

# B.1

## MOTION ON NOTICE

### 1. Water Meter Analysis

MOVER: Councillor George Affleck

SECONDER:

WHEREAS:

1. The City of Vancouver wants to ensure its practices are environmentally friendly and sustainable;
2. Water meters have been adopted by council as a requirement in new home construction;
3. Meters were presented to council as a tool which will get residents to save water, although no analysis was presented to council to support that proposition;
4. Staff will be reporting back shortly with a proposal for putting meters on all single family homes, with the goal that all 90,000 single family homes install meters;
5. Meters are estimated to cost homeowners \$80 per year; or about \$7.2 million per year for all single family homes in Vancouver;
6. Metro Vancouver is the supplier of water to Vancouver. Its budget for water is about \$220m a year, with virtually the entire budget paying fixed costs;
7. When Metro Vancouver residents use less water, the unit price of water must increase to cover the fixed costs to deliver said water;
8. It would appear that the net result of universal metering is that all households will pay an extra \$80 a year for water.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff are requested to report back with a complete financial analysis of residential water meters, including:

- How much water does a homeowner have to conserve in order to recover the extra \$80 annual fee?
- How does a meter persuade a homeowner to conserve water? Is it a financial incentive? Or are there non-tangible incentives?
- If all the residents of Metro Vancouver use less water, what is the impact on water rates?

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