

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

MONDAY JUNE 27TH, 2011

PRESENT: ACTING MAYOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON
COUNCILLOR JOY DAVIES
COUNCILLOR GENE ROBERT
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN
COUNCILLOR CHER WYRES

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER L. Burch
CORPORATE OFFICER D. Heinrich
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER C. Arnott
ELECTRICAL CONSULTANT A. Love

GALLERY

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ACTING MAYOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON ANNOUNCED THAT THE CITY IS DEDICATING THE PARK AREA ON THE GRANBY RIVER, ADJACENT TO THE GRANBY DENTAL CLINIC ON THE WEST BANK OF THE GRANBY RIVER, ON RIVERSIDE DRIVE, AS "SUGIMOTO PARK" IN HONOUR OF THE LATE YASUSHI (SUGI) SUGIMOTO, FORMER MAYOR FOR THE CITY. SHE FURTHER ANNOUNCED THAT THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS IS INVITING EVERYONE TO ATTEND THE FORMAL DEDICATION CEREMONY OF "SUGIMOTO PARK" TO TAKE PLACE ON TUESDAY, JULY 5TH AT 1:00 PM.

ANNUAL REPORT:

The Acting Mayor brought forward the 2010 Annual Report for consideration, and submissions and questions from the public. There were no presentations or questions from anyone in the gallery at this time.

MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE 2010 ANNUAL REPORT, AS PRESENTED AT THIS MEETING, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

RECESS TO PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE RECESSED AT 7:03 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 meeting reconvened at 9:06 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:

- The Acting Mayor advised Section 13 of the agenda that is dealing with bylaws would be brought forward in the agenda to proceed as the next item.

MOTION: WYERS/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE JUNE 27TH, 2011, REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

BYLAWS:

- a) **Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Bylaw 1919 – The City of Grand Forks Community Sustainable Plan**

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1919, CITED AS THE "The City of Grand Forks Sustainable Community Plan Bylaw No. 1919, 2011", BE GIVEN FIRST READING. CARRIED.

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- b) **Chief Financial Officer's Report – Bylaw 1921 – Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw**

MOTION: WYERS/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1921, CITED AS THE "Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 1921, 2011", BE GIVEN FIRST READING. CARRIED.

MOTION: DAVIES/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1921, CITED AS THE "Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 1921, 2011", BE GIVEN SECOND READING. CARRIED.

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MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/WYERS

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1921, CITED AS THE "Electrical Utility Regulatory Amendment Bylaw No. 1921, 2011", BE GIVEN THIRD READING. CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: WYERS/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY JUNE 13TH, 2011, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

MOTION: ROBERT/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 13TH, 2011, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Corporate Officer's Report- Councillor Robert – Notice of Two Motions

At the June 13th, 2011 Regular Meeting, Councillor Robert advised that he was putting forward two Notices of Motion with regard to the Forest Industry

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MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

Resolution Title: Public Commission on Forests

WHEREAS B.C. communities rely on their forests both as a primary economic driver, and for their ecological and social importance;

AND WHEREAS today there are a number of critical problems in B.C.'s forests which need to be addressed and resolved, including

... resolution cont'd on the following page

- Evidence of declining forest health and expanding understocked forests;
- Tens of thousands of forest industry job losses, dozens of mill closures, and serious economic hardship in resource communities across B.C.;
- Widespread frustration among local governments about the lack of local involvement in decision making on the allocation and management of forest resources;
- After a decade of deep cutbacks, serious doubts about the ability of provincial agencies to effectively manage our forest resources and provide adequate public oversight in the woods;
- The continuing failure to generate maximum value for British Columbians from our forests, as evidenced by the ongoing over-reliance on commodity production, rapidly increasing raw log exports to Asia, and limited growth in the value-added wood products sector;

AND WHEREAS it has been more than two decades since the last significant independent inquiry into the state of B.C.'s forests;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities call for the Government of B.C. to establish a public commission of inquiry into B.C.'s forest sector, in order to:

- offer a considered, independent assessment of the state of B.C.'s forests and the effectiveness of our current laws and practices;
- provide a much-needed opportunity for significant public input into forest policy in B.C.; and
- make recommendations for changes that will ensure both the good stewardship of our forests and a vibrant, sustainable forest industry for coming generations.

CARRIED.

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MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

Resolution Title: Reinvesting in Forest Stewardship

WHEREAS B.C. communities rely on forests to support their economic, social and environmental well-being;

AND WHEREAS there is widespread and growing public concern about the current and future health of B.C.'s forests;

AND WHEREAS over the past decade the provincial government has made deep cuts to the public agencies engaged in protecting, managing and enhancing B.C.'s forests, seriously eroding their capacity to effectively manage our publicly-owned forest resources and provide adequate public oversight in the woods:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Union of British Columbia Municipalities urge the provincial government to reinvest in forest stewardship, including

- Immediately increasing funding for forest inventories;
- Restoring the Ministry of Forest's research branch, and enhancing funding for forest research;
- Increasing funding to mitigate the risk of forest fires in B.C. communities;
- Making a significant, long term investment in expanded reforestation of public forest lands; and
- Increasing funding and restoring staffing levels in the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Resource Operations (formerly the Ministry of Forests and Range) to pre-2001 levels.

CARRIED.

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

Councillor Wirischagin:

Councillor Wirischagin advised that he had no report this evening.

Councillor Wyers:

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance at a Grand Forks & Boundary Restorative Justice Society meeting on June 14th
 - She reported on her attendance at the June 17th Environment Committee Meeting.
 - She reported on her attendance at a Grand Forks Library Building Sub-Committee meeting on June 20th
 - She reported on her attendance at the City's Community Sustainable Plan Public presentation in Gyro Park and later at the Public Open House in Council Chambers on June 21st
 - She reported on her attendance at the public meeting on Forestry at Community Futures on June 21st, and further commented on the presentation given by Councillor Moslin titled, "Creating a Sustainable Plan for Forestry".
 - Further, on the evening of June 21st, she reported her attendance at a Citizens on Patrol Meeting. She advised that she has accepted the secretary position for their organization.
 - On June 22nd, she advised that she and Councillor Robert assisted in the Fortis BC Clothesline Campaign by handing out retractable clotheslines to passersby in front of City Hall. She advised that the FortisBC Campaign was to encourage people to dry their clothes on the lines provided as opposed to operating their dryers.
 - She reported her attendance to the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Regular Meeting on June 23rd.
 - She announced that the Boundary & District Arts Council grant application deadline is on June 30th.
 - She reminded everyone that Canada Day is this Friday, July 1st, and encouraged everyone to support the community by attending the numerous functions that are to be held throughout the day and into the evening.
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Councillor Robert:

Councillor Robert reported on the following items:

- He reported his attendance at a Healthy Forests and Healthy Communities Initiative on June 21st at Community Futures Boundary. He advised that this initiative was aimed at getting BC communities to provide input and communicate among the various groups that use our forests.
- He reported his attendance at the City's Integrated Sustainability Plan Public Open House last Wednesday at the Farmer's Market, and at City Hall on June 21st. He further thanked the Library for displaying the Sustainability Plan Poster Boards that were supplied by Urban Systems for the public to see.

- He advised that FCM (Federation of Canadian Municipalities) now has a collection of sustainable bylaws posted on their website.
- He reported his attendance at the Fortis BC Clothesline Blitz which was held in front of City Hall and downtown on June 22nd, and reported that the event received amazing response from the public. He further advised that the Blitz was intended to increase awareness of the money saved by using these clotheslines instead of the household dryer.
- He spoke with regard to a report released by the Columbia Institute, "This Green House: Building Fast Action on Climate Change" that examines the role Canadian municipalities can play in setting up financing programs for residential energy retrofits.
- He spoke in regard to CETA (Canadian-European Trade Agreement) and of the focus on getting disclosure from the federal and provincial governments about what exactly will be included in the trade offers exchanged next month.

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR TO SEND A LETTER TO JOHN SLATER, MLA AND TO ALEX ATAMANENKO MP—STATING OUR DISAGREEMENT WITH CETA AND THAT WE WANT TO MAINTAIN OUR OWN LOCAL PROCUREMENT EVEN AFTER TILMA (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT), AND HAVE CONTROL OF OUR OWN WATER, WASTE, AND RECYCLING AS WELL AS PUBLIC TRANSIT PLANNING.

CARRIED.

Councillor Davies:

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- She advised that the Grand Forks Compassionate Society made a presentation to the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary on June 23rd and advised that the Directors gave unanimous support to the medical marijuana program coming to the Provincial table.

MOTION: DAVIES/WYERS

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL INVITE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE GRAND FORKS COMPASSIONATE SOCIETY, MR. JIM LESLIE, TO BE A DELEGATION TO COUNCIL WITH REGARD TO THE MEDICAL MARIJUANA REGULATION PROGRAM FALLING UNDER PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION.

CARRIED.

Acting Mayor Christine Thompson:

Acting Mayor Christine Thompson reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance at a Community Economic Development forum on June 15th on the subject of "Water and Our Way of Life" at Christina Lake. She advised that there were several speakers who offered valuable information with regard to our water sources and how much we use. She reported that the speakers advised that we need to conserve water as we conserve electricity.

- She reported that the Asset Management Committee met with the consultants from Urban Systems on June 16th to review the Asset Management Investment Plan which was geared to reach recommendations moving forward on the Asset Management Investment Plan. She advised that there will be a Special Meeting of Council on July 11th at 7:00 PM to make these recommendations public.
- She advised that she attended the booth at the Farmer's Market regarding the City's Community Sustainable Plan at Gyro Park on June 21st, followed by the Public Open House at City Hall from 4:00 to 6:00 PM.
- As well on June 21st, she reported her attendance at a meeting on Healthy Forests – Healthy Communities at Community Futures Boundary. She advised that this presentation was made possible by the efforts of the Registered Forestry Professionals in the area and that Grand Forks was one of the first nine communities where this initiative was taking place. She spoke with regard of the many users of our forest area and of the different regulations and guidelines each group had to follow.
- She reported that the Steering Community of Concerned Citizens for Community Health Care met with volunteers to start work on a strategic plan on the evening of June 21st.
- She reported that the Phoenix Foundation held their Board Meeting on June 22nd.
- She reported that the Chair of the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary invited Council to attend their June 23rd board meeting, and that, as an attendee, found their process concise and interesting.

MOTION: DAVIES/ROBERT

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 Regional District Minutes of May 26, 2011.

MOTION: DAVIES/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL RECEIVE THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY MINUTES OF MAY 26TH, 2011.

CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:

a) Corporate Officer's Report – Volunteer Appreciation Evening for 2011

This year's Volunteer Appreciation Evening is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14th, 2011 at Gallery 2

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MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE CORPORATE OFFICER'S REPORT, DATED JUNE 21ST, 2011, REGARDING THE CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2011 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENING, AND FURTHER PROVIDES NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC CALLING FOR NOMINATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC FOR EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEER SERVICES IN THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL POLICY #204 CARRIED.

b) Corporate Officer's Report – Application for a Development Variance Permit

The variance request, as submitted by the property owners, Grant and Rebecca Mattick, is for an interior lot line setback from 5 feet to 3 feet which intends to allow for the construction of a second storey to the existing residence located at 7616-3RD Street. The Acting Mayor asked if any members of public wished to speak – no one came forward.

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RESOLVES TO APPROVE THE APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT, THEREBY VARYING SECTION 33(2)(f) (II), WHICH WILL REDUCE THE INTERIOR LOT LINE SETBACK FROM 5 FEET TO 3 FEET, ALLOWING FOR THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF A SECOND STOREY TO THE EXISTING RESIDENCE LOCATED AT 7616-3RD STREET LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 11, BLOCK 4, DL 108, SDYD, PLAN 52, AS SUBMITTED BY THE PROPERTY OWNERS, GRANT AND REBECCA MATTICK.

CARRIED.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 12(a) TO 12(d) BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED AND/OR AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

- a) Memo from the Manager of Environmental & Building Construction Service regarding the connection of Sidewalks on 25th Street (Hutton Hwy Crossing). **Recommendation of two options: Option 1: Should Council wish to proceed with the first phase of this project in 2011, it is recommended that Council resolve to fund it from surplus; or Option 2: That the first phase of the project be referred to the 2012-2016 budget process.**

continued on next page.....

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO CONSTRUCT A RAMP AND THE SIDEWALK ON THE NORTH SIDE ALONG 25TH STREET IN 2011 FOR THE SIDEWALK CONNECTION ON 25TH STREET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$90,000, AND THAT FUNDING TO COME OUT OF SURPLUS.

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DIRECT STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE FIRST PHASE IN 2011, BEING THE RAMP ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE HIGHWAY, FOR THE SIDEWALK CONNECTION ON 25TH STREET AS PROPOSED BY STAFF, FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$30,000, AND THAT FUNDING IS TO COME OUT OF SURPLUS.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO BRING BACK A REPORT, AT THE EARLIEST TIMEFRAME, FOR COUNCIL, TO CONSIDER PROCEEDING WITH PHASE TWO IN 2011, BEING THE SIDEWALK CONNECTION ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE HIGHWAY ON 25TH STREET FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$60,000.

CARRIED.

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- b) Memo from the Manager of Technical Services and Utilities- Maintenance Tasks regarding the Evergreen Cemetery. **Recommend to receive the report and refer it to the budget process of the 2012-2016 Financial Plan.**

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT STAFF BRING FORWARD A REPORT WITH REGARD TO THE MAINTENANCE TASKS AND COSTS REGARDING THE EVERGREEN CEMETERY AND THAT STAFF PRIORITIZE THE TASKS.

CARRIED.

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- c) Urban Deer Management – The Role of the Province. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- d) Task List from June 13th, 2011 – List of completed and in-progress tasks. **Recommend to file.**

BYLAWS:

This portion was moved up in the agenda.

LATE ITEMS:

None

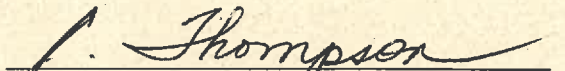
QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA:

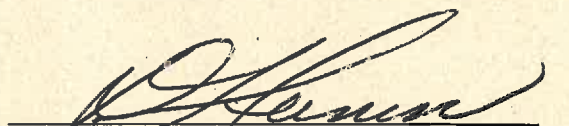
ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: DAVIES

**RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 10:41
P.M. CARRIED.**

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


ACTING MAYOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON


CORPORATE OFFICER- DIANE HEINRICH