

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY JANUARY 31ST, 2011

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

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.

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.

The regular meeting reconvened at 7:48 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Amendments to the agenda:

- a) To include a Late Item - 13 a) with regard to the Gas Tax Agreement General Strategic Priority Fund (GSPF) application by the City for funding the project "Demand Management-Universal Water Metering" as part of the agenda

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE JANUARY 31ST, 2011, REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED. CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: THOMPSON/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY JANUARY 17TH, 2011, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

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

Councillor Wirischagin:

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following items:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DETERMINES TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE UNDERSIZED MULTI-USE PLAYING FIELD IN CITY PARK AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$25,000 TO BE FUNDED FROM THE SLAG SALES REVENUE RESERVE FUND, MEASURING 60 METRES BY 90 METRES, WITH AN ADDITIONAL FIVE METRE PERIMETER AROUND THE FIELD WITHIN THE CALENDAR YEAR 2011. CARRIED.

Councillor Thompson and Councillor Davies voted against the motion.

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MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE MOTION REGARDING THE MULTI-PURPOSE PLAYING FIELD BE TABLED UNTIL LETTERS OF SUPPORT ARE RECEIVED FROM THE BMX TRACK ORGANIZATION AND THE GRAND FORKS SENIOR CENTRE BRANCH #68. DEFEATED.

- Councillor Wirischagin also wished to thank the Boundary Wanderers Rugby Football Club and the Boundary Youth Soccer Association for their support and hard work with regard to the multi-use playing field proposal for City Park.

Councillor Moslin:

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- He congratulated the supporters and organizers who put together the first Dog Sled Rail Trail 200 and commented on a successful event.
- He reported that the Environment Committee held their inaugural meeting on January 20th, 2011 and that three subcommittees have been chosen to deal with 1) air quality; 2) water quality; and 3) carbon neutrality.
- He congratulated the Asling family who now has a new home through the Habitat for Humanity program.
- He spoke with regard to Community Forests and suggested that the City should reconsider its decision to pursue this endeavour through the Minister of Forests and Range.

Councillor Wyers:

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- She reported her attendance to a Grand Forks Public Library Meeting on January 19th, 2011.
- Councillor Wyers reported her attendance to the Environment Committee Inaugural Meeting on January 20th, and advised that she is going to be chairing the Water Quality sub-committee, that their first meeting is scheduled for February 8th, 2011.
- She spoke with regard to documentary files which will be shown at the Grand Forks Library between February 25th and February 27th. She further advised with regard to the documentary "Water on the Table", that depicts Canada's relationship with its water that will be shown in this series.
- She reported her attendance at a Boundary Historical Society luncheon on January 23rd, 2011 that featured guest speaker, Linda Wills archivist.
- She reported her attendance at a Boundary and District Arts Council meeting on January 24th and reported that they no longer have a place with which to hold meetings. She advised that Mrs. Gobbett inquired if their organization would be considered a spot when renovations are completed to the basement of the Library building.
- She reported with regard to the success of the Rail Trail 200 Dog Sled event from January 28-30th, and commented that all the "mushers" spoke with praise on our area's hospitality and organization of this event, and that they plan to return next year.

Councillor Robert:

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- He spoke with regard to the start up of this year's Boundary Youth Soccer Association and that they are organizing teams for the year. He further advised that registration closes on

February 15th, and that they will be operating from Christina Lake to Rock Creek – big step for Soccer program for Grand Forks.

- He reported his attendance at a discussion regarding the state of our Forests in BC, and spoke of concerns with regard to unemployment doubling with Mills closing and of our resources being shipped off-shore. He advised that they are looking for a group a people to find solutions to preserve our forests.
- He reported that he is part of the Environment sub-committee for Carbon Neutrality, “Carbon Neutral-Climate Smart”, and that they met on January 25th. He advised that the group has some potential strategic options to consider which include the development of an action/strategic plan for the School District and City of Grand Forks; and for the development of a green design charrette for the downtown core.
- He advised that Roger Boulet, consultant for Gallery 2, will be engaging the Boundary Museum Society for accessing photographs for digitizing for use in the permanent heritage exhibit.
- He reported that the Boundary Emergency and Transition Housing Society conducted a day of training for their volunteers and board on January 28th.

Councillor Thompson:

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- She reported her attendance to a January 18th information session with representatives from Interfor. She advised that Interfor has expressed concerns that there is not sufficient timber available in the area to support two sawmills; and that their proposed expansion to their plant in Grand Forks may be in jeopardy if they do not have the fiber to process.
- She reported that the Phoenix Foundation held their Board Meeting on January 19th.
- Additionally, on January 19th, she reported her attendance at the Boundary Museum Society monthly board meeting and advised that the museum will open to public on May 1st. She further reported that the Boundary Museum has contracted Linda Wills, a professional archivist, to provide staff and volunteer training in the proper handling and recording of archival records.
- She spoke with regard to correspondence from Roger Boulet, the contractor hired by the Grand Forks Art Gallery, sent to the Boundary Museum Society’s curator regarding archival photographs for use on their website. Ms. Wills questioned why they appear to be usurping the role of the museum and archives, and also advised that doing so is misleading and unethical.

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE BOUNDARY MUSEUM SOCIETY AND THE GRAND FORKS ART GALLERY SOCIETY PRESENT REALISTIC BUDGETS BY JUNE 1ST, 2011, THAT WILL INFORM COUNCIL WHAT BOTH SOCIETIES REQUIRE TO CONTINUE COMMUNITY SERVICES.

MOTION DEFEATED.

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS AND THE BOUNDARY MUSEUM SOCIETY ENTER INTO A SERVICE AGREEMENT TO BE COMPLETED BY JUNE 1ST, 2011.

CARRIED.

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MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE BOUNDARY MUSEUM SOCIETY AND THE GRAND FORKS ART GALLERY SOCIETY PRESENT BUDGETS BY JULY 1ST, 2011, THAT WILL INFORM COUNCIL WHAT BOTH SOCIETIES REQUIRE TO CONTINUE COMMUNITY SERVICES.

CARRIED.

Councillor Davies:

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- She reported her attendance at a Boundary Emergency Shelter Housing Society grand opening and workshop on January 28th, 2011, at the Christian Centre and spoke with regard to Mr. Darren Pratt's presentation on Drug Addiction. She wished to congratulate BETHS on a great workshop.
- She inquired with regard to the Heritage Workshop scheduled for February 16th, and asked if Staff could advise at the February 14th meeting on how many people are going to be attending.
- She spoke with regard to the Feast of Festivals scheduled for August, 2011, and asked if staff could contact Ray Lafleur of the Grand Forks & District Arts Council to obtain a progress report on how things are coming along, in addition to also receiving a break down on the intended use of the Grant in Aid funds supplied by the City for their event.

MOTION: DAVIES/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT STAFF CONTACT THE GRAND FORKS & DISTRICT ARTS COUNCIL TO PROVIDE A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE FEAST OF FESTIVALS PLANNED FOR AUGUST 2011 AND TO ASK THE ARTS COUNCIL FOR A BREAK DOWN OF THE INTENDED USE OF THE GRANT IN AID FUNDING THAT WAS ALLOCATED TO THIS ORGANIZATION BY THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS.

CARRIED.

- She advised that she required clarity on how the City could break an agreement with the province in the Community's First agreement on funding for the Imagine Grand Forks project; whereas, the Mayor advised that the City had no access to receive the required funding amount for the project.
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Mayor Taylor:

The Mayor reported on the following items:

- He spoke with regard to Environment Services Meeting scheduled for March 3rd, 2011 at 6:00 PM at the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Office in Grand Forks. He advised that there is room around the table for Council to attend and that the meeting intends to discuss the Regional District garbage contract.
- He spoke with regard to the Forestry Issue and Community Forestation and advised that the City wants both organizations to be successful: the Boundary Sawmill and Interfor.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/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)

Attached to the Regional District report are the minutes from the December 9th, 2010 Regional District of Kootenay Boundary meeting.

- No report

Councillor Robert asked with regard to the Governance issue and that \$35,000 was found with regard to governance, the Mayor advised that the east end of the Regional District has received approval for \$15,000 to explore the Beaver Valley area. The Mayor advised that Governance studies cost a great deal more than \$35,000, and that the allocation of \$15,000 is to assist this area in getting started.

Councillor Moslin suggested that the Chief Administrative Officer approach the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary to request a workshop to discuss an amalgamation of governments.

MOTION: MOSLIN/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL REQUEST CITY STAFF TO INVITE STAFF AND ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY TO GIVE A WORKSHOP ON THE PROCESS OF GOVERNANCE.

CARRIED.

Councillor Robert advised that he would like to obtain more information regarding monies received by the Grand Forks Secondary School from the Regional District for their Solar funding project. The Mayor advised that information involving Grants In Aid from the Regional District needs to be expedited sooner, so that the City isn't viewing the disbursements long after they been made. He further advised that this will assist the City in determining their grant in aid disbursements.

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY, GIVEN VERBALLY AT THIS MEETING, BE RECEIVED. CARRIED.

The meeting was recessed at 9:03 pm and reconvened at 9:15 PM

The Mayor left the meeting during the called recess due to health reasons, and Councillor Davies, as Acting Mayor, conducted the balance of the meeting commencing at 9:15 PM.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:

- a) Chief Administrative Officer's Report – 2011 local Government Election Officials

Appointment of the Chief Election Officer and the Deputy Chief Election Officer for 2011 Election Year.

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPOINTS CORPORATE OFFICER, DIANE HEINRICH, AS CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER AT A RATE OF \$1,000.00, AND LYNNE BURCH AS DEPUTY CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER AT A RATE OF \$750.00 FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES THE CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER AND THE DEPUTY CHIEF ELECTION OFFICER TO HIRE ELECTION OFFICIALS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING THE 2011 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION. CARRIED.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 11(a) TO 11(l)

BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED AND/OR AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

- a) Correspondence from Interior Health regarding "Smoke Free Champions for Change Initiative". **Recommend to receive for information unless nomination is put forward.**
- b) Correspondence from the Heart & Stroke Foundation regarding smoke free outdoor public places. **Recommend to receive for information.**

- c) Selkirk College Invitation to the Mayor to attend 2011 Bursary Tea in Nelson on February 12th. **The Mayor to advise by February 4th if he is planning to attend. Staff to follow up with the Mayor, to see if he plans on attending. Councillor Moslin is Acting Mayor for February and March and may choose to go in the Mayor's absence.**
- d) Correspondence from PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals). Expressing concerns for the trapping and relocation of deer. **Recommend to refer to Deer Committee for consideration and response for PETA.**
- e) Correspondence from the Amateur Radio Club – Request for fund for upgrades. **Respond that 2011 Grants In Aid have been allocated. No further funding remains for 2011.**
- f) Correspondence from Ric and Vickie Llewellyn expressing concerns with regard to Deer Relocation by the Province. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- g) From the Phoenix Foundation submitting a copy of the annual community report 2010. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- h) From UBCM regarding Annual Membership. **Recommend to precede with payment for UBCM membership dues as budgeted for.**
- i) From UBCM regarding 2010 UBCM Administered Funding Programs. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- j) Environmental Committee Inaugural Meeting minutes from January 20th, 2011 at the RDKB Board Room. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- k) Grand Forks Deer Committee Minutes from the January 14th, 2011 Meeting. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- l) January 17th Task List of Completed and In-Progress Tasks. **Recommend to file.**

BYLAWS:

- a) **Chief Financial Officer's Report – Bylaw 1907 – City of Grand Forks 2011-2015 Financial Plan Bylaw**

MOTION: THOMPSON/MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1907, CITED AS THE “Year 2011-2015 Financial Plan Bylaw No. 1907”, BE GIVEN FINAL READING.

CARRIED.

Councillor Robert and Wirischagin voted against the motion.

Councillor Moslin inquired as to what Asset Management is and the CAO advised that it is a listing and accounting of all the holdings owned by the City.

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After the approval of the budget, members of Council wished to put forward the following motions pertaining to the dispersion of Grant In Aid funds.

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE 2011 GRANT IN AID FUNDS FOR THE WHISPERS OF HOPE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000 BE DISPURSED TO THE ORGANIZATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE DUE TO FINANCIAL NECESSITIES. CARRIED.

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Councillor Robert left Chambers at 9:23 PM stating that he is a table officer of the Boundary Emergency Transition Housing Society which places him in a conflict of interest.

MOTION: THOMPSON/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE 2011 GRANT IN AID FUNDS FOR THE BOUNDARY EMERGENCY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING SOCIETY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 BE DISPURSED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE DUE TO FINANCIAL NECESSITIES. CARRIED.

Councillor Robert returned to the room at 9:24 PM

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MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT BOUNDARY MUSEUM SOCIETY BE OFFERED SPACE IN THE BASEMENT AT CITY HALL FOR THE STORAGE, OFFICE SPACE AND RESEARCH AREA FOR THE COMMUNITY ARCHIVES, AND FURTHER DETERMINES THAT THE SPACE IS TO BE RENOVATED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ORGINAL STAFF PROPOSAL. CARRIED.

LATE ITEMS:

- a) Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Gas Tax Agreement's General Strategic Priorities Fund (GSPF) request for approval of application by City for funding the project "Demand Management – Universal Water Metering"

MOTION: THOMPSON/WYERS

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS FILING THE APPLICATION FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GAS TAX AGREEMENT'S GENERAL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FUND (GSPF), IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,216,800 FOR THE PROJECT TITLED "DEMAND MANAGEMENT – UNIVERSAL WATER METERING", IN THE FORM ATTACHED TO THIS REPORT AS WELL AS ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION. CARRIED.

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Councillor Robert wished the have clarity on the funding for the application and was advised that it doesn't involve present gas tax monies currently at the City Hall. Councillor Robert wished to clarify that although Council has approved the grant application, it doesn't mean that they have approved universal water metering for the City.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 9:32 P.M. CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CORPORATE OFFICER- DIANE HEINRICH