

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

TUESDAY APRIL 6, 2010

PRESENT:

MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR
COUNCILLOR JOY DAVIES
COUNCILLOR GENE ROBERT
COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN

FIRE CHIEF
CORPORATE OFFICER
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

B. Macgregor
D. Heinrich
C. Arnott

GALLERY

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE APRIL 6, 2010, REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 22ND, 2010, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: DAVIES/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, MARCH 22ND, 2010, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 22, 2010, AND ALL RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

- a) Corporate Officer's Report – Delegation – Margaret Steele Presentation on the feasibility study on Hardy View Lodge and Homelessness

Margaret Steele spoke with regard to the feasibility study and talked about three major points:

1. There is a need for a greater range of housing choices and support in community.
2. She suggested that Hardy View Lodge is not suitable as a homeless shelter as the facility is too large and in the wrong location, but that it has potential for transitional and support housing which could support three separate groups in each of the three wings of the building.
3. She suggested that a Public Forum to educate the community on Homelessness be held in Grand Forks.

MOTION: DAVIES/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY MARGARET STEELE WITH REGARD TO A FEASIBILITY STUDY ON HARDY VIEW LODGE AND HOMELESSNESS, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS PARTNER WITH THE PUBLIC SAFETY FOCUS GROUP TO HOST A PUBLIC COMMUNITY FORUM ON "HOMELESSNESS" WHICH IS TO BE ARRANGED AT A FUTURE DATE. CARRIED

- b) Corporate Officer's Report – Delegation – Mark Warren –Director of Customer Service and Keith Veerman, Manager of PowerSense Programs – Fortis Presentation on the update to the Power Sense Demand Side Management Program.

Mr. Veerman made a presentation with regard to existing PowerSense Programs which included the 2009 Municipal Project done by the City of Grand Forks. He spoke further with regard to Demand Side Management Planning Process.

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Mr. Veerman also mentioned that Fortis offers a kit for low and fixed income customers that contain some energy saving tools, tips and guidelines. He further mentioned that they also offer low interest loans to subsidize some energy saving options.

MOTION: DAVIES/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION FROM FORTIS BC WITH REGARD TO THE POWER SENSE DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED

- c) Corporate Officer's Report – Delegation – Airport Committee initiative to develop the municipal airport in both commercial and recreational areas

Jake Raven made a presentation with regard to an initiative to improve the Grand Forks Airport economic viability by presenting some examples of old and new issues which he stated would need to be addressed to make the airport project a success.

MOTION: DAVIES/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY JAKE RAVEN, COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN OF THE GRAND FORKS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE'S AIRPORT COMMITTEE REGARDING AN ECONOMIC PLAN FOR THE GRAND FORKS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, BE RECEIVED.

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT THIS PRESENTATION BE INCLUDED AS PART OF THE GRAND FORKS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR FUTURE IMPLEMENTATION.

CARRIED.

- d) Corporate Officer's Report – Delegation – Barry Brandow – Presentation with regard to the management of the Overton Creek Watershed.

Barry Brandow spoke with regard to the Management of Overton Creek and referred to three letters that formed part of his presentation. He stated that he would like to see a motion from Council to have cows removed from this watershed. The Mayor encouraged Mr. Brandow to make this presentation to the Kettle Water Committee that has been newly formed.

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY BARRY BRANDOW REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE OVERTON CREEK WATERSHED, BE RECEIVED.

AND BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT THE ISSUE OF NO CATTLE WITHIN THE OVERTON CREEK WATERSHED BE BROUGHT BACK TO THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF APRIL 19TH, 2010, FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. CARRIED.

A recess called at 8:19 PM and the meeting reconvened at 8:26 PM

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

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

Councillor Wirischagin:

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following items:

- He advised that he had questions with regard to the roof leakage problems on the baseball stadium at James Donaldson Park which was addressed last fall by the Grand Forks International Committee. Blair Macgregor stated that public works employees investigated the problem last fall and advised that this leakage has always been there as the roof was never completed. He advised that there was a cost estimate done on completion of the roof which could be revisited, or that perhaps some minor patches may be done prior to the GFI. Councillor Wirischagin also advised that the fence nearest to the highway is in need some repair as the GFI committee would like to use that space for advertising boards as well.
 - He reported his attendance to a Special Meeting with the Recreation Commission. He advised that the Commission researched three proposed sites for a multi-purpose playing field that included a site next to Dick Bartlett, GFSS high school site and City Park. He advised that the Recreation Commission recommended that City Park is the best location of the three and that a letter stating their recommendation will be sent to City Hall.
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Councillor Robert:

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- He began his report with the following resolution regarding the Provincial Election Task Force reviews of legislation governing Civic elections in B.C.

MOTION: ROBERT/ WIRISCHAGIN

WHEREAS THE BC PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT HAS CREATED THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS TASK FORCE TO REVIEW THE LEGISLATION GOVERNING CIVIC ELECTIONS IN BC AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHANGES; AND **WHEREAS** THE TASK FORCE IS CONSIDERING ALLOWING CORPORATIONS THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS; AND **WHEREAS** THE CONCEPT OF "ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE" IS A CORNERSTONE OF DEMOCRACY, AND A CORPORATION IS NOT A PERSON; AND, **WHEREAS** THE ABILITY OF A CORPORATION TO VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS IN BC WAS ELIMINATED IN 1993, AND, **WHEREAS** OTHER "NON-HUMAN" ENTITIES, SUCH AS NON-PROFITS AND CHURCHES DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO VOTE AND WOULD NOT HAVE SUCH A RIGHT IF CORPORATIONS WERE

GRANTED A VOTE; AND **WHEREAS** THE “NON-DISCRIMINATION” PROVISIONS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT (NAFTA) AND THE TRADE INVESTMENT AND LABOUR MOBILITY AGREEMENT (TILMA) COULD REQUIRE THAT CORPORATE VOTING RIGHTS BE EXTENDED TO NON-BC OR EVEN NON-CANADIAN OWNED CORPORATIONS, THEREFORE, **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS OPPOSES THE INTRODUCTION OF THE CORPORATE VOTE IN LOCAL ELECTIONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA AND COMMUNICATE THAT POSITION TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS TASK FORCE. CARRIED.

- He advised that there is a Seminar hosted by the Age Friendly Community at the Grand Forks Public Library on Friday, April 9th, from Noon to 1:00 PM. He advised that anyone interested in attending to bring their lunch – beverages provided and they are there to discuss several topics of interest and concerns to seniors.
- Councillor Robert advised that at 565-75th Avenue, the sidewalk is unsafe as a result of twisting by tree roots and asked if Staff could investigate the condition of the sidewalk in this area and offer some recommendations.

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE REQUESTED TO INVESTIGATE THE SIDEWALK IN THE AREA AROUND 565-75TH AVENUE AND COME BACK TO COUNCIL WITH RECOMMENDATIONS. CARRIED.

- He advised that there is a need a wellness centre at the Grand Forks Aquatic Centre and that he attended a meet and greet with the users of this facility.
- He advised that on April 10th, Citizens on Patrol will be on display at the Overwaitea Parking Lot between 10:00 am and 4:00 PM and urged everyone to stop by and meet the volunteers.

Councillor Thompson:

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- She reported that on the March 8th Regular Meeting of Council, she had put forward a resolution that the matter of the multi-purpose playing field be deferred to April 6th, and advised that due to a family emergency, the Chief Administrative Officer has not had the opportunity to prepare the report.
- She advised that last week, she was approached by a resident who resides in the area of the BMX track who is adamantly opposed to having a multi-purpose playing field in City Park.
- Councillor Thompson reported that she spoke to Peter Perepolkin who is opposed to Council's decision to transfer the electrical surplus into General Revenue rather than rebating it to the taxpayers. She advised Mr. Perepolkin to attend the April 19th meeting to express his concerns before all of Council.
- She reported that the Grand Forks Art Gallery Society resolved on March 30th, to offer a sub-lease to the Boundary Museum Society for the use of the east vault subject to the approval of the City of Grand Forks, as the landlord of the property.
- She reported that the Boundary Museum has partnered with Riverside Meadows Development to promote Grand Forks as a destination point at the Vancouver Trade Show.

- Councillor Thompson advised that the Boundary Museum Society's Annual General Meeting will be held on April 26th at 7:00 PM in Room 8 at Selkirk College and to be eligible to vote, memberships must be purchased by April 8th.
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Councillor Davies:

Councillor Davies advised that she had no report this week, but advised that the Agricultural Society is hosting a "Spring Fling" on April 9th

Mayor Taylor:

Mayor Taylor reported on the following items:

- Mayor Taylor advised that Riverside Meadows are designing Senior Friendly accommodations at their subdivision at Riverside Drive.
 - He advised that he met with RCMP on community priorities with Sgt Jim Harrison and stated that more dialogue is to come as a result of this meeting
 - He reported his attendance to the Grand Forks Curling Club 100th Anniversary last week.
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MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

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)

- The Mayor reported on his attendance at meeting held in Greenwood last week regarding a Regional Chamber of Commerce and advised that while there is support for this, there is a need to research the identity of individual communities. He advised that both Community Futures and the Boundary Economic Development Committee are on board with this concept.
- He reported that the regional Kettle Valley Water Committee has expressed their thanks to Councillor Robert who volunteered to be the City representative, and that Councillor Moslin has agreed to act as second representative.

MOTION: DAVIES/WIRISCHAGIN

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:

None

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 10(a) TO 10(g) BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED AND/OR AS AMENDED. CARRIED.

- a) 2010 Canada Post Community Literacy Awards – Individual pamphlets were provided to each member of Council regarding nomination information– **Recommend to file.**
- b) Community Futures request for letter of support and the organization's Federal and Provincial funding is up for renewal. **Recommend that Council sends a letter of support to MLA, Alex Atamanenko on behalf of Community Futures.**
- c) Correspondence from Bull Housser and Tupper regarding the renewal of claims under the Mineral Tenure Act. **Recommend that the City instruct Bull, Housser & Tupper to proceed with the renewal of Tenures #562157 & #562158 pursuant to the Mineral Tenure Act at an approximate cost of \$1,025.00.**
- d) Affordable Warmth BC – City Green Solutions helps make energy efficiency affordable. City Green solutions is a program that provides free information and support to the affordable housing sector. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- e) Affordable Warmth BC – Helping Local Governments Meet GHG Emission Targets. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- f) Deer Committee Minutes from Thursday, March 18th, 2010 Meeting. **Recommend to file.**
- g) March 22nd Task List of Completed and In-Progress Tasks. **Recommend to file.**

BYLAWS:

a) Chief Financial Officer's Report – Bylaw 1895 – City of Grand Forks 2010 Residential Garbage Fees Bylaw

MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1895, CITED AS “THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS 2010 RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE FEES BYLAW 1895”, BE GIVEN FINAL READING

CARRIED.

b) Chief Financial Officer's Report – Bylaw 1896 – Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw

MOTION: DAVIES/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1896, CITED AS “THE ELECTRICAL UTILITY REGULATORY AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1896, 2010”, BE GIVEN FIRST READING.

CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1896, CITED AS “THE ELECTRICAL UTILITY REGULATORY AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1896, 2010”, BE GIVEN SECOND READING.

CARRIED.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1896, CITED AS “THE ELECTRICAL UTILITY REGULATORY AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1896, 2010”, BE GIVEN THIRD READING.

CARRIED.

LATE ITEMS:

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA:

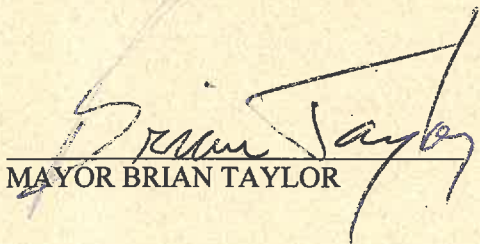
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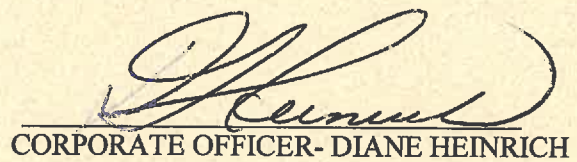
MOTION: ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 9:00 P.M.

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CORPORATE OFFICER- DIANE HEINRICH