

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES



FEBRUARY 29, 2012

A Special Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, February 29, 2012, at 6:15 pm, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, for the purpose of hearing speakers on the 2012 Operating Budget.

PRESENT: Mayor Gregor Robertson
Councillor George Affleck
Councillor Elizabeth Ball
Councillor Adriane Carr
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor Andrea Reimer
Councillor Tim Stevenson
Councillor Tony Tang

ABSENT: Councillor Geoff Meggs (Leave of Absence)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Penny Ballem, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Jang
SECONDED by Councillor Affleck

THAT this Council resolve itself into Committee of the Whole, Mayor Robertson in the Chair.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. 2012 Operating Budget: Proposed Budget and Public Consultation Update

On Tuesday, February 28, 2012, Vancouver City Council received a report reference on the 2012 Operating Budget, and referred the hearing of speakers to a Special Council meeting on Wednesday, February 29, 2012.

Council heard from the following 11 speakers who noted concerns regarding cuts to the Vancouver Public Library (VPL), transparency, the public consultation process and the impact

of taxes on businesses. They also offered ideas on new revenues and savings, and encouraged Council to spend more on housing:

Alex Youngberg, President CUPE 391
Catherine Evans, Chair, Vancouver Public Library Board
Corrine Durston, President, Friends of the Vancouver Public Library
Donna Liberson
Randy Helten
Joseph Jones
Gary Jarvis
Deanna Geisheimer, Artworks Gallery
Ed Des Roches, Vancouver Fair Tax Coalition/Plum Clothing
Tim Louis, Coalition of Progressive Electors
Homeless Dave

During the hearing of speakers, Penny Ballem, City Manager, and Sandra Singh, Chief Librarian, responded to questions.

Following the hearing of speakers, the City Manager, along with Patrice Impey, General Manager of Financial Services/Chief Financial Officer, responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT Council approve "in principle" the 2012 Proposed Operating Budget, as outlined in the Administrative Report dated February 20, 2012, entitled "2012 Operating Budget: Proposed Budget and Public Consultation Update", and detailed in Table 1 of the aforementioned report, and instruct the Director of Finance to bring the budget into balance with a 2.5% general purposes tax increase;

FURTHER THAT Council approve "in principle" the 2012 Grants budget of \$16.4 million, held to 2011 levels;

AND FURTHER THAT Council approve "in principle" the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation Global Budget of \$55,935,900, comprised of \$103,808,800 expenditures and \$47,872,900 revenues;

AND FURTHER THAT Council receive for information the 2012-2014 Operating Budget outlook as shown on Table 5 of the aforementioned report;

AND FURTHER THAT, as part of the 2012 operating budget, Council request the City Manager to report back with a range of options for the creation of an Innovation Fund that would be used to leverage additional monies from external funding sources. (e.g. other orders of government, not for profit organizations, private sector, universities and foundations). The use of the Innovation Fund is to advance City policy while attaining an enhanced value for the City's investment.

carried

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT the number 2.5% in the first paragraph of the motion be replaced with 3%.

LOST

(Councillors Affleck, Ball, Deal, Jang, Louie, Reimer, Stevenson, Tang and Mayor Robertson opposed)

The amendment having lost, the motion was put and CARRIED with Councillors Affleck, Ball and Carr opposed.

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At 10:00 pm, it was

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT under section 2.3(e), the Council extend the length of the meeting by one hour or less in order to complete this item of business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Jang

SECONDED by Councillor Stevenson

THAT the report of the Committee of the Whole be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Special Council adjourned at 10:25 pm.

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