

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY FEBRUARY 22ND, 2010

PRESENT: MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR
COUNCILLOR JOY DAVIES
COUNCILLOR CHRIS MOSLIN
COUNCILLOR GENE ROBERT
COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN
COUNCILLOR CHER WYERS

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER L. Burch
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER C. Arnott
CORPORATE OFFICER D. Heinrich

GALLERY

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/WYERS

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND, 2010, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

a) Corporate Officer's Report – Delegation from the Grand Forks Art Gallery Society

Representative, Judith Lloyd, of the Art Gallery Society presented the society's semi-annual report on the activities of the Grand Forks Art Gallery, the Heritage Centre and the Visitor Information Centre.

She spoke in regard to the Rotary Meeting Room facilities and mentioned several different organizations that have used the meeting room this past year. Secondly, she reported on the Brown Bag Lunch Event hosted by the River's Edge Theatre Group which boasted a full house of approximately 50 people for each of the three days. Thirdly, Ms. Lloyd announced that on March 6th, 2010, at the Heritage Centre in the Art Gallery, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, a ranchers and cowboys display will be featured. She advised that some of the old timers of the area will also come in to share some of their experiences of homesteading in the Grand Forks area. She invited everyone to attend this event.

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY REPRESENTATIVE, JUDITH LLOYD OF THE GRAND FORKS ART GALLERY SOCIETY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE GRAND FORKS ART GALLERY, THE HERITAGE CENTRE AND THE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

a) Corporate Officer's Report – Delegation of the Industry Group of the Economic Development Task Force

Paul Pinard of the Industry Group made a presentation with regard to Solar Hot Water as an energy saving option for Grand Forks in a PowerPoint presentation. This presentation listed communities that are currently in the program and it also explained how this energy source works. Mr. Pinard advised that some financial incentives include up to \$2,250. for existing homes and a Fortis rebate of \$300.00. He also mentioned that Mainstream Mechanical, a local firm, is currently training employees who would be qualified to install these systems as required by the SolarBC Program.

MOTION: DAVIES/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATION MADE BY PAUL PINARD AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE INDUSTRY GROUP OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE, BE RECEIVED AND THAT THIS PRESENTATION ON SOLAR HOT WATER ENERGY BE INCLUDED IN THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN.

CARRIED.

MOTION: MOSLIN/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL THAT STAFF BE REQUESTED TO CREATE A REPORT ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF RETROFITTING FOUR CITY OWNED BUILDINGS, BEING THE HERITAGE COURTHOUSE, CITY HALL, FIRE HALL AND PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING, WITH SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS.

CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

None

OPERATIONAL DISCUSSION & PRESENTATIONS BY STAFF:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

None

PROPOSED BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION:

None

LATE ITEMS:

None

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

None

QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Taylor stated that City Council is interested in hearing from the public on the issues it is dealing with or on any other issue that is of interest to the general public. To ensure that this process is open and does not feel uncomfortable to anyone, he advised that Council has set up some parameters to follow, and the normal rules apply.

- **Bob Smith** - Mr. Smith spoke on his proposal for opening a casino in Grand Forks. He advised that a casino would create a lot of income for the City and would provide employment in our area. He suggested that if Council is interested in his proposal, that he would put the information together on paper. He also mentioned that he requires a letter of support from the Municipality in order to start the process. Council advised that they would need to do some research on his proposal prior to considering a letter of support.
- **George Longden**: - He spoke on the positive results from Solar Hot Water heat and advised that this system works well for him. He then went on to commend the City for moving forward with the RInC Grant project.

- **Les Johnson:** Mr. Johnson spoke about a television show which he watched on Sunday called "60 Minutes", and advised that a new technology to generate electricity called "fuel cell energy" was unveiled which will be on the market in the near future.
- **Carol Kusch:** She spoke on the article which appeared in the Gazette regarding the Public Safety Focus Committee's application to transform the now vacant Hardy View Lodge into an emergency shelter and advised that she is opposed to this proposal. She went on to advise that several neighbours are also opposed to this type of operation in a residential neighbourhood, and that they have started a petition to this effect. Councillor Robert advised that there are no commitments or contracts signed on the proposal to date, and that the application is only for a feasibility study. Councillor Robert went on to advise that the original intent for Hardy View Lodge was as an emergency shelter, and that the Public Safety Focus Committee would certainly want to partner with the neighbourhood for their support if the proposal should progress.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THIS PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:01 P.M.

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CORPORATE OFFICER – DIANE HEINRICH