



# Corporation of the City of **NEW WESTMINSTER**

*A vibrant, compassionate, sustainable city that includes everyone.*

## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

**Monday, December 6, 2021**

**Meeting held electronically and open to public attendance**

**Council Chamber, City Hall**

#### **PRESENT:**

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

#### **ABSENT:**

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr (Due to Conflict of Interest)

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Ms. Lisa Spitale	Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jacque Killawee	City Clerk
Ms. Emilie Adin	Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development
Ms. Carolyn Armanini	Planner, Office of the Chief Administrator
Ms. Dilys Huang	Planner, Climate Action, Planning and Development
Ms. Lisa Leblanc	Director of Engineering Services
Mr. John Stark	Supervisor of Community Planning
Ms. Nicole Ludwig	Assistant City Clerk

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

Mayor Cote opened the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

#### **2. BYLAWS CONSIDERED AT THE PUBLIC HEARING**

##### **2.1 Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (City-wide Crisis Response) No. 8285, 2021**

To enable urgent and time-sensitive service response to local, regional and provincial crises. This bylaw is on the agenda to receive **THIRD READING**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (City-wide Crisis Response) No. 8285, 2021, be given Third Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

## **2.2 Zoning Amendment Bylaw (City-wide Crisis Response) No. 8286, 2021**

To enable urgent and time-sensitive service response to local, regional and provincial crises. This bylaw is on the agenda to receive **THIRD READING.**

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Zoning Amendment Bylaw (City-wide Crisis Response) No. 8286, 2021, be given Third Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

## **2.3 Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (60-68 Sixth Street) No. 8283, 2021**

To permit a supportive housing development containing studio homes with various on-site support services. This bylaw is on the agenda to receive **THIRD READING.**

In discussion, Council members noted the following:

- This application is not the same as the temporary use granted for the Army & Navy location, which will be lost at some point;
- It does not make sense to have a vacant lot in the downtown area during a housing crisis;
- The City is acting quickly because money from other levels of government is available;
- Similar conversations have taken place around other modular housing projects, and it is clear from the outcomes of those that BC Housing knows how to establish them, choose appropriate operators and how to fit them in the neighbourhood;
- Quick action is just one prong of addressing the housing crisis and staff continue to work hard on achieving the overall vision;
- General concerns with the Public Hearing process because it does not allow the conversation to encompass what the community wants it to;
- Fear and anger are valid emotions, but the Public Hearing process does not allow space to deal with it;
- The proposed facility will be fully staffed, and other amenities in the city including the large recovery community and mental health centre, will

mean full and relatively easy access to necessary and appropriate services for residents;

- People who are being considered as potential residents are usually the ones ready to take the next step and just need a little structure to help them get healthy and employed.
- Many of the residents will be people who were already living in New Westminster; and,
- Previous similar projects have proven very successful, despite similar concerns being voiced during the application process.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (60-68 Sixth Street) No. 8283, 2021, be given Third Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

#### **2.4 Zoning Amendment Bylaw (60-68 Sixth Street) No. 8284, 2021**

To permit a supportive housing development containing studio homes with various on-site support services. This bylaw is on the agenda to receive **THIRD READING.**

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Zoning Amendment Bylaw (60-68 Sixth Street) No. 8284, 2021, be given Third Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

#### **2.5 Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (350-366 Fenton Street) No. 8281, 2021**

To permit an affordable housing development for Indigenous individuals. This bylaw is on the agenda to receive **THIRD READING.**

In discussion, Council members noted the following:

- Concerns regarding the drainage issue on Fenton Street and access to transportation and other amenities are valid;
- There needs to be follow-up in Queensborough generally to firm up and increase infrastructure to make the area more livable;
- A project specifically for the Queensborough area to make sidewalks available and more accessible may be required; and,
- There are a variety of housing needs and so a full spectrum of housing solutions is needed.

**2.5 Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (350-366 Fenton Street)  
No. 8281, 2021**

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (350-366 Fenton Street) No. 8281, 2021, be given Third Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**2.6 Zoning Amendment Bylaw (350-366 Fenton Street) No. 8282, 2021**

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Zoning Amendment Bylaw (350-366 Fenton Street) No. 8282, 2021, be given Third Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council direct staff to report back on strategies to address pedestrian safety and accessibility of the Fenton Street affordable housing sites.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council direct staff to explore the development of an accessible pedestrian network between key sites in Queensborough.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**3. END OF THE MEETING**

The meeting ended at 9:42 p.m.

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Jonathan Cote

MAYOR

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Jacque Killawee

CITY CLERK