



CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NEW WESTMINSTER

COUNCIL IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

May 11, 2009 3:38 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	- Corporate Officer/ Director of Legislative Services
Ms. Judi Turner	- Acting Corporate Officer
Ms. Lisa Spitale	- Director of Development Services
Mr. Rod Carle	- General Manager of Electric Utility
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. Donna Martin	- Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 3:38 p.m.
A brief recess was called. The meeting was reconvened at 3:43 p.m.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

There were no additions to the agenda.

REPORTS

1. Financial Plan 2009 – 2013 (Bylaw No. 7324, 2009)

May 11, 2009 report seeking Council approval for the City's Five-Year Plan (2009-2013).

Director of Finance and Information Technology reviewed the Financial Plan and circulated a copy of Schedule A to Bylaw No. 7324, 2009 (which will be added to the agenda package).

- ** MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the Five-Year Financial Plan (2009-2013) Bylaw No. 7324, 2009 be forwarded to the Regular Meeting of Council for consideration of three readings; and
THAT a Special Open Meeting of Council be scheduled for May 13, 2009 in Committee Room 2 at City Hall at 4:30 p.m. to consider adoption of Bylaw No. 7324, 2009.

Opposed: Councillor McIntosh.

2. Property Tax Rates Bylaw (Bylaw No. 7316, 2009) (circulated separately)

May 11, 2009 report seeking Council approval of the City's Tax Rate Bylaw No. 7316, 2009.

During discussion, members made the following comments:

- Feel there has been a lack of consultation with industrial and business users
- Concern about 2-year hiatus on school rates for industry
- Shifting tax burden off residential class is good in this economic climate
- Citizens are satisfied with services as they are and do not want them cut
- Increasing heavy industrial property tax burden may not be the message the City wants to send
- Concerned that we do not know what is happening in the commercial area
- Allocate taxes similarly to other municipalities while considering New Westminster's unique circumstances
- Need research for next year to ensure New Westminster taxes are competitive
- Considering the economic environment, the Plan seems well balanced
- Believe the redistribution of taxes sends the wrong message to major industry
- Businesses benefit from City services, such as: WIFI service installations, tourism marketing, planning, events, etc.
- Clarify regarding the railroad.

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT Tax Rates Bylaw No. 7316, 2009 be forwarded to Regular Council meeting of May 11, 2009, for consideration of three readings (as amended in accordance with Attachment 3 of the May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Finance and Information Technology).

Opposed: Councillor Cote

PRESENTATIONS

Director of Engineering

3. Citywide Flood Management Strategy

- (a) Presentation
- (b) Report

Colin Kristiansen, Delcan Construction, stated the goal is to establish an appropriate level of protection to alleviate the economic risk for valued City assets. He noted that a flood warning is issued about every 10 years. However, that rate is expected to increase due to expected climate changes.

The City of New Westminster faces many challenges and must choose a level of protection for each of the following areas: Queensborough, West Industrial Lands, Downtown, Front Street & Sapperton Landing and Braid Industrial Park.

After a careful economic assessment of these areas, the following recommendations were put forth:

- Queensborough - highest priority for a raised dyke
- Downtown – install permanent flood protection during re-development and federal funds available.
- Braid Industrial – new perimeter dyke within the right-of-way
- No other changes until development occurs.

The next step is to undertake a public consultation process on the proposed Citywide Flood Management Strategy before finalizing a preferred strategy to present to Council.

During discussion, members made the following comments:

- Must take advantage of partnering on major projects to save money
- Suggest the new Emergency Manager work on a communication process for areas in the flood plain
- Explore possibility of constructing a barge landing that would be accessible even in high water
- Questioned environmental impact of dykes on shorelines
- Funding options such as provincial and federal grant monies are easier to procure with a plan in place.

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT staff be directed to move forward with the public consultation on the proposed Flood Management Strategy.

CARRIED

All members of Committee voted in favour of the motion.

6. New Outdoor Pool Name Recommendation

May 11, 2009 report recommending a name for the new pool currently under construction in Moody Park.

- ** **MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends**
THAT the name "Moody Park Outdoor Pool" be adopted as the name of the new pool in Moody Park.

CARRIED.

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

Director of Parks and Recreation

4. New Westminster Youth Facility Conceptual Design and Updated Project Budget

(a) Presentation

(b) Report

May 11, 2009 report updating Council on the outcomes of the community consultation process and to recommend options for proceeding with construction of a youth facility.

On the assumption youth need their own space, Anita Simola, Co-Chair of the Youth Facility Task Force, reviewed the Task Force mandate and the process undertaken since September 2008 in planning for a new Youth Facility.

Joy Barkwill, Youth and Senior Services Manager, believes Century House is the best location as it is centrally located; is in close proximity to New Westminster Secondary School; has access to services and outdoor amenities with compatible times for usage.

Architect Allan Francis, reviewed the conceptual design of the facility before Dean Gibson summarized the project budget noting a funding gap driven by the requirement to undertake electrical and mechanical upgrades to support the uses now and in the future. Not included in the cost estimate is the recommended creation of new park washrooms in the park.

Mr. Gibson reported on a number of challenges impacting the estimated project cost and offered the following options for meeting the additional costs:

- Increase available capital funding
- Defer some 2009 capital projects
- Defer construction of washrooms to 2010
- Reallocate available infrastructure grant funding from 2005

- Apply for Recreation Canada Grant.

Discussion ensued with members making the following comments:

- Recommend applying for Recreation Canada Grant before reallocating infrastructure grant funding.
- Questioned construction of a caretaker suite as a means to address security issues
- Construction of washrooms.

Staff was asked to further explore the issue of the caretaker suite as a means of security and report on rationale at a future meeting.

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MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends

THAT the conceptual design for the New Westminster Youth Facility on the Century House site be endorsed as presented;

THAT an overall project budget in the amount of \$2.33 million, be approved; and THAT funding be sought from the Federal Government Infrastructure Grant and if not successful that other options be examined.

CARRIED.

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

REPORTS FOR ACTION

Director of Parks and Recreation

5. Moody Park Outdoor Pool – Project Progress Update

May 11, 2009 report updating Council on the progress of the Moody Park Outdoor Pool project.

The Director of Parks and Recreation reported an issue has arisen regarding construction of the concrete walls which may delay the Moody Park Pool project for 7 – 10 days. A tour date for Council will be scheduled after May Day.

MOVED and SECONDED and CARRIED, this Committee recommends

THAT the May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Parks and Recreation, updating Council on the progress of the Moody Park Outdoor Pool project, be received for information.

CARRIED.

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

PROCEDURAL NOTE:

In the interest of time, Mayor Wright asked for a motion to have the remaining agenda items considered as a Consent Agenda with any items needing discussion to be pulled.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT all remaining agenda items be moved to a Consent Agenda with the exception of the following items:

- *Item 9 – 2009 City Partnership Grants – Update;*
- *Item 9(a) – Seven Day Operation of Parking Meters;*
- *Item 11 – West End Fire Hall Renovation – Project Delivery Options; and*
- *Item 16 – 1010 Third Avenue*

CARRIED.

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

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Consent Agenda items be approved as follows:

7. Amendment to Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Bylaw (Bylaw 7313, 2009)

May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Parks and Recreation outlining the recommended fees and charges for Parks and Recreation services and providing background information for adoption of a Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Bylaw amendment.

**** *THAT Parks and Recreation Fee Amendment Bylaw No. 7313 be forwarded to Regular Council Meeting of May 11, 2009, for consideration of first, second and third readings.***

8. Financial Review for the year ended December 31, 2008

May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Finance and Information Technology providing information regarding financial progress for the year ended December 31, 2008.

THAT the May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Finance and Information Technology regarding the City's financial progress for the year ended December 31, 2008 be received.

10. Review of Public Forum on Animal Issues

THAT the May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Engineering Services providing information on the Public Forum on Animal Issues, be received.

12. 409 Boyne Street

May 11, 2009 report from Director of Development Services advising Council regarding an application to rezone 409 Boyne Street and the adjacent City lane.

**** *THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 7315, 2009 be referred to Regular Council Meeting of May 11, 2009, for consideration of First and Second readings;***
THAT Road Closing Bylaw No. 7325, 2009 be referred to Regular Council Meeting of May 11, 2009, for consideration of First, Second and Third readings; and
THAT a Public Hearing for Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 7315, 2009 and an opportunity to be heard for Road Closing Bylaw No. 7325, 2009 be scheduled for June 1, 2009,

13. 626 Tenth Avenue Heritage Revitalization Agreement

May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Development Services presenting a proposed HRA for 626 Tenth Street to create two legal lots, construct a new house, and formally designate the existing 1891 house.

** *THAT the proposed Heritage Revitalization Agreement for 626 Tenth Street be referred to Regular Council Meeting of May 11, 2009, for consideration of First and Second readings.*

14. Wi-Fi Feasibility Study Pilot Project

May 6, 2009 report from the General Manager , Electric Utility following up from the May 4, 2009 Council workshop regarding the amendment to the financial report approving \$95,000 to initiate a Wi-Fi feasibility study/pilot project.

THAT the General Manager of the Electric Utility Commission May 6, 2009 report regarding the amendment to the financial report approving \$95,000 to initiate a Wi-Fi feasibility study/project be received for information.

15. 230 Third Avenue, Heritage Revitalization Agreement Application - Preliminary Report

May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Development Services informing Council of a HRA for 230 Third Avenue.

THAT the Director of Development Services May 11, 2009 report regarding a Heritage Revitalization Agreement application for 230 Third Avenue is received for information.

17. Friendship City Agreement Between New Westminster and YunFu, China

May 6, 2009 report seeking authority to enter into a friendship agreement between the City and YunFu, Guangdong, China.

A revised version of the Friendship City Agreement between New Westminster and YunFu was circulated on table (and will be added to the agenda package).

** *THAT to the City enter into a Friendship City Agreement with YunFu, Guangdong, China.*

18. The Royal Westminster Regiment Historical Society extends an invitation to a re-dedication ceremony for plaques honoring the Regiments two Victoria Cross recipients to Mayor and Council, requests \$500.00 in financial assistance to help with the costs of the event, and requests assistance remounting the plaques from the Engineering Department.

- ** *THAT the invitation from Royal Westminster Historical Society to a re-dedication ceremony for plaques honoring the Regiments two Victoria Cross recipients be received; and*
THAT the City provide financial assistance in the amount of \$500.00 for the event; and
THAT the City's Engineering Department assist with remounting of the plaques.

19. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Electric Utility Commission Meeting of February 17, 2009.

THAT the minutes of the Electric Utility Commission meeting held on February 17, 2009, be received and adopted.

20. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee meeting of March 5, 2009.

THAT the minutes of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee meeting held on March 5, 2009, be received and adopted.

21. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Youth Facility Task Force meetings of February 25, 2009 and March 4, 2009.

THAT the minutes of the Youth Facility Task Force meetings held on February 25, 2009, and March 4, 2009 is received and adopted.

22. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting of October 29, 2008.

THAT the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on October 29, 2008, be received and adopted.

23. MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF: the Emergency Advisory Committee meeting of January 20, 2009.

THAT the minutes of the Emergency Advisory Committee meeting held on January 20, 2009, be received and adopted.

CARRIED.

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

The Committee returned to the pulled agenda items for discussion and action.

11. West End Fire Hall Renovation – Project Delivery Options

May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Engineering presenting project delivery options and requesting approval to proceed with a Construction Management approach for the West End Firehall renovation and addition project.

Members discussed the West End Fire Hall renovation budget and requested that Art deco embellishments be included in the project.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Task Construction Management Ltd. be retained to provide construction management services for the West End Firehall renovation and addition project in accordance with their proposal dated April 6, 2009.

CARRIED.

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

9(a). Seven Day Operation of Parking Meters

May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Engineering providing information regarding the results of public consultation on proposed implementation of parking meters seven days a week and offering a solution to the parking problem that exists in specific areas of the City.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Item 9(a), 2009 Seven Day Operation of Parking Meters is tabled.

CARRIED.

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

9. 2009 City Partnership Grants - Update

May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Finance and Information Technology offering additional information on the Elizabeth Fry Society's 2009 City Partnership Grant request and seeking staff direction regarding the pending 2009 City Partnership Grant application.

An updated sheet entitled "Hyack Festival- Community Partnership/City Partnership Grant – 10 Year Analysis" was circulated (and will be added to the agenda package).

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Item 9, 2009 City Partnership Grants update is tabled.

CARRIED.

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

16. 1010 Third Avenue

(a) Advisory Planning Commission Report

(b) Update

May 11, 2009 report from the Director of Development Services informing Council of the Advisory Planning Commission's recommendation regarding the design and siting issues for 1010 Third Avenue.

Members discussed and agreed to the request to schedule a Public Hearing during the summer.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff continue with the Heritage Revitalization Agreement application process with the new proposal and timelines for 1010 Third Avenue as outlined in the Director of Development Services May 11, 2009 report including a Public Hearing scheduled for July 13, 2009.

CARRIED.

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

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Certified Correct,

WAYNE WRIGHT
MAYOR

JUDITH TURNER
ACTING CORPORATE OFFICER

** Denotes recommendations referred to the Regular Council meeting of May 11, 2009, for ratification.