

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL  
MONDAY FEBRUARY 8, 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  
CORPORATE OFFICER D. Heinrich

GALLERY

---

---

CALL TO ORDER:

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

---

---

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- Add Late Item to the agenda under Section 8 (b) which forms back-up information regarding the proposed Medical Marijuana motion

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE FEBRUARY 8, 2010, REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE  
ADOPTED AS AMENDED. CARRIED.**

---

---

MINUTES:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.**

CARRIED

---

MOTION: WYERS/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY JANUARY 25, 2010, AND ALL RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED THEREIN BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.**

CARRIED

---

---

**REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:**

- a) Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Presentation made by the Community Gardens Team of the Economic Development Task Force

Community Garden Team Representatives gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Community Gardens project in regard to its requirements and its benefits to the Grand Forks community. The group advised that they are hosting a community meeting on Wednesday, February 10th at 7:00 PM at the Regional District Office, and will entertain memberships at that time. They stated that the cost for a membership is \$15.00 per year per member which includes one garden bed 4'x10' (limited number of garden beds available) and one vote at their Annual General Meeting. The group advised that the gardens are scheduled to open on May 1, 2010 providing their budget requirements are met. They indicated that their budget request is for a total of \$4,780.00 which includes fencing (material and labour), water improvements (drip system), wood for growing boxes and that they are requesting these funds from the City as a Grant in Aid application.

MOTION: MOSLIN/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2010, REGARDING A PROPOSAL FROM THE COMMUNITY GARDENS TEAM REQUESTING CONSIDERATION FOR GRANT IN AID TO BUILD A COMMUNITY GARDEN IN THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS, BE RECEIVED.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECOMMENDS THE COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT TEAM COMPLETE A GRANT IN AID APPLICATION FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN.**

CARRIED.

---

---

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a) Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Deferred Motion from January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Regular Meeting regarding a multi-use playing field in City Park at a cost estimated to be \$25,000.00.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

.... continued on next page



**RESOLVED THAT THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2010, REGARDING THE DEFERRED MOTION FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2010, THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS PROCEED WITH THE INSTALLATION OF A MULTI-USE PLAYING FIELD IN CITY PARK, FUNDING THE ESTIMATED \$25,000. FROM THE SLAG SALES REVENUE RESERVE FUND UNTIL THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING IN FEBRUARY 2010, BE RECEIVED.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROJECT AND THAT IT BE FUNDED FROM THE PRIOR YEARS' SURPLUS, AT A COST OF APPROXIMATELY \$25,000.**

CARRIED.

---

---

**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 GFSS Basketball Tournament a couple of week's ago.
- He reported on his attendance at the Border Bruins game last weekend and advised that only two games remain for this season
- He announced that Joan Thomas is now the official coordinator for the Grand Forks International and that the organization is currently planning for their 30th annual event.
- He advised that the Winter Olympic opening ceremonies will be broadcast this weekend.

---

**Councillor Moslin:**

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- He spoke with regard to the RInC project and stated that engineers have now looked over the trails project with Staff, and that Council will tour the area later on this week. He also advised that the project must be completed by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2011. Councillor Moslin invited members of the community to contact members of Council should they have any questions on the trails project.
- He reported on his attendance to a Dog Sled Association Meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, and stated that the organization is making preparations to hold their Rail Trail 200 next year, as this year's event was cancelled due to weather conditions.
- Councillor Moslin advised that the Dog Park group is currently conducting a raffle to top up monies required to buy fencing, gates and signs for the Dog Park located at the southwest corner of City Park. He advised that the group will make a presentation to Council in next couple months.

**Councillor Wyers:**

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance at a meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010, of the Grand Forks Art Gallery Society and advised that the Board is moving forward on the exterior signage for the Art Gallery.
- She reported on her attendance at a one day workshop on January 28<sup>th</sup> that focused on welcoming inclusive communities to work with rural communities to attract immigrants to the area.
- She advised that she had attended a celebration honouring Allan Nealand on his retirement from the Ministry of Forests.
- Councillor Wyers thanked citizens who attended the City's Five-Year Financial Plan Meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010, and for their input and participation.
- She wanted to clarify that the RInC (Recreational Infrastructure Canada) Grant – cannot be used for road improvements.
- She reported on her attendance the Annual General Meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup> with the Dog Sled group and stated that the group plans to schedule the Rail Trail 200 Race for 2011.
- She reported watching the televised presentation of the Cannibiz Documentary and stated that the pictures of Grand Forks and overall presentation were very impressive.
- She advised that the Vancouver Winter Olympics commences on Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at 6:00 PM and urged everyone to watch.
- Councillor Wyers mentioned that one of the local businesses received a letter from a resident of Delta, BC, who visited our City during the Olympic Torch Relay, and in the letter gave very positive views of our community and that the Gem Theatre was a great highlight of their trip.

---

**Councillor Robert:**

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- He began his report by putting forth the following motion.

MOTION: ROBERT/MOSLIN

**RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZE A "LETTER OF SUPPORT" TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY FOCUS GROUP APPLICATION TO THE MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT FOR HARDY VIEW LODGE TO ACT AS AN 1) EMERGENCY SHELTER FOR HOMELESS UNDER SEVERE WEATHER CONDITIONS, AND 2) EVENTUAL MEN'S AND POSSIBLE "YOUTH AT RISK" SHELTER AS WELL AS A 3) TRANSITIONAL HOUSING CENTRE. COPIES OF THIS LETTER TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO SHEILAH FINDLAY, PROPERTY PORTFOLIO MANAGER FOR BC HOUSING IN PENCTICTON, BC; JOHN SLATER, MLA; AND TO ALEX ATAMANENKO, FEDERAL MP.**

CARRIED.

... continued on next page



- Councillor Robert then spoke to the Grand Forks Extreme Weather Plan where homeless individuals are left to suffer consequences under harsh weather conditions. He went on to advise that the Boundary area does not have reasonable access to shelter for homeless citizens. He then outlined the plan of action which the Public Safety Focus Group was going to undertake with regard to their application to the Ministry of Housing and Social Development.
- 

**Councillor Thompson:**

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- She reported on the City's Second Public Meeting on the Financial Plan for 2010-2014 on February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010, and thanked the public for their input and attendance. She went on to say that it's not Council's position to enter into debate with the public at that meeting, and that she wished to comment on some of the issues that were put forward:
    - She gave clarification to RInC Grant Funding and stated that those dollars can only be used for the specific use of Recreational Infrastructure as identified in the grant application.
    - She wanted to clarify on the necessity to purchase the new line truck as opposed to repairs; she went on to advise that it is the boom that is failing which presents many safety issues to both City employees and to the public.
    - She expressed her disagreement with a statement that was made that the City doesn't adequately maintain equipment; the City has a fully qualified heavy duty mechanic who is more than capable of maintaining the City's fleet of equipment.
    - She then spoke to the suggestion to explore selling the electrical utility and said that she would not be able to support this as the surplus generated by the City remains in the City as an offset to property taxes and does not leave the City as it would if operated by a private enterprise.
    - Lastly, she spoke with regard to the City Park campground and that in the past, camping fees were structured so that the City did not compete with the private sector and that 2009, to the best of her knowledge, was the only year that the campground operations broke even.
- 

**Councillor Davies:**

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance at a workshop on January 28<sup>th</sup> in which focus groups discussed aspects to attract newcomers to our area.
  - On Wednesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010, Councillor Davies reported her attendance at a Community Futures Tourism Workshop. She made note that the workshop featured some great speakers and that there was avid group participation.
  - She advised that the Grand Forks Economic Development Task Force Industry Team will be making a presentation at the next Primary Committee Meeting on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, and advised that other teams of the Economic Development Task Force are getting their presentations and visions together for presenting to Council later on this spring.
-

**Mayor Taylor:**

- The Mayor spoke on the Public Input Process and advised that Council is there to accept and to listen to people's opinions. He advised that Council won't respond by debating criticism.

---

MOTION: DAVIES/THOMPSON

**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 advised that the Board is continuing its endeavours to develop opportunities up the North Fork and Granby area, and advised that research is ongoing with regard to researching geothermal energy and forestation.
- The Mayor spoke in regard to the Rail situation and that the Regional District is planning a meeting with the Stakeholders and shippers.
- He advised that the Regional District is currently reviewing finance, personnel and bylaws that deal with the dog bylaw. The Mayor asked if Council wanted cats included with regards to animal control bylaw, and they agreed that cats should also be included.

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

**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) Corporate Officer's Report – Alternative Approval Process Petition to proceed with the long term option to borrow up to \$750,000 as the City's share of funding for a network of pedestrian and bicycle paths.

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE CORPORATE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 3<sup>RD</sup>, 2010, REGARDING THE ALTERNATIVE APPROVAL PROCESS PETITION TO PROCEED WITH THE ADOPTION OF A LOAN AUTHORIZATION BYLAW TO BORROW ON A LONG TERM OPTION OF UP TO \$750,000. AS THE CITY'S SHARE OF FUNDING FOR A NETWORK OF PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE PATHWAYS, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED**

---



- b) Chief Administrative Officer's Report – On four proposed resolutions on various municipal issues of provincial and national interests to the Association of Kootenay Boundary Local Government (AKBLG) Annual Conference.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

**RESOLVED THAT THE MOTION REGARDING LOTTERY/GAMING FUNDS FOR NON-PROFITS: WHEREAS THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA HAS REMOVED GAMING FUNDING FROM MANY LOCAL NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS; AND WHEREAS THE BC GAMING COMMISSION CONTINUES TO DRAW MILLIONS OF DOLLARS FROM LOCAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH "SCRATCH & WIN", "649", "KENO", "PULL-TABS", AND BLACK JACK(21), AS WELL AS THROUGH INTERNET GAMING; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, THROUGH THE UBCM, PETITION THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA TO RETURN GAMING REVENUES TO COMMUNITIES THROUGH GRANTS TO LOCAL SPORTS, CULTURAL, HEALTH AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS BE SUBMITTED TO THE ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AKBLG) ANNUAL CONFERENCE.**

CARRIED.

---

---

MOTION: DAVIES/

**RESOLVED THAT THE MOTION REGARDING ACCESS TO MEDICAL MARIJUANA: WHEREAS HEALTH CANADA HAS FAILED IN ITS ABILITY TO PROVIDE SAFE, DIGNIFIED, LOCAL ACCESS TO MEDICAL MARIJUANA TO THE CITIZENS OF GRAND FORKS, THE KOOTENAYS AND BRITISH COLUMBIA; AND WHEREAS THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA IS RESPONSIBLE FOR REGULATING THE HEALTH CARE OF IT'S CITIZENS, BUILDING, ELECTRICAL CODES AND FIRE CODES; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, THROUGH THE UBCM, PETITION THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA TO ASSUME LICENSING AND REGULATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA TO ENSURE SAFE, LOCAL, DIGNIFIED ACCESS TO MEDICAL MARIJUANA FOR PATIENTS IN THE PROVINCE OF BC BE SUBMITTED TO THE ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AKBLG) ANNUAL CONFERENCE.**

THIS RESOLUTION FAILED TO ATTRACT A SECONDER; THEREFORE WAS NOT DEBATED OR VOTED UPON. COUNCILLOR DAVIES ADVISED THAT SHE WOULD WITHDRAW THIS MOTION.

---

---

MOTION: MOSLIN/DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THE MOTION REGARDING EXPANDED TIMEFRAMES FOR INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION SPENDING: WHEREAS BOTH THE PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS HAVE GRANTED EXTRAORDINARY GRANTS TO SOME MUNICIPALITIES IN ORDER TO STIMULATE EMPLOYMENT AND BUILDING MUCH NEEDED INFRASTRUCTURE; AND WHEREAS THESE GRANTS COME WITH SHORT TIMELINES FOR THE IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION THAT BRING CAPTIAL AND PLANNING CHALLENGES TO THE MUNICIPALITIES THAT RESULT IN THE WASTE OF TAXPAYER DOLLARS; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, THROUGH THE UBCM, PETITION THE PROVINCIAL AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS TO IMPLEMENT FLEXIBILITY INTO THE DEADLINES AND DEAL WITH EACH APPLICANT ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE GRANTS AND CREATE QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ALL CANADIANS BE SUBMITTED TO THE ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AKBLG) ANNUAL CONFERENCE. CARRIED.**

---

---

MOTION: MOSLIN/WYERS

**RESOLVED THAT THE MOTION REGARDING SUPPORT FOR MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT IN DEALING WITH URBAN WILDLIFE: WHEREAS MANY RURAL BRITISH COLUMBIA COMMUNITIES MUST ENDURE THE GROWING WILDLIFE POPULATION, WHICH IS NOT ONLY A NUISANCE, BUT A THREAT TO PUBLIC SAFETY, WITHOUT THE EXPERTISE, REGULATING AUTHORITY OR RESOURCES TO DEAL WITH THESE POPULATIONS; AND WHEREAS THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND ITS CONSERVATION OFFICERS HAVE THE AUTHORITY AND EXPERTISE TO DEAL WITH THESE POPULATIONS, BUT LACK THE ADEQUATE LEVEL OF RESOURCES TO DEAL WITH THE ISSUE; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, THROUGH THE UBCM, REQUEST THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA TO PUT MORE RESOURCES INTO WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS IN WHICH URBAN WILDLIFE IS A SIGNIFICANT PROBLEM BE SUBMITTED TO THE ASSOCIATION OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AKBLG) ANNUAL CONFERENCE. CARRIED**

---

---

**REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:**

None

---

---

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/MOSLIN

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

CARRIED.

... continued on next page



- a) Morris Schaeffer Correspondence regarding road conditions concerns – **Recommend that Staff advise the Writer that this section of roadway has been identified for upgrade in the KWL report and will be carefully considered by Council during their review of the report.**
- b) Correspondence from Premier Gordon Campbell thanking City for their letter supporting youth treatment options. **Recommend to file.**
- c) Email from Rosemary Phillips expressing her views in favour of Medical Marijuana. **Recommend it be received for information.**
- d) Heritage Week – February 15 to 21<sup>st</sup>, 2010 – this year’s theme is “Sport and Recreation” in conjunction with 2010 Olympics. **Recommend to file – poster placed on City Hall Bulletin Board.**
- e) Girl Guides 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday requesting permission to have a parade from Scout Hall down 72<sup>nd</sup> Avenue to Gyro Park on February 19th. **Recommend to grant permission for the parade and request girl guides to submit an event request form enabling Staff to work out the details.**
- f) Email correspondence from Lorraine Dick expressing her concerns with community fear mongering with regard to the Medical Marijuana issue. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- g) Citizenship Ceremony invitation to the Mayor or his representative to attend the celebration held at Perley Elementary School on February 23rd and to say a few words on their behalf. **Recommend that the Mayor or his representative RSVP if planning to attend. The Mayor advised that he will attend.**
- h) Selkirk College Bursary Tea in Nelson on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Invitation to the Mayor. **The Mayor to advise if planning to attend. The Mayor and the Acting Mayor advised that they will not be able to attend. Councillor Davies offered to represent the City.**
- i) Annual BP – Parent & Youth Banquet Invitation to Mayor and Council to attend at Grand Forks Scout Hall on February 16th. **The Mayor and Council to RSVP by February 9<sup>th</sup> if planning to attend. The Mayor and Acting Mayor, Councillor Moslin, both advised that they are unable to attend. Councillor Thompson advised that she would be available to represent the City at the Banquet.**
- j) Grant In Aid application from the Boundary Museum Society. **Refer to Council for discussion after adoption of the five year financial plan. Staff to bring forward this matter in March.**
- k) Grand Forks Gazette request for City to place ad in a March 10<sup>th</sup> special supplement in support of Youth. **Recommend that Staff be directed to place a quarter page City ad (5” x 7”) for \$125.00 in support of Youth.**
- l) Website information with regards to Rural Tourism Conference 2010. **Recommend that the City include a link from City web page to Rural Tourism Site.**

..... continued on next page

- m) Correspondence regarding volunteers canvassing in March for Kidney Health. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- n) 2009 Citizen Satisfaction Survey Results from survey sent out last fall. **Recommend to receive the report and direct Staff to place report on City website and also to have hard copies available at City Hall Front Counter.**
- o) Report from Community Futures Boundary – The Year at a Glance outlining activities from the BEDC for 2009. **Recommend to file. Councillor Wirischagin commented on the slow process in branding for the Boundary. The Mayor advised that the Regional Website and branding are the next steps in this process.**
- p) Task List from January 25<sup>th</sup> Meetings – List of completed and in-progress tasks. **Recommend to file.**
- q) Minutes from Boundary Air Quality Committee from January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 meeting. **Recommend to file.**
- r) Minutes from Public Safety Focus Group meeting on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010. **Recommend to file.**

---

---

**BYLAWS:**

**a) Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Bylaw 1875 – Kohn Lane Closure Bylaw**

The Mayor asked if any members of the public had any input regarding the lane closure bylaw, whereas no one came forward.

**MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/THOMPSON**

**RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1875, CITED AS "KOHAN LANE CLOSURE BYLAW NO. 1875, 2010", BE GIVEN FINAL READING**

**CARRIED.**

---

---

**LATE ITEMS:**

Back up information with regards to the Medical Marijuana to be included in 8(b) of the agenda.

---

---

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

---

---



**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN

**RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 8:59  
P.M. CARRIED.**

---

---

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

  
MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR

  
CORPORATE OFFICER- DIANE HEINRICH