

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY NOVEMBER 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 CLERK
ADMIN ASSIST/CONF SECRETARY
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

L. Burch
D. Heinrich
C. Arnott

GALLERY

CALL TO ORDER:

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

RECESS TO PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING:

MOTION: ROBERT / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE RECESSED AT 7:02 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 7:02 p.m. and reconvened at 7:53 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Add the City Clerk's Report – AAP MFA Lease-Purchase and Borrowing Agreement for Equipment, to be brought forward under Late Items as 13(a).
- Add a letter from the Grand Forks Gazette requesting the City's participation in their Christmas 2010 promotion, to be brought forward under Late Items as 13(b).

MOTION: ROBERT / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE NOVEMBER 16, 2009 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED. CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY OCTOBER 30, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MOTION: DAVIES / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY NOVEMBER 2, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / WYERS

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

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) City Clerk's Report – Council request for further review of 5th Street and 72nd Avenue

MOTION: THOMPSON / MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED NOVEMBER 9, 2009, REGARDING COUNCIL'S REQUEST FOR A FURTHER REVIEW OF THE TRAFFIC PATTERN AT THE INTERSECTION OF 5TH STREET AND 72ND AVENUE, BE RECEIVED FOR DISCUSSION.

CARRIED.

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MOTION: THOMPSON / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT 5TH STREET, FROM 72ND AVENUE SOUTH TO CITY PARK, BE CLOSED TO NORTHBOUND TRAFFIC AND MADE A ONE-WAY STREET FOR SOUTHBOUND TRAFFIC TO CITY PARK, WITH IMPROVEMENTS TO BE MADE TO THE CITY PARK ROADWAY ACCESS TO 4TH STREET AND REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS TO 72ND AVENUE AT 2ND STREET.

CARRIED.

Councillors Robert, Wirischagin and Wyers voted against the motion.

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

Councillor Wirischagin:

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following items.

- He reported on his attendance at a Grand Forks Recreation Commission meeting as the City's liaison to consider a proposed expansion to the Aquatic Centre as a Wellness Centre, intended to increase the fitness spaces available.
- Announced that the Grand Forks Figure Skating Club will be hosting the annual Grand Forks Skating Open this coming weekend.
- Announced that the Border Bruins play on Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at the Grand Forks Arena. He further stated that the hockey club raffle will wind up this Wednesday, and stated that tickets need to be purchased this week to support Junior B hockey in Grand Forks.

Councillor Moslin:

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- Reported on his attendance at a recent BAQC meeting and advised that the Committee will proceed with dispersion modeling program.
- Reported that Roxul's upgraded stack, costing \$13 million is not working as well as they had hoped and the company is looking to make further improvements by separating the emissions streams.
- Reported on his attendance at the Art Gallery's presentation of Lanni McMullen who spoke on how arts and culture can fit into a community's Economic Development Strategy, including the 6 characteristics of a memorable community
- Reported on Cranbrook's referendum on boundary expansion this past weekend.

Councillor Thompson:

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- Reported on her attendance at a meeting of the Boundary Economic Development Committee to discuss the implementation of the Transition Study.
 - Reported on her attendance at a meeting of the Phoenix Foundation on November 12th. She advised that the Grants Committee will be meeting to prepare the criteria for some grants in 2010, and once the criteria is determined they will be advertised.
 - Reported on her meeting with Patricia Summers of the Rural BC Secretariat on Friday November 13th. She stated that Ms. Summers advised that Grand Forks is eligible for a Community Centered Agreement, which is intended to build relationships between the City and Rural BC Secretariat with Ms. Summers acting as a "broker" in finding funding opportunities with other agencies.
 - Reported that the Boundary Museum Society held a Special Board Meeting on Saturday, November 14th. She advised that the discussion centered on job descriptions and policies.
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Councillor Wyers:

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- Reported on her attendance at the November 6th Rivers' Edge performance of "Trying".
 - Reported on her attendance at a Nov 7th function for the Grand Forks International stating that all bills have been paid for the 2009 GFI and there are funds remaining for next year's tournament.
 - Reported on her participation in the Nov 11th Remembrance Day activities.
 - Reported on her attendance at a recent Boundary Air Quality Committee meeting.
 - Advised that she participated on the newly formed Advocacy Committee for our Local Library.
 - Reported on her attendance at Lanni McMullen's presentation at the Grand Forks Art Gallery on how arts and culture can fit into a community's Economic Development Strategy, acknowledging the Grand Forks Credit Union's sponsorship of Ms McMullen's presentation.
 - Reported on her attendance at the Nov 18th Border Bruins home game, encouraging Grand Forks residents to attend home hockey games.
 - Advised that the annual Santa's Workshop Parade will be held on November 27th. She stated that the theme for the parade will be "light up the town red", a prelude to the Olympic Torch Relay.
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Councillor Robert:

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- Brought forward the cutting of the trees in Angus McDonald Park, inquiring as to why vandals would do such a thing.
 - Expressed his appreciation to City Staff for providing information material to the Visitors' Information Centre.
 - Reported on his attendance at a Boundary Economic Development Committee meeting wherein the implementation of the Transition Plan was discussed. He further stated that a financial commitment will be required from all the parties to implement the plan.
 - Advised that there will be a public meeting on the Five Year Financial Plan on Monday, November 23, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.
 - Advised that the City will host the annual Volunteer Appreciation Night on Nov 18th at Art Gallery from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
 - Reported on his attendance at a meeting of the Boundary Literacy Committee meeting on November 9th at Selkirk College.
 - Advised that Community Futures is offering a "Youth At Risk" program in January 2010.
 - Thanked the Royal Canadian Legion for a memorable Remembrance Day ceremony.
 - Announced that the Grand Forks Art Gallery will hold their annual wine tasting event on November 21, 2009 at the Art Gallery.
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Councillor Davies:

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- Reported on her attendance, by video conferencing, at a meeting of the Boundary Economic Development Committee to discuss the implementation of the Transition Study.

- Clarified the Member of Parliament's participation in the medical marijuana task force for the information of the public.

Mayor Taylor:

- Advised that the Province has offered the City the opportunity to enter into a Community Centered Agreement which would outline a representative of the Rural BC Secretariat to advocate on behalf of Grand Forks. The Mayor advised that the City will sign the agreement, which will require the support of the community.
- Expressed his appreciation for the Copper Fields Development group sponsorship of a skating event at the Grand Forks arena, which was open to everyone free of charge. He suggested that consideration be given to opening facilities such as the arena and the pool, a few times a year, free of charge.
- He reported that city representatives, along with the Boundary Economic Development Committee are continuing work on the rail abandonment issue.
- Advised that in the future all minutes of Boundary Economic Development Committee will go to City Hall for inclusion in Council agendas.
- Reported on his attendance at a recent Telus presentation in Rock Creek where Telus outlined the opportunity to connect to the internet anywhere there is cellular service in the Boundary area.
- Reported on his attendance at Lanni McMullen's presentation at the Grand Forks Art Gallery on how arts and culture can fit into a community's Economic Development Strategy
- Encouraged everyone to participate in the Santa Claus parade, scheduled for Nov 27th.

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

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

CARRIED.

REPORT FROM THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY (VERBAL)

- Reported that the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Board of Directors are focused on developing their 2010-2014 Financial Plan at this time.
- Advised that he continues to press ahead for preliminary meetings with Boundary area Directors for shared services.

MOTION: ROBERT / DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY, GIVEN VERBALLY AT THIS MEETING, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:

a) City Manager's Report – China Trade and Twinning Invitation

MOTION: DAVIES / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED NOVEMBER 10, 2009, REGARDING CHINA TRADE AND TWINNING INVITATION, BE RECEIVED FOR DISCUSSION. CARRIED.

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MOTION: DAVIES / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS ACCEPTS THE INVITATION, AND COUNCIL APPROVES THE TRAVEL EXPENSES INCLUDING AIR FARE AND ACCOMMODATION FOR THE CITY DELEGATION.

The motion was not voted on and was withdrawn with the consent of the table.

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MOTION: MOSLIN / THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS ACKNOWLEDGES THE INVITATION FROM THE COUNCIL OF MUPING CHINA AND THEY BE ADVISED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS' VISIT WILL BE DELAYED UNTIL THE SPRING OF 2010.

CARRIED.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 11(a) TO 10(i)

- a) Letter from Heart & Stroke Foundation of BC requesting the proclamation of February 2010 as Heart Month in the City of Grand Forks – **Recommend it be filed, the City does not do proclamations. The Mayor will issue a letter in support of the campaign.**
- b) Letter from School District 51 inviting the Mayor or his designate to attend the Grand Opening of the StrongStart Centre at Perley School. **Recommend that the Mayor advise Diane of his availability prior to November 23rd. The Mayor advised that he will attend.**
- c) Letter from the BC Utilities Commission advising of Operational hours during the Olympics. **Recommend it be filed.**

- d) Letter from the Ministry of Housing and Social Development on the new standards to be added to the BC Building Code, effective December 31, 2009. **Recommend that it be filed.**
- e) Correspondence from BC Hydro including the 2009 Thompson/Okanagan/Columbia Fall Update. **Recommend that it be filed.**
- f) Letter from the Royal Canadian Legion, including a copy of the BC/Yukon Service Recognition Book. **Recommend it be filed. The Recognition Book has been placed in Council's Lounge.**
- g) Email letter from BC Hydro advising that Bob Elton will be transitioning into a new roll with BC Hydro. **Recommend that it be filed.**
- h) UBCM Legislative Highlights, including legislative changes. **Recommend they be filed.**
- i) Meeting Task List for the November 2nd Regular Meeting. **Recommend it be filed.**

BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED AND/OR AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

BYLAWS:

- a) **City Clerk's Report – Bylaw 1888 – Zoning Amendment Bylaw**

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1888, CITED AS “THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS ZONING AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1888, 2009”, BE GIVEN FIRST READING. CARRIED.

Councillor Davies voted against the motion.

MOTION: WYERS / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1888, CITED AS “THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS ZONING AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1888, 2009”, BE GIVEN SECOND READING. CARRIED.

Councillor Davies voted against the motion.

LATE ITEMS:

- a) **City Clerk's Report – Alternative Approval Process, Lease-Purchase of Equipment**

MOTION: THOMPSON / ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED NOVEMBER 13, 2009, REGARDING GENERAL APPROVAL OF ALTERNATIVE METHOD FOR THE MFA LEASE-PURCHASE AND BORROWING AGREEMENT FOR EQUIPMENT, BE RECEIVED.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE ENTERING INTO A LEASE-PURCHASE, 15 YEAR TERM, FINANCING ARRANGEMENT FOR UP TO \$930,000 FOR THE ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT, AND UNDERTAKES THE ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS, BY ESTABLISHING THE DEADLINE DATE OF 4:00 P.M., January 5, 2010, AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 86(3)(a) OF THE COMMUNITY CHARTER.

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE ATTACHED PRESCRIBED FORM FOR ELECTOR RESPONSE FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS, AS REQUIRED BY SECTION 86(3)(b).

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES 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, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 86(3)(c), FOR THE ENTERING INTO THE MFA LEASE-PURCHASE AGREEMENT INTENDED TO AUTHORIZE THE FINANCING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CITY EQUIPMENT.

CARRIED.

b) Letter from Grand Forks Gazette requesting the City's participation in their 2010 Business Promotion.

MOTION: ROBERT / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE LETTER FROM THE GRAND FORKS GAZETTE, DATED NOVEMBER 16, 2009, REQUESTING THE CITY'S SUPPORT OF THEIR 2010 BUSINESS PROMOTION, IN THE FORM OF PURCHASED ADVERTISING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$700.00 TO BE FUNDED FROM PRIOR YEAR'S SURPLUS.

CARRIED.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA:

ADJOURNMENT:


MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 9:27 P.M.

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CITY CLERK - LYNNE BURCH