

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

**REGULAR MEETING of COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 21, 2004**

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

                                  CAO – J. Lambie  
                                  CITY CLERK – L. Burch

GALLERY

---

---

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

---

---

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

Fire Chief Blair Macgregor presented two members of the Volunteer Fire Department with their 20-year pins. Volunteer members Peter Voykin, and James Traynor, received their federal government long service awards. 12 members of Grand Forks Volunteer Firemen were in attendance to recognize their fellow firefighters.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Reverse the order of delegations ie: Grand Forks Aquatic Centre User Groups will be designated as item no. 5a), and Friends of the Grand Forks Aquatic Centre will be designated as item no. 5b).
- Bylaw No. 1751, will be deleted from the agenda, inasmuch as not all members of Council were in attendance at the public hearing held earlier this evening.
- Funding for Hutton School Sidewalk to be brought forward under New Business

MOTION:           SMITH / KROG

**RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.**

**CARRIED.**

---

---

**MINUTES:**

MOTION: GORDON / KANIGAN

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY JUNE 7, 2004, AND THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY JUNE 7, 2004, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.**

CARRIED.

---

---

**BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF THE MINUTES:**

---

---

**RESOLUTIONS FROM IN-CAMERA MEETINGS:**

---

---

**DELEGATIONS:**

Prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> presentation, and at the request of the Acting Mayor, the CAO read to the meeting a copy of the letter forwarded to the Grand Forks Recreation Commission requested that the pool remain open except for the required two week maintenance shut down in September.

**a) Grand Forks Aquatic Centre User Groups**

On behalf of the Grand Forks Aquatic Centre User Groups, Cora Evers-Ludwar spoke to Council regarding the proposed August closure of the Aquatic Centre.

Betty Brussell advised Council of her regular attendance at the Grand Forks Aquatic Centre and her gold medals won at competitions.

Jane Grey stated the benefits she receives from being able to regularly swim in the Grand Forks Aquatic Centre. Requested that Council do everything possible to keep the pool open.

A letter from Katie Jepsen was read. Ms. Jepsen runs a daycare centre in Grand Forks. Her letter stated her daycare patrons use the pool every Friday morning and her daycare children take swimming lessons. The letter stated Ms. Jepsen's request that the pool be open for longer hours especially when kids are out of school.

Becky Dean on behalf of children and youth of the pool., stated that summer months are the best months to use the pool, as it provides recreation, swim lessons, including kayaking, scuba diving, and "Nights Alive" youth evenings. She encouraged Council to keep the facility open.

Pam Davies stated that the original planners of the Aquatic Centre recognized the benefits for seniors. She expressed her gratitude to the pool staff for their efforts towards her therapy, following surgery. She stated that the need for the pool for therapy use will only increase as the senior use increases.

It was stated that persons with development disabilities use the pool on a regular basis and that this is a vital benefit to these people.

Kirsty Jacobsen – expressed her concern on the health care of the residents should the pool close. She stated that continuous access to the pool, will provide health benefits to many people and questioned the judgement in closing the pool even temporarily. She stated that the pool should be upgraded and maintained and kept open year round.

Amy Enns – spoke on behalf of Real Estate agents in Grand Forks. She advised that part of the sales in Grand Forks are based on the amenities that the community has to offer such as the Grand Forks Aquatic Centre. She further advised that there is currently a boom in real estate, and the loss of the pool would be a real detriment.

Council members stated their intention to keep the pool open. Some members of Council provided background on the recreation funding for all recreational facilities.

---

**b) Friends of the Grand Forks Aquatic Centre**

On behalf of the Friends of the Grand Forks Aquatic Centre, John Mackey addressed Council relative to the proposed closure of the Aquatic Centre in August. He stated that the quality of life in Grand Forks is being reduced. He stated that numerous positive letters have been received by Council, indicating that the residents want the facility open. He advised that when the pool first opened, it was open to the public 86 hours per week and is now open less than 50 hours per week. Council members advised that there is an intention to go to referendum in the fall. Mr. Mackey stated he does not have the authority to run the facility without the funding in place. Some discussion continued as to operating the facility in a deficit position.

Mr. Mackey ended his comments by stating that an immediate decision about the pool staying open, needs to be made. The Acting Mayor stated that a decision cannot be made this evening, however Council will guarantee that the pool will stay open in August. He further suggested that an answer will be coming forthcoming this week.

---

---

The meeting was recessed at 7:24 p.m. and reconvened at 7:40 p.m.

---

---

**COMMUNICATION FOR INFORMATION:**

None

---

---

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**District of North Vancouver – New Welfare Legislation in the Employment and Assistance Act**

MOTION: KROG / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT THE LETTER DATED JUNE 1, 2004 FROM THE DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER DIRECTED TO THE UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES, REGARDING NEW WELFARE LEGISLATION IN THE EMPLOYMENT AND ASSISTANCE ACT, BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION.

CARRIED.

---

**Canadian Taxpayers Federation – Municipal Roadway Trust**

MOTION: GORDON / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT THE LETTER, DATED MAY 20, 2004, FROM THE CANADIAN TAXPAYERS FEDERATION, REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A “MUNICIPAL ROADWAY TRUST” BE RECEIVED AND THAT THE ACTING MAYOR BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE PETITION ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS.

CARRIED.

---

---

**ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:**

**Reports for Information:** None

---

---

**Administrative Reports Requiring Action:**

**a) Superintendent’s Report – Barbara Ann Park Tennis Courts**

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / KANIGAN

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVE THE SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT ENTITLED “BARBARA ANN PARK TENNIS COURTS”. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE REQUESTED IMPROVEMENTS BE COMPLETED, COST-SHARED WITH THE PREVIOUSLY OFFERED FUNDING FROM THE GRAND FORKS TENNIS CLUB.

CARRIED.

**b) Clerk's Report – Application for Development Variance Permit – Habitat for Humanity Boundary Society**

Prior to considering the application for a development variance permit, as requested by Habitat for Humanity Boundary Society, the Acting Mayor invited anyone in the gallery to make their views on the application known to Council at this time.

MOTION: SMITH / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT THE APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT, SUBMITTED BY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BOUNDARY SOCIETY, TO VARY THE GRAND FORKS ZONING BYLAW FRONT YARD SETBACK REQUIREMENT FROM 20 FEET TO 15 FEET, TO ALLOW FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A 960 SQUARE FOOT LOW-INCOME SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING ON PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 2, D.L. 108, S.D.Y.D., PLAN KAP67325, BE APPROVED.

CARRIED.

---

**c) Clerk's Report – RDKB Bylaw Referrals (Mountain View Doukhorbor Museum)**

Council instructed Staff to bring this matter forward at the next meeting. They further instructed Staff to research whether or not the property is located within the Agricultural Land Reserve.

---

---

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Zoning and Planning Committee – Councillor Krog**  
**Parks Advisory Committee**  
**RDKB Representative**  
**Skateboard Park Committee**

---

**Bylaw Review Committee – Councillor Smith**  
**Grand Forks & District Recreation Commission Representative**

---

**Economic Development Committee - Councillor Shkrabuik**  
**Chamber of Commerce and Chamber of Commerce Tourism Committee Representative**  
**Referendum Committee**

---

**Emergency Program Executive Committee – Mayor Raven**  
**Community Consultative Group Representative**  
**Boundary Economic Development Commission Representative**  
**Economic Development Advisory Committee**

**Communications Advisory Committee – Councillor Gordon**  
**Court House Advisory Committee**  
**Phoenix Foundation Rep**

**Airport Advisory Committee** - reported on the invitation that the City intends to send to the Snowbirds to come and perform in Grand Forks in 2005. Councillor Gordon outlined proposed expenses and further outlined the financing received during the 2002 snowbird visit. She requested that Council proceed with sending the letter as Council previously directed. She advised that if in the future it is determined that adequate funding cannot be arranged, the City can cancel the booking. In closing she suggested that the surrounding Electoral Areas be requested to participate in financing the event.

.....

MOTION: GORDON / KROG

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL PROCEED WITH SENDING A LETTER OF INVITATION TO THE SNOWBIRDS, INVITING THEM TO PERFORM IN GRAND FORKS DURING THE 2005 YEAR. CARRIED.

.....

**Courthouse Use Committee-**

---

**Finance Committee – Councillor O’Doherty** - no report

---

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

---

---

**NEW BUSINESS** Councillor Shkrabuik brought forward the matter of the funding for the Hutton School sidewalk.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / KROG

RESOLVED THAT THE HUTTON SIDEWALK FUNDING BE REFERRED TO THE FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. CARRIED.

---

---

**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: SHKRABUIK

**RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 8:04 P.M. CARRIED.**

---

---

Regular Meeting of Council  
June 21 2004

---

ACTING MAYOR PATRICK O'DOHERTY

---

CITY CLERK – LYNNE BURCH