



**REPORT TO COUNCIL**  
**STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL**  
**ON PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**

**OCTOBER 6, 2005**

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Planning and Environment was held on Thursday, October 6, 2005, at 2:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Anne Roberts, Chair  
\*Mayor Larry Campbell  
Councillor Fred Bass  
Councillor David Cadman  
Councillor Peter Ladner  
Councillor Raymond Louie  
Councillor Tim Louis  
Councillor Tim Stevenson  
Councillor Sam Sullivan  
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth

**ABSENT:** Councillor Jim Green (Leave of Absence)

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Brent MacGregor, Deputy City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

\*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

**ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meeting of September 15, 2005, were adopted.

**RECOMMENDATION**

1. **New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law (File 113/3507)**

On September 22, 2005, Council agreed to postpone the hearing of speakers along with discussion and decision of the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law" to the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meeting on October 6, 2005.

Accordingly, the Committee had before it the aforementioned report, in which the Chief License Inspector sought Council approval for a new Animal Control By-Law and amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law relating to dogs, and requested Council

consider prohibiting inhumane rodeo activities and practices. The General Manager of Community Services recommended approval.

The Committee also had before it a memorandum dated October 4, 2005, in which the Chief License Inspector clarified the minimum fines in the Animal Control By-law and presented alternate recommendations on the new minimum fines to Council.

Paul Teichroeb, Chief License Inspector, and Nancy Clay, Manager of Animal Control, responded to questions regarding breeders, the number of dogs in the City and comparison to other cities, if there is an advisory body for this issue, regulations regarding dog walking services, enforcement issues, and information relating to fines.

The following delegations spoke in general opposition to the recommendations in report:

Frank D'Agostino  
Sandra Todd  
Margaret Newton, Vancouver Dog Owners Association  
Sherrill Sirrs, Vancouver Dog Owners Association  
Barbara Gumundson

Their comments included:

- this is a serious and divisive issue in Vancouver;
- the real problem is people do not necessarily know what they are getting into when they become dog owners;
- urged Council to create a coordinating unit in the City to bring the different groups together;
- ask people as part of the election referendum how they would like the City to deal with this issue;
- some sections of the by-law are simply not workable, and proposed fines are unfair;
- dog owners cannot comply with the laws until there is sufficient and easily accessible off-leash space;
- the report does not deal with yard dogs; and
- the system needs a big fix, but it has to be done right by giving people the ability to obey the law before punishing them for breaking it.

The following delegations spoke in general support of the recommendations in the report:

Sheila Cole  
Randy Puder

Their comments included:

- the fines are not too high because responsible dog owners will not be fined;
- more enforcement is needed as by-law noncompliance is increasing;
- suggestions for the public to deal with belligerent/threatening dog owners who are violating the law do not work; and,
- Animal Control Officers should be given the status of Peace Officers.

MOVED by Councillor Bass

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve a new Animal Control By-law for immediate implementation as discussed in the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled, "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law", including new provisions regulating dogs and the conditions in which dogs may be kept, increased penalties and fines, cost recovery for Animal Control Services, other miscellaneous administrative changes and the general modernization of the By-law.
- B. THAT Council formally request the Province to amend the Vancouver Charter to permit amendments to the Animal Control By-law that cannot be implemented under existing Vancouver Charter authority as discussed in the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled, "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law", including identification of, and setting higher fees and fines for, vicious dogs.
- C. THAT Council approve in principle the prohibition of inhumane rodeo activities and practices in the City as discussed in the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled, "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law" and instruct staff to report back concerning the appropriate amendments to City By-laws.
- D. THAT Council approve an amendment to the License By-law which prohibits guard dogs from patrolling on public property, interfering with police or other emergency incidents and chasing suspects on property that the dog is not securing.
- E. THAT Council instruct the Mayor to send a letter to the Solicitor General requesting the Province look at the development of training standards and corresponding monitoring and enforcement measures for security guard dogs.
- F. THAT the regulation of barking dogs be moved from the Noise Control By-law to the Animal Control By-law.

- G. THAT Council instruct staff to consult with the General Manager of the Park Board with a view to ensuring that animal control measures under the Animal Control By-law and the Parks Control By-law are consistent.
- H. THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services to bring forward a new Animal Control By-law generally as set out in the draft by-law attached as Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law"; and

FURTHER THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services to bring forward the appropriate by-law amendments to the License By-law generally as set out in the draft by-law attached as Appendix B of the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law"; and,

FURTHER THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services to bring forward the appropriate by-law amendments to the Noise Control By-law generally as set out in the draft by-law attached as Appendix C of the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law".

- I. THAT Council adopt the alternative recommendations for minimum fines noted in the memorandum dated October 4, 2005, from the Chief License Inspector, entitled, "Animal Control By-Law: Clarification of Minimum Fines & Alternate Recommendation," except that the amount for licensing violations be \$250, as suggested in the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law".

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT I be struck from the motion.

LOST

(Councillors Bass, Louis, Ladner, Sullivan and Woodsworth opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the fine for dogs caught off-leash be \$250

CARRIED

(Councillors Bass and Woodsworth opposed)

\* \* \* \* \*

*At 3:25 p.m., Councillor Roberts stepped down from the Chair in order to participate in debate, and Councillor Woodsworth assumed the Chair.*

\* \* \* \* \*

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Roberts

THAT the fine for dogs barking or howling be \$250.

carried

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the following be added to the amendment:

FURTHER THAT the fine for dogs running at large be \$250.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Mayor Campbell absent for the vote)

The amendment to the amendment having carried, the amendment as amended was put and CARRIED with Councillor Bass opposed and Mayor Campbell absent for the vote.

\* \* \* \* \*

*At 3:28 p.m., Councillor Roberts assumed the Chair.*

\* \* \* \* \*

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the fine for failing to remove dog excrement be \$250.

CARRIED  
(Councillors Bass, Ladner, Louis and Woodsworth opposed and Mayor Campbell absent for the vote)

The amendments having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, with Mayor Campbell absent for the vote.

MOTION AS AMENDED

- A. THAT Council approve a new Animal Control By-Law for immediate implementation as discussed in the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-law and Noise Control By-law", including new provisions regulating dogs and the conditions in which dogs may be kept, increased penalties and fines, cost recovery for Animal Control Services, other miscellaneous administrative changes and the general modernization of the By-law.
- B. THAT Council formally request the Province to amend the Vancouver Charter to permit amendments to the Animal Control By-Law that cannot be implemented under existing Vancouver Charter authority as discussed in the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled, "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law", including identification of, and setting higher fees and fines for, vicious dogs.
- C. THAT Council approve in principle the prohibition of inhumane rodeo activities and practices in the City as discussed in the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled, "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law" and instruct staff to report back concerning the appropriate amendments to City By-laws.
- D. THAT Council approve an amendment to the License By-law which prohibits guard dogs from patrolling on public property, interfering with police or other emergency incidents and chasing suspects on property that the dog is not securing.
- E. THAT Council instruct the Mayor to send a letter to the Solicitor General requesting the Province look at the development of training standards and corresponding monitoring and enforcement measures for security guard dogs.
- F. THAT the regulation of barking dogs be moved from the Noise Control By-law to the Animal Control By-law.
- G. THAT Council instruct staff to consult with the General Manager of the Parks Board with a view to ensuring that animal control measures under the Animal Control By-law and the Parks Control By-law are consistent.
- H. THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services to bring forward a new Animal Control By-Law generally as set out in the draft by-law attached as Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled "New Animal Control By-law and Amendments to the License By-law and Noise Control By-law"; and

FURTHER THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services to bring forward the appropriate by-law amendments to the License By-law generally as set out in the draft by-law attached as Appendix B of the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled "New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-law and Noise Control By-law"; and

FURTHER THAT Council authorize the Director of Legal Services to bring forward the appropriate by-law amendments to the Noise Control By-Law generally as set out in the draft by-law attached as Appendix C of the Administrative Report dated June 13, 2005, entitled "New Animal Control By-law and Amendments to the License By-law and Noise Control By-law".

- I. THAT Council approve the alternative recommendations for minimum fines in the memorandum dated October 4, 2005, from the Chief License Inspector entitled, "Animal Control By-Law: Clarification of Minimum Fines & Alternate Recommendation", except for the following violations of the Animal Control By-law which will have a fine of \$250:

- Dog is unlicensed;
- Dog is unleashed (with exception of approved areas);
- Dog is running at large (with exception of approved areas);
- Dog is barking or howling;
- Dog excrement is not removed by owner.

The Committee adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

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## CITY OF VANCOUVER

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

OCTOBER 6, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Thursday, October 6, 2005, at 3:35 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

**PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Ellen Woodsworth  
Councillor Fred Bass  
Councillor David Cadman  
Councillor Peter Ladner  
Councillor Raymond Louie  
Councillor Tim Louis  
Councillor Anne Roberts  
Councillor Tim Stevenson  
Councillor Sam Sullivan

**ABSENT:** Mayor Larry Campbell  
Councillor Jim Green (Leave of Absence)

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Brent MacGregor, Deputy City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Nicole Ludwig, Meeting Coordinator

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Cadman  
SECONDED by Councillor Louis

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Report of Standing Committee on Planning and Environment October 6, 2005

Council considered the report containing the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment. Its items of business included:

1. New Animal Control By-Law and Amendments to the License By-Law and Noise Control By-Law

Item 1

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment at its meeting of October 6, 2005, as contained in item 1, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### 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 Stevenson  
SECONDED by Councillor Louie

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Leave of Absence for Councillor Sullivan (File 1254)**

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson  
SECONDED by Councillor Ladner

THAT Councillor Sullivan be granted a Leave of Absence for personal reasons for the Public Hearing on October 18, 2005.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

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