

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY AUGUST 17, 2009

PRESENT: MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR
 COUNCILLOR JOY DAVIES
 COUNCILLOR CHRIS MOSLIN
 COUNCILLOR GENE ROBERT
 COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON
 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN
 COUNCILLOR CHER WYERS

CITY MANAGER
CITY CLERK

V. Kumar
L. Burch

GALLERY

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. in Council Chambers.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- None.

MOTION: WIRISHCHAGIN / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION:

- a) City Clerk's Report – Certificate of Commendation to Jaclyn Salter

Mayor Taylor presented a Certificate of Commendation to Jaclyn Salter on behalf of the City of Grand Forks recognizing Ms. Salter's participation in the 2009 Youth Writers Camp Carbon Footprint Contest.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

a) City Clerk's Report – Delegation, Grand Forks Public Library

Heather Buzzell, the Library Director of the Grand Forks & District Public Library Board was welcomed to the meeting by Mayor Taylor. Ms. Buzzell began by stating the Annual General Meeting of the Grand Forks Public Library was held last week. She commented briefly on some of the summer programs that the library has held this summer. Ms. Buzzell advised that Libraries across British Columbia are facing potential cuts in provincial government funding, which could be as much as 20%. She advised that the library grant from the province is approximately \$30,000. She concluded by advising that the library is currently working on programming for the fall however, it will be predicated on receiving adequate funding.

MOTION: ROBERT / WYERS

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY HEATHER BUZZELL, LIBRARY DIRECTOR ON BEHALF OF THE GRAND FORKS AND DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD, ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE GRAND FORKS PUBLIC LIBRARY, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED.

OPERATIONAL DISCUSSION & PRESENTATIONS BY STAFF:

None

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

a) City Clerk's Report – Risk Management Policies

MOTION: DAVIES / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED AUGUST 4, 2009, REGARDING RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT RISK MANAGEMENT POLICIES NUMBERED 1601-1603, 1605, 1606, 1607, 1609 AND 1609-1, BE APPROVED, AND IMPLEMENTED NO LATER THAN JULY 31, 2009. AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT POLICIES 1604, 1606-1 AND 1608 BE DELETED. CARRIED.

b) City Manager's Report – Policy on Creation of Council Committees

MOTION: MOSLIN / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED AUGUST 5, 2009,
.../ resolution continued on next page**

REGARDING A PROPOSED POLICY ON COMMITTEES, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE PRINCIPLES OUTLINED IN THE STAFF REPORT.

CARRIED.

On a question from the Committee , the City Manager suggested that the principles are broad guidelines, and will not preclude Council members from ever being a chair of a Committee.

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MOTION: DAVIES /

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT SHOULD THE MAYOR OR COUNCIL STRIKE A COMMITTEE, THAT THIS COMMITTEE BE CHAIRED BY A COUNCILLOR.

The motion failed due to its failure to attract a seconder.

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MOTION: MOSLIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE COMMITTEE PROTOCOL POLICY PROCEDURES, BE AMENDED AND THE WORDS "WHENEVER NECESSARY COUNCIL MEMBERS MAY BE THE CHAIR OF THESE COMMITTEES", BE INCLUDED IN ITEM NUMBER 7.

MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

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MOTION: THOMPSON / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE POLICY ON COMMITTEE PROTOCOL BE ADOPTED AS PRESENTED. **CARRIED.**

c) City Manager's Report – Policy on Elected Official Vehicle Use

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED AUGUST 5, 2009, REGARDING A PROPOSED POLICY ON ELECTED OFFICIALS USE OF CITY VEHICLES, BE RECEIVED. .../ resolution continued on next page

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE POLICY ON ELECTED OFFICIALS USE OF CITY VEHICLES BE ADOPTED AS PRESENTED. **CARRIED.**

PROPOSED BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION:

a) City Clerk's Report – Wood Stove Bylaw

Comments on the bylaw:

- Suggested more public education needed prior to the adoption of the bylaw
- Discussed enforcement of the bylaw, stating that the first part is education. Considered the option of enforcing the bylaw on citizen complaint, similar to unsightly premises, and the process involving warning letters with a request to cease, and should the offense not be resolved, the party would be given a show cause hearing in front of Council.
- John Vere, Wood Stove Exchange Coordinator, at the request of the Committee, commented on the draft bylaw, stating that in his opinion the intent of the bylaw is education.

MOTION: MOSLIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED AUGUST 7, 2009, REGARDING WOOD STOVES IN THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT BYLAW NO. 1879, CITED AS CITY OF GRAND FORKS WOOD STOVE BYLAW NO. 1879, 2009, BE REFERRED BACK TO STAFF FOR FURTHER REVISIONS INCLUDING:

- MORE DEFINITIONS, INCLUDING "CONSTANT PLUME", "SEASONED FIREWOOD", "PROPER STORAGE OF WOOD".
- AN APPROPRIATE PENALTY CLAUSE BE INCLUDED

CARRIED.

Councillors Davies, Robert and Wirischagin voted against the motion.

REQUESTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

None

LATE ITEMS:

None

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

QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Taylor 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, and the normal rules apply.

- Sylvia Treptow of Grand Forks, made comment on the matter of medical marijuana, suggesting there is already access to safe medical marijuana, so there is no need for the City of Grand Forks to be involved in this issue. She distributed copies of her comments.
- Ann Higgs resident of Grand Forks, spoke of her experience with people using medical marijuana, stating that the process is complicated.
- Arlena Wallace, of 1665 68th Avenue, applauded the discussion of the medical marijuana issue.
- David Janzen of Grand Forks, stated that he has support from the Grand Forks Senior Citizens Branch No. 68 to serve on the medical marijuana task force.
- Ann Wallace a resident for three years spoke in favour of the medical marijuana issue for pain reduction.
- Barry Brandow provided input as to an issue coming up on the Regular Meeting agenda, being the proposed Council support of an application to the Ministry of Environment by the Mehmam Ranch to restore Lost Lake. Mr. Brandow provided suggestions as to the application, suggesting that this is a positive first step.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: ROBERT

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

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CITY CLERK - LYNNE BURCH