



The Corporation of the City of Grand Forks
Committee of the Whole
MINUTES

Meeting #: C-2019-4
Date: Monday, April 8, 2019, 9:00 am
Location: 7217 - 4th Street, City Hall Council Chambers

Present: Mayor Brian Taylor
Councillor Zak Eburne-Stoodley
Councillor Cathy Korolek
Councillor Neil Krog
Councillor Chris Moslin
Councillor Christine Thompson
Councillor Rod Zielinski

Staff: Diane Heinrich - Chief Administrative Officer
Daniel Drexler - Corporate Officer
Kevin McKinnon - Deputy Corporate Officer
Juliette Rhodes - Chief Financial Officer
Dolores Sheets - Manager of Development & Engineering Services

GALLERY

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Taylor called the April 8, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:02 am.

2. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

- a. Adopt agenda

April 8, 2019, Committee of the Whole

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopts the April 8, 2019, agenda as presented.

Carried

3. MINUTES

- a. Adopt Minutes - Committee of the Whole

March 11, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopts the March 11, 2019, Committee of the Whole Minutes as presented.

Carried

4. REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

- a. Business case regarding use of the Public Library basement

Grand Forks Seniors Society

Council asked questions regarding current space used and membership size.

MOVED

THAT the COTW receives for information the presentation from the Grand Forks Seniors Society.

Carried

5. REGIONAL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION - WITH AREA D

6. PRESENTATIONS FROM STAFF

- a. Memo - Grand Forks Public Library Structure and Feasibility Study

Deputy Manager of Operations and Sustainability

There was discussion around whether the basement has been inspected for occupancy by the Building Inspector and Fire Chief.

Council was advised that the building had not been constructed with fire separation between the floors.

Further discussion referred back to the Seniors Society's presentation and included kitchen requirements and whether groundwater seepage would be an issue.

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole receives for information the Grand Forks Public Library Structure and Feasibility Study.

Carried

- b. Lewis' Woodpecker Management Plan

Deputy Manager of Operations and Sustainability

Discussion included:

- potential areas of town impacted by the management plan
- whether having a management plan would impact flood protection works
- how the federal government suggested having a comprehensive year-on-year plan shows proactive work and makes danger tree removal projects more efficient by not requiring management plans for each individual project.
- what the budget implications of having a management plan would be
 - mitigation and remediation work is already factored as an operational expense on each project, so no additional operational costs are anticipated.

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to discuss implementing the Lewis' Woodpecker Management Plan at the April 23, 2019, Regular Meeting.

Carried

c. Snow Clearing Policy

Outside Works

Discussion on the proposed changes to the Snow Clearing Policy included:

- that compliments on snow removal had been received.
- that the City ploughs the Trans-Canada Trail from Rockwool/Industrial Bridge to Darcy Road, and whether that could be extended through to the Nursery Bridge in conjunction with the RDKB as a "transportation corridor".
- the list of priority roads
- whether to include trigger points formally in the policy or to leave that as an operational definition.

From the gallery, Nigel James spoke to the requirement for residents to clear their own sidewalks which is not present in the policy. Staff explained that policies only apply internally, bylaws regulate everyone else, and snow removal is a paragraph of Bylaw 1956.

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole asks staff to bring forward the revised snow clearing policy for further consideration at the April 22, 2019, Regular Meeting.

Carried

d. Monthly Highlight Reports

Department Managers

Discussion of highlight reports:

- Verbal update with details on South Ruckle bank armouring
- danger tree assessments as part of that project
- timeframe on updates to business licence bylaw
- sewer phasing project
- part of 20 year capital plan
- how Building Inspection has been working with BFR on housing

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole receives the monthly highlight reports from department managers.

Carried

7. REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**8. PROPOSED BYLAWS FOR DISCUSSION****a. Bylaw 2058 - 2019 Tax Rates**

Chief Financial Officer

There was discussion over the three options presented and how each option impacted industrial, commercial, and residential properties. Staff advised that under option 2 the major industry rate is held to the same total amount as over the past couple of years.

From the gallery, Les Johnson (GFTV) asked whether there was any relief for properties that have higher assessed values under BC Assessment despite flooding. He was advised that the City has no discretion with making changes, and must use BC Assessment provided values for taxation.

The CFO did note that:

- Assessed residential values decreased by \$3 million, and business values by \$1.5 million from 2017 to 2018
- After assessment appeals were completed in January, a further \$2.1 million was removed from residential assessments, and \$750,000 from business assessments.

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole selects option 2 for the 2019 property tax rates and instructs staff to include that option in 2019 Tax Rates Bylaw No. 2058.

Carried

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole directs staff to present the 2019 Tax Rates Bylaw No. 2058 for first three readings at the April 23, 2019, Regular Meeting.

Carried

- b. Bylaw 2039-A5 - Proposed Subdivision, Rezoning and Consolidation of approx. 0.5 hectares for parking lot expansion at Hutton School

Development, Engineering & Planning

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to give first and second readings to Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 2039-A5 and instructs staff to schedule a public hearing and proceed with the legislative requirements to complete the subdivision/rezoning/consolidation process and refers the matter to the April 8, 2019, Regular Meeting.

Carried

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

10. CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

11. LATE ITEMS

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

13. QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC

From the gallery, Pamela Kennedy advised that the Citizens for a Better Grand Forks had selected a date for a Community meeting as discussed at the previous regular meeting of Council and that the meeting would be held in the evening of May 1 at Perley school. She advised that an agenda was expected within a week.

She then asked for comment on a rumour of a year-round warming center. The Mayor advised that the Whispers board should answer the question, not Council, as it's their project.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED

THAT the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting be adjourned at 11:00 am.

Mayor Brian Taylor

Dep. Corporate Officer – Kevin McKinnon