



Corporation of the City of
NEW WESTMINSTER

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

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

Thursday, September 5, 2024, 4:00 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 Tasha Henderson*
Councillor Paul Minhas

Hanieh Berg, Corporate Officer

ABSENT: Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Councillor Nadine Nakagawa

**Attendance by electronic means*

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

Mayor Johnstone called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and recognized with respect that New Westminister 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. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adopt the September 5, 2024 Special Council agenda, as circulated.

The question on the motion was not called as discussion took place on the urgency of the Special Council meeting and the timeliness of a proposed recommendation for Council-consideration, which was distributed on table and electronically (attached to and forming part of these Minutes as Schedule 1).

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

3. **COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

None.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council adjourn the September 5, 2024, Special Council meeting (4:09 p.m.).

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the Special Council meeting of the Council of the City of New Westminster held on September 5, 2024.

Patrick Johnstone

MAYOR

Hanieh Berg

CORPORATE OFFICER

Whereas the inflation rate in Canada now falls within a 2-3% range; and

Whereas property taxes have increased approximately 15% over the past two years; and

Whereas countless property taxpayers in New Westminster are struggling under the weight of an increased cost of living.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff be directed as part of the Budget 2025 process to develop at least one budget scenario for Council's consideration that incorporates a property tax increase of no more than 4.5%