



Corporation of the City of
NEW WESTMINSTER

A vibrant, compassionate, sustainable city that includes everyone.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, February 28, 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 Nadine Nakagawa
Councillor Chuck Puchmayr*

ABSENT:

Councillor Jaimie McEvoy
Councillor Mary Trentadue

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Lisa Spitale	Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. Jacque Killawee	City Clerk
Ms. Emilie Adin	Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development
Mr. Rod Carle	General Manager, Electrical Utility
Mr. Dean Gibson	Director of Parks and Recreation
Ms. Lisa Leblanc	Director of Engineering Services
Mr. Craig MacFarlane	Manager of Legal Services
Mr. George Otieno	Infrastructure Engineer
Ms. Harji Varn	Chief Financial Officer and Director of Finance
Mr. Erin Williams	Acting Fire Chief, New Westminster Fire and Rescue Services
Ms. Nicole Ludwig	Assistant City Clerk

*Denotes electronic attendance.

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. 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 3.3 to 3.7 on consent.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

3.1 2022 Spring Freshet and Snow Pack Level

This report is to inform Council of the current snowpack conditions as of February 1, 2022 in the Fraser River Basin and related preparation for the annual freshet for 2022.

In response to Council questions, George Otieno, Infrastructure Engineer, provided the following information:

- The Fraser Basin Council has been developing a strategy to move towards a more consistent and collaborative approach to flood management with three goals:
 - To develop a prioritization framework for flood-prone areas;
 - To Develop a framework to make a decision on optimal flood mitigation solutions; and,
 - To Develop a sustainable governance and funding model to implement these frameworks;
- The City has been updating its flood management strategy to take climate change into account;
- The flooding in the fall was attributable to a very quick rise in water levels; and,
- The dykes and the foreshore in Queensborough are adequate protection against flooding, but will not hold up in a once-in-500 years freshet.

In response to Council members questions Mr. Otieno noted :

- Metro Vancouver has started a Flood and Dyking Committee which should help with a more collaborative approach and provide a stronger voice for assistance from other levels of government; and,
- Staff are doing policy work on this matter and will report back in the future with a roadmap on how to mitigate City deficiencies in preparing for and managing flood events.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council receive the February 28, 2022, report entitled "2022 Spring Freshet and Snow Pack Level" for information.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

3.2 Amendments to the Election Procedures Bylaw 2022: Mail Ballot Voting and Special Voting Opportunities

To request Council give three readings to the Election Procedures Bylaw Amending Bylaw No. 8311, 2022 which will allow for mail ballot voting and elector registration by mail, incorporate Special Voting Opportunities Bylaw No. 6143, 1993 with changes to expand the definition of special voting, and repeal the existing Special Voting Opportunities bylaw.

In response to a question from Council, Jacque Killawee, City Clerk, and Nicole Ludwig, Assistant City Clerk, provided the following information:

- Instructions for mail ballots will include directions on how to access instructions in multiple languages on the City's website;
- Public Engagement staff are assisting with determining the languages that will be included, and,
- Mail ballot instructions will also have pictures to indicate how to complete the mail ballot.

MOVED AND SECONDED

THAT Council give three readings to Local Government Elections Procedures Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 8311, 2022 (Attachment 1 of the February 28, 2022, report entitled "Amendments to the Election Procedures Bylaw 2022: Mail Ballot Voting and Special Voting Opportunities").

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

3.3 Downtown New Westminster BIA – 2022 Business Promotion Scheme Budget Approvals

To provide Council with the Downtown BIA's Business Promotion Scheme budgets for approval.

THAT Council approve the Downtown New Westminster BIA's 2022 Business Promotion Scheme Budget (Primary Area) set out in Attachment 1 of the February 24, 2022, report entitled "Downtown New Westminster BIA – 2022 Business Promotion Scheme Budget Approvals"; and

THAT Council approve the Downtown New Westminster BIA's 2022 Business Promotion Scheme Budget (Secondary Area) set out in Attachment 1 of the February 24, 2022, report entitled "Downtown New Westminster BIA – 2022 Business Promotion Scheme Budget Approvals".

Adopted on Consent.

3.4 Electronic Signature Policy

To request Council approve the Electronic Signature Policy and direct staff to bring forward the changes needed to add it to the Records Management Program Bylaw, which will allow the City to use electronic means to legally bind documents and facilitate the City's continued migration to an electronic work environment.

THAT Council approve the Electronic Signature Policy set out in Attachment 1 of the February 28, 2022, report entitled "Electronic Signature Policy", and direct staff to bring forward the necessary bylaw changes.

Adopted on Consent.

3.5 Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Bylaw Amendment for 2022

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with details on the 2022 Parks and Recreation proposed fee adjustments and to recommend endorsement by Council.

THAT Council consider first, second and third readings to Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw, No. 8319, 2022, a bylaw to amend the Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 6673, 2001 (Attachment "A" of the February 28, 2022, report entitled "Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Bylaw Amendment for 2022").

Adopted on Consent.

3.6 Renewal of Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Areas – Results from Notification of Affected Property Owners

To report on the results of the Downtown BIA renewal process and seek Council's approval of the related bylaws.

THAT Council receive the February 28, 2022, report entitled "Renewal of Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Areas – Results from Notification of Affected Property Owners", regarding the results from the notification of property owners affected by the renewal for the Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Areas (Primary and Secondary) for information; and,

THAT Council approve the Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Area (Primary Area) Bylaw No. 8288, 2021 and Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Area (Secondary Area) Bylaw No. 8289, 2021 for adoption.

Adopted on Consent.

3.7 Minutes for Adoption

- a. February 14, 2022 City Council Meeting (9:00 a.m.)
- b. February 14, 2022 City Council Meeting (6:00 p.m.)

Adopted on Consent.

4. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK TO COUNCIL - 7:00 PM

There were no speakers.

5. BYLAWS

5.1 Bylaws for readings

- a. **Local Government Elections Procedures Amendment Bylaw No. 8311, 2022**

A bylaw to allow for mail ballot voting and elector registration by mail, incorporate Special Voting Opportunities Bylaw No. 6143, 1993 with changes to expand the definition of special voting, and repeal the existing Special Voting Opportunities bylaw. This bylaw is on the agenda for **THREE READINGS.**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Local Government Elections Procedures Amendment Bylaw No. 8311, 2022 be given First Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Local Government Elections Procedures Amendment Bylaw No. 8311, 2022 be given Second Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Local Government Elections Procedures Amendment Bylaw No. 8311, 2022 be given Third Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

b. Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 8319, 2022

To establish the 2022 fees and charges for the Parks and Recreation department. This bylaw is on the agenda for **THREE READINGS.**

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 8319, 2022, be given First Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 8319, 2022, be given Second Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Parks and Recreation Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw No. 8319, 2022, be given Third Reading.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion

5.2 Bylaws for adoption

a. Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Area (Primary Area) Bylaw No. 8288, 2021

To authorize a property tax levy to fund the primary area of the Downtown BIA. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Area (Primary Area) Bylaw No. 8288, 2021 be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

b. Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Area (Secondary Area) Bylaw No. 8289, 2021

To authorize a property tax levy to fund the secondary area of the Downtown BIA. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Downtown New Westminster Business Improvement Area (Secondary Area) Bylaw No. 8289, 2021 be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

c. Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Miscellaneous Amendments) No. 8287, 2021

This Zoning Amendment Bylaw includes identified minor annual miscellaneous revisions, edits and corrections to the Zoning Bylaw. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Miscellaneous Amendments) No. 8287, 2021, be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

d. 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 for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (City-wide Crisis Response) No. 8285, 2021, be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

e. 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 for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw (City-wide Crisis Response) No. 8286, 2021, be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion

Procedural Note: At 6:14 p.m. Councillor Puchmayr declared conflict of interest relating to the two bylaws related to 60-68 Sixth Street, because he volunteers on the board of an organization involved in the proposed development. Council agreed to deal with these two bylaws after the bylaws numbered as items h. and i. below. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

f. 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 for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (60-68 Sixth Street) No. 8283, 2021, be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

(Councillor Puchmayr absent for the vote due to Conflict of Interest)

g. 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 for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw (60-68 Sixth Street) No. 8284, 2021, be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

(Councillor Puchmayr absent for the vote due to Conflict of Interest)

h. 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 for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw (350-366 Fenton Street) No. 8281, 2021, be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

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

To permit an affordable housing development for Indigenous individuals. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Zoning Amendment Bylaw (350-366 Fenton Street) No. 8282, 2021, be adopted.

Carried.

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

Procedural Note: At 6:15 p.m., Councillor Puchmayr left the meeting due to the conflict of interest described above. He did not return to the meeting and the remaining Council members considered bylaws f. and g. above. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

7. **ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

None.

8. **END OF THE MEETING**

The meeting ended at 6:17 p.m.

Jonathan Cote

MAYOR

Jacque Killawee

CITY CLERK