



Corporation of the City of NEW WESTMINSTER

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, October 18, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Council Chamber

City Hall

PRESENT:

Mayor Jonathan Cote
Councillor Chinu Das
Councillor Patrick Johnstone
Councillor Jamie McEvoy
Councillor Nadine Nakagawa
Councillor Chuck Puchmayr
Councillor Mary Trentadue

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Lisa Spitale	Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jacque Killawee	City Clerk
Ms. Emilie Adin	Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development
Ms. Jen Arbo	Economic Development Coordinator
Ms. Carolyn Armanini	Planner, Communications and Economic Development
Mr. Gabe Beliveau	Acting Manager, Engineering Operations
Ms. Samantha Bohmert	Planning Assistant, Climate Action, Planning and Development
Mr. Curtis Bremner	Acting Fire Chief, Fire and Rescue Services
Mr. Rod Carle	General Manager, Electrical Utility
Mr. Kristian Davis	Superintendent, Recycling and Solid Waste
Ms. Kim Deighton	Manager, Integrated Services
Mr. Dean Gibson	Director of Parks and Recreation
Ms. Jen Gjaltema	Assistant Deputy Fire Chief, Fire and Rescue Services
Mr. Dave Jansen	Chief Constable
Ms. Lisa Leblanc	Director of Engineering Services
Ms. Lorraine Lyle	Senior Manager, Financial Services
Mr. Craig MacFarlane	Manager of Legal Services
Ms. Jennifer Miller	Manager of Public Engagement
Mr. John Stark	Supervisor of Community Planning
Ms. Harji Varn	Chief Financial Officer and Director of Finance
Ms. Nicole Ludwig	Assistant City Clerk

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

None.

3. **ISSUANCE OF PERMITS**

3.1 **Development Variance Permit No. DVP00695 for 220 Carnarvon Street**

Eleven Zoning Bylaw variances have been requested to vary the siting and parking provisions of the “Public and Institutional Districts (High Rise)” (P-3 zone) at Holy Trinity Romanian Orthodox Church. The variances are related to the side and rear yard setbacks, maximum site coverage, projection distances (stairs and balconies), vehicle access location, and number of parking and loading spaces. The changes would allow a larger rear balcony, wider stairs on the east side of the building, and a reconfiguration of the parking lot.

a. **Copy of Notice**

b. **Director of Development Services' report dated September 27, 2021**

c. **Statement concerning the number of written submissions received, including On Table submissions (City Clerk)**

Jacque Killawee, City Clerk, advised no written submissions had been received related to this application.

d. **Council Decision**

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council approve issuance of DVP00695.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council adopt the recommendations for items 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6 to 4.8, 4.10, 4.11a, and 4.12 to 4.14 on consent.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

4.1 **Amendments to the Procedure Bylaw 2021: Bylaw for Adoption**

To update Council on public input regarding proposed changes to the Procedure Bylaw.

THAT Council receive the October 18, 2021, report entitled "Amendments to the Procedure Bylaw 2021: Bylaw for Adoption" for information.

Adopted on Consent.

4.2 Budget 2022: Public Engagement Community Survey Results

An informational report to provide Council with the results from the 2022 budget engagement community survey.

In discussion, Council members noted:

- There seems to be excellent framing and information on how property taxes are used;
- It will be helpful to see the percentage of the community participation by neighbourhood, and to see if engagement is going up or down;
- The engagement process is generally looking very good; and,
- It is interesting that reliable infrastructure came in as one of the highest rated items of importance.

In response to Council questions, Harji Varn, Director of Finance and Chief Financial Officer, Lorraine Lyle, Senior Manager of Financial Services, and Jennifer Miller, Manager of Public Engagement, provided the following information:

- The 2021 Budget Survey was conducted on a different survey system, which makes direct comparison difficult;
- Clarifying and correcting misinformation is part of the journey of demystifying the budget;
- There were over 1000 participants last year; and,
- There will be three more workshops over the next few months regarding the operating and capital budgets.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council receive the October 18, 2021, report entitled "Budget 2022: Public Engagement Community Survey Results" for information.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

4.3 Budget 2022: User Fees and Rates Review

To seek Council's approval to amend the fees and rates bylaws to accommodate the changes proposed by staff in their review of user fees and rates and to direct staff on changes to the related bylaws.

THAT Council approves in principle the proposed changes in fees and rates outlined in the October 18, 2021, report entitled "Budget 2022: User Fees and Rates Review"; and

THAT Council direct staff to prepare the necessary changes to the related bylaws.

Adopted on Consent.

4.4 Construction Noise Bylaw Exemption Extension Request: Metro Vancouver Sewer Inspections

To request an exemption from the Construction Noise Bylaw to permit overnight video inspections of the sewer lines at Glenbrook Combined Trunk Sewer along Eighth Ave and East Eighth Avenue.

THAT Council grant an exemption to AquaCoustic Remote Technologies Inc. from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 from Monday October 25, 2021 to Friday December 17, 2021 for three nights from 9:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. to conduct overnight video inspections of the sewer lines at Glenbrook Combined Trunk Sewer along Eighth Ave and East Eighth Avenue.

Adopted on Consent.

4.5 Downtown Livability Initiatives

This report provides immediate and short-term (one to three months) actions aimed at improving the livability of the Downtown. Immediate actions will be managed within existing 2021 Operating Budgets. Some short-term actions have budget implications which will be added to the 2022 Budget deliberation process.

In discussion, Council members noted:

- The downtown community will be happy to see this;
- These issues are not unique to the City of New Westminster;
- Requested more information at a future Council meeting about the Integrated Response Teams (IRT) at Fraser Health;
- The City should take advantage of providing more access to existing public washrooms downtown such as at the Anvil Centre or Police Department, if it is possible to supply extra cleaning and security;
- Would like to advocate for putting in a stand-alone public washroom more quickly than proposed; and,
- Concerns around stigma and mental health, particularly that people experiencing mental health issues are dangerous.

In response to Council questions and comments Mayor Cote, Lisa Spitale, Chief Administrative Officer, and John Stark, Supervisor of Community Planning:

- The IRTs at Fraser Health are relatively new;
- Staff will confer with Fraser Health on providing information to Council on the IRTs, and investigate whether they have materials that would be appropriate for the community and businesses on mental health;
- A location has been identified for an extreme weather response location;
- Staff are working with BC Housing to find a location for a long-term emergency shelter; and,

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council endorse the actions as outlined in the October 18, 2021, report entitled "Downtown Livability Initiatives" and direct staff to advance the short-term actions with budget implications to the 2022 Budget process.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

4.6 Heritage Revitalization Agreement: 328 Second Street – Preliminary Report

To seek Council's approval to proceed with processing the proposed Heritage Revitalization Agreement at 328 Second Street.

THAT Council direct staff to proceed with processing the proposed Heritage Revitalization Agreement at 328 Second Street, as outlined in the "Consultation and Review Process" section of the October 18, 2021, report entitled "Heritage Revitalization Agreement: 328 Second Street – Preliminary Report".

Adopted on Consent.

4.7 Heritage Revitalization Agreement and Designation: 515 St. George Street – bylaws for first and second readings

For Council to consider bylaws which would allow a laneway house on a property in Queen's Park in exchange for increased heritage protection of the main house.

THAT Council consider Heritage Revitalization Agreement (515 St George St) Bylaw No. 8262, 2021 and Heritage Designation (515 St George St) Bylaw No. 8263, 2021 for First and Second Readings, and forward the Bylaws to a Public Hearing.

Adopted on Consent.

4.8 Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

To seek Council's endorsement of an Indigenous land acknowledgement to be made at formal City gatherings and to be printed on publicly available City documents, agendas and web-based media.

THAT Council adopt the practice of using an Indigenous land acknowledgment as detailed in the October 18, 2021, report entitled "Indigenous Land Acknowledgement".

Adopted on Consent.

4.9 Multifamily and Curbside Residential Glass Collection

To seek Council's approval to implement curbside and multifamily residential glass collection programs, beginning in 2022.

In response to Council questions, Kristian Davis, Superintendent, Recycling and Solid Waste, provided the following information:

- If implemented, glass will be transported to Abbotsford, and there may be slightly more funding from Recycle BC because it needs to be transported out of city limits;
- This is for non-refundable glass; refundable glass can be returned to a depot; and
- Glass containers only require a rinse to be recycled; residents will not need to remove labels.

In discussion, Council members noted:

- A greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions analysis should be done since the glass will have to go to Abbotsford;
- A resolution requesting a review of Recycle BC may be appropriate;
- Appreciation for the report; and,
- The engagement process following the closure of the recycling centre identified glass recycling as a significant challenge for residents.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT staff be directed to implement segregated curbside glass collection in 2022, using City crews and equipment;

THAT staff incorporate segregated glass collection into the existing contracted multifamily recycling collection program;

THAT staff be directed to implement an education and enforcement campaign to support the glass collection program and to reduce contamination in all recycling streams, beginning in 2022;

THAT staff incorporate costs associated with curbside and multifamily residential segregated glass collection programs into the 2022-2026 Financial Plan submission.

Carried.

Councillor Johnstone opposed.

4.10 Parks and Recreation Access & Inclusion Policy

To recommend an amendment to the Parks and Recreation Access and Inclusion Policy - Financial Assistance Program to include the 50% subsidization of the Active 30 Day time-based membership pass.

THAT the Parks and Recreation Access and Inclusion Policy be amended to include up to a 50% subsidization of the Active 30 Day time-based membership pass.

Adopted on Consent.

4.11 Proclamations

a. Waste Reduction Week, October 18-24, 2021

Adopted on Consent.

b. World Polio Day, October 24, 2021

Mayor Cote read the proclamation and proclaimed October 24, 2021, World Polio Day in the City of New Westminster.

4.12 Recruitment 2021: Social and Cultural Vibrancy Grant Committee Appointment

This report releases the Closed Council decision to appoint Ted Drabyk, a member of the Arts Commission, to the Social and Cultural Vibrancy Grant Committee with the term ending September 20, 2023.

THAT Council receive the October 18, 2021, report entitled "Recruitment 2021: Social and Cultural Vibrancy Grant Committee Appointment" for information.

Adopted on Consent.

4.13 Stage 2 – Part A Sustainable Transportation Zoning Bylaw Amendments for Two Readings – Bylaw 8231, 2021

To request Council consideration of Two Readings of Zoning Bylaw No. 8231, 2021 which would amend the Zoning Bylaw to modify on-site bicycle parking requirements and bicycle facility design standards.

THAT Council consider Zoning Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 8231, 2021 for Two Readings and waive the holding of a Public Hearing as the Bylaw is consistent with the City's Official Community Plan.

Adopted on Consent.

4.14 Minutes for Adoption

- a. July 29, 2021 Special Regular Meeting
- b. August 18, 2021 Special Regular Meeting
- c. September 13, 2021 City Council Meeting (3:30 p.m.)
- d. September 13, 2021 City Council Meeting (6:00 p.m.)
- e. September 20, 2021 Special City Council Meeting
- f. September 27, 2021 City Council Meeting (2:00 p.m.)
- g. September 27, 2021 City Council Meeting (6:00 p.m.)

Adopted on Consent.

Procedural Note: Council agreed to deal with Bylaws as the next item of business. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

5. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK TO COUNCIL – 7:00 PM

Roy Prevost, President, Royal City Rotary Club, spoke regarding the World Polio Day Proclamation (item 4.11a on this agenda). He acknowledged Mike Crean, New Westminster Rotary Club and noted that Rotary has been active around providing polio vaccines worldwide for many years. He explained that due to the work done in part by Rotary Clubs around the world, there are currently only six polio cases worldwide. He noted that Rotary has committed to \$50M in polio

eradication efforts per year and this is being matched at a 2:1 ratio by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Mayor Cote thanked Mr. Prevost and Mr. Crean for their work and Council members noted that it is amazing that polio is almost eradicated worldwide.

Procedural Note: At this point in the meeting, Council agreed to deal with item 4.11a. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

Pat Muise, New Westminster, expressed displeasure that the City seems to be paying for many services and functions that are normally the purview of the Province.

Cathy Sostad and Tara Shushtarian, New West Film Festival, provided an overview of the Festival, noting that it will take place in person this year and 23 films will be shown, including two from New West. They noted they hope to have some public spaces for viewing in addition to the in person festival at Landmark Cinema and invited all to attend between October 22 and 24, 2021.

Mayor Cote thanked Ms. Sostad and Ms. Shustarian, noting there is a good lineup of films and expressed hope that it will help the community re-engage.

Procedural Note: Council agreed to deal with Motions from Members of Council as the next item of business. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

6. BYLAWS

6.1 Bylaws for readings

a. Heritage Revitalization Agreement (515 St. George St) Bylaw No. 8262, 2021

To enable the construction of a laneway house at 515 St George Street and relax parking requirements. This bylaw is on the agenda to receive TWO READINGS. A public hearing will be held regarding this bylaw.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Heritage Revitalization Agreement (515 St. George Street) Bylaw No. 8262, 2021, be given First Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Heritage Revitalization Agreement (515 St. George Street) Bylaw No. 8262, 2021, be given Second Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

b. Heritage Designation (515 St. George St) Bylaw No. 8263, 2021

To designate the 1912 house at 515 St. George Street as a protected heritage property. This bylaw is on the agenda to receive TWO READINGS. A public hearing will be held regarding this bylaw.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Heritage Designation (515 St. George Street) Bylaw No. 8263, 2021, be given First Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Heritage Designation (515 St. George Street) Bylaw No. 8263, 2021, be given Second Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

c. Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Bicycle Parking) No. 8231, 2021

Amendments to modify bicycle parking requirements and bicycle facility design standards. This bylaw is on the agenda to receive TWO READINGS. Public Hearings are usually held for Zoning Amendments, but staff have requested that the public hearing for this bylaw be waived because it is consistent with the City's Official Community Plan.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Bicycle Parking) No. 8231, 2021, be given First Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Bicycle Parking) No. 8231, 2021, be given Second Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

6.2 Bylaws for adoption

a. Council Procedure Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 8276, 2021

Amendments to the Procedure Bylaw to allow for electronic meetings as described in the Community Charter, and miscellaneous changes. This bylaw is on the agenda for ADOPTION.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council Procedure Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 8276, 2021, be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

b. Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 8280, 2021

Certain properties within New Westminster such as places of worship, hospitals or charitable/philanthropic uses are eligible for an exemption from property taxes. This bylaw lists the properties exempted in 2022. This bylaw is on the agenda for ADOPTION.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Permissive Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 8280, 2021, be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

Procedural Note: Council agreed to hear from speakers as the next item of business. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

7. MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

7.1 Enforcement Against Derelict Vehicles

Mayor Cote introduced the motion, advising that it relates to an issue brought forward by a resident whose neighbour has a number of derelict vehicles, and that current City bylaws do not cover this issue.

MOVED AND SECONDED

Whereas derelict vehicles are commonly recognized to be unsightly, and derelict vehicle bans exist in other Metro Vancouver municipalities such as Burnaby, Coquitlam, Richmond, Langley and North Vancouver;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to bring forward for Council's consideration some potential amendments to the Unsightly Premises Bylaw No. 5969, 1991, with the purpose of creating a ban on the outdoor storage of derelict vehicles.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

7.2 Federal Government's appeal of Canadian Human Rights Tribunal Rulings regarding Indigenous Children

Councillor Puchmayr introduced the motion, noting he had consulted with Tsilqot'in and Qayqayt and both Nations support this resolution. He also noted that this issue is ongoing since 2007, and it has been a long battle to assert that there was a grave wrong done to on-reserve children. He

summarized that the motion requests the Federal Government cease any and all litigation on the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) ruling regarding Indigenous children.

MOVED AND SECONDED

Whereas in 2016 The Canadian Human Rights Tribunal (CHRT) ruled that the federal government of Canada “willfully and recklessly” discriminated against Indigenous children living on reserve by failing to fund child and family services to the same level as they did in non-Indigenous communities; and

Whereas this neglect was found to have forced many (more than 50,000) children into foster care; and

Whereas in 2019 the CHRT ordered Ottawa to pay \$40,000 (the maximum permitted under the Canadian Human Rights Commission) to each affected child as well as some family care providers; and

Whereas on September 29th of this year a federal court upheld the decision of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal and disallowed the federal government challenge;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of New Westminster asks that the federal government abandon all future litigation, and immediately comply with the rulings of the Canadian Human Rights Tribunal.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

8. NEW BUSINESS

None.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Councillor Puchmayr noted that on October 24, 1864, the five Tsilqot'in Chiefs had been executed, and there will be a small, local and discreet event in commemoration.

Mayor Cote noted that the City is currently recruiting for advisory committees and encouraged residents to apply through the City's website.

10. END OF THE MEETING

The meeting ended at 7:26 p.m.

Jonathan Cote

MAYOR

Jacque Killawee

CITY CLERK