

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY MARCH 16, 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

CALL TO ORDER:

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

RECESS TO PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING:

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE RECESSED AT 7:01 P.M. TO ALLOW FOR THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING, AND THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE RECONVENED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING. CARRIED.

The Meeting was recessed at 7:01 p.m. and reconvened at 8:48 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- None

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE MARCH 16, 2009 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: DAVIES / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL, HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 2, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

It was stated that on page 6078, on the second line of Councillor Moslin's report regarding the Ministry of Environment's Gilpin Grassland plan, there was an incorrect use of the word advised. The minutes will be corrected.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) *City Clerk's Report – Councillor Moslin, Notice of Motion, Reduction of City Water Use*

MOTION: MOSLIN / DAVIES

WHEREAS CLIMATE CHANGE HAS DECREASED THE SUMMER FLOWS OF THE KETTLE RIVER AND THAT FURTHER CLIMATE CHANGE IS UNAVOIDABLE

WHEREAS THE CITY NEEDS TO CONTINUE TO SHOW LEADERSHIP BY MODELING THE APPROPRIATE USE OF WATER AS AN IRRIGATION RESOURCE

BE IT RESOLVED THAT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS MONITOR AND REPORT ITS ANNUAL TOTAL USE OF WATER WITH THE INTENTION OF REDUCING WATER USE. CARRIED.

b) *City Clerk's Report – Councillor Davies, Notice of Motion, Student/Councillor Shadowing Program*

MOTION: DAVIES / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED MARCH 10, 2009, REGARDING A NOTICE OF MOTION PROPOSED BY COUNCILLOR DAVIES ON THE STUDENT/COUNCILLOR SHADOWING PROGRAM, BE RECEIVED. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** A COMMITTEE BE FORMED TO WORK WITH INTERESTED GRAND FORKS YOUTH, AND CURRENT AND PAST MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL, FOR THE PURPOSE OF EDUCATING AND MENTORING THE YOUTH IN THE WAYS OF MUNICIPAL POLITICS. CARRIED.

It was suggested that a discussion be held with School District 51 on the matter.

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

Councillor Wirischagin

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following:

- Congratulated the Phoenix Mountain Alpine Ski Hill Society on their 40th anniversary of operation
 - Reported on his attendance at the recent Youth Table meeting
 - Congratulated the Grand Forks Girls Curling Team for their second place showing at a recent provincial competition.
-

Councillor Moslin:

Councillor Moslin reported on the following:

- Announced the “Catch The Tooney Train” fund raising event at Work ‘n Play for the Black Train Bridge. He further advised that the Black Train Bridge decking will take place mid April.
 - Reported that Roxul is struggling to get its pollution abatement equipment fully functional. He further advised that Roxul has received the largest order in the company’s history which should make the company secure for this recession.
 - Presented Climate Change conference highlights, including that Grand Forks will have to reduce green house gases by 80% by 2050. He further advised that the City needs to measure energy use, as well as water use.
-

Councillor Thompson:

Councillor Thompson reported on the following:

- Reported on her attendance at a March 4th seminar in Greenwood on regional collaboration in the Boundary.
 - Reported on her attendance at a meeting of the Restorative Justice Committee.
 - Encouraged the public to attend a presentation of the city’s financial plan on March 23rd at 7:00 p.m. in the upstairs Art Gallery in the heritage courthouse.
-

Councillor Wyers:

Councillor Wyers reported on the following:

- Report on her attendance at a March 4th seminar in Greenwood on regional collaboration in the Boundary
- Reported on her attendance at a 2010 Legacies Now conference in Vancouver, including the news that the Olympic Torch will commence at Victoria in January 2010.
- Reported on her attendance at the Clean Air Forum in Vancouver on March 6th.
- Reported on her attendance at the BAQC on March 12th.
- Reported on the new exhibit at the Grand Forks Art Gallery, suggesting that the public participate in the name the building contest.

Councillor Robert:

Councillor Robert reported on the following:

- Reported on a report prepared by student public health nurses in Nelson on homelessness.
 - Reported on the Youth Table activities.
-

Councillor Davies:

Councillor Davies reported on the following:

- Reported on her attendance at the Climate Change Forum in Vancouver.
 - Reported on her attendance on the Clean Air Forum sponsored by the Fraser Basin Council.
 - Reported that she has 73 members of the Economic Development Task Force whose inaugural meeting will be April 2, 2009. She further reported on background research that she has done in advance of the first meeting of this task force.
-

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / DAVIES

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

REPORT – REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY

Mayor Taylor, the City representative on the Board of Directors for the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary reported on the following Regional District matters:

- Advised that he is setting up a meeting with Electoral Directors from Areas C and D in an effort to find a resolution to the issue of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals closing, and to also discuss details on the matter of the Boundary Museum.
- Announced that a “Branding” workshop will be held on Thursday, March 19th, at 8:30 a.m. at the Art Gallery.
- Advised that he has been asked to speak at the The Land Conservancy luncheon scheduled for later this month.
- Advised that he has been asked to speak at the Habitat for Humanity meeting this month.

MOTION: ROBERTS / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY VERBAL REPORT FROM THE CITY’S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE RDKB, MAYOR TAYLOR, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:

a) City Clerk's Report – Off-Street Parking

MOTION: ROBERT / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED MARCH 3, 2009, REGARDING SECTION 25, OFF-STREET PARKING PROVISIONS OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS ZONING BYLAW, AND THE MATTER OF THE LOCATION OF THE CITY'S ELECTRICAL TRANSFORMER ENCROACHING ON A PARKING EASEMENT, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT BYLAW 1606, SECTION 25 OFF-STREET PARKING PROVISIONS REMAIN, WITH NO CHANGES BEING MADE TO THE EXISTING SECTION 25 OF BYLAW NO. 1606. **BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT** DEL'S BISTRO BE ADVISED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS ELECTRICAL TRANSFORMER IS SITTING ON AN EASEMENT, SEPARATE FROM THE BISTRO'S PARKING EASEMENT, WHICH IS NOT ENCROACHING ON THE PARKING EASEMENT, AND THEREFORE THE CITY IS NOT LIABLE TO THE BISTRO FOR COMPENSATION AND THEIR INVOICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,941.60 WILL NOT BE PAID.

CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT AN AD HOC COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF COUNCIL AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY BE ESTABLISHED TO REVIEW PARKING IN THE DOWNTOWN CORE AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL.

CARRIED.

Councillors Moslin, Robert and Davies, and Mayor Taylor expressed a desire to sit on the Committee.

b) City Clerk's Report – Business Tax Credit

MOTION: ROBERT / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED MARCH 10, 2009, REGARDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES OF GRAND FORKS IN THE FORM OF A ONE-TIME TAX CREDIT, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE CITY RESPOND TO THE 14 BUSINESSES SIGNING THE PETITION, ADVISING THAT THERE IS NO STATUTORY AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY TO PROVIDE ANY BUSINESS A "TAX CREDIT", AND FURTHER CLARIFYING THAT THE FEBRUARY 2ND COUNCIL RESOLUTION FOR THE NEW 82 SEAT RESTAURANT, INVOLVED THE WAIVING OF THE OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS, AND IN NO WAY INVOLVED A "TAX CREDIT".

CARRIED.

c) City Clerk's Report – Application for a site-specific exemption to the City of Grand Forks Floodplain Bylaw

MOTION: ROBERT / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED FEBRUARY 26, 2009, REGARDING AN APPLICATION FOR A SITE-SPECIFIC EXEMPTION TO THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS FLOODPLAIN BYLAW, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE APPLICATION FOR A SITE SPECIFIC EXEMPTION TO THE GRAND FORKS FLOODPLAIN BYLAW, THEREBY VARYING SECTION 5.2(1), ALLOWING FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF EXECUTIVE TYPE HOMES ON PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 1, DL. 585 AND 746, SDYD, PLAN KAP88211 AND COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE RIVERSIDE MEADOWS SUBDIVISION, SUBJECT TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE ENGINEER'S REPORT BEING REQUIRED, BE APPROVED.

CARRIED

Councillor Robert voted against the motion.

d) City Manager's Report – Consideration of Policy and Guidelines for Financial Support

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT CONSIDERATION OF A POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT, GRANT-IN-AID POLICY, BE DEFERRED UNTIL THE 2010 – 2014 FINANCIAL PLAN IS BEING CONSIDERED.

THE MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

MOTION: ROBERT / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2009, REGARDING CONSIDERATION OF POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES A GRANT-IN-AID POLICY AS PRESENTED.

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL ALLOCATES \$111,000 THAT INCLUDES \$35,000 IN NEW COMMITMENT IN A THREE-YEAR PHASE-IN PERIOD COMMENCING IN 2010 IN THE FINANCIAL PLAN OF 2009 – 2013 FROM PROPERTY TAXATION (\$25,000) AND SLAG RESERVE (\$10,000) FOR GRANT-IN-AID FOR DISTRIBUTION BASED ON THE APPROVED COMPONENTS SPECIFIED IN THE STAFF REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2009 BASED ON THE APPROVED GRANT-IN-AID POLICY.

CARRIED.

Councillor Thompson and Davies voted against the motion.

e) City Manager's Report – Strategic Community Investment Funds

MOTION: THOMPSON / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED MARCH 9, 2009, REGARDING STRATEGIC COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDS, BE RECEIVED.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL ACCEPTS THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE STRATEGIC COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDS AGREEMENT AND APPROVES THE AGREEMENT EXECUTED BY THE CITY MANAGER ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.
CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL INSTRUCTS STAFF TO ALLOCATE THE INCREASE IN STRATEGIC COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUNDS EVENLY TO TWO FISCAL YEARS, 2009 AND 2010, TO AVOID A DEFICIT IN FUNDING OF \$306,575 IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2010.

CARRIED.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: ROBERT / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 10A TO 10V, EXCEPT ITEMS 10(A),(B),(C),(D),(F),(G),(H),(J),(K),(N),(O),(P)(Q),(R)

- a) Letter from the Regional District Okanagan Similkameen requesting support for the reinstatement of the Highway 3 Committee.
- b) Letter from Concerned Citizens expressing their concerns as to the Gilpin Grasslands Wildlife Management Area.
- c) Letter from Youth of the Boundary Youth Success Program requesting the installation of lighting for the local skate park.
- d) Letter from Judy Watts expressing concerns as to aggressive deer resulting from residents feeding them.
- e) Communication from the City of Burnaby, Office of the Mayor regarding the disposal of school lands.
- f) Natural Resources Canada, research on idling awareness.
- g) Copy of Letter from GF & District Supportive Housing Coalition to the Director of Regional Development for Interior on creating non-profit housing in Hardy View Lodge.

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- h) Letter from the Ministry of Environment in response to the City's letter regarding the Big White Water Licence Application.
- i) Copy of a letter from RDKB and BEDC jointly to the MLA, expressing concerns as to the proposed railway closure.
- j) Letter from City of North Vancouver encouraging all Canadian Municipalities to observe Earth Hour on March 28th by turning off lights for one hour.
- k) Letter from Ron Baker, requesting information on Alpine Disposal Contract.
- l) Letter of Intent to Launch BIZPAL services in the City of Grand Forks.
- m) Letter from the 2009 Grad Class seeking donations for their Dry Grad celebration
- n) Grand Forks Cycling Club request to hold "Club Masters Race Weekend" on July 26, 2009.
- o) Ministry of Community Development advising that TILMA applies to local government as of April 1.
- p) Royal Canadian Legion request for financial support for War Service Recognition Book
- q) Fortis BC, copy of net metering tariff supplement application.
- r) Letter from the Ministry of Finance on the Property Tax Deferment Program.
- s) Letter from UBCM to CAO on the disposition of 2008 resolutions proposed by the City of Grand Forks.
- t) From UBCM Secretariat on opportunities for low cost energy audit and prescription plans.
- u) School District 51 Boundary March 10 Agenda Package.
- v) Society for the Preservation of Community Arts and Culture minutes of the AGM of February 25, 2009.

BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED.

CARRIED.

Councillor Members brought forward the following information items for further discussion:

Item 10(a):

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE LETTER FROM THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN SIMILKAMEEN, DATED MARCH 2, 2009, REQUESTING SUPPORT FOR THE RE-INSTATEMENT OF THE HIGHWAY 3 COALITION COMMITTEE, BE RECEIVED. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS SUPPORT THE RE-INSTATEMENT OF THE HIGHWAY 3 COALITION COMMITTEE. CARRIED.

Item 10(b):

MOTION: MOSLIN / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE LETTER, DATED MARCH 6, 2009, FROM A GROUP OF CONCERNED CITIZENS EXPRESSING VIEWS ON THE GILPIN GRASSLAND LAND USE ISSUE, BE RECEIVED. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THIS GROUP BE ADVISED .../ resolution continued on next page

THAT COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS HAS ENDORSED THE DRAFT GILPIN GRASSLANDS LAND USE PLAN, AND HAS FURTHER ENDORSED THE PROCESS FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE PLAN, WHICH INCLUDES FURTHER PUBLIC MEETINGS. **AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT** COUNCIL WOULD ENCOURAGE THIS GROUP OF CONCERNED CITIZENS TO ATTEND THESE FUTURE OPEN HOUSES, AND TO DISCUSS THEIR CONCERNS PRESENTED TO COUNCIL AT THIS MEETING, WITH THE ELECTORAL DIRECTORS FROM AREAS C AND D.

CARRIED.

Item 10(c):

Council Members discussed a letter from the Youth of the Boundary Youth Success program proposing that lighting be installed at the Skateboard Park. Staff was requested to advise them to attend the next meeting of Youth Table on March 31st to discuss the matter.

Item 10(d): Deer feeding problem

Brought forward for discussion was a letter from Judy Watts expressing concerns as to residents feeding the deer within the municipal boundary. The Mayor suggested he would meet with Judy Watts to discuss the deer situation.

Item 10(f);

Councillor Moslin advised that he, along with City Staff would fill out the idling survey requested by Natural Resources Canada.

Item 10(g):

Councillor Robert brought forward the letter from the Grand Forks & District Supportive Housing Coalition, to the Director of the Regional Development for Interior regarding the creation of non-profit housing in the former Hardy View Lodge. At Councillor Robert's request, the Mayor advised that he can attend these meetings on behalf of Council.

Item 10(h):

Brought forward for discussion was the letter from the Ministry of Environment in response to the City's letter expressing concerns as to water availability in the Kettle River. It was determined that the Mayor, through the Regional District, will become involved in the process relating to the Kettle River.

Item 10(j):

Letter from City of North Vancouver encouraging all Canadian Municipalities to observe Earth Hour on March 28th by turning off lights for one hour.

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MOTION: MOSLIN / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS OBSERVE EARTH HOUR ON SATURDAY MARCH 28TH, 2009, BY TURNING LIGHTS OFF IN CITY FACILITIES FOR ONE HOUR, BEGINNING AT 8:30 P.M. CARRIED.

Item 10(k)

Letter from Ron Baker, requesting information on Alpine Disposal Contract, The Mayor will discuss this matter at the regional district level.

Item 10(n)

Grand Forks Cycling Club request to hold "Club Masters Race Weekend" on July 26, 2009.

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE LETTER, DATED MARCH 3, 2009, FROM THE GRAND FORKS CYCLING CLUB, REGARDING THE ANNUAL MASTERS RACE, BE RECEIVED. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT PERMISSION BE GRANTED FOR THE USE OF CITY STREETS FOR THE RACE SCHEDULED FOR JULY 24, 2009, SUBJECT TO THE PROVISION OF ADEQUATE LIABILITY INSURANCE. CARRIED.

Item 10(o)

Brought forward for discussion was a letter from the Ministry of Community Development on the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement. It was stated that it will apply to Local Government beginning April 1st

Item 10(p)

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE LETTER, DATED MARCH 5, 2009, FROM THE ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION ADVISING OF THE WAR SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK, BE RECEIVED. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS PLACE A ¼ PAGE ADVERTISEMENT IN THE MILITARY SERVICE RECOGNITION BOOK.

CARRIED.

Item 10(q)

Discussion ensued as to an application by Fortis BC for a net metering tariff.

Item 10(r)

Letter from the Ministry of Finance on the Property Tax Deferment Program. Staff was requested to put the information on the City's website.

BYLAWS:

- a) **Chief Financial Officer's Report – Temporary Borrowing Bylaw, first, second and third readings**

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1870, CITED AS "TEMPORARY BORROWING BYLAW NO. 1870, 2009", BE GIVEN FIRST READING.

CARRIED.

MOTION: WYERS / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1870, CITED AS "TEMPORARY BORROWING BYLAW NO. 1870, 2009", BE GIVEN SECOND READING.

CARRIED.

MOTION: ROBERT / WYERS

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1870, CITED AS "TEMPORARY BORROWING BYLAW NO. 1870, 2009", BE GIVEN THIRD READING.

CARRIED.

LATE ITEMS:

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA:

ADJOURNMENT:

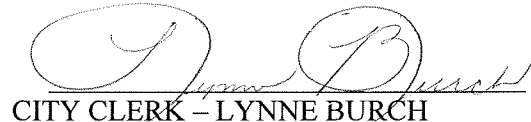
MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 10:39 P.M.

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CITY CLERK - LYNNE BURCH

MARCH 16, 2009

REGULAR MEETING

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