



Corporation of the City of NEW WESTMINSTER

A vibrant, compassionate, resilient city where everyone can thrive.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, July 8, 2024, 6:15 p.m.

**Meeting held electronically and open to public attendance
Council Chamber, City Hall**

PRESENT: Mayor Patrick Johnstone
Councillor Ruby Campbell
Councillor Daniel Fontaine
Councillor Paul Minhas
Councillor Nadine Nakagawa

Hanieh Berg, Corporate Officer

ABSENT: Councillor Tasha Henderson
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mayor Johnstone called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsundered land of the Halkomelem speaking peoples. He acknowledged that colonialism has made invisible their histories and connections to the land. He recognized that, as a City, we are learning and building relationships with the people whose lands we are on.

2. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adopt the July 8, 2024 Regular Council agenda, as circulated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Items 6.2, 6.3, 6.4, 6.8, 6.9, 6.10, 6.12, 6.14, 6.15, 6.17 and 6.18 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. BYLAWS CONSIDERED AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

3.1 Official Community Plan Amendment (801 Boyd Street) Bylaw No. 8448, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council give Official Community Plan Amendment (801 Boyd Street) Bylaw No. 8448, 2024 third reading.

The question on the motion was not called due to queries from Council. In response to these queries, staff advised that the proposed application is site specific and Council's decision on this application would not affect its future decision making authority on a future application for the same use in Queensborough. Also, it was noted that the existing daycare adjacent to the subject site was captured in the notification area mail out and no response has been received.

The question on the motion was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Councillor Minhas opposed.

3.2 Zoning Amendment Bylaw (801 Boyd Street) No. 8449, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council give Zoning Amendment Bylaw (801 Boyd Street) No. 8449, 2024 third reading.

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllr. Minhas

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS

4.1 Presentation of the 2023 Annual Report (deferred from June 24, 2024 Regular Council Meeting)

With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer, presented the 2023 Annual Report and highlighted the City's many accomplishments throughout the year.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council receive the presentation of the 2023 Annual Report for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION

None.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council adopt the recommendations for Items 6.1, 6.5, 6.6, 6.7, 6.11, 6.13, 6.16, and 6.19 by general consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.1 2024-2034 Canada Community - Building Fund Agreement

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council approve the 2024-2034 Community Works Fund Agreement between the City of New Westminster and the Union of British Columbia Municipalities as presented in Attachment 1; and
2. **THAT** Council authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to execute the Agreement.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

6.2 2024 Capital and Operating Quarterly Performance Report

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council approve the \$18.7M 2024 quarterly capital budget adjustments and \$199.1M Proposed Revised Multi-Year Capital budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.3 2024 Council Remuneration

Discussion took place on the review of the remuneration of elected officials and in particular, when the next review should take place. As a result, the following motion was introduced:

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council direct staff to conduct a formal review of the Council Remuneration Policy; and
2. **THAT** the review of the Policy include recommendations regarding the updating of the transitional allowance payments to elected officials to reduce the tax burden on City taxpayers.

The question on the motion was not called as discussion further took place on the term “transitional allowance” and its meaning in the context of the Council Remuneration Policy; staff was requested to examine pension payments as part of the policy review.

As a result of the discussion, the following amendment was introduced:

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Part 2 of the motion be amended to delete “to reduce the tax burden on ratepayers.”

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllrs. Fontaine
Minhas

The question on the motion, as amended, was then called and it was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

6.4 Bus Speed and Reliability Study

In reply to queries from Council, staff provided the following information:

- any proposed transit improvement is considered in the context of its effect on the pedestrian realm and the majority of the proposed improvements are operational in nature and therefore do not affect the pedestrian realm or accessibility;
- existing on-street parking spaces may be reallocated to permit the implementation of various improvements; and
- the proposed various improvements enable staff to better transit users’ experience while awaiting a bus.

Discussion took place on the breadth of the study and it was noted that a thorough review of the proposed transit priority measures for implementation would be valuable. As a result, the following motion was introduced:

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the staff report titled “Bus Speed and Reliability Study” be referred to the September 9, 2024 Regular Council meeting to better allow the public to provide feedback to Council.

The question on the motion was not called as discussion took place on deferring Council consideration of the staff recommendations; it was noted that cost saving opportunities may be lost and the proposed transit priority measures are technical in nature as they would improve bus operations throughout the city.

The question on the motion was then called and it was **DEFEATED** with Mayor Johnstone and Councillors Campbell and Nakagawa opposed.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council endorse the implementation of the proposed transit priority measures within the Bus Speed and Reliability Study, as outlined in this report.

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllrs. Fontaine
Minhas

6.5 Community Excellence In Service Delivery Award Application

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council endorse the submission of the Emergency Monitoring Centre Program to the UBCM 2024 Community Excellence in Service Delivery Award.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

6.6 Construction Noise Bylaw Exemption Request: 220 Salter Street (Metro Vancouver Sewer Inspection – Fraser River Crossing Project)

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council grant an exemption from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063,1992 to Metro Vancouver’s contractor AquaCoustic Remote Technologies Inc. for two weeknights between Wednesday, July 17, 2024 to Wednesday July 31, 2024 from 10:00 PM to 7:00 AM excluding Saturdays and Sundays to perform overnight video and sonar inspections of the sewer lines at 220 Salter Street.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

6.7 Construction Noise Bylaw Exemption Request: 252 Brunette Avenue (Sapperton SkyTrain Station)

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council grant an exemption from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 to TransLink for the period of Monday July 15, 2024 to Saturday August 31, 2025 from 12:00 AM to 6:00 AM, weekdays and including weekends for a maximum of five days per week, including some Sundays and excluding all Statutory Holidays, to install new maintenance walkways, demolish and restore original maintenance walkways and make operational equipment modifications to the Sapperton SkyTrain Station at 252 Brunette Avenue.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

6.8 E Columbia Street/Brunette Avenue Road Safety Review

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council direct staff to proceed with short-term road safety initiatives outlined in this report.
2. **THAT** Council direct staff to incorporate a \$250,000 Capital request into the 2025 budget process for short-term safety improvements to be funded from the Growing Communities Fund.
3. **THAT** Council direct staff to initiate a comprehensive intersection redesign process aligned with previous transportation planning concepts and with the current road safety review recommendations, assessing potential property and utility impacts, implementation costs, external funding opportunities, and implementation timeline.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.9 Grant Review

Discussion took place regarding the proposed refinements to the City's grant program and in particular, the provision of micro-grants and the reallocation of an existing vacant position to the proposed grants coordinator position.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council direct staff to include budget enhancements for the 2025 operating budget to continue a phased approach to refining the grant program.

The question on the motion was not called as discussion further took place on the potential to examine existing vacant positions. It was noted that there may be an opportunity to maximize an existing position to fulfil the proposed grants coordinator role. As a result, the following motion was introduced:

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council direct staff to seek out internal efficiencies to fund the hiring of a new grants coordinator as outlined in this report.

CARRIED

Opposed: Mayor Johnstone
Cllr. Campbell

6.10 Mobile Food Vending Licence Bylaw Amendment - Temporary Locations

In reply to queries from Council, Blair Fryer, Acting Director, Community Services, advised that the intent of the proposed bylaw amendment is to allow the Chief Licence Inspector to identify City property that is not identified on Schedule A of the bylaw as a temporary location for mobile food vendors; the proposed amendment will allow for food trucks at t̄m̄ēsēw̄tx̄w Aquatic and Community Centre while a permanent food service provider is sought.

Discussion took place on the effect of the proposed amendment and it was noted that once the amendment bylaw is adopted, the Chief Licence Inspector may identify temporary locations for food trucks in perpetuity. As a result, the following motion was introduced:

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council consider Mobile Food Vending Licence Bylaw Amendment (Temporary Locations) *Bylaw* No. 8471, 2024 for first, second, and third readings and that the bylaw remain in effect for a period of only 18 months unless otherwise extended by Council; and
2. **THAT** Council direct the Chief Licence Inspector to only approve temporary food truck locations that are a minimum of 400 metres away from existing brick and mortar businesses captured in Schedule A.

The question on the motion was not called as in response to a procedural query, the Corporate Officer advised that as Bylaw No. 8471 has not been introduced, it would be appropriate to revise its language and then introduce the bylaw for first, second, and third readings.

The meeting recessed at 8:15 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 8:30 p.m. with all members of Council present, except Cllrs. Henderson and McEvoy.

The question on the motion was then called and it was **DEFEATED** with Mayor Johnstone, Councillors Campbell and Nakagawa opposed.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council consider Mobile Food Vending Licence Bylaw Amendment (Temporary Locations) Bylaw No. 8471, 2024 for first, second, and third readings.

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllrs. Fontaine
Minhas

6.11 New West Pride Municipally Significant Event Designation LCRB Resolution

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council support the declaration of New West Pride, produced by New West Pride Society to be of municipal significance and forward this resolution to the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

6.12 Parks and Recreation 2025 Fees Bylaw Amendment

Discussion took place regarding the proposed fee increases and the potential to place a cap on one-month and one-year recreation pass fees until 2027. As a result, the following motion was introduced:

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council consider first, second, and third readings of Parks and Recreation Fees Amendment Bylaw, No. 8465, 2024, a bylaw to amend the Parks and Recreation Fees Bylaw No. 6673, 2001; and
2. **THAT** to increase affordability for New Westminster residents, that Parks and Recreation not increase fees for one-month and one-year recreation passes until at least 2027.

The question on the motion was not called as the following amendment was introduced:

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Part 2 of the main motion be amended to add “bring forward a proposal” prior to the word “not.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The question on the motion, as amended, which now reads:

- “1. *THAT Council consider first, second, and third readings of Parks and Recreation Fees Amendment Bylaw, No. 8465, 2024, a bylaw to amend the Parks and Recreation Fees Bylaw No. 6673, 2001; and*
2. *THAT to increase affordability for New Westminster residents, that Parks and Recreation bring forward a proposal to not increase fees for one-month and one-year recreation passes until at least 2027.”*

was then called and it was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

6.13 Proposal to Change Liquor Licence for The Royal Canadian Legion Branch No.2

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. WHEREAS New Westminster City Council considered a staff report regarding an application from The Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 2 located at 631 Sixth Street to change their liquor primary club licence to a standard liquor primary licence;
2. WHEREAS the overall occupancy of the establishment remains at 145 people and permitted operating hours will remain 12:00PM to 12:00AM Sunday to Saturday;
3. WHEREAS the location is in the Uptown commercial and mixed-use district of the city;

4. WHEREAS the establishment has operated at this location since November 2004 without negative impact to the neighbourhood;
5. WHEREAS the business has not generated noise complaints or negative community impacts and the proposed licence change is not expected to result in noise or negative impacts to the community based on the establishment's compliance history, size, hours of operation and location;
6. WHEREAS if the application is approved, the community impact is expected to be positive in that it will support a long-standing non-profit organization within the community;
7. WHEREAS the New Westminster Police Department does not oppose the application;
8. WHEREAS a sign was placed in front of the business for 30 days, two notices circulated in the City's e-newsletter (Citypage Online), to 1200+ subscribers, and invitations sent to the Moody Park Residents' Association, Glenbrooke North Resident's Association, and the Uptown Business Association, providing details regarding the application and inviting the public to submit comments to the City;
9. WHEREAS the City has received two pieces of correspondence, one in support of the application and one in opposition; and
10. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** New Westminster City Council recommends the approval of the application by The Royal Canadian Legion Branch No.2 located at 631 Sixth Street to change their liquor primary club licence to a standard liquor primary licence.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

6.14 Report on Council Motion: Cooling Bylaw in Rental Units

Discussion took place on the need for cooling in existing buildings during extreme heat events. As a result, the following motion was introduced:

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council direct staff to advance the Vulnerable Building Stock Assessment, and bring forward to Council recommendations that arise from that work, related to cooling existing residential buildings;
2. **THAT** Council direct staff to write a letter to the Ministry overseeing the Existing Building Renewal Strategy advocating that this work be prioritized, and that senior government funding sources be identified to support rapid implementation of new cooling requirements, in light of the related impacts of heat waves and wildfire smoke on vulnerable residents; and
3. **THAT** staff bring forward a strategy with identified resources to move forward a bylaw for cooling in existing rental buildings.

The question on the motion was not called as discussion took place on potential legislative reform at the provincial level and as a result, the following amendment was introduced:

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Part 3 of the motion be amended to add “once there has been formal dialogue with the Province of British Columbia regarding this matter” following the word “buildings.”

DEFEATED

Opposed: Mayor Johnstone
Cllrs. Campbell
Nakagawa

There was agreement to consider Parts 1 through 3 of the motion separately.

The question on Part 1 of the motion was then called and it was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

The question on Part 2 of the motion was then called and it was **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

The question on Part 3 of the motion was then called and it **CARRIED** with Councillors Fontaine and Minhas opposed.

6.15 Response to Council Motion Regarding Fee Summary for Development Applications

Discussion took place on Council's resolution of June 10, 2024 related to the financial summary of fees for development applications and it was noted that the content is available in staff reports, however the manner in which it is captured can be clearer.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council direct staff to develop the digital tools necessary to provide a simple and automated summary of fees as a part of the implementation of the next phase of the E-apply Digital Permitting project.

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllrs. Fontaine
Minhas

6.16 Riparian Areas Protection Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No. 8468, 2024

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. **THAT** Council give first, second and third readings to the Riparian Areas Protection Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No. 8468, 2024 as presented in Attachment #1 of this report.
2. **THAT** Council give first, second and third readings to the Bylaw Notice Enforcement Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No. 8469, 2024 as presented in Attachment #2 of this report.
3. **THAT** Council give first, second and third readings to the Municipal Ticket Information Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No. 8470, 2024 as presented in Attachment #3 of this report.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

6.17 Westburnco Reservoir License of Use Agreement Renewal

In response to questions from Council, staff spoke to the condition of the sport courts at the Westburnco Reservoir and have been liaising with the Greater Vancouver Water District.

MOVED AND SECONDED

1. **THAT** the Mayor and Corporate Officer be authorized to execute the Intent to Renew letter for the License Agreement between the Greater Vancouver Water District and the City for the recreational use of the Westburnco Water Reservoir lands as included in Attachment A, and
2. **THAT** the Mayor and Corporate Officer be authorized to execute the subsequent License Agreement for the recreational use of the Westburnco Water Reservoir lands subject to terms and conditions consistent with the current 2014 License Agreement included as Attachment B.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.18 Zoning Bylaw Amendment: 1923 & 1927 Marine Way – Bylaw for Three Readings

The Corporate Officer provided two pieces of correspondence related to Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1923 & 1927 Marine Way) No. 8466, 2024 (attached to and forming part of these Minutes as Schedule 1).

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council receive two pieces of correspondence related to Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1923 & 1927 Marine Way) No. 8466, 2024 for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Discussion took place on the proposed rezoning application and it was noted that the proposed development may orphan other sites in the immediate area.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council consider Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1923 & 1927 Marine Way) No. 8466, 2024 for First, Second, and Third Readings.

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllrs. Fontaine
Minhas

6.19 Minutes for Adoption

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council adopt:

- a. June 3, 2024 Council Workshop;
- b. June 3, 2024 Special Council Meeting for the Purposes of Joint Meeting with the New Westminster Board of Education; and
- c. June 10, 2024 City Council Meeting.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

7. BYLAWS

7.1 Public Hearing Prohibited

- a. **Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1923 and 1927 Marine Way) No. 8466, 2024**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council give Zoning Amendment Bylaw (1923 and 1927 Marine Way) No. 8466, 2024 first, second and third readings.

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllrs. Fontaine
Minhas

7.2 Bylaws for Readings

- a. **Parks and Recreation Fees Amendment Bylaw No. 8465, 2024**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council give Parks and Recreation Fees Amendment Bylaw No. 8465, 2024 first, second and third readings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- b. **Riparian Areas Protection Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No 8468, 2024**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council give Riparian Areas Protection Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No 8468, 2024 first, second and third readings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Bylaw Notice Enforcement Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No. 8469, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council give Bylaw Notice Enforcement Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No. 8469, 2024 first, second and third readings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Municipal Ticket Information Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No. 8470, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council give Municipal Ticket Information Miscellaneous Amendment Bylaw No. 8470, 2024 first, second and third readings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

e. Mobile Food Vending Licence Bylaw Amendment (Temporary Locations) Bylaw No. 8471, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council give Mobile Food Vending Licence Bylaw Amendment (Temporary Locations) Bylaw No. 8471, 2024 first, second and third readings.

CARRIED

Opposed: Cllrs. Fontaine
Minhas

7.3 Bylaws for Adoption

a. Development Cost Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 8456, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adopt Development Cost Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 8456, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

b. Street and Traffic Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 8459, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adopt Street and Traffic Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 8459, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

c. Engineering User Fees and Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 8458, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adopt Engineering User Fees and Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 8458, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

d. Zoning Amendment Bylaw (310 Blackley Street) No. 8450, 2024

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adopt Zoning Amendment Bylaw (310 Blackley Street) No. 8450, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

8.1 Motions for Discussion and Decision

a. Improving Public Safety through a Community Ambassador Pilot Program

Submitted by Councillor Fontaine

Whereas the City of Vancouver previously partnered with Business Improvement Areas to implement and expand an Ambassador Program whereby Community Ambassadors provide assistance to business owners, customers, residents, and visitors in the BIA area by providing hospitality services and addressing community safety; and

Whereas Community Ambassadors' primary functions include connecting those in need to resources, conducting community patrols, contributing to increased safety and order on the streets, and contributing to social responsibility; and

Whereas Community Ambassadors can work closely and collaborate directly with the City's bylaw officers as well as the New Westminster Police Department and can become an integral part of a proactive recruitment strategy;

MOVED and SECONDED

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of New Westminister prepare a business case to determine the feasibility of piloting a made-in-New Westminister Community Ambassador program by 2026; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the local Business Improvement Areas be consulted regarding their potential role in supporting or operating a fully funded Community Ambassador pilot program on behalf of the City of New Westminister.

The question on the motion was not called as discussion ensued and it was noted that the intent of the proposed program is to bridge the gap between the New Westminster Police Department and the City's Integrated Services Division; a model such as the one proposed has been successful in other municipalities.

The question on the motion was then called and it was **DEFEATED** with Mayor Johnstone and Councillors Campbell and Nakagawa opposed.

b. International Travel by Members of Council

Submitted by Mayor Johnstone

MOVED and SECONDED

BE IT RESOLVED THAT international travel by members of Council to attend conferences, events, and meetings on behalf of the City of New Westminster be subject to Council approval which includes a summary of request to Council in an open meeting including:

- a. projected travel and other expenses related to attendance to be charged to the City;
- b. name of the attendee(s) and relevance to Council or Committee roles; and
- c. a statement of expected value to be derived as a result of attending the function from the attendee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT any participation by members of Council at conferences, events, and meetings (aside from LMLGA, UBCM, and FCM), which require overnight accommodations or travel outside of the province but otherwise fall within allowable Council expense limits shall require a written summary to Council by the attendee(s) in an open meeting within 3 months of the completion of travel which includes:

- a. a summary of actual expenses incurred; and
- b. a description of participation, learnings, and value derived from participation at the event; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to bring back to Council for consideration revised travel policies for Council members that is consistent with the above resolutions, including any recommended changes to existing policies, expense limits, or reporting requirements that recognizes the benefit of Council participation in exchange and learning.

The question on the motion was not called as the following amendment was introduced:

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following be added after “learning” in the third BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED clause:

“, and includes considerations for travel funded in part or wholly by the participant themselves or third parties.”

The question on the amendment motion was not called as discussion took place on the definition of third parties. As a result the following amendment motion was introduced:

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following me added as a fourth BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED clause:

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT in the case of any sponsored travel, the attendee would be obliged in an open meeting to seek prior approval from Council to receive these funds and this would include full details regarding the source of funds and financials related to the entire sponsorship package being offered.”

DEFEATED

Opposed: Mayor Johnstone
Cllrs. Campbell
Nakagawa

The question on the first amendment motion was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Cllrs. Fontaine and Minhas opposed.

The question on the main motion, as amended to read:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT international travel by members of Council to attend conferences, events, and meetings on behalf of the City of New Westminster be subject to Council approval which includes a summary of request to Council in an open meeting including:

- a. projected travel and other expenses related to attendance to be charged to the City;*
- b. name of the attendee(s) and relevance to Council or Committee roles; and*

- c. *a statement of expected value to be derived as a result of attending the function from the attendee; and*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT any participation by members of Council at conferences, events, and meetings (aside from LMLGA, UBCM, and FCM), which require overnight accommodations or travel outside of the province but otherwise fall within allowable Council expense limits shall require a written summary to Council by the attendee(s) in an open meeting within 3 months of the completion of travel which includes:

- a. *a summary of actual expenses incurred; and*
- b. *a description of participation, learnings, and value derived from participation at the event; and*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to bring back to Council for consideration revised travel policies for Council members that is consistent with the above resolutions, including any recommended changes to existing policies, expense limits, or reporting requirements that recognizes the benefit of Council participation in exchange and learning, and includes considerations for travel funded in part or wholly by the participant themselves or third parties.”

was then called and it was **CARRIED** with Cllrs. Fontaine and Minhas opposed.

c. Increasing Accountability and Transparency regarding Travel for Municipal Elected Officials

The notice of motion was withdrawn by the mover.

d. Increasing Council Oversight and Involvement in the Issuance of Official Public Statements

Submitted by Councillor Minhas

WHEREAS excluding any statutory powers provided to the Mayor through the *Community Charter*, all other authority is delegated to the Mayor by Council; and

WHEREAS the Mayor is designated by Council as the chief spokesperson who will speak on behalf of the entire Council on matters relating to City business; and

WHEREAS not all members of Council are routinely notified in advance nor consulted regarding non-emergency communications issued by the Mayor through the City of New Westminster Communications Division;

MOVED and SECONDED

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the effective immediately the Mayor and the Communications Division conduct timely, adequate and thorough consultation with all members of Council in advance of the issuance of any public statements, media advisories or media releases that are non-emergency related.

DEFEATED

Opposed: Mayor Johnstone
Cllrs. Campbell
Nakagawa

e. Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters

Submitted by Councillor Campbell

WHEREAS between 2016 and 2021, the number of seniors living in New Westminster increased by 17.2%. By comparison, the overall population increased by 11.2%; and

WHEREAS In 2021, 24.1% of New Westminster's seniors lived in unaffordable housing (30%+ of income spent on housing costs) including 42.8% of senior renters and 16.9% of senior owners; and

WHEREAS the Office of the Seniors Advocate Report Ageing Matters: What We Heard From BC Seniors released in June 2024 states the Provincial Government's Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters subsidy program does not address the financial pressures experienced by seniors who rent;

MOVED and SECONDED

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council write a letter to the Premier of BC, Minister of Housing and Minister of Health asking for immediate financial relief for low-income senior renters by redesigning the Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters program so that seniors' rents are 30% of their income and rent ceilings are adjusted to reflect the current reality of the rental market.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8.2 Motions for Discussion and Decision

a. Enhancing Commercial Areas and Corridors in New Westminster

Submitted by Councillor Campbell and Councillor Nakagawa

WHEREAS the City's Retail Strategy identifies current and emerging trends in the retail ecosystem, namely Micro Retailing and Combination Stores, and the Retail Strategy further underscores that both retail concepts have direct positive implications on the evolution of commercial areas and corridors in New Westminster; and

WHEREAS Micro-Retailing includes multiple vendors 'co-locating' in a shared space, utilizing shared resources or may encompass individual retail units that are much smaller than the average, with the intention to provide entry-level 'gateway' for small businesses to establish a bricks-and mortar location, without the financial requirements and risks typically expected in a standard retail lease; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED The City of New Westminster identify potential location(s), operating considerations, necessary resources and local partners to activate Combination Stores and Micro-Retailing commercial areas using shipping containers or similar concept to create a retail ecosystem that provides small businesses, artists, artisans, crafters and other vendors with affordable storefront locations and, at the same time, enhances commercial areas and corridors in New Westminster, with a report back to council on implementation feasibility.

b. Enhancing Commercial Areas and Corridors in New Westminster

Submitted by Councillor Minhas

WHEREAS it is important for New West families and businesses to be charged fees for licenses, programs and services that are in line with other Metro Vancouver cities; and

WHEREAS there is no readily available and up-to-data analysis regarding how much our fees compare to other neighbouring municipalities; and

WHEREAS we strive to make New Westminster as affordable and competitive as possible;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to conduct a review of business license fees to determine how we compare to other Metro Vancouver cities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to conduct a review of the charges and fees imposed by the Parks and Recreation Department for similar programs and services that are also delivered in other Metro Vancouver cities. The review should encompass core services such as:

1. Annual gym pass
2. Swimming passes
3. Exercise classes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this information be incorporated and provided to the public as part of the 2025/26 budgeting process.

c. Provide long-term funding to support the Walking School Bus Program to support the City's stated goal of tackling climate change

Submitted by Councillor Fontaine

WHEREAS the Walking School Bus program reduces vehicle congestion around schools, greenhouse gas emissions as well as improves air quality in communities; and

WHEREAS the Walking School Bus program improves a student's physical and mental health; creates an opportunity to make new friends through shared experiences; provides an inherent sense of belonging in being a part of a group; and

WHEREAS the City of New Westminster has a long-standing commitment to tackle climate change; and

WHEREAS the City's Climate Action Reserve Fund has approximately \$42 million as of Dec. 31, 2023;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be directed to work with the New Westminster District Parent Advisory Council to seek out opportunities to expand the Walking School Bus program to other neighbourhoods throughout New Westminster; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff incorporate into the 2025 budget consultation process the opportunity for Council to consider significantly increasing our support of the Walking School Bus program including the possibility of establishing 3-year long-term funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT to reduce the impact to residential taxpayers regarding the expansion of this program that the City's Climate Action Reserve Fund be first considered as a primary source of potential funding.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

10. **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Councillor Nakagawa announced that July is Disability Pride Month and wished everyone participating a happy celebration.

11. **END OF THE MEETING**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adjourn the July 8, 2024 Regular Council meeting (10:09 p.m.).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of the Council of the City of New Westminster held on July 8, 2024.

Patrick Johnstone

MAYOR

Hanieh Berg

CORPORATE OFFICER

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the Regular Council meeting of New Westminster City Council held on July 8, 2024.

ON TABLE C-1
Regular Meeting
July 8, 2024
re: Item 6.18

From: [Public Engagement at City of New Westminster](#)
To: [External-Legislative Services](#); [Public Engagement at City of New Westminster](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 1923 & 1927 Marine Way Dan completed Comments for Council
Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2024 3:19:06 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of New Westminster's network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dan just submitted the survey Comments for Council with the responses below.

Leave your feedback

Affordable housing near transit is desperately needed, and this project can be a great first use of the new TOD zones.

From: Sunhong Jung S.22(1)
Sent: July 8, 2024 12:25 AM
To: External-Legislative Services <CorporateOfficer@newwestcity.ca>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Opposition to Zoning Amendment Bylaw No.8466, 2024 for 1923 & 1927 Marine Way

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the City of New Westminster's network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Members of New Westminster City Council,

We, the undersigned residents and concerned community members of New Westminster, are writing to this petition to bring attention to a matter of significant importance to our community. We request that New Westminster city council consider the following concerns and take appropriate action to address them.

We strongly oppose Zoning Amendment Bylaw No.8466, 2024 for 1923 & 1927 Marine Way. While we understand the need for affordable housing in our city, we believe that this proposal would have a detrimental impact on our community.

First, the proposed development simply doesn't align with the designation of 20 storey apartments that would accommodate many more homes. Being in Transit-Oriented Development area, higher density housing would more effectively serve the community needs. This is a unique parcel of 11 homes covering over 85,000 square feet of land, and there is a possibility of constructing 2 high-rise buildings given the proximity to the 22nd Street SkyTrain station.

We would like to express our deep concerns regarding the proposed development of only two lots in the middle of our area. This limited development potential greatly reduces the opportunities for future growth and will lead to a decline in property values. As residents of the surrounding neighbourhood, we are worried about the negative impact this could have on our community.

Of particular concern is the impact on current residents, including young families with children, who feel uneasy and anxious about the uncertainty and potential safety issues associated with this development proposal. Furthermore, we are seeking clarification on the legislative timeline for short-notice public hearings, as a letter was sent to the owner on June 28, 2024, for a meeting scheduled on July 8, 2024.

Additionally, we are questioning whether the current owners on 20th Street would lose part of their land due to the narrowness of the current lane, which is less than 6 meters wide. We are also considering the possibility of a more balanced solution, such as the inclusion of two high-rise buildings with 20% social housing to address the housing needs while minimizing negative impacts on the community.

It is disheartening to note that many residents have expressed feeling unheard and disrespected in their interactions with the city planning department. The proposal to divide 11 lots into three parcels, potentially limiting the development of the remaining land into a townhouse site instead of high rise, is concerning for the overall urban environment in our area.

Upon separation, some of the lots will fall outside the 200-meter Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) zone, resulting in a decrease in the floor area ratio from 5.0 to 4.0. This adjustment will lead to a substantial devaluation of our properties, estimated at around 25% based on evaluations conducted by a reputable local real estate agent.

As property owners in the affected area, we are currently in the process of listing our properties on the Multiple Listing Services with the assistance of a local real estate agent. However, we feel compelled to raise this matter with you before proceeding further.

In light of the potential negative impact on our properties and the community as a whole, we are contemplating seeking broader attention by alerting the local media and requesting a thorough investigation into the decision-

making process. We believe that transparency and community engagement are key to ensuring an equitable outcome for all stakeholders involved.

It is our sincere belief that addressing these issues and allowing for community input will not only benefit the affected residents but also contribute to the overall well-being and prosperity of New Westminster.

Therefore, we respectfully urge the council to reconsider the zoning decision and to delay any further action until the concerns raised by the community have been adequately addressed and taken into consideration.

Thank you for your dedication to serving the best interests of New Westminster, and we trust that our voices will be heard and valued in this important matter.

Sincerely,

Concerned Residents

Sent from my iPad

**Zoning Amendment Bylaw No.8466, 2024 for 1923 & 1927 Marine Way
 Petition**

We, the undersigned residents of New Westminister, call on New West City Council to reconsider the proposal for a six-storey affordable housing building on 1923 & 1927 Marine Way.

No	Name	Address	Signature
1	John Purdy	S.22(1) marine way	S.22(1)
2	Sunhong Jung	S.22(1) Marine way	S.22(1)
3	[Signature]	S.22(1) Marine Way	S.22(1)
4	[Signature]	S.22(1) - 205 Street New	S.22(1)
5	[Signature]	Westminister	
6	SILVANA ENGELKE	S.22(1) 20TH ST. New Westminister	S.22(1)
7	[Signature]	S.22(1) 7th Ave New Westminister	S.22(1)
8	[Signature]	S.22(1) 20th St New Westminister	S.22(1)
9	Gregorio Anacleto	S.22(1) 20th St New Westminister	S.22(1)
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