



MINUTES OF THE CITY OF GRANDE PRAIRIE
COUNCIL MEETING

June 30, 2025, 3:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, City Hall

PRESENT	J. Clayton	Mayor
	G. Berg	Councillor
	G. Blackmore	Councillor
	D. Bressey	Councillor
	M. O'Connor	Councillor
	K. O'Toole	Councillor
	W. Pilat (virtual)	Councillor
	C. Thiessen	Councillor
ALSO PRESENT	S. Bourke	City Manager
	D. Whiteway	Chief Financial Officer
	B. Glavin	Chief Operating Officer
	S. Cajolais	Chief Public & Protective Services Officer, Acting
	P. Bailey	Chief Strategy Officer
	J. Freeman (virtual)	City Solicitor
	A. Van Beekveld	Council Committee Coordinator

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 3:18 p.m.

2. NATIONAL ANTHEM

3. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

4. ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

4.1 City Council Meeting

MOVED by G. Berg

Council adopt the minutes of the City Council meeting held June 16, as presented.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOVED by K. O'Toole

Council adopt the Agenda as presented.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

6. DELEGATIONS

6.1 Prairie Gallery Society

Murray Quinn and Jessica Groome, representatives of the Prairie Gallery Society (o/a Art Gallery of Grande Prairie), were present to discuss the Montrose Cultural Centre Remediation Project.

6.2 Brooks Hoffos

Brooks Hoffos, resident, was present to discuss the presence of rabbits in the community.

7. REPORTS

7.1 Declaration of Insufficiency of Petition

MOVED by G. Berg

Council receive the Declaration of Insufficiency of Petition for information.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

7.2 AB Munis Resolution - Electricity Distribution

P. Bailey, Chief Strategy Officer, provided Council with an update on the City's Electricity Distribution Costs AB Munis Resolution.

8. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

8.1 Council Committee of the Whole

MOVED by G. Blackmore

Council adopt the minutes of the Council Committee of the Whole meeting held June 23 & 24, as presented.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.1.1 Grande Prairie Airport Economic Framework

MOVED by M. O'Connor

Council direct Administration to enter into discussions for a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding with Edmonton International Airport (YEG) to advance an alliance between the City and YEG in consultation with the Grande Prairie Airport Commission, in accordance with the following principles and expectations:

- City retains full ownership of the Grande Prairie Airport; and
- The Alliance is mandated to:
 - Improve the passenger experience by exploring opportunities for economic corridor development;
 - Maximize the economic potential of the GPA by optimizing potential development and real estate opportunities;
 - Collaborate on regional economic development initiatives, supporting the City's efforts to grow and expand a diversified commercial and industrial base;
 - Explore new and emerging technologies and processes to improve and streamline GPA operations; and

- Liaise with key community and business stakeholders to understand market demands and potential growth opportunities.

For: (7): Mayor J. Clayton, G. Berg, G. Blackmore, D. Bressey, M. O'Connor, K. O'Toole, and C. Thiessen

Opposed: (1): W. Pilat

CARRIED (7 to 1)

8.1.2 Community Enhancement Funding - Project Feasibility Review

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council approve Project 3, Option 2 - Beautification of the Triangle Median, Bioswaled Median.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

MOVED by G. Berg

Council approve Project 5 - 100 Avenue/100 Street Parkette, in the amount of up to \$35,000.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council approve Project 2, Option 1 - Tree Grove Installations, Three Large Groves and One Small Grove.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

MOVED by K. O'Toole

Council approve Project 7 - Muskoseepi Pavilion Dock & Fence.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.1.3 Canada Day Parade Marshall

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council appoint Doug Edey as the Canada Day Parade Marshall.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.1.4 South Bear Creek Driving Range

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council approve \$30,000 from the Future Expenditures Reserve to execute an environmental, geotechnical, and geophysical assessment at the Bear Paw Driving Range.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.1.5 South Bear Creek Park Beach Volleyball Expansion

MOVED by K. O'Toole

Council direct Administration to enter into a construction agreement with the Beach Volleyball Club, with terms and conditions satisfactory to the City Manager and City Solicitor, and commit \$200,000 to construction costs, to be funded as follows:

- \$28,500 from the Alberta Games Legacy Fund;
- \$57,500 from the Council Strategic Initiatives Fund; and
- \$114,000 from the Future Expenditures Reserve.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.1.6 Municipal Fee Rebate Program

MOVED by G. Blackmore

Council approve the following:

1. Increase the total funds available for the Municipal Fee Rebate from \$1 million to \$1.6 million;
2. That the remaining \$139,300 in unallocated funds from the Economic Recovery Fund be allocated to the Municipal Fee Rebate program;
3. That \$51,358 from the disbanded Training and Marketing Grant programs be allocated to the Municipal Fee Rebate program;
4. That the remaining \$172,380 in unallocated funds from the Development Incentives and Grants (DIG) program be allocated to the Municipal Fee Rebate program; and
5. That \$236,962 be allocated to the Municipal Fee Rebate program from the Financial Stabilization Reserve.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.2 Investment & Strategy Committee

MOVED by D. Bressey

Council adopt the minutes of the Investment & Strategy Committee meeting held June 24, as presented.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.2.1 Fibre Optics: Broadband Analysis Update

MOVED by D. Bressey

Council direct Administration to implement the identified priorities, including:

- Adopting a minimum service level objective of 100 Mbps download and 20 Mbps upload;
- Continuing the Fibre Optics Fee Rebate Program;
- Finalizing the Municipal Access Agreement template with improved clarity and transparency;
- Establishing clear points of contact for service provider communication; and

- Reviewing municipal policies to support future broadband and wireless infrastructure development.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

MOVED by D. Bressey

Council allocate the remaining \$47,000 from the Richmond Industrial Strategy capital project to support the assessment and potential advancement of fibre infrastructure improvements within the area.

For: (7): Mayor J. Clayton, G. Berg, G. Blackmore, M. O'Connor, K. O'Toole, W. Pilat, and C. Thiessen

Opposed: (1): D. Bressey

CARRIED (7 to 1)

8.2.2 Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Association Funding Request

MOVED by D. Bressey

Council support the request from the Grande Prairie Regional Tourism Association and allocate \$20,000 from Council's Strategic Initiatives Fund for development of an International Business Events Attraction Strategy.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.2.3 Meeting Highlights

Councillor Bressey provided highlights from the Investment & Strategy Committee meeting.

8.3 Financial & Administrative Services Committee

MOVED by G. Berg

Council adopt the minutes of the Financial & Administrative Services Committee meeting held June 24, as presented.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.3.1 Meeting Highlights

Councillor Berg provided highlights from the Financial & Administrative Services Committee meeting.

8.4 Public & Protective Services Committee

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council adopt the minutes of the Public & Protective Services Committee meeting held June 24, as presented.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.4.1 Traffic Bylaw Amendment C-1166M

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council give first reading to Bylaw C-1166M, being an amendment to the Traffic Bylaw.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

Bylaw C-1166M was read for the first time.

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council give second reading to Bylaw C-1166M.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

Bylaw C-1166M was read for the second time.

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council have third reading of Bylaw C-1166M at this meeting.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council give third reading to Bylaw C-1166M, being an amendment to the Traffic Bylaw.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

Bylaw C-1166M was read for the third time and finally passed.

8.4.2 Meeting Highlights

Councillor Thiessen provided highlights from the Public & Protective Services Committee meeting.

8.5 Operational Services Committee

MOVED by W. Pilat

Council adopt the minutes of the Operational Services Committee meeting held June 24, as presented.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

8.5.1 Meeting Highlights

Councillor Pilat provided highlights from the Operational Services Committee meeting.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

9.1 Alberta Forestry and Parks

Mayor Clayton introduced correspondence received from Alberta Forestry and Parks.

10. DELEGATION BUSINESS

10.1 Prairie Gallery Society

10.2 Brooks Hoffos

MOVED by C. Thiessen

Council receive the delegation presentations for information.

CARRIED (8 to 0)

11. NOTICE OF MOTION

12. RECESS

Council did not recess the meeting.

13. DELEGATIONS

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

15. PUBLIC HEARINGS

16. DELEGATION BUSINESS

17. COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Councillor O'Connor highlighted the ribbon cuttings for Prime Property Management, Edward Jones, and Arby's, the Community Advisory Board on Housing & Homelessness, a meeting with the Grande Prairie Airport Commission, the Town Hall with Premier Smith, the Grande Prairie Traditional Pow Wow, the Aztec Charity Ball Hockey Tournament, the Downtown Association Mixer, the Neighbourhood Association Board Workshop, the Collective Impact Alliance meeting, the Charles Spencer High School Commencement Ceremony, the "A Second Horizon" exhibit at the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie, the Graduation Ceremony for GPPS Experienced Officers, the Special Olympics Athlete Ambassador Tea Party, and the Veterans Memorial Gardens 80th Anniversary of the Liberation of Netherlands event.

Councillor Berg highlighted the Veterans Memorial Gardens 80th Anniversary of the Liberation of Netherlands event, the Queer Community Art event, the Grande Prairie Downtown Association Mixer, the ribbon cutting for Prime Property Management, the Youth Advisory Council year-end event, and the Alberta Chamber of Commerce Awards Ceremony.

Councillor O'Toole highlighted the Aquatera Annual Shareholder meeting, the ribbon cuttings at Prime Property Management, Arby's, the Roy Bickell School Playground, and The Drop Rideshop, the Grande Prairie Traditional Pow Wow, the Grande Prairie Football Peeewe Championship game, the Grande Prairie Kidney Walk, the Downtown Association Mixer, the Collective Impact Alliance meeting, the Combative Sports Commission meeting, the Charles Spencer High School Commencement Ceremony, the Four Points by Sheraton Mixer, the Accessibility Advisory Committee meeting, the Graduation Ceremony for GPPS Experienced Officers, the Special Olympics Athlete Ambassador Tea Party, and the Grande Spirit Foundation Anniversary event.

Councillor Pilat highlighted the Downtown Association Mixer, the Downtown Association Board meeting, the ribbon cutting for Prime Property Management, the Eternity Fine Jewellery and Heirlooms Anniversary event.

Councillor Thiessen highlighted the Charles Spencer High School Commencement Ceremony, the Mighty Peace Watershed Alliance AGM, the Grande Spirit Foundation Board meeting, the Grande Spirit Foundation Anniversary event, and the Collective Impact Alliance meeting.

Councillor Blackmore highlighted the Fire Season exhibit at the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie, the Grande Prairie Airport Commission meeting, the Grande Prairie Traditional Pow Wow, the AB Munis Summer Municipal Leaders Caucus, the GPREP Emergency Plan meeting, the Graduation

Ceremony for GPPS Experienced Officers, the Veterans Memorial Gardens 80th Anniversary of the Liberation of Netherlands event, and the GP Opera production of Cinderella.

Councillor Bressey highlighted the Grande Spirit Foundation Anniversary event, the Queer Rights & Reportable Offences Workshop, the Grande Prairie Storm AGM, the AB Munis Board meeting, the AB Munis Summer Municipal Leaders Caucus, the AB Munis Investment Advisory Committee meeting, and the Alberta Municipal Service Corporation Board meeting.

Mayor Clayton highlighted a visit with a Grade 1 class, a meeting with the Mayor of Fort St. John, the Health Ambassador Taskforce meeting, the Invest Grande Prairie meeting with New Horizon Co-op, the Aquatera Annual Shareholders meeting, the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance meeting, the Mid-Sized Cities Mayors Caucus meeting, the ribbon cuttings for Prime Property Management, Edward Jones, Roy Bickell School Playground, and Arby's, the 3D Children's Charity presentation at Crystal Park School, a meeting with Minister Horner, the Fire Season and A Second Horizon exhibits at the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie, the Town Hall with Premier Smith, the Grande Prairie Traditional Pow Wow, the Home Depot Orange Door Campaign, the Grande Prairie Kidney Walk, the Downtown Association Mixer, the Collective Impact Alliance meeting, the Community Rail Advocacy Alliance meeting, the Graduation Ceremony for GPPS Experienced Officers, the Special Olympics Athlete Ambassador Tea Party, and the Veterans Memorial Gardens 80th Anniversary of the Liberation of Netherlands event.

18. ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

Mayor

Council Committee Coordinator