

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY MARCH 28TH, 2011

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

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

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 7:58 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

MOTION: WYERS/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE MARCH 28TH, 2011, REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 14TH, 2011, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY MARCH 14TH, 2011, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

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

Councillor Davies:

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance at a Social Enterprising Workshop earlier today at the Boundary Community Futures office and advised of the great attendance from non-profit organizations. She advised that there are two web sites available to assist non-profit organizations -- demonstratingvalue.org and enterprisingnonprofits.ca.
 - She advised that she would like to ask the three members of Council that are on the Recreation Commission, Councillors Wirischagin and Robert; and Mayor Taylor with regard to the pool shutting down for a determined number of weeks due to operating cost factors, and asked if, through them, they could ask the Recreation Commission to reconsider opening the pool from 8:00 to 10:00 pm for adults. She further asked what the cost would be to provide staffing to operate for those hours as offset by the number of patrons needed to cover the costs to remain open for these hours.
 - She wished to comment with regard to the letter written by the Mayors of the City of Langley and the Township of Langley with regard to Medical Marijuana users and the lack of proper information that is available to the community. She further advised of facts behind the use of Medical Marijuana and reported that pharmacies cannot dispense the drug.
-

Councillor Thompson:

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- She reported that on March 18th the Boundary Museum Executive met with the Mayor and the Chief Administrative Officer and her as their liaison to review and negotiate a service agreement for the year 2011, and that this agreement will be presented to Council at the next meeting on April 11, 2011.
 - She advised that she observed and participated in Earth Hour last Saturday evening on March 26th from 8:30 to 9:30 pm and commented her hopes that everyone participated in this important event.
-

Councillor Robert:

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- He spoke with regard to Adrian Dix NDP Leadership Campaign in Vancouver and advised that he's campaigning on a platform of improving the provincial economy and reducing the gap between the richest and the poorest.
 - He reported on his attendance at a conference on March 25th and 26th at Harrison Hot Springs on Placemaking, and advised that "placemaking" is about deepening a community sense of place and connectedness.
 - He spoke with regard to the consideration of a compact community where everyone could live, work and play without using one's car and advised that the community is in need of a transit system and a reduction of greenhouse gases.
-

Councillor Wyers:

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance at the Grand Forks Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting on March 16th. She advised that the annual maintenance agreement between the City and the Grand Forks Public Library was discussed and agreed upon by the Library Board members.
- She asked about the status of the Towns for Tomorrow Grant and was informed by the Chief Administrative Officer that the Provincial Government has postponed their decisions with regard to this grant until early April, 2011.
- She reported that the Boundary District Arts Council meeting was this evening. She advised that April 10th-16th is the 12th Annual BC Arts and Cultural Week. She advised that this year's event is titled "Green It and Mean It". She further advised that the organization is looking for volunteers and that interested individuals should contact Erna Gobbet at 442-8569.
- She reported on her attendance at the March 15th Water Sustainability Meeting.
- She reported that the Dog Sled organization is planning for the 2012 Rail Trail Event.
- Councillor Wyers reported on her attendance at a presentation at Christina Lake on March 21st with keynote speaker, George Penfold. She reported that he spoke with regard to regional drawbacks which include the factor of water limitations. She reported that the speaker advised that the lack of immigrants is also a major cause towards the decline of population in rural BC.
- She reported on her attendance at a Granby Wilderness Meeting on March 23rd.

- On March 24th, she reported on her attendance at a Grand Forks Fall Fair meeting where plans are underway for the 2011 Annual Fall Fair to be held September 10-11th.
 - She reported on her participation in observing Earth Hour on March 26th.
-

Mayor Taylor:

- The Mayor advised that he met with a Regional Senior's group on Friday, March 25th where discussions involved exercise and healthy community living, and reported that our community contains a number of amenities that are pro-senior to leading a healthy lifestyle. He further advised that 70% of the aquatic centre users are seniors.
 - He spoke with regard to the Deer Committee and advised that two members of the Grand Forks committee are going over to Cranbrook to meet with five other communities during the AKBLG conference.
 - Councillor Robert asked if the Mayor could pose the question with regard to the 40 proposed care beds while he is in attendance at the Interior Health Meeting on April 12th in Castlegar. The Mayor advised that he would broach the subject.
-

MOTION: WYERS/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 there will be a number of issues that will be on the table at the Regional District monthly meeting this Thursday, March 31st, which will include the waste recycling issue.
- Councillor Robert asked if the Mayor could bring up the recycling issue of glass that ends up broken in the dumpster or on the road. The Mayor advised that it is more expensive to recycle used glass than to make new bottles, and that glass continues to be a recycling issue.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/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:

None

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: DAVIES/WIRISCHAGIN

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

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

CARRIED.

- a) Grant in aid Thank-you letters from GF & Boundary Regional Agricultural Society; Boundary Dog Sled Association; and Phoenix Mountain Alpine Ski Society. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- b) R. Phillips vision for street art on crosswalks as part of community revitalization. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- c) Correspondence from B & M Voykin regarding Visa/MasterCard. **Recommend to receive for information.**

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT STAFF REVISIT THE CREDIT CARD POLICY PAYMENTS AT CITY HALL BY ADDING AN ADDITIONAL FEE FOR SERVICE.

DEFEATED.

- d) Child Find correspondence with regard to 2010/2011 Posters. **Recommend to receive for information – Poster placed at City Hall.**
- e) Castlegar Press Release announcing donation to Red Cross for Japan Aid Relief in recognition of their sister city, Embetsu. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- f) Correspondence from Assembly of BC Arts Council announcing their expansion mandate under their new name: ARTSBC. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- g) Community Futures sponsor of keynote speaker Charles “Gus” Whalen Jr. at the Omega Restaurant on April 6th. **Recommend that Council advise if planning to attend. Councillor Davies advised that she will try to attend.**
- h) Mayor or alternate invitation to an Interior Health Board Chair Meeting in Castlegar on April 12th. **The Mayor advised that he is planning to attend the meeting. Diane to RSVP by March 31st.**
- i) From Ministry of Natural Resource Operations-Water Stewardship providing an update on the Southern Interior Regional Drinking Water Team. **Recommend to receive for information-Information circulated to Manager of Technical and Services.**

- j) UBCM Member Release – Consideration of a Two-Phase Campfire Prohibition. **Recommend to receive for information-Information circulated to the Fire Department.**
- k) Copy of an anonymous letter from a Medical Marijuana Patient sent to Langley Mayors. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- l) From Boundary Museum Society – Meeting minutes from January 19th. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- m) From Boundary Museum Society – Meeting minutes from February 9th. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- n) From the Environment Committee – Meeting minutes from February 25th. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- o) March 14th Task List of Completed and In-Progress Tasks. **Recommend to file.**

BYLAWS:

- a) **Chief Financial Officer’s Report – Bylaw 1916 – 2011 Electrical Revenue Requirement and Bylaw 1916 – Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw**

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1916, CITED AS THE “Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 1916, 2011,” BE GIVEN FIRST READING. CARRIED.

.....

MOTION: DAVIES/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1916, CITED AS THE “Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 1916, 2011,” BE GIVEN SECOND READING. CARRIED.

.....

MOTION: WYERS/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1916, CITED AS THE “Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 1916, 2011,” BE GIVEN THIRD READING. CARRIED.

MOTION: THOMPSON/DAVIES

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT STAFF BRING FORWARD A POLICY THAT ENSURES THAT THE GRAND FORKS ELECTRICAL RATES ARE MAINTAINED AT A MINIMUM OF 98% OF FORTIS BC RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND THAT THE COMMERCIAL RATES ARE ADJUSTED TO MAINTAIN COMPETITIVE RATES TO FORTIS WHILE FOSTERING ENERGY CONSERVATION.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE POLICY WOULD ALSO ADDRESS A RECOMMENDATION AS TO HOW TO ADDRESS THOSE TIMES WHEN AND IF RATES HAVE TO INCREASE TO BE HIGHER THAN 98% OF FORTIS BC RATES FOR RESIDENTIAL RATES. CARRIED

LATE ITEMS:

None

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 9:29 P.M. CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CORPORATE OFFICER - DIANE HEINRICH