



Corporation of the City of
NEW WESTMINSTER

A vibrant, compassionate, sustainable city that includes everyone.

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

Thursday, November 4, 2021

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

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

POLICE BOARD MEMBERS:

Heather Boersma
Karim Hachlaf
Shirley Heafey
Sasha Ramnarine

CITY AND POLICE STAFF:

Ms. Lisa Spitale	Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jacque Killawee	City Clerk
Ms. Heather Corbett	Executive Assistant to the Chief Constable
Ms. Jacqueline Dairon	Finance Supervisor, New Westminster Police Department
Mr. Trevor Dudar	Inspector, Patrol Division, New Westminster Police Department
Ms. Hailey Finnigan	Strategic Communications Coordinator, New Westminster Police Department
Mr. Paul Hyland	Deputy Chief Constable
Mr. Dave Jansen	Chief Constable
Ms. Diana McDaniel	Inspector, Prevention Services Division, New Westminster Police Department

Mr. Andrew Perry
Ms. Harji Varn
Ms. Nicole Ludwig

Inspector, Administration Division, New Westminster Police Department
Director of Finance and Chief Financial Officer
Assistant City Clerk

*Denotes Electronic attendance.

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

Mayor Cote opened the meeting at 11:02 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. **2022 New Westminster Police Department Budget**

2.1 **Report, Chief Constable Dave Jansen**

Dave Jansen, Chief Constable, Paul Hyland, Deputy Chief Constable, and Jacqueline Dairon, Finance Supervisor, New Westminster Police Department provided a presentation on the 2022 New Westminster Police Department Budget, reviewed successes and challenges in 2021, and provided detailed information on staffing and costs, noting that the budget shows fiscal responsibility.

2.2 **Discussion**

In response to Council questions and concerns, Mayor Cote, Chief Jansen, Inspector Diana McDaniel, and Ms. Dairon provided the following information:

- Secondments do not cost the City anything as the agency receiving the secondment covers all costs; additional members are not hired since the officers being seconded are replaced by returning secondments;
- The Integrated Services function would be much more costly if done in house;
- Implementing the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Anti-Racism (DEIAR) takes time to do properly and requires operational review;
- The Board is working on a framework and hiring of a consultant to lead the review; a future joint Council-Police Board meeting will take place on that topic;

- Secondments do not impact the capacity to investigate crimes, and the benefits of secondments in terms of skill development and network are immense;
- There is a going on review of the 2021 heat wave and police will also be participating in the City-wide review;
- The crime index is weighted, with some crimes having a higher score than others;
- Police are working through the DEIAR framework and have had some good conversations; civilian staff will have their own process and the framework for that will be drafted by January 2022;
- The Board's communication strategy will be shared with Council and joint meetings will be planned once these are available;
- The Board has not approved an honorarium policy, and police staff continue to develop it;

In discussion, Council members noted:

- Concerns at the length of time it is taking to see any kind of difference or change;
- Appreciation for the amount of work that has been done;
- Concerns that the "pop to cop" ratio has decreased but the crime index is increasing;
- A desire to have a conversation about safety and communication, in the face of increasing street homelessness;
- The budget discussion between Police and Council should start earlier in the year;
- Requested more timely information on E-Comm;
- Future meetings should be about more than just the budget and be seen as regular communication between Council and the Board;

Board members noted that:

- Work on change is happening; it is a slow process and there needs to be time to develop a solid foundation so that future actions can be well-supported;
- The New Westminster Police Department is ahead of many other police services in Canada, however change will not happen overnight;
- Change depends on participation and community involvement and this is a new world for policing; and,

- It will be slightly easier for New Westminster to bring about changes that affect the community positively due to the small size of the department.

Mayor Cote thanked everyone for attending and their feedback.

3. END OF THE MEETING

The meeting ended at 12:02 p.m.

Jonathan Cote

MAYOR

Jacque Killawee

CITY CLERK