

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MONDAY MAY 8, 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
CITY CLERK
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

V. Kumar
L. Burch
D. Zabinsky

GALLERY

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

➤ None

MOTION: MOSLIN / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA, FOR THE MEETING OF MAY 8, 2006, BE ADOPTED,
AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES, AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN,
OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2006, BE
ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MOTION: HINTER / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2006, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MOTION: GORDON / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE FLAT TAX ON PARCELS REVIEW PANEL MEETING, HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2006, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

**a) Major Industry – Roxul (West) Inc., CanPar Industries, Pope & Talbot Ltd.
presentation on industrial tax rates**

Bo Seminiuk of Roxul (West) Inc. made a presentation to Council on municipal tax rates. He introduced Randy Johnson from Can Par Industries and Gary McGrath from Pope & Talbot Ltd. By way of a powerpoint presentation, Mr. Seminiuk presented information from the Industries' point of view on the municipal tax rates levied to major industries in Grand Forks. Mr. Seminiuk stated, on behalf of the industries', that it is their position to pay fair and equitable municipal property taxes and appealed to Council to re-examine the major industry tax structure.

The Mayor thanked Mr. Seminiuk for taking the time to make this presentation to Council.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / HINTER

RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY BO SEMINIUK, REPRESENTING THE LOCAL MAJOR INDUSTRIES, ROXUL (WEST) INC, CANPAR INDUSTRIES, AND POPE & TALBOT LTD., ON THE MATTER OF GRAND FORKS INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY TAX RATES, BE RECEIVED.

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT STAFF REPORT FURTHER ON THIS ISSUE TO FACILITATE A RESPONSE TO INDUSTRY.

CARRIED.

b) Berg, Naqvi, Lehmann – Auditor's Report

Mr. Jon MacMillan of the firm Berg, Naqvi, Lehmann, made a presentation to Council on the Audited Financial Statements of the City of Grand Forks as at December 31, 2005. Mr. MacMillan read to the meeting the Auditors' Report, dated April 20, 2006, indicating that the City's financial position is sound.

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MOTION: SHKRABUIK / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY JON MACMILLAN REPRESENTING THE FIRM OF BERG, NAQVI, LEHMANN, ON THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2005, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

The Mayor thanked Mr. MacMillan for his presentation to Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:

a) City Clerk's Report – James Donaldson Park

Prior to the discussion on the Clerk's Report, Councillor Robert indicated his intention to vacate Council Chambers at this time inasmuch as he is the current 3rd Party Operator of the City's Liquor Primary Licence for James Donaldson Park, and as such could be perceived to be in a conflict of interest during the debate and vote on the following matter. He left Council Chambers at 7:40 p.m.

MOTION: HINTER / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED APRIL 10, 2006, REGARDING THE OPTIONS FOR LIQUOR SALES IN JAMES DONALDSON PARK BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO FILE NOTIFICATION WITH THE LIQUOR CONTROL AND LICENCING BRANCH OF THE CITY'S INTENTION TO GIVE UP THE LIQUOR PRIMARY LICENCE, AND THAT IN THE FUTURE ALL LIQUOR BE SERVED IN DESIGNATED AREAS IN JAMES DONALDSON PARK THROUGH SPECIAL OCCASION LIQUOR LICENCES.

CARRIED.

Councillor Robert returned to Council Chambers at 7:47 p.m.

b) City Manager's Report – Columbia Basin Trust

MOTION: HINTER / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, ON THE PROPOSAL FOR A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR INCLUSION IN THE COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST, BE RECEIVED.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO FORWARD A LETTER OF SUPPORT IN PURSUANCE OF THE INCLUSION OF THE BOUNDARY COMMUNITIES IN THE COLUMBIA BASIN TRUST.

CARRIED.

c) City Manager's Report – Utilization of Courthouse for Public Tourist Use

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT ON THE UTILIZATION OF THE GRAND FORKS COURTHOUSE FOR PUBLIC TOURIST USE, DATED MAY 2, 2006, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL LEAVE THE COURTHOUSE BUILDING FOR THE USE OF THE JUDICIARY UNTIL THE LEASE EXPIRES AND NO PUBLIC ACCESS TO THE INTERIOR BE GRANTED UNLESS IT IS FOR COURT PURPOSES.

CARRIED.

d) City Manager's Report – Airport GPS System

MOTION: GORDON / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT ON THE AIRPORT GPS SYSTEM AND THE AIRPORT CERTIFICATION, DATED MAY 1, 2006, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF RIP FOR THE NEXT FOUR YEARS TO RETAIN THE RIP CERTIFICATION AS PART OF THE PUBLISHED PROCEDURES IN THE CANADA AIR PILOT.

CARRIED.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 5A TO 5G BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED.

CARRIED.

a) Bylaw 1804 – Flat Tax on Parcels Bylaw

MOTION: HINTER / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1804, CITED AS “CITY OF GRAND FORKS FLAT TAX ON PARCELS BYLAW NO. 1804, 2006”, BE FINALLY ADOPTED.

CARRIED.

b) Bylaw 1805 – Municipal Road Maintenance Services Flat Tax on Parcels Roll

MOTION: GORDON / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1805, CITED AS “MUNICIPAL ROAD MAINTENANCE SERVICES FLAT TAX ON PARCELS BYLAW, BE FINALLY ADOPTED. CARRIED.

c) Bylaw 1806 – 2006 Annual Tax Rates Bylaw

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1806, CITED AS “2006 ANNUAL TAX RATES BYLAW”, BE FINALLY ADOPTED. CARRIED.

LATE ITEMS:

None

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

Councillor HINTER

- Requested permission to attend the Municipal Industrial Property Taxation seminar and the Solicitor General's presentation on policing costs for small communities.

MOTION: HINTER / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT COUNCILLOR TOM HINTER AND A MEMBER OF CITY STAFF BE AUTHORIZED TO ATTEND THE INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY TAXATION AND POLICING COSTS IN SMALL COMMUNITIES AND RURAL AREAS CONSULTATIONS, HOSTED BY THE UBCM ON MAY 25 AND 26, 2006 IN RICHMOND, B.C. CARRIED.

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Councillor o'Doherty

- No Report

Councillor Gordon:

- ❖ Advised that the AKBLG conference held this past weekend in Grand Forks was a success. She congratulated City Staff on a job well done. Councillor Gordon stated that 29 resolutions were debated at the conference. She outlined the various speakers, trade show attendees, as well as entertainment.
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Councillor Shkrabuik

- No Report
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Councillor Robert:

- ❖ Added his congratulations on the AKBLG conference held this past weekend
 - ❖ Reported that the Rivers' Edge Theatre will be presenting the production "Short and Sweet"
 - ❖ Brought forward the discussion from the Boundary Communities Meeting on April 26th, highlighting the discussion around Arts and Culture.
 - ❖ Stated that Grand Forks Public Library is 60 years old and a 60th Anniversary was held recently
 - ❖ Reported on his attendance at the Kettle River Youth Forum
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Councillor Moslin

- Congratulated the organizers of the Kettle River Youth Forum, stating that 200 youth attended the forum. He highlighted the results of the City's survey filled out by the youth attending the City's booth at the forum. He concluded by advising that the youth attending the forum thought it would be a good idea to have a youth council intended to provide Council input on youth issues.
 - He advised the public that the Trans Canada Trail has a major washout, 3 km east of Lafferty and is closed to the public at this time as the trail is impassable.
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Mayor Krog

- Reported on his attendance at the youth forum.
- Discussed the City's hosting of a regional meeting with partners through the Boundary, (Boundary Communities Meeting). Cont'd next page

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- Discussed the resolutions put forward by the City of Grand Forks at the AKBLG Conference, stating his disappointment that the City's resolution on Air Quality was not approved by the members of AKBLG.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT THE VERBAL REPORTS, PRESENTED BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AT THIS MEETING, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: SHKRABUIK

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL STAND ADJOURNED AT 8:17 P.M.

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT

MAYOR NEIL KROG

CITY CLERK – LYNNE BURCH