

SPRINKLING REGULATIONS ARE NOW IN EFFECT:

Sprinkling shall be restricted to the following days and times:
"EVEN" numbered civic addresses may sprinkle on "even" numbered days (02,04,06,etc)
"ODD" numbered civic addresses may sprinkle on "odd" numbered days (01,03,05,etc)

MANUAL SPRINKLERS
 From 7:00 am until 9:00 am And
 From 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm

On the 31st day of any month:
MANUAL SPRINKLERS:
"EVEN" numbered civic addresses may
 sprinkle in the mornings from:
 From 7:00 am until 9:00 am
 And **"ODD"** numbered civic addresses may
 sprinkle in the evening from:
 From 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm

City Parks & Cemetery will adhere to the same
 numbers of hours as residential sprinkling.

Flower, vegetable gardens and newly planted
 lawns & landscapes may be hand watered at
any time using a hand held nozzle.
ie. No manual sprinklers.

The City has authority to shut water off at the
 property line to those residents refusing to
 comply with sprinkling regulations.
 The first offense will result in a warning letter.
 The second offense will result in your water
 being shut off.
 A reconnection fee of \$50.00 will be required
 before your water is reconnected.

AUTOMATIC TIMED UNDERGROUND SPRINKLERS
 EITHER From Midnight until 4:00 am
 OR From 7:00 am until 9:00 am
 AND From 7:00 pm until 9:00 pm
 BUT NOT BOTH

On the 31st day of any month:
AUTOMATIC TIMED UNDERGROUND SPRINKLERS:
 EITHER From Midnight until 4:00 AM OR
"EVEN" numbered civic addresses may sprinkle in the
 mornings from: 7:00AM to 9:00AM
"ODD" numbered civic addresses may sprinkle in the
 evening from: 7:00PM to 9:00 PM
 BUT NOT BOTH

**FOR NEW PLANTED LAWNS
 AND LANDSCAPES FIRST MONTH ONLY**
 Newly planted lawns & landscapes may be sprinkled
 twice a day everyday from 7:00 AM- 9:00 AM &
 7:00 PM-9:00 PM for the FIRST MONTH using either
 manual sprinklers or automatic timed underground
 sprinklers.
 Automatic timed systems can be used to water up to 5
 minutes per zone at a time, with total watering time NOT
 to exceed 4 hours. Newly planted lawns and landscapes
 may be hand watered using a hand held nozzle at any
 time i.e. No manual sprinklers

PUBLIC MEETINGS DATES AND LOCATIONS

GRAND FORKS SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY PLAN MEETINGS

LOCATED AT SENIOR'S CENTRE HALL IN CITY PARK

Friday, May 9th, 2008

5:30 PM TO 6:30 PM—STEERING COMMITTEE

6:30 PM TO 8:30 PM—COMMUNITY MEETING

- Introduction to Land Use Planning
- Review of current Grand Forks OCP Policies
- Comparing the Policies to the 8 Sustainability Goals
- Establishing framework for small group policy discussions on Saturday

Saturday, May 10th, 2008

9:00 AM TO 5:00 PM—COMMUNITY MEETING

- 9:00 am & 10:15 am Small Group Policy Discussions 4-5 Groups w/Reports Back
- 11:15 am—Large Group—Summarize & Consolidate policies, identify linkages & conflicts, priorities and timing
- 12:00 pm Lunch Break
- 12:30 pm—Mapping Exercise
- 1:30 pm—Report Back—linking the policies to the mapping
- Early Success Project (Pomegranate)
- 3:00 pm -Site Visits (Town Centre, City Park, Black Train Bridge)
- 3:30 pm—Early Success Discussion
- 4:45 pm—Wrap up Discussion

NOTICE OF COMMUNITY

COUNCIL MEETING

ON TUESDAY, MAY 20TH, 2008

Located at Senior's Centre Hall in City Park

Starts at 7:00 PM

Council welcomes all residents to attend
 and to provide feedback to Council on
 community issues.
 Resident's participation is important to this
 Council

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENING

AT OMEGA RESTAURANT

On September 16th, 2008

All Volunteers are invited to attend.
 Detailed Information & Times to Follow

Submissions for Nominations
 will be accepted at City Hall

CITY OF GRAND FORKS

MAY-JUNE 2008

INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

WATER PRICING

Many of our ratepayers purchase bottled water in retail stores, corner stores and at gas stations while travelling and on other occasions. The price for a 500 ml [1/10 of a gallon] bottle varies from as low as 60 cents [\$0.06 per gallon] to as high as \$1.25 [\$0.125 per gallon] with taxes included. Consider the price of water the city provides at \$330 per year. A residential property consumes on average 1400 cubic meters of water annually or equivalent to 280,000 gallons. The current delivered price is \$330 a year or about \$0.0012 per gallon. Three components make up the pricing structure of delivered water. (1) Availability: Water is available whether it is being used or not. Available for fire protection and all other on demand uses. To make water available requires incurrence of major capital and debt expenditures up front. This is recovered over a term of 15 to 20-years. The capital and debt provide the development and rehabilitation of existing wells, water mains, distribution lines to each property, pressure valves and stations, hydrants located strategically and reservoir to balance pressure in the overall system. Every property in the city including multiple folio properties in stratas and apartment units must share into this component. All ratepayers are part of the city's system including residents who have own wells. Private wells do not provide water for fire fighting. Insurance Underwriters provide property owners lower premiums due to availability of nearby fire hydrants. New subdivisions coming on line must pay over and above the required charge if they place additional cost burden and more water demand on the system so that existing ratepayers are not charged for the cost and the expansion of the system. (2) Actual use. Use is commonly measured by meters. Unfortunately not every property has meters. The city established two property classification system. Commercial and Residential. Prop-

erties classified commercial, industrial and city parks are metered. Residential properties including residential properties in strata complexes eligible for provincial home owner grant and rental residential properties in individuals' names are charged a flat rate. The actual use component is based on the cost of power to run wells, chlorination of the water, maintenance and replacement for equipment and parts arising from constant running of wells, cleaning of lines and reservoirs. As the water system runs 24/7-365 days a year in year out, the greater is the cost. (3) Management, Administration and Legislative: This involves record keeping, billing, ratepayer inquiries, compliance with legislation, employees training to receive certification in compliance with legislation to manage water system in accordance with the health requirements, meter reading, mailing, computer software and hardware that runs billing and monitoring systems, postage and paper. Every invoiced account/ folio must share in this component.

The *Community Charter legislation* requires the City to provide to the ratepayers the cost of providing service. We can't bury or hide the cost of water into the property tax. Water System is a stand alone "company" in the City. It has its own ratepayers. Ratepayers support the entire system. There are no other sources of income to operate the system other than the rate imposed. The City ensures that the rate charged is fair and equitable to all ratepayers of the system. There is only one "product" sold—water. It cannot have different pricing systems for different ratepayers. There is only one differential in the pricing structure. It is the actual use component. In the past there were a number of preferential water rates. All preferential rates have been eliminated. All ratepayers within a similar classification system are treated the same. In the next newsletter the pricing for sanitary sewer will be explained.

CONSOLIDATED UTILITY BILLS

ERRORS & OMISSIONS
 The City acknowledges that there are errors on **"some"** of the February 28, 2008 consolidated billings and advise that adjustments are currently being processed. All ratepayers are requested to review their bills and contact the City with any concerns. There will be no penalties assessed against any errors discovered. It should be noted that the bi-monthly charges for a single family residence are as follows:
 \$55.00 total for water;
 \$61.00 total for sewer; and
 \$16.00 for garbage.

ARE YOU ON AN EQUAL OR PRE-AUTHORIZED PAYMENT PLAN?

As the water, sewer and garbage charges have now been consolidated with your bi-monthly electrical bill, your current payment may not be sufficient to cover the combined charges. As part of this consolidation, it should be noted that the payment plans on the obsolete annual water, sewer & garbage accounts, have been discontinued.

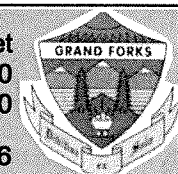
In order to lessen the risk of a December 31st shortfall on your account, the City recommends that you come into City Hall and update your current payment plan.

7217— 4th Street
 Box 220
 Grand Forks, BC. V0H 1H0

Phone: 250-442-8266

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Email: info@grandforks.ca



We are on the Web!

CITY OF GRAND FORKS

GYRO PARK PROJECT UPDATE AND PARKING CHANGES

There is no change in name of the park. The First Phase of the Park Improvement will be fully operational by middle of June 2008. This Phase includes making the Park a public centre piece in the downtown core. New turf, plants and flowers are components of the revitalized Gyro Park. Flag Poles to display Canada and Provincial Flags, lighting and walkways have been added. Display buildings have been retained. Displays are to be reorganized in a theme depicting the heritage of the Community. This process will be done by those who are versed in the history and culture of the Community. In the second phase displays buildings are to be improved removing meshed wire and replacing with plexi-glass and improving the display buildings. One paved parking lot has been created at the back of the Library Building. Access to this parking lot is provided through the Post Office property. The City obtained Right of Way from Canada Post Corporation. Parking on 5th Street from 73rd Avenue and 5th Street intersection to

Central Avenue will be removed from the street. Parking will not be allowed close to the library building. This area is pedestrian only and part of the Gyro Park extension. Another paved parking lot is provided at the former Court House property. Over sized vehicles and large vehicle such as Recreational Vehicles and Trucks must park at the City's lot at the intersection of 73rd and 6th Street. A paved walkway is provided to access the museum, art gallery, visitors information centre, library, post-office and Gyro Park. Additional Parking is also provided in the City parking lot between the new circuit court building and New Century Restaurant.

OTHER PROJECT IMPROVEMENTS

Campground: 1st Phase: Installation of water, sewer and electrical to each site. Landscaping and improvements to tenting areas including providing hot water to tenters. Price is increased as well to recover the cost of improvements from users over a reasonable period of time.

Play areas: 1st Phase: Automated Irrigation system installation to conserve water and reduce the cost burden on the water system, a volley ball court and beach improvement.

Park Stage/Band Shell: 1st Phase is expected to commence in September 2008 and completed by November 2008. The stage is a component of the Lift Station and Washroom improvement funded by the Province, Federal Government and the City on one third basis. The project cost is \$900,000 and 2/3rds of the funds come from the Province and the Federal Government. \$546,000 was approved in Grant.

Lighting of walkways: Lights have been installed on the walkway in the park and further lighting will also be installed.

The subsequent phases of the City Park Improvement will be subject to grant announcement expected before Junly 27/08.

CENTRAL AVENUE; ADDITIONAL CITY WORKS IMPROVEMENTS

Ministry of Transportation and the City of Grand Forks wish to improve the safety and capacity of Highway 3 through Grand Forks and intersections with City streets at 19th St. and Donaldson Drive. In conjunction with the paving of the arterial, there are other related City street improvements required. These include, completion of street lighting, a dedicated right turn from 19th St. for west bound Highway 3 traffic to improve safety including changes to traffic signals, as well as construction of a pedestrian/ bicycle pathway between Spraggett Rd. and 25th St. and other pedestrian safety miscellaneous works along the Central Avenue. The estimated cost is \$500,000. Council is **contemplating** (item not presented for a formal vote of Council as yet) submitting this component of the Project for approval of the Electors. If 10% of the City's elector's object in a prescribed form provided by the City upon an approved Council Bylaw, this project will not proceed. The approval must be in place prior to July 31st, 2008. The cost to the taxpayer is expected to be \$20 per residential property. If this project is not done in conjunction with the Ministry of Transportation paving program, it will not be done for another 10 to 15 years when the Ministry again does the paving. By that time, the cost will have increased. It is an opportunity for the resident electors to consider for an additional \$20 annually over the next 10 years.

BLACK TRAIN BRIDGE & RIGHT OF WAYS

CP Rail and the City are continuing discussion on the donation of the bridge, properties and right of ways from Central Avenue to the bridge. This project is expected to be completed by October 31st, 2008.

WESTSIDE WATER & RESERVOIR: GRANT

For years the issue of west side reservoir has been discussed by various Councils of the day. This council took steps to undertake the expansion. Grant application & preliminary engineering work was done. Unfortunately, the Province does not consider the grant application for expansion purposes. The expansion needs are to be met by existing ratepayers. If the City were to proceed with the expansion, the existing ratepayers must approve a capital funding requirement of \$4.5 million. Based on a 25 year payback of the money borrowed, it means the rate must increase by \$200. per property.

AIR QUALITY WEBSITE

For the first time, citizens of the Boundary can check the air quality in real time and see how it compares to other communities in the Kootenays and in the province. The data also contains historical information of past air quality as well as giving the Air Quality Index or health rating of air quality conditions. The web address is: <http://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/aqiis/air.summary> and scroll down to Grand Forks City Hall and select it. You may also access this site through the Boundary Air Quality Page which is: <http://www.city.grandforks.bc.ca/air/> and select "Live TEOM Data".

CONSERVATION AND GRANT CONSIDERATION

The emphasis is to conserve water before senior levels of government will consider grant to fund expansions and improvements. Unfortunately, the City has not been able to demonstrate the reduction in water consumption through conservation measures. To achieve that result, the city must be able to shut one or more of wells and have them on a standby. The City encourages ratepayers to practice conservation. There must be a demonstrated reduction in water use from one year to the next. There is no unlimited supply of quality nitrate free ground water in the City.

VANDALISM AND GRAFFITI

Increased vandalism and graffiti is taking place in the City. Just consider the cost of replacing signage vandalized and properties defaced. The costs to repair and remove graffiti is a direct cost to the taxpayers. Vandalism and graffiti work detracts city crews from doing other meaningful work to enhance the city's attraction. Last year patrols in the City park and neighbourhoods helped however, it is not sufficient to curb the incidents of vandalism and graffiti. Last year the City spent \$85,800.00 in vandalism and patrols. These are costs charged to the property owners in the city. You can help to control these types of costs. Report acts of vandalism and graffiti. Individuals committing these types of acts are residents of this community.

COMPARATIVE PROPERTY TAX RATE SUMMARY FOR 2008

City of Grand Forks
2007-2008 Property Tax Rates Bylaw 1859

Property Class	Description	General Municipal		Regional Hospital		Regional District of Kootenay Boundary	
		(Dollars of tax per \$1,000 taxable assessed value)					
		2007	2008	2007	2008	2007	2008
1	Residential	3.07690	2.46530	0.42246	0.33550	2.03888	1.67620
2	Utility	34.00000	34.00000	1.47862	1.17440	7.13606	5.86660
4	Major Industry	46.72600	50.59440	1.43639	1.14080	6.93218	5.69890
5	Light Industry	12.50000	11.51500	1.43639	1.14080	6.93218	5.69890
6	Business/Other	10.59000	9.47430	1.03504	0.82200	4.99524	4.10660
8	Rec/Non-Profit	7.50000	6.00000	0.42246	0.33550	2.03888	1.67620
9	Farm	7.50000	6.00000	0.42246	0.33550	2.03888	1.67620

PROPERTY TAX NOTICE

The City sends out one consolidated property tax notice on behalf of these local governments and agencies.

City of Grand Forks: Municipal works and services plus the parcel tax excluding water, sewer and garbage. The electrical credit is applied against the municipal tax only. This is the only amount the City retains and is accountable directly to the taxpayers of the City of Grand Forks.

Regional District of Kootenay Boundary (RDKB): Governance, planning, animal control, building inspection, economic development, waste disposal, recycling,

arena, aquatic centre, library and curling rink. This is a joint service with municipalities and electoral areas of RDKB. Arena and aquatic centre is a joint service with Electoral Area D and Grand Forks. Curling Rink and Library is a joint service with Electoral Areas C, D and Grand Forks. School District: school tax assessed by the Province of BC. Partly offset by the Provincial Home Owner Grant. Any unused home owner grant is applied against the municipal tax

Policing: Assessed by the Province for providing RCMP contracted police service in the City of Grand Forks, Electoral Area C and D of RDKB.

Hospital: Hospital tax covers the entire West Kootenay to provide capital funding for buildings and equipment up to 40% cost sharing with the Province of BC for all hospitals and Interior Health managed facilities in the region.

BC Assessment Authority: The tax is levied to provide assessment service to all local governments in the Province.

Municipal Finance Authority: This tax is levied to provide all locals governments in BC financing of projects for water, sewer, roads, transit, equipment and buildings.

This year's notices should be sent out the end of May, 2008.

CENTRAL AVENUE PAVING

City Council successfully lobbied the Provincial Government to have the Central Avenue paved. The Province allocated the funding in the 2008/09 Provincial Budget released last month. The City and Ministry of Transportation are collaborating on the scheduling of the paving. Central Avenue pavement project is from Spraggett Street to the Bridge. The pavement project is part of a larger paving project extending to projects outside of City Boundaries. Smaller paving projects will occur first. Central Avenue paving is expected to commence in the Fall of 2008. Timing of the paving is subject to the schedule of availability of contractors. Project planning is underway.

PETS, WALKWAYS AND PARKS

Be a responsible pet owner. This means picking after your pets. With the weather improving, there is increased use of city parks, playgrounds & walkways. Dog feces & users do not mix. Be considerate of the health aspect of others. Pick up after your pets. A few pet owners let their pets run at large during late evening hours when it is dark.. There will be increased patrols & dogs running at large will be picked up. Be responsible & have your pets on leash and under control at all times in public areas.

CARBON TAX IMPLICATIONS FOR THE CITY

Provincial Government indicated carbon neutrality when a carbon tax was introduced. It lowered income and corporate taxes and intends to issue \$100 one-time cheque to individuals. Unfortunately the City does not pay income and corporate tax. There is no carbon neutrality to the City. It is estimated that over the next 5 years this will cost the City \$150,000 . This will be a flow through to the property tax in the future unless the Province provides an offsetting grant to the City. Your Council made the presentation too the Association of Kootenay Boundary Municipalities to seek off set funding from the Province to make the City neutral from the carbon tax.

PROVINCIALCIRCUIT COURT LEASE

A long term lease commitment has been received from the Province. The original lease was signed on the old court house building with option to renew commencing April 1st, 2008. This has been renewed at the new location. Further renewal terms are incorporated in the lease with no option to cancel on a short-term basis. The cost to renovate the new circuit court was \$700,000. with improvements of \$100,000 up front cash funded by the Province. The remaining cost recovery is done over the Term of the lease commencing from April 1st, 2008. The funds recovered are put back into the Reserve Account. It is similar to a mortgage payment.