



## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

### **MINUTES**

**Monday, February 14, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**

**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 Chuck Puchmayr\*  
Councillor Mary Trentadue\*

#### **STAFF PRESENT:**

Ms. Lisa Spitale	Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jacque Killawee	City Clerk
Mr. Dean Gibson	Director of Parks and Recreation
Mr. Jason Haight	Manager, Operations, Parks and Recreation
Ms. Lisa Leblanc	Director of Engineering Services
Ms. Lorraine Lyle	Senior Manager, Finance
Mr. Craig MacFarlane	Manager of Legal Services
Ms. Serena Trachta	Acting Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development
Ms. Harji Varn	Chief Financial Officer and Director of Finance
Mr. Eugene Wat	Manager, Infrastructure Planning, Engineering Services
Ms. Nicole Ludwig	Assistant City Clerk

\*Denotes electronic attendance

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

Mayor Cote opened the meeting at 6:00 p.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. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**3. ISSUANCE OF PERMITS**

**3.1 Development Variance Permit No. DVP00691 for 520 Eighth Street**

Applications have been submitted to allow the addition of five studio and one-bedroom residential units in an existing 56-unit residential rental building. The requested Development Variance Permit will reduce the number of required off-street parking spaces by 21% from the standard Zoning Bylaw requirements for secured rental units.

**a. Copy of Notice**

**b. Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development's report dated January 31, 2022**

**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.

**d. Council Decision**

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council approve the issuance of DVP00691.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**4. 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.

**Procedural Note:** At previous meetings, Councillor Puchmayr declared conflict of interest related to item 4.5, due to his involvement with an agency that might be involved with the project, however he advised he consulted with the agency he is involved with, and there is no conflict of interest. He advised he would be voting on the report and it was not necessary to remove it from the consent agenda.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council adopt the recommendations for items 4.2, 4.4 to 4.6 and 4.8 to 4.11 on consent.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

#### **4.1 Construction Noise Bylaw Exemption Extension Request: New Westminster Interceptor – Columbia Sewer Rehabilitation**

To request that Council grant an exemption from the Construction Noise Bylaw for Metro Vancouver's contractor, Oscar Renda Contracting of Canada (ORCC), to conduct sewer maintenance including multiple upgrades installation and slip lining in the downtown area for eight nights from Tuesday, February 15, 2022 to Thursday, March 10, 2022.

In discussion, Council members noted the following:

- Request for an update from Metro Vancouver on the project, given there have been multiple requests to extend permits, but there does not seem to be much movement on the project;
- Concerns with ongoing storage of pipes on Columbia Street, which are impacting businesses and may impact their ability to open patios in the spring and summer; and,
- Expressed disappointment in how the project is being handled by Metro Vancouver.

In response to Council questions and concerns, Lisa Leblanc, Director of Engineering Services, and Eugene Wat, Manager, Infrastructure Planning, Engineering Services, provided the following information:

- Staff will liaise with Metro Vancouver to arrange an update at a Council meeting in March;
- The project has had weather delays as well as underground obstructions that were not previously mapped; and,
- The pipes have been set up on Columbia Street near the launch slip where all pipes will be inserted and it is expected this will be done in two to three weeks.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council grant an exemption to Oscar Renda Contracting of Canada (ORCC) from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 for eight nights between Tuesday February 15, 2022 and Thursday March 10, 2022 from 8:00 PM to 7:00 AM Mondays to Thursdays and 8:00 PM Fridays to 7:00 AM Mondays including Sundays and a Statutory Holiday to conduct maintenance of the existing sewer, installation of new utility holes and slip lining along Columbia Street.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

#### **4.2 Construction Noise Bylaw Exemption Request: 660 Quayside Drive (Bosa Development)**

To seek Council's approval for an exemption from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 to enable Bosa Development to conduct an overnight monolithic concrete pour for the creation of the East Tower foundation at Pier West Development located at 660 Quayside Drive.

**THAT** Council grant an exemption from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 to Bosa Development on Friday March 11, 2022 from 6:00 AM to Saturday March 12, 2022 to 9:00 AM to enable a monolithic concrete pour for the creation of the East Tower foundation, and;

**THAT** Council grant an exemption from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 to Bosa Development for either Friday March 18, 2022 from 6:00 AM to Saturday March 19, 2022 at 9:00 AM OR Friday March 25, 2021 from 6:00 AM to Saturday March 26, 2021 at 9:00 AM to enable a monolithic concrete pour for the creation of the East Tower foundation if unfavorable weather conditions prohibit the work from occurring on the weekend of Friday March 11, 2022.

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.3 Filming Activity in 2021 and Proposed Filming Fees for 2022**

The purpose of this report is to provide the annual overview of the prior year's filming activity and accomplishments and to propose new and revised filming fees for 2022.

In response to Council questions, Jason Haight, Manager, Operations, Parks and Recreation, provided the following information:

- Filming revenue is expected to increase this year;

- There is a pinch point on where filming trucks can be staged because there are fewer parking lots available;
- Production companies tend to base their budgets on the script, not permit fees;
- The proposed fees increases are market value, will catch the City up in fees charged by other municipalities, and will not be a surprise to the filming industry;
- Revenue from filming is managed through the Parks and Recreation budget; and,
- Revenue anticipation based on filming is not exact, and staff estimates are often lower than actual revenues.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council receive the February 14, 2022, report entitled “Filming Activity in 2021 and Proposed Filming Fees for 2022” for information; and

**THAT** staff be directed to bring forward amendments to Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 6673, 2001 as outlined in the February 14, 2022, report entitled “Filming Activity in 2021 and Proposed Filming Fees for 2022”.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

#### **4.4 Local Government Election 2022: Appointment of Chief Election Officer and Deputy Chief Election Officer**

To recommend appointments of Chief Election Officer (CEO) and Deputy Chief Election Officer (DCEO) for the 2022 Local Government Election.

**THAT** pursuant to Section 58(1) of the Local Government Act, Council appoint Jacque Killawee, City Clerk, as Chief Election Officer, and Nicole Ludwig, Assistant City Clerk, as Deputy Chief Election Officer for the 2022 Local Government Election.

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.5 Peer Assisted Crisis Team (PACT) Pilot Project Update**

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the Peer Assisted Crisis Team (PACT) Working Group’s progress to date as well as approve the community engagement plan for Phase One, the hiring of a support staff to help facilitate the project and to rename the Working Group to more accurately reflect the work plan.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council approve the community engagement plan for the PACT Pilot Project conducted in collaboration with the Canadian Mental Health Association;

**THAT** Council approve the hiring of a Project Coordinator, Crisis Care Reform to support the PACT Pilot Project; and

**THAT** Council approve the change in name of the Working Group to the Peer Assisted Crisis Team (PACT) Working Group.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

#### **4.6 People, Parks & Pups: A 10-Year Strategy for Sharing Public Space**

The purpose of this report is to seek adoption of the People, Parks & Pups Strategy (the “Strategy”) as developed to support a proactive approach to sharing New Westminster’s limited park space among those with and without dogs. As a ten-year framework, this Strategy provides recommendations to guide the ongoing planning, design and management of dog off-leash activity across the city.

**THAT** Council adopt the “People, Parks & Pups Strategy”, as included as Attachment B of the February 14, 2022, report entitled “People, Parks & Pups: A 10-Year Strategy for Sharing Public Space”, to guide the planning and design for people and dogs in parks and open spaces across New Westminster; and

**THAT** staff proceed with next steps as outlined in the February 14, 2022, report entitled “People Parks & Pups: A 10-Year Strategy for Sharing Public Space”.

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.7 Provincial Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program Funding Approval for the Riverfront Tugger – Community Gathering and Play Space**

The City has successfully applied to the Provincial Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Fund and been awarded \$305,480 toward the upgrade of the Riverfront Tugger - Community Gathering and Play Space. This report provides an update to Council and requests authorization to finalize a project funding agreement with the Province of British Columbia.

**THAT** Council authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to finalize a funding agreement with the Province of British Columbia for the amount of \$305,480 from the Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Fund-Destination Development Stream, to upgrade the Riverfront Tugger - Community Gathering and Play Space.

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.8 Revised Public Art Policy**

The purpose of this report is to release Council's approval of the revised Public Art Policy.

**THAT** Council receive the February 14, 2022, report entitled "Revised Public Art Policy" for information.

**Adopted on Consent.**

At the Closed Council meeting on January 31, 2022, Council approved the following:

**THAT** Council approve the revised Public Art Policy as attached to the January 31, 2022, report entitled "Revised Public Art Policy"; and

**THAT** Council approve the release of the revised Public Art Policy at an upcoming Regular Council Meeting.

#### **4.9 Proclamation: Anti-bullying Day, February 23, 2022**

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.10 Correspondence: MP Peter Julian email dated February 10, 2022 regarding Seeking Endorsement for Bill C-229**

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.11 Minutes for Adoption**

- a. January 21, 2022 Special City Council Meeting
- b. January 31, 2022 City Council Meeting (9 a.m.)
- c. January 31, 2022 Council Workshop
- d. January 31, 2022 Public Hearing
- e. January 31, 2022 City Council Meeting (following the Public Hearing)

**Adopted on Consent.**

**Procedural Note:** Council agreed to deal with items 6 to 9 as the next items of business. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

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

Aamir Bharmal, and Amy Lubik, both from Fraser Health, provided a presentation on Legionnaires' Disease and actions the City can take to minimize it. In response to Council questions, Mr. Bharmal provided the following information:

- The owners/operators of cooling towers would need to do testing with the Health Authority intervening when legionella levels are exceeded and/or when an outbreak is identified; and,
- Cities are being requested to register these systems so they can be identified, and may have a role in collecting maintenance logs and having people apply for permits.

In response to Council questions, Serena Trachta, Acting Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development/Chief Building Official, advised staff are developing recommendations and processes for the City as suggested by Mr. Bharmal, and that the report would be ready before the summer break.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council direct staff to investigate the necessary steps to create a cooling tower and water feature registry; and,

**THAT** Council direct staff to draft a bylaw incorporating preventive actions for Legionella mitigation in building water systems.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

## 6. **BYLAWS**

### 6.1 **Bylaws for adoption**

#### a. **Heritage Designation (125 Third Street) Bylaw No. 8306, 2021**

To designate the 1905 house at 125 Third Street as a protected heritage property. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Heritage Designation (125 Third Street) Bylaw No. 8306, 2021 be adopted.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.



**b. 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 **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

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

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**c. 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 **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

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

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**d. Housing Agreement (520 Eighth Street) Bylaw No. 8273, 2022**

To authorize the City to enter into a Housing Agreement with the property owner that will secure all existing and proposed units within the building as a market rental project for 60 years or the life of the building, whichever is longer. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Housing Agreement (520 Eighth Street) Bylaw No. 8273, 2022 be adopted.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

## **7. MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

### **7.1 Support for Bill C-229 - Banning Symbols of Hate Act, Mayor Cote**

Mayor Cote introduced the motion.

Councillor Das advised that she is in support of the bill but would like the bill to specifically mention “Nazi swastika” as a hate symbol, because the symbol was co-opted by the Nazi party in the lead up to the Second World War. She noted that the word “swastika” comes from the Sanskrit word “svastha” which means “well-being” and is symbol of well-being in Hinduism, Buddhism, and Jainism, and is used as a symbol in India to welcome people and express hope for their wellbeing.

In discussion, Council members noted the following:

- Hate groups often appropriate other symbols and in so doing, change their meaning; and,
- Council’s resolution on this matter should be shared with the leaders of all Federal parties represented in the House of Commons and the Downtown BIA.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT, on behalf of 78,916 residents, New Westminster City Council endorses MP Peter Julian's Private Member's Bill C-229 - Banning Symbols of Hate Act;

THAT Council request that the Honourable member modify Bill C-229 such that any instances of "swastika" in Bill C-229 be prefaced with the word "Nazi".

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **9. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Councillor Puchmayr advised of the recent passing of former Councillor Chris Sargent. He noted there will be a closed casket viewing on February 23, 2022, and possibly a celebration of life on his birthday. Mayor Cote expressed condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Sargent on his passing.

Councillor Nakagawa advised that today is the women's memorial march in commemoration of the missing and murdered Indigenous women in the Downtown Eastside and is led by their families. She noted that Indigenous women and girls are still going missing and it is more important than ever to heed the calls to action.

**Procedural Note:** Council agreed to deal with item 5 as the next item of business. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

**10. END OF THE MEETING**

The meeting ended at 7:07 p.m.

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Jonathan Cote

MAYOR

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Jacque Killawee

CITY CLERK