

REQUEST FOR DECISION

— REGULAR MEETING —



To: Mayor and Council

From: Manager of Building Inspection & Bylaw Services

Date: October 16, 2017

Subject: Contracted Bylaw Enforcement Officer

Recommendation: **RESOLVED THAT Council receive the report and consider approving an extension of the Contracted Bylaw Services for the remainder of 2017. The extended Bylaw Service would be funded through the Bylaw Enforcement budget approved in the 2017 financial plan. The 2018 Budget will reflect the continuation of the Bylaw Services position until October 30, 2018.**

BACKGROUND: Since the employment of the Contracted Bylaw Officer in July, 2016, the City has received very positive feedback on the effectiveness of the Bylaw Services. With the Officer working random hours and weekends, many have been surprised to see him out and about. The Bylaw Officer's presence at events and just walking the beat downtown has given the residents a sense that the City is taking action. Activities in 2017 include:

- 42 'camps' removed from locations around the municipality.
- 10 unsightly property complaints acted upon, 5 currently unresolved but in process.
- 167 watering restriction violations noted and resolved.
- Numerous noise and parking violation situations acted upon.
- Multiple 'No Deer Feeding' notices have been issued.

However, the work in 2017 is not done. At last count 22 transient camps exist within the city. With the proposed Parks Amendment Bylaw, which will enable camping in certain areas at certain times, it is expected that a relatively aggressive enforcement regime will be required.

There also remains the issue of unsightly properties, 5 of which are mid-stream in the process of notification prior to the City taking further action. Deer feeding activity will be on the rise and anti-idling concerns will increase in the next few months.

The request for this extension, though, is primarily due to the transient and homeless problem which has gripped Grand Forks. With the proposed changes coming to our park camping rules, we believe the problem should soon be minimized.

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As Manager of Bylaw Services, whatever bylaw issues arise during the winter months would typically be resolved by myself. This year, though, with a surge in Building Inspection activity coupled with the homeless problem, we believe the extension of the Bylaw Services contract is warranted.

In following Council's Strategic Plan under the heading of Community Livability, one of the actions is to continue with Bylaw Enforcement. The funding for the contract extension is available within the 2017 Bylaw Enforcement budget and within the 2018 budgeting process. The contracted Bylaw Service would require Council to approve the extension of the Bylaw Officer Services for the additional year.

Benefits or Impacts of the Recommendation:

General:	The additional Contracted Bylaw Services would provide the City with Bylaw Enforcement coverage for the additional year.
Strategic Impact:	The additional Bylaw Services would follow the directions of Council's Strategic Plan for 2015 – 2019.
Financial:	The extended Bylaw Service would be funded through the Bylaw Enforcement budget approved in the 2017 financial plan and within the 2018 budgeting process.
Policy/Legislation:	N/A
Attachments:	N/A

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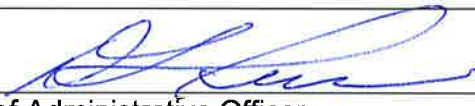


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OPTIONS:

- 1. RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES THE STAFF REPORT.**
- 2. RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL DOES NOT ACCEPT THE STAFF REPORT.**
- 3. RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL REFERS THE MATTER BACK TO STAFF FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.**

	
Department Head or CAO	Chief Administrative Officer