

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS**

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015**

**PRESENT:**

MAYOR FRANK KONRAD  
COUNCILLOR JULIA BUTLER  
COUNCILLOR CHRIS HAMMETT  
COUNCILLOR NEIL KROG  
COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON

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

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

GALLERY

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR COLLEEN ROSS

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- a) The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm

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**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

- a) Adopt agenda  
October 26th, 2015, Regular Meeting agenda

MOTION: BUTLER / KROG

**RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the October 26th, 2015, Regular Meeting agenda as presented.**

CARRIED.

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**3. MINUTES**

- a) Adopt minutes  
October 13th, 2015, Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes

Councillor Butler advised that there is a typo on one of her quotes with regard to the Asset Management Financial Plan discussion and that her quote should state that "unrealistic for a \$32 million deficit, and not \$3 million.

MOTION: THOMPSON / KROG

**RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the October 13th, 2015, Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes as amended.**

CARRIED.

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- b) Adopt minutes  
October 13th, 2015, Regular Meeting minutes

Councillor Thompson noted that "Councillor Michael Wirischagin" be removed from the Council list of attendees.

MOTION: THOMPSON / HAMMETT

**RESOLVED THAT Council adopt the October 13th, 2015, Regular Meeting minutes as amended.**

CARRIED.

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4. **REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

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5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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6. **REPORTS, QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

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

Councillor Butler questioned about the succession plan for the next Chief Administrative Officer and if that person is willing to take the Board of Examiners requirements. The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the City pays for the education of the employee and that the Board of Examiners gives the accreditation not the tests.

Councillor Hammett gave a verbal report:

On October 6th, she attended the Deer Committee annual fall deer count and reported that 221 deer were sited. She advised that last year's fall deer count last October was 212.

On October 21st, she attended the Regional District of Okanagan Similkameen ad hoc deer committee meeting and further advised that a discussion had taken place at the UBCM with all the communities. She advised that, at the UBCM, an announcement

for funding in the amount of \$100,000. would be coming from the province to address deer issues, but do not yet know how this funding will be allocated. She commented that the ad hoc deer committee made a motion, stating that the group would like to the province allocate the funds to provide tools for provision of deer culls where all communities effected could share the equipment.

On October 6th she reported her attendance at a Rails - Trails workshop, and on October 7th, Councillor Hammett attended a Tourism Okanagan Tourism Association (TOTA) workshop at the local Community Futures office.

MOTION: HAMMETT / BUTLER

**RESOLVED THAT all written reports of Council be received.**

CARRIED.

MOTION: HAMMETT / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT The City send a letter to the Provincial Government requesting that the funds regarding the Deer issue be used for tools intending to cull deer that could be used for all affected communities, and that the proposed letter be brought to Council at the COTW on November 9th, 2015 for consideration.**

CARRIED.

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- b) Mayor Konrad  
Mayor to verbally speak to an option to self-install their own water meter

He advised the logic behind the option for home owners to self-install their own water meters is to save costs to the City and provide savings to the tax payer. He commented that the work would not be done by a contractor and that the oneness would be with the homeowner regarding the self-installation. He further spoke about an possible cost savings to those residents who wish to have non-RF water meters, and perhaps that the City could combine the wand readings in one shot instead of multiple readings.

MOTION: THOMPSON / KROG

**RESOLVED THAT Council receive the verbal report from the Mayor and determines to proceed with an option that allows homeowners the ability to choose to self-install the water meters within their own homes.**

CARRIED.

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

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

Councillor Krog advised that the RDKB is meeting in Trail to perform an updated and a new Strategic Plan, which will be in place until 2018, and that the group are currently waiting for final results.

He further advised that he talked to Mr. Allan Stanley, of the RDKB, with regard to the recycle bins and advised that the RDKB didn't find a new location suitable within the City, and further that the RDKB is no longer funding unmanned sites and will be withdrawing the bins and will be using the ones at the Landfill. Councillor Krog advised that the cost to develop another bin location would be borne by the City, if the City wanted to go this route and that it's approximately \$10,000 to \$20,000 to prep a site and then the annual maintenance of a site would be on top of this. There is no definite date of removal as yet, for the current location by the Fire Hall.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that to take the pressure off of Council's RDKB member to provide all the details information on the bin removals and timeframes that the Board direct that the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary manager to provide information to City Staff to bring forward a report to Council from the Regional District.

MOTION: HAMMETT / 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.

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**8. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS**

**a) Manager of Development and Engineering**

Approval from Council to permit Granby River Mining Company Inc. to enter into a Mortgage of Lease Agreement with Community Futures Development Corporation in order to secure financial funding for plant upgrades at its operations in Grand Forks and approval for the City to enter into a Non-Disturbance Agreement with Community Futures

The Manager of Development & Engineering advised that she brought this to Council at the last meeting and that Granby River Mining Company has already received the funds. The signing of the document is the last part of the process. The City is asking the company to set up a fund from the province that would be dedicated to address the reclamation of the property in the future.

MOTION: THOMPSON / KROG

**RESOLVED THAT Council permit Granby River Mining Company Inc. to enter into a Mortgage of Lease Agreement with Community Futures Development Corporation in order to secure financial funding for plant upgrades at its operations in Grand Forks; and**

**FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Council approve the City entering into a Non-Disturbance Agreement with Community Futures.**

CARRIED.

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9. **REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE**

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10. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- a) District of Oak Bay  
Letter of thank you for taking time to meet with representatives from municipalities during UBCM to discuss the challenges of Deer Management in our respective communities

MOTION: HAMMETT / KROG

**RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information. Copy of letter to be distributed to the Deer Committee.**

CARRIED.

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- b) FortisBC  
Free Strategic Community Energy & Emissions Planning opportunity

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the City would look at an energy reduction audit intending to look at ways to reduce the City's electrical consumption.

MOTION: KROG / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information. Council determines that the City of Grand Forks participates in the FortisBC offered Strategic Community Energy & Emissions Planning process in 2015 or 2016 to support commitments made as a signatory of the Climate Action Charter.**

CARRIED.

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- c) Ministry of Agriculture  
Regulating Agri-Tourism and Farm Retail Sales in the Agricultural Land Reserve discussion paper and proposed Minister's Bylaw Standards

Councillor Butler asked if there is anything different from what we are already doing. The CAO advised that it would have simple language added to the zoning bylaw through the legislative process. This would be a 2016 initiative.

MOTION: THOMPSON / HAMMETT

**RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information and consider directing staff, as part of the upcoming Zoning Bylaw update, to include Agri-Tourism, Agri-Tourism Accommodation and Farm Retail Sales as permitted accessory uses in the R4 and R4A zones, if the ALC implements Agri-Tourism, Agri-Tourism Accommodation and Farm Retail Sales as regulatory requirements.**

CARRIED.

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- d) Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)  
Sustainable Communities Conference in Ottawa, ON, from February 9-11th, 2016  
Councillor Krog advised that he attended the conference in the past and that it is quite targeted and focused. Councillor Butler wanted to know what the costs are for the conference. Councillor Krog advised that Council should be determining what they go to. Councillor Thompson advised she felt it would benefit the City if Councillor Ross attended the conference. Councillor Butler would like to see a planned approach to how Council determines what they should be attending and keeping within the budget.

MOTION: THOMPSON / KROG

**RESOLVED THAT Council receive for information and approve Councillor Ross to attend the Sustainable Communities Conference in Ottawa, ON, in February, 2016, and take advantage of the early registration discount.**

CARRIED.

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11. **BYLAWS**

- a) Manager of Building Inspections & Bylaw Services  
Amendment Bylaw No. 1957 A-3 to the Municipal Ticketing & Information Bylaw No. 1957

MOTION: THOMPSON / HAMMETT

**RESOLVED THAT Council gives final reading to Bylaw No. 1957 A-3, a Bylaw Amendment to the Municipal Ticketing & Information Bylaw.**

CARRIED.

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- b) Chief Financial Officer  
2016 Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 2018

MOTION: THOMPSON / BUTLER

**RESOLVED THAT Council give final reading to Bylaw No. 2018 - 2016 Permissive Tax Exemptions.**

CARRIED.

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12. **LATE ITEMS**

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13. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA**

- a) DONALD PHARAND - Question regarding the self-installation of the water meter. Is the City having financial problem with the program? The Mayor advised that his suggestion was just another option for the residents to consider.

FIL MAURO - When is the City going to start installing the remaining water meters? The final proposal is just being finalized. The CAO advised that the Manager of Operations will check into Mr. Mauro's request.

DONNA SEMENOFF - Thanked Council for respecting residents' privacy. She spoke about the City Workers doing the installations of water meters. CAO advised that it is not part of the operation's budget.

DONALD PHARAND - If there is talk about applying for additional grants for water meters - is the current 1.3 million dedicated to the water meter program all spent? The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the City is not over budget on the water meter program, and that the City is exercising all its funding opportunities that it can.

JAMES HAMILTON - How many non- RF meters been installed in Grand Forks? The CAO advised that, to date, there are no non-RF meters installed.

GLORIA KOCH - Wondering if a person were to install their own meter, would the City do the shut off to the lines without cost. The Mayor advised that any installation inside the house, would be shut off inside the house at the main shut off and not at the curb that would involve City staff shut off.

DONNA SEMENOFF - Spoke about the tax exemption process.

GLORIA KOCH - Asked if residents can read their own non-RF meter and was advised that this wasn't an option.

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14. **ADJOURNMENT**

- a) The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm

MOTION: THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:26 pm**

CARRIED.

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**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
MAYOR FRANK KONRAD

  
CORPORATE OFFICER - DIANE HEINRICH

OCTOBER 26, 2015

REGULAR MEETING