

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY JUNE 15, 2009**

PRESENT: ACTING MAYOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON  
COUNCILLOR JOY DAVIES  
COUNCILLOR CHRIS MOSLIN  
COUNCILLOR GENE ROBERT  
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN

CITY MANAGER  
CITY CLERK

V. Kumar  
L. Burch

GALLERY

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

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**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Delete Item # 11(b) – Bylaw No. 1872, third reading, inasmuch as all members of Council were not present at the public hearing, the minutes of the public hearing must be prepared and circulated to all members of Council prior to the consideration of third reading.

MOTION: ROBERT / MOSLIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE JUNE 15, 2009 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED. CARRIED.**

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**MINUTES:**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE GOLDEN HEIGHTS PUBLIC MEETING, HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 25, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.**

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MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, MAY 25, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY MAY 25, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED. CARRIED.**

Councillor Moslin advised that there is an error in the minutes and referred to his report on Page 6143, advising that the minute referring to his comment from the Boundary Air Quality Committee minutes should have stated PM2.5 and not PM10 as was recorded.

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MOTION: DAVIES / MOSLIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY MAY 25, 2009, AND ALL RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.**

**CARRIED.**

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**REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:**

a) City Clerk's Report – Delegation, Grand Forks Art Gallery

The Acting Mayor invited members of the Grand Forks Art Gallery Society to make their presentation to Council at this time. Ted Fogg of the Art Gallery Society began by stating he was here this evening on behalf of Judith Lloyd president of the Art Gallery. At the request of the chair, Mr. Fogg gave a brief overview of the operations of the Grand Forks Art Gallery in the new Heritage Courthouse, including the operations of the Art Gallery, the Museum component and the Visitors Information Centre. Mr. Fogg fielded questions from Members of Council on Art Gallery matters. Questions regarding the museum component of the Heritage Courthouse were fielded by Sue Adrian.

On a question from a member of Council, the City Manager stated that a letter in support of the museum's activities can be provided to the Art Gallery.

Mr. Fogg fielded questions from Members of Council on the Visitors Information Centre. On a question from a member of Council, Mr. Fogg stated that the gallery is applying for funding for signage for the building, directing the travelling public to the Visitors Information Centre.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED JUNE 1, 2009, REGARDING A DELEGATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND FORKS ART GALLERY SOCIETY, BE RECEIVED.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION BY THE MEMBERS OF THE GRAND FORKS ART GALLERY SOCIETY, INCLUDING THE REPORT ON THE OPERATION OF THE ART GALLERY, MUSEUM COMPONENT AND VISITORS' INFORMATION CENTRE SERVICES, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED.**

b) Chief Financial Officer's Report – External Auditor's Presentation

An Naqvi of Berg Naqvi Lehman Chartered Accountants addressed Council in regards to the City's Financial Statements as at December 31, 2008. Mr. Naqvi presented his audit report and fielded questions from Members of Council in regards to the financial statements and the audit report.

MOTION: DAVIES / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER'S REPORT, DATED JUNE 1, 2009, REGARDING A DELEGATION OF THE CITY'S EXTERNAL AUDITOR, THE FIRM OF BERG NAQVI LEHMAN CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY AN NAQVI OF BERG, NAQVI, LEHMAN CITY AUDITORS, BE RECEIVED. AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2008, BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a) City Manager's Report – Community Forest Licence

MOTION: ROBERT / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED JUNE 4, 2009, REGARDING THE PURSUANCE OF A COMMUNITY FOREST LICENCE BY THE CITY, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL NOTIFIES THE DISTRICT FORESTRY STAFF THAT THE CITY MAY CONSIDER A COMMUNITY FOREST LICENCE WITHIN A FIVE YEAR PERIOD. CARRIED.

Prior to voting on the resolution, Mr. Gord Nichols of the Industry Initiative of the Economic Development Task Force made a presentation on the matter of a Community Forest Licence. By way of power-point presentation, Mr. Nichols outlined that the area proposed for the Community Licence is an area of 20,000 cubic meters from the US border to Jewel Lake, and Spencer Hill north of Baldy Lake and southwest of Greenwood. He went on to state that the decision before Council is whether to apply for a Community Forest Licence or to support the expansion of the Woodlot licence program. Mr. Nichol proceeded to review the pros and cons of each proposal. He advised that the Economic Development Task Force adopted the recommendation that Council proceed to make application for a Community Forest Licence. He advised that business priorities for a Community Forest Licence must include economic viability, excellent land stewardship, and social benefits. He requested that Council acknowledge this committee's recommendation, apply to the Minister for a Community Forest, and establish a steering committee to oversee the process, for which start up costs are estimated to be \$750,000. The Acting Mayor thanked Mr. Nichols for his presentation.

MOTION: DAVIES / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMUNITY FOREST LICENCE PROPOSAL OF THE INDUSTRY INIATIVE GROUP OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE, AS PRESENTED AT THIS MEETING, BE THE FIRST INITIATIVE TO BE INCLUDED IN THE COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN. CARRIED.

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

**Councillor Wirischagin:**

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following items:

- Reported on his attendance at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference this past week in Whistler.
- Advised that the GFI will be going ahead.
- Stated that volunteers are the life blood of community, and suggested that criteria be established to recognize volunteers.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO COME UP WITH CRITERIA FOR RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF VOLUNTEERS AT COMMUNITY EVENTS.

Prior to the question being called, discussion ensued as to the practice that the City has in recognizing volunteers at the City's Annual Volunteer Appreciation Event. It was determined that this is already being done, and by mutual consent, the motion was withdrawn.

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**Councillor Moslin:**

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- Reported on his attendance, accompanied by the mayor, on June 2nd at the Annual Ceremonial Review of the Boundary Squadron of the Royal Canadian Air Cadets at the Grand Forks Airport. There was a march past as well as a display of the landing procedures for planes at the airport.
  - Reported on the recent Trail development projects, more specifically on employment projects for trail development, including the Spirit of 2010 Trail.
  - Advised that the Black Train Bridge Society is now a registered private society. Stated that the hand rail design was discussed at a previous meeting of the Black Train Bridge Society.
  - Reported on his attendance on May 27<sup>th</sup> at the Sheltair presentation on Climate Change at Christina Lake, advising that if the City cannot reduce emissions in the future, Carbon Offsets will be a cost for the municipality.
  - Reported on his attendance on June 10<sup>th</sup> at a conference in Rossland on environmental development.
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**Councillor Robert:**

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- Reported on his attendance of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Grand Forks Art Gallery and official opening of the Heritage Courthouse.
  - Reported on his attendance at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Public safety focus group meeting held on June 10<sup>th</sup>.
  - Advised on upcoming Restorative Justice training beginning next weekend, and further reported that there will be an additional class to be scheduled to take place this fall.
  - Advised that Citizens on Patrol are now routinely patrolling our community.
  - Reported on the ongoing Vital Signs project, stating that public meetings are being held June 18<sup>th</sup> and June 19<sup>th</sup> in Grand Forks, and in Midway on June 24<sup>th</sup>.
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**Councillor Davies:**

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- Reported on her attendance at the FCM, specifically the cancer society session on pesticides, and on her attendance at a safe communities and crime prevention session. She reported on the information presented at FCM regarding Medical Marijuana, and further advised that there will be a forum at the Seniors Centre on Thursday evening, June 18, 2009, on Medical Marijuana.
  - Advised that the Grand Forks Landfill is the storage depot for glass for all of the Kootenays and requested that Mayor Taylor bring forward the matter of recycling this glass to the attention of the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary. She went on to suggest that Tech Cominco be invited to make a presentation to Council on how glass may be recycled.
  - Stated that there are four more initiatives of Economic Development Task Force, in addition to the Industrial Initiative, who made their presentation this evening on the Community Forest Licence. She advised that these four initiatives' presentations will be forth coming at ensuing Council meetings.
  - Brought forward the work of a Member of Council of the City of White Rock who lobbied for the legislation which prohibits smoking in outside areas in the province.
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**Acting Mayor Thompson:**

Acting Mayor Thompson reported on the following items:

- Reported on her attendance at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities conference in Whistler, highlighting her attendance at the FCM green municipal fund and brown field's presentation, featuring a successful property in Victoria, Building Age-Friendly Communities, a Forum on Liveable Communities, as well as a forum on international relations, a presentation on media relations, and a session on women in municipal government.
- Reported on her attendance on June 10<sup>th</sup> at a conference in Rossland on environmental development.
- Reported on her attendance at the Boundary Museum Society Directors meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Represented the City at the official opening of the Art Gallery/Museum in the Heritage Courthouse.

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT ALL REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL, GIVEN VERBALLY AT THIS MEETING, BE RECEIVED.** CARRIED.

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**REPORT FROM THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY (VERBAL)**

- To be provided at the next Council Meeting as Mayor Taylor was not in attendance at this meeting

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Meeting recessed 9:12 p.m. and reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:**

**a) City Clerk's Report – July 20, 2009 and August 17, 2009 Regular Meetings**

MOTION: DAVIES / MOSLIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED JUNE 1, 2009, THE SCHEDULED MEETINGS OF JULY 20, 2009 AND AUGUST 17, 2009, BE RECEIVED.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE REGULAR MEETINGS OF COUNCIL AND THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETINGS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE ON JULY 20, 2009 AND AUGUST 17, 2009, BE CANCELLED.

MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

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**b) City Clerk's Report – Application for a Development Variance Permit**

MOTION: DAVIES / MOSLIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED JUNE 2, 2009, REGARDING AN APPLICATION RECEIVED FOR A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT, BE RECEIVED.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL, AFTER AFFORDING THE PUBLIC AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD, RESOLVES TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT, THEREBY VARYING SECTION 33(2)(F)(III) OF BYLAW NO. 1606, CITY OF GRAND FORKS ZONING BYLAW, REDUCING THE REQUIRED SIDEYARD SETBACK FROM 15 FEET TO 9 FEET ALLOWING FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF AN EXECUTIVE TYPE HOME, ON PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 2, D.L. 585 AND 746, SDYD, PLAN KAP88211, LOCATED ON RIVERSIDE DRIVE AT 85<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, AS SUBMITTED BY THE PROPERTY OWNER, RUBY DELCORRO AND DERECK PIERCEY.**

There were no presentations from anyone in the gallery pertaining to the requested variance. Prior to the vote on the resolution there was a lengthy discussion as the variance requested.

MOTION: DAVIES / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE FOREGOING RESOLUTION, ON THE APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT, INTENDED TO REDUCE THE SIDEYARD SETBACK FROM 15 FEET TO 9 FEET, TO ALLOW FOR AN EXECUTIVE TYPE HOME ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON RIVERSIDE DRIVE AT 85<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, BE DEFERRED TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL.

CARRIED.

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**c) City Clerk's Report – Heritage Designation Information**

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED JUNE 3, 2009, REGARDING HERITAGE DESIGNATION INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY REQUESTED BY COUNCIL, BE RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION.

CARRIED.

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MOTION: MOSLIN / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT 1986 HERITAGE SURVEY REPORT, AUTHORED BY ROBERT HOBSON, BE MADE AVAILABLE IN ELECTRONIC FORM ON THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS WEBSITE.

CARRIED.

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**d) City Manager's Report – Infrastructure Study**

MOTION: DAVIES / ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED JUNE 3, 2009, REGARDING THE FUNDING AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN 2010-2014, BE RECEIVED.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL UNDERTAKE NUMEROUS PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS IN THE COMING MONTHS UNTIL NOVEMBER 2009.

CARRIED.

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e) **City Manager's Report – Community Adjustment Fund**

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED JUNE 3, 2009, REGARDING THE COMMUNITY ADJUSTMENT FUND, BE RECEIVED.**

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL ENDORSE THE OBSERVATION MOUNTAIN-GRANBY-GRIND APPLICATION UNDER THE WESTERN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAF PROGRAM.

CARRIED.

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**REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

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**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 10A TO 10R**

- a) Email from Polaris Institute re: bottled water- Be Filed
- b) Letter from the Ombudsman regarding the Early Resolution Process and its success- Be Filed
- c) Western Diversification British Columbia, Recreational Infrastructure Canada (RInC) Program Application – Be Filed.
- d) Email from EPIC (Environment and Plastics Industry Council) alert on the use of reusable grocery bags – Be Filed.
- e) Letter from Spilker Watson Pigott Barristers and Solicitors for Columbia Power Corporation, Application for an Electricity Export Permit – Referred to the Interior Municipal Electric Utilities
- f) Green Business Networking Event, Canada-Jiangsu China in Vancouver – Be Filed
- g) News Release from Canfor, Interfor & West Fraser Timber Co. Ltd. correcting the record on forest issues – Be Filed.
- h) Email from City Website Feedback Form, upkeep and beautification of Grand Forks concerns – Recommend that Staff respond that due to limited available funding this has been determined to be a lower priority, and Staff be directed to further clarify the expenditure of Land Sale Reserve funds that would have been used to purchase Golden Heights.



- i) Zak Waterlow suggested amendments to Bylaw No. 1681 – Recommend it be referred to Staff for research into amending the Bylaw to include a decibel level and report back to Council.

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MOTION: MOSLIN / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS SEND ZAK WATERLOW A LETTER REQUESTING THAT HE ABIDE BY THE CITY'S NOISE CONTROL BYLAW.

MOTION WAS DEFEATED

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- j) Black Train Bridge Society – Thank you for support on re-decking project – Be Filed
- k) Letters from Habitat for Humanity Boundary Society, Grand Forks & District Supportive Housing Coalition & and the Ministry of Housing & Social Development on the matter of a partnership for housing – Recommend that Council support the Grand Forks & District Supportive Housing Coalition proposal.

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS SUPPORT THE GRAND FORKS DISTRICT HOUSING PROPOSAL AND THAT THE MINISTRY BE SO ADVISED. CARRIED.

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MOTION: MOSLIN / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT SHOULD THE GRAND FORKS DISTRICT HOUSING PROPOSAL FOR A PARTNERSHIP TO CONSTRUCT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING IN GRAND FORKS, BE UNSUCCESSFUL, COUNCIL WILL SUPPORT THE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY PROPOSAL. CARRIED.

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- l) PLS Developments Ltd. Application for Development Permit to install a sign on a building at 7441 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Recommend receipt. Permit was issued under the Delegation Bylaw as there were no variances required.
- m) Campground Concerns from Campers in City Park expressing concerns on rates and security issues – Recommend that Council receive for further discussion. A lengthy discussion ensued. The following points were made by Members of Council.
- The error in the charge for children has been corrected.
  - CAO advised that the rates were established comparing rates published in the BC Accommodation Guide and other similar publications.
  - The drop in the number of campers is most likely due to the state of the economy.
- n) Citizenship & Immigration Canada, Federal Multiculturalism Program transferred to CIC – Be Filed.

- o) Grand Forks Safety Committee Meeting minutes for May 6, 2009- Be Filed.
- p) School District #51 – May 12<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting of Board of Education agenda package. – Be Filed.
- q) Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, minutes of the April 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors – File. Council Members noted that the minutes include a statement the City has purchased the property of the SPCA, which is an error and the Mayor will correct this error at the next meeting.
- r) May 25<sup>th</sup> Meetings of Council Task List – Be Filed.

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT ITEMS (a) TO (r) BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED AND/OR AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

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**BYLAWS:**

- a) City Clerk's Report – Bylaw 1869 – Amendment to the City of Grand Forks Zoning Bylaw

MOTION: ROBERT / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1869, CITED AS “AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS ZONING BYLAW NO. 1869, 2009”, BE FINALLY ADOPTED.

CARRIED.

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**LATE ITEMS:**

None

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**QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA:**

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 11:00 P.M.


CARRIED.

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**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
ACTING MAYOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON

  
CITY CLERK - LYNNE BURCH