



Corporation of the City of  
**NEW WESTMINSTER**

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

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**Monday, April 11, 2022, 6:00 p.m.**

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

**Council Chamber, City Hall**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor Jonathan Coté\*  
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  |
| Ms. Emilie Adin       | Director of Climate Action, Planning and Development              |
| Mr. Todd Ayotte       | Manager, Community Art and Theatres                               |
| Mr. Rod Carle         | General Manager, Electrical Utility                               |
| Mr. Dean Gibson       | Director of Parks and Recreation                                  |
| Ms. Cory Hansen       | Emergency Planning Assistant                                      |
| Ms. Lisa Leblanc      | Director of Engineering   |
| Mr. John Stark        | Acting Senior Manager of Climate Action, Planning and Development |
| Ms. Denise Tambellini | Manager, Intergovernmental and Community Relations                |
| Ms. Harji Varn        | Chief Financial Officer and Director of Finance                   |
| Mr. Mike Watson       | Acting Supervisor of Development Planning                         |
| Mr. Erin Williams     | Acting Chief, New Westminster Fire and Rescue Services            |

\* Denotes electronic attendance

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

Mayor Coté opened the meeting at 6:01 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**

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Council add the following as New Business to the agenda:

- Recruitment 2022: Appointments to the Community Heritage Commission (CHC) and the Restorative Justice Committee (RJC).

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**Procedural Note:** At 6:03 p.m., Councillors Patrick Johnstone and Nadine Nakagawa declared conflict of interest on 3.1 as they reside close to the proposed development application. The Councillors left the meeting and did not return until the conclusion of the vote on this matter.

## 3. **REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND ACTION**

### 3.1 **Rezoning and Development Permit Applications for Market Rental Building Renovation: 222 Ash Street**

Mr. Mike Watson, Acting Supervisor of Development Planning, introduced the application and requested feedback and instructions from Council regarding an application to add 37 rental units (including 10 affordable units) in a three-story addition to an existing rental building, which would require the existing 50 rental units be vacated for construction, 58% of which pay below market rent.

In discussion, Council members expressed the following concerns:

- The impact of vacating 50 units with no plan for relocation;
- Land Use and Planning did not achieve quorum to hear the application;
- The need to develop a plan to compensate existing tenants or to arrange alternative housing;

- The issue of renovation to the City existing stock of rental house is an issue that Council will need to address in the near future as they reach the end of their lifespan; and,
- The need to ensure that tenants are treated in a fair and equitable manner when older rental housing is repurposed or renovated.

In response to questions and comments from Council, Mr. Watson, stated the applicant proposes to designate ten not-for-profit units and will identify existing tenants eligible to be transferred to those units.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council direct staff to advise the applicant that the proposed application should not be advanced further, given the requirement that current tenants cannot remain in the 50 existing rental units through construction.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**Procedural Note:** Councillors Johnstone and Nakagawa returned to the meeting at 6:21 p.m.

#### 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.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council adopt the recommendations for items 4.1, 4.2, 4.4, 4.6, 4.7, and 4.9 to 4.12, on consent.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

##### 4.1 **2022 Earth Day Programs**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an overview of the City's plan to offer three programs in recognition of Earth Day 2022.

**That** Council receive this report for information.

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.2 Construction Noise Bylaw Exemption Request: (81 Braid Street – Braid SkyTrain Station)**

To seek Council's approval for an exemption from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 to enable Rissling Services Ltd. to install a new water main to Braid SkyTrain Station located at 81 Braid Street.

**THAT** Council grant an exemption from Construction Noise Bylaw No. 6063, 1992 to Rissling Services Ltd. from Monday April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to Friday May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 8:00 PM to 7:00 AM Mondays to Thursdays and 8:00 PM Fridays to 9:00 AM Saturdays to enable installation of a new water main to Braid SkyTrain Station.

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.3 Council Resolution in Support of the City of New Westminster's Application under the COVID-19 Restart Funding for Local Governments, Strengthening Communities' Services Program**

This report is to seek Council direction for staff to submit an application under the COVID-19 Restart Funding for Local Governments, Strengthening Communities' Services Program, for the proposed activities and projects as outlined in this report, and for the City to accept overall grant management of the activities and projects.

In response to questions from Council, John Stark, Acting Senior Manager of Climate Action, Planning and Development , provided the following information:

- The available funding has been fully subscribed; and,
- There is potential for Reaching Home or other programs to provide funding for a New Westminster stewardship program, similar to the Chinatown Stewards Program.

**MOVED AND SECONDED**

**THAT** Council direct staff to submit an application under the COVID-19 Restart Funding for Local Governments, Strengthening Communities' Services Program, for the proposed activities and projects as outlined in this report and that the City accept overall grant management of the activities and projects.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

#### **4.4 Housing Agreement Bylaw and Development Variance Permit to Vary Residential and Visitor Parking Requirements: 508 Eighth Street – Bylaw for Three Readings**

This report is to request that Council: 1) consider Housing Agreement Bylaw No. 8279, 2022 for First, Second and Third Readings; 2) issue notice that Council will consider Development Variance Permit (DVP00692) for a 21-space reduction (45%) to the off-street parking provisions; and 3) request endorsement of requiring bicycle parking spaces as part of the Development Permit.

**THAT** Council consider Housing Agreement Bylaw No. 8279, 2022 to authorize the City to enter into a Housing Agreement with the property owner to require that all residential units at 508 Eighth Street be secured as market rental housing for First, Second and Third Readings.

**THAT** Council, should the Housing Agreement Bylaw No. 8279, 2022 be adopted, direct the Mayor and Corporate Officer to execute the Housing Agreement.

**THAT** Council provide notice that it will consider issuance of a Development Variance Permit (DVP00692) to reduce the number of required off-street parking spaces by 45% from the Zoning Bylaw requirements for secured market rental.

**THAT** Council endorse that five long-term bicycle parking spaces and six short-term bicycle parking spaces be included as part of the Development Permit application for 508 Eighth Street, should the Development Variance Permit (DVP00692) be approved by Council.

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.5 Port Authority Referral: 820 Dock Road, City of Delta, Wallenius Wilhelmsen Solutions, Annacis Auto Terminal Optimization – Information Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with information regarding the Annacis Auto Terminal Optimization Port Authority referral project located at 820 Dock Road in the City of Delta.

Council expressed concerns regarding the impact of the referral project to New Westminster, including:

- Increased rail traffic;
- Change of the timing of rail traffic;
- Increased trucks travelling through Queensborough; and,

- Shore power utilization for docked ships for reduction of emissions.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council receive this, April 11 2022 report entitled Port Authority Referral: 820 Dock Road, City of Delta, Wallenius Wilhelmsen Solutions, Annacis Auto Terminal Optimization – Information Report for information

**THAT** Council direct staff to provide the feedback outlined within this April 11 2022 report entitled “Port Authority Referral: 820 Dock Road, City of Delta, Wallenius Wilhelmsen Solutions, Annacis Auto Terminal Optimization” directly to the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority with the following additional three items of feedback from Council as a response to the referral letter:

- 1) The City needs to understand the project’s impact on rail traffic through New Westminster, and in particular timing of traffic. The City would look to the project for support for whistle cessation and resolution of interface issues.
- 2) Traffic mitigation of any increased truck traffic through Queensborough.
  - Ships should use shore power while in the port to reduce emissions and noise pollution.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

#### **4.6 Public Art Program Update**

To provide Council with an update on the Public Art Program.

**THAT** Council receive this report regarding the Public Art Program for information.

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.7 Rezoning and Development Permit Applications for Secured Market Rental High-rise: 616-640 Sixth Street – Preliminary Report**

This report is intended to provide Council with preliminary information on the proposed rezoning and Development Permit of the properties at 616 – 640 Sixth Street, including initial Land Use and Planning Committee discussion.

**THAT** Council receive this report for information.

**Adopted on Consent.**

**Procedural Note:** Council agreed to hear from the speaker for Item 4.8. under Item 5.0. The minutes are recorded in numerical order.

#### **4.8 The Poet Laureate Digital Poetry Project**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council regarding the Poet Laureate’s digital poetry project entitled “Common Threads” developed for National Poetry Month.

Council offered congratulationa on the “Common Threads” project and commended Elliott Slinn on his ongoing efforts to bring poetry to New Westminster.

Elliott Slinn, Poet Laureate City of New Westminster, and Todd Ayotte, Manager, Community Arts and Theatre, provided information regarding the poetry on electronic billboards throughout New Westminster and the ongoing efforts to make poetry accessible to the residents of New Westminster. Mr. Slinn read a poem written that day to Council.

MOVED AND SECONDED

**THAT** Council receive this report for information.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of this motion.

#### **4.9 Update on Mayor’s 50 Ideas Parks & Recreation Initiatives #3 & #18**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on Parks and Recreation activities completed in 2020 and 2021 as related to the Mayor’s “50 Ideas in 50 Days” initiative.

**THAT** Council receive this report for information.

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.10 Proclamation: Prevention of Violence Against Women Week April 10-16, 2022**

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.11 Proclamation: National Volunteer Week April 24-30, 2022**

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.12 Proclamation: Parkinson’s Awareness Month April 2022**

**Adopted on Consent.**

#### **4.13 Proclamation: Emergency Preparedness Week May 1-7, 2022**

Erin Williams, Acting Chief, New Westminster Fire and Rescue Services, and Cory Hansen, Emergency Planning Assistant, provided comments regarding:

- The need to protect vulnerable populations through emergency planning and preparedness; and,
- Discussed the Emergency Preparedness Week initiatives that included information regarding the Heat Dome event.

Councillor McEvoy read the proclamation and proclaimed May 1-7, 2022 Emergency Preparedness Week in the City of New Westminster.

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

**Procedural Note:** Councillor McEvoy assumed the chair at 6:45 p.m. in Council chambers to facilitate the management of speakers. Mayor Côté reassumed the chair at 7:15 p.m.

#### **5. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK TO COUNCIL**

Ken Armstrong, New West Progressives, spoke in favour of placing a referendum question on the ballot in the upcoming municipal election to gauge public support for hosting the 2030 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Christopher Bell, New Westminster resident, requested Council to rescind the bylaw that restricts the number of Councillors to six to allow for eight Councillors to be elected in the next general election. The amendment would reflect the increase in New Westminster's population and would address the insufficient notice of the 2004 bylaw change.

Bart Slotman, Uptown Business Association, expressed opposition to the Sixth Street Bike Lane conversion and noted:

- The elimination of parking on one side of the street which will negatively impact local businesses;
- Bike lanes in this area conflict with the City's vision of Uptown; and,
- There is limited demand for a bike lane on Sixth Street.

Councillor Johnstone responded that the Sixth Street Bike Lane project is a temporary installation and subject to review and feedback from local businesses.



## 6. **BYLAWS**

### 6.1 **Bylaws for readings**

#### a. **Housing Agreement (508 Eighth Street) Bylaw No. 8279, 2022**

To add four units of new secured market rental housing to an existing market rental housing building. This bylaw is on the agenda for **THREE READINGS**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Housing Agreement (508 Eighth Street) Bylaw No. 8279, 2022 be given First Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Housing Agreement (508 Eighth Street) Bylaw No. 8279, 2022 be given Second Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Housing Agreement (508 Eighth Street) Bylaw No. 8279, 2022 be given Third Reading.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

### 6.2 **Bylaws for adoption**

#### a. **Heritage Designation Bylaw (1324 Nanaimo Street) No. 8291, 2022**

To designate the 1944 house at 1324 Nanaimo Street as a protected heritage property. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Heritage Designation (1234 Nanaimo Street) Bylaw No. 8291, 2022 be adopted.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**b. Heritage Designation (102 Seventh Avenue) Bylaw No. 8313, 2022**

To designate the 1941 house at 102 Seventh Avenue as a protected heritage property. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Heritage Designation Bylaw (102 Seventh Avenue) Bylaw No. 8313, 2022 be adopted.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of the motion.

**c. Water Shortage Response Amendment Bylaw No. 8314, 2022**

To bring the City's water shortage restrictions into alignment with Metro Vancouver's. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Water Shortage Response Amendment Bylaw No. 8314, 2022 be adopted

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of this motion.

**d. Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Parking Reductions for Patios) No. 8317, 2022**

To allow businesses to convert parking or loading spaces on private property into patio space. This bylaw is on the agenda for **ADOPTION**.

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Zoning Amendment Bylaw (Parking Reductions for Patios) No. 8317, 2022 be adopted.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of this motion.

**7. MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**7.1 Climate Crisis Readiness, Councillor Nakagawa**

Councillor Nakagawa introduced the motion and provided comments regarding the changing climate and need to develop strategies to support the most vulnerable populations.

MOVED and SECONDED

**WHEREAS** the 2022 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report outlines a dire state of climate crisis that anticipates severe and escalating impacts; and

**WHEREAS** last year's climate-related events were extreme and resulted in intensely negative impacts for the community of New Westminster; and

**WHEREAS** we can expect that New Westminster will continue to experience ongoing extreme climate-related events in future years including this summer;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**

**THAT** staff report back to Council on city readiness for extreme climate-related events this summer including, but not limited to heat waves and flooding; and

**THAT** this report includes communications and engagement considerations, including opportunities to facilitate dialogue and planning for a community-based response to climate emergencies; and

**THAT** staff report on opportunities to enhance Emergency Preparedness Week events with a specific focus on equity-based climate response measures.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of this motion.

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

**8.1. Recruitment 2022: Appointments to the Community Heritage Commission (CHC) and the Restorative Justice Committee (RJC)**

MOVED and SECONDED

**THAT** Council receive the report titled, "Recruitment 2022: Appointments to the Community Heritage Commission (CHC) and the Restorative Justice Committee (RJC) for information.

**Carried.**

All members present voted in favour of this motion.

**9. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

Councillor Johnstone shared the Royal City Curling Club results:

- Team Deane won the BC Under 21 Curling Championships;
- Team Fenton won the BC Under 18 Curling Championships; and,
- Brent Pierce won the BC Men’s Provincial Championships and participated in the Brier.
- Team Narwhal won the Sunday morning league and congratulated the Mayor and Councillor Nakagawa on the win.

Councillor Nakagawa advised that funding was announced to create a Peer Assisted Crisis Team (PACT) in New Westminster to aid those in crisis with either mental health or substance use challenges.

**10. END OF THE MEETING**

**The meeting ended at 7:20 p.m.**

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Jonathan Coté

MAYOR

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Jacque Killawee

CITY CLERK