



# Corporation of the City of NEW WESTMINSTER

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

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES

**Monday, January 10, 2022**

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

**Council Chamber, City Hall**

#### PRESENT:

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

#### ABSENT:

Councillor Chuck Puchmayr

#### STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Lisa Spitale	Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jacque Killawee	City Clerk
Ms. Emilie Adin	Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development
Mr. Jorge Cardenas	Chief Librarian
Mr. Rod Carle	General Manager, Electrical Utility
Ms. Renee Chadwick	Manager, Special Projects and Community Partnerships
Mr. Richard Fong	Director of Human Resources
Mr. Dean Gibson	Director of Parks and Recreation
Mr. Craig MacFarlane	Manager of Legal Services
Ms. Harji Varn	Chief Financial Officer and Director of Finance
Mr. Erin Williams	Acting Fire Chief, New Westminster Fire and Rescue Services
Mr. Eugene Wat	Acting Director of Engineering Services
Ms. Nicole Ludwig	Assistant City Clerk

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#### 1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Cote opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mayor Cote recognized with respect that New Westminster is on the unceded and unsundered 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.

**3. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**4. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

**4.1 Budget 2022: Five-Year Financial Plan 2022 - 2026, CFO/Director of Finance**

**a. Written Submissions (On Table)**

Harji Varn, Director of Finance and Chief Financial Officer, advised that 19 written submissions had been received, three of which were aligned with the recommendations in the budget, and the remainder were concerned with the property tax rate increase. Ms. Varn advised that Finance staff would respond to all of the written submissions.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council receive 19 written submissions related to the January 10, 2022, report entitled "Five-Year Financial Plan 2022 – 2026", and attached to the agenda for the January 10, 2022, City Council meeting.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**b. Budget 2022: Five-Year Financial Plan 2022 - 2026**

To request Council give three readings to the Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw for the years 2022 - 2026.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council give three readings to the Five-Year Financial Plan (2022-2026) Bylaw No. 8308, 2022 as presented in Attachment 1 of the January 10, 2022, report entitled "Budget 2022: Five-Year Financial Plan 2022 – 2026".

**Carried.**

Councillors Nakagawa and Trentadue opposed.

#### **4.2 Joy and Whimsy Initiative, Director of Parks & Recreation**

##### **a. Presentation (On Table)**

Dean Gibson, Director of Parks and Recreation, introduced Renee Chadwick, Special Projects and Community Partnerships, who provided a presentation on highlights of 2021 events associated with the Joy and Whimsy initiative.

In discussion, Council members noted:

- The COVID-19 pandemic has made it difficult to bring people together;
- It is good to have good news reports to read amid all of the heavier topics;
- Appreciation for staff work on this initiative amid constantly changing landscapes and rules;
- Requested to change up reporting of events to November or December of the preceding year so that they can be discussed in advance of future events.

In response to Council questions, Ms. Chadwick and Jacque Killawee, City Clerk, advised of the following:

- Staff will be investigating different cultural celebrations and will work out a plan for 2023 this year;
- Staff are working across departments, and will work with the Reconciliation, Social Inclusion and Engagement Task Force, and the Social Inclusion, Engagement and Reconciliation Advisory Committee on determining which events should be included; and,
- Licenses have been purchased for the multicultural celebrations and events calendar, and it has been shared with staff who are working on this initiative.

##### **b. Joy and Whimsy Initiative**

This report is provided to inform Council on how special events and initiatives brought joy and whimsy to New Westminster during the COVID- 19 pandemic in 2021.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council receive the January 10, 2022, report entitled “Joy and Whimsy Initiative” for information.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

## **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

If Council decides, all the recommendations in the reports on the Consent Agenda can be approved in one motion, without discussion. If Council wishes to discuss a report, that report is removed from the Consent Agenda. A report may be removed in order to discuss it, because someone wants to vote against the report's recommendation, or because someone has a conflict of interest with the report. Any reports not removed from the Consent Agenda are passed without discussion.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council adopt the recommendations for items 5.4 to 5.10 on consent.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

### **5.1 Alcohol in Parks Program: 2021 Review**

The purpose of this report is to share a summary of the feedback received from the community and an interdepartmental staff team as part of the evaluation of the new 2021 Alcohol in Parks Program. The findings from the review are presented in this report to identify what worked well and areas for improvement going forward.

In discussion, Council members noted:

- Updates on initiatives are good to receive; and,
- There is a discrepancy in the reporting because the report indicates that Queens Park, Westminster Pier Park, and Hume Park were the most used, however the statistics in the appendix of the report indicate that Moody Park, not Hume Park, was the third most used.

In response, Dean Gibson, Director of Parks and Recreation, thanked Council for noting the correction and advised staff would apply the changes accordingly, based on the statistics gathered.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** the Alcohol in Parks Program, as enabled through Bylaw No. 8264, 2021, continue in seven designated zones with administrative changes for

improvement as outlined in the January 10, 2022, report entitled “Alcohol in Parks Program: 2021 Review”.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

## **5.2 Amendments to the 2022 Schedule of Council Meetings**

To seek Council’s approval of amendments to the 2022 Council Meeting Schedule.

In discussion, Council members noted a preference for keeping the existing 2022 Council Meetings Schedule, and requested that meetings be cancelled if they are not needed, rather than not scheduling any Public Hearings for seven months.

In response, Emilie Adin, Director of Development Services, advised that Council can schedule additional meetings and public hearings if they are needed.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council receive the January 10, 2022, report entitled “Amendments to the 2022 Schedule of Council Meetings” for information.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

## **5.3 BC Superweek Pro-Cycling Series: New West Grand Prix**

This report is provided to inform Council that BC Superweek Pro Cycling Series - New West Grand Prix will not be hosted in the City in 2022 as a result of civil engineering construction projects on Columbia Street and in adjacent areas of the downtown.

In discussion, Council members expressed a preference for holding the New West Grand Prix this year, and requested staff work with partners to explore alternate locations in New Westminster for the event.

In response, Renee Chadwick, Manager, Special Projects and Community Partnerships, advised:

- Staff have been in discussion with partners for six months and will move forward with exploring alternate locations;
- The Grand Prix is contingent on the participation of other municipalities in the region, many of which have been in a holding pattern; and,

- The Grand Prix takes time to plan, so there will be a point where a timeline is needed.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council receive the January 10, 2022, report entitled “BC Superweek Pro-Cycling Series: New West Grand Prix” for information; and

**THAT** Council direct staff to explore other course locations in the City of New Westminster and then work with Superweek and other municipalities on the feasibility of holding the New West Grand Prix event in 2022 and report back to Council.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**5.4 Heritage Revitalization Agreement (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8304, 2022 and Heritage Designation (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8305, 2022 Bylaws for First and Second Readings**

For Council to consider bylaws which would allow the construction of an infill house on a Queen’s Park property in exchange for heritage protection and conservation of a heritage house.

**THAT** Council consider Heritage Revitalization Agreement (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8304, 2022 and Heritage Designation (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8305, 2022 for First and Second Readings, and forward the Bylaws to a Public Hearing.

**THAT** Council add 323 Regina Street to the City’s Heritage Register following the adoption of Heritage Designation (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8305, 2022.

**Adopted on Consent.**

**5.5 Rezoning Application for Duplex: 122 Eighth Avenue – Preliminary Report**

To seek Council’s approval to process the rezoning application for a duplex at 122 Eighth Avenue as outlined within this report.

**THAT** Council direct staff to process the rezoning application for a duplex at 122 Eighth Avenue, as outlined in the “Consultation and Review Process” section of the January 10, 2022, report entitled “Rezoning Application for Duplex: 122 Eighth Avenue – Preliminary Report”.

**Adopted on Consent.**

## **5.6 Rezoning Application for Infill Townhouse: 337 and 339 Keary Street – Preliminary Report to Council**

To seek Council's approval to proceed with processing the proposed rezoning at 337 and 339 Keary Street.

**THAT** Council direct staff to proceed with processing the proposed rezoning at 337-339 Keary Street, as outlined in the "Consultation and Review Process" section of the January 10, 2022, report entitled "Rezoning Application for Infill Townhouse: 337 and 339 Keary Street – Preliminary Report to Council".

**Adopted on Consent.**

## **5.7 Update regarding Downtown Livability Strategy**

To provide an update on the status of the immediate and short term actions from the Downtown Livability Strategy, previously presented to Council on October 18, 2021.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council endorse the actions underway as set out in the January 10, 2022, report entitled "Update Regarding Downtown Livability Strategy".

**Adopted on Consent.**

## **5.8 Uptown Active Transportation Improvements Projects: Design and Engagement Update**

To seek Council's endorsement to move forward to conceptual design and the next round of public engagement with the recommended configuration option for Rotary Crosstown Greenway upgrades and the recommended routing option for the New Westminster Secondary School Cycling Connector, based on results of the first round of engagement as well as recommendations from the findings of a multiple account evaluation for the Uptown Active Transportation Improvements projects.

**THAT** Council receive the January 10, 2022, report entitled "Uptown Active Transportation Improvements Project Improvements Projects – Design and Engagement Update" and Multiple Account Evaluation memo (Attachment 3 of the above-noted report) for information.

**THAT** Council endorse configuration Option 2 for the Rotary Crosstown Greenway Upgrades, as described in the January 10, 2022, report entitled "Uptown Active Transportation Improvements Project Improvements Projects – Design and Engagement Update".

**THAT** Council endorse routing Option 2 as described in the January 10, 2022, report entitled “Uptown Active Transportation Improvements Project Improvements Projects – Design and Engagement Update for the New Westminster Secondary School Cycling Connector.

**THAT** Council direct staff to implement an interim New Westminster Secondary School Cycling Connector along Sixth Street (routing Option 2 as described in the January 10, 2022, report entitled “Uptown Active Transportation Improvements Project Improvements Projects – Design and Engagement Update) using high quality lower-cost materials, to test the feasibility and evaluate impacts of the routing option on transit and traffic operations.

**Adopted on Consent.**

**5.9 Proclamation: International Holocaust Remembrance Day, January 27, 2022**

**Adopted on Consent.**

**5.10 Minutes for adoption**

- a. November 1, 2021 Special Council Workshop

**Adopted on Consent.**

**Procedural Note:** Council agreed to consider bylaws as the next item of business. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

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

Nathan Davidowicz congratulated the City on an excellent job of clearing snow and suggested better communication with TransLink may be needed. He also noted concerns with public transit access in New Westminster, specifically the 103 and 105 routes, which have been impacted by the Agnes Street Greenway and had many trips cancelled and rerouted due to snow. He also suggested that there should be a school special going from Queensborough to New Westminster Secondary School, and the 30 km/h zone proposed for Sixth Street should be implemented immediately.

In response, Mayor Cote noted there have been challenges with the Agnes Street Greenway and shuttle bus service. He noted that staff are working with TransLink to add additional stops back in along the greenway, and that hopefully a bus for NWSS will be implemented next school year.

**Procedural Note:** As directed by Mayor Cote, staff turned off the microphone for the second registered speaker because he was personally attacking members of



Council. Mayor Cote noted that the speaker had been given ample warning prior to the meeting by staff and at previous meetings where he had been speaking, and was in violation of the Respectful Workplace Policy and the rules regarding speakers in the *Procedure Bylaw*.

## **7. BYLAWS**

### **7.1 Bylaws for readings**

#### **a. Heritage Revitalization Agreement (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8304, 2022**

To enable the construction of an infill house, larger than permitted under the laneway and carriage house program, at 323 Regina Street with relaxations for density and siting as well as a siting relaxation for the existing house. This bylaw is on the agenda for **TWO READINGS**.

A public hearing will be held regarding this bylaw.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Heritage Revitalization Agreement (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8304, 2022 be given First Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Heritage Revitalization Agreement (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8304, 2022 be given Second Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

#### **b. Heritage Designation (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8305, 2022**

To designate the 1928 house at 323 Regina Street as a protected heritage property. This bylaw is on the agenda for **TWO READINGS**.

A public hearing will be held regarding this bylaw.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Heritage Designation (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8305, 2022 be given First Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Heritage Designation (323 Regina Street) Bylaw No. 8305, 2022 be given Second Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**c. Five-Year Financial Plan (2022 - 2026) Bylaw No. 8308, 2022**

To approve the City's consolidated Financial Plan for 2022 through 2026. This bylaw is on the agenda for **THREE READINGS**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Five-Year Financial Plan (2022-2026) Bylaw No. 8308, 2022, be given First Reading.

**Carried.**

Councillor Trentadue opposed.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Five-Year Financial Plan (2022-2026) Bylaw No. 8308, 2022, be given Second Reading.

**Carried.**

Councillor Trentadue opposed.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Five-Year Financial Plan (2022-2026) Bylaw No. 8308, 2022, be given Third Reading.

**Carried.**

Councillor Trentadue opposed.

**7.2 Bylaws for adoption**

**a. Development Cost Charge Reserve Funds Expenditure Bylaw No. 8307, 2021**

To authorize expenditures from the City's Development Cost Charge Reserves for Queensborough drainage, water, transportation and parkland development, and Mainland transportation and parkland development. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Development Cost Charge Reserve Funds Expenditure Bylaw No. 8307, 2021, be adopted.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**8. MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**8.1 Smoking Bylaws Review, Mayor Cote**

Mayor Cote introduced the motion, noting that Metro Vancouver had received a presentation regarding smoking bylaws, and that there is a patchwork of regulations across the region.

In discussion, Council members requested staff also study the interface between smoking bylaws and strata rules around smoking in multi unit housing, as well as the interface and between City jurisdiction and other jurisdictions such as around SkyTrain stations and private property.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council request staff to conduct a review and scan of smoking bylaws in municipalities in British Columbia and report back to Council with a preliminary assessment and options to enhance New Westminster smoking bylaws.

**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.

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**10. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

On behalf of Council, Mayor Cote expressed condolences to Councillor Puchmayr on the recent passing of his sibling.

**11. END OF THE MEETING**

The meeting ended at 6:56 p.m.

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Jonathan Cote  
MAYOR

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Jacque Killawee  
CITY CLERK