



CITY OF VANCOUVER

REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON CITY SERVICES AND BUDGETS

SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on City Services and Budgets was held on Thursday, September 18, 2008, at 9:32 a.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

- PRESENT:**
- Councillor Raymond Louie, Vice-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 Tim Stevenson
- ABSENT:**
- Councillor Peter Ladner, Chair (Civic Business)
- CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:**
- Judy Rogers, City Manager
 - James Ridge, Deputy City Manager
- CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:**
- Pat Boomhower, Meeting Coordinator

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting of July 24, 2008, were adopted.

1. **Temporary Protection of the York Theatre - 639 Commercial Drive
September 9, 2008**

Staff from Current Planning presented the report and responded to questions.

The Committee heard from four speakers; one of whom spoke in support of staff's recommendations and three representing the building owners who spoke in opposition and expressed concerns regarding costs and logistical challenges associated with any additional delays with their housing project at the site.

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council considers the exterior and interior of the York Theatre, at 639 Commercial Drive, to have heritage value meriting conservation.
- B. THAT pursuant to section 589 of the Vancouver Charter, Council orders that the whole of the exterior and the interior of the York Theatre be subject to temporary protection in accordance with the provision of Section 591 of the Vancouver Charter for a period of 120 days from September 18, 2008.
- C. THAT Council agrees the form of this Order shall be satisfactory to the City's Director of Legal Services and that the Order shall be executed on behalf of Council by the Director of Legal Services.

CARRIED

(Councillor Lee opposed)

The Committee adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

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

SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Thursday, September 18, 2008, at 10:26 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: 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
James Ridge, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Pat Boomhower, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Louie
SECONDED by Councillor Stevenson

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Ladner absent for the vote)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets September 18, 2008

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

1. Temporary Protection of the York Theatre - 639 Commercial Drive

Item 1

MOVED by Councillor Anton

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets at its meeting of September 18, 2008, as contained in item 1, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Ladner absent for the vote)

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Chow

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Ladner absent for the vote)

ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Deal
SECONDED by Councillor Lee

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Ladner absent for the vote)

MOTIONS

A. Administrative Motions

None.

B. Motions on Notice

Due to time constraints, Vancouver City Council, at its meeting on September 16, 2008, postponed Motions B.1. to B.8, as noted below, to the Regular Council meeting immediately following the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting on September 18, 2008.

1. Reconsideration of the Minutes of June 26, 2007

MOVED by Councillor Louie
SECONDED by Councillor Chow

WHEREAS Councillor Louie requested the City Clerk review the June 26, 2007, Regular Council meeting minutes for the omission of an amendment moved by him during the discussion of a motion on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Targets; and

WHEREAS the note from the Meeting Coordinator stated: The minutes were reviewed, and the following amendment, moved by Councillor Louie, which lost, was omitted from the minutes.

- THAT staff report back with practical options for the City of Vancouver to be carbon neutral by 2010.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council RECONSIDER the adoption of the Regular Council meeting minutes of June 26, 2007.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Ladner absent for the vote)

2. Amendment to Minutes of June 26, 2007

MOVED by Councillor Louie
SECONDED by Councillor Chow

WHEREAS Councillor Louie requested the City Clerk review the June 26, 2007, Regular Council meeting minutes for the omission of an amendment moved by him during the discussion of a motion on Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emission Targets; and

WHEREAS the note from the Meeting Coordinator stated: The minutes were reviewed, and the following amendment, moved by Councillor Louie, which lost, was omitted from the minutes.

- THAT staff report back with practical options for the City of Vancouver to be carbon neutral by 2010.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council amend the June 26, 2007, Regular Council meeting minutes to include the following amendment and voting record:

“AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT staff report back with practical options for the City of Vancouver to be carbon neutral by 2010.

LOST

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillor Ladner absent for the vote)

3. BC Green Party at the 2008 Union of British Columbia Municipalities Convention

MOVED by Councillor Capri

SECONDED by Councillor Anton

Whereas UBCM will be holding their annual convention in September 2008; and

Whereas the leader of the BC Liberal Party and BC New Democrats are provided an opportunity to address the UBCM delegates; and

Whereas the Green Party of British Columbia is the third major political party in the province and is supported by a large number of Vancouver citizens and has no official voice at UBCM; and

Whereas Mayor Sullivan introduced a motion at UBCM last year, that was narrowly defeated, asking them to consider allowing the leader of the BC Green Party to formally address the convention; and

Whereas the leader of the BC New Democrats did not support providing the BC Greens an opportunity to address the convention; and

Whereas the Green Party of BC has indicated their interest in addressing the delegates;

Therefore be it resolved:

THAT City Council request the Mayor write a letter to UBCM asking that they permit the leader of the BC Green Party to address the 2008 convention delegates;

FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to all Mayors and Councillors across BC; and

FURTHER THAT a copy of this motion be sent to UBCM, the Premier and the Leader of the Official Opposition.

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the motion be amended by striking out the first paragraph and substituting with the following:

THAT City Council request the Mayor write a letter to UBCM Executive asking that they consider permitting the leaders of all parties running candidates to address the 2008 convention delegates and that the Executive consider a change in policy for future conventions;

LOST

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

The amendment having lost, the motion was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Update on Housing in the Downtown Eastside

MOVED by Councillor Ladner

SECONDED by Councillor Anton

THAT staff provide a memo on housing in the Downtown Eastside (DTES) that includes updated data on housing applications and completions in the DTES, the involvement of community organizations in implementation of the Homeless Action Plan, and an update on the mix of housing in the DTES.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Request for Leave of Absence - Councillor Stevenson

MOVED by Councillor Ball

SECONDED by Councillor Lee

THAT Councillor Stevenson be granted Leave of Absence for personal reasons from the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meeting to be held October 2, 2008.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Request for Leave of Absence - Councillor Ball

MOVED by Councillor Deal

SECONDED by Councillor Chow

THAT Councillor Ball be granted Leave of Absence for personal reasons from the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets and Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meetings, and the Public Hearing to be held on October 16, 2008.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. Metro Vancouver's Solid Waste Management Planning

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

WHEREAS: Metro Vancouver is looking for alternatives to landfilling the region's solid waste, and is considering building six new waste-to-energy (WTE) incinerators within Metro Vancouver that would burn up to 1.5 million tonnes of garbage annually;

AND WHEREAS: burning garbage releases toxic materials including hydrogen chloride and nitric oxide, lead, cadmium, arsenic, mercury and chromium, that can pose serious health hazards;

AND WHEREAS: the air pollutants released by waste incinerators in Metro Vancouver would drift east into the Fraser Valley, further impacting a sensitive airshed that already suffers from severe air pollution;

AND WHEREAS: Metro Vancouver would be contractually obligated to deliver up to 1.5 million tonnes of waste to the private operators of the incinerators, that could put a cap on incentives and initiatives to increase the region's recycling and to reduce, reuse and recycle waste;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: that Council advise the Metro Vancouver Waste Management Committee, through its representative on that Committee, that before any decisions are taken on building new WTE incinerators, that the Metro Waste Management Committee undertake a comprehensive and independent economic, health and environmental study of the impacts of waste incinerators on both the Metro and Fraser Valley regions;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Metro Vancouver Waste Management Committee initiate an independent and comprehensive public consultation process before making any decision on building new WTE incinerators in the region.

not put

The Chair ruled the motion out of order, as this matter has already been dealt with. Councillor Cadman challenged the ruling of the Chair.

The Chair then put the question:

Shall the ruling of the Chair be sustained?

CARRIED
(Councillors Cadman, Chow, Deal and Stevenson opposed)
(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

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

8. 2008 BCSC 661err1 PHS Community Services Society v. Attorney General of Canada

The following motion was submitted by Councillor Louie.

WHEREAS Insite, the Supervised Injection Site, is a critical element of the city's Four Pillars drug policy and crime reduction strategy, which emphasizes prevention, treatment, enforcement and harm reduction; and

WHEREAS the Federal government has refused to provide a long-term extension to Insite's research exemption from federal drug laws despite overwhelming scientific evidence of its benefits; and

WHEREAS the Portland Hotel Society Community Services (PHS) has won an important Supreme Court of British Columbia ruling that struck down sections of Canada's drug laws as unconstitutional and gave Insite an exemption to remain open until the laws are brought into line with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms; and

WHEREAS the Federal government has given notice of its intention to appeal the decision and has publicly attacked the Insite program and the medical professionals operating it;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct the City's legal department to apply for intervenor status in the federal government's appeal of the Supreme Court of British Columbia decision, in support of the Portland Hotel Society Community Services (PHS) and the Attorney General of British Columbia to defend the supervised injection element of the city's drug policy.

Withdrawn, with the permission of Council

NEW BUSINESS

1. Support for the Vancouver 2011 Outgames

MOVED by Councillor Capri

SECONDED by Councillor Anton

WHEREAS:

The Vancouver 2011 Outgames Organizing Committee is submitting a bid for Vancouver to host the games;

The Organizing Committee is proposing a program that Vancouverites can be proud of, which includes: sports competitions - mountain, marine and land, cultural celebrations, corporate challenges, legacy contributions, and human rights education and promotion;

The Organizing Committee will be struck as a legal, indemnified, stand-alone entity whose task will be to plan and deliver a surplus-producing 2011 Outgames; and

If successful in its bid, the Vancouver Outgames will be the first North American Outgames conducted through an open-bid process and therefore will have the distinction of providing a model for future Continental Outgames; and

The Outgames Organizing Committee has requested that Vancouver Council express support for the City of Vancouver to welcome the games here in 2011;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1) Council support the Vancouver 2011 Outgames Organizing Committee's bid to host the games, and welcome their submission to the City's Sport Hosting grants program; and
- 2) Council send a copy of this Motion to the Organizing Committee for submission with their bid.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ENQUIRIES AND OTHER MATTERS

1. Tap Water Campaign

Councillor Stevenson provided an update on Metro Vancouver Water Committee's Tap Water Campaign and on London, Ontario's bottled water ban in municipal facilities. He enquired as to when the staff report back on bottled water is expected and requested that staff also check into London's ban.

The City Manager agreed to look into the status of the report back.

2. Eliminating Plastic Shopping Bags

Councillor Stevenson noted Metro Vancouver's recent recommendation with regard to promoting a reduction in plastic shopping bag use, Vancouver's leadership role, and advised he will be presenting a motion on the matter at the next Council meeting.

Councillor Ladner provided an update on Metro Vancouver Waste Management Committee work pertaining to plastic bags use and solid waste management planning and consultation, and asked for clarification on the City's powers with respect to a plastic bag ban.

The Council adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

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