



CITY OF VANCOUVER
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 13 AND 19, 2007

A Special Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, December 12, 2007, at 7:30 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, for the purpose of hearing speakers on the City/Province Social and Supportive Housing Partnership and Memorandum of Understanding. The meeting reconvened at 7:33 p.m. on Thursday, December 13, 2007, and at 6:35 p.m. on Wednesday, December 19, 2007, to continue hearing speakers. The minutes have been consolidated for ease of reference.

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

ABSENT: Councillor David Cadman (Leave of Absence - Civic Business)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Judy Rogers, City Manager (December 12 & 13, 2007)
James Ridge, Deputy City Manager (December 19, 2007)
Jacquie Forbes-Roberts, General Manager of Community Services (December 12 and 13, 2007)

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Lori Isfeld, Meeting Coordinator (December 12 & 13, 2007)
Laura Kazakoff, Meeting Coordinator (December 19, 2007)

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Capri
SECONDED by Councillor Lee

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillors Ball, Chow and Louie absent for the vote)

1. City/Province Social and Supportive Housing Partnership - Memorandum of Understanding (VanRIMS No. 08-2000-22)

At its Regular Council meeting on November 13, 2007, Vancouver City Council heard a Report Reference on a partnership between the City and BC Housing to develop 12 City-owned sites for 1100-1200 units of social and supportive housing and agreed to refer consideration of a Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Province (BC Housing), appended to the Administrative Report *City/Province Social and Supportive Housing Partnership*, dated November 6, 2007, to a Special Council meeting on the evening of December 12, 2007, in order to hear from speakers.

Council had before it the following motion which was approved at the November 13, 2007 meeting, as well as the Administrative Report and appended Memorandum of Understanding noted above:

- A. THAT Council refer consideration of Recommendations B and C of the Administrative Report entitled *City/Province Social and Supportive Housing Partnership* dated November 6, 2007, to a public meeting to be held on the evening of December 12, 2007.
- B. THAT Council approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Province (BC Housing) attached as Appendix A to the Administrative Report *City/Province Social and Supportive Housing Partnership*, dated November 6, 2007, whereby 12 City-owned sites would be developed for social and supportive housing for the homeless and those at risk of homelessness such as the mentally ill, people with addictions, and residents of the City's Single Room Occupancy (SRO) hotels, and whereby:
 - the City would lease 12 sites to non-profit sponsors of social and supportive housing for 60 years with a nominal prepaid lease rent;
 - the non-profit sponsors would not be required to pay property taxes; and
 - the City would pay the cost of environmental remediation (removing hazardous materials from the buildings and soil remediation);with the source of funding to be the Property Endowment Fund, Development Cost Levies allocated to replacement housing, and the Affordable Housing Fund as set out in the Administrative Report.
- C. THAT Council approve making two existing temporary Planner II positions in the Housing Centre permanent, subject to review by Human Resources. Community Services will fund the positions for 2008, and for 2009 funding to be added to the 2009 Operating Budget without offset, as part of Community Services' operating budget, subject to the 2009 Budget Process, at an estimated cost of \$81,900 (2006 rates) for each position.
- D. THAT the scope and financial cost of these and the City's other social housing investments be summarized and circulated to the Metro Vancouver Housing Committee and to other municipalities in Metro Vancouver with a request that they also report to the Metro Vancouver Housing Committee on their contributions to achieving regional housing strategy goals.

Council also had before it a memorandum dated December 11, 2007, from Cameron Gray, Director of the Housing Centre, which put forward for Council's consideration an additional recommendation regarding the Streetohome Vancouver funding model as follows:

THAT Council advise the Province, and the non-profit housing and service providers to be selected for the projects proposed in the City/Province Social and Supportive Housing Partnership, that the City will want the option of developing the 12 City-sites under the Streetohome Vancouver funding model to be considered, should the Federal Government provide the tax changes that Streetohome Vancouver requires.

Cameron Gray, Director of the Housing Centre, provided a presentation. Staff responded to questions.

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Prior to hearing from speakers, the following motion was moved:

MOVED BY Councillor Capri

THAT the speakers list be closed for the Special Council Meeting regarding the City/Province Social and Supportive Housing Partnership and Memorandum of Understanding, that convened on Wednesday, December 12, 2007.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Ball absent for the vote)*

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Council heard from the following speakers:

Jenny Kwan, MLA, Vancouver-Mount Pleasant
David Chudnovsky, MLA, Vancouver-Kensington
Brent Granby, West End Residents Association
Christopher Costey
Andrew Pillar, Vancouver Public Space Network
Jean Budden, St. Andrew's Wesley United Church - Action Group on Mental Health
& Homelessness
Linda Thomas, Housing Director, Vancouver Coastal Health
Audrey Laferriere (brief filed)
Marge Johnson
Maggie Geiser, City-wide Housing Coalition (material submitted)
Jean Swanson (material submitted)
Wendy Pedersen, Community Organizer, Carnegie Community Action Project
Rider Coe (material submitted)
Darrell Burnham, Executive Director, Coast Mental Health
Sheila Abraham
Rolf Auer
Colleen Carroll

Randy Puder
Ian McRae
Robert Bonner
Joe LeBlanc
Hilda Gregory, President, 127 Society for Housing
Laura Stannard, Housing Coordinator, Jewish Family Service Agency
Am Johal, Civil Society Development Project
Matthew Matthew, Carnegie Community Association
Sister Elizabeth Kelliher, Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement
Edward Hundert, President, Strata Council # BCS1732
Gordon Fraser (brief filed)
Delanye Azrael
Jamie Hall
Jim Layden
Terri Williams, DTES Safety Initiative (DESI)
Father Ken Forster
Sandy Hirshen
David Eby, Pivot Legal Society
Harley Bull, Carnegie Community Action Project
Dalannah Gail Bowen
Mel Lehan, City-wide Housing Coalition
Michael Clague
Hendrik Hoekema
Dave Diewert, Streams of Justice
Dave Eddy, Vancouver Native Housing Society
Patrick Hall
Jandyra Walker (material submitted)
Dawn Currie
Kevin Chaplin, Board Chair, MPA Society
Dick Doerksen
Kathy MacDougall
Cheryl Clausen
Carol Moffatt-Bailes
Anna Zytkeiwicz
Mary Ann Cantillon
Stephen Rybak, Dunbar Vision Implementation Committee
Tina Crouse, Dunbar Seniors Housing Committee
Janet Letourneau
Krista Thompson, Executive Director, Covenant House
Jose-Carlos Medina
Marina Elger
Jay Revoy

The majority spoke in support of the recommendations; however, many indicated that there is a need for social and supportive housing beyond that being recommended.

There were a number of speakers who spoke neither for nor against the recommendations but rather expressed concern with regard to two of the sites (West 7th/Fir and West 16th/Dunbar).

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During the hearing of speakers on December 13, 2007 Council recessed at 8:03 p.m. to approve a recommendation from the Standing Committee on Planning Environment meeting held earlier that day, and reconvened at 8:04 p.m. with the same members present.

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MOVED by Councillor Capri

- A. THAT Council approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the City and the Province (BC Housing) attached as Appendix A to the Administrative Report *City/Province Social and Supportive Housing Partnership*, dated November 6, 2007, whereby 12 City-owned sites would be developed for social and supportive housing for the homeless and those at risk of homelessness such as the mentally ill, people with addictions, and residents of the City's Single Room Occupancy (SRO) hotels, and whereby:
- the City would lease 12 sites to non-profit sponsors of social and supportive housing for 60 years with a nominal prepaid lease rent;
 - the non-profit sponsors would not be required to pay property taxes; and
 - the City would pay the cost of environmental remediation (removing hazardous materials from the buildings and soil remediation);
- with the source of funding to be the Property Endowment Fund, Development Cost Levies allocated to replacement housing, and the Affordable Housing Fund as set out in the Administrative Report.
- B. THAT Council approve making two existing temporary Planner II positions in the Housing Centre permanent, subject to review by Human Resources. Community Services will fund the positions for 2008, and for 2009 funding to be added to the 2009 Operating Budget without offset, as part of Community Services' operating budget, subject to the 2009 Budget Process, at an estimated cost of \$81,900 (2006 rates) for each position.
- C. THAT the scope and financial cost of these and the City's other social housing investments be summarized and circulated to the Metro Vancouver Housing Committee and to other municipalities in Metro Vancouver with a request that they also report to the Metro Vancouver Housing Committee on their contributions to achieving regional housing strategy goals.
- D. THAT Council advise the Province, and the non-profit housing and service providers to be selected for the projects proposed in the City/Province Social and Supportive Housing Partnership, that the City will want the option of developing the 12 City-sites under the Streethome Vancouver funding model to be considered, should the Federal Government provide the tax changes that Streethome Vancouver requires.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND RECOMMENDATION A
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY (EIGHT AFFIRMATIVE VOTES)

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Ladner

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Chow
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Special Council recessed at 10:00 p.m. on December 12 and 13, 2007 and adjourned at 8:40 p.m. on December 19, 2007.

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