

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY, August 19th, 2013**

PRESENT: MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR
COUNCILLOR BOB KENDEL
COUNCILLOR PATRICK O'DOHERTY
COUNCILLOR GARY SMITH
COUNCILLOR CHER WYERS joined the meeting at 9:25a.m.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER	D. ALLIN
CORPORATE OFFICER	D. HEINRICH
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	R. SHEPHERD
DEPUTY CORPORATE SECRETARY	S. WINTON
MANAGER OF OPERATIONS	H. WRIGHT
MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT & ENGINEERING SERVICES	S. BIRD
MANAGER OF BUILDING INSPECTION & BYLAW SERVICES	W. KOPAN

GALLERY

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

The Mayor advised that there is a late item to be included on the agenda; presentation by the summer interns; Valeria Flora Ramos and Priscilla Novello

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD MONDAY AUGUST 19th, 2013, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

DELEGATIONS:

a) **George Longden – Grand Forks Trails Society**

Requesting Council consider providing matching funds to the Grand Forks Community Trails Society in order for the Trans Canada Trail from 68th St. to the Nursery Trestle be paved.

Mr. Longden spoke with regard to:

- Trail usage, which he advised had been monitored by a camera for a 2 week period.
- The significant contribution Roxul has made to the trails.
- The increased cost of the paving project
- The funds that have been contributed from many other organizations
- He advised that the society is \$68,000 short in order to pave the section from 68th Street to the Nursery trestle.
- Several questions need to be answered by the city:

Can the City supply gravel and crush?

Can the City allocate more dollars?

Can the City the match additional Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resources Operations dollars?

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that there is money in the budget that was designated for another project that did not move forward with regard to the Slag Fund. In order to use these funds Council would be required to pass a resolution to reallocate the dollars to be used towards the trails.

Mr. Longden advised that there was a verbal allocation from Area D of \$100,000 but this needs to be confirmed in writing with the Area Director. He further advised that the trail is currently accessible, although not wheel chair accessible and that not paving the trail at this time would not stop usage.

The Chief Administrative Officer spoke with regards to the timing of the funding and inquired as to whether or not funding would continue to be available in 2014 if it is not used this fall as the optimum paving time is September, which is quickly approaching.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO RECEIVE THE PRESENTATION FROM THE GRAND FORKS TRAILS SOCIETY FOR FURTHER DECISION AT THE AUGUST 19TH REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL. CARRIED.

Before Council has any further discussion they have requested information regarding Area D's contribution and whether funding will be rolled over in 2014.

b) Sandra Barron – Mountain Media

Presentation regarding options for billboard advertising in the West Kelowna and Okanagan areas
She advised that:

- There is a captive audience.
- This audience is increasing every day.
- Need to determine who the City wants to engage.
- Billboards are a high impact cost, effective method of advertising.
- A billboard in Kelowna can hit 30 million viewers per year.
- Locations at 5 sites; West Kelowna on Hwy 97, Vernon, Enderby, Boundary and Oliver
- The cost for a billboard that is 10x24 feet is approximately \$675 per month based on a one year contract; the longer the contract the lower the monthly cost.
- City staff may work with mountain media to develop appropriate ads
- There are several contract lengths available. The savings are approximately 100 per month per year in the contract.
- All billboards are printed on vinyl and have a life span of three years.

MOTION: SMITH

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO RECEIVE THE PRESENTATION MADE BY SANDRA BARRON OF MOUNTAIN MEDIA FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION.

CARRIED.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that this presentation was for informational purposes only and that billboards will be discussed with Council in the budgeting process for 2014.

c) Jan Westlund - Grand Forks and Boundary Regional Agricultural Society

Requesting that Council consider adopting a non-binding resolution to make Grand Forks a GE Free Zone to halt the expansion of genetically engineered crops in our vital agricultural areas.

Jan Westlund advised:

- Over 500 people in Grand Forks have signed a petition supporting Grand Forks as a GE free zone.
- That several communities have passed this resolution.
- UBCM has voiced concern over GE crops and this fall there is a motion on the floor at UBCM to make BC a GE free zone with regards to stone fruit.
- The Agricultural Society hopes that in due time the City will post a sign on the entrance ways to the City that states it is GE Free zone.
- The resolution put forth is non-binding; meaning that it is philosophical in principle and would not require the City to take legal action towards farmers using GE crops.

She further advised that the community wants to support agriculture in the area. The Agricultural Society has not approached the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, but the intention is that the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary will be supportive. The Agricultural Society would like to add the City's name to the list of 62 communities who support this resolution. They request that Council have a collective understanding of the GE issue which Councillors can then speak to at UBCM, knowing that Council is behind this resolution 100%.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO RECEIVE THE PRESENTATION MADE BY THE GRAND FORKS AND BOUNDARY REGIONAL AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AND FURTHER DETERMINES TO REFER TO THE AUGUST 19TH REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL FOR DECISION.

CARRIED.

Mayor Taylor recessed the meeting at 10:09am
The meeting reconvened at 10:24am

PRESENTATIONS BY STAFF:

a) David and Hyacinth Bellamy – Bellamy Development Variance Permit

To construct a roof connecting two metal containers for a garage and storage area in front of the front face of the principle residence

The Manager of Development and Engineering advised that this request did not need to go to public hearing as it was not required. She presented a report regarding the Bellamy Development Variance Application in order that an opportunity for the public to speak to the request for the variance permit is provided. She further advised that the actual variance is that the accessory building will be in front of the principle building rather than behind.

Gary Blake, is a neighbor, and advised that he is comfortable with the shop being closed in. He still has concern with the shop being placed in the front yard, but understands the need in this situation. Mr. Bellamy advised that there will be blue metal cladding on the structure.

The Chief Administrative Officer advised that the building needs to meet code requirements even if the variance is approved by Council. He further advised that Council may want to consider whether or not sea containers are something they want to see in the community.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECEIVES THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE DEVELOPMENT VARIANCE PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT AN 800 SQUARE FOOT GARAGE /STORAGE BUILDING IN FRONT OF THE PRINCIPLE BUILDING AND BEAUTIFYING HIS PROPERTY LOCATED AT 6369-12TH STREET, LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS N1/2 OF LOT 2, BLOCK A, D.L. 382, S.D.Y.D., PLAN 123, AT THE AUGUST 19TH REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING.

CARRIED.

b) Chief Financial Officer – Verbal Financial Report to July 31st , 2013

The Chief Financial Officer provided a budget operations overview and advised Council that:

- 58% of budget is used to date and the City is right on track in its general operations
- Fire department has used 58%
- Public works has used 52%
- Water fund including asset management has used 58%
- Sewer fund has used 56%
- Electrical has used 46%

MOTION: SMITH

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECEIVES THE VERBAL REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES OF THE CITY FROM JANUARY 1ST TO JULY 31ST, 2013 AND THE PRESENTATION OF THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER.

CARRIED.

C) Manager of Development and Engineering – Staff Memorandum – Trans Canada Trail Project

As per Council's request at the July 22nd COTW meeting the Manager of Development and Engineering has provided a report on the cost and resources of the City providing gravel base to the City portion of the trail.

Jenny Coleshill spoke with regard to the work being done around riparian areas and requested consideration be given to time of year and season in order to make sure nesting period's and such are not interfered with.

MOTION: SMITH

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE REPORT.

CARRIED.

REPORTS AND DISCUSSION:

a) Chief Administrative Officer – **Monthly Highlight Reports from Department Managers**

The Chief Administrative Officer provided an overview of Staff Activities for the month.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

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

CARRIED.

PROPOSED BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION:

a) Chief Financial Officer – **Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw**

Staff is preparing the Annual Tax Exemption Bylaw which needs to be adopted prior to October 31, 2013, in order that certain properties will receive tax exemption in 2014.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECOMMENDS TO COUNCIL TO GRANT APPROVAL FOR ALL 8 TAX EXEMPTION APPLICATIONS FOR INCLUSION IN THE 2014 ANNUAL TAX EXEMPTION BYLAW TO BE PRESENTED FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THE FIRST THREE READINGS AT THE SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2013 REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL.

CARRIED.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

NONE

LATE ITEMS:

The Mayor advised that there is a late item to be included on the agenda: there will be a presentation by the summer Interns; Valeria Flora Ramos and Priscilla Novello

The Interns spoke with regards to:

Projects worked on; Riparian areas, City Park, Urban Systems, LGMA and Selkirk College. They advised that they are pleased to have had the opportunity to develop their skills, upgrade curriculum network, and work in many disciplines. They thanked Council very much for the opportunity.

Councillor O'Doherty thanked the girls and Councillor Wyers spoke to the contribution the girls have made to the Environment Committee and riparian area research.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE RECIEVES THE REPORT FROM VALERIA FLORA RAMOS AND PRISCILLA NOVELLO AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED.

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.

Cassie Foxley and Devon Butterfield

They spoke with regard to an event that they are intending to host on September 21st in the downtown. The event will be in partnership with the Kettle Valley Food Coop and the Down Town Business Association on Market Street between Third Street and Fourth Street. They hope to sell tickets to 50-75 people for an evening that would include a festival of fall food paired with a local beer tasting event.

Les Johnson; He spoke to "What's up in Grand Forks Facebook page regarding having a Christmas tree in City Park erected. The Chief Administrative Officer advised that many communities have a tree light up included in the Santa Claus Parade.

Mr. Johnson further advised that the Car show was well attended with over 100 cars.

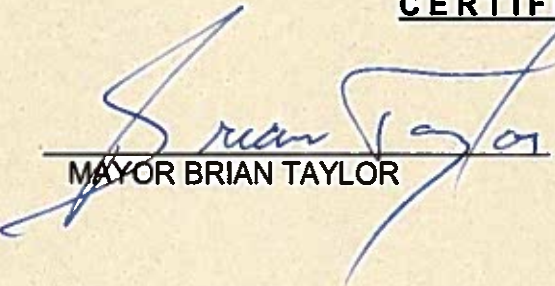
ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THIS COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AT 11:32PM.

CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


DEPUTY CORPORATE SECRETARY -
SARAH WINTON