

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY AUGUST 11, 2008

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 L. Engels

GALLERY

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

➤ None

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2008, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

None

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 that prior to speaking about their issue that persons in the gallery 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.

Roy Ronaghan :

Mr. Ronaghan inquired as to how the City is responding to the BC Air Action Plan. Councillor Moslin advised that the response will come in the context of the Air Management Plan relating to particulates. On a further inquiry, Councillor Moslin stated that other than continually making sure that City equipment is frequently replaced and maintained, the City has no plans to replace their diesel equipment. Mr. Ronaghan inquired as to the time frame for the completion of construction at the Heritage Court House. The Mayor advised that completion is scheduled for the end of September. And finally Mr. Ronaghan inquired as to the status of the Integrated Community Sustainable Plan. Councillor Robert suggested that the plan is being devised, stating that an additional meeting is scheduled. Councillor Moslin suggested that the survey on the plan has not yet been referred to the public. The City Manager stated the survey is being developed and will be presented to the public within the next few weeks.

Lincoln Ford:

Inquired as to his letter of request for a bicycle lane on Highway No. 3. Mr. Ford was advised that the Ministry of Transportation has been requested to include a bicycle lane, during the upcoming re-paving project, however there may be difficulties due to the width of the road, and the final decision will remain with the Ministry as Highway 3 is within their jurisdiction.

OPERATIONAL DISCUSSION & PRESENTATIONS BY STAFF:

- a) Parks Department Presentation – Activities of the Parks Department for 2008

Ross Idler, Coordinator for the Parks Department made a presentation to the Committee on the activities of the Parks Department for the 2008 season. By way of powerpoint presentation, the Coordinator spoke to a number of slides outlining the maintenance of 9 parks, 22 blocks of treed, irrigated boulevards, over 1000 city trees, tree planting and preservation.

The Coordinator outlined the expansion of the number of flower planters and baskets in 2008, along with new hardware consisting of benches. He spoke of the upgrading of independent underground irrigation systems, stating that the new irrigation system for City Park is 75% complete. He outlined work at the Cemetery and Gyro park landscaping and flowers. He credited all the crews for their support of the parks department and the parks projects. Council members discussed and inquired as to various issues, such as water usage, draught tolerant planting, commended the Parks department staff for their tremendous work, requested more dog stations, xeriscape landscape at the library and possible signage, adoption of park benches, green technology and plants such as green roofs.

MOTION: SHKRABUIK / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY ROSS IDLER, COORDINATOR OF THE CITY'S PARKS DEPARTMENT, ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PARKS DEPARTMENT FOR THE 2008 SEASON, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED.

b) Water and Sewer Department Presentation – Activities of the Water and Sewer Departments for 2008

Mike Imrie, Coordinator for the Water and Sewer Department made a presentation to the Committee on the activities of the Water and Sewer department for the 2008 year.

By way of PowerPoint presentation, the Coordinator presented an overview on the water system, stating that the department maintains 5 deep wells and this year rehabilitated two of these wells. He outlined that the department staff maintain 2 reservoirs, as well as install and maintain 43 km of various sizes of water lines, and maintain and service 258 fire hydrants. He presented a graph showing consumption of water, and pointed out that the water consumption for 2008 is down from last year, mostly due to the wet weather we had earlier this year.

The Coordinator presented slides on the sewer system, showing a diagram which outlines the working of the sanitary sewer system. He advised that the department maintains 35 km of sewer main lines, which were installed in 1957, maintains 7 lift stations, and maintains and operates the Wastewater Treatment Plant, as well as 11km of storm sewer lines. On a question from Council, the Coordinator stated that there is a possibility of using non-potable water from the sewage treatment plant for watering city park planters and flower baskets. He advised that all 5 wells are running about 10 out of 30 days per month and that not all wells are running all the time, but there are times, mostly during peak watering periods that all the city wells are running.

MOTION: SHKARBUICK / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY MIKE IMRIE, COORDINATOR OF THE CITY'S WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT, ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT FOR THE 2008 SEASON, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED.

c) Finance Department Presentation – Summary of Operations April to June 30, 2008.

Linda Engels, Chief Financial Officer made a presentation to the Committee on the status of the City's financial operations for the 2nd quarter, April to June 30, 2008. The CFO, made reference to the printed material circulated with the agenda for this meeting, which is attached to and forms part of these minutes.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / GORDON

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY LINDA ENGELS, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, ON THE SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS APRIL TO JUNE 30, 2008, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

REQUESTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

None

LATE ITEMS:

None

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

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THIS PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED 8:06 P.M.

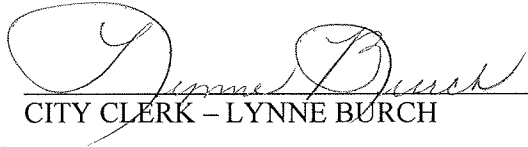
CARRIED.

Primary Committee Meeting of Council
August 11, 2008

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



MAYOR NEIL KROG



CITY CLERK - LYNNE BURCH