



CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

October 5, 2009 3:10 p.m.
Committee Room 2, City Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Wright
Councillor Jonathan Cote
Councillor Bill Harper
Councillor Bob Osterman
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Councillor Betty McIntosh
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
Chief Tim Armstrong	- Director of Fire and Rescue
Mr. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks and Recreation
Ms. Judi Turner	- Assistant Corporate Officer

Council adjourned to Committee of the Whole at 3:10 p.m. and reconvened in the Council Chamber at p.m. with all members of Council present.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

The Agenda was varied as follows:

- Item 8 was deleted from the Agenda
- # 23 moved to be considered following Consent Agenda items
- #28 moved to be considered following Item 23.
- Business Cards (added as Item 29)
- Lighting in City Hall Parking Lot (added as Item 30)
- Arts Funding (added as Item 31)

CONSENT AGENDA

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the Consent Agenda be approved with the deletion of Item 11 – Minutes of September 9, 2009 Environment Advisory Committee.

CARRIED.

All members of Council voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff recommendations arising from Consent Agenda items be approved as follows:

1. Construction Noise Bylaw Variance to Allow Triahn Enterprises Ltd. to Carry Out Watermain Replacement – Director of Engineering

October 5, 2009 report requesting a Construction Noise Bylaw Variance to allow Triahn Enterprises to carry out watermain replacement.

****** *THAT the Construction Noise Bylaw variance to allow Triahn Enterprises Ltd. to carry out replacement of the City's watermain on Sixth Avenue and Seventh Street during October 1, 2009 through October 19, 2009 approved.*

2. Skytrain / Request for Construction Noise Bylaw – Director of Development Services

October 5, 2009 report requesting a Construction Noise Bylaw 6063 exemption in order to carry out construction work on the Skytrain guide way.

****** *THAT Skytrain be granted an exemption from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063 in order to carry out construction work on the Skytrain guide way between Eighth Street and Twenty-second Street stations during the night on November 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, and 23 2009.*

3. Discharge of Covenant from Tower 3 of Plaza 88 – Director of Development Services

October 5, 2009 report seeking consideration of the discharge of Section 219 covenants preventing occupancy of the third tower of Plaza 88.

****** *THAT the discharge of Section 219 covenants from the title to the third tower of Plaza 88 be approved; and
THAT the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized to sign all documents on behalf of the City.*

4. Proposed Rezoning of 1109, 1129, and 1135 Ewen Avenue and 301 and 305 Gifford Street – Preliminary Report – Director of Development Services

October 5, 2009 report providing preliminary information on the proposed rezoning of 1109, 1129, and 1135 Ewen Avenue and 301 and 305 Gifford Street.

THAT staff be directed to bring forward the proposed rezoning application for 1109, 1117, 1129 and 1135 Ewen Avenue and 301 and 305 Gifford Street for consideration when the normal staff and committee review process is complete.

5. Proposed Rezoning of 1415 Nanaimo Street – Preliminary Report - Director of Development Services

October 5, 2009 report advising Council of a rezoning application for 1415 Nanaimo Street.

THAT the Director of Development Services October 5, 2009 preliminary report on the proposed rezoning of 1415 Nanaimo Street be received for information.

6. Development Permit Application 002 (C) for 846 Twentieth Street – Preliminary Report – Director of Development Services

October 5, 2009 report providing preliminary information regarding Development Permit Application for 846 Twentieth Street.

THAT the Director of Development Services October 5, 2009 preliminary report on Development Permit Application 002 (C) for 846 Twentieth Street be received for information.

7. Proposed Special Development Permit for 828 Royal Avenue, 829 & 831 Moody Street - Preliminary Report – Director of Development Services

October 5, 2009 report providing preliminary information regarding a proposed Special Development Permit for 828 Royal Avenue, 829 & 831 Moody Street.

THAT the Director of Development Services October 5, 2009 preliminary report regarding a proposed Special Development Permit for 828 Royal Avenue and 829 and 831 Moody Street be received for information.

8. Development Variance Permit No. 501 for 374 Alberta Street – Preliminary Report – Director of Development Services

October 5, 2009 report advising Council of receipt of a Development Variance Permit for 374 Alberta Street.

This item was deleted from the Agenda.

9. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Downtown Parking Commission meeting of September 16, 2009

THAT the minutes of the Downtown Parking Commission meeting held on September 16, 2009 be received and adopted.

a) Parkade Operator's Report

** *THAT staff be directed to review the condition of the three buildings west of Fourth Street facing Front Street (410–416 Columbia Street) as the Parking Commission is concerned about both safety and unsightliness.*

10. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Electric Utility Commission meeting of July 21, 2009.

THAT the minutes of the Electric Utility Commission meeting held July 21, 2009 be received and adopted.

12. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: Parks and Recreation meeting of April 30, 2009 and June 24, 2009.

*THAT the notes of the Park and Recreation Committee meeting held on April 30, 2009 be received; and
THAT the minutes of the Park and Recreation Committee meeting held on June 24, 2009 be received and adopted.*

13. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Special Services and Access Committee meeting of September 10, 2009

THAT the minutes of the Special Services and Access Committee meeting held on September 10, 2009 be received and adopted.

CARRIED.

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

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

11. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Environment Advisory Committee meeting of September 9, 2009.

** **MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT the minutes of the Environment Advisory Committee held on September 9, 2009 be received and adopted;

Gas Works Site – 231 Twelfth Street

THAT Council proceed to gain ownership of the land subject to the Province completely remediating the site, including the building, in an environmentally sound manner and retain the building if feasible;

Community Gardens Initiative

THAT the community gardens concept be supported;

THAT a process be put in place to allow greater inclusion of the community year after year; and

Higher LEEDS Standards for Renovations to Civic Buildings

THAT Council investigate higher LEED Standards for renovations to civic buildings.

CARRIED.

All members of Council voted in favour of the motion.

REPORTS FOR ACTION

Fire Chief

23. Aerial Ladder Replacement

September 25, 2009 report requesting approval of an RFP for an aerial platform unit.

Fire Chief Tim Armstrong introduced Martin Ryberg, Manager of Fleet Services, Lieutenant Jason Lange, Firefighter, and Captain Les Gilbert, who worked on the aerial ladder project and report.

A power point presentation was made on the proposal to purchase an aerial platform unit. The Fire Chief responded to questions noting the new truck will relieve some need for mutual aid from Burnaby, the cost of the platform, safety, etc.

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the Request for Proposal of an 87' aerial platform as replacement for Unit #451 Quint 1 be approved.

CARRIED.

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

28. Proposal to Automate the Committee Recruitment Process, Invitations to City Events and Christmas Cards Circulation – Director of Legislative Services

October 5, 2009 report proposing automation of various processes relating to City events.

The Corporate Officer reviewed the staff report proposing automation of certain processes. He confirmed that each member will receive a box of Christmas cards for their personal mail outs. Members discussed the following:

- The wording and of the email Christmas card options
- Suggested use of the corporate blue colour
- Requested additional samples be provided for final selection
- Requested that receipt of committee application forms sent via email be sent
- Means of promoting significant events
- Direct mail will be employed for those without computer or computer skills
- Post a Christmas card on City page to thank volunteers and committee members for their service to the City.

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the City Committee recruitment process be automated;
THAT invitations to City events be sent electronically; and
THAT Christmas cards from the City be sent electronically.

CARRIED.

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

Director of Development Services

14. Proposed Changes to Draft Downtown Plan

October 5, 2009 report providing a list of the proposed changes to the draft Downtown Community Plan and outlining the next steps for the public consultation process – reviewed by Director

During discussion of the subject report, members asked how the Plan could be designed to enable full mixed use proposed.

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT staff be authorized to release the draft Downtown Community Plan for a public consultation process; and
THAT the public consultation process for the Downtown Community Plan as outlined in the Director of Development Services' October 5, 2009 report be endorsed.

CARRIED.

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

15. Density Bonus Zoning – Phase 1 Zones and Consultation

October 5, 2009 report introducing the density bonusing zones for Phase 1, seeking authorization to move forward with community consultation and seeking approval of the proposed allocation of density bonusing funds.

During discussion, members made the following comments:

- Increase the Affordable Housing fund to 30%, reduce the allocation of density bonusing revenues for amenities to 60% and designate 10% for child care
- The Affordable Housing seed fund should be returned to the City so the City can make decisions for its use
- Debated the City's responsibility for affordable housing and child care.

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the following Revenue Allocations for density bonus funds be approved:
- 10% for Child Care
 - 30% for Affordable Housing; and
 - 60% for Amenities.

CARRIED.

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

- ** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends *THAT the public consultation proposal for the four new density bonus zoning schedules and amenity allocations, as outlined in the Director of Development Services' October 5, 2009, report be approved.***

CARRIED.

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

16. Centre Block Tower Professional Analyses – Request for Budget Approval

October 5, 2009 report requesting a budget allocation in order to proceed with engaging consultants to provide professional analysis.

Julie Schueck, Heritage Planner, responded to questions from members and clarified matters raised in the staff report. It was noted that consultation will be important, especially with former residents/families and staff.

- ** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends *THAT staff be directed to proceed with engaging consultants to provide structural, financial and design analyses for the Tower at the Centre Block with a budget of \$45,000.***

CARRIED.

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

17. Saint Mary's Site and Adjacent Properties – Park/School Development

a) Amendment of Official Community Plan for Park/School at 200-220 Royal Avenue (former St. Mary's Hospital site and adjacent properties)

October 5, 2009 report seeking Council's consideration of an amendment to the OCP to accommodate a proposed park and school on the former site of St. Mary's Hospital and adjacent residential lots.

b) Rezoning for Elementary School in Downtown Neighbourhood

October 5, 2009 report seeking consideration of a bylaw to rezone the property at 201-207 Agnes Street and 200-220 Royal Avenue to permit construction of a new park and elementary school.

During discussion, members made the following comments:

- Discrepancy among diagrams in the report indicate a significant amount of land will be City streets – requires clarification
- Concern with location of the park as indicated in the plan having only a small opening on Agnes Street – open the access at that location to be more welcoming to the community.

- ** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends *THAT Official community Plan Designation Amendment Bylaw No. 7350, 2009 be forwarded to the Regular Council meeting of October 5, 2009 for consideration of first reading;***

THAT Official Community Plan Designation Amendment Bylaw 7350, 2009 has been examined in accordance with the City's Capital Expenditure Program, the Regional Solid Waste Management Plan and the Regional Liquid Waste Management Plan;

THAT referrals be made to those agencies enumerated in Official Community Plan Designation Amendment Bylaw 7350, 2009; and

THAT second reading of Official Community Plan Designation Amendment Bylaw 7350, 2009 be considered; and

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 7351, 2009 be forwarded to the Regular Council meeting of October 5, 2009 for consideration of first and second readings.

CARRIED.

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

18. Addition to Heritage Register- 817 Dublin Street and 437 Seventh Street

October 5, 2009 report requesting the addition of two properties to the Heritage Register.

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

THAT 817 Dublin Street and 437 Seventh Street be added to the New Westminster Heritage Register.

CARRIED.

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

19. Draft Metro Vancouver Regional Growth Strategy: Lands Designated "Conservation/Recreation Area" in New Westminster

October 5, 2009 report providing input into the creation of the "Conservation/Recreation Area" map which will be part of the new regional growth strategy.

Bev Grieve, Manager of Planning, reviewed the staff report and responded to questions. She circulated a larger scale coloured map to assist discussions (which will be added to the agenda package). Staff was directed to include Poplar Island.

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

THAT due to their significant regional conservation, ecological and recreation values, the following parklands be included in the draft Conservation/Recreation Map for the Regional Growth Strategy:

- *Glenbrook Ravine lands (City owned section);*
- *Hume Park;*
- *Sapperton Landing Park; and*
- *Poplar Island; and*

THAT Metro Vancouver Regional Development staff be notified that New Westminster intends to nominate the following land in its Regional Context Statement for inclusion in the Conservation/Recreation Map for the Regional Growth Strategy:

- *Muni Evers Park;*
- *Downtown Waterfront/Riverfront Park; and*
- *Balance of the Glenbrook Ravine lands.*

CARRIED.

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

20. Metro Vancouver Material Recovery Facility License Application / 400 Ewen Avenue

October 5, 2009 report providing information regarding the license application for 400 Ewen Avenue to be used as a material recovery facility.

Keith Coueffin, Manager of Licensing and Integrated Services, reviewed the staff report. Members discussed the impact of such a business on the community, the road system, and the City's plan for the area.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT consideration of the Material Recovery Facility License Application for 400 Ewen Avenue be deferred and Metro Vancouver be requested to facilitate a public meeting or consultation regarding the application.

DEFEATED.

Opposed: All members of Council.

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

THAT Metro Vancouver be notified that the City of New Westminster does not support the proposed Material Recover Facility at 400 Ewen Avenue.

CARRIED.

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

Director of Engineering, Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation and Manager of Emergency Management

21. Snow and Ice Response Plan

October 5, 2009 report proposing a new Snow and Ice Response Plan.

The Corporate Officer circulated copies of pages 4 and 5 of the report which were omitted from the printed package (which will be added to the Agenda package).

During discussion, members made the following comments:

- Place notices in the City Page about resources (high school students who are available to help seniors and others who have difficulty meeting the requirement to remove snowfall by 10:00 a.m.
- Consult with service clubs to supply snow removal equipment

- Arrange for education about proper snow removal/solvent treatment to prevent ice layers and to safeguard pedestrians
- Ensure that information about the Plan reaches front line staff
- Encourage School Board to clear its own sidewalks
- Budget adequately for the demonstrated need.

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the draft Snow and Ice Plan as presented in from the Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation report of October 5, 2009 be received and the implementation of the Snow and Ice Plan commencing winter 2009/2010 be approved.

CARRIED.

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

Director of Finance and Information Technology

22. Revitalization Property Tax Exemption Program

October 5, 2009 report providing an overview of the process involved in establishing a Revitalization Property Tax Exemption Program and outlining the next steps.

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT staff be directed to proceed with the next steps involved in establishing a Revitalization Property Tax Exemption Program as outlined in the Director of Development Services' October 5, 2009 report.

CARRIED.

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

Fire Chief

23. Aerial Ladder Replacement

September 25, 2009 report requesting approval of an RFP for an aerial platform unit.

Considered above.

REQUEST FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL

24. Vancouver Airport Authority seeking to make a presentation on airport initiatives and activities to Council at the Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for November 9, 2009.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT approval be granted for the Vancouver Airport Authority to make a presentation to Council on airport activities and initiatives at a Committee of the Whole meeting other than November 9, 2009.

CARRIED.

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

25. Douglas College seeking to make a presentation to Council (oral) – Director of Legislative Services

The Director of Legislative Services reported that Douglas College has invited the City to make a \$20,000 donation over two years to fund a 150th anniversary bursary for a Douglas College student. They are requesting an opportunity to address Council on the matter.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Douglas College be invited to address Council on the issue of a 150th anniversary bursary at the Committee of the Whole meeting of November 16, 2009

CARRIED.

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

COMMITTEE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

26. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Community Heritage Commission meetings of August 5, 2009

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Community Heritage Commission meeting held on, August 5, 2009, be received and adopted.

CARRIED.

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

NEW BUSINESS

27. Fraser Health Update – Councillor McEvoy

Councillor McEvoy reported results from a meeting of the Fraser Health Municipal Government Advisory Council:

- They anticipate cuts of 8 – 9% per year for the next 2 to 3 years
- They propose to divide health into core and non-core functions
- Specific cuts were discussed including domestic violence cuts
- Abuse, mental health and addictions were considered non-core services
- MRI's will be cut – not known yet by how much; to keep up with population growth, MRIs needs to increase by 7-9%, not decrease
- They will review programs around babies
- Are consolidating into Centres of Excellence
- Executive Directors will be reduced from 13 to 10
- General desire to move away from Facilities Managers
- The Directors of Fraser Health will be re-applying for their jobs – will have only two opportunities; Managers will go through the same process

- Their proposed solution was to ask representing City Councillors and Mayors to support user fees for the use of Emergency Rooms – this was not supported; there will be a further meeting on a range of options for user fees for use of the health care system
- Reducing operating rooms
- They are seeking support at the Provincial level for fees.

Councillor McEvoy sought support for the following:

- End the general line of attack on not for profits organizations
- Abuse, mental health and addiction are core services and need to be seen as such by Fraser Health
- Employ demographic considerations to calculate the distribution of health services
- Complete disclosure of cuts and changes to health care.

During discussion, members made the following comments:

- Statistics for Royal Columbian Hospital should include the number of attendees who come from other communities
- What will be lost at RCH through the redefinition of what RCH can and cannot do
- When care centres are moved away from RCH, the corresponding specialists and offices will move to communities where the services will be offered – will have an impact on the City.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Councillor McEvoy's oral report on proposed Fraser Health cuts be received.

CARRIED.

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

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MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends

THAT the City of New Westminster representative to the Fraser Health Municipal Government Advisory Council take forward the following positions to the Fraser Health Authority:

- *That a full and ongoing disclosure of cuts and changes to health care be provided to municipalities;*
- *That funding to non-profit organizations be restored and non-profits continue to be supported as part of the health care system;*
- *That funding, programs and services dealing with abuse, mental health and addiction be defined as core services; and*
- *That Fraser Health be requested to consider demographic and statistical health information in addition to population growth trends when deciding the distribution of health services; and*

THAT the Cit of New Westminster work to restore ongoing domestic violence funding.

CARRIED.

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends *THAT the Cit of New Westminster work to restore ongoing domestic violence funding.***

CARRIED.

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

28. Proposal to Automate the Committee Recruitment Process, Invitations to City Events and Christmas Cards Circulation – Director of Legislative Services

October 5, 2009 report proposing automation of various processes relating to City events.

Considered above.

29. Business Cards

A member suggested changes to the design of business cards. The Director of Legislative Services was directed to provide samples to Council.

30. Lighting in City Hall Parking Lot

A member commented on the many evening meetings where staff leave after dark and suggested that lighting be installed in the back parking at City Hall. Mayor Wright directed that the matter to staff for review.

31. Arts Funding

A member expressed concern over the shortfall in funding to the arts.

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends *WHEREAS the provincial government has reduced funding for arts and culture organizations by cutting funding from the BC Arts Council and gaming grants; and* *WHEREAS arts and culture organizations are an integral part of the economic and social fabric of local communities;* **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** *the City of New Westminster encourages the provincial government to restore funding to arts and cultural organizations, from all provincial sources, to the 2008 levels.***

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Certified Correct,

WAYNE WRIGHT
MAYOR

RICHARD L. PAGE
CORPORATE OFFICER