

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY APRIL 24, 2006

PRESENT: MAYOR NEIL KROG
COUNCILLOR ANN GORDON
COUNCILLOR TOM HINTER
COUNCILLOR CHRIS MOSLIN
COUNCILLOR PATRICK O'DOHERTY
COUNCILLOR GENE ROBERT
COUNCILLOR TOM SHKRABUIK

CITY MANAGER V. Kumar
CITY CLERK L. Burch
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER D. Zabinsky

GALLERY.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

➤ None

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MONDAY APRIL 24, 2006, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

a) Boundary Event Producers Society – Festival of Freedom

Mayor Krog welcomed John Zibin and JJ Verigin to the meeting. Mr. Verigin began his presentation by referring to the group's previously submitted delegation request. He requested that the City increase the previous level of financial support from a silver level to the gold level. Discussion ensued as to the group's previous and proposed donations to the Juvenile Diabetes

.../ continued on next page

Association. It was stated by the presenters that the donation was part of an agreement with one of the performers, April Wine. It was clarified that the donation was actually part of the payment to the performer.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY JOHN ZIBIN AND JJ VERIGIN OF THE BOUNDARY EVENT PRODUCERS SOCIETY REQUESTING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE UPCOMING FESTIVAL OF FREEDOM, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

Mayor Krog thanked Mr. Zibin and Mr. Verigin for their presentation.

b) Grand Forks Community Trails Society – Vision for Trail Development

Mayor Krog welcomed Mr. George Longden to the meeting. By way of a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Longden outlined the group's vision for trail development, which includes:

- ❖ Strategic Plan to develop access to the river.
- ❖ Re-development of the black train bridge.
- ❖ Develop trails on the south side of the Black Train Bridge.
- ❖ Re-development of trails from Coalshute Road to Highway 3.

Mr. Longden advised that there would be no request for funds at this time. He requested, on behalf of the Trails Society that the City consider entering into discussions with Pope & Talbot Ltd. for access to the south end of the black train bridge, as well as entering into discussions with CP Rail for lands north of Highway 3. He thanked Council for their support in the past. Discussion ensued as to the individual aspects of the vision presented by the Trails Group.

Mayor Krog thanked Mr. Longden for his presentation.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY GEORGE LONGDEN OF THE GRAND FORKS COMMUNITY TRAILS SOCIETY ADVISING OF THE GROUP'S VISION FOR TRAIL DEVELOPMENT IN 2006, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

MOTION: MOSLIN / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE ISSUES AND REQUESTS PUT FORWARD AS PART OF THE GRAND FORKS COMMUNITY TRAILS SOCIETY PRESENTATION BE REFERRED TO THE PARKS COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CARRIED.

QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Krog stated that City Council is interested in hearing from the public on the issues it is dealing with or on any other issue that is of interest to the general public. To ensure that this process is open and does not feel uncomfortable to anyone, he advised that Council has set up some parameters to follow. He requested the gallery that prior to speaking about their issue that they would advise Council of the following:

1. Identify yourself, stating your name and place of residence and the issue you are bringing forward.
2. The subject of your participation should be limited to items of broad public interest, not personal to your property. This is not a forum for complaints. Any complaints will be dealt with by Staff and can be made by calling or attending City Hall or other City department during business hours.
3. Presentations: You must limit your questions and or comments to a maximum of five (5) minutes including questions from Council. This will permit time for all that are present to participate.
4. Council may not make any decisions at this meeting and if Council wishes, the item would be referred to Staff for follow-up and recommendation for Council to consider at a regular meeting of Council.

Christine Medvedoff of 73rd Avenue:

Expressed her concerns and disappointment as to the proposed implementation of the flat tax. She further expressed concerns as to her property assessment.

Representative of the Boundary Peace Initiative:

Council was advised of the upcoming Mayors for Peace conference in Vancouver. The representative stated that Grand Forks was one of the first communities to join the Mayors for Peace organization. She urged the Mayor or any member of Council to attend.

Communities in Bloom:

A representative from the Communities in Bloom organization presented Members of Council with daffodils. She went on to provided an update on the activities of Communities in Bloom, stating that the downtown project was cancelled. Council was advised that they group is currently assisting the AKBLG Conference by making table centre pieces. It was stated that the group would like to partner with the Grand Forks Community Trails Society with a garden across the highway from the Motel 99. She concluded by thanking the City for their support.

Ray Hanson:

Mr. Hanson inquired as to the status of the pavement on Central Avenue. He urged the City to discuss the matter further with the Ministry of Transportation. On a request from the Mayor, the City Manager explained that the Ministry of Transportation are aware of the problem and will be doing something to mitigate the problem, but the City has been advised that no major repaving will occur this year.

Steve Maskall:

Mr. Maskall inquired as to the proposed flat tax and if there is an intention to raise the tax in ensuing years. The Mayor advised that part of taxes have always gone to road maintenance. The flat tax is designed to allow all taxpayers pay the same amount for the same service. It was stated that it is intended to reduce General taxes by the flat tax amount.

OPERATIONAL DISCUSSION & PRESENTATIONS BY STAFF:

a) Deputy Clerk / Treasurer Presentation – 2005 Financial Statements Review

The Chief Financial Officer by way of a power point presentation provided an overview of the 2005 financial statements, un-audited at this time. He explained receivables, as well as reserve funds, and the City's debt position. He provided a summary of financial activities, stating that the City collects taxes for other authorities. He stated that \$8.3 million was collected by the city in revenues, including all funds.

b) Deputy Clerk / Treasurer Presentation – 2006 First Quarter Financial Report

The Chief Financial Officer by way of a power point presentation provided an overview of the 1st quarter expenditures for the year 2006. He stated that most expenditures take place in the 2nd and 3rd quarters, so the total cash position at the end of March, 2006 is about 3 million. He advised that consolidated revenues are about \$2.1 million, put the City's current finances right on track at this point in time. The CFO concluded by resending a summary of all the funds that the City has.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATIONS ON THE 2005 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, AND THE 2006 FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

City Clerk's Report – Proposed amendment to the OCP and Zoning Bylaws

MOTION: HINTER / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO DRAFT AN AMENDMENT TO THE GRAND FORKS ZONING BYLAW PROPOSING TO REZONE PROPERTY, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 1, D.L. 520, PLAN 16242, EXCEPT PLAN KAP59850 AND LOT 1, D.L. 520, PLAN KAP59850, LOCATED AT 2600 – 75TH AVENUE, FROM THE CURRENT COMMUNITY USE ZONE TO R-1 (SINGLE AND TWO FAMILY) ZONE AND PERMIT THE BYLAW TO PROCEED TO PUBLIC HEARING.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT IT BE RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO DRAFT AN AMENDMENT TO THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN BYLAW PROPOSING TO RE-DESIGNATE PROPERTY, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 1, D.L. 520, PLAN 16242, EXCEPT PLAN KAP59850 AND LOT 1, D.L. 520, PLAN KAP59850, LOCATED AT 2600 – 75TH AVENUE FROM THE CURRENT MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL AND PERMIT THE BYLAW TO PROCEED TO PUBLIC HEARING. CARRIED.

REQUESTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

None

LATE ITEMS:

None

REPORTS, QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL (VERBAL)

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THIS PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:16P.M.

CARRIED.

Primary Committee Meeting of Council
April 24, 2006

MAYOR NEIL KROG

CITY CLERK – LYNNE BURCH