



## **OPEN WORKSHOP OF CITY COUNCIL**

October 26, 2015 at 2:30 p.m.  
East Ballroom at Anvil Centre  
777 Columbia Street, New Westminster

### **MINUTES**

#### **PRESENT:**

Acting Mayor Mary Trentadue  
Councillor Bill Harper  
Councillor Patrick Johnstone  
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy  
Councillor Chuck Puchmayr  
Councillor Lorrie Williams

#### **ABSENT:**

Mayor Jonathan Coté

#### **STAFF:**

Ms. Lisa Spitale	- Chief Administrative Officer / Acting City Clerk
Mr. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks, Culture and Recreation
Mr. Gary Holowatiuk	- Director of Finance & Information Technology
Mr. Jim Lowrie	- Director of Engineering Services
Ms. Bev Grieve	- Director of Development Services
Ms. Ruby Campbell	- Community Projects Coordinator
Mr. Philip Lo	- Council and Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 2:58 p.m.

#### **ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were no additions.

#### **REPORTS FOR ACTION**

- 1. 2016 Budget Survey Results**, Director of Finance and Information Technology

Gary Holowatiuk, Director of Finance and Information Technology, advised that the survey was conducted by Ipsos Reid as part of the public

consultation process on the 2016-2020 Financial Plan, and include topics such as quality of life, top of mind issues, city services, resident satisfaction, value for property taxes, and a number of other items.

Mr. Holowatiuk further noted that the results of the survey are favorable, and that Ipsos Reid will present the findings at an upcoming open meeting of Council.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT Council receives the report dated October 26, 2015 for information.*

**CARRIED.**

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

**2. Five Year Financial Plan (2015-2019) Amendment, Director of Finance and Information Technology**

Gary Holowatiuk, Director of Finance and Information Technology, advised that it is the City's practice to amend the Financial Plan within the year if expenditure is projected to exceed the budget by the end of the year.

Mr. Holowatiuk advised that public notification was provided, and that members of the public have been invited to submit comments or questions, and to attend the Regular Council meeting on October 26, 2015 at 5:45PM to comment on Financial Plan.

Mr. Holowatiuk noted that no written submissions have been received at this point.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT Five-Year Financial Plan (2015-2019) Amendment Bylaw No. 7776, 2015 (Attachment 1) be forwarded to the regular meeting of Council for three readings.*

**CARRIED.**

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

**3. 2016 City Grant Programs – Allocation of Funds, Director of Finance and Information Technology**

Gary Holowatiuk, Director of Finance and Information Technology, summarized the staff report dated October 26, 2015.

In response to questions from Council, Mr. Holowatiuk noted that a one-off special grant to the Fraser River Discovery Centre has impacted the grant program budget, and that if the entirety of the City Partnership Grant is

committed to multi-year grant awards, there may not be sufficient budget to address new grant requests unless the grant budget is increased.

Discussion ensued, with Council noting the following comments:

- Providing maximum grant funding to events may discourage organizers from seeking other sponsors;
- Some organizations produce quality events by attracting sponsorships and have received only small amounts of grant funding;
- There may be an imbalance between higher and lower profile organizations and their respective abilities to attract sponsors and receive grant funding; and,
- The Festival Grants Committee is evaluating the output of organizations receiving grant funding, and is preparing a report which also analyzes the process and structure by which grant funding is dispensed.

In response to questions from Council, Ruby Campbell, Community Projects Coordinator, advised that a Community Grant and Festival Planning Workshop was hosted by the City on September 23, 2015 and was well received. Ms. Campbell noted the participants' appreciation of the City's efforts and contribution, and their request for the Workshop to be hosted annually. Ms. Campbell advised that the City may host additional Workshops in 2016.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT Council consider approving the 2016 grants budget and the budget allocation between the City's grants programs as presented in the report dated October 26, 2015.*

**CARRIED.**

Councillor Trentadue voted in opposition.

**4. Uptown Live –Festival Grant Advance Funding and Date Approval request, Chief Administrative Officer**

**Ruby Campbell**, Community Projects Coordinator, summarized the staff report dated October 26, 2015.

Discussions ensued, and Council noted that having Uptown Live as well as the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Music Festival on the same weekend may have negative impacts on both events, which may target the same regional audience.

Council also expressed concerns regarding the City's ability to mobilize its in-kind resources on consecutive days.

**Procedural Note:** Acting Mayor Trentadue cited conflict of interest and exited the meeting at 3:30 p.m. Councillor Harper assumed the Chair.

In response to questions from Council, Ms. Campbell advised that the proposed event date for Uptown Live was recommended in consultation with City's interdepartmental team (consisting of representatives from Fire & Rescue Services, Police, Engineering, and Parks, Culture and Recreation), which cited no challenges or conflicts with the two events taking place on consecutive days.

In response to questions from Council, Ms. Campbell suggested that organizers for Uptown Live requested funding outside of the grant cycle due to the need to secure sponsors and talent early on, and that this issue was discussed with the Festival Committee.

Discussion ensued, with Council noting the following comments:

- Recognition that Uptown Live faces regional competition for its target audience;
- Other events of similar scale in the City have aimed to be self-funding in the future and not be solely reliant on City grants;
- The Festival Committee recognized the potential economic and cultural development benefits of the event;
- The Festival Committee noted that Uptown Live and the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Music Festival drew different types of audiences and suggested that there may not be negative impacts on either event;
- Uptown Live organizers attended two Festival Committee meetings, and had sought a five-year funding agreement with the City to secure sponsors; however, their request was reduced to a three-year term to be in accordance with the City's multi-year grant process; and
- That there is a limit to the number of sponsors available in New Westminster, in comparison to neighbouring cities.

In response to questions from Council, Ms. Campbell advised that the West End Business Association, the organizers of the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Music Festival, was not involved in the discussion regarding the event date for Uptown Live.

Council noted that the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Music Festival raises money to match the funds provided through City grants.

Council suggested that the West End Business Association be invited to attend a Festival Committee meeting to discuss the impact of this event on the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Music Festival.

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT Uptown Live be held on Saturday, July 23, 2016 and on the fourth Saturday in July for all future years and that they be awarded a Festival Grant of \$37,000 in 2016, 2017 and 2018.*

**CARRIED.**

Councillor Puchmayr voted in opposition.

**Procedural Note:** Acting Mayor Trentadue returned to the meeting at 3:50 p.m. and assumed the Chair.

**5. Proposed 2016 Schedule of Regular Meetings, City Clerk**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT the attached Council Schedule of Regular Meetings for January to December 2016 be approved.*

**CARRIED.**

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

**6. City of New Westminster Capital Budget Amendment, Chief Constable, New Westminster Police Department**

**MOVED and SECONDED**

*THAT Council approves an amendment to the five year capital budget program to include renovation of the women's locker room located within the NWPD building, and that this be initiated as soon as possible.*

**CARRIED.**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

**ON MOTION**, the meeting was adjourned at 3:51p.m.

---

**MARY TRENTADUE**  
**ACTING MAYOR**

---

**LISA SPITALE**  
**ACTING CITY CLERK**

This page intentionally blank