The Corporation of the City of Grand Forks

Regular Meeting of Council

MINUTES

Meeting #: **R-2019-5**
Date: **Monday, March 11, 2019, 7:00 pm**
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
Dolores Sheets - Manager of Development & Engineering Services
Juliette Rhodes - Chief Financial Officer
Cavan Gates - Deputy Manager of Operations & Sustainability

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Taylor called the March 11, 2019, Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

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2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

a. Adopt agenda

March 11, 2019, Regular Meeting agenda

The Agenda was amended from the published version to add item 8(e), "Discussion on Library Upgrades referred from the Committee of the Whole".

Resolution #: R070/19/03/11

Moved by: Korolek

Seconded by: Thompson

THAT Council adopts the March 11, 2019, Regular Meeting agenda as amended.

Carried

3. MINUTES

a. Adopt minutes - Special to go In-Camera

February 25, 2019, Special to go In-Camera Meeting minutes

Resolution #: R071/19/03/11

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Korolek

THAT Council adopts the February 25, 2019, Special to go In-Camera Meeting minutes as presented.

Carried

b. Adopt minutes - Regular

February 25, 2019, Regular Meeting minutes

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Resolution #: R072/19/03/11

Moved by: Eburne-Stoodley

Seconded by: Korolek

THAT Council adopts the February 25, 2019, 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

Councillors

Councillor Moslin spoke of the work underway with the Ruckle amouring, the business owners on the East side of the Granby, and the LGLA trip to Kimberley. He extended kudos to the Theatre society for "Mamma Mia", and acknowledged Phoenix Mountain's 50-year anniversary, and that Kathleen Saylors will be leaving the Gazette at the end of the week for a new opportunity in Ontario.

A motion was tabled to have staff add new definitions to the zoning bylaw and to determine appropriate zoning for each.

There was brief discussion on the matter before the vote.

Councillor Thompson gave a verbal report on the LGLA (Local Gov't Leadership Academy) sessions in Kimberley and BCEDA Summit in Richmond, which she felt was the best conference she'd ever attended.

Councillor Krog attended a meeting coordinated by Flood Recovery with Mennonite Disaster Services (MDS). MDS is considering Grand Forks as a possible project area for home construction. The Councillor also attended an opening with Boundary Hospice for three new palliative care beds at Sunshine Manor.

Councillor Korolek also spoke to the benefits of her trip to the LGLA sessions and highlighted some of the keynote speakers.

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Resolution #: R073/19/03/11

Moved by: Moslin

Seconded by: Zielinski

THAT staff be directed to amend the Zoning bylaw to include definitions for supportive housing and community kitchens and to establish the appropriate zoning and permit for each;

AND THAT these amendments be brought to Council for consideration no later than September.

Carried

Resolution #: R074/19/03/11

Moved by: Krog

Seconded by: Eburne-Stoodley

THAT all written reports of Council submitted to the March 11, 2019, Regular Meeting be received.

Carried

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

a. Verbal Report - RDKB Representative

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

Highlights of the RDKB Representative's report:

- Transportation deficit - RDKB will be bringing a $13,000 increase as the City's portion of the regional transit deficit.
- The Curling Rink has suffered a breakdown of the cooling plant and the curling season will come to an early close.

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- BFR has been working closely with the Osoyoos Indian Band and has started open dialogue with them building the foundation for future interaction.

Resolution #: R075/19/03/11

Moved by: Zielinski

Seconded by: Krog

THAT Mayor Taylor'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. Write-off capital assets

Chief Financial Officer

There was discussion over replacement vs. write-off.

Resolution #: R076/19/03/11

Moved by: Zielinski

Seconded by: Thompson

THAT Council approves the write-off of the building at 7212 Riverside Drive, the 2004 Chevrolet Trailblazer, the liquid sampler from the industrial lift station and three power meters from the electrical switchyard.

Carried

b. Request for support of the Grand Forks Fall Fair

Development, Engineering & Planning

There was discussion over whether request included temporary fencing.

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Resolution #: R077/19/03/11

Moved by: Krog

Seconded by: Korolek

THAT Council allows the Fall Fair Society (FFS) to construct semi-permanent barriers for the Demolition Derby on the east side of the vacant property by Dick Bartlett Park, legally described as Lot 3, Plan KAP32149, District Lot 380 520, SDYD, Except Plan EPP11728.

Carried

c. Development permit No. DP 1906

Development, Engineering & Planning

Proposed 10.02m x 1m (32'-10 5/8" x 39") block letter self-illuminated roof signage on the front of the building, a 1.22m (48") diameter self-illuminated roof signage on the side of the building and a 1.82m x 1.85m (71.75" x 72)

During discussion, an amendment was proposed to require a redesign using smaller letters, reducing the overall size of the signage, and reduced lumen output, making the sign dimmer than the provided photographs.

Discussion ensued:

- the effect of reducing brightness of the sign
- would denying the sign permit inadvertently impact the "open for business" model?
- the Heritage Development Zone status of the Boundary Park Mall
- the need to establish a formal Sign Bylaw

The amendment was defeated.

Resolution #: R078/19/03/11

Moved by: Moslin

Seconded by: Eburne-Stoodley

THAT Council approves Development Permit No. 1906 for the following signage for the building located at 7320 4th Street and

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legally described as Lot A, Plan KAP20156, District Lot 108, Similkameen Division of Yale District: 1) A 10.02m x 1m block letter self illuminated roof sign on the front of the building 2) A 1.22m diameter self illuminated roof sign on the side of the building 3) A 1.82m x 1.85m Free-Standing sign.

Amended

Amendment:

Resolution #: R079/19/03/11

Moved by: Krog

Seconded by: Zielinski

THAT the application be returned to staff to investigate with the proponent whether the sign plan could be redesigned with smaller letters and reduced lumens.

Opposed (6): Taylor, Eburne-Stoodley, Korolek, Moslin, Thompson, and Zielinski

Defeated

Resolution #: R080/19/03/11

Moved by: Moslin

Seconded by: Eburne-Stoodley

THAT Council approves Development Permit No. 1906 for the following signage for the building located at 7320 4th Street and legally described as Lot A, Plan KAP20156, District Lot 108, Similkameen Division of Yale District: 1) A 10.02m x 1m block letter self illuminated roof sign on the front of the building 2) A 1.22m diameter self illuminated roof sign on the side of the building 3) A 1.82m x 1.85m Free-Standing sign.

Opposed (1): Krog

Carried

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Resolution #: R081/19/03/11

Moved by: Zielinski

Seconded by: Krog

THAT Council direct staff to prepare a Sign Bylaw for consideration.

Carried

d. Letter of support for Not-for-Profit Housing Capacity Building Grant

Flood Recovery Manager

Discussion clarified that the request to Council is to endorse the application, but not commit resources at this time. It was noted that housing requirements dictate that the time line for such work is not indefinite.

Resolution #: R082/19/03/11

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Korolek

THAT Council endorses the application by Urban Matters CCC and Boundary Family Services to the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia for the project "Developing a Backbone Housing Organization in the Boundary".

Carried

e. Public Library Upgrades

Committee of the Whole

Council considered the referral from the March 11 Committee of the Whole meeting for upgrades to the Public Library through a Green Infrastructure grant program operated by ICIP.

Councillor Zielinski offered friendly amendments to resolutions R084/19/03/11 and R085/19/03/11 to specify that funding would come "from Reserves". Both friendly amendments were accepted.

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Funding for the proposal is a part of the 2019 Capital budget, but resolution R085/19/03/11 was recorded to provide a clear motion for the grant committee.

There was brief discussion on the request from the Library for assistance with the installation of an accessibility ramp to the meeting room on the north side of the building.

Resolution #: R083/19/03/11

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Moslin

THAT Council direct staff to submit an application for a grant funding application for the library renovations through the ICIP - Green Infrastructure: Climate Change Mitigation Sub-Stream CleanBC Communities Fund.

Carried

Resolution #: R084/19/03/11

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Korolek

THAT Council allocate $16,000 for preliminary engineering to prepare for the grant applications, to be funded from Reserves.

Carried

Resolution #: R085/19/03/11

Moved by: Thompson

Seconded by: Korolek

THAT Council support the project and commit to the City's share ($250,000) of the project to be funded from Reserves.

Opposed (1): Zielinski

Carried

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Resolution #: R086/19/03/11

Moved by: Korolek

Seconded by: Thompson

THAT the City provide in-kind support for the construction of an exterior ramp for access to the Public Library Meeting Room, and that Staff be directed to provide the labour for installation subject to the Library sourcing funding for material.

Carried

9. REQUESTS ARISING FROM CORRESPONDENCE

10. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. SOII - RCMP - Quarterly Stats for October, November, and December 2018

RCMP

The Mayor noted that he and Councillor Krog met recently with RCMP and that there is up-staffing forthcoming.

b. SOII - Letters of concern regarding the proposed 5th Street Whispers of Hope soup kitchen location

Various Residents

Council acknowledged that this is a current hot-topic, and discussion ensued.

- The possibility of scheduling a full-fledged community discussion was considered.
- Other possible locations for the facility.
- Historical issues with the facility at its' previous location were recalled.
- That the location was at the entrance to City Park and the municipal campground.
- Concern about Lois Hagen Park becoming the next Tent City.
- The earlier motion regarding zoning definitions may help address issues in the future.
- Parking both in front of the property and along nearby streets, including both public and private parking within the area.

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The scope of discussion widened:

- A presentation from LGLA Kimberley about the City of Port Coquitlam was brought up and described how local churches banded together on a rotating basis until a transition house opened in the community.
- A question was posed about what reaction would be undertaken should things go awry, using the example that there is a current expectation of standard for conditions in Lois Hagen Park and the City Park facilities.
- Cranbrook's solution was also discussed, which is another solution which rotates among several organizations.
- Discussion recognized the residential neighbours, as much discussion had focused on businesses.
- Council acknowledged skepticism and concern.

The Mayor acknowledged the possibility of holding a public hearing.

11. BYLAWS

12. LATE ITEMS

13. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC AND THE MEDIA

Questions from the public and media focused largely on Whispers of Hope's soup kitchen.

Dianna Darling - Acknowledged not wanting the facility in her own neighbourhood, but shared that she had an experience waking up to find a homeless person had broken into her home one night and is concerned about an increased homeless presence in her area. She felt a report on acceptable areas was important, and added that discussion between various groups seems to be moving beyond finger-pointing to now include offering solutions.

Les Johnson - Felt that solutions must be searched for to minimize risk, that communication is critical, and more than just public meetings are necessary.

Kate Saylors (Gazette) enquired why 7212 Riverside was listed on the write-off of capital assets when the building had already been demolished, and it was explained that it was to complete the accounting process for the asset.

Kate Saylors (Gazette) enquired with Whispers community kitchen moving away from the riverbank (crown land), would the City have more control over park space and sidewalks? Councillor Krog noted that last summer the issues near 7212 Riverside Drive included both crown land and City property through the park space and trail along the Granby.

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Les Johnson read a question (from Facebook) on whether Council felt that moving Whispers near the food bank would result in less neighbourhood resistance than with downtown residents? Council suggested that regardless of the area, residents will have concerns and this is one of the challenges.

Councillor Zielinski wondered what options are available to Council to deal with problems should they arise and acknowledged that specific answers are not known at this time.

Wait and see is not an option, and public safety should be a concern.

Chris Hammett - Doesn't feel that anyone is opposed to the concept of a community kitchen, but believes the history of the operating organization leads to "enabling" - surrounding support services are not available in the area.

Kate Saylors (Gazette) thanked Council for their support in her time in Grand Forks.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution #: R087/19/03/11

Moved by: Thompson

THAT the Regular Meeting be adjourned at 8:37 pm.

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Mayor Brian Taylor	Deputy Corporate Officer – Kevin McKinnon

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