



CITY OF VANCOUVER

REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON CITY SERVICES AND BUDGETS

OCTOBER 2, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on City Services and Budgets was held on Thursday, October 2, 2008, 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
James Ridge, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Denise Salmon, 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 18, 2008, were adopted.

1. **Automated Meter Reading & Water Billing Improvements** September 16, 2008

Staff from Engineering Services reviewed the report and along with staff from Human Resources responded to questions.

The Committee heard from the President of CUPE 15 (*material circulated and on file*) and a CUPE 15 member who expressed concerns with the staff report and requested deferral of Recommendation 'D' to permit dialogue among affected parties.

MOVED by Councillor Anton
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. That Council approve in principle the amendments to the Water Works By-Law No. 4848, generally as set out in Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated September 16, 2008, entitled "Automated Meter Reading &

Water Billing Improvements", to support the staffing and billing efficiencies described in this report.

- B. That Council authorizes the Director of Legal Services to work with Engineering Services to bring forward a by-law generally in accordance with Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated September 16, 2008, entitled "Automated Meter Reading & Water Billing Improvements".
- C. That \$51,000 is allocated for additional temporary clerical support in Revenue Services for a one year period, with funding from the existing meter reading budget in the Water Utility.
- D. That five CUPE 15 Regular Full Time Water Rates Inspectors Positions be eliminated (four Water Rates Inspector I's and one Water Rates Inspector III).
- E. That Council approve the addition of one (1) CUPE 15 Engineering Assistant II regular full time position to the Waterworks Operations staff at an estimated annual cost of \$ 56,000 including benefits, to provide GIS and IMS support to the Water Utility. Funding will be available from the net savings realized by the elimination of the Water Rates Inspector positions.

A, B, C and E carried
D postponed

POSTPONEMENT MOVED by Councillor Deal
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT D be postponed to allow for further discussion and report back to Council in January.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Capri

THAT the postponement motion be amended by striking out the words: "to Council in January", and substituting the words: "by the October 30th Standing Committee".

amended

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the words "October 30th Standing Committee" be struck and replaced with the words "December 16th Council meeting" to read:

THAT D be postponed to allow for further discussion and report back by the December 16th Council meeting.

carried

The amendment to the amendment having carried, the motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

FINAL MOTION AS AMENDED AND ADOPTED:
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council approve in principle the amendments to the Water Works By-Law No. 4848, generally as set out in Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated September 16, 2008, entitled "Automated Meter Reading & Water Billing Improvements", to support the staffing and billing efficiencies described in this report.
- B. THAT Council authorizes the Director of Legal Services to work with Engineering Services to bring forward a by-law generally in accordance with Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated September 16, 2008, entitled "Automated Meter Reading & Water Billing Improvements".
- C. THAT \$51,000 is allocated for additional temporary clerical support in Revenue Services for a one year period, with funding from the existing meter reading budget in the Water Utility.
- D. THAT Council postpone consideration of the following to allow for further discussion and report back to Council by December 16, 2008:

THAT five CUPE 15 Regular Full Time Water Rates Inspectors Positions be eliminated (four Water Rates Inspector I's and one Water Rates Inspector III).
- E. That Council approve the addition of one (1) CUPE 15 Engineering Assistant II regular full time position to the Waterworks Operations staff at an estimated annual cost of \$ 56,000 including benefits, to provide GIS and IMS support to the Water Utility. Funding will be available from the net savings realized by the elimination of the Water Rates Inspector positions.

**2. Ambassador Program Expansion (Other Areas)
September 16, 2008**

The Project Civil City Commissioner provided an overview of the report, referred Council to revised recommendations A and B and Appendices A and B (*memorandum dated October 2, 2008, circulated at the meeting and on file*) and along with Business Improvement Area (BIA) Program staff, responded to questions.

The Committee heard from ten representatives from BIAs and Community Policing Centres (*material circulated and on file*) who spoke in support of staff's recommendations.

MOVED by Councillor Capri
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council instruct staff to negotiate and enter into one-year sole-source contracts with the following BIA associations:

Mount Pleasant Commercial Improvement Society (BIA)
Strathcona Business Improvement Association

for expansion of the Ambassador Program, as outlined in revised Appendix A of the Administrative Report dated September 16, 2008, entitled "Ambassador Program Expansion (Other Areas)", on the terms acceptable to the General Manager of Community Services; source of funds to be the carry-forward funding from the 2007 Operating Budget as approved by Council in 2007, it being understood that no legal relations are hereby created and none shall arise hereunder until the agreement is drawn to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services and executed by her on behalf of the City.

- B. THAT Council instruct staff to negotiate and enter into one-year sole-source contracts with the following BIA associations:

Vancouver Chinatown BIA Society,
Kerrisdale Business Association, and
Robson Street Business Association

for expansion of programs delivering ambassador services, each as outlined in revised Appendix B of the Administrative Report dated September 16, 2008, entitled "Ambassador Program Expansion (Other Areas)", on the terms acceptable to the General Manager of Community Services; source of funds to be the carry-forward funding from the 2007 Operating Budget as approved by Council in 2007, it being understood that no legal relations are hereby created and none shall arise hereunder until the agreement is drawn to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services and executed by her on behalf of the City.

- C. THAT Council allocate the remaining balance of Ambassador Program funds proportionally (based upon each BIA association's current expenditures on existing patrols) to all Council-approved contracts, including those outlined in Appendix C of the Administrative Report dated September 16, 2008, entitled "Ambassador Program Expansion (Other Areas)" that were approved by Council in July 2008.
- D. THAT Council instruct staff to negotiate and enter into one-year sole-source contracts with the following BIA Associations:

Collingwood Business Improvement Association
Hastings North Business Improvement Association, and
Victoria Drive Business Improvement Association

for expansion of paid semi-professional programs delivering ambassador services under the Guardian model, as outlined in Appendix D of the Administrative Report dated September 16, 2008, entitled "Ambassador Program Expansion (Other Areas)", on the terms acceptable to the General Manager of Community Services; source of funds to be the carry-forward funding from the 2007 Operating Budget as approved by Council in 2007, it being understood that no legal relations are hereby created and none shall arise hereunder until the agreement is drawn to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services and executed by her on behalf of the City.

- E. THAT Council instruct staff to negotiate and enter into a one-year sole-source contract with the Commercial Drive Business Society for expansion of a paid

professional program delivering ambassador services, as outlined in Appendix D of the Administrative Report dated September 16, 2008, entitled "Ambassador Program Expansion (Other Areas)", on the terms acceptable to the General Manager of Community Services; source of funds to be the carry-forward funding from the 2007 Operating Budget as approved by Council in 2007, it being understood that no legal relations are hereby created and none shall arise hereunder until the agreement is drawn to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services and executed by her on behalf of the City.

CARRIED

(Councillors Cadman, Chow, Deal and Stevenson opposed)

(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

3. Eliminating Plastic Grocery Bags

At its meeting on September 30, 2008, Vancouver City Council referred this item to the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting on October 2, 2008, in order to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from one speaker (*material circulated and on file*) who provided an overhead presentation and spoke in support of the elimination of plastic bags.

The City Engineer circulated a memorandum (*on file*) which set out recommendations from Metro Vancouver's Waste Management Committee scheduled to go before the GVS&DD Board of Directors meeting on October 3, 2008.

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS:

1. the City of Vancouver has a duty to protect the natural environment, the economy, and the health of its citizens;
2. plastic grocery bags cannot be composted and are not accepted in Vancouver's curb side recycling program;
3. plastic bags don't biodegrade - breaking down into smaller toxic bits that contaminate soil and waterways;
4. plastic bags can take between 15 - 1000 years to break down in the environment;
5. in the Mayor's State of the City address, he stated that one of his five goals for a better Vancouver was "Becoming a world leader in environmental practices and sustainable transportation";
6. the expansive usage of plastic grocery bags and their typical disposal creates an impediment to Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Challenge;
7. Metro Vancouver will be working with local business associations to discourage the use of disposable shopping bags;
8. Metro Vancouver will be pursuing alternative educational strategies to reduce plastic shopping bags; and
9. Metro Vancouver urges member Municipalities to ask the Provincial Government for the right to ban plastic grocery bags with their jurisdiction.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT staff provide a report on ways of pursuing educational strategies to help reduce the use of all disposable plastic shopping bags within the City of Vancouver using the "Rossland Model" as a guide.
2. THAT staff explore ways with Metro Vancouver to work with Vancouver business associations to discourage the use of disposable shopping bags.
3. THAT staff review all legal means whereby the City of Vancouver might ban plastic shopping bags.
4. THAT staff immediately request the Provincial Government to change the Vancouver Charter to allow the City of Vancouver to ban the use of plastic shopping bags.
5. THAT staff provide a report early in the new year with options of phasing out plastic grocery bags until a ban can be implemented.

referred

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Anton

THAT this matter be referred to the Regular Council meeting of October 14, 2008, to allow for the October 3rd Metro Vancouver Board discussion.

CARRIED

(Councillor Cadman opposed)

(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

The Committee adjourned at 12:57 p.m.

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CITY OF VANCOUVER

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

OCTOBER 2, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Thursday, October 2, 2008, at 12:57 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
- James Ridge, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:

- Denise Salmon, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

"IN CAMERA" MEETING

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

SECONDED by Councillor Anton

THAT Council will go into a meeting later this day which is closed to the public, pursuant to Section 165.2(1) of the *Vancouver Charter*, to discuss matters related to paragraph(s):

- (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of an activity, work or facility that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the Council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city if they were held in public.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Chow
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets October 2, 2008

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. Automated Meter Reading & Water Billing Improvements
2. Ambassador Program Expansion (Other Areas)
3. Eliminating Plastic Grocery Bags

Items 1 to 3

MOVED by Councillor Lee

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets at its meeting of October 2, 2008, as contained in items 1 to 3 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Ball

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Capri
SECONDED by Councillor Cadman

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

BY-LAWS

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

THAT Council enact the by-law listed on the agenda for this meeting as number 1, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign and seal the enacted by-law.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

1. **A By-law to authorize questions for the assent of electors regarding the 2009 - 2011 Capital Plan (By-law No. 9729)**

MOTIONS

A. Administrative Motions

None

B. Motions on Notice

1. Support Federal Arts Funding

At the Council meeting of September 30, 2008, Councillor Deal submitted the following Motion, which was recognized by the Chair. Councillor Ball called Notice under Section 5.4(c) of the Procedure By-law.

MOVED by Councillor Deal
SECONDED by Councillor Ball

WHEREAS the Federal Government recently cut funding to arts programs by \$45 million dollars, and

WHEREAS these cuts included the complete elimination of several programs including PromArt, Trade Routes and Canadian Cultural Observatory, and

WHEREAS these programs provide industry support for Canadian artists working internationally (including touring companies of Canadian productions), expansion of digital media, training programs for cultural workers, research and development programs, and

WHEREAS there are over a million Canadian artists and cultural workers who inject \$85 billion (directly and indirectly) into the Canadian economy, representing over 7% of the GDP, and

WHEREAS Vancouver, the Provincial Government and VANOC are currently encouraging and supporting cultural tourism and actively promoting local artists overseas in the lead-up to the 2010 Olympics, and

WHEREAS cultural tourism is supported by the presence of Canadian artists in communities around the world,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council go on record in opposition to these cuts in Federal arts funding and that the Mayor of Vancouver request that the Prime Minister reverse the cuts to arts programs.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Ball
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

THAT the motion be struck and replaced with:

WHEREAS:

1. The City of Vancouver, supports the artists and arts organizations of Vancouver;
2. The Citizens of Vancouver benefit from a vibrant cultural environment;
3. Artists and arts organizations thrive in the City of Vancouver due to the support of private and corporate donors working together with all three orders of government;
4. The City of Vancouver acknowledges and celebrates contributions from the federal government to the local artistic community such as the recent increases to the Canada Council, and capital grants to the Vancouver East Cultural Centre and the Arts Club Theatre. It is recognized that those grants were made based on clear information provided to the federal government committees. The positive results of such grants are gratefully acknowledged;
5. The recent cancellations of the PromArt and Trade Route Programs as well as the Capacity Building and Stabilization Funds are based on a misunderstanding

of the importance of these programs to our cultural organizations. These grants are critically important in creating employment for artists, technicians, and arts administrators in Vancouver's valuable arts and cultural organizations. The job loss due to the reduction in national and international promotion of our artists and cultural organizations will be disastrous. The loss of these programs will make it difficult for our local companies to maintain their agreements with the City to maintain stable funding in their organizations;

6. There is a misunderstanding of the role of gala events in the arts community. The working artists of British Columbia are encouraged to fund-raise for their cultural and arts organizations and they attract donors by various methods including gala events. No gala is subsidized by tax-payer's money. Indeed, generous sponsors use galas to raise funds for cultural organizations so that work of artists may be seen and celebrated by the community;
7. It is important that the federal government consult with the City of Vancouver's Office of Cultural Affairs, the Canadian Conference of the Arts, and the Greater Vancouver Alliance for Arts and Culture, regarding these and other recent cuts to the funding to such programs and other programs as the PromArt and Trade Route Programs and the Capacity Building and Stabilization Funds.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT Council communicate to the Federal Government the City's request that the Federal Government reconsider the funding cuts to the PromArt and Trade Route Programs and the Capacity Building and Stabilization Funds and reiterate that such losses would undercut the powerful positive results of the increase to the Canada Council.
2. THAT Council request that the Mayor forward a copy of this Motion to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

carried

The amendment having carried, the motion as amended was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, with Councillor Louie absent for the vote.

The Council adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

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