



CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

March 26, 2007 3:15 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	- City Clerk
Mr. Tim Whitehead	- Director of Development Services
Mr. Jim Lowrie	- Director of Engineering Services
Mr. Gary Holowatiuk	- Director of Finance
Mr. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks and Recreation
Ms. Judi Turner	- Assistant City Clerk

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

1(a). DVP 450 for 340-360 Columbia Street

The City Clerk advised that a computer error has resulted in an error in the notification process for DVP 450 for 340-360 Columbia Street, consequently consideration of speakers and issuance of the DVP should be deferred to allow re-notification.

REPORTS FOR ACTION

City Administrator:

1. [TILMA \(Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement\)](#) (circulated separately)

The City Administrator presented the March 26, 2007, report detailing the issues and potential implications surrounding the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA) executed between the provinces of British Columbia and Alberta in April 2006.

In the ensuing discussion, members made the following comments:

- Refer the matter to the UBCM and to the upcoming meeting of the LMLGA to establish a collective voice on the matter
- Concern that the City may not understand all the consequences until the Agreement is well entrenched
- Needs review on impact on local government and autonomy
- Refer the matter also to the Purchasing Management Association of Canada for an opinion on how the Agreement might affect best practices for municipalities and school boards
- How will this affect the smaller municipalities who operate with small budgets.

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

THAT a letter be sent to Minister Colin Hanson expressing concern over the lack of consultation with municipalities in formulating TILMA and concern for the far-reaching implications and consequences of the agreement with respect to municipalities;

THAT the Union of B.C. Municipalities be requested to review the Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement to identify risks and concerns affecting British Columbia municipalities as a result of the agreement; and

THAT the UBCM take action to address and resolve municipal risks and concerns resulting from TILMA with the Provincial Government; and

THAT the letters be copied to all UBCM member municipalities, to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association, and to the Purchasing Management Association of Canada.

CARRIED.

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

Director of Engineering:

2. [Translink Governance Review](#)

The Director of Engineering Services presented the March 26, 2007, report providing a City perspective on the recently released TransLink Governance

Review. He added that further information has been received from the Minister stating that the new legislation:

- Will stipulate that TransLink plans must be consistent with the regional growth management plans; and
- TransLink must comply with local zoning powers.

During the ensuing discussion, concerns were raised as follows:

- The new TransLink Board will be comprised of non-elected members and will become a private board with no accountability to another group
- Unelected members suffer no consequences of their decisions
- The authority of the new Board to levy property taxes
- That public transit fees will be raised despite the fact that, in order to promote public transit and the environment, it is important to continue to subsidize public transit
- The Board will have authority to make decisions that do not take into account the livability issues of communities nor the environment
- The Council of Mayors will be asked to vote on tax increases which will impact local property owners; local government requirements for increases in property taxes will have to be added to that amount
- Prefer a levy on motorists rather than on property owners
- UBCM should consider and provide a framework to enable local government discussion; refer also to LMLGA.

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MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends

THAT a City position be formulated on the Greater Vancouver Transportation Authority (TransLink) Governance Review Panel's recommendation for submission to the Lower Mainland Local Government Association, and/or Union of BC Municipalities with a view to obtaining the support of other jurisdictions in addressing the concerns to local government identified within the March 26, 2007, report from the Director of Engineering Services.

CARRIED.

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

Director of Finance:

3. 5 Year Finance Plan Bylaw (On-Table)

The Director of Finance circulated and reviewed his March 26, 2007, on table report, which seeks approval of the City's Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw. Staff was directed to report quarterly to Council with the benefits which have been realized by funding of new positions in the 2007 budget.

- ** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the 5 Year Financial Plan (2007 – 2011), Bylaw No. 7157, 2007, be forwarded to the March 26, 2007 meeting of Regular Council for consideration of three readings.

CARRIED.

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

4. 2007 Community Grants - Update

Members discussed the March 26, 2007, report from the Director of Finance and Information Technology seeking Council's approval of the additional 2007 Community Grants as presented in Attachment 1 of the report. It was suggested that additional grant funds might be appropriate for Shiloh Church.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the 2007 community grants be approved as set out in Attachment 1 of the March 26, 2007, report from the Director of Finance.

DEFEATED ON A TIE VOTE.

Opposed: Councillors Harper, Williams and Mayor Wright.

- ** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the 2007 Community Grants Items 1 to 6 and 8, as proposed in Attachment 1 of the March 26, 2007, report from the Director of Finance, be approved; and
THAT Grant Item 7 from the report be forwarded to a future meeting of Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED.

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

Director of Development Services:

5. Council Delegation of Routine Contractual Agreements

The Director of Development Services presented his March 26, 2007, report seeking authority for staff to execute, amend and discharge routine contractual agreements related to development, such as statutory rights-of-way and Section 219 covenants. During the ensuing discussion, members suggested that an appeal process might be useful and asked for a list of agreements which might be included in this policy change.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the matter of delegation of routine contractual agreements be referred to staff for a further report, listing the types of agreements intended for delegation and to outline a routine for reporting to Council on previously processed agreements.

CARRIED.

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

6. [Homelessness Coalition's Homelessness Action Strategy and the City's Homelessness Policy](#)

Members commented on the March 15, 2007, report from the Director of Development Services, providing information on the Homelessness Coalition's Homelessness Action Strategy, and the process to commence with the development of the City's Homelessness Policy.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the March 15, 2007, report from the Director of Development Services, regarding Homelessness Coalition's Homelessness Action Strategy and the City's Homelessness Policy, be received.

CARRIED.

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

Director of Parks & Recreation:

7. [Public Park and Recreation Facility Naming Policy](#)

The Director of Parks & Recreation responded to questions regarding his March 26, 2007, report recommending adoption of a formal policy to guide the naming of future parks and recreation facilities. Questions arose about the criteria for street naming and whether that practice might be followed for parks and recreation facilities. The policy should not include corporations.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the matter of a policy to guide the naming of future parks and recreation facilities be referred to staff for a comparison with the existing policy and practice for naming streets.

CARRIED.

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

COMMITTEE MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

8. [Arts & Culture Commission meeting held March 14, 2007](#)

- (a) **Commission Representative to Council**
- (b) **Authority to Apply for Canada Day Grant**

**** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the minutes of the Arts & Culture Commission meeting held on March 14, 2007, be received and adopted;
THAT Tony Antonias be designated as the Arts and Culture Commission representative to attend Regular Council meetings to share information about arts and culture events in the City; and

THAT Parks and Recreation staff, on behalf of the Arts and Culture Commission and the Canada Day Sub-Committee, be authorized to apply for funding for Canada 2007 under the Heritage Canada, Celebrate Canada Program.

CARRIED.

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

9. [Community & Social Issues Committee meeting held March 15, 2007.](#)

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the minutes of the Community & Social Issues Committee meeting held on March 15, 2007, be received and adopted.

CARRIED.

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

REQUESTS FOR PRESENTATIONS

10. [Vancouver International Airport Authority requesting a presentation on the Airport's Initiatives and activities at a Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, June 18, 2007.](#)

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Vancouver International Airport Authority's request for a presentation on the Airport's Initiatives and activities at a Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, June 18, 2007, be approved.

CARRIED.

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

11. [Vicki Austad, New Westminster Community Development Society, requesting a presentation on the progress of the business plan for trolley service in New Westminster at a Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, April 23, 2007.](#)

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the request from Vicki Austad of the New Westminster Community Development Society for a presentation on the progress of the business plan for trolley service in New Westminster at a Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, April 23, 2007, be approved.

CARRIED.

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

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Certified Correct,

WAYNE WRIGHT, CHAIR

RICK PAGE, CITY CLERK