



REPORT TO COUNCIL
STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL
ON CITY SERVICES AND BUDGETS

OCTOBER 20, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on City Services and Budgets was held on Thursday, October 20, 2005, at 9:30 a.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Tim Louis, Chair
Councillor Fred Bass
Councillor David Cadman
Councillor Jim Green
Councillor Peter Ladner
Councillor Raymond Louie
*Councillor Anne Roberts
*Councillor Tim Stevenson
Councillor Sam Sullivan
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth, Vice-Chair

ABSENT: Mayor Larry Campbell (Leave of Absence - Civic Business)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Judy Rogers, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting of September 22, 2005, were adopted.

RECOMMENDATION

1. **Single Room Accommodation Permit for 514 Homer Street (the Victorian Hotel)**
(File 4657)

At its meeting on July 19, 2005, Vancouver City Council passed the following motion:

THAT Council reconsider the following motion, approved on February 1, 2005, in order to allow the owners of the Hotel the opportunity to speak:

THAT Council approve a SRA permit for 514 Homer Street (The Victorian Hotel) to demolish 9 SRA-designated rooms and convert the remaining 47 SRA-

designated rooms to tourist accommodation subject to the condition that prior to the issuance of the permit, the owner:

- i. obtain all necessary City Permits required for the alterations carried out without permits in the above building, and that the alterations be inspected and approved for occupancy by the Chief Building Official; and
- ii. submit to the City a payment in the amount of \$280,000 (\$5000 x 56 SRA rooms converted/demolished), to be deposited into the reserve fund earmarked for the provision of replacement accommodation.

Accordingly, the Committee had before it the following materials:

- (a) Letter dated June 6, 2005, from the owners of the Victorian Hotel (*Limited Distribution*);
- (b) Regular Council Meeting Extract - February 1, 2005; and
- (c) Administrative Report dated January 6, 2005.

Cameron Gray, Director - Housing Centre, and Catherine Wong, SRA By-law Coordinator - Central Area Planning Branch, were available to respond to questions.

Miriam and Andrew Mowat, Owners of The Victorian Hotel (*brief filed*), provided a history of their involvement in the hotel since purchasing it in July 1997, expressed concern with regard to Council's decision of February 1, 2005, in which a \$280,000 SRA conversion fee was charged against the hotel, addressed related issues and requested Council reconsider this decision. Mr. Mowat reviewed their long-term vision to do an exterior renovation beginning with street-front retail in order to bring the building back to its original historic glory, adding that this will be a catalyst for the revitalization of the Victory Square neighbourhood. He pointed out that they will not be able to do this if they are crippled with this large SRA conversion fee. In conclusion, he asked Council to calculate the conversion fee based on the four SRA rooms in existence when the SRA by-law was passed and allow them to follow through with their renovation plan.

Barry McGinn, Architect, spoke in support of the Mowat's request that Council reconsider its decision of February 1, 2005. He advised that this building is an important heritage precinct and noted the area, which really needs revitalization, would benefit from such a heritage conservation project. He advised that the owners are intent on restoring this building and encouraged Council to look at the idea of enabling the owners to realize this conservation project and consider some flexibility on the fine that's been levied.

Mr. Cameron and Ms. Wong, together with Judy Rogers, City Manager, Jacquie Forbes-Roberts, General Manager of Community Services, Peter Sweeney, Manager - Building Inspection, and Gerry McGeough, Senior Heritage Planner, responded to questions concerning possible incentives available to the owners, the renovations which were carried out without

the appropriate permits, whether these renovations are now up to code, the city's procedures with regard to building inspections and the implications related to Council's decision.

During discussion, the Chair ruled Councillor Stevenson out of order in regard to the nature of his questions.

Councillor Stevenson challenged the decision of the Chair.

The Chair then put the question:

Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?

(Councillor Stevenson opposed)
(Councillor Roberts absent for the vote.)

A two-thirds majority of those present is required to overrule the decision of the Chair. Therefore, the decision of the Chair was SUSTAINED.

MOVED by Councillor Green
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council refer decision on the matter concerning the Single Room Accommodation Permit for 514 Homer Street (the Victorian Hotel) to the Council meeting following the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment to be held later this day and ask staff for calculations on what incentives are available to the owners in terms of transfer of density, facades, tax abatements, etc. and to provide Council with a copy of the Statement of Significance (SOS); and

FURTHER THAT staff verify the letters submitted by the owners of the Victorian Hotel which are from past tenants.

CARRIED
(Councillors Ladner and Sullivan opposed)
(Councillor Roberts absent for the vote.)

2. 2005 Community Services Grants - Innovations Grants (File 2151)

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated October 4, 2005, in which the Director of Social Planning sought Council's approval of eight Innovations Grants. The General Manager of Community Services recommended approval.

Anne Kloppenborg, Social Planner, provided an overview of the report and, together with Judy Rogers, City Manager, responded to questions related to the program, including the need to ensure sufficient funding, whether staff are working with unsuccessful applicants on other options and whether staff will be reporting back on the program's effectiveness. In response

to a question, staff agreed to provide a memorandum on what is available in regard to organizational development for non-profit organizations.

Eleanor Guerrero-Campbell, Multicultural Helping House Society - College of Public Involvement, recognized that the program is limited for funding, noting her organization was not recommended, and presented recommendations for Council's consideration which could address the need for newcomers to the country to become more involved in public process (*brief on file*).

In response to questions regarding the speaker's recommendations, Jeff Brooks, Director - Social Planning, agreed to provide a memorandum to Council on options for newcomers to become involved in public process.

MOVED by Councillor Woodsworth
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council approve eight Innovations Grants totalling \$100,000, including any recommended CONDITIONS on the grants, as listed in APPENDIX A-1 of the Administrative Report dated October 4, 2005, entitled "2005 Community Services Grants - Innovations Grants"; the source of funding being the \$100,000 allocated for Innovation Grants within the 2005 Community Services Grants budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

The Committee adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

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CITY OF VANCOUVER

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON CITY SERVICES AND BUDGETS

OCTOBER 20, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Thursday, October 20, 2005, at 11:07 a.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

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

ABSENT: Mayor Larry Campbell (Leave of Absence - Civic Business)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Judy Rogers, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by Councillor Bass

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. **FCM Big City Mayors' Caucus - Sponsorship of the Welcome Reception (File 3253)**

MOVED by Councillor Green

THAT Council approve funding in the amount up to \$6,000 to sponsor the Welcome Reception of the FCM Big City Mayors' Caucus being held at the Pan Pacific Hotel on November 24, 2005. The sponsorship funding is to be made available through the External Relations budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Report of Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets
October 20, 2005**

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

1. Singe Room Accommodation Permit for 514 Homer Street (the Victorian Hotel)
2. 2005 Community Services Grants - Innovations Grants

Item 1

MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets at its meeting of Thursday, October 20, 2005, as contained in Item 1, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

Item 2

MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets at its meeting of Thursday, October 20, 2005, as contained in Item 2, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by Councillor Roberts

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

MOTIONS

A. Administrative Motions

None

B. Motions on Notice

1. Preservation of Heritage Building at 2936 West 4th Avenue (File 5051)

MOVED by Councillor Louis
SECONDED by Councillor Green

THAT WHEREAS:

1. The property located at 2936 West 4th Avenue is of significant heritage value.
2. City Council is desirous of protecting and preserving Vancouver's Heritage buildings wherever possible.
3. The building located at 2936 West 4th Avenue is slated for imminent demolition and redevelopment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council is prepared to consider transfer of density to any zoning district within the Kitsilano area for the purpose of preserving the Heritage Building at 2936 West 4th Avenue, and that staff be instructed to work with the applicant toward this end.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

2. Board of Variance Appeals (File 3115)

The following Motion reflects an amendment to the Notice of Motion.

MOVED by Councillor Louis
SECONDED by Councillor Bass

THAT Council refer decision on the following motion until staff provide further details in a memorandum prior to the end of this term.

THAT WHEREAS:

1. The British Columbia Court of Appeal recently ruled against the Vancouver Board of Variance in the Cathedral Ventures Ltd. Appeal.
2. The Board of Variance has asked Vancouver City Council to Petition the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Vancouver Charter* so that the Statutory Jurisdiction of the Vancouver Board of Variance to hear appeals actually reflects the past 30 years of practice in the City.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council petition the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Vancouver Charter* so that the statutory jurisdiction of the Vancouver Board of Variance to hear appeals actually reflects the past thirty years of practice in the City. In particular, that the *Vancouver Charter* be amended as follows:

1. Section 573 is amended:
 - a) by deleting S. 573(1)(a) and substituting:
 - (a) *by any person aggrieved by a decision on a question of zoning by any official or board charged with the administration of a zoning by-law*
 - b) by deleting the words, "*by any person*", in S. 573(1)(b), and substituting the words, "by any applicant for a development permit"; and
 - c) by deleting S.573(1)(e).

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Director of Legal Services be directed to draft the necessary petition to the Province of British Columbia for these amendments to the *Vancouver Charter* to be considered by the Legislature at the earliest possible date.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Green

THAT Councillor Louis' motion be amended to add the words "to be delivered In Camera" after the word "term".

CARRIED

(Councillor Louis opposed)

(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

MOTION AS AMENDED

THAT Council refer decision on the following motion until staff provide further details in a memorandum prior to the end of this term to be delivered In Camera.

THAT WHEREAS:

3. The British Columbia Court of Appeal recently ruled against the Vancouver Board of Variance in the Cathedral Ventures Ltd. Appeal.
4. The Board of Variance has asked Vancouver City Council to Petition the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Vancouver Charter* so that the Statutory Jurisdiction of the Vancouver Board of Variance to hear appeals actually reflects the past 30 years of practice in the City.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council petition the Province of British Columbia to amend the *Vancouver Charter* so that the statutory jurisdiction of the Vancouver Board of Variance to hear appeals actually reflects the past thirty years of practice in the City. In particular, that the *Vancouver Charter* be amended as follows:

2. Section 573 is amended:
 - a) by deleting S. 573(1)(a) and substituting:
 - (a) *by any person aggrieved by a decision on a question of zoning by any official or board charged with the administration of a zoning by-law*
 - b) by deleting the words, "*by any person*", in S. 573(1)(b), and substituting the words, "by any applicant for a development permit"; and
 - c) by deleting S.573(1)(e).

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Director of Legal Services be directed to draft the necessary petition to the Province of British Columbia for these amendments to the *Vancouver Charter* to be considered by the Legislature at the earliest possible date.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote.)

3. Request to Provincial Government to Rescind Bill 12 (File 111)

MOVED by Councillor Roberts
SECONDED by Councillor Cadman

WHEREAS the Liberal government refused to bargain in good faith and instead passed Bill 12 that imposed a contract on the province's teachers, allowing no wage increases nor any discussion of issues in the classroom such as class size and support for students with special needs;

WHEREAS Bill 12, which legislates the teachers back to work, provoked the teachers into going on strike to defend their right to collective bargaining;

WHEREAS the Premier and the Ministry of Education have refused to go back to the bargaining table and to enter into negotiations with the teachers to bring an end to the strike;

WHEREAS class sizes have grown so large in many schools that students' education has been adversely impacted;

WHEREAS students with special needs are failing to receive the special support they need to be successful in school and regular classroom teachers are too over-loaded to provide that special support;

WHEREAS 57 percent of people in British Columbia support the teachers, and whereas more than 30 school boards have passed motions calling on the provincial government to return to the bargaining table;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council calls on the provincial government to restore the teachers' right to bargain collectively by rescinding Bill 12 and returning to the bargaining table.

carried unanimously

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Ladner

THAT Councillor Robert's motion be amended to add the following:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council calls on the B.C. teachers to return to work out of respect for the law and for the educational needs of the students.

lost

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louis

THAT Councillor Ladner's amendment be amended to add the word "not" before the word "return".

lost

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Sullivan
SECONDED by Councillor Ladner

THAT Council refer the matter concerning the Request to Provincial Government to Rescind Bill 12 to the Vancouver School Board.

LOST

(Councillors Bass, Cadman, Green, Louie, Louis, Roberts, Stevenson and the Deputy Mayor opposed.)

(Councillor Ladner absent for the vote.)

Councillor Sullivan's motion to refer this matter having LOST, the amendment to the amendment was put and LOST with Councillors Cadman, Green, Louie, Roberts, Stevenson and Sullivan opposed and Councillor Ladner absent for the vote.

The amendment to the amendment having LOST, the amendment was put and LOST with Councillors Bass, Cadman, Green, Louie, Louis, Roberts, Stevenson, Sullivan and the Deputy Mayor opposed and Councillor Ladner absent for the vote.

The amendment having LOST, Councillor Robert's motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Councillor Ladner absent for the vote.

ENQUIRIES AND OTHER MATTERS

1. Noise Issues (File 3755)

Councillor Woodsworth advised that she received a petition from residents around 1900 - 2000 Turner Street regarding the need to address ongoing noise and other issues from a nearby business and asked staff to provide a memorandum on what is being done to address this matter.

2. Federation of Canadian Municipalities - Earthquake in Pakistan (File 3253)

Councillor Green requested that staff follow-up with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities on any requests for assistance concerning the earthquake in Pakistan and advise Council.

The Council adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

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