



# Corporation of the City of NEW WESTMINSTER

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

## CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

### MINUTES

**Monday, October 16, 2023, 3:00 p.m.**

**Meeting held electronically and in Council Chamber City Hall**

**PRESENT:**

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

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Ms. Lisa Spitale	Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. Peter DeJong	Corporate Officer
Mr. Rod Carle	General Manager, Electrical Utility
Ms. Renee Chadwick	Manager of Special Projects, Parks and Recreation
Ms. Christina Coolidge	Indigenous Relations Advisor
Ms. Jacqueline Dairon	Acting Director of Finance and Chief Financial Officer
Mr. Brad Davie	Deputy Chief, New Westminster Fire and Rescue Services
Mr. Steven Faltas	Senior Manager, Electrical
Mr. Richard Fong	Director of Human Resources
Mr. Dean Gibson	Director of Parks and Recreation
Mr. Jeff Gill	Deputy Chief, New Westminster Fire and Rescue Services
Ms. Cory Hansen	Emergency Management Coordinator
Ms. Jacque Killawee	Acting Records and Information Administrator
Ms. Wendee Lang	Development Planner
Ms. Lisa Leblanc	Director, Engineering Services
Ms. Isabella Li	Fire Protection Engineer, New Westminster Fire & Rescue Services
Mr. Binega Markos	Project Engineer
Mr. Demian Rueter	Manager, Climate Action, Planning and Development

Mr. John Stark	Manager of Community Planning
Ms. Denise Tambellini	Intergovernmental Relations Manager
Ms. Jackie Teed	Acting Director, Climate Action, Planning and Development
Ms. Serena Trachta	Manager, Inspections, Climate Action, Planning and Development
Mr. Erin Williams	Chief, New Westminster Fire and Rescue Services
Mr. Marius Miklea	Assistant Corporate Officer, Legislative Services

\* Denotes electronic attendance.

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

Mayor Johnstone opened the meeting at 3:15 p.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.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Council receive On Table presentations.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

2. **PRESENTATIONS**

Staff presented on the 2024 General Fund Capital Budget and 2024-2028 Capital Plan, the context and background, local government budget process and timeline, the budget outlook and financial sustainability principles, the general fund capital budget review, and risk and budget scenarios.

Discussion ensued on:

- Scenario 2 is generally the most favourable and relevant to current economic conditions in New Westminster;
- Clarifying bus shelters, line item 81 – the annual funding covers the cost of a single shelter over and above what a contractor provides. This coincides with line item 67 which sets aside funding for any required accessibility upgrades required at a particular bus shelter if identified;
- Consideration of the strategic plan for public works yard line item 319. Staff indicated space planning is important for all municipal facilities and all three scenarios fund the work required to be done at the yard;

- With respect to the Queensborough Transportation Plan, it is not complete at this point and the five-year plan does not include any funding for it;
- Clarification on it being difficult to quantify the cost of sidewalk repair, as it varies by location. The work of repairing sidewalks includes the City reviewing curb ramps to bring them up to code;
- Staff advised some time would be needed to report which costs are being downloaded from senior levels of government to the local government level;
- Scenario 2 with several additional selected projects from Scenario 3 would push the capital budget to \$197M but keep the City within policy for reserve fund management;
- Consideration of including within the budget the collection and sale of carbon credits, as well as additional details around future budgeting for replacement of vehicles and staff devices such as cell phones;
- General consensus by Council is to direct staff to proceed with Scenario 2, with several areas from Scenario 3 to be added.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Council direct staff to align the 2024 General Fund Capital Budget and Funding Strategies in Scenario 2 with additional consideration for transit and accessibility items;

**THAT** Staff be directed to draft and report back on the Draft Consolidated Financial Plan 2024 – 2028 Bylaw; and

**THAT** Council approve the re-allocation of \$6.0M GCF initially assigned to Massey Theatre Renovation project to other eligible General Fund capital projects.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**3. END OF THE MEETING**

*Mayor Johnstone terminated the meeting at 4:51 p.m.*

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Patrick Johnstone

MAYOR

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Peter DeJong

CORPORATE OFFICER