



CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

## COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

June 15, 2009 2:03 p.m.  
Committee Room 2, City Hall

### MINUTES

#### PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Wright  
Councillor Jonathan Cote  
Councillor Bill Harper  
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy  
Councillor Betty McIntosh  
Councillor Bob Osterman (joined meeting at 2:38 p.m.)  
Councillor Lorrie Williams

#### STAFF:

Mr. Paul Daminato	- City Administrator
Mr. Rick Page	- Director of Legislative Services/Corporate Officer
Ms. Lisa Spitale	- Director of Development Services
Mr. Jim Lowrie	- Director of Engineering Services
Mr. Gary Holowatiuk	- Director of Finance and Information Technology
Mr. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks and Recreation
Ms. Judi Turner	- Assistant Corporate Officer
Ms. Donna Martin	- Legislative Services

#### ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

#### MOVED and SECONDED

*THAT the Agenda be varied as follows:*

- *The June 15, 2009 letter from the Urban Development Institute (UDI) be added to Item 3*
- *Item 7 be tabled to July 13, 2009*
- *New Westminster Gas Works Site – 231 Twelfth Street be added as Item 7(a)*
- *Artificial Turf Fields be added as Item 11(a)*
- *Update on the Burr Theatre be added as Item 11(b)*
- *European Chafer Management Program be added as Item 12(a)*

- *Update on an Opening Date for the Moody Park Outdoor Pool be added as Item 12(b).*

**CARRIED.**

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

## REPORTS FOR ACTION

### Director of Parks and Recreation

#### 1. Hyack Square Official Opening and Hyack Square Name - Update

June 15, 2009 report briefing Council on the status of Hyack Square; and seeking endorsement to retain the name as "Hyack Square."

Members debated the name of Hyack "Square" versus Hyack "Plaza".

- \*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends *THAT "Hyack Square" be retained as the formal name for the Square; and THAT the construction budget shortfall be reallocated from unused 2009 Capital Project funding***

Opposed: Councillor McIntosh.

#### **2. Olympic Torch Celebration Funding**

June 15, 2009 report seeking authorization to apply for Federal Government funding to support the Olympic Torch Relay Celebrations in New Westminster.

- \*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends *THAT staff be authorized to apply for Olympic Torch Relay Celebration funding through the Department of Canadian Heritage as recommended by the 2010 Olympic Torch Relay Celebration Committee.***

**CARRIED.**

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

### Interdepartmental Report

#### 3. Development Cost Charge Program – Update and Options

June 15, 2009 report outlining the proposed Development Cost Charge rates, options for moving forward, and seeking direction regarding a DCC bylaw for the June 22, 2009 meeting.

The June 15, 2009 letter from the Urban Development Institute (UDI) was added on table. The Directors of Development Services and Parks and Recreation made an illustrated presentation on the Development Cost Charge Program.

During the presentation, Councillor Osterman joined the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

During discussion, members commented on the following:

- How the river factors in City parks requirements
- Poplar Island – need to act on this sooner to prevent loss of its use to the City; consider its potential future use for recreation
- Recreation potential of the river
- Consider the need of neighbourhoods for parks and for walkability to those parks
- Consider active recreational uses for parks
- Potential of Sapperton Village for green spaces
- Ownership of Sapperton Islands (Federal Government)
- Passive park potential of the Parkade deck and on high rise rooftops (e.g. creative park use beyond traditional sites).

Members then commented on the staff report as follows:

- Consider the impact on the three large developers in the City of any extraordinary costs after their land purchases and plans have been made
- Monitor other municipalities to ensure New Westminster remains comparable with other cities
- Provide additional information: track housing prices, building starts, economics of the Building Division
- Support for the phasing suggestion; flexibility is important
- The concept of double charging for parkland has been addressed in the report and debunked
- Developers should not be penalized
- Important to make the City livable to attract new residents.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT implementation of the full Development Cost Charges (DCC) Program occur in two phases: January 2011 and January 2012;*  
*THAT rates remain as outlined in the June 15, 2009 report from the Directors of Engineering, Parks and Recreation and Development Services; and*  
*THAT staff monitor changes in DCC rates in the Greater Vancouver Regional District (GVRD).*

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT staff discusses with the three master planned communities, the process and principles that might be used if the City was to consider renegotiation of their Development Agreements.*

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

## Director of Engineering

### 4. Queensborough Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Report

June 15, 2009 report updating Council on the feasibility of providing a fixed pedestrian/cycling link from the mainland of the City to the Queensborough community.

#### **MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the June 15, 2009 Queensborough Pedestrian Bridge Feasibility Report be received for information.*

**CARRIED.**

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

## Director of Development Services

### 5. Consultation Requirements Relating to Proposed Amendments to the New Westminster Official Community Plan for the Establishment of a Park at Westminster Pier.

June 15, 2009 report seeking staff direction regarding the public consultation process to consider an amendment to the Official Community Plan with regard to the Westminster Pier site for use as a public park.

During discussion, members made the following suggestions:

- Consider potential water uses
- Consider the ability of boaters to obtain fuel – include in feasibility study
- Poplar Island is being claimed by a number of First Nations – consider activities that can be placed adjacent to this potential future use
- Consult with City environmental groups and Environment Advisory Committee.

\*\*

#### **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT in consideration of Local Government Act Section 879, staff be directed to seek public input on the proposed Official Community Plan amendment relating to Westminster Pier by advising and consulting in the following manner:*

- a. *the Board of the Metro Vancouver Regional District;*
- b. *the Council of the Cities of Coquitlam and Surrey;*
- c. *the Qayqayt First Nation;*
- d. *the Board of School District No. 40 (New Westminster);*
- e. *TransLink;*
- f. *the Greater Vancouver Sewerage and Drainage District Board;*
- g. *the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure;*
- h. *Port Metro Vancouver;*
- i. *Ministry of Environment;*
- j. *Fraser River Estuary Management Program (FREMP);*
- k. *Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans; and*
- l. *the Downtown Residents' Association*
- m. *City environmental groups and Environment Advisory Committee.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**6. Revision of Information Sign Requirements (Bylaw No. 7332, 2009)**

June 15, 2009 advising Council of proposed changes to the information sign requirements.

- \*\* **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT Development Approval Procedures Amendment Bylaw No. 7332, 2009 be forwarded to the Regular Council Meeting of June 15, 2009 for consideration of first and second readings.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**7. The Tower at the Centre Block, Victoria Hill**

June 15, 2009 report seeking Council direction for the future of the Tower within a new development on the Woodlands site at Victoria Hill.

This item was tabled under Additions to the Agenda.

**7(a). New Westminster Gas Works Site – 231 Twelfth Street – on table**

June 15, 2009 from Director of Development Services providing update on Gas Works property and seeking direction

During discussion, members made the following comments:

- Bring empty lots in the City into active use (and save heritage buildings)
- Ensure the assessment of the building will allow a better understanding of whether the building can be retained
- It is important to finally determine the true extent of the pollution to determine if the City can move forward
- Circulate to Council the earlier report containing the last assessment of the building and potential uses (McGinn report).

- \*\* **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT staff be directed to commence with a land use planning process; and*  
*THAT \$60,000 be authorized for consultant study.*

**8. Proposal to Exempt Heritage Property from the Provisions of the Homeowner Protection Act.**

June 15, 2009 report seeking Council support to request the Provincial Government to exempt heritage buildings that are recognized or protected for their heritage value from the requirements of the Homeowners Protection Act.

Julie Schueck, Heritage Planner, responded to questions from members. During discussion, members made the following comments:

- The Province should be encouraged to note that the standards of 100 years have stood the test of time (e.g. buildings have not leaked) and thus the modern standards to prevent future leaky condos may not be needed in this context)
- Concern there is no warranty protection when asking for exemption for new buildings – should be addressed

- Invite Ken Cameron to present to Council to explore the heritage issues
- Consider the Port Moody resolution which is worded more specifically and may represent a suitable option.

Councillor Williams left the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT a request be made to the Province of British Columbia to consider an exemption for buildings recognized or protected for their heritage value from the requirements of the Homeowner Protection Act; and*

*THAT heritage buildings are defined as: "Buildings recognized or protected for their heritage value, by the Provincial, Federal, or Local Governments, or subject to a covenant or agreement to conserve heritage value"; and*

*THAT this recommendation be forwarded to the next meeting of Union of British Columbia Municipalities, the Minister of Housing and Social Development, and the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts.*

Before the question was called, it was...

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the foregoing motion be tabled to June 22, 2009 to permit a presentation on heritage issues.*

**CARRIED.**

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

**9. Addition of 1422 London Street to and Removal of 2035 London Street (Connaught Village Green) from the New Westminster Heritage Register**

June 15, 2009 seeking the addition of 1422 London Street and removal of 2035 London Street (Connaught Village Green) from the to the Heritage Register.

Councillor Osterman left the meeting at 3:40 p.m. citing a potential conflict of interest as he owns the property at 1422 London Street.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**

*THAT 1422 London Street be added to the City of New Westminster Heritage Register; and*

*THAT 2035 London Street (Connaught Village Green) be removed from the City of New Westminster Heritage Register.*

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

#### **10. Affordable Housing Resolution for the 2009 UBCM Convention**

June 15, 2009 report seeking endorsement of the Affordable Housing Resolution to the Union of BC Municipalities prepared by the Greater Vancouver Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness.

Councillor Osterman rejoined the meeting at 3:41 p.m. and Councillor Williams at 3:42 p.m.

- \*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT the Affordable Housing Resolution for the 2009 Union of BC Municipalities Convention, attached to the June 15, 2009 report from the Director of Development Services, be endorsed; and*  
*THAT the foregoing resolution be forwarded to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Executive Committee for submission to the FCM Social Policy Committee.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of the Committee voted in favour of the motion.

#### **11. Street Activity Program – Update to Guidelines**

June 15, 2009 report seeking approval to increase the number of locations and the permitted food items under the Street Activity Program.

Members made the following suggestions:

- Consult with the Ministry of Education where this Program might affect schools (to avoid conflict with seeking healthy choices for students)
- Notify the New Westminster community of this initiative and protect the City from misuse of the Program.

- \*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT staff investigate the possibility of expanding the City's Street Activity Program to other commercial areas of the City.*

All members of the Committee voted in favour of the motion.

- \*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**  
*THAT an amendment to the City's Street Activity Program expanding the locations throughout Downtown and permitting the sale of one perishable food item per vending cart be approved.*

All members of the Committee voted in favour of the motion.

#### **11(a). Artificial Turf Fields**

During discussion of artificial turf fields, members made the following comments:

- Consider conversion of grass fields to turf fields
- Consider the status of the Saint Mary's site for the School Projects
- Provide a televised presentation to inform the community
- Consult with School Board regarding time lines

- Is the Royal City Youth Soccer grant at risk of being lost
- Could Canada Games Pool site accommodate an artificial turf field (staff will report back to Council on this matter)
- Report to Council on ways to encourage children and youth to engage in more outdoor recreation.

**\*\* MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends *THAT staff report to Council with options on ways to increase the number of artificial turf fields in the City and that staff explore funding options.***

All members of the Committee voted in favour of the motion.

### **11(b). Update on the Burr Theatre**

Paul Daminato, City Administrator, announced that staff has been directed by Council to sell the Burr Theatre through an RFP process. Staff will draft an RFP for consideration by Council. Once proposals are received, Council will consider them in light of the following:

- Proposed use of the building
- Proposal for dealing with important elements of the building, etc.

## **INFORMATION REPORTS**

### **Director of Development Services**

#### **12. Age Friendly City Initiative – Consultation Results**

June 15, 2009 report informing Council of the consultation results regarding Age Friendly City Initiative be received.

During discussion, members made the following suggestions:

- Consider pocket parks for parks/benches, etc. as resting places for the elderly
- Consider closing street ends
- Convert some streets to one ways to allow pocket parks
- Keep in mind opportunities for volunteer services to help seniors (e.g. Kiwanis Club's "Shovel Brigade" which supplies snow removal for seniors)
- Forward community responses to appropriate organizations, such as Translink (to share comments regarding bus shelters and stations and Handy Dart booking, etc.) to illustrate issues of concern
- City should become more involved to assist Sapperton area with programming and activities (possibly out of Sapperton OAP facility)
- Consider where more bus stops are needed for seniors who cannot walk far but are not ready for Handy Dart; install more shelters; improve service for this demographic
- Consider smaller housing options for seniors; they should not include stairways
- One's physical condition must be considered by Translink - for instance passengers who cannot stand during a transit ride

- Concern that Translink will no longer produce bus schedules; this will become a handicap for users with more limited mobility/fitness levels; need to discuss this with Translink.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the June 15, 2009 report from the Director of Development Services regarding the Age Friendly City Initiative be received for information.*

**CARRIED.**

All Committee members present voted in favour of the motion.

**12(a). European Chafer Management Program**

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks and Recreation, circulated and reviewed a page on the proposed 2009 management of the European Chafer (which will be added to the Agenda package). Promotion will continue and will include advertisements in the newspaper.

**12(b). Update on an Opening Date for the Moody Park Outdoor Pool**

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks and Recreation, announced that opening celebrations for Moody Park Outdoor Pool will take place on July 18<sup>th</sup>. Invitations are forthcoming. The Director was encouraged to pursue opportunities for local service clubs to fund ancillary needs (e.g. pool side furniture, toys, etc.) for the Pool opening to more broadly involve the community in that event. Members asked about the possibility for rental use of the Pool (it was agreed this could be accommodated).

**COMMITTEE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Mayor confirmed that the following Items 13 to 21 could be considered in the form of a Consent Agenda.

**13. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Electric Utility Commission meetings of March 10, April 14, and May 12, 2009.**

**14. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Arts and Culture Commission meetings of May 6, 2009.**

**15. MOTION TO ADOPT THE NOTES OF: the Community and Social Issues Committee meetings of February 18, March 19 and April 16, 2009.**

**16. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Family Court Committee meetings of February 18 and March 25, 2009**

**17. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Seniors Advisory Committee meeting of March 5, 2009.**

18. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Youth Advisory Committee meeting of February 26, 2009.

19. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Downtown Parking Commission meeting of May 20, 2009.

20. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Youth Facility Space Advisory Task Force meeting of April 22, 2009.

21. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Emergency Advisory Committee meeting of March 10, 2009.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the following Committee Minutes and Notes be received and adopted:*

- *Electric Utility Commission meetings of March 10, April 14, and May 12, 2009*
- *Arts and Culture Commission meeting of May 6, 2009*
- *Notes of Community and Social Issues Committee meetings of February 18, March 19, and April 16, 2009*
- *Family Court Committee meetings of February 18, and March 25, 2009*
- *Seniors Advisory Committee meeting of March 5, 2009*
- *Youth Advisory Committee meeting of February 26, 2009*
- *Downtown Parking Commission meeting of May 20, 2009*
- *Youth Facility Space Advisory Task Force meeting of April 22, 2009*
- *Emergency Advisory Committee meeting of March 10, 2009.*

**CARRIED.**

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**22. 150 Celebrations – Trolley Tour**

The Corporate Officer announced the Trolley Tour scheduled June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Certified Correct,

\_\_\_\_\_  
**WAYNE WRIGHT**  
**CHAIR**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**RICK PAGE**  
**CORPORATE OFFICER**

\*\* Denotes recommendations referred to Regular Council meeting of June 15, 2008, for ratification.