

(These minutes to be adopted at the Regular Council meeting on September 12, 2006)



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

**JULY 20, 2006**

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on City Services and Budgets was held on Thursday, July 20, 2006, at 9:30 a.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

**PRESENT:** Councillor Peter Ladner, Chair  
Mayor Sam Sullivan  
Councillor Suzanne Anton  
Councillor Elizabeth Ball  
Councillor David Cadman  
\* Councillor Kim Capri  
Councillor George Chow  
\* Councillor Heather Deal  
Councillor B.C. Lee  
Councillor Raymond Louie, Vice-Chair  
\* Councillor Tim Stevenson

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Judy Rogers, City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Lori Isfeld, 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 June 29, 2006, were adopted.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**1. 2006 "Other" Grants Requests (VanRIMS No.: 05-5000-10)**

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated July 4, 2006, in which the General Manager of Corporate Services/Director of Finance presented for Council's consideration requests for funding from Miscellaneous Grants within the "Other" Grants category from the Wildlife Rescue Association (WRA) and the Vancouver Branch of the BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (BC SPCA).

Doug Mitchell, Director of Business Support Services, provided an overview of the report and Estelle Lo, General Manager of Corporate Services/Director of Finance responded to questions regarding the advertising and application process for the "Other" Grants category.

Janice Dickie, Executive Director, Wildlife Rescue Association, requested that Council approve their request for a \$5,000 grant which is intended to help pay for the organization's work in medically treating and providing a refuge for wildlife that are orphaned or injured by oil spills. Ms. Dickie further noted the WRA is seeking federal legislation to force those responsible for oil spills to pay for the damage caused to the environment and wildlife. However, until such legislation is approved, those responsible contribute a minimal amount and the WRA struggles to care for the injured wildlife.

Craig Daniels, CEO, BC SPCA, requested that Council approve their request for a \$60,000 grant and noted the importance of providing shelter for stray, injured and abandoned cats. Mr. Daniels noted the grant would offset part of the deficit total for these shelter operations and would help cover the capital improvement to help the welfare of cats. He further noted that improved shelter facilities help reduce the spread of disease resulting in a higher adoption rate for cats. Mr. Daniels recognized the large amount requested, noted this is a one-time request, and that future requests would be less.

During discussion it was noted that City of Vancouver By-laws cover licensing for dogs but unlike other municipalities, cats are not required to be licensed. Staff agreed to provide Council with a memorandum reporting on a review of the Vancouver Charter and By-laws to see if there is a way to recover costs for sheltering cats through licensing.

MOVED by Councillor Capri  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve a grant of \$5,000 to the Wildlife Rescue Association of British Columbia: the source of the funds for this request would be Miscellaneous Grants within the "Other" Grants category.
- B. THAT Council approve a grant of \$60,000 to the Vancouver Branch of the BC SPCA with the funding from Contingency Reserve.

amended

POSTPONEMENT MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT motion B be postponed until the fall until there is criteria for the "Other" Grants category specifying capital and operating grants for 2006.

LOST  
(Councillors Anton, Ball, Capri, Ladner, Lee and the Mayor opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the motion be amended by striking out \$60,000 in B and replacing it with \$5,000 to read:

- B. THAT Council approve a grant of \$5,000 to the Vancouver Branch of the BC SPCA with the funding from Contingency Reserve.

FURTHER THAT the following clause be added to the end of the motion:

- C. THAT staff report back in the fall on a process for the "Other" Grants category.

amended

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Capri

THAT the amendment be amended by striking out \$5,000 and replacing it with \$15,000.

CARRIED

(Councillors Cadman, Chow, Deal, Louie and Stevenson opposed)

The amendment to the amendment having carried, the amendment was put and CARRIED with Councillors Cadman, Chow, Deal, Louie and Stevenson opposed to B and Councillor Ladner opposed to C.

The amendment having carried, Councillor Capri's motion was put and CARRIED with Councillors Cadman, Chow, Deal, Louie and Stevenson opposed to B and Councillor Ladner opposed to C.

MOTION AS AMENDED

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve a grant of \$5,000 to the Wildlife Rescue Association of British Columbia: the source of the funds for this request would be Miscellaneous Grants within the "Other" Grants category.
- B. THAT Council approve a grant of \$15,000 to the Vancouver Branch of the BC SPCA with the funding from Contingency Reserve.
- C. THAT staff report back in the fall on a process for the "Other" category grants.

*Note from Clerk: The motion above was further amended by Council at its regular meeting immediately following this meeting.*

**2. Vancouver Economic Development Commission (the "VEDC")  
Economic Development Strategy - Project Plan & Budget (VanRIMS No.: 08-3000-11)**

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated July 11, 2006, in which the General Manager of Corporate Services sought approval of the VEDC's Economic Development Strategy Phase I project plan and budget, the release of the 2006 program costs already approved in April 2006, and approval of the 2007 portion of the project costs to enable the VEDC to carry on the Phase I project plan through 2007.

The City Manager recommended approval of the recommendations and in her comments noted that the release of the 2007 portion of the project costs are conditional upon the VEDC's submission of a project status report to Council by December 2006.

Doug Mitchell, Director of Business Support Services, provided an overview of the report and rationale for the recommendations.

Melinda Entwistle, Executive Director, Vancouver Economic Development Commission, provided a presentation and spoke in support of the recommendations. Ms. Entwistle reviewed the guiding principles which are intended to focus the scope of work of the VEDC by providing a framework for future economic development and for the establishment of Vancouver as an internationally competitive business location. The importance of regional collaboration was discussed and it was noted that other municipalities in the Lower Mainland have expressed interest in this regard because regional economic initiatives may result in additional funding from the federal and provincial governments and from the private sector.

MOVED by Councillor Capri  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. That Council approve the VEDC's Economic Development Strategy ("ED Strategy") Phase I project plan and budget, and release the 2006 program costs of \$62,500 with the source of funding being the 2006 Operating Budget, as approved by Council on April 6, 2006.
- B. That Council approve an additional \$106,000 to be added to the 2007 Operating Budget without offset to enable the VEDC to carry on the Phase I project plan through July 2007; release of funds subject to a progress report by the VEDC by December 2006.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote)

**3. Collingwood Neighbourhood House Recreation/Gymnasium Operating Funding 2006  
(VanRIMS No.: 05-1000-30)**

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated June 15, 2006, in which the General Manager of Corporate Services in consultation with the General Manager of Community Services and General Manager of Parks and Recreation sought approval for 2006 operating funds for the delivery of recreation programs and operation of the gymnasium at Collingwood Neighbourhood House. The City Manager recommended approval of the recommendations.

MOVED by Mayor Sullivan  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council approve 2006 funding in the amount of \$221,500 (an increase of 2% from the 2005 approved funding of \$217,160) to the Collingwood Neighbourhood House Society for the delivery of recreation programs and operation of the Gymnasium for

the period January 1, 2006 to December 31, 2006; source of funds to be the 2006 Operating Budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY  
(Councillors Capri and Deal absent for the vote)

**4. 2007 Operating Budget - Proposed Process (VanRIMS No.: 05-1000-30)**

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated June 5, 2006, in which the General Manager of Corporate Services/Director of Finance outlined and recommended approval of an Operating Budget process that will allow Council to adopt the 2007 Operating Budget as early as possible in the first quarter of 2007.

The City Manager, in her comments, made note of the limitations in moving up the budget process, but confirmed that the 2007 and 2008 Operating Budgets can be moved up by approximately two months compared to the timing of the 2006 Operating Budget. This can be achieved by obtaining Council direction on public consultation early in the process and by obtaining Council direction on a target property tax increase in July. She added that without changes to the BC Assessment process, further gains cannot be achieved in 2007 and 2008.

Annette Klein, Director of Budget Services, provided an overview of the report and with Estelle Lo, General Manager of Corporate Services/Director of Finance responded to questions regarding the proposed timeline for the Operating Budget process. Ms. Klein noted that once direction from Council is received regarding public consultation and the target property tax increase, staff can begin work on a preliminary budget with minimal risk. Upon request by a Council member, Ms. Klein agreed to provide Council with clarification on the budget adjustment process that takes place prior to the Final Operating Budget phase.

Paul Faoro, President, CUPE 15, requested that CUPE 15 be included at several stages during the public input phase so that union staff is provided with the opportunity to put forward ideas and suggestions on how to increase efficiency and revenues and that these meetings be conducted in a manner that encourages all staff to participate. Mr. Faoro also suggested that public forums need to take place in different languages so that inclusiveness is provided to all Vancouver citizens.

MOVED by Councillor Anton  
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council adopt the proposed 2007 Operating Budget timelines as outlined in Table 1, page 8 of the Administrative Report dated June 5, 2006 entitled "2007 Operating Budget - Proposed Process".
- B. THAT Council instruct the Director of Finance on a target property tax increase not to exceed 4% that includes new or expanded programs but excludes an impact of outside agencies; and

FURTHER THAT the Director of Finance report back as part of the Interim Budget Estimates Report on how to achieve this target tax increase.

- C. THAT Council instruct the Director of Finance to proceed with a public consultation process that includes the following:
- i) a public opinion poll on the 2007 Operating Budget challenge at an estimated cost of \$25,000 for residents;
  - ii) a public opinion poll on the 2007 Operating Budget challenge at an estimated cost of \$20,000 for businesses;
  - iii) a "City Choice" flyer outlining the budget challenge faced by Council at a cost of approximately \$35,000;
  - iv) a "Forum" approach to seeking public input on the 2007 Operating Budget challenge, at a cost of approximately \$9,400 per forum and \$9,500 for a forum coordinator and that Council instruct staff to hold three forums;
  - v) a public meeting on the 2007 Operating Budget to be held in Council Chambers prior to the Interim Report on the 2007 Budget at minimal cost to the City.

An additional \$8,000 is required for overall advertising should C(iii), C(iv), and/or E(v) be chosen. Total funding required will be offset by \$99,300 already included in the 2006 Operating Budget for public consultation; AND

FURTHER THAT Staff report back on the results of the public consultation as part of the Interim Budget Estimate report.

- D. THAT Council request BC Assessment to review its processes to accommodate municipal budget approval by December 31st of the prior year and that this request be sent to City Councils of all municipalities in British Columbia.
- E. THAT Council will meet with the City's unions as part of the budget process.

carried

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the motion be amended by striking out E and inserting the following:

- E. THAT budget meetings with our civic unions and employee associations be convened.

LOST

(Councillors Anton, Ball, Capri, Ladner, Lee and the Mayor opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the motion be amended by striking out "4%" in B and replacing it with "3.5% to 4.5%".

LOST

(Councillors Anton, Ball, Capri, Ladner, Lee and the Mayor opposed)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the motion be amended by striking out the words "three forums" in B and inserting the words "two forums and that ten community organization meetings be convened including BIA Associations, Seniors, Arts Community, Youth, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender Community, Women's Community, organizations delivering social programs, Multicultural Community, Chinese Community, and the Vancouver Board of Trade".

LOST

(Councillors Anton, Ball, Capri, Ladner, Lee and the Mayor opposed)

The amendments having LOST, Councillor Anton's Motion was put and CARRIED with Councillors Cadman, Chow, Deal, Louie and Stevenson opposed to B and C iv).

**5. 2006 Operating Budget - May Review (VanRIMS No.: 05-1000-30)**

The Committee had before it an Administrative Report dated July 10, 2006, in which the General Manager of Corporate Services/Director of Finance reviewed the status of the revenue and expenditure appropriations in the 2006 Operating Budget at May 31, 2006, provided a projection for year-end and identified any significant variances for Council.

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council receive the Administrative Report dated July 10, 2007, entitled "2006 Operating Budget - May Review" for INFORMATION.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

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## CITY OF VANCOUVER

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

JULY 20, 2006

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Thursday, July 20, 2006, at 1:45 p.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:**

- Mayor Sam Sullivan
- Councillor Suzanne Anton
- Councillor Elizabeth Ball
- Councillor David Cadman
- Councillor Kim Capri
- Councillor George Chow
- Councillor Heather Deal
- Councillor Peter Ladner
- Councillor B.C. Lee
- Councillor Raymond Louie
- Councillor Tim Stevenson

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Judy Rogers, City Manager

**CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:** Lori Isfeld, Meeting Coordinator

#### COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Anton  
SECONDED by Councillor Chow

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets  
July 20, 2006

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. 2006 "Other" Grants Requests
2. Vancouver Economic Development Commission (the "VEDC")  
Economic Development Strategy - Project Plan & Budget
3. Collingwood Neighbourhood House Recreation/Gymnasium Operating Funding 2006
4. 2007 Operating Budget - Proposed Process
5. 2006 Operating Budget - May Review

Item 1

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets at its meeting of July 20, 2006, as contained in Item 1, be approved with an amendment to strike out "\$15,000" in B and replace it with \$5,000 to read as follows:

- B. THAT Council approve a grant of \$5,000 to the Vancouver Branch of the BC SPCA with the funding from Contingency Reserve.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND  
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

Items 2 - 5

MOVED by Councillor Capri

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets at its meeting of July 20, 2006, as contained in Items 2 - 5, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Ball

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

MOVED by Councillor Lee  
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

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