

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL
MONDAY, JUNE 10TH, 2013

PRESENT: MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR
COUNCILLOR BOB KENDEL
COUNCILLOR PATRICK O'DOHERTY
COUNCILLOR GARY SMITH
COUNCILLOR MICHAEL WIRISCHAGIN
COUNCILLOR CHER WYERS

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER D. Allin
CORPORATE OFFICER D. Heinrich
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER R. Shepherd
MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT & S. Bird
ENGINEERING

GALLERY

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Amendments to the Agenda:

The Mayor advised that two items will be added to the agenda as a late item:

12 (a) A Development Permit for Shaw Cable systems Ltd.

12 (b) Council's referral from the June 10th Committee of the Whole for the Boundary Country Regional Chamber of Commerce's request for funding to the Regular Evening meeting

MOTION: SMITH / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT THE AGENDA OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, JUNE 10TH, 2013, BE ADOPTED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

MINUTES:

MOTION: KENDEL / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, MAY 21ST, 2013, BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED.

DELEGATION:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

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

Councillor Smith:

Councillor Smith reported on the following items:

- He reported on his attendance at an Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting on May 22nd along with Councillor Kendel
- He reported on his attendance at a Downtown Merchant Meeting on May 22nd and advised that the group had a discussion on ways that they can raise their profile in the community
- On May 28th, he reported meeting with Jenny Coleshill regarding a Wildlife Awareness program

MOTION: SMITH / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL AUTHORIZES COUNCILLORS SMITH AND KENDEL TO ATTEND THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF BC CONFERENCE FROM JUNE 23RD TO 26TH, 2013, IN VANCOUVER.

CARRIED.

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MOTION: SMITH / KENDEL

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL ALLOW FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$500 TO BE USED FOR PROMOTIONAL ITEMS INTENDED TO PROMOTE THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS THAT COUNCILLORS KENDEL AND SMITH WOULD BE TAKING WITH THEM TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF BC CONFERENCE IN VANCOUVER FROM JUNE 23RD TO 26TH, 2013.

CARRIED.

Councillor Kendel:

Councillor Kendel reported on the following items:

- He reported on his attendance at a May 22nd monthly Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting and advised that the committee is moving towards an in-depth marketing strategy and further, how the Branding initiative will be implemented.
 - He reported on his attendance at a May 29th – Boundary Country Regional Chamber of Commerce meeting in Greenwood and advised that the Chamber is working well together as a group. He further advised that he is looking forward to the Biz on Biz Social coming up the next couple of weeks.
 - He advised that the Boundary Museum Society has signed an agreement with the Heritage Society in order to take on a partnership with them to promote the Flour Mill for the upcoming season as a tourist attraction
 - Councillor Kendel commended both inside and outside staff for the tremendous work which was done in the last couple of months.
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Councillor Wyers:

Councillor Wyers reported on the following items:

- She spoke with regard to the May 23rd Public Open House that the City hosted at well number 3, and congratulated Hal Wright and his crew on a job well done
 - She spoke with regard to the Bike to Work Week from May 27 to June 2, and advised that the Trails Society took the forefront in this initiative.
 - On May 23rd, she reported on her attendance at an Innovative Solutions for Community workshop. She spoke with regard to the discussions which ensued at the workshop and especially that of the Rural BC Project.
 - She advised that she submitted an editorial with regard to Council's attendance at the FCM and spoke with regard to the very informative sessions. She advised that FCM represents all the local governments within Canada.
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Councillor O'Doherty:

Councillor O'Doherty reported on the following items:

- He reported on his attendance at the FCM Conference in Vancouver and spoke with regard to the informative sessions. He advised that he spoke with Minister Lavalle for a few minutes, and further commented on the sessions that he attended while at the conference.
- He reported on his attendance on May 23rd at the City Well Station open house as part of Water Week.
- He reported on his involvement with Music in the Park this year and advised that the performances were scheduled to start very soon

Councillor Wirischagin:

Councillor Wirischagin reported on the following items:

- He reported on his attendance at the FCM held in Vancouver and advised that it was very informative. He spoke with regard to a session that focused on ways to engage people under 35 to become interested in politics and commented that he really appreciated the information

Mayor Taylor:

The Mayor reported on the following items:

- The Mayor advised of his attendance at the Boundary Economic Development Committee meeting which was held this afternoon at the RDKB office.
- He advised that he is planning to meet with the Forestry Group later on this month. He further commented that he hopes to see some draft documentation with regard to forestry initiatives which are being developed that the group intends to present to the Province.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / SMITH

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 the Regional District Animal Control service is currently down but that the Regional District is accommodating emergency responses.
- The Mayor advised that the Regional District's Audited Statements were included in the agenda and asked if Council had any comments or questions

MOTION: SMITH / O'DOHERTY

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:

- a) Corporate Officer's Report – Lease extension of City owned property located in City Park – Senior Citizens Branch #68

Staff proposal for ratification of the Lease Renewal Agreement between the City of Grand Forks and the Grand Forks Seniors Branch #68

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / WYERS

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DETERMINES TO PROVIDE CORRESPONDENCE TO THE GRAND FORKS SENIOR BRANCH 68 ADVISING THEM OF THE CITY'S INTENT TO EXTEND THEIR LEASE FOR AN ADDITIONAL 10 YEARS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2014, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZES STAFF TO PROCEED WITH THE LEASE RENEWAL BETWEEN THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS AND THE GRAND FORKS SENIORS BRANCH 68 AT THE END OF THIS YEAR.

CARRIED.

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- b) Chief Financial Officer's Report – Convert Temporary Borrowing to Long Term Debt

Municipal Security Issuing Resolution

MOTION: WIRISCHAGIN / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF GRAND FORKS APPROVES BORROWING FROM THE MUNICIPAL FINANCE AUTHORITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, AS PART OF THEIR 2013 FALL ISSUE, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,756,920.09 AS AUTHORIZED THROUGH LOAN AUTHORIZATION BYLAW NO. 1873, "2009 SEWER UTILITY IMPROVEMENTS LOAN AUTHORIZATION", AND THAT THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY BE REQUESTED TO CONSENT TO THE CITY'S BORROWING OVER A TWENTY YEAR TERM AND INCLUDE THE BORROWING IN THEIR REGIONAL DISTRICT SECURITY ISSUING BYLAW.

CARRIED.

REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE:

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / SMITH

RESOLVED THAT INFORMATION ITEMS NUMBERED 10(a) TO 10(f) BE RECEIVED AND ACTED UPON AS RECOMMENDED AND/OR AS AMENDED. CARRIED.

- a) Seniors Branch 68 - Request for Letter of Support - **Council determines to provide a letter of support to the Grand Forks Seniors Branch 68 for their New**

Horizons Capital Assistance Funding Grant application for upgrades to the Seniors Hall heating system and exterior of the older section of the building.

MOTION: WYERS / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DETERMINES TO PROVIDE A LETTER SUPPORT TO THE GRAND FORKS SENIORS BRANCH 68 FOR THEIR NEW HORIZONS CAPITAL ASSISTANCE FUNDING GRANT APPLICATION FOR UPGRADES TO THE SENIORS HALL HEATING SYSTEM AND EXTERIOR OF THE OLDER SECTION OF THE BUILDING.

CARRIED.

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- b) Rural BC Project – RDKB - Request for Letter of Support. **Council determines to provide a letter of support in principle to the initiatives of the Rural BC Project to improve the sustainability of our rural communities.**

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / WYERS

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DETERMINES TO PROVIDE A LETTER OF SUPPORT, IN PRINCIPLE, TO THE INITIATIVE OF THE RURAL BC PROJECT INTENDING TO IMPROVE THE SUSTAINABILITY OF OUR RURAL COMMUNITIES.

CARRIED.

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- c) Grand Forks Flying Association COPA Flight 62 - Request for Insurance Coverage for the Grand Forks Flying Association –Airport Appreciation Day, Fly In Event on August 25th, 2013 at the Grand Forks Municipal Airport **Council agrees to officially sponsor the Airport Appreciation Day Fly-in.**

MOTION: WYERS / O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL AGREES TO OFFICIALLY SPONSOR AN AIRPORT APPRECIATION DAY FLY IN EVENT ON AUGUST 25TH, 2013, AS OUTLINED IN THE ATTACHED EVENT REQUEST FROM THE GRAND FORKS FLYING ASSOCIATION COPA (CANADIAN OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION) FLIGHT 62, AT THE GRAND FORKS MUNICIPAL AIRPORT.

CARRIED.

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- d) Interfor - Response regarding City Visit on noise concerns from the public. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- e) Perley Elementary - Thank You Card. **Recommend to receive for information.**
- f) Canada Post - Notice of intent to review and reduce the retail counters and services at existing Canada Post Outlets. **Recommend to receive for discussion.**
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BYLAWS:

- a) Chief Financial Officer – Bylaw No. 1952, a bylaw to amend the “City of Grand Forks Sewer Regulations and Rates Bylaw No. 1500”

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / KENDEL

**RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1952, CITED AS THE “City of Grand Forks Sewer Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 1952, 2013”, BE GIVEN FINAL READING.
CARRIED.**

Councillor Wirischagin voted against the motion.
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- b) Chief Financial Officer – Bylaw No. 1953, a bylaw to amend the “City of Grand Forks Water Regulations and Rates Bylaw No. 1501”

MOTION: KENDEL / SMITH

**RESOLVED THAT BYLAW NO. 1953, CITED AS THE “City of Grand Forks Water Regulations and Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 1953, 2015”, BE GIVEN FINAL READING.
CARRIED.**

Councillor Wirischagin voted against the motion.
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LATE ITEMS:

12(a) Application for Development Permit to attach a non-illuminated sign and change the color of the existing awning at 7474-19th Street

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / WIRISCHAGIN

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE RECOMMENDATION FROM STAFF AND APPROVES THE DEVELOPMENT PERMIT APPLICATION MADE BY PRIORITY PERMITS, AGENTS FOR THE PROPERTY OWNER, SHAW CABLE SYSTEMS LTD., FOR PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED AS LOT 1, DL 380, SDYD, PLAN KAP54160 LOCATED AT 7474 – 19TH STREET, SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH CITY BYLAWS, THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION'S REQUIREMENTS AND IN SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE PLANS PRESENTED WITH THE APPLICATION.

CARRIED.
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12(b) At the Committee of the Whole Meeting on June 10th, 2013, the Boundary Regional Chamber of Commerce made a presentation to Council requesting \$10,000 in funding for their services. Council resolved to refer the issue to the Regular Meeting in the evening.

MOTION: O'DOHERTY / WYERS

RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DETERMINES TO PROVIDE FUNDING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000 AS REQUESTED BY THE BOUNDARY COUNTRY REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING ON JUNE 10TH, 2013, AND FURTHER THAT COUNCIL APPROVES THE BUDGET AMENDMENT OF THE 2013-2017 FINANCIAL PLAN TO INCLUDE THE FUNDING AMOUNT TO BE FUNDED FROM GENERAL SURPLUS.

CARRIED.

Council advised that they had spoke at the Committee of the Whole Meeting with regard to a request for quarterly reports from the BCRCC, and was advised by Staff that the City will work with the organization in order to supply periodic reports to Council, and in addition to working with the group with regard to a modified Volunteer Evening as also discussed at the COTW in the morning.

QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

KATE RENNET & DORIS FEISHINER – The ladies spoke with regard to their horse and buggy rides proposal for the area and asked if Council would approve of their initiative and further if there are some approved “pick up” areas. Council advised that they thought it was a great idea and offered their support. Staff advised that they would work with the group to provide suitable pick up and drop off areas.

ROY RONAGHAN – He asked when the Grand Forks Entrance Signs were going to be installed and was advised that the installation was expected around the end of July. He further asked how the public would be informed with regard to the changes in the Bylaws that were presented at the COTW this morning. He was advised that there will be a public process prior to their adoption.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: O'DOHERTY

RESOLVED THAT THIS REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL BE ADJOURNED AT 8:05 P.M. CARRIED.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:


MAYOR BRIAN TAYLOR


CORPORATE OFFICER- DIANE HEINRICH

Councillor Wyers Report For June 10, 2013

May 23rd the City of Grand Forks under the excellent arrangements by Hal Wright and his team, held an open house at Well #3. Thank you on behalf of the Environment Committee for the event planning and the beginning of the City's education program on water conservation. Bike to Work Week followed on the heels from May 27 to June 2 and the Grand Forks Trail Society took the lead. No, I didn't get on my bike!!!!

May 23, 2013 I attended the Innovative Solutions For Rural Communities forum in Creston hosted by Columbia Basin Trust and Community Futures. The keynote speaker, Heidi Khokhar from Rural Development Initiatives, Oregon outlined Rural Development initiatives – The work Innovation: adapting to change. & applying inventions & improvements – the notion that doing something different as opposed to doing something the same but better!

She introduced the HomeTown Competiveness concept they developed in Oregon. It's bringing a comprehensive economic development strategy that builds on community assets and resources and is now seen in California and Western Idaho. HTC is a "Come-Back, Give-Back" approach that has brought amazing results to communities and has generated interest in rural communities in the Northwest USA. (www.rdiinc.org). There are four HTC pillars that form the basis for the structure of groups meeting in each HomeTown and guide the framework by which each region communicates and shares resources:

- 1) Building Local Leadership: that one outstanding individual in your community that can mobilize & organize diverse community capacity.
- 2) Expanding Community Philanthropy: To use charitable giving & endowment building made possible through the intergenerational transfer of wealth, as a tool for sustaining homegrown community & economic Development.
- 3) Energizing Entrepreneurship – to nurture & network residents who want to start or expand a business, creating local wealth & jobs.
- 4) Engaging Youth & Young Adults: To cultivate a sense of belonging, investment & community involvement so that remaining or returning home is seen as an attractive option, thereby stabilizing & growing the community into the future. You've got to make it fun & include their school councillors/peers and be aware of the fact that they are children.

Common Assets: HTC is built upon research indicating that vibrant rural communities have a few things in common and their assets are evident around the four pillar areas: ***"If you work to bring people together with knowledge & know-how in these four pillars and work to make each pillar shine, we're finding a synergy is created among them resulting in increased vitality"*** the RDI Senior program Manager stated. Built into the framework is the ability for HomeTowns to be connected across a region to share PRIORITIES, KNOWLEDGE & RESOURCES when appropriate. There was reference to look up the Stanford Innovation center – collective impact model and the Hartford Nebraska Center. And a key site is **Wealthworks** (<http://wealthworks.org/>) – Rural Development that Works. Started in 2008, a group implemented this model in extreme poverty areas in the Deep South, Central Appalachia and the Lower Rio Grande regions of the U.S. The comparison was the creation of value chains – a business model based on shared economic, social & environmental values in which producers, processors, buyers, and others work together to create value

& meet market demand. All too often, people in rural places do not have an easy access to mainstream markets, the know-how to contact buyers or how to determine potential markets.

Gord Borgstrom from the Province of BC spoke to Building Successful Rural Development Projects through the work of 3 Beetle Action Coalitions in BC. Rural Economic Dev. is defined by less than 15,000 people in a cluster of small communities.

Back in 2008, SIBAC COMMENCED ITS LONG TERM PLAN FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT, "Reversing the Tide OF RURAL DECLINE: - The Pathway to Prosperity in British Columbia Runs through its Rural Place was released in early 2013 followed by the RURAL BC PROJECT. The message is: QUOTE: Rural areas must learn to collaborate in order to compete – you can no longer base your 21st century future on a 20th century playbook."

Mark Drabenscott, Director for Regional Competitiveness, University of Missouri-Columbia since 2006, is a seasoned observer of regional development and policy issues whose insights have gained national and international recognition.

The Center helps regions craft world-class development strategies for competing in the global economic race. The Center's products help regions understand where they stand in that race, diagnose their new competitive advantage, and sustain innovative models of regional governance. We need external expertise to assist us but it must be relevant to our rural communities.

Example: Bulk up for Change – sub-region combine their woodlots (Community Forests) to make all the small lots ONE BIGGER IDENTITY THAT CAN AFFECT CHANGE.

The BC Rural Project – Rural BC is 95% of the landmass in BC,

"If We Get Rural BC Healthy We Get BC Healthy" – Grace McGregor, Area C Director - Regional District of Kootenay Boundary.

We see this recognition at the FCM level—look up "Rural Matters Initiatives."

The Rural BC Project is asking for local government support in lobbying the provincial government to develop a Rural BC strategy. Alberta, Manitoba & Quebec governments have developed a rural lens where provincial ministries must reflect rural vision in policies. There are models out there for us to look at. Each community will be looking at it for different needs and Community Futures throughout BC will be playing a key role in this regard.

In Collaboration, the Columbia Basin Rural Development Initiative has provided a CONSULTATION PACKAGE for feedback from Grand Forks that I will provide to our CAO for Council's feedback.

GRAND FORKS JOINS MUNICIPAL LEADERS FROM ACROSS CANADA TO DISCUSS NEW FEDERAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING ANNOUNCED IN BUDGET 2013

Grand Forks local Government was one of close to 2,000 represented officials from across the country attending the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' (FCM) Annual Conference and Trade show in Vancouver where discussion on the new infrastructure funding announced in the 2013 federal budget dominated the six day event from May 31 to June

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2013. FCM President Karen Leibovici presented The State of Canada's Cities and Communities in 2013 outlining how federal-municipal relations have evolved over the past 20 years and the proposed new framework that would make municipalities a full partner in resolving many of Canada's challenges. Participating in FCM's Annual Conference is a chance for municipal leaders to learn from experts and their peers, connect with their municipal colleagues across Canada, and influence federal decision-making on critical issues that affect municipalities.

Three President's Forums were held throughout the conference with the first lively discussion from the invited panel identified that the driving change in Canada is coming from Local governments. "It strongly identified that FCM was representing it's members when given the infrastructure challenge faced by many municipality across this country and

lobbying the Federal Government for a long term plan and achieving measurable results," stated Councillor Cher Wyers. In the year's federal budget, the government announced it would invest \$50 billion over the next 10 years to build better local roads, bridges and water systems. By taking part in the conference, delegates found out how their communities can access new federal infrastructure funding and help influence the design of federal programs so they meet local needs. With FCM being invited to be involved in the development of new housing and infrastructure policies, it recognizes the importance of a continued partnership with the municipal sector.

When FCM members endorse a policy at the conference, the federal government listens. An example of this was the decision to index the Gas Tax Transfer, the first indexing of a municipal transfer that will add another \$9 billion to the permanent gas tax fund over 20 years. Delegates speak for local governments representing over 90 per cent of Canada's population. Because of its influence and credibility, "Attending the conference gave credibility to the hard work local governments engage in each day," Councillor Wyers remarked, "and hearing that we are not alone in the challenges." FCM has successfully advanced the interests of cities and communities - from the GST refund to the indexing of the Gas Tax Fund, and the new federal infrastructure investments announced in Budget 2013.

The FCM Annual Conference also provided an opportunity to hear from national political leaders, Thomas Mulcair-NDP, Justin Trudeau-Liberals, Elizabeth May-Green party and Minister James Moore - Federal Conservatives on where they stand on the priorities and concerns of cities and communities. "Through the conference Trade Show, we were able to see other communities best practices, hear from experts, and discover new technologies and innovations that could be beneficial to our community," stated Wyers, adding, "it was an empowering experience being a part of this conference and bringing back the FCM message to our taxpayers that there is constructive collaboration happening between the many levels of government that make up Canada."

Submitted by Councillor Cher Wyers
City of Grand Fork
June 10, 2013