

**TOWN OF GRANDE CACHE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 30, 2007 at 5:00 pm
Council Chambers**

Present: Mayor Louise Krewusik
Deputy Mayor Terry Coray
Councillor Paul Bailey
Councillor Vic Beland
Councillor Jackie Dube
Councillor Gordon Frenz
Councillor Tony McCormick
Darren Ottaway, Chief Administrative Officer
Carolyn Ferraby, Chief Financial Officer
Lisa Brown, Executive Secretary

Regrets: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Louise Krewusik called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

**Moved by Councillor Dube and seconded by Councillor McCormick
16/07 RESOLVED THAT** the agenda is adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. DELEGATIONS

3.1 RCMP Monthly Report

Sgt. Hopkins did not attend the meeting.

3.2 Mr. Tim Riordon, Grande Cache Coal

Mr. Tim Riordon told Council that Grande Cache Coal were temporarily shutting down their operations due to the current price of coal, low sales, low Canadian dollar value and large bills to pay. He explained there is also a problem with the tailings ponds, as they no longer have access to use the fourth pond. They are meeting with the provincial government to help negotiate access, but EUB regulations for reclamation requirements are quite stringent, and they have been asked to provide bonds.

Coal sales in Europe are increasing and there are ships waiting at port, but due to problems with the rail transportation, they were unable to move the coal. The rail transport problem is fixed, and shipments will begin shortly.

Mr. Riordon said crews will be coming in next week to prepare for start-up, and the following week regular shifts will begin. He told Council that the future for Grande Cache Coal looks good.

Mayor Krewusik asked Mr. Riordon if the company has been experiencing labour shortages. Mr. Riordon explained that with the current economy in Alberta there are problems getting trades people and skilled labourers.

Mr. Riordon said the company has committed to purchasing approximately \$30 million in new equipment, and will be running the open pit starting in July. He said No. 12 Mine and the underground sources will last for up to two years. The company is currently applying for permits to open No. 8 Mine.

Mr. Riordon told Council that the expansion will increase numbers to approximately 250 employees. They are currently in the recruitment process.

Mayor Krewusik thanked Mr. Riordon for attending the meeting and providing Council with an update on the company's operations.

3.3 Mr. Aaron Davis, Foothills Forest Products

Mayor Krewusik gave condolences on behalf of Council for Mr. Joe Cerasa.

Mr. Aaron Davis thanked Mayor and Council for inviting him to the meeting and said that Foothills Forest Products would continue operations. He said the owners decided to keep the mill in operation with two sawmill shifts, a planer line shift and the pellet productions. The company has plans to expand the pellet production, and will be purchasing additional equipment. They also anticipate beginning the panel plant operations in June/July.

Mayor Krewusik asked Mr. Davis if they are experiencing any labour shortages. Mr. Davis said the mill currently employs 97 in the sawmill, 26 in the logging sector and more through contractors. Councillor McCormick asked if the company has a recruitment program. Mr. Davis said that they have a training program in place for when they hire locals, but attracting trades people is difficult.

Councillor Coray asked Mr. Davis if the company has been allotted any timber in response to the Mountain Pine Beetle problem. Mr. Davis explained that the provincial government is controlling this situation, and are quite proactive in their response. He said they will be notified soon in regard to any cutting.

Mayor Krewusik asked if the company has FMA approvals. Mr. Davis said the company will be submitting a proposal to the provincial government as a "value added plant". Mayor Krewusik asked if this will work to the company's advantage. Mr. Davis explained they have found that with a smaller, family-run company it is easier to make and implement decisions.

Councillor Frenz asked that once the panel plant is in operation, will the company continue producing dimensional lumber as well. Mr. Davis told Council that the timber the mill receives is not always the quality required to make panels, and that logs of lower quality will be used to produce dimensional lumber. Councillor Dube asked if the company will be setting up a demo pellet stove. Mr. Davis said that they have plans for this.

Mayor Krewusik thanked Mr. Davis for attending the meeting and providing updates for the company's operations.

3.4 Citizens of the Community, re: Animal Control By-Law

Mayor Krewusik welcomed the delegates in attendance for the Animal Control By-Law. She explained that the proposed by-law was drafted in order to combine the two current by-laws, one for dogs and one for cats. She said that guidelines for enforcement were needed for both residents and staff, which resulted in Council directing Administration to draft the proposed by-law.

Mayor Krewusik said that when this By-Law was presented at the Regular Meeting on December 19, 2006, Council decided to proceed in passing it. She said that although the by-law received all three readings and was passed, the proper procedures, in accordance with the Alberta Municipal Government Act, were not followed. Council then withdrew the By-Law. Mayor Krewusik explained the procedure for passing a by-law. She said Council is aware that there are specific sections in the proposed by-law that are controversial, and that they are prepared to hear comments from the delegates present. She told the delegates that anyone wishing to speak would be allowed five minutes to make their comments.

Rod Head provided the Mayor with a petition against the Animal Control By-Law No. 646. Mr. Head told Council that he is against Sections 3.4 and 3.7 in the proposed

by-law, which he feels is prejudiced towards specific breeds of dogs. He said it is both cruel and inhuman to discriminate against a specific breed.

Stephen and Kelli Blanc spoke against the banning of specific breeds.

Norman Blackburn asked to speak next. He asked Council if anyone was a vet, breeder, animal trainer, kennel owner or operator. He said he has researched the current by-laws for several communities and asked if he could verbally provide Council with his findings. Mayor Krewusik asked him if he could provide only pertinent information without reading all the by-laws he researched. Mr. Blackburn gave a brief verbal overview of his findings. Mayor Krewusik thanked Mr. Blackburn and told the delegates that Council will take their comments into consideration when deliberating the proposed by-law. Councillor Frentz explained his reasons for voting to implement this by-law as quick as possible, and apologized for pushing it through without seeking public consultation.

Kaelynne Cropley provided Council with information on the top ten dangerous breeds. She said she is against banning specific breeds.

Laura Statton said she agrees with the previous speakers on banning specific breeds.

Pam Rose said she is against banning specific breeds and gave her reasons.

Jim Miller said he is against banning specific breeds and placing unreasonable restrictions on them, such as muzzles, length of leash, etc.

Yvon Vautour said he is against banning specific breeds. He said dangerous dogs and their owners should be fined and punished based on their behaviour, not on a specific breed of dog. If an animal has displayed dangerous behaviours take it from the owner and get rid of it.

A. Batten said he is against banning specific breeds.

Melody Livingston said she is against banning specific breeds, and agreed that owners of vicious dogs should be punished.

Mayor Krewusik told the delegates that the issue of dogs running at large will be addressed by the new by-law officer. She summarized the comments from the delegates, specifying the following points:

- Breed discrimination
- Dealing with dangerous dogs and owners, not categorizing specific breeds
- Dealing with the problem of dogs running at large
- Number of dogs allowed in a residence
- Responsible ownership

Jim Miller asked Council to keep the public informed on this by-law as they continue to deliberate it. Mayor Krewusik said that Council has committed to listening to the public and values the input from citizens.

4. READING OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Coray and seconded by Councillor Frentz

17/07 RESOLVED THAT the following minutes:

Regular Meeting on December 19, 2006
Special Meeting on January 10, 2007
Special Meeting on January 23, 2007
Special Meeting on January 24, 2007

be taken as circulated and approved as amended, all statutory requirements having been filled.

CARRIED

Councillor Frentz asked for clarification on attendance at Public Hearings and eligibility for voting on by-laws. Mayor Krewusik said they will discuss this under 9.0 By-Laws.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Community Infrastructure Committee, January 2, 2007

Moved by Councillor Beland and seconded by Councillor Bailey

18/07 RESOLVED THAT the report of the Community Infrastructure Committee meeting of January 2, 2007 is accepted as presented, with the following item recommended to Council for approval:

a) Issue Sheet – Recreation Centre Passes for Firefighters

CARRIED

Councillor Coray gave a brief overview of the meeting minutes. D. Ottaway explained that the landfill operator position is currently under review, and that one consideration from Committee was to amend the hours the landfill is open to the public. A recommendation will be brought to Committee for review. Councillor Frentz said he would like a 7-day operation with shorter hours. D. Ottaway said that with the Strategic Plan, other options will be considered, including tipping fees, recycling, etc.

Councillor Dube asked about the new grader. Councillor Coray said the Town is currently leasing a grader, because a municipal lease is more cost effective than a regular lease or purchasing the equipment. D. Ottaway explained how the lease works and said that the Public Works Department is also compiling a list of emergency personnel for snow removal priority.

Mayor Krewusik asked for information on the letter from the MD of Greenview. Councillor Coray said that it is a by-law implemented to charge levies for gravel pits.

5.2 Community Development Committee, January 9, 2007

Councillor Coray gave a verbal overview of the Community Development Committee meeting report.

Councillor Beland asked why the Phase VI gas and water contracts have to be re-tendered. D. Ottaway explained that the shallow utility work had to be cancelled because of the heavy snowfall, and the contracts since expired.

Councillor Dube asked about the meeting with the Canmore Development Department. Mayor Krewusik said the meeting is to take place on February 9.

Councillor McCormick asked what is the status with the upper industrial area. Mayor Krewusik said she received a call today from our MLA Ivan Strang, and he informed her the land has been transferred.

Councillor McCormick asked what was happening with the woodpile in Phase VI. Councillor Frentz asked if it was published in the paper. He also asked if the roads were in at Phase VI. D. Ottaway explained that the work will be completed this spring. The asphalt overlay project will be done in Phase VI and will tie in with the skateboard park paving.

Councillor Bailey asked what was happening with J. Bladen's mobile home in Phase V. D. Ottaway said he received an email from Mr. Bladen requesting that the Town give him options for this property.

D. Ottaway explained to Council the process for drafting a development agreement for the industrial property being sold to Cummings/Head.

Moved by Councillor Frenz and seconded by Councillor Coray

19/07 RESOLVED THAT the report of the Community Development Committee meeting of January 9, 2007 is accepted as presented.

CARRIED

5.3 Recreation, Culture and Heritage on January 25, 2007

Councillor Dube gave a verbal overview of the Committee report. D. Ottaway told Council that the Recreation Centre staff organizational chart and job descriptions have been completed and presented to the staff.

Councillor Dube gave Council a brief report on the status of the skateboard park. Councillor Coray asked what the actual costs would be. Councillor Dube explained the details of the equipment, and Councillor McCormick gave details on the pad required. Councillor Frenz asked the Committee to gather all the information to complete the project and bring it back to Council.

Councillor Bailey explained that this will be presented to Council in the Interim Operating Budget. Councillor McCormick said the urgency stems from the time limit on discounts being offered on the equipment. Mayor Krewusik told Council to consider guidelines set out in our Strategic Plan, then deliberate and decide which projects will be financed by the Town.

Councillor McCormick explained why this project came to Council for discussion, and said that the funds being raised are separate from the Town accounts. He said that something needs to be done for the youth in our community.

Councillor Frenz said an Issue Sheet providing costs details on this project needs to be presented to Council. Councillor Coray noted that the Personnel, Finance and Social Development Committee report shows an item for interim financing. Councillor McCormick explained that funds would be provided to the Skateboard Park Committee and as money is collected by that Committee, it will be turned over to the Town. Councillor Frenz said the information sheet for the equipment doesn't specify costs for installation. Councillor McCormick said installation costs are included in the prices. Councillor Frenz said none of this information states that fact.

Mayor Krewusik requested that a package detailing all costs, expectations be provided to Council. She said this project should have full Town support.

Councillor Dube told Council she has been contacted by several local businesses and companies who are in their budget process and would like consensus from Council to send out fundraising letters. Council agreed that the Town supports this project and our logo with 'Proud supporter of this project' be printed on the letters.

Councillor Bailey asked how much input from the youth is going into the project, and have any tried out this equipment. Councillor McCormick said several participate in the project and have tried out some of this equipment, which helped them to decide what to purchase.

Mayor Krewusik asked about the Palette Pal project for the Tourism Centre. Councillor Dube said she spoke to their chairperson and the project is proceeding.

Councillor Beland asked about the memo he submitted regarding the toboggan hill. D. Ottaway explained he sent Councillor Beland an email detailing the decision made by the Committee, and that the issue will be addressed.

Moved by Councillor Dube and seconded by Councillor McCormick

20/07 RESOLVED THAT the report of the Recreation, Culture and Heritage Committee meeting of January 25, 2007 is accepted as presented.

CARRIED

5.4 Personnel, Finance and Social Development Committee, January 26, 2007

Councillor Bailey gave a verbal overview of the Committee meeting.

Councillor Coray said although he is the representative on the Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway Association, he is not on their list. He said he doesn't believe there is any value to continuing our membership. Councillor Frenz asked if we received free maps and brochures. He said Grande Cache gets good coverage by them. Councillor McCormick asked if they supported our efforts on Highway 40. Mayor Krewusik asked if we made such a request from them.

ACTION: Council directed Administration to renew our membership with the Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway Association, and issue a letter stating Councillor Coray is the representative for the Town of Grande Cache.

Councillor Dube told Council about the 'Pay It Forward Committee'. She explained this group will provide assistance when it is unavailable through other agencies. Councillor McCormick said this was also discussed at the FCSS meeting, and the group expects to assist people when other social service agencies are unable. Mayor Krewusik said this was also discussed at the Inter Agency meeting. She asked Councillor Dube if she is volunteering or expects to be paid. Councillor Bailey said that it's a great idea, but Council receives requests from many other organizations asking for Council representation. He asked if we should be involved or should it be another organization. Mayor Krewusik asked if the group would be interested in attending a Council meeting as a delegation and provide additional information.

ACTION: Contact the Pay It Forward Committee and request them to attend a Council meeting and provide additional information for Council.

Moved by Councillor Bailey and seconded by Councillor Beland

21/07 RESOLVED THAT the report of the Personnel, Finance and Social Development Committee meeting of January 26, 2007 is accepted as presented.

CARRIED

6. OTHER REPORTS

6.1 Grande Yellowhead Regional Division No. 35, Meeting Minutes for January 10, 2007

Council accepted the Minutes as information.

6.2 Yellowhead Region Educational Society, Annual General Meeting Minutes for October 4, 2006

Council accepted the Minutes as information.

6.3 Yellowhead Region Educational Society/Regional Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes for October 4, 2006

Council accepted the Minutes as information.

6.4 Evergreens Foundation Board Meeting Minutes for November 9, 2006

Council accepted the Minutes as information.

6.5 Report, Meeting with Municipal District of Greenview No. 16

Mayor Krewusik gave a verbal report of the meeting with the MD of Greenview. She and D. Ottaway met with their counterparts from Valleyview and Fox Creek on Monday to discuss Revenue Sharing with the MD of Greenview. On Wednesday, they appeared as a delegation before the Council for the MD of Greenview to discuss

Revenue Sharing and the current agreements. She said the delegation asked to leave the current agreement in place until a new agreement is negotiated. A committee with all four CAO's was formed to work on these issues. She said this issue is the same across the province.

D. Ottaway said that he has spoken with the CAO from the MD of Greenview and he said their Council has not made a decision on the delegation's request, but he will continue to follow up on this issue.

Councillor Coray asked if the Town will still receive money from the MD, or will it leave us short of revenue for the next budget. D. Ottaway explained that the current agreement contains a clause that money continues as agreed until a new agreement has been negotiated. Councillor Frentz asked if the Town can expand the boundaries, possibly include the mine and mill. D. Ottaway said this is an option.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

	<u>From</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
7.1	Mr. Rob Renner, Minister of Municipal Affairs	Letter, Funding for Emergency Management Training	Info
7.2	Mr. Ivan Strang, MLA West Yellowhead	Letter, Standard for Secondary Suites	Info
7.3	Mr. Ivan Strang, MLA West Yellowhead	Letter, Community Initiative Fund	Info
7.4	RCMP "K" Division	Letter, Meeting with RCMP	Info
7.5	County of Grande Prairie No. 1	Letter, NAIT Facility in Grande Prairie	Action
7.6	Town of Fox Creek	Letter, Mountain Pine Beetle	Info
7.7	Premier Ed Stelmach	Letter of Thanks	Info
7.8	Atco Electric	Letter, Vision for the Future	Info
7.9	Housing 1 st	Conference Information Package	Info
7.10	Mr. Harry Arneson and Mr. John Bladen	Letter, Affordable Housing Partnership Initiative Application	Info
7.11	Town of Hinton	Letter, 50 th Anniversary Celebration	Info
7.12	Northern Alberta Development	Letter, Nomination for Council	Info
7.13	Office of the Mayor	Letter sent to D. McKenna	Info
7.14	Town of Grande Cache	Open House	Info

ACTION: Council directed Administration to send a letter of support to the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, re: NAIT Facility

Regarding Item 7.2, Councillor Frentz asked if the appropriate departments have been notified of the Secondary Suite Standards as set out by the provincial government. D. Ottaway said they have received this information.

Regarding Item 7.13, Mayor Krewusik told Council she sent a letter to D. McKenna on behalf of the Town and Council, congratulating him on his acceptance to the RCMP training and thanking him for his contributions to the community.

Regarding Item 7.14, D. Ottaway told Council that the ad for the Open House was not published in the newspaper in error. However, flyers were hand delivered to the downtown businesses, posters were put up around town, a residential mail drop of the flyers was also done and announcements were on the local radio. All senior managers will attend. He said the presentation will be informal, and asked for Councillors to please attend.

8. FINANCIAL

8.1 Approval of the Accounts, dated January 25, 2007

Moved by Councillor Coray and seconded by Councillor McCormick

22/07 WHEREAS the accounts of the Town of Grande Cache for the period ending January 25, 2007 have been examined and found to be in order;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT General Cheques numbered 20063329 to 20070303 in the amount of \$760,698.63; and payroll debits for \$165,687.23, for a total amount of \$926,385.86 be approved.

CARRIED

8.2 Approval of Monthly Financial Statement for December, 2006

C. Ferraby gave a verbal overview of the Statement, with the following points:

- Currently working on government grants, completing the required paperwork
- Auditors coming
- Finalizing amounts for 2006

D. Ottaway said they are currently working on clearing up everything for 2006.

Moved by Councillor Bailey and seconded by Councillor Dube

23/07 RESOLVED THAT the Monthly Financial Statement for December, 2006 is accepted as presented.

CARRIED

8.3 Approval of Interim Operating Budget for 2007

D. Ottaway explained that this has not been done before, but should be done annually. He said that they used the amounts from the 2006 Budget and added 15% for the Interim Operating Budget. The Recreation and Cultural Services Expenditures amount includes \$180,000 for the Skateboard Park. The money is included if the item is approved, but it doesn't mean that the money has to be spent.

Moved by Councillor Beland and seconded by Councillor Coray

24/07 BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the 2007 Interim Operating Budget is accepted as presented:

REVENUES	<u>2007 Interim Operating Budget</u>
Net Municipal Property Taxes	\$1,041,461
Government Transfers	1,004,786
User Fees and Sale of Goods	388,623
Interest and Investment Income	9,928
Penalties and Cost of Taxes	21,083
Franchise and Concession Contracts	74,750
Fines, Rentals, Licenses and Permits	161,374
Other	6,049
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>\$2,708,055</u>
EXPENDITURES	
Council and Other Legislative Services	\$ 79,585
Administrative Services	295,501
Protective Services	126,219
Transportation Services	810,236
Utilities and Disposal Services	287,186
Public Health and Welfare Services	78,007
Planning and Development Services	128,853
Recreation and Cultural Services	902,469
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$2,708,055</u>
	<u>\$ 0</u>

CARRIED

9. BY-LAWS

Mayor Krewusik recommended to Council that a Special Meeting be organized as soon as possible to discuss all three proposed by-laws. She said the meeting should be advertised in the local newspaper and radio, as well as on the Town's website. Council agreed to a Special Meeting to be held at 5:00 pm on Tuesday, February 6, 2007 in Council Chambers.

D. Ottaway explained the options for dealing with the by-laws, that each one should be discussed by Council and decided if the by-law be passed as is; be withdrawn; or passed as amended.

9.1 Animal Control By-Law No. 646

Tabled to Special Meeting on Tuesday, February 6, 2007.

9.2 Smoking By-Law No 647

Tabled to Special Meeting on Tuesday, February 6, 2007.

9.3 Bed and Breakfast By-Law No. 648

Tabled to Special Meeting on Tuesday, February 6, 2007.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

11. NEW BUSINESS

None

12. IN CAMERA

Moved by Councillor Frenz and seconded by Councillor Bailey

25/07 RESOLVED THAT Council enter into a closed session meeting at 8:12 pm.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Coray and seconded by Councillor Dube

26/07 RESOLVED THAT Council end the closed session meeting and revert back to the Regular Council Meeting at 8:52 pm.

CARRIED

13. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Dube and seconded by Councillor Coray

27/07 WHEREAS the business of this meeting has now been completed;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council does now adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting concluded at 8:54 pm.

RECAPULATION

Motions:

Moved by Councillor Dube and seconded by Councillor McCormick

16/07 RESOLVED THAT the agenda is adopted as amended.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Coray and seconded by Councillor Frentz

17/07 RESOLVED THAT the following minutes:

Regular Meeting on December 19, 2006

Special Meeting on January 10, 2007

Special Meeting on January 23, 2007

Special Meeting on January 24, 2007

be taken as circulated and approved as amended, all statutory requirements having been filled.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Beland and seconded by Councillor Bailey

18/07 RESOLVED THAT the report of the Community Infrastructure Committee meeting of January 2, 2007 is accepted as presented, with the following item recommended to Council for approval:

b) Issue Sheet – Recreation Centre Passes for Firefighters

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Frentz and seconded by Councillor Coray

19/07 RESOLVED THAT the report of the Community Development Committee meeting of January 9, 2007 is accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Dube and seconded by Councillor McCormick

20/07 RESOLVED THAT the report of the Recreation, Culture and Heritage Committee meeting of January 25, 2007 is accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Bailey and seconded by Councillor Beland

21/07 RESOLVED THAT the report of the Personnel, Finance and Social Development Committee meeting of January 26, 2007 is accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Coray and seconded by Councillor McCormick

22/07 WHEREAS the accounts of the Town of Grande Cache for the period ending January 25, 2007 have been examined and found to be in order;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT General Cheques numbered 20063329 to 20070303 in the amount of \$760,698.63; and payroll debits for \$165,687.23, for a total amount of \$926,385.86 be approved.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Bailey and seconded by Councillor Dube

23/07 RESOLVED THAT the Monthly Financial Statement for December, 2006 is accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Beland and seconded by Councillor Coray

24/07 BE IT RESOLVED THAT: the 2007 Interim Operating Budget is accepted as presented:

REVENUES	<u>2007 Interim Operating Budget</u>
Net Municipal Property Taxes	\$1,041,461
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CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Frenz and seconded by Councillor Bailey

25/07 RESOLVED THAT Council enter into a closed session meeting at 8:12 pm.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Coray and seconded by Councillor Dube

26/07 RESOLVED THAT Council end the closed session meeting and revert back to the Regular Council Meeting at 8:52 pm.

CARRIED

Moved by Councillor Dube and seconded by Councillor Coray

27/07 WHEREAS the business of this meeting has now been completed;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council does now adjourn.

CARRIED

Actions:

Council directed Administration to renew our membership with Trans Canada Yellowhead Highway Association, and issue a letter stating Councillor Coray is the representative for the Town of Grande Cache.

Contact the Pay It Forward Committee and request them to attend a Council meeting and provide additional information for Council.

Council directed Administration to send a letter of support to the County of Grande Prairie No. 1, re: NAIT Facility