



CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

January 21, 2008 2:00 p.m.
Committee Room 2, City Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor Wayne Wright
Councillor Jonathan Cote
Councillor Bill Harper
Councillor Bob Osterman
Councillor Betty McIntosh
Councillor Lorrie Williams

REGRETS:

Councillor Calvin Donnelly

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 Carl Nepstad	- Director of Fire and Rescue
Mr. Allan Woodbury	- Director of Human Resources & Corporate Services
Mr. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks and Recreation
Chief L. Zapotichny	- Police Services
Mr. Reece Harding	- Solicitor
Ms. Judi Turner	- Assistant City Clerk
Mr. Keith Coueffin	- Development Services
Mr. Walt Cirillo	- Development Services
Mr. Blair Fryer	- Legislative Services

REPORTS FOR ACTION

Director of Engineering Services:

1. [Safety Review of Ewen Avenue Traffic Circles](#)

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the January 21, 2008 report from the Director of Engineering Services regarding Safety Review of Ewen Avenue Traffic Circles, be received.

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

2. [Animal Services Policies](#) (circulated separately)

Dave Cole, Manager of Animal Services, responded to questions regarding the January 21, 2008, report providing information relative to current Animal Service policies, recommending practices and options for future progress respective of animal welfare in the City. Members discussed the various options proposed.

Staff was urged to assist residents with contact information for the Provincial government departmental responsible for wildlife. As well, staff was directed to post information for the public regarding policies and processes for after hours emergency calls.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council receive the January 21, 2008 report from the Director of Engineering Services regarding Animal Services Policies and authorize implementation of all recommendations.

CARRIED.

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

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT a mandatory spay and neuter provision be added to the Animal Control Bylaw for unlicensed at large animals and staff investigate and report back to Council on the following:

- *Investigate some form of relief on penalties for seniors*
- *Target unlicensed animals at large*
- *Consider a one time ticket home per licensed animal.*

CARRIED.

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

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the City continue with its current practice vis-à-vis a no-kill policy and staff report back to Council on the feasibility of an appeal process.

CARRIED.

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

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the City continue with the current practice for identification of cats (tattoos, microchip and tags) and provide public education on the benefits of obtaining microchip identification.

CARRIED.

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

Staff was directed to refer the request for funding for a new Animal Facility Attendant (auxiliary) position to Council for consideration during the upcoming operational budget meeting.

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the City continue its current practice and develop an annual animal forum to discuss issues relative to animal welfare in the city.

CARRIED.

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

Director of Finance and Information Technology:

3. Council Remuneration Annual Update

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT Council receive the January 21, 2008 report from the Director of Finance and Information Technology as an update to Council's 2008 remuneration, calculated in accordance with the City's Council Remuneration Policy; and
THAT effective January 1, 2008, Council's annual stipend will be:

Mayor \$81,987

Councillor \$30,169

CARRIED.

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

Director of Development Services:

4. 660 – 700 Columbia Street – Trapp Block – Preliminary Application

The Director of Development Services noted that the buildings referred to in Items 4 and 7 of this agenda (Trapp Block and Centre Block) are significant heritage conservation and façade retention projects in the City. She added that the owner of the Trapp Block, Robert Fung representing Salient, is present to respond to questions.

The Senior Planning (Consultant) circulated a rendering of the proposed redevelopment project (which will be added to the Agenda package) and reviewed the January 14, 2008, report providing preliminary information to Council on the application received to rezone the property at 660-700 Columbia Street – Trapp Block. Discussion ensued on matters such as:

- The design of the building to the west
- Setbacks on the Trapp Block
- Residential ceiling heights
- Façade retention options

During the ensuing discussion, Council raised the following matters for consideration:

- Create a model to demonstrate view corridors and shadow analysis
- Provide white decorative lighting within the design of the building.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the January 14, 2008 report from the Director of Development Services regarding the preliminary application to rezone the property at 660-700 Columbia Street – Trapp Block, be received for information.

CARRIED.

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

5. **Municipal Heritage Designation for 913 Tenth Street (Bylaw No. 7212, 2008)**

Kathleen Higgins, Development Services, responded to questions regarding the January 14, 2008, report from the Director of Development Services, regarding a request from the owners of 913 Tenth Street to voluntarily designate the house and land as a municipal heritage site.

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

THAT Heritage Designation Bylaw (913 Tenth Street) No. 7212, 2008 be referred to the Regular Council meeting of January 21, 2008 for consideration of first and second reading and that a Public Hearing be scheduled for March 3, 2008.

CARRIED.

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

6. **818 Twelfth Street/Status of Property**

The Director of Development Services commented regarding the January 21, 2008, report regarding recent bylaw enforcement concerns relating to 818 Twelfth Street, providing options with respect to a recent application to extend the Development Permit, and providing information regarding a change in ownership.

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT a time extension for Development Permit 001 (TS) with variances for the proposed mixed use project at 818 Twelfth Street, be tabled.

CARRIED.

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

7. **Centre Block and Adjacent Development at the Victoria Hill Site - Preliminary Report**

The Director of Development Services introduced Fraser Hall, Development Manager with the Onni Group of Companies, and Julie MacDonald, City Heritage Planner.

The Heritage Planner reviewed the January 17, 2008, report from the Director of Development Services, providing preliminary information regarding new direction for the heritage conservation of the Centre Block on the Victoria Hill site.

Mr. Hall, the City Administrator and the Director responded to questions and clarified certain matters.

Discussion ensued. The Director agreed to obtain an appraisal for the old Recreation Centre lands.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the January 17, 2008 report from the Director of Development Services regarding preliminary information on the new direction for the heritage conservation of the Centre Block on the Victoria Hill site, be received for information.

CARRIED.

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

RECESS

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council recess.

CARRIED.

All members of Council voted in favour of the motion.

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of Council recessed at 3:23 p.m. and reconvened at 4:04 p.m. with all members of Council present except Councillor Donnelly.

Director of Development Services:

8. Show Cause Hearing – Vibe Jewellers and Pawn LTD.

(a) Opening Statement by Mayor Wayne Wright

(b) Staff reports – Vibe Jewellers, 414 Columbia Street/Status of Business Licenses dated December 14, 2007

- **Keith Coueffin, Deputy Chief License Inspector**
- **Sergeant Daryl Tottenham, New Westminster Police Service**
- **Detective/Constable Russ Roest, New Westminster Police Service**

(c) Representations from Business License Holders

(d) Decision

The following persons joined the meeting at 4:04 p.m.:

Vi Tran and Be Thi Pho, Business License holders for Vibe Jewellers
Jay Solomon, identified himself as Counsel for Vi Tran and Be Thi Pho
Insp. Dave Jones, Sgt Darryl Tottenham, Det/Cst Russ Roest
Keith Coueffin and Walt Cirillo, Development Services
Reece Harding, Solicitor for the City

Mayor Wayne Wright acknowledged the delegation and reviewed the process which would be followed during the Show Cause Hearing on the business known as Vibe Jewellers and Pawn LTD. at 414 Columbia Street. Opportunities would be given to all interested parties to speak and to question other speakers.

Keith Coueffin, Manager of Licensing and Inspections, presented the December 14, 2007 report from the Director of Development Services which is the information on the matter of Vibe Jewellers located at 414 Columbia Street. He highlighted the report which was based on the information provided to staff by the Police. A second report was attached and provides additional information relating to criminal charges that are being pursued. There is no further information regarding these charges.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions for Mr. Coueffin. There were none.

Sgt. Tottenham, New Westminster Police Service, joined the table. As operator of the Special Projects Team for New Westminster, Sgt. Tottenham made his statements in support of the report which was before Council:

- The business in New Westminster known as Vibe Jewellers at 414 Columbia Street was identified
- Over 5 to 6 months, Police have seen an increase in theft in the city in scrap metal and wire products, an increase in activities in the Downtown – many specific to the business of Vibe Jewellers including at the rear which fronts onto Front Street and including activities of people bringing in wire
- Also have information indicating activities in relation to Vibe Jewellers taking in stolen property
- As a result, Police instituted an undercover operation

- The project consisted of an undercover operator who was given different identification and put into Vibe Jewellers with the intent of taking property in
- A series of 16 visits occurred – the report contains the details of each visit
- The intention of the project was to go in to become familiar with the owner and for the owner to become familiar with the undercover operator and through a series of increments move into testing the waters to determine if there was criminal activity on the premises
- A series of photos are contained in the report; on Pages 35 and 36 are core samples of what they were taking in originally – links of copper and aluminum wire, cut into 14“ pieces, with a market value of approximately \$2 for copper and \$1 for aluminum
- They were identified as the most likely source of income of the people in the Downtown core who were stealing this property to take in for salvage
- The summary contains the details of the first couple of visits
- It details the operator going in, producing his identification and each time taking in a number of items on pages 35/36 and selling them for cash
- On the fourth visit, the undercover operator got into discussion regarding where he was getting this copper from with indications he had stolen it and was bringing it in to sell
- The fifth visit included conversation with the owner in terms of things not having proper identification and taking copper products in
- The sixth visit was the same thing
- The seventh visit he went in and got to a point where the undercover operator was comfortable with the owners and each recognized the other and there was more conversation; he took in copper and aluminum wire and other products - for example, this visit he took in a 21 speed mountain bike valued at \$300; during the conversation with Mr. Vi Tran, the undercover operator made it clear the bike was stolen and suggested it be hidden and this was agreed on; he was paid \$40 from the visit - \$20 for wire and \$20 for the bike
- On the eighth visit, he took in another mountain bike and more wire; there was more conversation that indicated the bike was stolen and he hid it; the owner purchased it and paid \$32 - \$28 for copper and \$4 for the bike
- On the ninth visit the undercover operator took a bag of 10 watches and copper wiring; he had the same conversation and indicated to Mr. Tran, the owner, that he stole the watches; he was paid \$30 for the watches and the wire
- On the 10th visit more wire was taken in and there was more conversation that if the Police found out there would be trouble
- On the 11th visit there was more copper and more conversation with references to him working at a job site and it was running out of wire
- On the 12th visit it had been arranged prior to the visit to obtain a number of gold chains; page 37 has a photograph which shows a set of keys which are counter keys used for jewelry cases and they are for special locks that close off the sliding doors; the chains were on a display board and still had price tags attached; the operator took these in with his wire but with no intent to sell them but to display; a conversation occurred between the undercover operator and Mr.

Tran and he indicated he had stolen them and was selling them to someone else; Mr. Tran wanted to buy those chains but he only sold the copper wire; he had a conversation of going out to steal some things Mr. Tran wanted if he wished

- On the 13th visit the undercover operator had conversations with the owner regarding what Mr. Tran wanted him to steal for him; he was very specific to steal gold and diamond rings for Mr. Tran
- On the 14th and 15th visits, he took in copper piping (photo 38), 2 heavy brass valves and one length of copper pipe that was 24"; these are products obtained through working; they are by the piece and are quite expensive; they are used for fire trucks in the City; they had stickers that showed they were the property of the City of New Westminster Engineering Operations on all three pieces; these were taken in by the undercover operator with some pieces of aluminum wire; he had a very specific conversation stating he had just stolen these of a New Westminster Works truck and offered them for sale to Mr. Tran who readily accepted them and bought them but had a concern to remove the stickers and a concern over the stock numbers being written with a jiffy marker and ensured these were removed; there was a further conversation regarding cabinet keys and indicated that if he could get these keys he could access jewelry cabinets and get gold chains
- On the next visit there was more conversation with Mr. Tran ordering - making demands when he discovered the undercover operator had keys
- \$2000 of white and yellow gold chains were purchased and mounted on a display pad (photo 39); he took these into the business and the undercover operator made it clear he had stolen these from a jewelry store and made a deal with the owner to buy all the necklaces displayed with the aluminum wire for \$300 for everything at 10 – 12% of market value
- subsequently, he had another conversation with Mr. Tran who ordered more gold rings and diamonds and indicated he would give him a good price
- he went back to identify the owners and ensure he had proper identification for the report
- at the back of the report is another report; there was also contact with Crown Counsel and consideration of a criminal charge; as a result on December 13, 2007 they were advised that charges had been accepted by Crown Counsel under S. 462.31 and 464 of the Criminal Code of Canada. They are currently before the courts and no further information is available on these charges
- on December 16th they applied for a search warrant and on this date Mr. Tran was arrested at his business; subsequently they spent 6 to 7 hours under search warrant at 414 Columbia Street and had a number of seizures inside that business
- there was a media release at the time
- two investigations are currently before the Federal Wildlife body and investigations are currently ongoing; charges are not yet laid; this had to do with the recovery under search warrant of three large walrus tusks
- the following day, DFO attended under their own search warrant and seized a peace of suspected elephant ivory and bear claws

- they will conduct a separate investigation.

The Mayor asked Council if there were any questions for Sgt. Tottenham.

Council Member:

- Are the keys universal keys that can be used anywhere?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- They are somewhat universal, yes. As I understand it, they are small specific keys to the jewelry locks that open jewelry cases; some of them open cases; it is not universal that one key will open anything; but if you have enough of them, you can pretty well get into a number of cases.

The Mayor asked the Vibe Jewelers representative if there were any questions for Sgt. Tottenham.

Mr. Solomon:

- Regarding the Wildlife investigation and the tusk you found – you are not suggesting that the store was illegally in possession of those items? You simply have no idea, correct?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- I have no idea. DFO and Wildlife Enforcement – we have turned it over to them. It is their specialty. They have serious concerns.

Mr. Solomon:

- You have no idea whether those were lawfully in the store or not?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- No.

Mr. Solomon:

- You are not leaving an impression with Council that those items were illegally in Mr. Tran's possession?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- No. I am saying that what we did see there is under investigation.

Mr. Solomon:

- You have no idea that it has already been returned to Mr. Tran – right?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- Correct.

Mr. Solomon:

- You indicated a search warrant was conducted and things were seized.

Sgt. Tottenham:

- We seized several items that are in the system as stolen. At this time we have not laid any charges.

Mr. Solomon:

- None have been forwarded to Crown Counsel?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- No.

Mr. Solomon:

- The goal of the undercover operation was to determine whether their store was part of an operation regarding materials that were being stolen – correct?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- Yes, that is correct.

Mr. Solomon:

- You went in there and found it was part of the problem.

Sgt. Tottenham:

- Clearly – yes.

Mr. Solomon:

- You wanted to take it further to see how far you could go with what Mr. Tran would be interested in pursuing – yes?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- Yes.

Mr. Solomon:

- The undercover operator asked Mr. Tran – Page 33 of the report provided to Council – where the undercover operator says “I know of a grow op in Queensborough. My buddy and I want to trip this place. But we need to get our hands on a piece. Instead of the \$300, how about you score me a gun that works. Then we’ll call it even – no cash. What do you say? Mr. Tran immediately replied, Oh, no. I have no gun – I don’t deal with guns. No guns.”
- You found no firearms in the search – correct? No ammunition for guns - correct?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- Yes, correct. I think there were short swords for display purposes on the wall.

Mr. Solomon:

- Were there other items of concern – anything that can be used as a weapon – even a pen? Were there other objects of a potentially violent variety?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- No.

Mr. Solomon:

- Can you give Council an idea of the number of pawn shops in the city?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- Three.

Mr. Solomon:

- Because of this investigation – the police have concerns and the city has concerns and we are here to address these today. You don't want Mr. Tran or Vibe Jewellers to operate a pawn shop – correct?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- I'm not clear.

Mr. Solomon:

- You are here to raise concerns.

Sgt. Tottenham:

- My reason is to state concerns that they are operating a business in a criminal manner.

Mr. Solomon:

- It started from scrap metal – correct?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- Correct.

Mr. Solomon:

- Concerns are scrap metal and operating as a pawn shop – correct?

Sgt. Tottenham:

- Yes – operating as a pawn shop and taking in stolen property.

The Mayor asked if there were any questions for Sgt. Tottenham. There were none. He then called for the next speaker.

Det/Cst Roest, New Westminster Police Service, joined the table and made his statements.

- I am part of the Special Projects Team. Sgt. Tottenham is my Division Supervisor. I have been employed with the Special Projects Team for 4 ½ years. My mandate is to conduct covert operations within the city and outside the city of New Westminster.
- I believe it was in the beginning of October when Sgt. Tottenham approached me to determine if I was interested in acting as the undercover operator to determine whether stolen goods were being bought. I developed a plan which was approved.
- The first visit was October 18, 2007. I was tasked to determine whether criminal activity was taking place at Vibe Jewellers. My first seven visits at Vibe Jewellers involved conversations with Mr. Tran and Mrs. Tran, and their understanding of the English language was quite proficient. The first seven visits were chit chat and selling copper wire.
- On the seventh visit I brought in the first bike – I believe with an approximate value of \$300. That conversation was with Mr. Tran. Mrs. Tran was not around anywhere. When there were customers in the store, I waited my turn. When discussion did take place, it took place at the door marked 416 Columbia Street. When you open that door you notice a small narrow corridor that leads downstairs. Most of our conversations took place in that area and most conversations were quiet. My impression was he didn't want Mrs. Tran to find out what the conversations were about.
- Going back to the gold necklaces - I initially showed Mr. Tran those necklaces because I wanted him to feel comfortable that I was capable of bringing items like that in. They were valued in excess of \$5500 – I explained to Mr. Tran that I promised them to a friend for \$100 but Mr. Tran offered me \$200. There is no doubt in my mind that he believe these items to be stolen.

The Mayor asked Council if there were any questions for Det/Cst Roest. There were none.

The Mayor asked the solicitor for Vibe Jewellers if there were any questions for Det/Cst Roest. There were none.

The Mayor invited Mr. Solomon, Counsel for Vibe Jewellers, to make his presentation. Mr. Jay Solomon joined the table and made the following statements.

- My clients are owners of Vibe Jewellers and understand they are in a tenuous position with respect to their business license and want an opportunity for the full picture of their lives in New Westminster and their business dealings to be before you.
- You have heard a small part. They have been residents and business owners for 25 years. This is the first time they have been arrested or had criminal charges

against them. We are here to try and present a full picture. They understand the serious position they are in and the legitimate concern that the police have and that the City of New Westminster has with respect to their business.

- If they are permitted to continue this business, they appreciate it will be different. At the end of the day, I will suggest one license to continue business as a jewelry shop. That is their true passion and history. Mr. Tran has been working with jewelers for over 20 years now. His wife – her skill was inherited from her family in Vietnam. They would like to maintain a retail jewelry license. No pawn shop. No scrap metal dealership. No buying scrap metal. Their license would be limited to repair and sale of small pieces of jewelry.
- At this point, we are here to deal with these allegations - we are not taking issue at this time with the allegations set out by the Police. We are here to deal with the most appropriate manner to move forward based on those allegations before you. I know time is moving on.
- Mr. Tran was born in Vietnam in 1951. He has been in Canada since 1971 after first being in a refugee camp. They have no children. They were married in 1973 in Vietnam. They moved to New Westminster in 1972.
- They bought a jewelry business at 772 Columbia and moved in 1986 to 416 Columbia where they had a jewelry license. They obtained a second license for a pawn shop in 1999. He had previously worked for a jewelry store where he gained his skill. His wife was brought up in the business through her parents in Vietnam. They have always been working in Canada and never relied on social assistance to support themselves. His wife was born in 1952. They own their house in New Westminster on Eleventh Street.
- Mr. Tran prepared copies of reports for the Police on a daily basis for the pawn shop. They were submitted to the Police with respect to purchases. They do that on a regular basis and have been adhering to the requirements of the City bylaw.
- If you read through these materials in the report, they attempted many times - they are not saying this goes a long way towards mitigation - but they asked the undercover operator for proper identification. They wanted to complete the paper work. This is not a rogue business. They pay taxes, have a business license and completed these forms.
- The sergeant in charge – they raided the business and there were concerns over the tusks. Since then, the three tusks have been returned to Mr. Tran. Other objects remain in investigation. Please don't let these affect your thinking.
- There were other items seized from the store but there are no charges. Although the Police are concerned they were stolen, there are no charges.
- The investigation started October 2007 and went for six weeks. I am asking you to look at the history of 25 years in this community owning and running a store since the 1980's – close to 20 years. You are talking about a month and a half.
- The business is problematic and a concern to this Council. I think the concerns can be addressed by limiting his business operation to what is being proposed.
- There is also a letter – a character reference – dated December 30, 2007, given to Mr. Tran from Chua Thien Ton, Chairman, Venerable Van Que Huynh, Thien

Vien Thien Ton Buddhist Society & Cultural Centre. (Mr. Solomon read the letter aloud.)

- And another letter from Bill Wong, General Manager of Union Gospel Mission, dated January 9, 2008. (Mr. Solomon read the letter aloud.) (A copy of the Union Gospel Mission was submitted and will be attached to the Agenda package.)
- Mr. Tran is a member of that community and participates in the community and is known in the area – not just for the pawn shop but for donating to the community since 2004. People come to the store and they are hungry and he gives them some food and he gives them some aid.
- This got out of hand and he acknowledges that. He appreciates that his business opportunity will become very limited if he is permitted to continue.
- So we are here asking that his pawn shop business or scrap metal one not be continued.
- All he is asking is that a business license be continued to operate a jewelry store.

The Mayor asked Council if there were any questions for Mr. Solomon.

Council Member:

- Which seized items were returned?

Mr. Solomon:

- The three walrus tusks - they are older and came at a different time. There is no suggestion these were unlawfully in their possession and they were returned. I think on television police were holding up those ivory tusks and perhaps they got a bit ahead of themselves in terms of these items. Some have been returned. There is nothing to suggest there was anything unlawful. Some items were returned.

Council Member:

- Have you read the Police report?

Mr. Solomon:

- Yes, I have.

Council Member:

- From your description, you agree that items 1 to 16 in terms of the visits are described accurately?

Mr. Solomon:

- I was trying to be careful to say we are not here to deny these allegations. But at the same time, we are not accepting those allegations as the truth as what occurred. These proceedings are open yet these matters are before the Courts. This puts Mr. Tran in a difficult position. There is another venue where he has to speak. Your job is you have to make your decision based on what the Police tell you but we are not in a position to deal with these allegations. Events 1 to 16

occurred as indicated. They are standing unrefuted. Here he is not in a position to refute them. We are in a position that you will accept the allegations set out by the Police.

Council Member:

- You are in receipt of the whole package we have? The Ministry of Finance BC Registry Service as of July 2007 says the company was dissolved for failure to file?

Mr. Solomon:

- Vibe Jewellers has corrected that problem. They are not dissolved. Their corporate documents are up to date at this point.

Council Member:

- When?

Mr. Solomon:

- January 10th. These corporate documents I am instructed are up to date and filed.

Council Member:

- Thank you for your clarification. It is serious when you look at a family's livelihood. He has been in business. What would be his gross revenue or gross submissions for GST/PST.

Mr. Solomon:

- I don't have these figures at hand. I would have to take a brief recess to see if my client can provide those figures.

Council Member:

- Can your client verbally advise?

Mr. Solomon:

• If I can have a moment. (Mr. Solomon conferred with Mr. Tran quietly.)
He believes his gross revenue is around \$300,000.

Council Member:

- I am curious. This is the first time I have encountered the mechanism to sell copper and aluminum. Where do you sell the scrap metal?

Mr. Tran:

- I sell it in Surrey.

Mr. Solomon:

- They take it to a scrap metal dealer in Surrey.

Mayor Wright:

- If you want to leave your information with us?

Mr. Solomon:

- All I have is the letter from the Union Gospel Mission and a copy of my letter with instructions that I sent to Mr. Coueffin. But I don't know if he passed it on to Council.

Keith Coueffin:

- No I didn't pass that on. I did receive a letter from Mr. Solomon that came after the report was prepared.

Mr. Solomon:

- The only thing I didn't include was the letter from Union Gospel Mission.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the January 9, 2008 letter from the Union Gospel Mission be received.

CARRIED.

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

(Mr. Solomon submitted the Union Gospel Mission letter to the Assistant Corporate Officer.

The Mayor called for a motion to continue the business, to suspend the business license or to cancel the business license.

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends *THAT the business licenses (#111650 and 111152) issued to Vibe Jewellers and Pawn LTD. to operate a Pawn Shop and Retail Jewellery Store at 414 Columbia Street are cancelled effectively immediately.***

Before the question on the motion was called, a Member of Council asked the following:

- If we proceed and it is determined that this business license is cancelled does that mean if they desire to get out of the pawn brokering business and become an exclusively jewelry business they would have to start the vetting process?

Keith Coueffin, Manager of Licensing and Inspections responded:

- Anyone is entitled to submit a business license application and it will be considered independently.

The question on the motion was then called and it was...

CARRIED.

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

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Certified Correct,

WAYNE WRIGHT
CHAIR

RICK PAGE
CORPORATE OFFICER

** Denotes recommendations referred to Regular Council meeting of January 21, 2008, for ratification.