CARRIED.

- c) Boundary Peace Initiative
Invitation to spring conference on May 30th, 2015, at the Slavonic Senior Citizens Center

Councillor Thompson advised that she would be in attendance to this event

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information.

CARRIED.

- d) Canada Day Committee
Invitation to participate in the Opening Ceremonies for the Canada Day Celebrations, July 1st, 2015
The Mayor advised that he would be available as per the organization's request.

MOTION: THOMPSON / HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL receive for information, and further that Mayor Konrad advises that he is able to Emcee and be entertainment Co-Chair for the Canada Day Celebrations from 11:00 am-2:30 pm.

AND FURTHER THAT Councillors Thompson, Hammett and Butler will assist at the cutting of the cake at 12:30 pm.

CARRIED.

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- e) Jack Koochin
Letter regarding solution for Grand Forks water system: district metering

MOTION: BUTLER / ROSS

RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information.

CARRIED.

- f) Nadine Heiberg
Letter of reply to City letter issued for unsightly premises

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information.

CARRIED.

- g) Gloria Koch
Letter regarding dialogue and participation from community

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information.

CARRIED.

- h) Frank Triveri
Communication regarding administrative compensation

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information.

CARRIED.

BYLAWS

- a) Manager of Development and Engineering Services
To amend the current Zoning Bylaw by rezoning property located at 832 - 64th Avenue from the current R-1 (Single and Two-Family Residential) Zone to R-4 (Rural Residential) Zone

Council spoke with regard to the Public Hearing and the persons who opposed the re-zoning.

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council give third and final readings to the "City of Grand Forks Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 1606-A3, 2015".

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT Council refers the issue of the City of Grand Forks Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 1606-A3, 2015 to the next Regular Meeting of Council on June 15th, 2015

CARRIED.

- b) Manager of Operations
Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw 2015

The Manager of Operations spoke with regard to the proposed changes to the bylaw.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / KROG

RESOLVED THAT Council give first three readings to Bylaw 2015 - Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw.

CARRIED.

LATE ITEMS

- a) Manager of Development and Engineering - Legacy Grant Opportunity

The Manager of Development and Engineering spoke with regard to the grant and that the Spray Park would be a good fit for this grant. She further spoke that the amount of this grant is up to \$500,000 and can't exceed 50% of the project.

MOTION: KROG / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT Council directs Staff to proceed with the application for the City funding for the Spray Park Project.

There was a discussion from Council where they spoke of concerns that a grant application might delay the spray park project.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT Council refers the matter back to Staff to provide other options for funding opportunities and to report back to Council at a Special Meeting prior to the grant deadline.

CARRIED.

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- b) Press Release on Council's advice regarding the corporation's application to the Supreme Court for the disqualification of Councillor Julia Butler. The Mayor read out the Press Release with regard to the disqualification.

MOTION: ROSS / HAMMETT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL receives for information with regard to Council's direction to the Corporation's lawyer for the application to the Supreme Court to disqualify Councillor Julia Butler from office.

CARRIED.

COUNCILLOR BUTLER AND MAYOR KONRAD OPPOSED THE MOTION.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA

- a) Ray Hansen - spoke with regard to the Transition Housing Study and why the City taking this project on. The City advised that it needed to look at all the elements to determine what is needed. Mr. Hansen spoke in relation to the Pickle Ball proposal and advised that Christina Lake had resurfaced their courts with a product that has worked out well for them.

Bob Kendel - Commented on letters in the Boundary Sentinel and Gazette.

Bev Tripp - Asked if there would be legal costs incurred in the disqualification of Councillor Butler. She was advised that the City cannot discuss.

Les Johnson - He asked with regard to the \$20,000 request for FOI and Ombudsperson requests and asked why there is no information on the Ombudsperson request. He was advised that Ombudsperson is protected under their act and the City can't discuss it.

Craig Lindsay - He wanted to know how everyone voted on the Pickleball option.

Nigel James - Advised that the downtown beautification has gone well. He further spoke with regard to Bylaws and Bylaw enforcement without action from the public, and that it may be more prudent to give the Bylaw Enforcement Officer the ability to approach individuals in violation of bylaws without the public input process.

Gene Koch - Asked if Councillor Butler is able to continue as a Councillor until the court decision, and was advised that she will remain as Councillor in the interim.

The Mayor advised that there was another Press Release that was released to the public today with regard to advise from the City's lawyer regarding conflict of interest.

Gina Burroughs - She spoke to the May 4th report from Council Butler with regard to financial information supplied in the meeting that was incorrect and asked what the standard is for Council's reports. The Mayor spoke with regard to human error and rookie error.

ADJOURNMENT

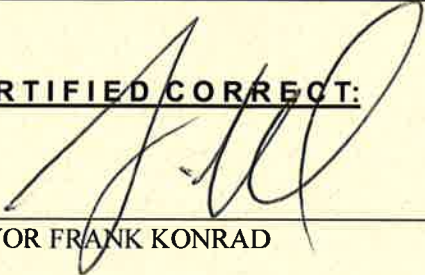
a) The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 PM

MOTION: ROSS

RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:21 PM

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



MAYOR FRANK KONRAD



CORPORATE OFFICER - DIANE HEINRICH