



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

Meeting #: C-2019-8
Date: Monday, August 12, 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
Daphne Popoff - Corporate Administrative Assistant
Juliette Rhodes - Chief Financial Officer
David Reid - Manager of Operations
Graham Watt - Recovery Manager

GALLERY

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Taylor called the August 12, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 9:01 am.

2. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

- a. Adopt agenda

August 12, 2019, Committee of the Whole

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopts the August 12, 2019, agenda as presented.

Carried

3. MINUTES

- a. Adopt Minutes - Committee of the Whole

July 15, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole adopts the July 15, 2019, Committee of the Whole Minutes as presented.

Carried

4. REGISTERED PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS

- a. Warming Centre

To resolve bylaw to evict or provide a variance

Kim Gordon, on behalf of the Warming Centre, read a letter regarding an overview of the Centre's rules, duties, guests, staff, and letters from the guests staying at the Warming Centre.

Discussion:

- Duane Foster spoke in regard to the Warming Centre and guests being displaced if the Warming Centre closes, bullying, compassion, looking for another location, rezoning of property with landowner
- Charlene Haddock spoke as a volunteer for the Whispers of Hope
- Carolyn Bartkowski spoke against the Warming Centre and activities around the Centre

- Pamela Kennedy spoke in regard to a committee set up trying to find a place for the winter to help guests, social services advisory group meeting
- Everett Baker spoke in regard to the social services advisory group
- Angela Nichols spoke in regard to the Warming Centre and its needs to remain in its current location until another location is found
- Les Johnson spoke in regard to behaviours at the Warming Centre and that the closure will not disperse the guests out of Grand Forks
- statistics of the homeless in Grand Forks, where the guests are from, homeless camps throughout the City, facilities needed
- Anne Palmer spoke in regard to statistics, Whispers of Hope group, negative impacts
- Russ Wark spoke in regard to the impact of the Centre, its timeframe, location searching, Whispers of Hope
- Patricia Hertz spoke in regard to the benefits of the Centre, funding, staff, Gazette articles, shifting problem to other places
- Council roles, bylaws, educating Whispers of Hope regarding process and zoning

Recess

Mayor Taylor called a recess of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 9:56 am.

Mayor Taylor reconvened the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 10:01 am.

b. Property Tax Concerns

Michael Zimmer

Michael Zimmer gave an overview of his concerns regarding Property Tax increases: introduced himself as a resident since 1999, income, home improvements in support of environment, taxes over the years 2010-2019, options for tax relief

Discussion:

- City expenses, City projects, tax structure, BC Assessment, flood-related properties, downtown businesses, City portion on property tax bill

- Tracy McLean spoke in regard to moving to Grand Forks from a larger City and taxes are higher in Grand Forks this year, revenue generation
- Kelley Soroka spoke in regard to BC Assessment appeal process and the City portion of the property taxes
- Kelly Fears spoke in regard to moving to Grand Forks and high property taxes in comparison

c. Boundary Museum Society

Quarterly Report

Lee Derhousoff gave an overview of the Boundary Museum Quarterly Report, Board Members, staff positions, summer students, displays, 2009 Sinixt/Doukhobour Reconciliation Project completed, special events, grounds and building maintenance, new extension, funding partners

Recess

Mayor Taylor called a recess of the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 11:09 am.

Mayor Taylor reconvened the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 11:15 am.

d. Grand Forks Border Bruins

Gerry Foster/John Clewlow - Fee-for-Service Update

Gerry Foster and John Clewlow, current coach, gave an overview of the Border Bruins, history, community support, local players, marketing, events involved with, important dates, revenue distribution, recognition of Grand Forks, broadcast

5. REGIONAL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION - WITH AREA D

6. PRESENTATIONS FROM STAFF

a. Memo In-Kind Options Update

Development, Engineering and Planning

Discussion:

- buy out vs expropriation, voluntary and involuntary
- land management, land agency
- meetings with homeowners affected

- case managers, red cross funding

- b. Wayfinding Project Rural Dividend Fund Application
Development, Engineering and Planning

Discussion:

- budget regarding wayfinding signs
- grant application

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to direct staff to apply for the Rural Dividend Fund for \$40,000 of a \$50,000 Wayfinding Strategic Plan.

Carried

- c. Strategies to Increase Affordable and Attainable Housing Options in Grand Forks

Development, Engineering and Planning

Discussion:

- tiny homes, garden suites, rv's
- workshops with Council on housing options and scenarios
- 'neighbours are notified' wording change suggestion

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole receive this report for information and forward it to the Regular Council meeting of August 12, 2019, for consideration.

Carried

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to delegate the issuance of Development Permits for Garden Suites to City Staff.

Carried

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend to Council to direct staff to: 1) Obtain servicing and development costs, undertake financial and feasibility analyses and report back to Council on the potential City-initiated housing projects outlined in this report (and listed in Appendix “A”); 2) Move forward with advertising and communications to heighten awareness in the community about secondary and garden suites, tiny homes and infill housing opportunities; and 3) Waive the development and building permit fees for garden and secondary suites in the City.

Carried

d. Monthly Highlight Reports

Department Managers

Discussion:

- thank you to the Fire Department
- Zoning Bylaw progress
- flood recovery, DMAF
- September density report
- airport Master Plan
- new water well at end of Boundary
- Capital Projects Engineer

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 2061 - Annual Permissive Tax Exemption

Financial Services

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to give first three readings of Bylaw No. 2061 “2020 Permissive Tax Exemptions” at the September 3rd, 2019, Regular Meeting.

Carried

- b. Bylaw Amendment No. 2039-A8 Proposed Rezoning of approximately 0.3399 Hectare (0.84 acre) parcel from Highway Commercial to Tourist Commercial

Development, Engineering & Planning

Discussion:

- rezoning application fee

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends to Council to give first and second readings to Zoning Bylaw Amendment No. 2039-A8 at the August 12, 2019, Regular Council Meeting.

Carried

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council waive the \$1,000.00 rezoning application fee.

Carried

MOVED

THAT the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council direct staff to move forward with legislative requirements for the rezoning.

Carried

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Update on Events activities

Erinne Allen, Events Manager

Erinne Allen gave an update on activities and stats for events such as Canada Day, Party in the Street, next event Grand Forks Dinner Theater, 1st Annual Weddings in Boundary Country, Grand Forks Christmas Parade, and the Festival of Trees and Christmas Extravaganza

10. **CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS**

11. **LATE ITEMS**

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

13. **QUESTION PERIOD FROM THE PUBLIC**

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

The August 12, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned at 12:52 pm.

Mayor Brian Taylor

Corporate Administrative Assistant -
Daphne Popoff