

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY MAY 31ST, 2010

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

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CORPORATE OFFICER

L. Burch
D. Heinrich

GALLERY

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:02p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING OF MONDAY, MAY 31ST, 2010, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

a) Corporate Officer's Report – Delegation for the Farmer's Market

Erika Domeij, Market Manager on behalf of the Grand Forks Farmer's Market made a presentation to Council asking for their consideration to allow the Farmer's Market to continue to operate in Gyro Park for the remainder of the market's 2010 season. In her presentation she requested the closure of the section of lane that runs between the north side of the Grand Forks Public Library and Gyro Park for use by the Grand Forks Farmer's Market. She advised that the market intends to use the section of lane and parking spaces to expand the Farmer's Market. She further advised that they'd like to begin the closure in June and continue until the 10th of September during the market's hours of operations, which are Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm.

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MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO RECEIVE THE PRESENTATION AND ALLOW THE GRAND FORKS FARMER'S MARKET TO CONTINUE OPERATING OUT OF GYRO PARK FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MARKET'S 2010 SEASON, AND TO FURTHER ALLOW FOR THE CLOSURE OF THE SECTION OF LANE THAT RUNS BETWEEN THE NORTH SIDE OF THE GRAND FORKS PUBLIC LIBRARY AND GYRO PARK FOR USE BY THE GRAND FORKS FARMER'S MARKET ON TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS FROM 7:00 AM TO 2:00 PM COMMENCING FROM JUNE TO SEPT 10, 2010, SUBJECT TO THE GRAND FORKS FARMER'S MARKET OBTAINING APPROVAL FROM THE GRAND FORKS PUBLIC LIBRARY. GRAND FORKS' FARMER'S MARKET TO LIAISE DIRECTLY WITH PUBLIC WORKS STAFF ON TEMPORARY LANE CLOSURES. CARRIED.

b) Corporate Officer's Report – Delegation from the Ministry of Forests and Range, BC Cattleman's Association, Grand Forks Stockbreeders, and Barry Brandow

Werner Baliko, Range Specialist for the Ministry of Forests and Range, made a presentation to Council on the Ministry's work in the Gilpin Range and showed a slideshow of pictures of the restoration in the Gilpin-Lost Lake-Overton Creek area.

Councillor Moslin asked what actions in the field are geared to remediate areas identified as "at risk". Werner Baliko advised that three areas were facilitated - fencing at Lost Lake, fencing around some riparian areas, and a total of eight steel water troughs supplied as water sources for cattle. He stated that there is more work to be done, but there is a shortage of funds.

Doug Fossen of the BC Cattleman's Society advised that there are approximately 3500 head of cattle in the Grand Forks area and advised that cows emit E-coli the same as wildlife. Councillor Wyers asked why cattle are allowed to stand in the river.

In answer to Councillor Wyer's question, the presentation was turned over to Douglas Fraser, Riparian Expert of the Range Branch. He advised that cows standing in the river would occur on private lands and not on crown land. He advised that the Ministry deals only with cattle located on crown land and that it's not feasible to fence all river systems. The Mayor advised according to Mr. Mehmal, the river on their own does not position farmers to restrain cows and that the farmers would require government assistance in this aspect. The Mayor asked what percentage of the river is owned privately and Mr. Fraser advised responded that the local area farmers would be the ones to ask with regard to the sizes of privately owned property.

Councillor Robert asked what the significance is of a Class A Park. Mr. Baliko advised that cattle grazing was grandfathered in as well as logging activities; he further advised that certain parameters were defined to what was allowed in this area. Councillor Robert then asked how the sheep herd is affecting the environment. Werner advised the herd is good for the area and that the animals are healthy. The Mayor asked Mr. Baliko who maintains the troughs and fences in the range and was advised that the Tenure Holder is responsible for maintaining the troughs and fencing.

//Delegation continued on next page.....

Doug Fossen reported that he currently lives 8 km out of Rock Creek, and with his parents and spouse, has ranched there since 1976. He advised that he is the president of the local BC Cattleman's Association, and his family operation uses approximately 50,000 acres of government range. He stated that it takes approximately 266 acres to look after each cow-calf pair. As a range tenure holder, he stated that he fully understands that this is multiple use land and that their whole economy is based on getting along with others. The Mayor asked how much he pays to use rangeland and Mr. Fossen advised that he pays \$2,500.00 in range permits for 200 head pairs per year. He stated that water troughs will draw cows away from riparian areas and that the cost of single water trough is about \$1,500.00 plus another \$1,000.00 - \$1,500.00 for proper installation. He further advised that a new fence costs approximately \$6,000.00 for the fencing materials and plus the cost of labour for installation.

Barry Brandow stated that when the Boothman Ranch was purchased in 1972, the Ministry of Environment along with staff from Wildlife and Range held a meeting and advised that rangeland use of that property was secondary. He felt that it was important for Cattlemen to understand this. Mr. Brandow suggested another forum should be held to carry on this debate. Mr. Brandow stated that, in his opinion, the Ranch Management standard is antiquated; water riparian eco-management is impossible in the Boundary; and that Ranch management is all about grass and not eco-systems.

The Mayor advised that another forum out of Council would be necessary to continue the debate and that the Ministry of Environment should be heading it. The Mayor thanked everyone who made presentations to this delegation.

The meeting was recessed at 8:11 pm and reconvened at 8:20 pm.

MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE PRIMARY COMMITTEE RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL THAT THE PRESENTATIONS, MADE BY WERNER BALIKO, RANGE SPECIALIST; DOUGLAS FRASER, RANGE BRANCH (RANGE/RIPARIAN EXPERT); DOUG FOSSEN DIRECTOR FOR BC CATTLEMAN'S ASSOCIATION; AND BARRY BRANDOW BE RECEIVED.

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.

- **Paul Pinard** – He wished to thank Council for support in the Solar Days Festivities, and presented a copy of all the pictures taken at the Solar Days to Council. He also stated that Council had made a decision not to debate issues in the question period, and that on April 19th Meeting, Council did debate with Peter Perepolkin and John Thomas. He further advised that previously he was able to pay for water, sewer and garbage for the year in one payment, and stated that he finds it a real struggle to pay every two months. He said that there should be a way for people to pay the garbage, water & sewer once a year. CAO, Lynne Burch, suggested that he meet with Cecile Arnott, CFO to address his concerns and reach a resolve.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THIS PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 8:27 P.M.

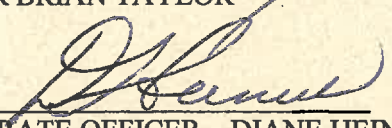
CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Primary Committee Meeting of Council
MAY 31ST, 2010



MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR



CORPORATE OFFICER - DIANE HEINRICH