

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

**REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL**  
**MONDAY MAY 11, 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  
ADMIN ASSIST/CONF SEC

V. Kumar  
D. Heinrich

GALLERY

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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:

- None

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT THE MAY 11, 2009 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.**

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**MINUTES:**

MOTION: DAVIES/WYERS

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.**

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MOTION: THOMPSON/MOSLIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY APRIL 27, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED. CARRIED.**

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Councillor Thompson pointed out that a sentence appeared to be missing from Councillor Robert's report on pages 6113 to 6114 although Councillor Robert was uncertain as to what was missing.

CARRIED

MOTION: THOMPSON/WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY APRIL 27, 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 Rail Trail 200 Dog sled Race Committee

The Mayor welcomed Dr. Ruth Sims to the meeting. Dr. Sims began by showing a PowerPoint presentation on their plans for this event. Each team consists of 8 -12 dogs – this is a continuous race. Each sled team includes a Musher, Dogs, Sled and Harnesses and a self contained “dog truck” from which the animals reside. The race will be geared to attracting professional mushers, amateur mushers, plus local and backyard mushers. The 200 mile race will qualify for the Yukon Quest equal to the Iditarod in Alaska. The Trail would be on part of Trans Canada Trail and up through Carmi to Big White and finish back to at the Station Pub in Grand Forks with Safety checkpoints along the way. Benefits to Grand Forks – improve slow season business, new people, promotes outdoor winter sport activity. Community involvement would also include the local schools “show and tell” in classroom and older students to possibly help out in the race. The Dog Sled Race committee is asking the City to endorse and support the race, approve the use of public roadways for start and finish lines, for monetary support and for volunteers.

Councillor Moslin inquired as to how big the purse (prize money) would need to be to attract the teams. Dr Sims responded that they would like to attract between 10 – 12 teams for the first year and the purse should be as big as possible - approximately \$5,000. – 7,000. for the first prize, in addition to other consolation prizes.

MOTION: DAVIES/WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED MAY 4, 2009, REGARDING A DELEGATION PROPOSING A MID-DISTANCE SLED DOG RACE IN, BE RECEIVED.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY DR. RUTH SIMS PROPOSING THE CITY SUPPORT A MID-DISTANCE SLED DOG RACE IN THE BOUNDARY AREA IN 2010, BE RECEIVED.**

CARRIED

MOTION: MOSLIN/WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT** MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL WRITE A LETTER OF SUPPORT ENDORSING THE RAIL TRAIL 200 DOG SLED RACE FOR THE BOUNDARY AREA IN 2010.

CARRIED

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

a) City Clerk's Report – Notice of Motion, Councillor Davies

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT** THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED MAY 1, 2009, REGARDING THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE GRAND FORKS ZONING BYLAW TO INCREASE THE HEIGHT OF FENCING PERMITTED IN FRONT YARDS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS, BE RECEIVED.

A discussion involving the importance of people's privacy versus aesthetically pleasing fences and streets ensued.

MOTION: MOSLIN/THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT** THE RESOLUTION REGARDING THE PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE GRAND FORKS ZONING BYLAW TO INCREASE THE HEIGHT OF FENCING PERMITTED IN FRONT YARDS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS, BE DEFERRED, AND STAFF BE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION AND EXAMPLES OF HIGHER FENCING THAT IS BOTH AESTHETICALLY PLEASING FROM A STREET PERSPECTIVE AND STILL PROVIDE OWNER PRIVACY . CARRIED.

Councillors Robert and Wirischagin were opposed.

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

**Councillor Wirischagin:**

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following items:

- He announced that he has been appointed as a City Representative on the Grand Forks & District Recreation Commission

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/MOSLIN

**RESOLVED THAT** THE CITY WRITE A GENERAL LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT TO THE GRAND FORKS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AS THEIR ORGANIZATION IS GOING TO BE APPLYING FOR FUNDING AND GRANTS. CARRIED.

.../ report continued on next page

- Urged everyone to vote in Provincial Election on May 12<sup>th</sup>
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**Councillor Moslin:**

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- Reported that as result of the Boundary Air Quality Committee meeting on Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, Tender proposals are being sent out to contractors this week, for the receipt of bids on the Dispersion Modeling.
  - Reported that when the BAQC May 7<sup>th</sup> Minutes are included in the agenda for the next meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup>, it will be brought before Council to recommend that a Wood stove Bylaw be formed based on the following five elements: that there is not a constant visible plume in the sky, only seasoned wood to be used for burning, firewood to be stored only in a covered area to remain dry, no burning during an air advisory, and no Hydronic Appliances to be used in the City.
  - Reported that Volunteers are now constructing Habit for Humanity homes, and advised that additional volunteers are needed.
  - Acknowledged the passing of Tony Lodder, stating that he was an important person in our community
  - Reported that the show “Heart of a Dragon” has its first screening and special showing on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM at the Gem Theatre. He advised that all proceeds will go to Phoenix Foundation in Aldan Logan’s name.
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**Councillor Thompson:**

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- On April 28<sup>th</sup>, she toured the Unifab facility.
  - On April 29<sup>th</sup>, she attended her first meeting of the Phoenix Foundation.
  - On May 4<sup>th</sup> she was part of the City Facilities Tour.
  - As well on May 4<sup>th</sup>, she also had the occasion to spend part of the evening as participant at the Restorative Justice Society meeting.
  - On May 5<sup>th</sup>, she said a final good-bye to her friend, Tony Lodder
- 

**Councillor Wyers:**

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- Ian Johnson’s exhibit is now on display at Grand Forks Art Gallery – She is urging everyone to go and see it.
  - She will be attending Library Meeting on May 13th
- 

**Councillor Robert:**

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- He reported his discussion with a Railway Historian at the AKBLG who was able to supply some history on our Rail lines.
- Urged everyone to get out and vote on May 12th. And vote twice (STV vote as well)

MOTION: ROBERT/WYERS

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** CITY COUNCIL SUPPORT THE GRAND FORKS AND DISTRICT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING COALITION PROPOSAL TO CONVERT HARDY VIEW LODGE INTO AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ADULT ~~CHILDREN~~ WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; FRAIL SENIORS AT RISK OF HOMELESSLNESS; AND WOMEN AND CHILDREN AT RISK OF VIOLENCE.

MOTION: MOSLIN/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT** THE ABOVE RESOLUTION THAT CITY COUNCIL SUPPORT THE GRAND FORKS AND DISTRICT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING COALITION PROPOSAL TO CONVERT HARDY VIEW LODGE INTO AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ADULT CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES; FRAIL SENIORS AT RISK OF HOMELESSLNESS; AND WOMEN AND CHILDREN AT RISK OF VIOLENCE, BE DEFERRED TO THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. CARRIED.

Councillor Robert opposed to deferral

**Councillor Davies:**

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- That she attended the first board meeting of the Chamber of Commerce.
- That she attended Unifab Tour as well as City Facility Tour.
- She shared some personal stories on relatives and close acquaintances that could have utilized Medical Marijuana to ease their pain ~~should it be legalized~~ *OK*

MOTION: DAVIES/THOMPSON

WHEREAS THE HEALTH CARE DELIVERY IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROVINCE; THEREFORE UBCM REQUEST THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TO SEEK THE AUTHORITY FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO: 1)UNDERTAKE THE LICENSING OF MEDICAL CANNABIS; 2) ALLOWING MEDICAL CANNABIS USE TO BE A DECISION BETWEEN A DOCTOR AND THEIR PATIENT; 3) ALLOWING LEGAL COMPASSIONS CLUBS THAT CAN LEGALLY GROW MEDICAL CANNABIS FOR THEIR PATIENTS; AND 4) UNDER PROVINCIAL LICENSE, ALLOW MEDICAL PATIENTS TO GROW THEIR OWN MEDICAL CANNABIS FOR THEIR PERSONAL USE.

A lengthy discussion resulted from this motion discussing the pros and cons of legalization of Marijuana.

MOTION: MOSLIN/WYERS

RESOLVED THAT THE ABOVE RESOLUTION REGARDING MEDICAL CANNABIS BE REFERRED TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE FOR CONSIDERATION AND THEN REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL FOR COMMENT.

MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

VOTING ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION, "WHEREAS THE HEALTH CARE DELIVERY IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROVINCE; THEREFORE UBCM REQUEST THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TO SEEK THE AUTHORITY FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO: 1) UNDERTAKE THE LICENSING OF MEDICAL CANNABIS; 2) ALLOWING MEDICAL CANNABIS USE TO BE A DECISION BETWEEN A DOCTOR AND THEIR PATIENT; 3) ALLOWING LEGAL COMPASSIONS CLUBS THAT CAN LEGALLY GROW MEDICAL CANNABIS FOR THEIR PATIENTS; AND 4) UNDER PROVINCIAL LICENSE, ALLOW MEDICAL PATIENTS TO GROW THEIR OWN MEDICAL CANNABIS FOR THEIR PERSONAL USE."

MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

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**Mayor Taylor:**

- No report

MOTION: ROBERT/MOSLIN

**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 on discussions regarding Animal Control Service participation.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:**

**a) City Clerk's Report – Alternative Approval Process**

MOTION: THOMPSON/WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED APRIL 30, 2009, REGARDING THE AN ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS, BE RECEIVED.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE BORROWING OF UP TO \$3.5 MILLION FOR SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS AND UNDERTAKES THE ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS, BY ESTABLISHING THE DEADLINE DATE OF 4:00 P.M., JULY 8, 2009.**

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**AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED** THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE ATTACHED PRESCRIBED FORM FOR ELECTOR RESPONSE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS.

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** THAT THE FAIR DETERMINATION OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF ELECTORS IN THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS TO BE 2668 FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING THE ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS.

CARRIED.

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

MOTION: ROBERT/MOSLIN

**RESOLVED THAT** THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED MAY 1, 2009, REGARDING AN APPLICATION RECEIVED FOR A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT, BE RECEIVED.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** AFTER HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC, COUNCIL APPROVES THE APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT, THEREBY VARYING SECTION 33(2)(F)(I), REDUCING THE REQUIRED FRONT SETBACK FROM 20 FEET TO 15 FEET ALLOWING FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A ROOF STRUCTURE, ON PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 3, BLOCK 36, D.L. 534, SDYD, PLAN 108, LOCATED AT 6455 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET, AS SUBMITTED BY THE PROPERTY OWNER SHANE SOULE.

CARRIED.

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**c) City Clerk's Report – Municipal Security Issuing Resolution**

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT** COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS APPROVES BORROWING FROM THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE AUTHORITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, AS PART OF THEIR 2009 FALL ISSUE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500,000.00 AS AUTHORIZED THROUGH LOAN AUTHORIZATION BYLAW NO. 1863, 2008 ROAD IMPROVEMENT LOAN AUTHORIZATION, AND THAT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY BE REQUESTED TO CONSENT TO THE CITY'S BORROWING OVER A TEN YEAR TERM AND INCLUDE THE BORROWING IN THE REGIONAL DISTRICT SECURITY ISSUING BYLAW.

CARRIED.

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**d) City Manager's Report – Animal Control Service**

MOTION: MOSLIN/ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT** THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED MAY 5, 2009, REGARDING THE ACQUISITION OF INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICE, BE RECEIVED.

.... /report continued on following page

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZES ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICE IN THE EXISTING INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH A MUNICIPALLY OWNED NON-PROFIT SOCIETY AND SUBSEQUENTLY CONTRACT THE ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICE TO THE SOCIETY UNDER CONTRACT FUNDED BY THE RDKB PARTICIPATING MEMBERS.**

MOTION: DAVIES/ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT THE RESOLUTION REGARDING ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE RDKB FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF THE ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICE BE DEFERRED TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING PENDING A STAFF REPORT OUTLINING MORE INFORMATION ON THE SPCA'S DISCONTINUANCE OF ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICE.**

CARRIED.

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THE MEETING WAS RECESSED AT 9:05 PM, AND RECONVENED AT 9:15 PM

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e) **City Manager's Report – Grand Forks Airport**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED MAY 5, 2009, REGARDING THE CERTIFICATION OF THE GRAND FORKS AIRPORT, BE RECEIVED.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZES THE RETURN OF THE CERTIFICATION TO TRANSPORT CANADA UNTIL SUCH TIME AS FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO RECERTIFY THE AIRPORT.**

CARRIED.

Councillor Robert wanted to verify that the Medivac and night flying will still be available and it was confirmed that these services were not affected.

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**REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

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**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

MOTION: THOMPSON/WIRISCHAGIN

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

- a) Phoenix Mountain Ski Society advising the City that their organization fully supports a "Community Forest Program"-File
- b) Thank-You note to Mayor from Boundary District Arts Council for attending the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Arts and Culture Week Concert-File

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- c) Fortis BC – 2008 Annual Report placed in Council Lounge – File
- d) Lorraine Hubbard – Asking to have Disconnect Procedures reinstated for outstanding electrical bills. Advise Ms. Hubbard that the City does implement disconnects from May 1st to November 1st
- e) Municipal Finance Authority- Correspondence showing MFA Program Dividends – File (Cheque Processed)
- f) Royal Canadian Legion Branch #59 – Invitation to Mayor to attend their Honours & Awards Night on May 30<sup>th</sup> – Mayor advised that he has confirmed his attendance to their evening
- g) Grand Forks Secondary School – Report on the Student Exchange Group return from Germany- File
- h) Encorp Pacific (Canada)- Expressing concerns of the BC Bottle Depot Letter writing campaign - File
- i) BC Association of Farmer’s Market-Press Release on Economic Impact with growing farmer’s markets - File
- j) Southern Interior Beetle Action Coalition – Mountain Pine Beetle Presentation- DVD placed in Council Lounge - File
- k) WGW Holdings Ltd. – Development Permit issued for the construction of a duplex in the Heritage Corridor Development Permit Area.
  - There was some discussion about what kind of permit is required within the Heritage Corridor. It was pointed out that the OCP has a vision statement relating to the requirements.

MOTION: MOSLIN/ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT STAFF PROVIDE A REPORT ON THE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR THE HERITAGE CORRIDOR. CARRIED.**

- l) Diane Muscroft- Suggestion regarding hanging baskets. Staff to respond to Ms. Muscroft thanking her for her idea and that the City is going to do 20 baskets where drip systems exist
- m) Grand Forks Art Gallery- Requesting permission to operate a Beer Garden on the former Courthouse Grounds at 524 Central Avenue as part of their 25% Anniversary and that Council declares June 13<sup>th</sup> as a Community Event Day.

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DECLARE JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2009 AS A COMMUNITY ARTS EVENT DAY TO OBTAIN A SPECIAL OCCASION LIQUOR LICENSE ALLOWING THEM TO HOLD A BEER GARDEN FOR THE EVENT, SUBJECT TO THE GALLERY SECURING 3<sup>RD</sup> PARTY ALCOHOL INSURANCE FOR JUNE 13<sup>TH</sup> AND NAMING THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS AS AN ADDITIONAL INSURED ON THIS POLICY.**

CARRIED.

- n) Noise Control Petition from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street residents – Correspondence and Petition regarding loud music emanating from the residence at 7581-3<sup>rd</sup> Street. City Clerk has sent a letter, as directed by Council at their last meeting, requesting that the music amplifiers be turned down. Mr. Waterlow, the tenant, has responded that the amplifiers are as low as possible.

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT CORRESPONDENCE SURROUNDING COMPLAINTS OF NOISE FROM A RESIDENCE AT 7581-3<sup>RD</sup> STREET, INCLUDING A PETITION, AND STAFF CORRESPONDENCE TO THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY IN QUESTION, BE RECEIVED. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE TENANT, ZAK WATERLOW AND/OR PAMELA JACKSON/SCOTTIE HARAMEN BE INVITED TO ATTEND THE NEXT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING** CARRIED.

- Erna Gobbett and Shawn Fitzpatrick were both present in the Gallery and came forward to speak a few words requiring the noise emanating from this address. Shawn Fitzpatrick said he has had occasion to interview other people in the area, who were disturbed by the noise but were reluctant to come forward. He also said the noise has a tendency to go towards 4<sup>th</sup> Street.
- o) Boundary Restorative Justice Society - Invitation to Council to become involved with the Community Justice Program to the Meeting on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at Selkirk College – Room 2  
Laura Savinoff, who was a participant in the gallery, briefly spoke to Council explaining that she'll be appearing as a delegation at the next Council Meeting.
- p) Artisan's Market – Request to close Market Avenue from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street from 3pm to 9pm every Saturday from May 16<sup>th</sup> (May 16<sup>th</sup> is in conjunction with downtown tailgate party) to September 5<sup>th</sup> to facilitate artisan stalls, sidewalk sales and performers. Recommendation that approval be granted subject to the event organizers being responsible for the pick-up and return of City barricades and traffic cones.

MOTION: THOMPSON/WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THE REQUEST TO CLOSE MARKET AVENUE FROM 2<sup>ND</sup> TO 3<sup>RD</sup> STREETS FROM 3PM TO 9PM EVERY SATURDAY FROM MAY 16<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH SEPTEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> FOR ARTISAN STALLS, SIDEWALK SALES AND PERFORMERS, BE DEFERRED TO MAY 25<sup>TH</sup> AND THE EVENT PROPONENTS BE REQUESTED TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL AT THAT TIME.**

*TO ALLOW FOR THE CONSULTATION WITH THE MARKET AVENUE MERCHANTS TO ENSURE THEY HAD NO ISSUES WITH THE PROPOSED VENTURE.*  
CARRIED.

- q) Alex Atamanenko MP – RCMP Meeting – Issues brought forward by MP - File
- r) Government of Canada – US requirements as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 for travelers - File
- s) FCM Advisory – CRTC Municipal Exemption from National Do Not Call List-File

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

CARRIED.

**BYLAWS:**

**a) City Clerk's Report – Bylaw 1873 – 2009 Sewer Utility Improvements Loan Authorization**

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT** BYLAW NO. 1873, CITED AS “2009 SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS LOAN AUTHORIZATION BYLAW NO. 1873”, BE GIVEN FIRST READING. CARRIED.

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MOTION: WYERS/THOMPSON

**RESOLVED THAT** BYLAW NO. 1873, CITED AS “2009 SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS LOAN AUTHORIZATION BYLAW NO. 1873”, BE GIVEN SECOND READING. CARRIED.

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MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/MOSLIN

**RESOLVED THAT** BYLAW NO. 1873, CITED AS “2009 SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS LOAN AUTHORIZATION BYLAW NO. 1873”, BE GIVEN THIRD READING. CARRIED.

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**b) City Manager's Report – Bylaw 1874 – 2009 Tax Rates Bylaw**

MOTION: THOMPSON/WYERS

**RESOLVED THAT** BYLAW NO. 1874, CITED AS “2009 ANNUAL TAX RATES BYLAW”, BE GIVEN FIRST READING. CARRIED.

*Councillors Wirischagin & Robert opposed*

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MOTION: THOMPSON/WYERS

**RESOLVED THAT** BYLAW NO. 1874, CITED AS “2009 ANNUAL TAX RATES BYLAW”, BE GIVEN SECOND READING. CARRIED.

*Councillors Wirischagin & Robert opposed*

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MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT** BYLAW NO. 1874, CITED AS “2009 ANNUAL TAX RATES BYLAW”, BE GIVEN THIRD READING. CARRIED.

*Councillors Wirischagin & Robert opposed*

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STAFF WAS DIRECTED TO POST FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL TO BE HELD PRIOR TO MAY 15<sup>TH</sup> FOR FINAL READING AND ADOPTION OF BYLAW 1874.

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**LATE ITEMS:**

None

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

Shella from Gazette – Inquired as to why the City was not putting forth a Referendum on the borrowing required to construct the Lift Station upgrade and was advised that the AAP is not as expensive as a referendum would be.

She further inquired as to the impact to taxpayers on borrowing for the Lift Station and was advised the debt component would be included in the Sewer user rate, yet to be determined.

Shawn Fitzpatrick commented that in his opinion, if the City does not do the project at this time, the City may face future liability.

Les Johnson commented that he concurred with Council's proposal to construct a lift station.

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**IN-CAMERA RESOLUTION:**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/MOSLIN

**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 OTHER 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: WIRISCHAGIN

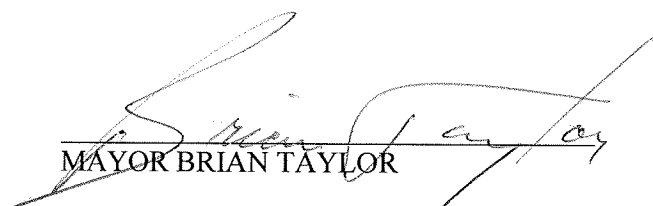
**RESOLVED THAT** THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 10:25 P.M.

CARRIED.

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**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**



MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR



ADMIN ASSISTANT/CONF SECRETARY - DIANE HEINRICH

## COUNCIL REPORT FOR MAY 11/09

- 1) A MOTION-BE IT RESOLVED THAT CITY COUNCIL SUPPORT THE GRAND FORKS #DISTRICT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING COALITION—PROPOSAL TO CONVERT HARDY VIEW LODGE INTO AFFORDABLE HOUSING. AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR
- 2) ADULT CHILDREN WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
- 3) FRAIL SENIORS AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS
- 4) WOMEN AND CHILDREN AT RISK OF VIOLENCE (SECOND STAGE HOUSING)  
COUNCIL REPORT FOR MAY 11/09
- 5) Grand Forks & District Supportive Housing Coalition
- 6) Proposal to Convert Hardy View Lodge into Affordable Housing
- 7)
- 8) Coalition Members:
- 9) Grand Forks & District Housing Society (operators of Boundary Lodge)
- 10) Gables Housing Society (operators of The Gables family housing)
- 11) Boundary Women's Coalition (operators of Boundary Women's Transition House)
- 12) Boundary Special Parents (parents of young adults with special needs)
- 13)
- 14) Other Partners:
- 15) Canadian Mental Health Association - Kootenays (CMHA-K) – Janice Bradshaw
- 16) Innovative Housing Consultants Inc. – Joffre Pomerleau
- 17)
- 18) Background:
- 19) Coalition has been working with CMHA-K and Innovative Housing for the past 2 years, initially trying to deal with housing needs for marginalized citizens of Grand Forks. This evolved into the goal of converting Hardy View Lodge into affordable housing for:
- 20) Adult children with developmental disabilities
- 21) Frail seniors at risk of homelessness
- 22) Women and children at risk of violence (second stage housing)
- 23)
- 24) BC Housing, owner of Hardy View Lodge, was in full support of our proposal to convert Hardy View for the identified user groups. However, with the economic downturn, their funding which in September 2008 was dedicated to this purpose has evaporated. At present they do not have the funding available for the upgrading and conversion of the building (estimated at roughly \$3 million)
- 25)
- 26) They are searching for ways to find funding as they do not want the building to sit empty long nor do they want this housing stock to deteriorate.
- 27)
- 28) Current Proposal:

- 29) On April 8, 2009, BC Housing announced a new program, the Seniors Rental Housing Initiative. The initiative, funded jointly by the Province of BC and the Federal Government) provides up to \$150,000 per unit to purchase modular homes for rental housing for seniors and people with disabilities in smaller communities of the province
- 30)
- 31) See the full press release at:  
[http://www.bchousing.org/news/news\\_releases/2009/04/08/5590\\_0904081319-702](http://www.bchousing.org/news/news_releases/2009/04/08/5590_0904081319-702)
- 32)
- 33)
- 34) On April 20, Janice Bradshaw and Joffre Pomerleau met with BC Housing Development Services staff Danna Locke and Manfred Gerschack to discuss the possibility of using funds from the Seniors Rental Housing Initiative for the renovations at Hardy View. BC Housing supports this idea given the following conditions:
- 35) The Coalition is in agreement (we are)
- 36) The City of Grand Forks is in agreement
- 37) The per unit costs of upgrading and converting can be reduced to fit within the budget of \$150,000 per unit. (In September 2008, the total costs for this purpose was estimated at around \$200,000 per unit)
- 38) And finally this transfer of funds from the Seniors Rental Housing initiative intended for modular units is supported by both the province and the federal governments
- 39)
- 40) BC Housing is re-working the cost estimates to see if they can fit these guidelines.

**From:** "Whetham" <whetham@cyberlink.bc.ca>  
**Date:** April 30, 2009 6:42:35 AM PDT  
**To:** <councillorrob@telus.net>  
**Cc:** <vkumar@grandforks.ca>  
**Subject:** Grand Forks Railway/ BN Omnitrax link

Hi Gene,  
Really nice to meet you at the AKLBG in Cranbrook.

Since talking about your railway dilemma, I contacted one of my friends who follows the railway industry and has some experience with abandonment proceedings in the US. His comments are as follows:

"I do recall that when BN wanted to close the line that my father-in-law worked on, they had to make a submission to the State of Montana. The State denied the request and BN was obliged to keep it open. Eventually they did get the State approval to abandon parts of it but my F-I-L was long retired by then.

I would think that Grand Forks' first point of contact would be the State of Washington via the local Representatives' Offices. In this case, the RR would be mostly in Ferry County which lists

it's Reps as listed below. (they also represent the Counties to the East and West of Ferry Co. - basically from Metaline to Oroville along the Border). The County Seat is the community of Republic but I doubt this would be a County issue".

Senator Bob Morton

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I suppose stranger things have happened but it seems very odd to me that an abandonment proposal would be considered where its removal would isolate the remainder. I would also have thought that you would have received more support from your counterparts on this side of the border.

Anyway, good luck with it! If I find out anything else, I'll pass it along.

Regards,

Bob