



REGULAR MEETING OF CITY COUNCIL

February 6, 2017 at 2:15 p.m.
With immediate adjournment to Closed Meeting
Regular Council reconvenes at 6:00 p.m.
Council Chamber
City Hall

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Mayor Jonathan Coté
Councillor Patrick Johnstone
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Councillor Chuck Puchmayr
Councillor Mary Trentadue
Councillor Lorrie Williams

REGRETS:

Councillor Bill Harper

STAFF:

Ms. Lisa Spitale	- Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jan Gibson	- City Clerk
Mr. Dean Gibson	- Director of Parks and Recreation
Mr. Gary Holowatiuk	- Director of Finance & Information Technology
Mr. Jim Lowrie	- Director of Engineering Services
Ms. Jackie Teed	- Acting Director of Development Services
Ms. Colleen Ponzini	- Senior Manager of Financial Services
Ms. Lisa Leblanc	- Manager of Transportation
Mr. Mark Allison	- Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability
Mr. Blair Fryer	- Manager of Communications and Economic Development
Ms. Erika Mashig	- Parks and Open Space Planner
Ms. Biliana Velkova	- Arts Coordinator
Mr. Philip Lo	- Council and Committee Clerk

The meeting was called to order at 2:10pm.

REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

1. **MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT items 12, 17, 19, 20, and 21 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

CARRIED.

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

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

2. **MOVED and SECONDED**

THAT pursuant to Section 90 of the Community Charter, members of the public be excluded from the Closed Meeting of Council immediately following the Regular Meeting of Council on the basis that the subject matter of all agenda items to be considered relate to matters listed under Sections 90(1)(a), 90(1)(e), 90(1)(k) and 90(1)(l) of the Community Charter:

- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;*
- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;*
- (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public;*
- (l) discussions with municipal officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the purposes of preparing an annual report under section 98 [annual municipal report];*

Purpose of the meeting:

Personal, property, negotiations and reporting matters

CARRIED.

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

ADJOURNMENT

3. ***MOTION** to adjourn the Council Meeting in open session and proceed to Closed Session.*

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Regular Council meeting in Open Session be adjourned and proceed to Closed Session.

CARRIED.

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

RECONVENE TO REGULAR COUNCIL

4. ***MOTION** to reconvene to the Regular Meeting of Council at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber.*

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Regular Council meeting be reconvened in Council Chamber.

CARRIED.

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

REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

5. Items 12, 17, 19, 20, and 21 were removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the remaining items on the Consent Agenda be approved.

CARRIED.

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

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Urgent/time sensitive matters only

6. There were no additions to the Agenda.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

7. **Draft 2017-2021 Financial Plan**, Director of Finance and Information Technology
- a. **Staff Report**
 - b. **Staff Presentation**
 - c. **Opportunity for Public Comment**

Colleen Ponzini, Senior Manager of Financial Services, provided a presentation to Council regarding the draft 2017 to 2021 Financial Plan,

noting in particular that extra costs related to snow removal have been accommodated from other areas within the Engineering Operations budget.

Discussion ensued, with Council noting the following:

- Only local governments are mandated to provide open and transparent five-year financial plans;
- A number of large scale B.C. Hydro projects have resulted in increases in electric utility costs, which are then passed on to customers;
- Increases in City projects and programs could result in increased taxes; and
- Council noted extra costs related to snow removal and damage to roads from weather conditions;

Jim Lowrie, Director of Engineering Services, advised that staff are currently assessing road conditions, and that the 2017 budget for pavement management program could be allocated for priority road repairs.

Mayor Coté asked for speakers to come forward to address the 2017 – 2021 Financial Plan.

Larry Church, resident of New Westminster, expressed concerns regarding the City's tax rate, suggesting that the City has one of the highest rates of taxation in the Metro Vancouver region, and that projected population increases could translate into higher future tax rate increases. Mr. Church requested information on the City's total debt load.

Gary Holowatiuk, Director of Finance and Information Technology, advised that the City currently has a debt load of \$60 million dollars; however, the City is still in a net positive financial position of \$40 million when considering net assets against net liabilities. Mr. Holowatiuk noted an increase in interest by residents to defer property taxes.

Council suggested that projected population growth could translate into increased revenues and economic activities; however, this may put increased pressure on City services.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council receive the staff report dated February 6, 2017 for information.

CARRIED.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

8. No Items

REPORTS FOR ACTION

9. Quayside Park Redevelopment- Preferred Design Option Overview, Director of Parks and Recreation

- a. Staff Report
- b. Staff Presentation

Erika Mashig, Parks and Open Space Planner, provided a presentation on the proposed redevelopment of Quayside Park, noting the following:

- The construction tender for the park has been issued;
- Survey results from public open houses indicated interest in:
 - Redeveloping the park for all visitors and not just as a play area;
 - Maintaining as many existing trees as possible;
 - Improve social seating;
 - Safety and sight line improvements; and
 - Providing a more diverse play experience for children.

Ms. Mashig highlighted the features of the preferred design option, and noted that the preferred option was presented for public consultation in January 2017.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council endorse the preferred design option for Quayside Park as illustrated in Attachment 4 and direct staff to undertake the next steps as outlined in this report.

CARRIED.

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

10. 2016 Year-End Strategic Initiative Status, Chief Administrative Officer

- a. Staff Report
- b. Staff Presentation

Biliana Velkova, Arts Coordinator, provided a presentation to Council on the Arts Strategy Update.

Council commended staff on the work of the task force in gathering public feedback for the new Arts Strategy, and noted that the Public Art Advisory Committee may consider a refresh of the City's Public Art Policy.

Blair Fryer, Manager of Communications and Economic Development, provided a presentation on the Economic Development Strategy Update.

Council noted that City initiatives such as Intelligent City have been recognized for developing the City's economic capacity, and that this work could tie into the concurrent work on the Official Community Plan.

Lisa Leblanc, Manager of Transportation, provided a presentation on the Truck Route Strategy.

Council suggested that truck traffic is a regional issue which requires regional solutions, and that the City is currently collaborating with TransLink and the City of Coquitlam on major projects. Council also suggested that GPS data from the ports could be used to track truck route usage.

Mark Allison, Manager of Strategic Initiatives and Sustainability, provided a presentation regarding the Riverfront Greenway, between Westminster Pier Park and Sapperton Landing Park.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council receive this report on the 2016 year-end status of 2015-2018 Strategic Initiatives for information.

CARRIED.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

11. City of New Westminster Poet Laureate 2017-2020 Appointment

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council appoint Alan Hill for the position of City of New Westminster Poet Laureate 2017-2020.

CARRIED.

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

13. Minutes for adoption

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following minutes be adopted:

- a. *December 5, 2016 Regular meeting*
- b. *January 5, 2017 Special Regular*

CARRIED.

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

14. 630 Ewen Avenue: Official Community Plan Amendment and Rezoning from Queensborough Residential Dwelling Districts (RQ-1) to Comprehensive Dwelling Districts (630 Ewen Avenue)(CD-70) - Preliminary Report

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff process this Official Community Plan Amendment and the Rezoning Application as outlined in the process section of this report, and that this report be forwarded to Council for information.

CARRIED.

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

15. 630 Ewen Avenue: Official Community Plan Amendment Section 475 and 476 – Consultation Report

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council, with regard to the Official Community Plan Amendment application for 630 Ewen Avenue:

- 1) Give consideration to the requirements of Section 475 and 476 as well as other relevant sections of the Local Government Act;*
- 2) Direct staff to advise and consult with:
 - a. Qayqayt First Nation;*
 - b. Provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure; and*
 - c. the Board of Education of School District 40;**
- 3) Direct staff to seek input from interested parties in the following manner:
 - a. send a request for written comments to the parties listed above;*
 - b. place a notice on the City Page to advise the public of this application;*
 - c. require the applicant to include notice of the proposed OCP amendment on the site signage required for the rezoning application; and*
 - d. require the applicant to hold a public meeting and consult with the Queensborough Residents' Association.**
- 4) Not require consultation with:
 - a. any greater boards or improvement districts other than as noted herein, as none are considered to be affected by this application; and**

b. any provincial or federal agency other than as noted herein, as none are considered to be affected by this application.

CARRIED.

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

16. 43 Hastings Street: Road Closure and Dedication Removal Bylaw – Council Consideration of First, Second and Third Readings; Zoning Amendment Bylaw – Council Consideration of First and Second Readings

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council consider Road Closure and Dedication Removal (43 Hastings Street) Bylaw No. 7898, 2017 for First, Second and Third Readings;

THAT Council consider Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Hastings Street Unzoned Right of Way) No. 7899, 2017 to zone the unzoned road allowance to RS-2 (Single Detached Dwelling District) for First and Second Reading and that a Public Hearing be scheduled for March 27, 2017;

THAT Council direct staff to publish a notice of the City's intention to close and dispose of the unzoned road allowance adjacent to 43 Hastings Street and to schedule an Opportunity to be Heard for March 27, 2017.

CARRIED.

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

18. Queen's Park Working Group: Terms of Reference - Amendment to Add an Additional Member

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council direct staff to amend the Queen's Park Working Group Terms of Reference (Second Term) to add an additional resident member, which will facilitate the appointment of a new member representing the Queen's Park Residents' Association;

THAT Council direct staff to advise the Queen's Park Residents' Association of the amended Terms of Reference (Second Term) for the Queen's Park Working Group, and request a nomination for the vacant seat which the Chair of the Working Group could select as representative.

CARRIED.

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

ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

12. 2017 New Westminster Pipe Band Community Grant Request

Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer, advised that the New Westminster Pipe Band's 2017 grant request was submitted to the City on time, but was not received by staff due to a technical error.

Council suggested that the request should be considered in light of the technical error, and also suggested that confirmations could be sent to applicants to verify receipt of future applications. Council also suggested that the e-mail address for grant application submissions should be clearly indicated.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the New Westminster Pipe Band receive a Community Grant of \$1,500.

CARRIED.

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

17. 215 Manitoba Street (Queen's Park): Heritage Alteration Permit No. 82 to Permit New Construction -- For Council Consideration

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council issue Heritage Alteration Permit No. 82 to permit the proposed house design at 215 Manitoba Street.

CARRIED.

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

19. Train Whistle Cessation at the Begbie Street and Front Street Crossings

Council advised that train whistle cessation work at the Begbie and Front Street crossing is close to completion, and that the train crossing equipment at the Quayside Drive and Laguna Court crossing is anticipated to be purchased and installed. Council noted that rail companies have 30 days to respond to the following resolution.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT pursuant to Sec. 23.1 of the Railway Safety Act, Council hereby resolves that the use of railway whistles be prohibited at the Begbie Street crossing at mile 0.84 and the Front Street crossing at mile 0.53 unless:

a) An emergency exists; or

- b) *Rules in force under section 19 or 20 of the Railway Safety Act require whistle use; or a railway safety inspector orders whistle use under section 31 of the Railway Safety Act.*

CARRIED.

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

20. 2017 Spring Freshet and Snow Pack Level

Council noted the recent significant snowfall and that the current snow pack level is still considered to be below-normal. Council advised that the City would continue to provide regular stream flow updates to residents.

MOVED and SECOND

THAT this report be received for information.

CARRIED.

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

Committee Recommendations

21. Environment Advisory Committee: Corporate Sustainable Food Policy

Council suggested that City facilities could take a leadership role within the community by providing sustainable food options during City functions. Council noted that regional food security and sustainable food choices could be part of an overarching environmental program.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff be directed to consider and investigate the creation of a sustainable food policy.

CARRIED.

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

PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS – 7:00

22. Proclamations

a. Heritage Week, February 20-26, Mayor Coté

Mayor Cote proclaimed the week of February 20 to 26, 2017 to be Heritage Week in the City of New Westminster.

b. Innovation Week, February 24-March 3, Mayor Coté

Mayor Cote proclaimed the week of February 24 to March 3, 2017 to be Innovation Week in the City of New Westminster.

c. The Coldest Night of the Year, February 25, Mayor Coté

Brian Dodd, from the Seniors Services Society in New Westminster, noted that the high costs of living and rental accommodations, low vacancy rate, in combination with fixed incomes or pensions, put many independent living seniors at risk of homelessness. Mr. Dodd noted that seniors are the fastest growing homeless demographic, and noted an increase in the duration of seniors' stays in temporary shelters.

Mr. Dodd noted that the Coldest Night of the Year walk on February 25, 2017 provides financial support to supplement the housing program by outfitting apartments, and has a fundraising target of \$45,000 for 2017.

Council commended the work of the Seniors Services Society in New Westminster, and noted that community groups have taken on work that used to be performed by senior levels of government, underscored by a reduction in gaming grants to communities. Council suggested that the provision of outreach services is another component of this work, in addition to the provision of housing.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council request the Mayor issue a fundraising challenge to regional Councils that participate in the Coldest Night of the Year Walk.

CARRIED.

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

Mayor Cote proclaimed Saturday, February 25, 2017, to be the Coldest Night of the Year in the City of New Westminster.

23. Ecole Glenbrook Middle School Presentation, Glenbrook Students and Desiree Wilson, UBC

Grade 6 and 7 Students from Ecole Glenbrook Middle School provided a presentation to Council which included recommendations related to the New Westminster Child and Youth Friendly Community Strategy. The students noted that this project was developed in conjunction with UBC PhD student Desiree Wilson.

Discussion ensued, with Council noting the following:

- Some segments of the population may not be engaged during the development of the City's Public Engagement Strategy;
- Young adults provide valuable perspective, such as when youth were consulted for the design of the current skatepark as well as the Youth Centre; and
- Council encouraged students to participate in the City's Youth Advisory Committee.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT that the recommendations from the Ecole Glenbrook Middle School students be referred to staff with a report back to Council.

CARRIED.

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

- 24. New Westminster Hospice Society Presentation, Kay Johnson, Chair –**
This item was withdrawn from the Agenda and will be presented at a future meeting.

25. Open Delegations

Mark Fox, resident on Oakland Street, noted the deteriorating condition on the 100 block of Oakland Street. Mr. Fox requested that the City add the 100 block of Oakland street to a priority paving schedule for 2017, after confirmation that all underground work has been completed.

Council noted that the 2017 budget for the street paving program has been increased by \$400,000.

Jim Lowrie, Director of Engineering Services, advised that all underground work has been completed at this time, and that Oakland Street has been included into the priority paving program for 2017. Mr. Lowrie suggested, however, that in consideration of the severe winter conditions, previously prioritized road work may need to be deferred.

Brad Cavanagh, resident of New Westminster representing Yes In New West, thanked Mayor, Council and staff who have been working on the Official Community Plan. Mr. Cavanagh noted the volume of public feedback that have been provided to and considered by the City.

Council thanked staff for their work and thanked the community for participating in the public process and for providing feedback to the City.

BYLAWS

26. **Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Hastings Street Unzoned Right of Way)
No. 7899, 2017**

TWO READINGS

MOVED and SECONDED

*THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Hastings Street Unzoned Right of Way)
No. 7899, 2017 be given first reading.*

CARRIED.

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

MOVED and SECONDED

*THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Hastings Street Unzoned Right of Way)
No. 7899, 2017 be given second reading.*

CARRIED.

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

27. **Road Closure and Dedication Removal (43 Hastings Street) Bylaw No.
7898, 2017**

THREE READINGS

MOVED and SECONDED

*THAT Road Closure and Dedication Removal (43 Hastings Street) Bylaw
No. 7898, 2017 be given first reading.*

CARRIED.

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

MOVED and SECONDED

*THAT Road Closure and Dedication Removal (43 Hastings Street) Bylaw
No. 7898, 2017 be given second reading.*

CARRIED.

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

MOVED and SECONDED

*THAT Road Closure and Dedication Removal (43 Hastings Street) Bylaw
No. 7898, 2017 be given third reading.*

CARRIED.

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

28. **Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Bylaw No. 7892,
2017**

ADOPTION

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Bylaw No. 7892, 2017 be adopted.

CARRIED.

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

NEW BUSINESS

29. Motion on Notice, Councillor Puchmayr

Council suggested that the cost of acquiring LEED points and achieving LEED Gold certification may not always represent best value for the City. Council suggested that the City may be able to achieve the equivalent or superior construction standards via different mechanisms, without the added cost specifically for LEED.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT staff provide a report to Council providing policy options regarding LEED Gold certification for civic facilities

CARRIED.

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

CORRESPONDENCE FOR ACTION

30. MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following correspondence be referred to staff for consideration and response:

- a. Letter from the BC Association of Farmers' Markets dated January 20, 2017 regarding the BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program

CARRIED.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Council commended City crews for their snow clearing efforts, and thanked staff member Dave Guiney for clearing a drainage grate.

NEXT MEETING

February 20, 2017

An Open Council Workshop will be held which begins at 12:00 p.m. Following that, a Regular meeting will convene at 2:00 p.m. and immediately adjourn to a Closed meeting. There will be a Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m., and immediately following the Public Hearing, the Regular meeting will reconvene. All meetings, including the Hearing, will be held in the Council Chamber on the 2nd Floor at City Hall.

Public Hearing

- Heritage Revitalization Agreement (720 Second Street) Bylaw No. 7887, 2017
- Heritage Designation (720 Second Street) Bylaw No. 7888, 2017
- Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 7881, 2017: to Add “Arcade” to the List of Permitted Uses in Commercial Zoning Districts

Opportunity to be Heard

- 100 Braid Street (466 Rousseau Street) DVP00620
- Business License Amendment Bylaw (to add Arcade Uses) Bylaw No. 7903, 2017
- Development Services Fees and Rates Amendment Bylaw (to add Arcade Uses) Bylaw No. 7904, 2017

ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27pm.

JONATHAN COTÉ
MAYOR

JAN GIBSON
CITY CLERK

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