



**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE
INFRASTRUCTURE & ECONOMIC DEV. COMMITTEE**

**September 27, 2022, 9:30 A.M.
Council Chambers, City Hall**

PRESENT	M. O'Connor	Committee Chair
	G. Blackmore	Councillor
	W. Bosch	Councillor
	J. Clayton	Mayor
ALSO PRESENT	G. Berg	Councillor
	D. Bressey	Councillor
	K. O'Toole	Councillor
	C. Thiessen	Councillor
	R. Nicolay	City Manager
	A. Miller	Deputy City Manager
	B. Glavin	Chief Operating Officer
	D. Lemieux	Chief Public & Protective Services Officer
	D. Whiteway	Chief Financial Officer
	A. Van Beekveld	Council Committee Coordinator
	C. Sheldon	Economic Development Officer
	O. Babalola	Senior Planner & Subdivision Authority
	K. Donnelly	Engineering Services Manager
	K. DeVries	Parks Supervisor

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:47 a.m.

2. DELEGATIONS

2.1 Nathan Hayes-Fry - Appeal

The Appellant is appealing a decision made on a Development Incentives & Grant. The application was denied due to the project being located outside of the "DIG Zones".

Nathan Hayes-Fry, Appellant, presented the information for his appeal.

C. Sheldon, Economic Development Officer, presented the information for the Respondent.

Mayor Clayton was not present for the entire appeal hearing; therefore she will not participate in discussions and votes regarding this matter.

MOVED by W. Bosch
Committee move In Camera.

CARRIED (3 to 0)

MOVED by G. Blackmore
Committee meeting resume.

CARRIED (3 to 0)

3. REPORTS

3.1 Director's Service Area Report

B. Glavin, Chief Operating Officer, presented Committee with an update on the current and projected activities planned throughout the service area:

- Economic Development - Invest GP will release a story about the Alberta College of Body Art this Thursday through social media and the newsletter. Since the last update, 7 new businesses have opened. Last night representatives from Invest Grande Prairie, along with Mayor Clayton attended a welcome dinner for the 2022/2023 University of Alberta Year 4 MD Program to welcome the new students to Grande Prairie. There have been 27 employers approved under the Rural Renewal Stream Program. These employers represent 150 positions currently available within the community. To date, the City has issued 6 Endorsement Letters to support new Canadians in their work visa and permanent residency application. Administration continues to see a high volume of inquiries and applications from businesses. There is 1 approved employer who was previously servicing their northwestern Alberta operations out of Edmonton and sending employees to Grande Prairie on a rotation due to challenges they have hiring locally. Because of the unique opportunity provided by the Rural Renewal Stream Program, the business has now opened a physical location within Grande Prairie and has permanently relocated some of their existing staff to Grande Prairie with the plan to scale up to ten permanent employees.
- Energy & Environment - Aquatera, Goodwill Industries, and the City have partnered for the annual Drop and Swap event, occurring October 15 at the Ernie Radbourne Pavilion from 12-4pm. Gently worn clothing can be dropped off at the Pavilion October 12-14 from 12-5pm.
- Planning & Development - Administration is working with UDI, BILD, and other stakeholders to identify MDP policies that should be reviewed; a report will come forward to Committee on this matter.
- Transportation - Administration is reviewing school signage at the new Composite High School. Utility lot blading is underway in the Richmond Industrial Park for better storm drainage. Crews are hauling dirt to assist with the bull riding event at Bonnett's this weekend.
- Parks - Administration is finishing tree planting and will move onto leaf cleanup and pulling flower beds as necessary.

3.2 Subdivision - Z22-0008 Countryside Crossing

O. Babalola, Senior Planner & Subdivision Authority, presented Committee with a Subdivision Application. This application conforms to all applicable planning documents.

K. Donnelly, Engineering Services Manager, was present to answer additional questions.

MOVED by W. Bosch

Committee approve the Subdivision Decision and Tentative Subdivision Plan for Z22-0008 Countryside Crossing as set out in Schedule A.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

3.3 Broadleaf Weed Control

K. DeVries, Parks Supervisor, presented Committee with information regarding the current spraying practice within the City. Financial costs to hire two seasonal operators are higher than increasing pesticide use, however the environmental and social consequences are understood to be significantly lower.

MOVED by Mayor J. Clayton

Committee recommend Council defer to the 2023 Budget Deliberations to increase to weekly mowing frequency along arterial corridors within the City.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

MOVED by Mayor J. Clayton

Committee recommend Council implement contracted spraying discussion for 2023 to the 2023 Budget Deliberations.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

4. CORRESPONDENCE

5. OTHER BUSINESS

6. BYLAW & POLICY REVIEW

7. OUTSTANDING ITEMS LIST

The Committee reviewed the Infrastructure & Economic Development Committee Outstanding Items List for September 27, 2022.

MOVED by W. Bosch

Committee receive the September 27, 2022 Outstanding Items List, as amended, for information.

CARRIED (4 to 0)

8. ADJOURN

The meeting ended at 11:25 a.m.

Chair

City Clerk