

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR  
THE TOWN OF GRANDE CACHE HELD ON TUESDAY MAY 7<sup>TH</sup>,  
2006 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, PROVINCIAL BUILDING,  
GRANDE CACHE, ALBERTA

**Present**

L. Krewusik	Mayor
P. Bailey	Deputy Mayor
V. Beland	Councillor
T. Coray	Councillor
J. Dube	Councillor
G. Frenz	Councillor
T. McCormick	Councillor
D. Dukart	Municipal Administrator
V. Wiseman	Recording Secretary

**Call to  
Order**

Mayor Krewusik called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**Open Session**

Grande Cache Senior  
Minibus Society

Mr. Claude Menard appeared before Council requesting funding assistance to provide public transportation to individuals in Grande Cache and the surrounding cooperatives. Mr. Menard noted this was identified as priority number eight of ten in the Community Needs Assessment. The Society is requesting \$40,000.00 from the Town of Grande Cache to help cover the cost of the service. Mr. Menard stated if the committee had a financial commitment from the Town, they could then go to M.D. 16 to request funding.

Many seniors, persons with disabilities and low-income residents in Grande Cache do not have access to public transportation to help them travel for Doctor appointments, shopping, etc.

Councillor McCormick inquired as to who would coordinate the service. Mr. Menard replied the scheduling would be done through Peace Country Health. Doctors in Grande Cache and Grande Prairie are willing to work together to book Grande Cache appointments on the same days. There would be a user fee implemented. A schedule would also be established for in town trips as well.

Councillor Beland inquired if the local bus company had been contacted. Mr. Menard replied the local schedule is not convenient for medical appointments. Individuals would have to take a very early bus and most likely have to spend the night.

Mr. Menard noted it was not the committee's intent to have the Town provide on-going funding. They would explore other avenues, such as the Casino grant, M.D. 16 and Peace Country Health (for example).

Councillor Coray suggested the committee get some realistic numbers as to how much the bus will be utilized, what the costs would be to maintain the bus and a driver on a yearly basis and then come back to Council.

Mr. Menard asked if there was money coming out of the Town's budget for the taxi service. Mr. Dukart noted approximately

\$8,000.00/year has been allocated in the budget. The local tax is another consideration; it would be unfortunate if business was taken away from them.

Mayor Krewusik thanked Mr. Menard and commended him for his work on behalf of the seniors and disabled people in the community. She stated Council would have to have a more detailed rationale in terms of cost. She recommended the committee do some more research, perhaps contact other communities to see what their costs are and then come back to Council.

**Additions to  
Agenda**

The following additions were made to the Agenda:

- 11.3 Used Street Sweeper
- 11.4 Request for Proposals-Industrial Land

The following deletion was made to the Agenda:

- 6.1 Sharon McMordie & Phyllis Stangier, PPD, re: Housing Issue

**Adoption of  
Agenda**

Motion No.  
121-06

Motion by Councillor Frenz to adopt the Agenda as amended.

Carried

**Adoption of  
Minutes**

Regular Council  
Meeting  
March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Motion No.  
122-06

Motion by Councillor Frenz to amend page 040-06, under Land-Use Bylaw Major Revision, the third paragraph down should read: "Councillor Coray noted in Grande Prairie, the city purchases the land and the businesses develop it. That way, the risk is not on the City's shoulders", and to adopt the Minutes as amended.

Carried

Special Council  
Meeting  
March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Motion No.  
123-06

Motion by Councillor Coray to adopt the Minutes of the Special Council meeting of March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Carried

Regular Council  
Meeting  
April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Motion No.  
124-06

Motion by Councillor Beland to adopt the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Carried

Regular Council  
Meeting  
April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Motion No.  
125-06

Motion by Councillor Bailey to adopt the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Carried

Special Council  
Meeting  
April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006

Motion No.  
126-06

Motion by Councillor Frenz to adopt the Minutes of the Special Council meeting of April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006.

**Business Arising  
From Minutes**

Cost of Living  
Allowance

Councillor Frenz inquired if the cost of living allowance had been implemented. Mr. Dukart replied that he is working on it at present and it will be retroactive to the first pay of 2006.

**Delegations**

Deferred to later in the meeting.

**Committee Reports**

Motion No.  
127-06

Motion by Councillor Beland to accept Committee Reports numbered 7.1 to 7.4 as information.

Carried

**Business Arising from  
Committee Reports**

None.

**New Business**

AWN Agreement  
Signing Invitation  
May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Mayor and Council have been invited to attend the AWN/ATCO Agreement Signing Ceremony on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006. If any Councillor is interested in attending, please advise Mr. Dukart.

Memo from  
Youth Coordinator,  
April McLean

A request was received from April McLean, Youth Coordinator, to have the rental fees waived for the Friday night youth program, held at the curling rink. The total cost for the program's duration will be approximately \$1,200.00. Ms. McLean noted there is no money in her budget for this.

Motion No.  
128-06

Motion by Councillor McCormick to cover the cost of the curling rink for the Friday night youth program with money from the grant discretionary fund.

Carried

## Financial Reports

Payment of Accounts  
Dated April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Council was provided with a listing of Payroll and Accounts Payable cheques, numbered 20060726 to 20060964 in the amount of \$429,983.17.

Motion No.  
129-06

Motion by Councillor Bailey to accept the Payment of Accounts dated April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006 for information.

Carried

Monthly Cash Statement  
For the Month Ending  
January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006

Motion No.  
130-06

Motion by Councillor Bailey to accept the Monthly Cash Statement for the month ending January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006.

Carried

## Correspondence- Items for Action

Alberta Sustainable Resources  
Development, Reappraisal  
Letter, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006

Mr. Dukart stated Mr. Ivan Strang, MLA was checking into the reappraised cost of the land the Town wants to purchase. Mr. Dukart suggested pressing forward with the purchase and not delaying, if there is a credit for the purchase, it can be applied after.

Motion No.  
131-06

Motion by Councillor Frentz to accept Item 11.1, Alberta Sustainable Resources Development Reappraisal Letter, dated April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006 for information as approval had been granted at a prior meeting.

Carried

Highschool Grounds  
Maintenance

A letter was received from Ms. Sheila Sutherland and Ms. Dorothy Land, Custodians at Grande Cache Community Highschool regarding grounds maintenance. Mr. Denis Landry is unable to continue with his contract to do the maintenance. Local lawn service companies were contacted, but do not have the type of equipment needed. Therefore, they are asking the Town to cover this service.

Mr. Dukart noted in the past there was an agreement for the Town to cut the grass on the property. Mr. Aucoin supplied a memo stating that due to manpower shortages, he recommends not taking on the contract. Mr. Dukart stated the lawn was in a terrible state last year and suggested having Public Works try it to see how much time it would take.

Mr. Frentz stated the lawn maintenance was downloaded to the school custodians because of cutbacks by the school division. That property does belong to the school division and maintenance should be their responsibility.

Council decided to leave the issue of Public Works doing the maintenance on a trial basis with Administration to decide as they see fit. Contact is to be made with the school trustee to let him

know that the maintenance for the schools should be a school responsibility.

**Used Street  
Sweeper**

A memo was submitted to Council from Public Works Director Aucoin, outlining the need to purchase a street sweeper. There is a 1995 Elgin Street Sweeper for auction in the City of Edmonton. There are also five 1992 Elgins for sale in the City of Calgary. They are priced at \$38,000.00-\$45,000.00 per sweeper.

**Motion No.  
132-06**

Motion by Councillor Beland to approve Director Aucoin's request to proceed with the purchase of a used street sweeper with funding to come from the allocated 2006 Public Works equipment budget.

Carried

**Request for  
Proposals for  
Highway Commercial  
Subdivision**

Mr. Bob Krewusik, Development Officer, submitted a Request for Proposals for Highway Commercial Subdivision development for Council's review. Mr. Tony Yakielashek appeared before the last Regular Council meeting to express his interest in developing this area on the north end of town. Since then, other developers have come forward and expressed interest in that area. Mr. Krewusik recommends the Town advertise the land for sale and see what kind of proposals are submitted to Council for development and price.

**Motion No.  
133-06**

Motion by Councillor McCormick to move forward with the Request for Proposals to develop the Highway Commercial Subdivision.

Carried

Mr. Dukart noted it would be advertised locally because of the interest already generated in town. Councillor Frentz suggested adding it to the Town's website also.

**Correspondence-  
Items for Information**

Motion by Councillor Bailey to accept Items 12.1 to 12.26 as information.

Councillor Bailey asked how the project being carried out by Barr Ryder was progressing. Mr. Dukart stated Barr Ryder had signed a contract and so far the project was on time and on budget. Barr Ryder representatives will be in town on Wednesday for a site inspection and meeting.

**Correspondence-  
Not bound in  
Package**

None.

**Other Business**

**Monthly Reports**

Department Month-end reports were accepted as information.

Councillor Frentz commented on Tara Fesyk's monthly report. He stated it was an excellent report with a lot of good information. Mayor Krewusik stated Ms. Fesyk has been very busy establishing contacts, both in and out of the community. Mayor

Krewusik and Ms. Fesyk will be attending a conference in Drayton Valley on downtown beautification later this week.

Councillor Coray took issue with some comments in Ms. Fesyk's report with respect to Milner's mine plans, specifically that the mine would kill tourism. Councillor Frenz stated we have dangerous goods going through Town now at a steady rate.

Councillor McCormick believed the trucks going through Town would cause the Town to become filthy along Highway #40 and asked Council to imagine what it would look like in a couple of years.

Councillor Dube stated she had attended the Open House by Milner. They appear to be doing due diligence. Councillor Dube asked if anyone had sat and watched the filth of the trucks passing through our town already.

Councillor McCormick stated a lot of residents were commenting on the dirty condition of the downtown core. It was unfortunate that Mr. Jean Bourdua, Chamber of Commerce, could not attend today's meeting to present the results of the survey the Chamber completed with respect to the proposed coal haul. Councillor McCormick stated the majority of constituents do not want the coal haul through Town.

Mr. Dukart noted Mr. Jeff McLean, Milner Power Inc., is arranging to meet with Alberta Transportation, he has invited a representative from Council to attend also.

Mayor Krewusik indicated the differences in perception around the Council table were probably indicative of the community. She stated it appeared that Milner was gathering as much information as possible. Mayor Krewusik felt it was Town Council's responsibility to listen to both sides. It's important to develop industry, but at what cost. Everyone needs to work in concert to ensure long-term growth.

#### Clean-Up Week

Councillor Coray will work with Public Works Director Aucoin to pick a clean up week.

#### Delegations

Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Taylor  
With Mrs. Flo Alden,  
Re: Insurance Issue

Mr. & Mrs. Taylor, along with their insurance agent, Mrs. Flo Alden, appeared before Council to discuss a sewer backup that occurred in February of 2006. Six households had their sewers back up on 97<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The other five homes were covered by insurance, the Taylors were not. The total cost of replacement and repairs is approximately \$35,000.00. The Taylors are requesting the Town cover the cost.

Councillor Beland asked if the Taylors' insurance would cover this cost. Mr. Taylor stated they were not covered. Mrs. Alden asked what Council was prepared to do, what does Council feel the Town is responsible for.

Mr. Dukart stated the Town's insurance company denied the request, stating the Town was not negligent in their duties. The Town's insurance company recommended not setting a precedent by paying for the damages.

Councillor Frentz stated the five other homes had sewer backup. Why didn't the Taylors? Councillor Coray noted it was incumbent on the insurance agent to offer the coverage.

Mrs. Alden stated when a sewer is blocked and backs up, and it's on town property, it's the town's responsibility. Councillor Frentz stated there was no blockage. Mrs. Taylor stated if it came from the water treatment plant, why was it not classified as water escape.

Mrs. Alden again asked what Council thought the Town was responsible for. Councillor Beland stated as a Town, Council has to do as directed by their lawyers and insurance agent. Mrs. Taylor stated ultimately, it was the Town's equipment that caused the problem. Mayor Krewusik stated the circumstances that lead to the incident could not have been prevented. Mrs. Alden asked if daily maintenance would have helped prevent it. Mayor Krewusik stated daily maintenance is performed.

Mrs. Alden stated as a customer of the Town of Grande Cache, the Taylors are being left out in the cold. Councillor Frentz stated the same could be said of Mrs. Alden's insurance company, as customers, the Taylors are being left out in the cold with no insurance.

Mayor Krewusik sympathized with the Taylors, noting it must be horrific to go through this and then to find out you're not covered by insurance. Council has to look at setting a precedent; if, for example ten houses flooded, the Town could be on the hook for one million dollars. That type of situation could be devastating to a municipality. Mayor Krewusik stated she would get back to Mr. & Mrs. Taylor within a week and thanked them for coming and sharing their concerns with Council.

## **Other Business Continued...**

### **Campground Reservations**

Mayor Krewusik stated at a previous Council meeting, it was agreed Council would support Grande Cache being included in a golf promotion package. The plan being visitors can phone one of our local hotels or campground to book accommodations and they will in turn book the golf course. The concern is, if the campground is full with resource workers, visitors will not be able to reserve a site; therefore, we may need to take the campground out of the package. Mayor Krewusik asked Council if visitors should be allowed to book reservations ahead of time and secure with a credit card and if a certain amount of sites should be left open for this purpose.

Councillor McCormick suggested in the interest of Tourism, visitors should be allowed to book ahead and some sites should be left open for them.

Councillor Bailey stated this is a problem being faced by other communities as well and noted he was a proponent of Tourism. If reservations are pre-booked with a credit card, the campground will not lose if the visitors do not come. They will still be charged if they don't cancel within a certain timeframe. Councillor Bailey asked Council why the campground was built, was it to accommodate workers or to promote Tourism? Councillor Bailey is in full support of taking reservations and limiting space for resource workers. The campground's main goal should be Tourism.

Councillor Coray inquired as to how many sites were available at Marv Moore Campground. Mr. Dukart replied there were 78 and he thought the only time visitors were turned away was Death Race Weekend.

Councillor Frentz noted if the campground was run as a business and the only time people were turned away was Death Race Weekend, he doesn't see the need for reserving sites. He suggested maybe 10 sites be set aside for bookings, but if they are not being used, he has an issue with that.

Mayor Krewusik spoke with a group of campers who travel to Grande Cache every weekend. They camp along the highway, but would much prefer to have a spot in the campground.

Councillor Beland stated he knew campers who were turned away last summer. He agrees with reserving ten sites for visitors and with allowing reservations to be booked.

Councillor McCormick stated the long weekends in May and September and the Death Race weekend, people were turned away from the campground.

Mayor Krewusik spoke with Mrs. Judith Coughlin at the Tourism Centre and was told there were a lot of people turned away last year.

Councillor McCormick stated in order to support local tourism business, we need to be able to accommodate visitors. Councillor Dube stated she was at a conference on the weekend and there was a lot of interest in the golfing packages.

Councillor Frentz stated he would like to see the hard facts as to campground bookings for last year, he would also like to get statistics from Dean Marsters for the campgrounds he manages.

Mayor Krewusik stated a decision was needed today on reserving the sites, as Ms. Fesyk had to get the information to the magazine by noon today.

Motion No.  
134-06

Motion by Councillor McCormick to accept reservations at Marv Moore Campground for a maximum of ten sites, for a maximum stay of seven days.

Friendly  
Amendment

Motion No.  
135-05

Friendly Amendment made by Councillor Frentz to approve Councillor McCormick's motion with the stipulation it be reviewed again in sixty days.

Carried

Motion No.  
134-06

Carried

Mayor Krewusik directed Administration to have the reservations option put into effect immediately and to gather the required stats from the campgrounds.

Sgt. Art Hopkins  
NCO i/c  
Grande Cache  
Detachment

Sgt. Art Hopkins appeared before Council to review the latest criminal code statistics from 1999 to the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2006. Sgt. Hopkins stated the Detachment is much busier now than the same period last year.

Councillor Frentz asked about the Quad problem around Town. Sgt. Hopkins stated he made one seizure and several warnings and tickets have been issued. The new member is scheduled to start in July, they will have more manpower available at that time.

Councillor Beland stated it appeared the RCMP were doing a good job on the highway, he's noticed that people have slowed down. Sgt. Hopkins stated Jasper is guaranteeing coverage one day per week on Highway #40, members from Grande Prairie are extending their patrols this way as well.

Mayor Krewusik stated she attended a Drug Action Committee meeting in Hinton, the time has come for Grande Cache to formalize a drug action committee. AADAC is coming to Town, that is a good starting point. She believes Interagency needs to be the starting point in which to spearhead some initiatives with respect to education, prevention, etc. The entire community must take a stand and promote our intolerance.

Councillor McCormick asked if there were specific gangs involved with the drug trade in Grande Cache. Sgt. Hopkins noted most of Grande Cache's drugs seemed to be coming from southern Alberta, not north. He believes it's not one particular gang and is limited to what he can say.

Sgt. Hopkins noted 37 adults attended the workshop put on by Ian Sanderson, most of them were agency representatives. Mayor Krewusik stated we have to build on that. In Hinton, people actually went door to door with pamphlets to educate the public.

Sgt. Hopkins noted the RCMP has made two substantial seizures in the last couple of months in Grande Cache. He expressed his frustration with these individuals being released on bail and then being picked up again for the same crimes.

Mayor Krewusik noted Hinton was seeing a decrease in meth use and an increase in crack cocaine use. She asked Sgt. Hopkins what his major concerns were. Sgt. Hopkins stated drugs, assaults and impaired driving.

Councillor McCormick stated the community appears to be having a rash of property thefts. Sgt. Hopkins noted vehicles are being entered and objects such as satellite radios and cell phones are being stolen. Most of these vehicles were left unlocked.

Mayor Krewusik thanked Sgt. Hopkins for his presentation and requested that Council receive the crime statistics on a quarterly basis.

Discussion,  
Re: Mr. & Mrs. Taylor  
Insurance Issue

Mayor Krewusik stated in fairness to Mr. & Mrs. Taylor, Council needed to make a decision as quickly as possible.

Motion No.  
136-06

Motion by Councillor Dube to deny the request from Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Taylor for the Town of Grande Cache to cover the cost of damages incurred by the sewer backup on February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2006, in accordance with the Town's insurance company's recommendation.

Carried

### Round Table

Bear Proof  
Garbage Bins

Councillor McCormick asked if any more information was received on the bear-proof garbage bins. Mr. Dukart noted that information was provided at a meeting Councillor McCormick was not present for, he will get the information for him.

Skateboard Park

Councillor Dube noted there is a meeting May 4<sup>th</sup> for the committee trying to build a skateboard park.

Seniors Fashion  
Show

There will be a seniors' fashion show on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the seniors' centre.

Communities  
In Bloom

Councillor Beland feels the Communities in Bloom program is very worthwhile to this community. If enough volunteers cannot be found, he recommends the Town, along with Tourism and other groups, provide funds to cover the cost of hiring someone. Mayor Krewusik suggested waiting until after the open meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., to see if volunteers come forward.

Action Log

Councillor Bailey asked if the Action Log could be reinstated in the Council packages.

In-Camera

Motion No.  
137-06

Motion by Councillor Beland to move in camera at 12:15 p.m.

Out-of-Camera

Motion No.  
138-06

Motion by Councillor Beland to come out of camera and revert back to the Regular meeting of Council at 12:55 p.m.

Motion No.  
139-06

Motion by Councillor McCormick to give Mayor Krewusik the authority to provide an offer of employment to Mr. Darren Ottaway within the parameters outlined in the DRAFT Offer, dated April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2006.

Carried

### Adjournment

Motion No.  
140-06

Motion by Councillor Dube that this Regular meeting of Council be adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Carried

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Mayor

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Municipal Administrator