



SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, February 6, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

Meeting held electronically and open to public attendance

Council Chamber, City Hall

PRESENT:

Mayor Patrick Johnstone
Councillor Ruby Campbell
Councillor Daniel Fontaine
Councillor Tasha Henderson
Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Councillor Paul Minhas
Councillor Nadine Nakagawa

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Lisa Spitale	Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jacque Killawee	Corporate Officer
Mr. Ronald Au	Senior Financial Services Analyst
Mr. Rod Carle	General Manager, Electrical Utility
Mr. Steven Faltas	Electrical, Business Process Manager
Mr. Dean Gibson	Director of Parks and Recreation
Ms. Lisa Leblanc	Director of Engineering Services
Ms. Denise Tambellini	Intergovernmental and Community Relations Manager
Ms. Jackie Teed	Acting Director, Climate Action, Planning and Development
Ms. Harji Varn	Chief Financial Officer and Director of Finance
Mr. Erin Williams	Acting Chief, New Westminster Fire and Rescue Services
Ms. Eva Yip	Acting Director of Human Resources and Information Technology
Ms. Lisa Zwarn	City Clerk
Ms. Debbie Reimer	Recording Secretary, Mosaic Writing Group

1. CALL TO ORDER AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mayor Johnstone opened the meeting at 9.00 a.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsurrendered 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. MOTION TO MOVE THE MEETING INTO THE CLOSED MEETING

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council will now go into a meeting which is closed to the public in accordance with Section 90 of the Community Charter, on the basis that the subject matter of all agenda items relate to matters listed under Sections:

90(1)(c) labour relations or other employee relations;

90(1)(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];

Carried.

3. MOTION TO RESUME THE SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council will reconvene the open portion of the Special City Council Meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Carried.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - 11:00 A.M.

4.1 Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)

Staff advised that information regarding AMI was presented at a previous Council meeting and noted:

- The City reassumed responsibility for the metering department in September 2022 and
- An implementation phase of two years will be required for AMI.

In response to questions from Council, staff advised:

- AMI meters are required due to an aging system;
- BC Hydro has installed smart meters that provide two-way communication;
- A net full time equivalent (FTE) reduction is anticipated upon completion of the program;

- A software service agreement is in place to monitor AMI;
- The new system would alert New Westminster residents immediately of an outage and provide information about the outage;
- Concern that energy use has changed as a result of adjustments to work practices implemented during COVID-19;
- Information on energy reduction quantities will be available when the AMI system is in place;
- Real time data from meters will provide energy consumption feedback;
- Facilities requiring a meter reader will be charged for the service;
- Measurement Canada has deferred testing requirements for the AMI meters and the associated costs;
- Electrical Utility Commission minutes are accessible to the public;
- The anticipated cost for repair and installation of AMI at heritage designated homes is \$100,000 to \$150,000;
- Electronic billing will reduce the City's carbon footprint and
- A load forecast report for the City is available.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT the open and closed meeting minutes of the utilities Commission pertaining to Advanced Metering Infrastructure be prepared as an extract for release to Council in a closed meeting.

Carried.

5. END OF THE MEETING

The meeting ended at 12:15 p.m.

Patrick Johnstone
MAYOR

Lisa Spitale
ACTING CORPORATE OFFICER