

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY MARCH 2, 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

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**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

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**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Add /question period for the public and the media just prior to adjournment as it was inadvertently omitted from the posted agenda.

MOTION: DAVIES / ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT THE MARCH 2, 2009 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED. CARRIED.**

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**MINUTES:**

MOTION: ROBERT / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.**

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MOTION: MOSLIN / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED. CARRIED.**

It was pointed out that on page 6070, the second line of the Mayor's Report, the word should be changed from tripping to tipping.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / WYERS

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY FEBRUARY 16, 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 of Helen Durham**

Helen Durham made a presentation to Council proposing that a "Grand Forks" song, written by herself, be an anthem for Grand Forks. She presented a CD to Mayor Taylor of the song she wrote for the Province. She advised that she has written a song for the City called G-R-A-N-D F-O-R-K-S, which she sang. She requested that Council consider assisting her financially to have the song published. Councillor Davies suggested to Mrs. Durham that the Economic Development Task Force intends to come up with a marketing strategy that may involve a contest for the community song.

MOTION: ROBERT / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2009, REGARDING A DELEGATION PROPOSING A GRAND FORKS ANTHEM, BE RECEIVED. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY HELEN DURHAM, PROPOSING THAT COUNCIL ADOPT AND ASSIST IN THE PRODUCTION OF A GRAND FORKS ANTHEM, BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

None

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

**Councillor Davies:**

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- Reported on the Economic Development Task Force, stating that there is approximately 45 people involved at this point, but that she, Councillor Davies, is looking for approximately 85 people. She advised that Staff will only be involved with a bi-monthly meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Economic Development Task Force. She further stated that she and Co-chair Councillor Wirischagin will be attending a Community Transition workshop later this month.

**Councillor Robert:**

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- Clarified his report at the last meeting of Council wherein he reported on his attendance at the Boundary Economic Development Commission, in which he advised that Director McGregor had contributed to the Phoenix Foundation Vital Signs Project, neglecting that Directors Perepolkin and Baird had also contributed.
- Brought forward the matter of drug and party houses, and referenced the Abbotsford model. He further suggested the formation of a task force.

MOTION: ROBERT / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL CREATE A TASK FORCE TO REVIEW BYLAWS AND BEGIN TO DEAL WITH QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

CARRIED

It was determined that Councillor Robert will further define the criteria for the Task Force

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**Councillor Wyers:**

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- Reported that six staff members of the agencies in the Heritage Courthouse have now been trained in the Travel Counselor course, in anticipation of operating the Visitor Information Centre.
  - She advised that as Council Liaison to Arts and Culture she intends to attend meetings of the Boundary Arts Council however these meetings conflict with Council meetings. She further advised that this is being worked out by the Boundary Arts Council.
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**Councillor Thompson:**

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:


- Reported on her attendance at the newly elected seminar sponsored by the Local Government Leadership Academy.
  - Reported on her attendance at the Society for the Preservation of Community Arts and Culture annual meeting reporting that the members passed a resolution to dissolve the society.
  - Reported on her attendance at a Community Futures dinner and information session on February 25<sup>th</sup>. She advised that Community Futures has offices in both Grand Forks and Greenwood being able to offer a full range of services, stating that the greater community is fortunate to have one-stop shopping.
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**Councillor Moslin:**

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- Reported that the Black Train Bridge is going to be repaired and re-decked in April, by Canadian Military units, from the Fraser Valley, Vancouver and Trail.

.../ report continued on next page

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- Reported on his conversation with the Ministry Of Environment regarding the Gilpin Grasslands, advised that a plan has been written, and open houses will be held to ensure public acceptance.

MOTION: MOSLIN / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL ENCOURAGES THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT TO PROCEED WITH THE DRAFT GILPIN GRASSLANDS LAND USE PLAN. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS SUPPORTS THE DRAFT GILPIN GRASSLANDS LAND USE PLAN.**

CARRIED.

- Brought forward the matter of water, commenting on the records of the recorded snow pack and advised of the possibility of draught conditions this year. He gave notice of motion to Council that he will be bringing forward a resolution at the next meeting proposing that the City of Grand Forks reduce its institutional use of water by 3% this year.

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**Councillor Wirischagin:**

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following items:

- Reported on his attendance at the newly elected seminar in Nelson.
- Reported on his attendance at the Community Futures Board Meeting last week.
- Reported that he attended his first Youth Table meeting at GFSS, and that he was very pleased with the turnout. He stated that Youth Table is looking to adopt a similar program to Kick Start program in the West Boundary. In summary, he encouraged parents to get involved with their children at the Youth Table.

**Mayor Taylor:**

No report

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MOTION: ROBERT / THOMPSON

**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)**

Mayor Taylor, Council representative to the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary reported on the following items:

- Reported that the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Board of Directors have voted to increase tipping fees at the Grand Forks Landfill. Mayor Taylor advised that he supported this resolution. He commented that he is looking to find alternatives to the composting issue.

.../ report continued on next page

- Reported on his attendance at the Regional Hospital Board meeting advising that Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Director Rotvold has been elected Chair. He advised that the Board is looking at service levels not just capital needs. Mayor Taylor stated that he has volunteered to be the representative from our region.

MOTION: ROBERT / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT THE REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY, PROVIDED VERBALLY BY MAYOR TAYLOR AT THIS MEETING, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED.**

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**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:**

**a) City Clerk's Report – Black Train Bridge Society**

MOTION: MOSLIN / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2009, REGARDING THE BLACK TRAIN BRIDGE AND IDENTIFIED TRAIL LANDS, BE RECEIVED. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE ATTACHED LICENCE OF OCCUPATION AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES CITY SIGNATORIES TO COMPLETE THE LICENCE OF OCCUPATION ALLOWING THE BLACK TRAIN BRIDGE SOCIETY TO USE, OCCUPY AND IMPROVE THE LANDS AND STRUCTURE. CARRIED.**

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**b) Manager of Works & Services' Report – Central Avenue Tree**

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE MANAGER OF WORKS AND SERVICES' REPORT, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2009, REGARDING THE REQUEST FROM THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION TO REMOVE A TREE ON CENTRAL AVENUE, BE RECEIVED. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DIRECTS STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE OLD TREE ON THE CENTRAL AVENUE BOULEVARD AT 13<sup>TH</sup> STREET WHICH IS CONFLICTING WITH THE SAFE MOVEMENT OF TRAFFIC CARRIED.**

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**c) City Manager's Report – Art Gallery**

MOTION: MOSLIN / ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2009, REGARDING CONTRACT DISCUSSION ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE AND THE MUSEUM, BE RECEIVED.**

.../ resolution continued on next page

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR, COUNCILLOR WYERS, THE COUNCIL LIAISON AND THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS TO REACH A TENTATIVE AGREEMENT FOR COUNCIL APPROVAL ON THE DELIVERY OF THE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE AND THE MUSEUM SERVICE LOCATED IN THE FORMER HERITAGE COURT HOUSE BUILDING.**

CARRIED.

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**REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

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**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

MOTION: DAVIES / WIRISCHAGIN

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

- a) Canadian Federation of Independent Business
  - b) Emergency Management BC
  - c) Evelyn Schofield commendation for hanging flower baskets
  - d) Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors of BC
  - e) KPMG Performance Registrar Inc.
  - f) CUPE BC – Evaluation of Public Private Partnerships
  - g) BC Recreation & Parks Association
  - h) City Manager’s Report for the Consideration of Policy and Guidelines for Financial Support.
  - i) City Manager’s Report for the Consideration of the Adoption of the 2009 – 2013 financial Plan.
  - j) West Coast Amusements request to occupy City property for Carnival
  - k) Ministry of Forests and Range request to replace office building at the Airport
  - l) Office of the Premier News Release – Federal and Provincial budgets
  - m) Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts News Release
  - n) UBCM advancement of Civics in school curriculum
  - o) UBCM Secretariat – Consulting Engineers of BC comments on TILMA
  - p) West Kootenay Boundary Regional Hospital District Regular Board Meeting
- WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ITEMS 10(a), 10(b), 10(d), 10(e), 10(h), 10(i), and 10(j) and 10(n),  
BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED.

CARRIED.

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Item 10(a) – Canadian Federation of Independent Business

MOTION: THOMSPON / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE CANADIAN FEDERATION OF INDEPENDENT BUSINESS BE ADVISED THAT COUNCIL IS VERY AWARE OF THE RECESSION THAT THE COUNTRY IS IN AND THE IMPACT IT IS HAVING ON SMALL BUSINESS, AND COUNCIL WILL ENSURE THAT THE PROPERTY TAX DISTRIBUTION IS FAIRLY DISTRIBUTED BETWEEN ALL CLASSIFICATIONS.**

CARRIED.

Item 10(b) – Emergency Management BC

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT ANY MEMBER OF COUNCIL AVAILABLE TO ATTEND THE NO-COST WORKSHOP ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ON APRIL 7<sup>TH</sup> IN CASTLEGAR B.C., BE AUTHORIZED TO ATTEND.** CARRIED.

Councillors Thompson and Moslin advised that they will attend.

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Item 10(d) – Canadian Association of Home and Property Inspectors

MOTION: ROBERT / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ON THE INITIATIVE OF THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF HOME AND PROPERTY INSPECTORS OF BC, FOUND ON ASSOCIATION'S WEBSITE, BE LINKED TO THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS WEBSITE.** CARRIED.

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Item 10(e) – KPMG Performance Registrar Inc.

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT ANY MEMBER OF COUNCIL ON THE BOUNDARY AIR QUALITY COMMITTEE BE AUTHORIZED TO ATTEND THE KPMG PERFORMANCE REGISTRAR INC., SESSION TITLED ORGANIZATION LEVEL QUANTIFICATION AND REPORTING OF GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND REMOVALS ON MARCH 17 & 18 IN VANCOUVER.**

After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn with the consent of the seconder.

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Item 10(h) - City Manager's Report for the Consideration of Policy and Guidelines for Financial Support.

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT ON THE POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT, BE DEFERRED UNTIL AFTER COUNCIL HAS HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE FINANCIAL PLAN FOR 2009.** MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

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MOTION: MOSLIN / WIRISCHAGAN

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES A GRANT-IN-AID POLICY AS PRESENTED IN THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2009, AND FURTHER INSTRUCTS STAFF TO INCLUDE FUNDING FOR THIS ITEM IN THE 2009 – 2013 FINANCIAL PLAN.**

THE MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

*Councillor Davies opposed the motion.*

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MOTION: DAVIES / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT THE MATTER OF A PROPOSED GRANT-IN-AID POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT, BE DEFERRED UNTIL AFTER THE 2009 – 2013 FINANCIAL PLAN IS FINALIZED.**

MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

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MOTION: ROBERT / THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED FEBRUARY 24, 2009, REGARDING THE CONSIDERATION OF A GRANT-IN-AID POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT BE REFERRED TO THE MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup> REGULAR MEETING AS RECOMMENDED BY STAFF .**

CARRIED.

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Item 10(i) – City Manager's Report – Five Year Financial Plan 2009 - 2013

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL BE CONVENED TO REVIEW AND DISCUSS THE DRAFT 2009 – 2013 FINANCIAL PLAN, AS SOON AS CONVENIENT.**

CARRIED.

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Item 10(j) - West Coast Amusements Request to Occupy City Property for Their Annual Carnival

MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT APPROVAL BE GRANTED TO WEST COAST AMUSEMENTS LTD., TO OPERATE THEIR ANNUAL CARNIVAL ON CITY OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED IMMEDIATELY WEST OF DICK BARTLETT PARK, ON APRIL 21<sup>ST</sup> AND 22<sup>ND</sup>, 2009, SUBJECT TO THE PAYMENT OF RENT OF \$252.00 PER DAY PLUS GST, THE POSTING OF A \$500.00 CLEAN-UP BOND, THE PURCHASE OF BUSINESS LICENCE, AND PROVISION OF LIABILITY INSURANCE NAMING THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS AS AN ADDITIONAL NAMED INSURED.**

CARRIED.

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Item 10(n) - UBCM Memorandum Regarding an Opportunity to Advance Civics in School Curriculum

Councillor Davies suggested that Council get involved in a Civics School Program at the local level. She further provided notice of motion for next meeting, that she intends to bring forward a motion that Council adopt a program to work with GFSS to propose a Council program for students to shadow Councillors.

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**BYLAWS:**

**a) Chief Financial Officer's Report – Bylaw 1868 – Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw**

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1868, CITED AS “ELECTRICAL UTILITY REGULATORY AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1868, 2009”, BE FINALLY ADOPTED.**

CARRIED.

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**LATE ITEMS:**

None

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

- Del's Bistro inquiry as to the City utilizing their parking space for an electrical transformer. Staff directed to include the details of this situation in the requested report on downtown parking scheduled for March 16<sup>th</sup>.

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**This Regular Meeting of Council was recessed at 9:10 p.m. and reconvened at 9:25 p.m.**

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**ADOPTION OF THE IN-CAMERA MEETING AGENDA:**

MOTION: THOMPSON / WYERS

**RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA FOR THE IN-CAMERA MEETING SCHEDULED TO IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW THIS REGULAR MEETING BE ADOPTED, AS CIRCULATED.**

CARRIED.

**IN-CAMERA RESOLUTION:**

MOTION: THOMPSON / WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT** COUNCIL CONVENE AN IN-CAMERA MEETING AS OUTLINED UNDER SECTION 90 OF THE COMMUNITY CHARTER TO DISCUSS MATTERS IN A CLOSED MEETING WHICH ARE THE SUBJECT OF SECTION 90 OF THE COMMUNITY CHARTER.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** PERSONS, OTHER THAN MEMBERS, OFFICERS, OR OTHERS PERSONS TO WHOM COUNCIL MAY DEEM NECESSARY TO CONDUCT CITY BUSINESS, WILL BE EXCLUDED FROM THE IN-CAMERA MEETING.

CARRIED.

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: WIRISHCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT** THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 9:25 P.M.

CARRIED.

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**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR

  
CITY CLERK - LYNNE BURCH