

REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

March 17, 2014 at 12:00 p.m.
With immediate adjournment to Closed Meeting
Regular Council reconvenes at 6:45 p.m.
Council Chamber
City Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Wright
Councillor Jonathan Coté
Councillor Bill Harper
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Councillor Betty McIntosh
Councillor Chuck Puchmayr
Councillor Lorrie Williams

STAFF:

Ms. Lisa Spitale	- Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jan Gibson	- Acting Corporate Officer/Director of Legislative Services
Mr. G. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation
Ms. Bev Grieve	- Director of Development Services
Mr. Gary Holowatiuk	- Director of Finance & Information Technology
Mr. Jim Lowrie	- Director of Engineering Services
Mr. Mark Allison	- Manager, Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability
Ms. Stephanie Lam	- Council and Committee Clerk

GUEST:

Ms. Candice James - New Westminster Poet Laureate

The meeting was called to order at 12:09 p.m.

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

1. **MOVED and SECONDED:**

THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the Community Charter, members of the public be excluded from the Closed Meeting of Council immediately following the Regular Meeting of Council on the basis that the subject matter of all agenda items to be considered relate to matters listed under Sections 90(1)(a), 90(1)(i), 90(1)(j), and 90(1)(k) of the Community Charter:

- (a) *personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;*

- (i) *the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose;*
- (j) *information that is prohibited, or information that if it were presented in a document would be prohibited, from disclosure under section 21 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act;*
- (k) *negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public.*

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

Purpose of the meeting:

Personal, legal, and negotiations matters

ADJOURNMENT

2. **MOTION** to adjourn to the Council Meeting in open session and proceed to Closed Session.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Council meeting in open session be adjourned and proceed to Closed session.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

RECONVENE TO REGULAR COUNCIL

3. **MOTION** to reconvene to the Regular Meeting of Council at 6:45 p.m. in the Council Chamber.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Regular Meeting of Council be reconvened (6:51pm).

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

4. **MOTION** to Add or Delete Items from the Agenda.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the agenda be amended by:

- *Adding to item 14 – Correspondence from Committee of the Whole held March 17, 2014*
- *Adding new item 15 – Notice of motion from Councillor Puchmayr*

AND THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5. **MOTION** to adopt minutes:

- February 3, 2014 Regular Meeting of Council**
- February 17, 2014 Regular Meeting of Council**
- February 24, 2014 Public Hearing**
- February 24, 2014 Regular Meeting of Council**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the February 17, 2014 minutes be amended by updating Councillor McIntosh's report as follows:

- *The Heart of the Matter charitable event was hosted for Monarch House;*
- *The Valentine's Event was held on the Paddlewheeler Riverboat.*

AND THAT the minutes be adopted as amended.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the February 3, 2014 and February 24, 2014 Regular Meeting of Council be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the February 24, 2014 Public Hearing be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

PRESENTATIONS

6:45 PM

6. **Draft 2014-2018 Financial Plan**, Gary Holowatiuk, Director of Finance and Information Technology
- a. **Staff Report**

Gary Holowatiuk, Director of Finance and Information Technology and Colleen Ponzini, Manager of Financial Services, introduced the report dated March 17, 2014 and provided a PowerPoint presentation highlighting details noted in the Draft 2014-2018 Financial Plan.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council receive the report dated March 17, 2014 for information.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

Procedural Note: Councillor McEvoy returned at 6:59pm.

- b. **Opportunity for Public Comments**

Phil Volfelt, resident, questioned why property taxes were not decreasing as a result of the City's increase in assessment.

Mr. Holowatiuk provided the following information:

- The City's assessed value is influenced by the Market shift, and advised that the City's tax rates are adjusted accordingly to reflect the changes;
- The City adjusts the tax rates in order to maintain consistency in annual revenue;
- New construction within the City generates additional revenue, adding that the City incurred approximately \$2M in new taxation revenue for 2013;
- The \$2M obtained in tax revenue has been allocated towards the City's annual adjustment in salaries;
- It was noted that an approximate 1.4% increase in taxes would be required if the City did not obtain the additional \$2M in taxation.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the oral submission be received.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

7. Poet Laureate Report and a Poem in Response to the City of Regina's Mayor's Poetry Challenge, Candice James, New Westminster Poet Laureate

Candice James, Poet Laureate, provided a written report and summarized her 2013 accomplishments as the City's Poet Laureate. Ms. James her poems "Signature" and "Blue Silence" which were submitted, on behalf of the City, to the City of Regina's Mayor's Poetry Challenge.

8. Replacing the Pattullo Bridge – The City of New Westminster Perspective, Jim Lowrie, Director of Engineering and Mark Allison, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability

Jim Lowrie, Director of Engineering Services, and Mark Allison, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability, provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding the City's perspective with respect to the replacement of the Pattullo Bridge. It was noted that the City of New Westminster has expressed support for a new tolled four-lane bridge option.

Following the presentation, discussion ensued and members of Council provided the following comments:

- The Pattullo Bridge is a regional priority, noting that expansion of the infrastructure will not meet the needs of each municipality;
- It was suggested that trucks be provided a reduced toll on the Port Mann Bridge to encourage use of the existing infrastructure, noting that many commuters are utilizing the Pattullo Bridge to divert the tolls and the avoid the South Fraser Perimeter Road detour;
- New Westminster residents are most adversely affected by the Pattullo Bridge, noting that traffic will disperse directly into the City and could negatively impact the livability of residents;
- The Position Paper conveys the City's perspective in an informative, comprehensive, and understandable manner;
- The Position Paper is supported by data from regional resources (eg: TransLink, Traffic Counts, etc.).

Members of Council announced that they are presenting the City's Position Paper to municipalities in the Lower Mainland, and reported that the delegation to the City of Burnaby was successful.

Councillor Harper and Mr. Allison, Presenters to the City of Burnaby, reported the following comments provided by members of Burnaby City Council:

- It was suggested that trucks be banned from utilizing the Pattullo Bridge;
- It was suggested that the Pattullo Bridge not be replaced once the infrastructure reaches its' expiration;

- If a new bridge were to be constructed, tolling must be implemented to address the cost of the project;
- It was suggested that the implementation of tolling can influence the flow of traffic utilizing the Bridge.

Discussion continued, and Council provided the following comments:

- If a six-lane option were approved, the project would exacerbate existing traffic issues and divert funds from other needed regional projects, such as rapid transit;
- The City would support a reduced commercial tolling rate on the Port Mann Bridge in order to alleviate the volume of traffic utilizing the Pattullo Bridge;
- A new four-lane bridge option will provide safety to commuters as the Bridge would feature a proper width of roadway.

In response to comments from Council, Mr. Allison advised that the estimated cost for constructing a rapid transit line is \$1.5-\$2 Billion dollars.

MOVED and SECONDED
THAT the presentation be received.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

DELEGATIONS

9. Open Delegations

Mayor Wright called for delegations. There was no one wishing to speak.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10. No Items

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

11. Recommendations from Council in Committee of the Whole meeting held March 17, 2014:

a) Recruitment 2014: Representative for the Education Sector on the Environment Advisory Committee

MOVED and SECONDED
THAT Council appoint Robert Roy McGregor as an education sector representative to the Environment Advisory Committee with a term ending January 31, 2015.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

b) Annual May Day Banquet

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT in following up on the Chief Administrative Officer's attempts to meet with the representatives from the Lancers:

- *THAT Council send a letter to all members of the Lancers inviting them to have a discussion with members of Council around the modernization of the dance performed at the May Day Banquet.*
- *AND THAT if efforts to hold a meeting are unsuccessful, that Council would indicate there would be no Lancers dance in 2014, and that Council would continue to encourage future discussions of the program for 2015.*

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

c) Hyack Festival Association

Members of Council summarized comments provided during the Committee of the Whole meeting held earlier in the afternoon regarding the Hyack Festival Association's (Hyack) governance issues.

Members of Council expressed concerns with respect to maintaining a partnership with Hyack by providing grant funding. It was suggested that Hyack utilize 2014 to reorganize their operations and priorities, and re-apply for grant funding for 2015.

Discussion continued, and members of Council spoke in support for the motion, noting that a sense of closure to the governance issues can be established allowing all parties (Hyack, the City, and the Community), to move forward. Council also noted that the proposed resolution supports the continuation of key events held in the city (eg: the International Parade and the Canada Day Fireworks).

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the City of New Westminster grant the Hyack Festival a maximum of \$15, 000, plus in-kind services, for the Hyack International Parade (with receipts);

THAT the City of New Westminster grant the Hyack Festival Association a maximum of \$10, 000 for the Canada Day Fireworks (with receipts);

THAT the Hyack Festival Association and Uptown Live be strongly encouraged to hold their events on the same date to reduce the in-kind grants from the City;

THAT funding for the Hyack Festival Association's programs, as noted above, be done on a reimbursement basis based on the receipts provided for specific events that have been granted.

THAT no City funding be allocated to costs the Hyack Festival Association have incurred related to legal and settlement costs related to last year's dismissal of the Hyack Festival Association's Executive Director.

THAT the City adopt all of the recommendations arising out of the independent financial review of the Hyack Festival Association.

CARRIED.

Councillor Harper and Councillor Puchmayr voted in opposition.

d) MOTION to approve the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meetings held:

- a. February 3, 2014**
- b. February 17, 2014**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held February 3, 2014 and February 17, 2014 be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

e) New Westminster Middle School – Project Design and Site Plan

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Presentation be received;

THAT Council forward the landscape plan to the Community Heritage Commission for review and comment; and,

THAT Council direct staff to explore funding sources that could be used to save and restore the John Robson Elementary School cupola so that it can be incorporated into the landscape design of the new middle school.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

Procedural Note: Councillor McEvoy exited the meeting at 9:05pm.

f) Density Bonus Zoning – Phase 2 Concept and Consultation

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council endorse the revisions to the Density Bonus Program – Phase 2 to include only properties within the Downtown at this time; and,

THAT Council approve the approach to implementing phase two of the Density Bonus Program and direct staff to proceed with next steps as outlined in this report.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

g) 2014/2015 Electrical Utility Rates

Members of Council expressed concerns regarding the proposed increase in Utility Rates, noting that the change will negatively impact local businesses and the local economy.

It was noted that Independent Power Producer (IPP) sells their power to Hydro, which can influence the rates at which power is sold to the consumer. As the City purchases their Power from BC Hydro, the City's Electric Utility Rates often mirror BC Hydro rates. If the City's Electrical Utility rates were set lower than BC Hydro, other City revenues and accounts would likely require adjustments to offset the difference in cost.

Members of Council suggested that the City could establish their own rates despite those set by BC Hydro, adding that the City could utilize the surplus of capital projects to offset the difference in costs. It was suggested that the City's Electrical utility establish practices with respect to the purchase and sale of Electricity in New Westminster.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT electrical utility rates be increased by 9.0%, effective April 1, 2014; and,

THAT the attached Electrical Utility Amendment Bylaw No. 7668, 2014 be referred to Regular Council for three readings.

CARRIED.

Councillor McIntosh voted in opposition.

h) Development Permit Application for 40 Capilano Way - Preliminary Report

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff process the application for 40 Capilano Way as outlined in this report and bring forward the Development Permit for Council consideration when the review is complete.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

Director of Engineering Services

i) Pattullo Bridge – The City of New Westminster’s Position

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adopt the resolution on the City’s position on the replacement of the Pattullo Bridge, as attached to this report.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

j) 2014 Spring Freshet and Snow Pack Level

Councillor Puchmayr, Chair of the Emergency Advisory Committee, advised that the Spring Freshet and Snow Pack Levels are at average levels in the region. It was noted that the window of accumulation from the snow packs is still open; however, staff are monitoring the levels closely.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT this report be received for information.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

Director of Finance and Information Technology

k) Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area Parcel Tax Roll Bylaw No. 7671, 2014 (Attachment 1) directing staff to prepare a parcel tax roll for consideration of the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel, be forwarded to Council for three readings:

THAT the Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel, consisting of all member of Council, convene on April 7, 2014 at 6:45 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 511 Royal Avenue, New Westminster to identify, confirm and authenticate the parcel tax roll and that staff be directed to provide for notification in accordance with the requirements of the Community Charter; and

THAT staff be directed to prepare Parcel Tax Bylaws for subsequent consideration by Council, with respect to the Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area established by Bylaw No. 7657, 2014.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

Director of Legislative Services

l) Uptown BIA Establishing Bylaw – Sufficiency of Petition Report and referral of Bylaw 7657, 2014 for Adoption (On Table)

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Director of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer's report dated March 17, 2014, regarding the results from the notification of property owners affected by the creation of an Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area, be received for information.

THAT Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area Bylaw No. 7657, 2014 [A Bylaw to establish a Business Improvement Area Service] be referred to Council for adoption.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

m) Council Resolutions for Submission to Lower Mainland Local Government Association

Councillor Puchmayr, Co-Chair of the Railway Community Advisory Panel, reported that DOT-111 railcars are vulnerable to rupture as it is a non-pressurized railcar. It was reported that the DOT-111 railcars were involved with the tragic explosion at Lac Megantic, and noted that the Railway companies have expressed concerns regarding safety with respect to the continued use of the cars.

On motion, Councillor Puchmayr added the following resolution to be forwarded to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association. All members of Council present voted in favour of the addition:

WHEREAS the Transportation Safety Board has identified safety concerns with the Dot-111 and Dot-111A rail tanker cars.

AND WHEREAS these cars have been identified as being in need of replacement or at the very least, significant safety upgrades.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Federation of Canadian Municipalities lobby the Federal Government to introduce legislation to accelerate the phase-out of these identified sub-standard liquid commodity cars;

AND THAT the Federal Government immediately restrict these cars from carrying commodities identified as dangerous goods.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council direct staff to submit the four resolutions detailed in the report dated March 17, 2014 to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) for consideration at the LMLGA Conference and AGM.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

Committee Recommendations

n) Railway Community Advisory Panel: Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Rail Proximity Guidelines

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council forward the following Railway Community Advisory Panel resolutions to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM):

THAT the UBCM be contacted and encouraged to conduct a plenary on railway proximity issues and have staff from the Railway Association of Canada to provide a presentation regarding the FCM Rail Proximity Guidelines.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

o) Amendment to the 2014 Schedule of Regular Council Meetings

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the 2014 Schedule of Regular Council Meetings be amended by:

- *Adjusting the start-time of the March 31, 2014 Regular Council Meeting to 3:00pm.*

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

BYLAWS

12. Bylaws for adoption:

- a. **Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area Bylaw No. 7657, 2014** [A Bylaw to establish a Business Improvement Area Service]

ADOPTION

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area Bylaw No. 7657, 2014 be adopted.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

13. Bylaws coming forward from the Committee of the Whole meeting held March 17, 2014:

- a. **Electrical Utility Amendment Bylaw No. 7688, 2014** [A Bylaw to Amend "Electrical Utility Bylaw No. 6502, 1998"]

THREE READINGS

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Electrical Utility Amendment Bylaw No. 7688, 2014 be read a first time.

CARRIED.

Councillor McIntosh voted in opposition.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Electrical Utility Amendment Bylaw No. 7688, 2014 be read a second time.

CARRIED.

Councillor McIntosh voted in opposition.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Electrical Utility Amendment Bylaw No. 7688, 2014 be read a third time.

CARRIED.

Councillor McIntosh voted in opposition.

- b. **Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area Parcel Tax Roll Bylaw No. 7671, 2014** [A Bylaw to direct the preparation of a Parcel Tax Roll for the purpose of imposing a Business Improvement Area Parcel Tax for the Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area]

THREE READINGS

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area Parcel Tax Roll Bylaw No. 7671, 2014 be read a first time.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area Parcel Tax Roll Bylaw No. 7671, 2014 be read a second time.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Uptown New Westminster Business Improvement Area Parcel Tax Roll Bylaw No. 7671, 2014 be read a third time.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

15. Notice of Motion – Councillor Puchmayr (On Table)

THAT the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities ask the Provincial Government to create legislation that will address the huge utility rates paid to Independent Power Producers to allow the Province the ability to purchase electricity from the open North American Market if those rates are competitive.

THAT the Government take action through legislation that would permit BC Hydro to produce power from existing public facilities as opposed to forcing it to buy expensive power from Independent Power Producers at rates higher than BC Hydro's.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT all Independent Power Producers contracts that have yet to be built be frozen;

AND THAT the BC Utilities Commission investigate and produce a position on the impacts of Independent Power Producers on businesses, residents and non-profits of British Columbia.

CORRESPONDENCE

14. Correspondence deferred from Committee of the Whole held March 17, 2014

- a. **Metro Vancouver letter dated March 7, 2014 regarding Notification of a Proposed Amendment to *Metro Vancouver 2040: Shaping Our Future (Metro 2040)*, the regional growth strategy – Type 3 Amendment**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the correspondence dated March 7, 2014 be received and referred to staff.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

Correspondence for Information

Motion to receive the following correspondence:

- b. **New Westminster Environmental Partners letter dated February 28, 2014 regarding support of the City's proposal to further restrict truck routes in New Westminster and reducing through-traffic impacts by not expanding road capacity**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the correspondence dated February 28, 2014 be received.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

- c. **Seaspan Marine letter received March 3, 2014 regarding four firefighting tugboats available to supplement the local Fire Department should a critical need arise**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the correspondence dated March 7, 2014 be received and referred to the Fire Department for response..

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

- d. **City of Burnaby letter dated March 4, 2014 regarding Community Impacts of the Proposal to Eliminate Home Mail Delivery Service by the Canada Post Corporation**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the correspondence dated February 28, 2014 be received.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

- e. **Metro Vancouver letter dated March 7, 2014 regarding Metro Vancouver Waste Flow Management and the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Recyclable Material Regulatory Bylaw No. 280 (Bylaw 280)**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the correspondence dated February 28, 2014 be received.

CARRIED.

All members of Council present voted in favour of the motion.

REPORTS

Councillor McIntosh expressed condolences for the passing of the following individuals:

- Mrs. Barbara Towson – Mrs. Towson was a retired nurse and will be missed by the Community;
- Dr. William John Dyke – It was announced that Dr. Dyke's service will be held on Friday, March 21, 2014.

Councillor Williams expressed condolences for the passing of Bob Gair. Mr. Gair was New Westminster Secondary School's first athletic director, and will be missed.

Mayor Wright expressed condolences for the passing of Betty Mehr, and announced that Mrs. Mehr's service will be held on April 4, 2014.

Due to time constraints, Council reports were deferred to the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING

March 31, 2014

As there are no applications to consider, a Public Hearing will not be held.

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 9:27pm.

Certified Correct,

WAYNE WRIGHT
MAYOR

JAN GIBSON
ACTING CORPORATE OFFICER