

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 24TH, 2011

PRESENT: MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR
COUNCILLOR JOY DAVIES
COUNCILLOR CHRIS MOSLIN
COUNCILLOR GENE ROBERT
COUNCILLOR CHRISTINE THOMPSON
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL 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 7:05 p.m.

RECESS TO PRIMARY COMMITTEE MEETING:

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE RECESSED AT 7:05 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 7:52 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

MOTION: MOSLIN/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT THE OCTOBER 24TH, 2011, REGULAR MEETING AGENDA BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED. CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: ROBERT/WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 11TH, 2011, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 11TH, 2011, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

DELEGATION:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Corporate Officer's Report – Bike Racks in the Downtown Core

After review and recommendations from the Heritage Review Committee, a report from Staff regarding bicycle racks in the downtown is back for Council's consideration.

MOTION: MOSLIN/DAVIES

RESOLVED THAT FUNDING FOR THE FOLLOWING BICYCLE PARKING STANDS BE INCLUDED IN THE 2012 OPERATING BUDGET: ALL 4 CORNERS OF EACH INTERSECTION OF MARKET AND 4TH, MARKET AND 3RD, AND MARKET AND 2ND STREETS; TWO CORNERS OF 2ND AND 72ND; AND TWO CORNERS OF 3RD AND 72ND.

CARRIED.

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

Councillor Wirischagin:

Councillor Wirischagin advised that he did not have a report.

Councillor Moslin:

Councillor Moslin reported on the following items:

- He thanked Council for their support in the Environment Committee's objectives throughout the past year and a half, and of the accomplishments of the Environment Committee in Air Quality, Carbon Neutrality and Water Sustainability.
- He announced that the Proceeds of the sale of Hardy View Lodge are going towards the Habitat for Humanity project and that the amount is just under \$242,000. He further commented that unfortunately, Habitat for Humanity will have to pay the Development Cost Charges on the project, and that this is required by legislation and by the City's Bylaw.
- He advised that Habitat for Humanity will be donating funds to the BETHS (Boundary Emergency Transition Housing Society), and suggested that the City consider, for the future, a reserve fund dedicated to assist low cost housing in our community.

Councillor Wyers:

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- She reported on her attendance on October 12th to a meeting that discussed the proposed signage for Grand Forks on the west side of town. She advised that the City is partnered with the Grand Forks Rotary Club on this project. She further reported that there are two local youths who live in our community that are eager to contribute their skills in assisting in the design of the proposed signage.
- She reported on her attendance at a Boundary Restorative Justice Meeting on October 12th, and that they are looking for new members.
- She reported on her attendance to a Community Futures Small Business Award event on October 13th.
- She reported on her attendance to the Haskap Berry workshop on October 15th, and advised that MLA John Les and his son-in-law were in attendance. She further advised that there is potential to introduce this berry to the area.
- She reported on her participation at the Community Asset Management presentations on October 13th for the Grand Forks Rotary Club and on October 18th for the Regional Chamber of Commerce meeting held in Greenwood. She further advised that she has been regularly available at City Hall to answer questions from the Public with regard to the Asset Management program.
- She reported on her attendance at the Grand Forks Public Library monthly meeting on October 19th.
- She reported on her attendance at a Boundary Women's Centre History session on October 20th which featured women in politics. She advised that these women shared their stories about the time they spent while in office.
- She reported on her attendance at the last Environment Committee Meeting for the year at the RDKB Board Office on October 21st, 2011 and spoke with regard to Councillor Moslin's work that he has done throughout his two terms in office. She commented on her hopes that the new Council will endorse the committee's work to continue.
- She advised that the Citizens on Patrol organization are inviting citizens to join this rewarding, volunteer group.

Councillor Robert:

Councillor Robert advised that he had no report.

Councillor Thompson:

Councillor Thompson reported on the following items:

- She reported an error in her report of October 11th, and advised that while at the UBCM, she attended the Annual General Meeting of the Municipal Insurance Association meeting and not the AGM of the Municipal Finance Authority.
 - She reported on her participation in the public outreach on the Capital Asset Management and Investment Plans and advised that she and the Mayor made a presentation to the Rotary Club on October 13th, and then to the BCGEU Retirees on October 14th. She further reported that Councillors Davies, Wyers and herself participated in the presentation to the Regional Chamber of Commerce in Greenwood on October 18th and that the CAO and CFO also participated. She further advised that she has taken her 2 hour turns at City Hall to answer any questions that public may have had regarding the Asset Management Plan.
 - She reported on her attendance at the monthly meeting of the Boundary Museum Society on October 12th.
 - She reported on her attendance at the recognition awards given to Small Business hosted by Community Futures on October 13th.
 - She advised that Interior Health has closed two childcare providers in Grand Forks because they were caring for too many children. She advised that she had brought this issue forward at a Cabinet Panel at the UBCM and that Minister McNeil requested that she send a package of information to her. Councillor Thompson advised that she met with a group of concerned parents and the affected childcare providers as well as a representative of the Boundary Community Child Care Referral Agency on October 17th, where they put the package together and that this information will be sent to Minister McNeil later this week.
 - She spoke with regard to a concerned citizen regarding a permanent home for the Red Cross Society. She advised that they are currently located in a small building on Sagamore Road, which she was told, does not have the adequate facilities for cleaning returned equipment. She commented that it would only benefit the community to find them a permanent home.
 - She invited members of Council and the Community to attend the Phoenix Foundation Community Social on Wednesday, November 2nd starting at 6:00 PM at the Christina Lake Community Hall. She advised that Hugh Culver is the guest speaker for the event.
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Councillor Davies:

Councillor Davies reported on the following items:

- She reported her attendance at a BCGEU Luncheon on October 14th where Mayor Taylor and Councillor Thompson presented the Asset Management Plan to their members.
- She reported on her attendance to the Haskap Berry information session on October 15th at the Seniors Centre and reported that over 40 people attended the workshop which was delivered by Curtis Bratten of Haskap Central of Saskatchewan. She advised that Councillor Wyers, Area D Director, Irene Perepolkin and surprise guest, MLA John Les of Chilliwack were among the attendees. She advised that Minister Les is the Parliamentary Secretary to Premiere Christy Clark. She further advised that on Sunday, a group of interested people toured a Midway farm that has planted 1000 Haskap Berry bushes. She thanked Bob Kendel, who led this initiative of the Grand Forks Economic Development Task Force via the Agriculture Team, and Gary Smith who worked very hard to put the workshop together. She advised if others are interested in attaining further information, a Haskap Berry email group has been formed at: <http://groups.google.com/group/boundaryhaskap?hl=en>. In addition, she advised that more information is available through Mr. Bratten's website: <http://www.haskapcentral.com>. She asked that this information be included on the City's website.
- She reported her participation along with Councillors Thompson and Wyers, to an Asset Management Plan presentation on October 18th to the Regional Boundary Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors in Greenwood.
- She reported her attendance to the Boundary Women's Centre evening session celebrating "Her Story" month that was coordinated by Margie Henderson.
- She spoke of the work that this Council has done with regard to Economic Development for the community.

MOTION: DAVIES/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS SET UP A VOLUNTEER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND THAT STAFF BE DIRECTED TO COMPILE A REPORT TO COUNCIL ON THE POTENTIAL MAKE UP OF THE COMMITTEE, THE PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE INCLUDING TERMS OF REFERENCE, AND A RECOMMENDED BUDGET FOR THE COMMITTEE.

CARRIED.

The Mayor voted against the motion

Mayor Taylor:

The Mayor reported on the following items:

- The Mayor began his report by offering an apology to Area D Director, Irene Perepolkin, regarding a letter that was sent to Minister Lake with regard to the Gilpin Grasslands. He advised that the letter made assumptions with regard to Area D's stand on the issue and that Regional District Boundary Directors were not consulted when the letter was written.
- He commented with regard to the West Kootenay Regional Hospital Board function and that approximately 35-40 members sit at this table. He advised that group accepts the budget that subsequently gets applied to taxes regarding hospital services. He commented that there are two main areas that impacting the board: 1) He advised that the board is under pressure as they have been asked by Interior Health to visit facilities from area to area to view what is being done with the money. He advised that the group recently toured an emergency facility in Nelson. He advised that the next visit will be in Trail, and that in

February, the board will be visiting Grand Forks; 2) He further advised that there is additional pressure for this group to address health issues in areas and that there have been some offers by government, that they would move up certain projects if that area increases the tax to 40% for capital projects. The Mayor advised that a lot of public consultation would be necessary prior to implementing such a plan.

- He advised that the Regional Agriculture Plan is now completed.
- He advised that the Hello BC project is completed and commented that the City had partnered in an advertisement earlier this year as part of the project.
- He advised that the Regional District is currently moving into budget discussions with the stakeholders and that this discussion involves mostly the recreation budget pertaining to the pool, which is still a big issue at the regional table.

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT ALL REPORTS OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL INCLUDING THE MAYOR'S REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY, GIVEN VERBALLY AT THIS MEETING, BE RECEIVED.

CARRIED.

REPORT FROM THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY (VERBAL)

- Regional report included in the Mayor's report above.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS:

None

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: ROBERT/WYERS

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

CARRIED.

- a) Thank you to Mayor and Council for City support for 2011 GFSS Scholarships.
Recommend to file.
- b) Thank you from Statistics Canada - For City support during the 2011 Census process.
Recommend to receive for information.

- c) From Gallery 2 - Semi-Annual Report from the Grand Forks Art Gallery Society. **Recommend to receive for information – information referred to the 2012-2016 Budget process.**
- d) Wood First Recognition - Organization has received documentation of the City's support of the Wood First Program. **Representative to present Wood First Champion pins and design award book to Mayor and Council on October 28th. The Mayor advised that Council is invited to attend a luncheon on Friday in Grand Forks.**
- e) Correspondence from the Royal Canadian Legion – Request for Remembrance Day and Poppy Sales for 2011. **Recommend that Council grant permission to hold poppy distribution in the downtown area; grant permission to hold the Memorial Parade & Service at the Cenotaph on Friday, November 11th, 2011; grant permission to use the electric power from the light standard as permitted in previous years and grant approval for the annual contribution of \$100.00 to the Poppy Fund.**

The Mayor to advise if participating in the parade and attend the luncheon following the ceremony. Mayor or designate to advise if laying the wreath for the City. Council to advise if attending the Legion luncheon after the ceremony

MOTION: THOMPSON/ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL GRANT PERMISSION TO HOLD POPPY DISTRIBUTION IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA ON OCTOBER 28TH AND 29TH, GRANT PERMISSION TO HOLD THE MEMORIAL PARADE & SERVICE AT THE CENOTAPH ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 2011; GRANT PERMISSION TO USE THE ELECTRIC POWER FROM THE LIGHT STANDARD AS PERMITTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS AND GRANT APPROVAL FOR THE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION OF \$100.00 TO THE POPPY FUND. CARRIED.

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- f) Letter from Barb Makortoff - Concerns regarding a permanent venue for the Grand Forks Fall Fair. **Receive for information.**
- g) From UBCM - 2011 Resolutions and UBCM Executive for 2011-2012. **Recommend to file.**
- h) October 11th Task List - List of Completed and In-Progress Tasks. **Recommend to file.**

BYLAWS:

- a) **Chief Administrative Officer's Report – Bylaw 1924 – Amendment to the City of Grand Forks Zoning Bylaw.**

Public Hearing was held on Oct 11th, 2011. Correspondence from the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure advises that the Ministry does not support a blanket rezoning of the property located at 2675 Central Avenue.

MOTION: DAVIES/MOSLIN

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DEFERS ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION ON THE BYLAW UNTIL MORE DEFINITE DEVELOPMENT PLANS ARE RECEIVED FROM THE PROPERTY OWNER, AT WHICH TIME COUNCIL MAY DEBATE THIRD READING OF THE BYLAW.
CARRIED.

b) Corporate Officer's Report – Bylaw 1926 – 2012 Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw

Councillor Wirischagin stated his intention to vacate Council Chambers at this time due to the fact that his wife, Jessica, is the president of the Grand Forks Child Care Society, an organization that is included in the 2012 Annual tax Exemption Bylaw and that in participating in the matter, he may be perceived to be in a conflict of interest. Councillor Wirischagin left Council Chambers at 8:53 p.m.

MOTION: ROBERT/THOMPSON

RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1926, CITED AS THE “2012 Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 1926, 2011”, BE GIVEN FINAL READING.

CARRIED.

Councillor Wirischagin returned to Council Chambers at 8:54 pm.

LATE ITEMS:

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

LES JOHNSON – Advised that members of the public can view the Haskap Workshop on his whatsupingrandforks website.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: ROBERT

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 8:56 P.M.
CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CORPORATE OFFICER- DIANE HEINRICH