

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL
TUESDAY APRIL 2ND, 2013

PRESENT:

MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR
COUNCILLOR BOB KENDEL
COUNCILLOR NEIL KROG
COUNCILLOR PATRICK O'DOHERTY
COUNCILLOR GARY SMITH
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGN
COUNCILLOR CHER WYERS

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
CORPORATE OFFICER
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS
MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT &
ENGINEERING SERVICES
MANAGER OF ENVIRONMENTAL &
BUILDING SERVICES

D. Allin
D. Heinrich
R. Shepherd
S. Winton
H. Wright
S. Bird

W. Kopan

GALLERY

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD TUESDAY APRIL 2ND, 2013, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

a) Boundary Detachment of the RCMP – Annual Report

NCO Staff Sgt Jim Harrison made a presentation of the Boundary RCMP detachment Annual Report on Policing.

Sgt Harrison advised that crime reduction and community strategies were introduced in 2009 and that since introducing these strategies, overall criminal offences have decreased by 11% in 2012.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS COUNCIL RECEIVE THE PRESENTATION FROM NCO STAFF SGT. JIM HARRISON OF THE BOUNDARY DETACHMENT OF THE RCMP.

CARRIED.

.....

b) Boundary District Arts Council – Request for Annual Funding

Michelle Garrison, presented to Council on behalf of the Boundary District Arts Council with regard to the organizations request for annual funding. Michelle advised that BDAC's request for funding is essential as the funds are used to leverage other dollars from the Art Council of BC, and without the City's contribution, this is not possible. She further advised that BDAC strengthens the social fabric of the community as they provide funding grants to 17 different arts groups and individuals. Michelle advised that BDAC plans to host the Kettle River Festival of the Arts this year which includes hosting events throughout the Boundary region, and attracts over three thousand people over 11 days. Michelle referred to Bylaw 1999 and advised that this year BDAC is requesting funding support from other areas. She also spoke with regard to the GEM theatre and some of the other initiatives BDAC is currently working on in the community.

MOTION: WYERS

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO RECEIVE THE PRESENTATION AND REFER ANY ISSUES FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CARRIED.

.....

c) The Committee for the Enhancement of the Gilpin Grasslands

Roy Ronaghan made a presentation as the representative of the Committee for the Enhancement of the Gilpin Grasslands. He requested that Council consider adopting a resolution to preserve and protect Overton Creek, its watershed and the ecology of the area immediately surrounding it.

Mr. Ronaghan spoke with regard to the Overton Creek area and advised council that with the proper maintenance and care of the area, a recreational area for the community could be developed.

He advised that the committee had concerns regarding the area becoming unusable as a source of clean water.

Councillor Wyers advised that Mr. Ronaghan and Barry Brandow spoke with regard to Overton Creek at the last Environment Committee Meeting. She recommended council consider their request and further advised that the Environment Committee passed a resolution "that the Environment Committee request that the City revisit the Overton watershed protection area study from 1982 and request that the fencing be repaired where it has been jeopardized".

The Chief Administrative Officer spoke with regards to the process that should take place before anything can be done. He advised this is an issue for Interior Health and the Ministry of Environment and the Cattleman's Association. He further advised there would need to be consultations with these groups as well as a biologist and that there is a process that needs to be followed. He further advised this is a costly process and could be upwards of \$50,000.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO RECEIVE THE PRESENTATION AND REFER ANY ISSUES FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CARRIED.

The Mayor recessed the meeting at 10:13AM.
The meeting reconvened at 10:22AM.

CAPTIAL DISCUSSIONS FROM STAFF:

- a) Interior Testing Services - Peter Hanenburg
Urban Systems - Scott Shepherd

Peter Hanenburg and Scott Shepherd provided a verbal update to council on the status of the Overton Creek / Slag Pile Project.

Mr. Hanenburg advised that because there was a perception the slag pile had changed recently; Interior Testing Services had monitored the slag pile for the past month. He advised there had not been any change or movement in the slag over the past month of observations.

He advised the slag pile is made of ladle slag, which is a molten liquid rock and that they have no way of knowing how it was deposited there and advised that ladle slag is composed differently as opposed to sand slag. He advised there needs to be a Hydro Geology report completed before the diversion of the Creek occurs. He further advised this would identify whether Overton Creek is an issue.

The City Administrative Officer advised that the City would follow up with Pacific Abrasives and ask them to engage in the cost of hiring the Hydro Geologist to continue to monitor the slag pile as well as to provide a Hydro Geology report, as they are responsible for any actions on the mine site.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO RECEIVE THE VERBAL PRESENTATION MADE BY URBAN SYSTEMS AND INTERIOR TESTING SERVICE REGARDING THE UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF

OVERTON CREEK/SLAG PILES PROJECT AND DETERMINES TO REFER ANY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COUNCIL'S CONSIDERATION AT THEIR REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 2, 2013

CARRIED

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION:

- a) Staff - Small Business and Residential Recycling and Household and Organic Diversion Program

Staff requests for Council to approve the Contract Agreement between the City of Grand Forks and the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary for The Small Business and Residential Recycling and Household Organic Diversion Program.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO DIRECT STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE NEW SERVICE CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS AND THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY FOR THE SMALL BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL RECYCLING AND HOUSEHOLD ORGANIC DIVERSION PROGRAM

CARRIED

The City Administrative Officer advised that the Chief Financial Officer will ask the RDKB how the contract price was determined for the yard and garden waste and will confirm the numbers in the contract and further advised that the Manager of Waste Management from the RDKB should speak to Council with regard to the contract and regarding an article in the Gazette that stated there could be a possible cost decrease with the introduction of the Small Business and Residential Recycling and Household Organic Diversion Program Residential Recycling.

-
- b) Chief Administrative Officer – Monthly Highlight Reports from Department Managers

Staff request for Council to receive the Monthly Activity Reports.

MOTION: KENDEL

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO RECEIVE THE MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORTS AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED.

PROPOSED BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION:

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- a) Grant In Aid Process; as part of the 2013 budget sessions, the Grant In Aid process was discussed at length. In order for Council to debate this policy, Staff included the Policy as an item for discussion.

Discussion:

- There is an economic impact to the community regarding support for events that the current Grant in Aid policy does not support.
- A concern regarding how groups are chosen for funding provisions and how funding is distributed is much like a lottery system.
- The possibility to give funding to umbrella groups, such as the Phoenix Foundation, and let them distribute it, as opposed to group specific funding was discussed.
- It was commented on that Grant In Aid is tax payer dollars and the City can and does show support in other ways such as in-kind support. Further it was commented that tax payer dollars already go towards supporting amenities, for example parks, that requesting groups use.
- Some members of Council suggested that there should not be a Grant In Aid policy. If all applicants can't receive it, it shouldn't exist.
- The more grant money distributed through Grant In Aid the less that is left for City projects.
- Some members of Council advised that a "Fee for service" may prove as an alternative to a Grant In Aid Policy.
- A suggestion that a City fund (community spirit fund) could be developed that would support 3-6 events a year that the city contributes to; these events would prove to be a benefit to the whole community, i.e. Canada Day – and that some of these groups could also fund raise at these events.

The City Administrative Officer advised that \$46,000 of in kind dollars was contributed to events in the community in 2012.

MOTION: WYERS

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO RESCIND THE CURRENT GRANT IN AID POLICY NO. 501 AND TO DEFER THE ISSUE TO THIS EVENING'S REGULAR MEETING.

CARRIED

LATE ITEMS:

None

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

QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mayor Taylor stated that City Council is interested in hearing from the public on the issues it is dealing with or on any other issue that is of interest to the general public. To ensure that this process is open and does not feel uncomfortable to anyone, he advised that Council has set up some parameters to follow, and the normal rules apply.

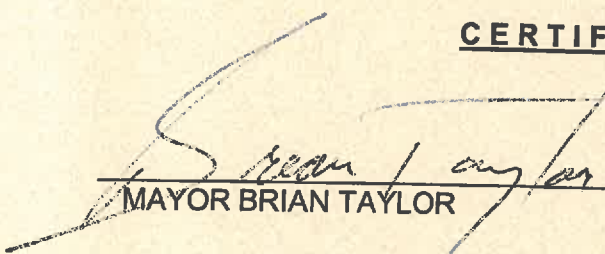
ADJOURNMENT:


MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THIS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 12PM.

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


DEPUTY CORPORATE SECRETARY -
SARAH WINTON