

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY MAY 31, 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

CALL TO ORDER:

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

RECESS TO PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING:

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE RECESSED AT 7:01 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.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE MAY 31ST, 2010, REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: ROBERT/MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY MAY 10TH, 2010, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MOTION: WYERS/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY MAY 12TH, 2010, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

- a) Chief Administrative Officer's Report, Delegation – Patricia Summers, Rural Secretariat of the Ministry of Community and Rural Development.

Patricia Summers made a PowerPoint presentation to Council with regard to the proposed Community First Agreement. She began by supplying a bit of background. In April 2008, Grand Forks requested funding for a Transition Study. She advised that the Ministry was looking at a new approach as to how they work with individual communities and to help communities develop a list of priorities established through this Memorandum of Agreement. She stated that Grand Forks is an ideal community to put this plan forward. She further reported that the Community First Agreement (CFA) is a pilot program geared to provide community identification. She stated that upon Council approval of the memorandum, the next step is to develop a working team to identify community resources. The Memorandum of Agreement contains five key priorities: 1) Downtown redevelopment to include revitalization, heritage, accessibility, and sustainability; 2) Infrastructure development such as the Fiber Optic Project and the Water Conservation Plan with its purpose to develop a strategy & educate the public on water conservation; 3) Renewable & Clean Energy – For the community to explore alternatives such as solar, geothermal power and develop partnerships, 4) Tourism- with the implementation of a Regional Chamber of Commerce, Regional Tourism Plan and an Event Coordinator; and 5) Community such as Emergency & Supportive Housing based upon an extreme weather response plan and supportive housing. She further advised that the term of the agreement is one year from the time of signing and that the role of the Ministry of Community Development is to provide support for research and analysis, provide funding opportunities, and to assist in developing partnerships. Patricia Summers advised that the next steps are to have the City and the Minister sign the Memorandum of Agreement, then to develop a work plan and evaluation framework, and finally, the implementation of the agreement, which is currently underway.

MOTION: ROBERT/WYERS

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVE THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED MAY 31ST, 2010, AND APPROVES THE COMMUNITY FIRST AGREEMENT AS PRESENTED, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES THE MAYOR OR OTHER SIGNING OFFICER TO SIGN THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ON COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN THE PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS, KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY FIRST AGREEMENT, ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS.

CARRIED.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Corporate Officer's Report – Councillor Robert – Notice of Motion, Call for a Poverty Reduction Plan for British Columbia

At the May 10th, 2010, Regular Meeting, Councillor Robert advised that he was going to put forward a notice of motion for Council to endorse the Coalition for BC Poverty Reduction's open letter for a call for a BC Poverty Reduction Plan.

MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

WHEREAS:

1. THE POVERTY RATE IN BRITISH COLUMBIA CONTINUES TO BE AMONG THE HIGHEST IN CANADA, AND CHILD POVERTY RATES IN BC HAVE BEEN THE HIGHEST OF ANY PROVINCE FOR SIX YEARS IN A ROW;
2. BRITISH COLUMBIANS ARE ASHAMED OF THE LEVELS OF POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS ACROSS OUR PROVINCE;
3. MANY IMPACTS OF POVERTY ARE EXPERIENCED AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, AND LOCAL RESIDENTS PAY FOR POVERTY IN INCREASED HEALTH CARE COSTS, HIGHER CRIME, HIGHER DEMAND FOR COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND CHARITABLE SERVICES, LACK OF SCHOOL READINESS, REDUCED SCHOOL SUCCESS, AND LOWER ECONOMIC PRODUCTIVITY;
4. THE BC POVERTY REDUCTION COALITION (THE "COALITION") INCLUDES COMMUNITY AND NON-PROFIT GROUPS, FAITH GROUPS, HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS, FIRST NATIONS AND ABORIGINAL ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES, LABOUR ORGANIZATIONS, AND SOCIAL POLICY GROUPS;
5. THE COALITION HAS COME TOGETHER AROUND A CAMPAIGN AIMED AT SEEING THE INTRODUCTION OF A BOLD AND COMPREHENSIVE PROVERTY REDUCTION PLAN FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA THAT WOULD INCLUDE LEGISLATED TARGETS AND TIMELINES;
6. THE COALITION HAS RENEWED ITS CALL FOR A POVERTY REDUCTION PLAN FOR BC BY LAUNCHING A NEW OPEN LETTER;
7. AN INCREASING NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS ARE SIGNING ON TO THE COALITION'S NEW OPEN LETTER; AND
8. AT LEAST SIX CANADIAN PROVINCES EITHER HAVE POVERTY REDUCTION PLANS OR ARE IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPING THEM.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE CORPORATE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED MAY 21ST, 2010, AND ENDORSES THE COALITION'S OPEN LETTER; AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THIS COUNCIL SUBMIT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION TO THE UNION OF BRITISH COLUMBIA MUNICIPALITIES BEFORE JUNE 30TH, 2010, URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF BC TO ADOPT A COMPREHENSIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE POVERTY REDUCTION PLAN CONSISTANT WITH THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE COALITION. CARRIED.

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

Councillor Davies:

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- She reported on the success of the Solar Days Festival held on May 28th and 29th, and advised that over 150 people attended. She thanked Paul Pinard, who was the solar energy team leader for his work. She also thanked Councillor Moslin for organizing the children from Hutton and Perley schools with regard to the Solar Car Races. She reported that Grand Forks was one of six communities selected as a Solar City in British Columbia and that the City received \$5,000 from the Province because our community became engaged in this program.
 - She reported her attendance to an Arts and Culture community meeting on Saturday, May 29th, along with Councillor Thompson where the committee accepted a proposal on a regional festival for the area along with support from the Boundary District Arts Council. She advised that the first festival would be in July/August of 2011.
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Councillor Thompson:

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- She reported her attendance to the Regular Board Meeting of the Boundary Museum Society on May 13th. She advised that at that meeting, plans were made to invite Council and the Directors for Area C and D to a private viewing of the museum.
 - She reported her attendance to the May 26th meeting of the Phoenix Foundation. She advised that at that meeting, the board approved the appointment of Mona Mattei as the Executive Director as well as Marilyn Strukoff as the Foundation's representative to the Success by 6 Partners Group. She reported that Linda Manzoni, Chair of the Grants Committee suggested sponsoring a Grant Writing Workshop where there may be an opportunity for the City to partner with them.
 - Councillor Thompson extended her compliments to Councillors Davies and Moslin, and to Paul Pinard and the members of his team for a wonderful Solar Days event.
 - On Saturday afternoon, she reported her attendance, along with Councillor Davies to a community meeting of the 2011 Kettle River Arts Festival where representatives from Christina Lake, Grand Forks and Rock Creek were there.
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Councillor Robert:

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- He wished to compliment the Phoenix Foundation on their Vital Signs report in their objective to safe and affordable housing to benefit individuals and the community at large. He reported that renting a house is more expensive than being a homeowner. He advised that he has volunteered to be a part of their next steering committee.

- He spoke to the topic between rich and poor and advised that those households whose income falls beneath the low income cut off (LICO) rates are considered to be living in poverty.
 - He talked about an article from the Globe and Mail regarding household debt in Canada.
 - He talked about Victoria teaming up with the City of Vancouver and the Streethome Business Foundation to provide more than 1,000 homes for the homeless at a total cost of more than \$250 million.
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Councillor Wyers:

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance to a meeting on May 22nd in Greenwood regarding the consideration of a Regional Chamber of Commerce. She advised that the group would be approaching approximately 300+ businesses to look at this concept from Christina Lake to Rock Creek to get a feel for an appetite for participation.
 - She advised that Fay Gustafson currently has a display at the Art Gallery and that she will be holding two workshops. Councillor Wyers suggested contacting Art Gallery if interested in attending Ms. Gustafson's workshops.
 - She reported her participation in the first geo-caching event in Grand Forks on May 22, 23 & 24th put on by David Foster and Grant Schwab. 40 participants including a family from Florida also participated. She advised that geo-caching is a worldwide game of hiding and seeking treasure and that anyone seeking further information, may access the web site at: www.geocash.com
 - She reported that the Boundary District Arts Council meeting is also on this evening and advised that she is looking forward to the festival opportunities for next year.
 - She announced she is coordinating the Canada Day event this year and is looking for volunteers. Councillor Wyers advised that the Art Gallery is participating as is the Grand Forks Library. She also reported that this year's Canada Day grant funding has been approved for the event.
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Councillor Moslin:

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- He thanked Councillor Davies for spearheading the Solar Days and for inspiring the volunteers.
- He spoke with regard to the Boundary Air Quality Committee (BAQC) with reference to the minutes which form a part of the Summary of Information Items of this agenda. He reported that the BAQC has a chance to repurpose itself to assist staff and the City in the development of a Carbon Neutral Plan as well as other Climate Change issues. He advised that good partnerships within the committee have been established with industry, health and education. He further advised that Council needs to decide on funding issues in order for this committee to move forward.

Councillor Moslin advised that a Woodstove sub-committee of the BAQC is currently revisiting the Woodstove Bylaw issue and suggested that modeling this bylaw would be similar to the City's Noise Bylaw.

He stated that the BAQC is hoping to use the fiber option to allow the committee to install webcams strategically throughout the valley to evaluate weather systems and air quality. He

also advised that the Dispersion Modeling will be brought forward to Council in the near future and advised that this modeling made an impact on permit requirements for Interfor and they have been able to move ahead in other improvements

- Councillor Moslin spoke with regard to motorized traffic on Trans-Canada Trail and the articles that appeared in the paper. He stated that it is very clear that there is no motorized traffic allowed on these trails and that City needs to think about enforcement.
- Councillor Moslin spoke with regard to the Perley Playground and announced that it goes in this weekend. He extended a thank you to Nicole & Dave Reid on their work and also thanked Public Works for loaning City equipment. He advised that the group is looking for volunteers to assist this weekend.

Mayor Taylor:

The Mayor reported on the following items:

- The Mayor talked about the Rail Abandonment issues and reported that he'll be attending a meeting tomorrow in Colville with Washington officials and stakeholders. He advised that also attending on behalf of the City are: Councillor Thompson, Lynne Burch, CAO and Cecile Arnott, CFO. He advised that the group is going to look at a solution where railway would continue to operate even though it may be at a reduced level.
- He reported that the Kettle Water Committee has met and that the committee has a long-term plan. He advised that they plan on looking at the tributaries in addition to the Kettle & Granby River system. The Mayor advised that there may be some funding available and that the committee is looking at water quality as well as water flow.

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 that on June 2nd, the Regional District is doing a Service Review. He advised that on Tuesday the Regional District would be looking at the Economic Development Committee as initiated by Area E and that he will report back to Council.
- The Mayor announced that he will try to obtain minutes from the Regional District and will keep a copy in his office if unavailable on-line.

MOTION: ROBERT/MOSLIN

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 – Additional 2010 Grant in Aid Applications**

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVE THE CORPORATE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED MAY 20TH, 2010, REGARDING THE ADDITIONAL 2010 GRANT IN AID APPLICATIONS AND THAT COUNCIL DIRECTS STAFF TO SUBMIT GRANT IN AID FUNDS AS FOLLOWS:

- GRAND FORKS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB - \$600.00
- CITIZENS ON PATROL - \$500.00
- WHISPERS OF HOPE - \$200.00
- GRAND FORKS & BOUNDARY REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY - \$2,600.00
- THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – THE BOUNDARY EMERGENCY & TRANSITION HOUSING SOCIETY - \$3,500.00
- BOUNDARY DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL SOCIETY- \$3,000.00
- THE BOUNDARY DOG SLED ASSOCIATION - \$1,500.00

FOR A TOTAL OF \$11,900.00.

CARRIED.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: WYERS/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 11(a) TO 11(k) BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED AND/OR AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

- a) Correspondence from the Boundary Museum Society – Invitation for Mayor and Council to attend a private reception and guided tour on Monday, June 7th. **Mayor and Council to advise, if attending by June 4th. Councillors Thompson, Moslin & Davies as well as the Mayor are planning to go.**
- b) Correspondence from the BC Coalition for Action on Alcohol Reform. **Receive for information.**

MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL SEND A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE COALITION AND ADVISE THAT COUNCIL REQUIRES FURTHER INFORMATION FROM THE COALITION WITH REGARD TO THE ISSUES FOR ACTION ON ALCOHOL REFORM. CARRIED

- c) Ashe Correspondence with regard to Boundary Expansion and Referendum. **Receive for information- The Mayor has previously responded to this request. Mayor has advised that he is talking with Irene Perepolkin from Area D with regard to this matter.**
- d) Habitat for Humanity Correspondence – request for support in their fund raising endeavours. **Recommend City to send letter of support to Habitat for Humanity.**

MOTION: MOSLIN/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT CITY SEND A LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AND ADVISE THAT COUNCIL MAY CONSIDER WAIVING THE REQUIRED FEES WHEN THEY APPLY FOR RE-ZONING. CARRIED.

- e) Advertising support request from Grand Forks Gazette regarding the Antique Fire Truck Show & Shine. **Recommend that Council support advertising for this community venture, and should they desire, to place a full page Mayor's message ad on back page for \$700.00**

MOTION: ROBERT/WYERS

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL PLACE A FULL PAGE MAYOR'S MESSAGE AD ON THE BACK PAGE OF THE "FIREBELLS & FANFARE" ANTIQUE FIRE TRUCK SHOW & SHINE OFFICIAL SOUVENIR PROGRAM FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$700.00 IN SHOW OF COMMUNITY SUPPORT. CARRIED.

Councillor Davies asked for an update of the advertising budget.

- f) Correspondence from Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages advising Canada Day Committee that 2010 Grant has been approved. **Recommend to file.**
- g) Grand Forks Art Gallery Income Statements. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- h) Roger the Marmot – News Interest Story. Marmot has been staying at the Victoria Empress Hotel and is believed to be from Grand Forks. **The Mayor is waiting for notification that Roger is ready to come home.**
- i) From AKBLG advising that there is an Executive Meeting in Creston on June 12, 2010. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- j) Minutes from the Boundary Air Quality Committee on May 13th and additional minutes from the Woodstove Sub-Committee on May 20th. **Recommend to receive for information. Councillor Moslin wished to draw Council's attention to the minutes with regard to the motion to the use of the future fiber installation as a backbone for AWOS information. He also spoke in regard to the Meeting Minutes of May 20th with**

the Woodstove Sub-committee with regards to a woodburning appliance bylaw, and advised that a bylaw and policy will be presented to Council by the end of June.

k) May 10th Task List – List of Completed and In-Progress Tasks. Recommend to File.

BYLAWS:

a) **Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Bylaw 1872 – Business License Amendment Bylaw**

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1872, CITED AS "THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS BUSINESS LICENSE AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1872, 2010", BE GIVEN FIRST READING.
CARRIED.

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MOTION: DAVIES/MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1872, CITED AS "THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS BUSINESS LICENSE AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1872, 2010", BE GIVEN SECOND READING.
CARRIED.

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MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1872, CITED AS "THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS BUSINESS LICENSE AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1872, 2010", BE GIVEN THIRD READING.
CARRIED.

b) **Chief Financial Officer's Report – Bylaw 1901 – Flat Tax Amendment Bylaw**

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1901, CITED AS "THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS FLAT TAX AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1901, 2010", BE GIVEN FIRST READING.
CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1901, CITED AS "THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS FLAT TAX AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1901, 2010", BE GIVEN SECOND READING.
CARRIED.

MOTION: WYERS/MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1901, CITED AS "THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS FLAT TAX AMENDMENT BYLAW NO. 1901, 2010", BE GIVEN THIRD READING.

CARRIED.

LATE ITEMS:

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA:

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 10:10 P.M.

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CORPORATE OFFICER- DIANE HEINRICH