

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING of COUNCIL

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2004

PRESENT: MAYOR JAKE RAVEN
COUNCILLOR ANN GORDON
COUNCILLOR MIKE KANIGAN
COUNCILLOR NEIL KROG
COUNCILLOR PATRICK O'DOHERTY
COUNCILLOR TOM SHKRABUIK
COUNCILLOR BOB SMITH

CITY CLERK – L. Burch

GALLERY

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- Councillor Smith request for discussion on a proposed left turn on highway #3 at the A&W and a proposed left turn lane at 5th Street, to be brought forward under New Business
- Delete item 5 d) from section titled Correspondence for Information
- Add Delegation Form from BCGEU as Item 4 a)
- Add final reading of Bylaw No. 1742, Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 1742, 2004.
- Delete third and final reading of Bylaw No. 1735, inasmuch as not all 7 members of Council were present for the public hearing.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / KANIGAN

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: SMITH / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD MONDAY JANUARY 19, 2004, THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON

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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2004, AND THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2004, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:

None

RESOLUTIONS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM THE IN-CAMERA MEETING:

- Council will be meeting with residents adjacent to the airport at their next regular meeting, to discuss the removal of trees on airport lands.

DELEGATIONS:

Byron Howard, on behalf of the British Columbia Government Employees Union, requested that Council consider adopting a resolution petitioning the Provincial government to rescind laws imposing Income Assistance time limits and reducing benefits. Mr. Howard provided background information for an exemption added by the province to assist income assistance recipients, resulting in lower numbers of individuals who will be affected by the two-year time limit in April of this year. He stated that the law imposing the time limit should be rescinded. On behalf of Council, Mayor Raven thanked Mr. Howard for attending the meeting and making this presentation.

COMMUNICATIONS FOR INFORMATION

MOTION: KROG / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS 5 a) from the Honourable Sandy Santori, 5 b) from John Cummins MP, 5 c) from the City of Burnaby, 5 d) from BCGEU, 5 e) from the District of North Cowichan, BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION.

CARRIED.

CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 59 – Request to hold a parade

MOTION: KROG / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT APPROVAL BE GIVEN TO THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION BRANCH NO. 59 TO HOLD A PARADE ON SATURDAY APRIL 17, 2004 AT 1:00 P.M., IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANNUAL SPRING WEST KOOTENAY ZONE MEETING, ON THE ROUTE OUTLINED IN THEIR CORRESPONDENCE, SUBJECT TO CONCURRENCE BY THE RCMP, THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS.

CARRIED

b) Greg and Leigh Starchuk – Request for a refund of Rezoning fee

MOTION: KANIGAN / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE REQUEST FOR A REFUND OF THE REZONING FEE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000, BY GREG AND LEIGH STARCHUK BE APPROVED, INASMUCH AS THE CITY DECLINED TO FORWARD THE BYLAW TO THE REQUIRED SECOND PUBLIC HEARING.

CARRIED.

Councillor Smith voted against the resolution.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Reports for Information

MOTION: SMITH / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT THE SLAG SALES ANALYSIS FOR THE MONTH ENDING JANUARY 31, 2004, BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION.

CARRIED.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / KROG

RESOLVED THAT SLAG SALES ANALYSIS REPORTS BE FORWARDED TO COUNCIL QUARTERLEY, AS WELL AS FINANCIAL REPORTS FORWARDED TO COUNCIL ON A QUARTERLEY BASIS.

CARRIED.

Administrative Reports Requiring Action:

a) Clerk's Report – Required Resolution to Change Signing Officers at GFDCU

MOTION: KANIGAN / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RESOLVE THAT ANY TWO OF THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF COUNCIL, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, FIRE CHIEF, OR CITY CLERK ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS TO BE SIGNING OFFICERS OF THE MUNICIPALITY, AS PER THE OUTLINE OF RESPONSIBILITIES ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL WAIVE THE CHEQUE SIGNING AUTHORITY POLICY, POLICY NO. 3.4 UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT ASSIGNMENTS HAVE BEEN FINALIZED.

CARRIED.

b) Clerk's Report – Unsafe Structure 3rd Street – Response from Property Owner

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL PROVIDE AN EXTENSION OF TIME TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2004 FOR THE OWNER OF PROPERTY, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOTS 17-18, BLOCK 8, DL 108, SDYD, PLAN 23, LOCATED AT 7140 3RD STREET, TO BRING THE PROPERTY UP TO A STANDARD PROVIDED FOR IN CITY BYLAWS, SUBJECT TO THE RECEIPT OF THE BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT THAT THE ACTIONS OF THE PROPERTY OWNER WILL MEET THE STANDARDS OUTLINED IN PART 8 OF THE BUILDING CODE.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PROPERTY OWNER BE ADVISED THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES WILL FURTHER EXTENSIONS WILL BE GRANTED.

CARRIED.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The Mayor reported on his meeting with the RCMP regarding their Strategic Planning Session.

He also reported on a meeting that he attended with representatives of Pope & Talbot.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Zoning and Planning Committee – Councillor Krog – no report

Parks Advisory Committee – no report

RDKB Representative – no report

Skateboard Park Committee – no report

Bylaw Review Committee – Councillor Smith – no report
Grand Forks & District Recreation Commission Representative

Economic Development Committee - Councillor Shkrabuik –no report
Chamber of Commerce and Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee Representative

Emergency Program Executive Committee – Mayor Raven – no report
Community Consultative Group Representative
Boundary Economic Development Commission Representative – the Mayor brought forward the minutes of the last meeting of the Boundary Economic Development Commission.

Economic Development Advisory Committee – no report

Communications Advisory Committee – Councillor Gordon – no report
Court House Advisory Committee –
Phoenix Foundation Rep – reported that the Phoenix Foundation is accepting grant applications until February 29th.
Airport Advisory Committee - Councillor Gordon brought forward her report on the Height Restriction Bylaw and Zoning for the Grand Forks Airport. She suggested it was for Council's information at this time.

Finance Committee – Councillor O'Doherty

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / KANIGAN

RESOLVED THAT THE \$50,000 POLICING RESERVE BE DELETED FROM THE 2004 FINANCIAL PLAN. CARRIED.

Councillor Gordon voted against the motion.

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MOTION: O'DOHERTY / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT HANGING BASKET FUNDING BE DELETED FROM THE 2004 FINANCIAL PLAN, AND STAFF BE DIRECTED TO DRAFT A POLICY ON THE HANGING

OF FLOWER BASKETS, BE PRIVATE PARTIES, ON CITY LAMP STANDARDS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA. CARRIED.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / KROG

RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO MAKE INQUIRIES INTO ALTERNATIVE FINANCING OR PAYOUT SOLUTIONS TO THE EXISTING LEASES. CARRIED.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / SHK

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL MAKE SERIOUS INQUIRIES INTO THE PROPOSAL FOR THE WEST END RESERVOIR FOR AN INDEPENDENT REVIEW, INCLUDING AN UNDERWRITERS' REPORT. CARRIED.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR THE FOREGOING REVIEWS BEING THE INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE WEST END RESERVOIR AND THE UNDERWRITERS' REPORT, BE IDENTIFIED AS THE WATER UTILITY SURPLUS. CARRIED.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO DO A REPORT ON THE CURRENT DEBT SITUATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY. CARRIED.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / KANIGAN

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO OBTAIN A COST ANALYSIS FOR THE WATER METERING PROGRAM ON COMMERCIAL/INDUSTRIAL AND AN AUDIT ON THE CONNECTIONS. CARRIED.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY'S SHARE OF FUNDING BE INCLUDED IN THE 2004 FINANCIAL PLAN FOR A PIECE OF EQUIPMENT INTENDED TO REDUCE GAS CONSUMPTION AT THE GRAND FORKS AQUATIC CENTRE, AS REQUESTED BY THE RECREATION COMMISSION, SUBJECT TO THE ANTICIPATED \$12,000 IN ANNUAL

SAVINGS BEING REFLECTED IN THE CITY'S ANNUAL AQUATIC CENTRE REQUISITION. CARRIED.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS MATCH REGIONAL DISTRICT AREA "D" DIRECTOR FUNDING, IN-KIND AND CASH NOT TO EXCEED \$3,000, FOR THE 2004 FESTIVAL OF FREEDOM AT THE FORKS. CARRIED.

Councillor Krog voted against the motion.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL CONTRIBUTE \$3,500.00 TO THE GRAND FORKS AREA ARTS COUNCIL FOR THE 2004 BUDGET YEAR. CARRIED.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT THE STEAM PUMPER ENCLOSURE PROJECT BE HELD IN ABEYANCE UNTIL COUNCIL HAS DETERMINED WHAT TO DO WITH THE MUSEUM PROPERTY. CARRIED.

MOTION: KANIGAN / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT MONIES OWNED BY DAVID CAMERON JOHNSON, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,190.93, BE WRITTEN OFF BY THE CITY EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 31, 2003 AND REMOVE ANY BALANCE FROM THE RECORDS EFFECTIVE AT THAT DATE.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE CITY AMEND ITS MOBILE HOME ACT TAX CERTIFICATE TO MAKE IT VALID FOR 15 DAYS ONLY FROM THE DATE OF ISSUE.

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT THE CITY REQUIRE A DEPOSIT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250.00 TO COVER UNBILLED SERVICES, TO BE REFUNDED ONCE THE FINAL BILLINGS HAVE BEEN RENDERED AND PAID. CARRIED.

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MOTION: KROG / KANIGAN

RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO RESEARCH THE COSTS OF RETAINING A COLLECTION AGENCY TO COLLECT OUTSTANDING DEBT OF DAVID CAMERON JOHNSON. CARRIED.

MOTION: KANIGAN / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT THE REQUEST FROM THE BOUNDARY MINOR LACROSSE ASSOCIATION THAT THE CITY ASSIST IN PURCHASING EQUIPMENT FOR THE ASSOCIATION, BE DENIED. CARRIED.

Staff was requested to refer the Boundary Minor Lacrosse Association to the Phoenix Foundation.

MOTION: KANIGAN / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT FUNDS BE SET ASIDE IN THE 2004 FINANCIAL PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COMMUNITY TRAILS, AS REQUESTED BY THE GRAND FORKS COMMUNITY TRAILS SOCIETY, CONTINGENT ON THE CITY'S CONTRIBUTION BEING MATCHING FUNDS UP TO \$10,000.00. CARRIED.

Personnel Committee – Councillor Kanigan - no report
Aquifer Protection Society Representative

BYLAWS

Bylaw No. 1742 “Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 1742, 2004” (previously circulated)

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1742, CITED AS ELECTRICAL UTILITY REGULATORY AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1742, 2004, BE FINALLY ADOPTED. CARRIED.

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Bylaw No. 1743 “Council Remuneration and Expenses Bylaw No. 1743, 2004”

MOTION: SMITH / KANIGAN

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1743, CITED AS “COUNCIL REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES BYLAW NO. 1743, 2004, BE GIVEN FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS. CARRIED.

Mayor Raven and Councillor Gordon voted against the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

Councillor Smith brought forward the matter of traffic situations that in his opinion are very hazardous at the A&W turnoff and at 5th Street and Central Avenue.

MOTION: SMITH / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO WRITE A STRONGLY WORDED LETTER TO THE MINISTRY OF HIGHWAYS REQUESTING THAT MINISTRY REPRESENTATIVES MEET WITH COUNCIL ON THE MATTER OF INSTALLING LEFT HAND TURN LANES AT THE "A&W" TURNOFF AND AT THE INTERSECTION AT 5TH STREET AND CENTRAL AVENUE. **CARRIED.**

Councillor Smith brought forward concerns expressed by residents on Van Ness Way as to snow clearing and the use of private property to access the lane beyond.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 8:15 P.M. **CARRIED.**

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

MAYOR JAKE RAVEN

CITY CLERK – LYNNE BURCH