



**The Corporation of the City of Grand Forks**  
**Regular Meeting of Council**  
**MINUTES**

**Meeting #:** R-2018-01  
**Date:** Monday, January 15, 2018, 7:00 pm  
**Location:** 7217 - 4th Street, City Hall Council Chambers

**Present:** Mayor Frank Konrad  
Councillor Julia Butler  
Councillor Chris Hammett  
Councillor Neil Krog  
Councillor Colleen Ross  
Councillor Christine Thompson  
Councillor Beverley Tripp

**Staff:** Diane Heinrich - Chief Administrative Officer - interim /  
Corporate Officer  
Daniel Drexler - Deputy Corporate Officer  
Juliette Rhodes - Chief Financial Officer (until 9:43 pm)  
David Reid - Manager of Operations (until 9:10 pm)  
David Bruce - Manager of Inspection & Bylaw Services  
Dale Heriot - Fire Chief (until 9:10 pm)

**GALLERY**

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Konrad called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

a. Adopt agenda

Monday, January 15, 2018, Regular Meeting agenda

The agenda was amended to include two late items:

12.a. "Whispers of Hope / BETHS Lease - Notice of Motion"

12.b. "Grand Forks and District Transit Service"

**Resolution #: R001/18/01/15**

Moved by: Ross

Seconded by: Butler

**THAT the agenda be amended to include item 12.a. "Whispers of Hope / BETHS Lease - Notice of Motion" and item 12.b. "Grand Forks and District Transit Service" as late items.**

**Carried**

**Resolution #: R002/18/01/15**

Moved by: Krog

Seconded by: Ross

**THAT Council adopts the January 15, 2018, Regular Meeting agenda as amended.**

**Carried**

**3. MINUTES**

a. Adopt minutes - Special to go In-Camera

November 23, 2017, Special to go In-Camera Meeting minutes

**Resolution #: R003/18/01/15**

Moved by: Tripp

Seconded by: Krog

**THAT Council adopts the November 23, 2017, Special to go In-Camera Meeting minutes as presented.**

**Carried**

- b. Adopt minutes - COTW

December 11, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes

**Resolution #: R004/18/01/15**

Moved by: Ross

Seconded by: Krog

**THAT Council adopts the December 11, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes as presented.**

**Carried**

- c. Adopt minutes - Regular

December 11, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes

**Resolution #: R005/18/01/15**

Moved by: Ross

Seconded by: Thompson

**THAT Council adopts the December 11, 2017, Regular Meeting minutes as presented.**

**Carried**

**4. REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS**

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**6. REPORTS, QUESTIONS AND INQUIRIES FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

- a. Written Reports of Council

Corporate Officer's Report

Discussion ensued regarding Councillor Tripp's AKBLG resolutions:

- changes proposed to replace ADAG (assistant Deputy Attorney General) with Provincial Governments in 2 resolutions
- members of Council thanked Councillor Tripp for all the work she put in into crafting the resolutions and background information
- process to approach federal government with potential resolutions
- process for adoption of the AKBLG

Councillor Hammett gave a verbal update regarding DBA meetings as well as a request for a face to face round table discussion between Council and the board of the DBA.

The three motions brought forward by Councillor Tripp in her report were adopted as amended with a single resolution and staff was instructed to:

- communicate with AKBLG and other BC local governments for endorsement and support
- draft a letter to the federal government to ask for the ability for the RCMP of BC to lay charges, similar as in other provinces

Amended Motion No. 1:

**WHEREAS the Provincial Government is committed to improving access to justice and the courts, and appoints and pays judges for the courts;**

**AND WHEREAS rural communities typically make do with a part-time circuit judge once a month, while hundreds of millions of dollars has been allocated to improving court access in urban centers;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Provincial Government mandate increased access to the courts in rural BC by providing a bi-monthly circuit court judge so that routine court matters may be dealt with in a more expedient manner.**

Motion No. 2

**WHEREAS property crime rates have increased throughout the province, and the more borderline criminal cases are not going to trial because crown counsel resources are stretched too thin;**

**AND WHEREAS it is the Crown Counsel who lays charges and prosecutes in criminal matters;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Provincial Government increase the number of Crown Counsel lawyers to adequate levels to keep better pace with the growing criminal caseload.**

Amended Motion No. 3

**WHEREAS the criminal justice system is a foundation of Canadian society that plays an important part in maintaining a just, peaceful and safe society;**

**AND WHEREAS in BC, police do not have authority to lay charges as in other provinces, and unlike other provinces, the BC Crown Counsel requires a “*substantial likelihood of conviction*” criteria for laying charges;**

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Provincial Government drop the burden of proof criteria for Crown Counsel in the laying of criminal charges from a “*substantial likelihood of conviction*,” to a “*reasonable likelihood of conviction*.”**

**Resolution #: R006/18/01/15**

Moved by: Tripp

Seconded by: Butler

**THAT all written reports of Council submitted to the January 15, 2018, Regular Meeting be received.**

**Carried**

**Resolution #: R007/18/01/15**

Moved by: Butler

Seconded by: Krog

**THAT Council adopts the three resolutions brought forward in Councillor Tripp's report as amended; FURTHER THAT staff forward the resolutions province wide to local governments to gain support and endorsement; AND FURTHER THAT staff draft a letter to**

**the federal government regarding the ability of the RCMP of British Columbia to be able to directly lay charges to align with other provinces.**

**Carried**

**7. REPORT FROM COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE REGIONAL DISTRICT OF KOOTENAY BOUNDARY**

**a. Verbal Report - RDKB Representative**

Corporate Officer's Report

Verbal report from Council's representative to the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary

Read the RDKB agendas here:

<https://rdkb.civicweb.net/filepro/documents/314>

Mayor Konrad gave a verbal update regarding:

- asset management implementation
- BC transit
- OCP changes from Grand Forks were presented and accepted

**Resolution #: R008/18/01/15**

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Butler

**THAT Mayor Konrad's report on the activities of the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary, given verbally at this meeting be received.**

**Carried**

**8. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM STAFF FOR DECISIONS**

**a. Policy 801 Revised - Bank Signing Authority**

Chief Financial Officer

**Resolution #: R009/18/01/15**

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Butler

**THAT Council approves the revised Bank Signing Authority Policy 801 version 2.**

**Carried**

b. 2017 Capital Project Carryover and Scope Change

Outside Works

The Manager of Operations gave a brief update on the capital fleet replacement cost savings and planned purchases.

Brief discussion ensued regarding:

- CCTV camera age and problems
- possibility of postponing purchases

**Resolution #: R010/18/01/15**

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Tripp

**THAT Council approves the change in scope of the 2017 fleet acquisition capital projects to include the purchase of a hydroseeder and a CCTV sewer camera.**

**Carried**

9. **REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE**

10. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

a. Memo - Homeless Hub Petition

Corporate Services

**Resolution #: R011/18/01/15**

Moved by: Krog

Seconded by: Tripp

**THAT Council receives for information the memo regarding a petition for the proposed BETHS Homeless Hub.**

**Carried**

b. Grand Forks RCMP Detachment

Mayors Report - Quarterly Crime Statistics

Brief discussion ensued regarding:

- thank you to RCMP for forwarding off the report
- report statistics comparison year over year

**Resolution #: R012/18/01/15**

Moved by: Butler

Seconded by: Tripp

**THAT Council receives for information the Grand Forks RCMP Detachment Quarterly Crime Statistics Report.**

**Carried**

c. City of West Kelowna

Request for local governments to share in Cannabis Tax Revenue

Brief discussion ensued regarding similar letter from another municipality that was previously endorsed. Council continues endorsement for this topic.

**Resolution #: R013/18/01/15**

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Butler

**THAT Council receives for information and discussion from the City of West Kelowna the request for local governments to share in**



**Cannabis Tax Revenue and to determine if the City of Grand Forks should send a letter of support.**

**Carried**

d. Grand Forks International Baseball Tournament Society

Letter of request for a Special Occasion Liquor Licence from June 26 - July 2, 2018, during the GFI

Councillor Hammett recused herself at 7:37 pm as she is on the board of the GFI.

Brief discussion ensued regarding dates and times of the event.

**Resolution #: R014/18/01/15**

Moved by: Butler

Seconded by: Krog

**THAT Council approves the issuing of a Special Occasion Liquor Licence to the Grand Forks International Baseball Tournament Society from June 26-July 2, 2018, from 11:00 am-11:00 pm (depending on projected end time of last game), at James Donaldson Park, subject to obtaining third party (party alcohol) liability insurance naming the City of Grand Forks as an additional insured on that policy; all event liquor providers to hold a Serving It Right Licence Certificate; and ICBC "Drinking and Driving" warning posters to be displayed.**

**Carried**

e. Grand Forks Snow-Pitch Tournament

Requesting permission for a Special Occasion Liquor Licence from January 27-28, 2018, at Dick Bartlett Park for the first snow-pitch tournament.

Councillor Hammett re-joined the meeting at 7:38 pm.

**Resolution #: R015/18/01/15**

Moved by: Butler

Seconded by: Tripp

**THAT Council approves the issuing of a Special Occasion Liquor Licence to the Grand Forks Snow-Pitch Tournament for January 27 from 10am-10pm and January 28 from 10am-6pm, 2018, at Dick Bartlett Park, subject to obtaining third party (party alcohol) liability insurance naming the City of Grand Forks as an additional insured on that policy; all event liquor providers to hold a Serving It Right Licence Certificate; and ICBC "Drinking and Driving" warning posters to be displayed.**

**Carried**

**11. BYLAWS**

- a. Bylaw 1682 Exception - Recreational and Off Highway Vehicles

Corporate Services

Brief discussion ensued regarding the section of trail to be utilized for the event.

**Resolution #: R016/18/01/15**

Moved by: Krog

Seconded by: Hammett

**THAT Council grants an exception to Bylaw No. 1682 granting motorized All Terrain Vehicles for the Grand Forks ATV Club access to a portion of the Trans Canada Trail through City Park for the Family Day 2018 event on February 10, 2018, between the hours of 10:30am and 2:00pm.**

**Carried**

- b. Bylaw 1958-A3 - to amend Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1958

Chief Financial Officer

Discussion ensued regarding:

- pit meter costs and charges

- overall water rates changes based on options chosen by Council at COTW
- sewer residential charges and increases
- no increases to sewer rates since 2016
- 3% increase for sewer rates year over year to catch up as per asset management policy as well as balancing of charges based on comparison between residential and commercial customers

**Resolution #: R017/18/01/15**

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Krog

**THAT Council gives first three readings to the “Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 1958-A3, 2018” and directs staff to present the bylaw for final reading at the January 29th, 2018 Regular Meeting.**

Opposed (2): Butler, and Tripp

**Carried**

- c. Bylaw 1974-A2 - to amend Sewer Regulations Bylaw No. 1974, 2014  
Chief Financial Officer

**Resolution #: R018/18/01/15**

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Krog

**THAT Council gives first three readings to the “Sewer Regulations Amendment Bylaw No. 1974-A2, 2018” and directs staff to present the bylaw for final reading at the January 29, 2018 Regular Meeting.**

**Carried**

- d. Bylaw 1973-A3 - to amend Water Regulations Bylaw No. 1973-A1  
Chief Financial Officer

**Resolution #: R019/18/01/15**

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Krog

**THAT Council gives first three readings to the “Water Regulations Amendment Bylaw No. 1973-A3, 2018” and directs staff to present the bylaw for final reading at the January 29, 2018 Regular Meeting.**

**Carried**

**12. LATE ITEMS**

a. Whispers of Hope / BETHS Lease - Notice of Motion

Notice of Motion by Councillor Ross

Councillor Ross read a prepared statement regarding her motion and the impact of operational items on social elements.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- discussions with BC Housing
- possible time extension to the termination of the lease
- possibility of Whispers/BETHS to work with churches to support the homeless population
- feedback from community
- risk to the public as a whole
- system is failing the RCMP regarding drug dealers
- potential liability and risk to the City
- concerns regarding issues with the facility
- possibility to extend to Apr 1, 2018 only
- capacity and electrical issues at facility and possible solutions
- possibility to move decision to Jan 29, 2018
- possible insurance requirements

An amendment to the original motion was proposed to extend the termination of lease until April 1, 2018. During the voting process the amendment to the motion was defeated, but the original motion carried in error. The Mayor brought back the original motion to the table for

reconsideration. A new amendment to the motion was carried and the final amended motion was carried.

**Resolution #: R020/18/01/15**

Moved by: Ross

Seconded by: Tripp

**THAT Council extends the time in which BETHS and Whispers of Hope remain in their locations until May 1, 2018.**

**Amended**

**Amendment:**

**Resolution #: R021/18/01/15**

Moved by: Ross

Seconded by: Tripp

**THAT the motion be amended to extend the time in which BETHS and Whispers of Hope remain in their location until April 1, 2018, with the exception that electrical repairs on the building need to be in compliance by January 29, 2018, AND THAT reports on the building, and proof of insurance need to be available for the Regular Meeting of January 29, 2018.**

Opposed (4): Konrad, Butler, Krog, and Thompson

**Defeated**

**Resolution #: R022/18/01/15**

Moved by: Ross

Seconded by: Tripp

**THAT Council extends the time in which BETHS and Whispers of Hope remain in their locations until May 1, 2018.**

Opposed (3): Konrad, Butler, and Thompson

**Carried**

**Resolution #: R023/18/01/15**

Moved by: Hammett

Seconded by: Thompson

**THAT Council bring back to the table for reconsideration the motion regarding the Whispers of Hope and BETHS termination of lease extension until May 1, 2018.**

Opposed (2): Ross, and Tripp

**Carried**

**Resolution #: R024/18/01/15**

Moved by: Ross

Seconded by: Tripp

**THAT Council extends the time in which BETHS and Whispers of Hope remain in their locations until May 1, 2018.**

**Amended**

**Amendment:**

**Resolution #: R025/18/01/15**

Moved by: Krog

Seconded by: Ross

**THAT Council amends the motion by extending the time in which BETHS and Whispers of Hope remain in their location until March 31, 2018, contingent on that electrical repairs on the building are in compliance and cooking appliance exhaust hood and ventilation system are cleaned by January 29, 2018, reports on the building, and**

**proof of insurance need to be available for the Regular Meeting of January 29, 2018.**

Opposed (3): Konrad, Butler, and Thompson

**Carried**

**Resolution #: R026/18/01/15**

Moved by: Ross

Seconded by: Tripp

**THAT Council extend the time in which BETHS and Whispers of Hope remain in their location until March 31, 2018, contingent on that electrical repairs on the building are in compliance and cooking appliance exhaust hood and ventilation system are cleaned by January 29, 2018, reports on the building, and proof of insurance need to be available for the Regular Meeting of January 29, 2018.**

Opposed (2): Konrad, and Thompson

**Carried**

b. Grand Forks and District Transit Service

Brief discussion ensued regarding:

- possible fare cost increases
- no clarity on some items especially possible other funding increases
- requisition amounts by RDKB to the City

**Resolution #: R027/18/01/15**

Moved by: Krog

Seconded by: Thompson

**THAT Council consents to the Regional District of Kootenay Boundary Bylaw No. 1660 to increase the requisition limit of the Grand Forks and District Transit Service Local Service.**

Opposed (1): Tripp

**Carried**

**13. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA**

Kevin Lennox inquired regarding:

- the proposed BETHS Homeless hub location petition
- break-ins, garbage, tent locations, needles being found
- hub location should not be in town
- hub location should be in remote area outside City limits

Steve McGibbon gave an update and explained that the BETHS / BC Housing project is going nowhere at the moment.

Kate Saylors, Grand Forks Gazette, inquired regarding:

- CCTV camera and use
- operational issue at Whispers facility - ventilation, electrical issues - Mayor Konrad gave a brief history of the situation, the Building Inspector as well gave a summary of recent compliance related items
- social issue compared to operational issue - potential risk for human life as building is deteriorating rapidly
- In-Camera related information - cannot be made available yet regarding Whispers decisions
- amount of letters received by Council from the public - more letters and phone calls were received in favour of lease termination of Whispers/BETHS

Tammy Battersby inquired regarding:

- if Whispers or BETHS are responsible for the behaviour of people in the area
- if Mayor and/or Councillors have visited the facility - voice of Council as a whole makes a decision, individual Councillors have visited the site in the past

Louise Heck spoke regarding that the issues are not unique to Grand Forks and that these are national issues which aren't being addressed.



Dara Sutton spoke regarding the responsibility to inform community about homelessness and that the current issues are a result of the system break down as a whole.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 9:53 pm.

**Resolution #: R028/18/01/15**

Moved by: Ross

**THAT the January 15, 2018, Regular Meeting be adjourned at 9:53 pm.**

**Carried**

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Mayor Frank Konrad

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Deputy Corporate Officer - Daniel  
Drexler