

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 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
CONFIDENTIAL SECRETARY

V. Kumar
D. Heinrich

GALLERY

CALL TO ORDER:

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

RECESS TO PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING:

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

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 8:30 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- None

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/WYERS

RESOLVED THAT THE SEPTEMBER 21, 2009 REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MINUTES:

AMENDMENTS TO THE MINUTES:

- NONE

MOTION: DAVIES/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2009, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) City Manager's Report – Deferred Motion On the Border Bruins Sign Advertising & Policy Consideration, Sept 8th, 2009**

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY MANAGER'S REPORT, DATED SEPTEMBER 14, 2009, REGARDING THE PURCHASE OF BORDER BRUIN'S ADVERTISING AT THE GRAND FORKS ARENA AND CONSIDERATION OF A DRAFT POLICY FOR FUTURE ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONS, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL CONSIDER THE PURCHASE OF ADVERTISING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000.00 FOR THE BORDER BRUINS IN THE 2010-2014 FINANCIAL PLAN SUBJECT TO THE ADOPTION OF THE POLICY ON ADVERTISING AND PROMOTIONS EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1ST, 2010.

CARRIED.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE MOTION BE DIVIDED.

MOTION DEFEATED.

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

Councillor Davies:

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- She reported a very successful Solar Energy Forum on September 16th that had been arranged by the Industry Team of the Economic Development Task Force. Councillor Davies provided a DVD of the forum that had been given to her by Les Johnson who had filmed it. Members of Council or Staff can use this DVD. The Industry Team is working very hard and will be bringing the subject forward to the next EDTF.

Councillor Robert:

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- Reported visiting the Artisan's Market in Gyro Park on September 11th and was very impressed with their venue
- Councillor Robert requested that he be appointed as the City's the liaison to Community Futures.

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT COUNCILLOR ROBERT BE APPOINTED AS THE CITY'S LIAISON FOR COMMUNITY FUTURES AND THAT A LETTER BE SENT TO COMMUNITY FUTURES ADVISING THEM OF HIS APPOINTMENT. CARRIED.

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE REQUESTED TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN COUNCIL AND THE BOUNDARY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION REGARDING THE TRANSITION STUDY. CARRIED.

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE REQUESTED TO ASSIST COUNCIL IN THE CREATION OF AN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE. MOTION DEFEATED.

- Reported that a Meeting that was previously scheduled for, September 29th with Selkirk College President, Marilyn Luscombe has been rescheduled for Thursday, October 22nd, 2009 from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM. The meeting is scheduled to take place in Room #4 at Selkirk College Boundary Campus in Grand Forks. Councillor Robert is inviting all members of Council to attend this crucial meeting. Selkirk College supports the Transition Study. Cara Lee Melange, in conjunction with the Boundary Economic Development Committee would like to develop a programming committee. Ms. Melange's challenge will be to keep the training specific to the Boundary and within our local college's resources.

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- Councillor Robert brought forward the matter of a potential traffic problem at the corner of 5th Street and 72nd Avenue. He expressed his concerns as it related to the safety of both vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE REQUESTED TO REVIEW THE TRAFFIC PATTERNS AT THE CORNER OF 5TH STREET AND 72ND AVENUE AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN TRAFFIC FLOWS, BOTH VEHICULAR AND PEDESTRIAN.

CARRIED.

Councillor Wyers:

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- Reported September 21st is the first day of fall and with the evening red sky it means "good weather"
- On September 12th & 13th, 2009, she reported volunteering at Fall Fair with Councillors Thompson, Wirischagin and Davies and believed it was a very successful Fall Fair. Councillor Wyers also commended the Fall Fair Committee on a fine job of organization this year.
- On September 16th she attended the Solar Energy Forum at the GFSS and thanked Councillor Davies for organizing this interesting forum.
- On September 18th she was a participant of the Citizen's on Patrol and reported that there are more deer on the street than humans.
- She attended the Global Climate Wake Up call at Lois Haggan Park on September 21st and reported a great turn out.
- She reiterated Councillor Robert's comments regarding the Artisan Market
- On Thursday, September 16th, Councillor Wyers met the new Animal Control Officer, Craig Caruso and reported that he is "open for business".
- She reported that there is an inconsistency between Bylaw 1866 and the City's newsletter as it relates to GST charged and/or included in the Campground Rates.

MOTION: WYERS/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW 1866 BE AMENDED TO REFLECT THAT THE CAMPGROUND RATES INCLUDE GST.

CARRIED.

Councillor Thompson:

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- She attended the Phoenix Foundation Meeting on Sept 9th. The public presentation of the Vital Signs will be made at the Art Gallery on October 6th starting at 5:30 PM. An orientation for new Directors of the Foundation will be on Saturday, October 31st from 9AM to noon at the School Board Office. She will be attending the session.
- She congratulated Irene Perepolkin and all of the volunteers who made the Fall Fair a success this year. She thanked the City crew for putting together such a nice float for Council to ride on at the parade and complimented our volunteer fire fighters on the excellent float that they entered. She thought that the parade and the exhibits and display at the fair were second to none.

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- On September 16th, she represented Council at a meeting of the Boundary Economic Development Commission with our American counterparts in Colville, Washington. Director Grace MacGregor ably chaired the meeting. There were about 40-50 people attending, including industry stakeholders. There was representation from the Office of their Congressional Representative, and Washington State Senator Morton was in attendance. The meeting was advised that OmniTrax has not applied to abandon the short line from Laurier to Kettle Falls. Should they be successful in abandoning the short line from Grand Forks to Cascade, they will likely file their US application to abandon the line on the US side that could be approved within 45 days of the date of application. Senator Morton advised that he wants to be kept informed on all matters surrounding this issue. He went on to state that Washington State can own rail spur lines and he will be exploring all options available at the State level. The economic impact study relative to the Canadian line will be completed by September 30th. It was recommended that an economic impact study affecting the US side, including the adverse impact to Spokane should be undertaken immediately. The consultant from Lockhaven advised that they would share their methodology with the US consultants if requested. One interesting fact that out of this meeting is that for each rail car abandoned it would take 3 to 4 trucks, and these trucks would be travelling on Highway 395. Finally, it was recommended that the BEDC be in direct contact with the Tri-County Economic Development Commission. I noted that our City Manager, Victor Kumar exchanged business cards with the representative from the Washington State Transportation Board.
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Councillor Moslin:

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- He advised that he had participated in the BC Sustainable Webinar on Solar Power on September 15, 2009
 - He attended a meeting on September 16th regarding the Omni Trax Rail Abandonment
 - On September 2nd, Councillor Moslin participated in the Ministry of Environment Webinar on open burning defining sensitivity zones in order to regulate Category 2 & Category 3 fires.
 - He stated that he is looking forward to the Kerr Wood Liedel Staff Report discussion at the October 5th Regular Council Meeting and how these issues were going to carry out to the public.
 - He stated that there is lots of interest in the Deer Count project. If anyone is interested in participating as a volunteer, please phone him at 442-2620. No firm date has been set at this time; however a day between October 5th to 8th is being considered.
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Councillor Wirischagin:

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following items:

- He attended the Fall Fair this year and offered thanks to Irene Perepolkin and the other volunteers for a job well done
 - He also wanted to express his thanks to the City crew on a great float and to commend the Volunteer Fire Fighters on their great parade addition.
 - He wanted to remind everyone that the Bruins are playing this Saturday, September 26th and urged everyone to please try to attend at 7:30 PM in support of our local team.
 - He stated he is looking forward to attending UBCM next week with his colleagues.
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Mayor Taylor:

- Announced to the public that Victor Kumar has tendered his resignation on January 5th, 2010. He said Council had accepted Mr. Kumar's resignation with regret and wished him well in his future position with the City of Rossland. The rest of Council echoed his sentiments. Councillor Thompson stated that she has known Mr. Kumar both in management and as a Councillor and that he will be truly missed. Council Moslin echoed these thoughts and said that Mr. Kumar was a guiding force with his vision that he gave the community. Councillor Davies echoed her colleague's comments adding that it will be difficult to replace him and wishes him the best of everything. Councillor Robert commented that "It's been interesting!" and that Mr. Kumar has the ability to come down to their level. Councillor Wyers wished Mr. Kumar all the best in Rossland and noted that he'll be returning to his own area. Councillor Wirischagin gave thanks to Mr. Kumar for his guidance and that as City Manager, has done an excellent job.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/DAVIES

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

CARRIED.

Mr. Kumar thanked the community and members of Council that he worked with through the years while in Grand Forks and mentioned that many successes were experienced in the past 4 ½ years. He offered to assist Council, if needed.

REPORT FROM THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY (VERBAL)

- The Mayor brought forward the matter of a joint meeting with Council and members of the RDKB Board of Directors
- Reported that the Boundary Regional Hospital District made a decision to invest in a helicopter landing pad at the Trail Hospital. The Mayor complimented the City of Trail for going forward on this. This will be very beneficial to our community.

MOTION: DAVIES/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE WEST-KOOTENAY BOUNDARY REGIONAL HOSPITAL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING AGENDA, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

BE IT FURTHER 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 Clerk's Report – Development Variance Permit

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2009, REGARDING THE APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT AFTER HEARING FROM THE PUBLIC, COUNCIL APPROVES THE ISSUANCE OF A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT TO VARY SECTION 33(2)(f)(iv), TO REDUCE THE MINIMUM REAR YARD SETBACK FROM 20 FEET TO 10 FEET TO ALLOW FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE FAMILY DWELLING AND GARAGE ATTACHED WITH A ROOFED BREEZEWAY, ON PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 10, BLOCK 41, DL 381, SDYD, PLAN 72, LOCATED AT 7460-12TH STREET, IN SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY PROPERTY OWNERS, ROSS AND DEBRA KLOCKENBRINK

CARRIED.

b) City Clerk's Report – Building Bylaw Contravention

Building inspector's report advising that a building bylaw contravention has taken place on property located at 6929-19th Street.

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2009, REGARDING A BUILDING BYLAW CONTRAVENTION, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL TO RECEIVE THE BUILDING INSPECTOR'S REPORT DATED SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2009, RELATING TO PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 2, DL 380, SDYD, PLAN 10223, EXCEPT PLAN KAP 85777, OWNED BY MATTHEW AND SHIRLEY KOPAN, AND INVITE THE PROPERTY OWNERS TO APPEAR BEFORE COUNCIL AT THEIR REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, OCTOBER 5TH, 2009 TO MAKE A PRESENTATION RELATIVE TO FILING A NOTICE IN THE LAND TITLE OFFICE UNDER SECTION 57 OF THE COMMUNITY CHARTER AGAINST THE PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED ABOVE, STATING THAT AN ACCESSORY STRUCTURE HAS BEEN CONSTRUCTED WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A BUILDING PERMIT AND IS IN CONTRAVENTION OF THE BUILDING BYLAW REQUIREMENTS.

CARRIED.

c) City Clerk's Report – Petition Received, Local Area Service

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/WYERS

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED SEPTEMBER 11TH, 2009, REGARDING AN ESTABLISHMENT OF A LOCAL AREA SERVICE, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO DRAFT A LOCAL AREA SERVICES BYLAW AND THE LOAN AUTHORIZATION BYLAW REQUIRED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SERVICES TO RESIDENTIAL LOTS IN THE NORTH WEST 79TH AVENUE AREA AS PROPOSED BY THE PETITION RECEIVED FROM OWNERS OF PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOTS A, B, C & D, D.L. 520, SDYD, PLAN 25202.

CARRIED.

d) City Clerk's Report – 2010 Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw

MOTION: MOSLIN/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY CLERK'S REPORT, DATED SEPTEMBER 14TH, 2009, REGARDING AN APPLICATION FROM HABITAT FOR HUMANITY REQUESTING INCLUSION IN THE 2010 ANNUAL TAX EXEMPTION BYLAW, BE RECEIVED.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO INCLUDE TWO PROPERTIES, OWNED BY HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BOUNDARY SOCIETY, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS PARCELS F AND G, BLOCK 35, D.L. 108, PLAN 72, IN THE 2010 ANNUAL TAX EXEMPTION BYLAW.

CARRIED.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/DAVIES

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

- a) Letter from City of Burnaby & Tex C Enemark asking for resolution support with respect to the non-payment of industrial property taxes (Issue of Class 4 Taxation in some communities) – Recommend to be filed.
- b) Letter from the Mayor to “Venture Grand Forks” advising that the City endorses the newly formed group intent on marketing Grand Forks as a Tourist or Business destination. Recommendation to file.
- c) Correspondence from the Boundary Historical Society expressing concerns regarding the naming of the park at the confluence of the North and West Forks of the Kettle be received.

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MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL INVITE THE BOUNDARY HISTORIAL SOCIETY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE NAME-MAKING PROCESS OF THE PARK AT THE CONFLUENCE OF THE NORTH AND WEST FORKS OF THE KETTLE RIVER.

AMENDMENT TO ABOVE MOTION

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL INVITES THE BOUNDARY HISTORIAL SOCIETY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROCESS WHEN CONSIDERING NAMES FOR ANY FUTURE CITY MUNICIPAL PARKS.

CARRIED.

- d) Correspondence from Sylvia Treptow expressing medical marijuana views and suggestions. Be filed.
- e) Jim Hesse correspondence regarding cemetery concerns on the internment of his mother and response letter to a solution from the Chief Financial Officer to Mr. Hesse be filed and that Staff be requested to research an amendment to the Cemetery Bylaw to deal with special circumstances.
- f) Memorandum from City Clerk to City Manager regarding an inquiry from Council to have Staff investigate if the Regional District Kootenay Boundary has a "Building Specialist" be filed.
- g) UBCM 2009 Municipal Marketplace "Tradeshow & Exhibition" re: UBCM Convention booth "Kootenay Grown" be filed. Councillor Moslin advised that he would volunteer to take a turn at the booth.
- h) UBCM – Meeting with Interior Health at Convention. There is a 20 minute appointment set up for Council between 12:00 Noon to 12:20 on Monday, September 28th, to meet with CEO on health care issues and that Council choose three topics for discussion be filed. (Councillor Thompson spoke with Ingrid Hampf, Director of Nursing at Boundary Hospital for input as to what issues Council could lobby for. Ms. Hampf recommended Tele-Health, more support for travelling specialists and better cancer care.)
- i) September 8th, 2009 Meeting Task List that are completed and in progress be filed.

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

CARRIED.

BYLAWS:

- a) **City Clerk's Report – Bylaw 1877 – Amendment to the City of Grand Forks Official Community Plan Designation Bylaw, 68th Avenue between 19th Street and Brycen Place**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1877, CITED AS “AN AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN DESIGNATION BYLAW NO. 1877”, BE FINALLY ADOPTED.

CARRIED.

- b) **City Clerk's Report – Bylaw 1878 – Amendment to the City of Grand Forks Zoning Bylaw**

MOTION: THOMPSON/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1878, CITED AS “AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS ZONING BYLAW NO. 1878, 2009”, BE FINALLY ADOPTED.

CARRIED.

- c) **City Clerk's Report – Bylaw 1880 – Temporary Borrowing Bylaw**

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1880, CITED AS “TEMPORARY BORROWING BYLAW NO. 1880”, BE FINALLY ADOPTED.

CARRIED.

LATE ITEMS:

None

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA:

Roy Ronaghan – Commented on the improved format of the agenda package. Posed a question regarding the dangers of crosswalks in the City and asked if there is anything that the City can do to get the message out to vehicles that pedestrians have the right of way. The Mayor remarked that there is a need a review of the safety on our streets and to identify these hot areas.

Les Johnson – Asked if a building permit is required for certain structures, (i.e. containers). He also reported that Border Bruins game will be webcast live this weekend.

Laura Savinkoff – Reported that there is a Peace Initiative on September 29th 7:00 PM at the USCC Centre where they are hosting US War Resister – Joshua Key who has authored a book called “The Deserter’s Tale. She invited everyone to attend.

ADJOURNMENT:

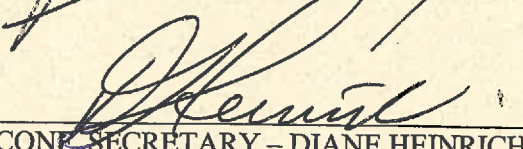
MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 9:55 P.M.

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CONF. SECRETARY - DIANE HEINRICH