

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR
THE TOWN OF GRANDE CACHE HELD ON TUESDAY JUNE
20TH, 2006 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, PROVINCIAL
BUILDING, GRANDE CACHE, ALBERTA

Present

L. Krewusik	Mayor
P. Bailey	Deputy Mayor (via telephone)
V. Beland	Councillor
T. Coray	Councillor
J. Dube	Councillor
T. McCormick	Councillor

D. Dukart	Municipal Administrator
D. Ottaway	Chief Administrative Officer
V. Wiseman	Recording Secretary

Absent

G. Frenz	Councillor
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**Call to
Order**

Mayor Krewusik called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Open Session

No members of the public were present for the Open Session.

**Additions to
Agenda**

The following additions were made to the Agenda:

- 4.0.1 Delegations: Mr. Robert Krewusik, Development Officer
- 5.4.1 Memo from Community Development Officer, Ms. Tara Fesyk
- 8.3 Aquatic Facility Update, Councillor McCormick

**Adoption of
Agenda**

Motion No.
173-06

Motion by Councillor Beland to adopt the Agenda as amended.

Carried

Delegations

Development Officer
Mr. Robert Krewusik

Applications for
Development
Permits,
Lots 155 A&B
156 A&B, 157 A&B
Block 26
Plan 972-2205

Mr. Krewusik noted three Development Permit applications had been received to construct duplexes on the noted lots, Permit Nos. K-050-06, K051-06 and K052-06. He recommends proceeding with the approval for the Development Permits.

Motion No.
174-06

Motion by Councillor Beland to approve the three Development Permit applications, numbered K-050-06, K-051-06 and K-052-06 as presented.

Carried

Request from
Hayden Ridge

Mr. Krewusik stated Hayden Ridge is requesting land currently zoned as an environmental reserve (Lot 1, Block 45, Plan 972 2205) be used to improve access to the Hayden Ridge development from Moberly Road. The Municipal Government Act allows for a road to be built. The road will be built to meet all Town standards and all costs incurred for the road will be the responsibility of the developers. The construction will not impact the Griffith Trail in any way. Mr. Krewusik, along with Town Planner, Mr. Greg Hofmann, recommends Council approve the request from Hayden Ridge.

Motion No.
175-06

Motion by Councillor Dube that Council follow Mr. Krewusik's recommendation and approve Hayden Ridge's request to build an access road on the land designated as an environmental reserve, Lot 1, Block 45, Plan 972 2205. Any costs incurred will be the responsibility of the developer.

Carried

Clearing & Grubbing
Tender

Mr. Krewusik noted only one tender was received for the clearing and grubbing of the new industrial sites. Mr. Krewusik had discussions with the contractor, to try and lower the cost. If the contract is awarded on a cost plus basis, it is anticipated the cost can be reduced by almost half. The contractor is prepared to start next week. Mr. Krewusik recommends Council award the clearing and grubbing contract to the only bidder.

Mr. Dukart stated the one tender that did come in, came in late. He stated legally the tender had to be rejected, due to the fact it was not received by the time specified in the request for tenders.

Motion No.
176-06

Motion by Councillor Beland to reject the tender as it was not received prior to the closing time.

Carried

Motion No.
177-06

Motion by Councillor Coray that the Town Public Works Department act as general contractor for the clearing and grubbing of the land intended to be developed and authorize Public Works to hire assistants for a period of 60 days, if needed to complete the project.

Carried

Meeting Request

Mr. Krewusik requested a meeting with Council for early next week. He will ask the engineers to be present if Council so wishes. Mayor Krewusik agreed the engineers should be present and will choose a date later in the meeting.

Sustainable Resource
Development

Mayor Krewusik welcomed the team from Sustainable Resource Development (SRD).

The following SRD representatives attended Council to present a PowerPoint presentation regarding containment of the Mountain Pine Beetle:

Ms. Leslie-Anne Chapman, Communications Officer, SRD
Mr. Rob Harris, Wildfire Information Officer, SRD
Mr. Darcy Whiteside, SRD
Mr. Rus DiFiore, Wildfire Technologist, SRD
Mr. Gordon Glover, Wildlife Operations Manager

Ms. Chapman stated a prescribed burn will take place in the Willmore Wilderness Park this summer. If conditions are right, it will be quite sizeable, encompassing approximately 11,000 hectares. There are a couple of reasons for this, to contain the spread of the Mountain Pine Beetle and to introduce controlled fire to an area that is naturally susceptible to fire. A total of five burns are planned.

Mr. DiFiore explained conditions must be perfect for the burn, if those conditions are not met, the big burn may not take place this year. There is a contingency plan in place to work in sections instead. The objective is to remove the source of food for the beetle, there is a significant amount of pine beetle in this area.

Mayor Krewusik inquired as to how long the entire process would take, if indeed the burn did proceed. Mr. DiFiore noted it would take three days for the ignition using heli-torches and roughly ten days after that to make sure the burn was successful.

Councillor McCormick inquired as to the amount of smoke that would be visible in town. Mr. Harris replied the prevailing winds from Willmore go straight to Grande Cache. However, if conditions remain good, the smoke should go up into the atmosphere.

Mr. Harris noted communication with the public is key. Signage will be placed on all trails and staging areas. Letters are being sent out to all residents in town and surrounding areas. The local media will be contacted and SRD will be available in town while the actual burn is happening.

Ms. Sue Feddema, Willmore Wilderness Foundation, present at the meeting, thought it prudent that Grande Prairie residents be notified as well, as people access the park from the north as well. SRD stated they will act upon the suggestion.

Councillor Bailey asked if SRD was seeing a lot of new pine beetle infestation. Mr. Glover replied last year they cut down 5,000 infected trees. This year, they've already cut down 11,000. He stated the future really is an unknown. The climate is cooler here in Alberta and they are not sure how the beetle will react. There is no idea of how far the beetle will go.

Councillor McCormick asked what plans were in place if the fire were to get out of hand. Mr. Glover noted there are contingency plans in place. The Fire Smart program has created a barrier around town and they will have access to a lot of air power.

Mayor Krewusik stated we are all aware of the implications of doing nothing, Town Council is supportive of SRD's efforts and hard work. On behalf of Council, Mayor Krewusik thanked SRD for their appearance at Council and for the interesting presentation.

Women's Studies
Students, GCCHS

Ms. Candice Ramstead, Ms. Stacey Brady, Ms. Katee Cuture and Ms. Sara Lewenza, along with their teacher Ms. Val Wright attended Council to speak to the issue of Escort Services operating in Grande Cache. Mayor Krewusik had spoken to the group previously on the issue and she invited them to come to Council with their concerns.

The students presented a new draft by-law, drawn up by Mr. Harry Arnesen, Barrister, which would essentially ban escort

services from operating in Grande Cache. A petition with 274 names was also presented.

Ms. Wright stated some of the signatories were uneasy about adding their names if the petition became a public document. Mayor Krewusik assured the group that the petition would not leave the office.

Councillor Coray noted that the by-law was very specific in terms ("social escort"). He wondered if it should be broader than that, for example massage parlours.

Mayor Krewusik stated she had done some research on by-laws. Grande Prairie's doesn't prohibit the service, but it places significant regulations on the business. Red Deer's is very similar. Mayor Krewusik asked if the group was aware of any other community, which prohibits the operation, in speaking with Sgt. Art Hopkins, the running of the business is not illegal.

Mayor Krewusik stated the group had definitely planted a seed for Council. This would be an interesting discussion to have with a lawyer and the police present. The students will be invited back for any future meetings.

Council, as a whole, applauded the students' efforts for taking a stand on such an important social issue and for their appearance at Council.

Request from
Search & Rescue

A request was received from Search and Rescue to allow for the construction of a new building on town-owned property. Mr. Dukart discussed the request with Public Works Director, Mr. Steve AuCoin and Fire Chief, Mr. Len McLeod, they had no concerns with the building going forward.

Motion No.
178-06

Motion by Councillor Dube to accept the request from Search and Rescue as information only, as Council had given prior permission for the building to go ahead.

Carried

Recreation Director
Report: Employee
Benefit Program

A report was submitted by Recreation Director, Mr. Duane Didow. Included in the report were the results of a survey given to 35 salaried employees (only 13 were returned), a proposal for employee accessibility, facility costs and benefits offered by other communities.

Motion No.
179-06

Motion by Councillor Beland to allow annual passes for staff, immediate family and dependent children for use of the recreation centre's skating rink, swimming pool and fitness room for all full and part-time employees while employed by the Town of Grande Cache. Rules of use to be clarified in a letter to all employees.

Carried

Further to the Motion, Mayor Krewusik instructed Administration to draft a Policy relevant to the recreation benefits for Town employees.

Downtown
Beautification

A memo was submitted by Community Development Officer, Ms. Tara Fesyk, offering a brief comparison of two different consulting opportunities the Town could access to help revitalize and beautify the downtown core.

One option was to hire Dr. Avi Friedman, who was involved in Drayton Valley's downtown beautification and affordable housing initiative, that scope was different than what we are looking for in Grande Cache. Ms. Fesyk was in the process of getting in touch with Drayton Valley's CDO, as of the meeting, no new information was available.

The second option presented was to move forward with creating a Downtown Beautification Committee, which will act as an advisory group to Council and Downtown Businesses with the intent of beautifying and revitalizing our downtown core.

Suggested Committee Members: downtown business owners, Community Development Officer, 1-2 Council Members, Mayor, 1-2 Town Administration Staff and representative from the Chamber of Commerce.

Motion No.
180-06

Motion by Councillor McCormick to strike a committee with membership as outlined in Tara's recommendation, with a suggestion to include the Economic Development Committee.

Carried

Councillors McCormick and Coray, along with the Mayor and CAO, Mr. Ottaway, will sit on the committee. Mr. Dukart suggested approaching Mr. Krewusik to act in an advisory role, as there had already been a lot of work put into this.

Letter of Concern

A letter was received from a Stage IV resident, Mrs. M. Arbuckle, regarding the use of Quads on nature trails around town.

Mayor Krewusik stated we have changed our by-law to better deal with the quad issue and the Town also has a by-law officer on staff, she inquired if Council had any suggestions.

Councillor Coray suggested implementing a system to identify the quads, such as green numbered flags.

Councillor Bailey stated if Council decided to change the by-laws to restrict use around town, this still wouldn't keep quads off of the trails. He thought it prudent not to over react and change the by-laws. The trails would still be impacted.

Councillor Beland agreed with Councillor Coray, there should be a system to register the quads.

Mayor Krewusik recommended holding discussions with the RCMP, the By-Law Officer, Members of Council and the Trail Committee to discuss what they are seeing, what challenges are facing law enforcement, are these quads being stopped or charged, etc.

Council accepted this letter as information and directed Administration to reply to Mrs. Arbuckle.

Economic Development
Committee

Mayor Krewusik recommended scheduling a meeting for July 5th with members of the Economic Development Committee. This group would like an opportunity to discuss what their future role will be now that the town has employed a full-time community development officer. Meeting set for July 5th at 1:00 p.m., facilitator, Ms. Leona Hanson, will be on hand for the meeting.

Canada Day
Parade

Ms. Melanie Hryniuk, Recreation Centre Program Coordinator, is requesting Council's participation for this year's Canada Day Parade. Anyone interested is to contact Mr. Dukart or Mr. Ottaway.

Wild Blue Yonder
Home Occupation

A letter was received from Ms. Gina Goldie, Co-owner of Wild Blue Yonder Adventure Tours Ltd. Ms. Goldie wished to relay the company's current operating procedures to give the Town's administration an opportunity to address any areas of concern. Council had some concerns with respect to the Town's by-laws.

Mayor Krewusik suggested Council review the by-laws with respect to home occupation and then arrange to meet with Wild Blue Yonder.

Unsightly Premises
By-Law Review

This was included in Council's package along with the towns of Hinton and Morinville for comparison. Mr. Dukart stated our by-law was very similar to the others, it's a good by-law and has never been challenged. Mr. Dukart recommended instructing By-Law Officer, Mr. Ken Oddy, to start enforcing the by-law.

Mr. Dukart noted Mr. Oddy is now certified to do weed spraying. Mr. Jim Murphy has been hired by Public Works, he will spearhead the grass crew, which includes watering the plants over the summer. Councillor McCormick asked if the schools will be required to look after their property this year. Mr. Dukart will notify Mr. Krewusik, the school trustee of this issue.

Ministerial Order
No. L:109/06, re:
Extension for
Financial Statement

Motion by Councillor Bailey to accept as information the Ministerial Order granting an extension to complete and submit the Financial Information Return.

Carried

Aquatic Facility
Update

Councillor McCormick is in the process of receiving information from High Prairie with respect to their facility. A package will be put together for Council. In conjunction with Ms. Tara Fesyk, Councillor McCormick has been in touch with the major oil and gas companies. They are considering granting dollars towards the aquatic facility project and the skateboard park (which is being viewed as a separate entity from the pool).

Action Log

Item 62, Staff Recruitment: Mr. Ottaway was provided with a file of the applicants for the Director of Finance position. He will be setting up preliminary phone interviews shortly.

Item 76, Motorcar Association BBQ-July 6th, 2006:
Councillor Dube is organizing this event. She will need some help the day of the BBQ.

Death Race
Cleanup

Councillor McCormick noted the community service crew from the institution will not be available for the clean up, as the members are either getting ready to be released/transferred or going on work release. Councillor Dube noted she had five youth lined up to do the old mine road before the Death Race.

Meet Your Neighbours
Golf Tournament

Mayor Krewusik stated this event was planned for August. It will be an invitational tournament with approximately 40-50 people. The total cost per person is \$51.00. The entire cost would be in the vicinity of \$2,000.00.

Motion No.
181-06

Motion by Councillor Coray for the Town to fund the Meet Your Neighbour Golf Tournament to a maximum of \$2,500.00 and to solicit businesses for prizes.

Carried

Meeting with
Development Officer

A meeting was scheduled for Town Council, Mr. Krewusik and engineers for June 26th at 1:00 p.m.

M.D. of Greenview

A luncheon has been scheduled for June 27th at 11:45 a.m. with the M.D. of Greenview Council.

Oil & Gas
Representatives
Meeting

This meeting will take place June 27th at 1:00 p.m. at the Tourism Centre, followed by an Open House at the Recreation Centre from 4:00-7:00 p.m.

Move to
In-Camera Session

Motion No.
182-06

Motion by Councillor Dube to move this Regular meeting of Council to an in-camera session at 10:05 p.m.

Carried

Revert Back to
Regular Meeting

Motion by Councillor Coray to end the in-camera session and revert back to a Regular meeting of Council at 10:10 p.m.

Carried

Motion No.
183-06

Motion by Councillor Coray to approve a one-time expenditure for our Municipal Administrator's retirement.

Mayor Krewusik expressed Council's sincere gratitude for Mr. Dukart's loyalty and dedication to this Town Council and prior Councils over the course of the past thirty years.

Round Table

Toboggan Hill

Councillor McCormick noted Mr. AuCoin will look after fixing the toboggan hill and also placing more garbage bins around town.

Skateboard Park

Councillor McCormick noted the Skateboard Park committee is in the process of applying for a \$5,000 grant from Citizens on Patrol.

Area behind
Hospital

Councillor McCormick stated more patrols needed to be done in this area, the residents from the Whispering Pines Lodge are being disturbed by the noise. Councillor McCormick will mention to Sgt. Hopkins.

Cemetery

Councillor Beland suggested Council include cemetery maintenance in the next budget.

Grande Cache
Institution's
Lifers' Group

Councillor Bailey stated this group takes in old bikes and repairs them. He inquired if the Tourism Centre would be interested in receiving some bikes for tourists to use when in town. The bikes would be stored at the centre. Administration was to confirm liability coverage with our insurance company to ensure that the Town would be protected.

Adjournment

Motion No.
184-06

Motion by Councillor McCormick to adjourn this Regular meeting of Council at 10:30 p.m.

Carried

Mayor

Chief Administrator Officer