

FEBRUARY 17, 2009

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Tuesday, February 17, 2009, at 2:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Mayor Gregor Robertson*
Councillor Suzanne Anton
Councillor David Cadman
Councillor George Chow
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor Geoff Meggs
Councillor Andrea Reimer
Councillor Tim Stevenson*
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Penny Ballem, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Marg Coulson, Acting City Clerk
Laura Kazakoff, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

PRAYER

The proceedings in the Council Chamber were opened with a prayer read by Councillor Jang.

PROCLAMATION - YOUTHPOLITIK DAY IN COUNCIL

The Mayor proclaimed Saturday, March 28, 2009, as "YouthPolitik Day in Council".

"IN CAMERA" MEETING

MOVED by Councillor Chow
SECONDED by Councillor Jang

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):

(e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the city.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEMS ARISING FROM THE "IN CAMERA" MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2009

- Council appointed Kevin Wallinger as the Director of Emergency Management;
- Council approved appointments to the following Advisory Bodies:
 - Development Permit Board Advisory Panel;
 - Vancouver Heritage Commission;
 - Vancouver Civic Theatres Board;
 - Vancouver City Planning Commission;
 - Vancouver Public Library Board.

Names of those appointed can be obtained from the City Clerk's Office.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Regular Council - February 3, 2009

MOVED by Councillor Deal
SECONDED by Councillor Cadman

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Regular Council (City Services and Budgets) - February 5, 2009

MOVED by Councillor Louie
SECONDED by Councillor Jang

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Special Council (Court of Revision) - February 5, 2009

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Special Council - February 11, 2009

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

THAT the foregoing Minutes be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by Councillor Woodsworth

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT

MOVED by Councillor Chow

THAT Council adopt Communication 1 and Administrative Reports A1, A3, A5 to A7, and Policy Reports P1 and P2, on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORT REFERENCE

1. Landfill Fire Update

Tom Timm, General Manager, Engineering Services, introduced Lynn Belanger, Manager, Landfill and Transfer Operations, who provided an update on the fire in the demolition area at the Vancouver Landfill. Ms. Belanger reviewed the background and chronology of events, extinguishment strategy employed, and estimated costs. She noted the fire appeared to be out, however monitoring will continue and the final plan will depend on monitoring results.

Staff also put forward a recommendation for funding approval for Council's consideration, as set out in a Memorandum from the General Manager of Engineering Services dated February 17, 2009.

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT Council approve that the expenditures attributable to the Vancouver Landfill that have been incurred to date for extinguishing the sub-surface fire in the demolition area be charged to the operating budget of the Landfill, and authorize the City Engineer to approve such additional expenditures as are necessary to ensure that the fire is out.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Stevenson absent for the vote)

COMMUNICATIONS

1. **Appointment of Council Representative to the Vancouver Heritage Foundation Board**

THAT Councillor Heather Deal replace Councillor Tim Stevenson as the Council Representative to the Vancouver Heritage Foundation Board effective immediately with the term ending on December 4, 2011.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

1. **Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM), Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) and Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA) Membership Fees for 2009-2010
January 22, 2009**

A. THAT grants to the following organizations for the 2009-2010 membership fees be approved, the source of funds being the 2009 Operating Budget:

(a)	Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM)	\$70,621.00
(b)	Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM)	\$46,610.80
(c)	Lower Mainland Local Government Association (LMLGA)	\$ 2,000.

B. THAT a grant to the FCM be approved in the amount of \$10,115.72, representing an optional contribution to "BC's Travel Fund", supporting the participation of elected officials from small communities in FCM's National Board of Directors.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

**2. Form of Development: 525 Abbott Street
February 3, 2009**

The Mayor advised requests to speak to this report had been received. Council agreed to refer the report to a Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2009, in order to hear from speakers.

**3. 429 West Pender Street - Façade Grant
January 8, 2009**

- A. THAT Council approve a façade grant of up to \$50,000 for the rehabilitation of the principal façade at 429 West Pender Street as contemplated by Development Application Number DE 412261. The source of funding is the 2008 Capital Budget for the Heritage Façade Rehabilitation Program.
- B. THAT Council authorize the City to enter into an agreement with the owner of 429 West Pender Street to be registered in the Land Title Office as a section 219 covenant, which agreement shall require the rehabilitation to be overseen by qualified Heritage Consultant and will require the owner to maintain the 429 West Pender Street façade in good appearance and good repair for a minimum of fifteen years.
- C. THAT the agreement described above in B shall be prepared, registered and given priority to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services in consultation with the Director of Planning.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

**4. Emery Barnes Park - Phase 2 - Closure of a Portion of Lane East of 1100 Block
Seymour Street, North from Davie Street
January 12, 2009**

MOVED by Councillor Anton

- A. THAT Council close and stop-up that portion of lane east of Seymour Street, north from Davie Street as shown in heavy bold outline on the plan attached as Appendix "B" (the "Lane") of the Administrative Report dated January 12, 2009, entitled "Emery Barnes Park - Phase 2 - Closure of a Portion of Lane East of 1100 Block Seymour Street, North from Davie Street". The Lane to be closed be consolidated with City owned abutting lands being: Lot A, Except Part in Plan BCP9161, Plan BCP8785 and Lots 3 to 16 Plan 210, all of Block 94 District Lot 541 Group 1 New Westminster District to form a single parcel as shown within heavy bold outline on plan attached as Appendix "C" of the Administrative report, to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services and

subject to the additional conditions noted in Appendix "A" of the Administrative Report.

- B. THAT the Director of Legal Services and the Director of Real Estate Services be authorized to execute all plans and documents required.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**5. 2009 Advance Approval for Capital Expenditure
February 2, 2009**

THAT capital spending of \$6,130,000 for current projects of a time-sensitive nature, as described in the Administrative Report dated February 2, 2009, entitled "2009 Advance Approval for Capital Expenditure", be approved in advance of final approval of the 2009 capital budget, with sources of funding to be as follows:

- \$5,500,000 from the voter-approved borrowing authority for parks and recreation facilities,
- \$530,000 from 2009 Capital from Operating, and
- \$100,000 from City-wide Development Cost Levy (DCL).

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**6. Award of Contract for ITT PS08178 - Expo Deck Repairs
January 28, 2009**

- A. THAT, subject to the conditions as set out in C, D and E below, the General Manager of Engineering Services be authorized to enter into a contract with Vancouver Pile Driving Ltd. at an estimated cost of \$970,115 plus applicable taxes, with funding to be provided from the approved Capital Budget for the Expo Deck repairs.
- B. THAT, subject to the conditions set out in C, D, and E below, the existing Professional Services Agreement with Westmar Consulting Inc. (now WorleyParsons Canada Ltd.) dated November 16, 2007 and amended by an agreement dated October 2, 2008 be amended to include additional scope of work including services during construction at a cost of \$237,410 plus applicable taxes, source of funding to be the approved Capital Budget for the Expo Deck repairs.
- C. THAT the Director of Legal Services be authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the City all legal documents required to implement A and B above.
- D. THAT all such legal documents be on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Director of Legal Services and the General Manager of Engineering Services.

- E. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created or arise by Council's adoption of A, B, C, and D above unless and until such legal documents are executed and delivered by the Director of Legal Services.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**7. Legislative Review of the Library Act
February 2, 2009**

- A. THAT Council endorse the Vancouver Public Library Board's submission to the Minister of Education on the legislative review of the *Library Act*.
- B. THAT Council inform the Minister of Education of its support of the Library Board's submission.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**8. Emergency Operations Centre Renovations
February 4, 2009**

The Mayor advised a request to speak to this report had been received. Council agreed to refer the report to a Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2009, in order to hear from the speaker.

**9. Business License Hearings - March and April 2009
February 9, 2009**

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

THAT Council delegate the holding of the Business License Hearings presently scheduled for March and April 2009 to a panel of three Council Members, pursuant to Section 277.1 of the Vancouver Charter, and that pursuant to Section 275 of the Vancouver Charter the power to make a Council decision in relation to those hearings be delegated as follows:

March 5, 2009 - 7:30 pm
Councillor George Chow - Chair
Councillor David Cadman
Councillor Geoff Meggs
Councillor Andrea Reimer - Alternate

March 24, 2009 - 9:30 am

Councillor Suzanne Anton - Chair
Councillor Kerry Jang
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth - Alternate

April 9, 2009 - 7:30 pm

Councillor Raymond Louie - Chair
Councillor Suzanne Anton
Councillor Ellen Woodsworth
Councillor Kerry Jang - Alternate

April 15, 2009 - 9:30 am

Councillor Andrea Reimer - Chair
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang
Councillor George Chow - Alternate

April 21, 2009 - 9:30 am

Councillor David Cadman - Chair
Councillor Suzanne Anton
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor George Chow - Alternate

Should any of the above Members of Council be unable to attend the hearings, the hearings and the power to make a Council decision in relation to those hearings be delegated to the remaining two Councillors and alternate Councillors.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**10. The Cost and Affordability of the City's Affordable Housing: Southeast False Creek Area 2A (Olympic Village)
February 16, 2009**

The Mayor noted requests to speak to this report had been received, however, as the recommendation is that staff report back by April 15, 2009, persons requesting to speak would therefore have an opportunity to speak at the time of the report back.

MOVED by Councillor Chow

THAT the Managing Director of Social Development report back to Council by April 15, 2009, on financial and operational options for the affordable housing/community centre component of the Olympic Village.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

POLICY REPORTS

**1. Hastings North - Victoria Drive to Semlin Drive Rezoning
February 9, 2009**

THAT the Director of Planning be instructed to make an application to rezone the industrial area between Victoria Drive and Semlin Drive, as shown in Figure 1 and as described by legal descriptions contained in Appendix A of the Policy Report dated February 9, 2009, entitled "Hastings North - Victoria Drive to Semlin Drive Rezoning", from M-2 District to I-2 District and that the application be referred to a Public Hearing;

AND FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary amendments to the Zoning and Development By-law for consideration at a Public Hearing.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

**2. Miscellaneous Text Amendments: CD-1 #458 and the Sign By-law
February 3, 2009**

THAT the Director of Planning be instructed to make applications to amend CD-1 #458 (By-law No. 9543) and the Sign By-law for miscellaneous text amendments generally as presented in Appendix A of the Policy Report dated February 3, 2009, entitled "Miscellaneous Text Amendments: CD-1 #458 and the Sign By-law", and that the applications be referred to a Public Hearing;

FURTHER THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary amending by-laws, generally in accordance with Appendix A of the Policy Report, for consideration at the Public Hearing.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Chow

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADOPT REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

BY-LAWS

MOVED by Councillor Chow
SECONDED by Councillor Stevenson

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

1. A By-law to to Authorize the Borrowing and Incurring of Liabilities in Relation to the Southeast False Creek Development (By-law No. 9802)

MOTIONS

A. Administrative Motions

1. Closure of a Portion of Lane East of 1100 Block Seymour Street, North from Davie Street

MOVED by Councillor Louie
SECONDED by Councillor Woodsworth

THAT WHEREAS:

1. The City of Vancouver is the owner of all the streets and lanes lying within the limits of the City of Vancouver;
2. There is a proposal to complete the development of Emery Barnes Park - Phase 2 on City owned Lot A, Except Part in Plan BCP9161, Plan BCP8785 and Lots 3 to 16, Plan 210; all of Block 94 District Lot 541 Group 1 New Westminster District;
3. The proposal requires the closure of a portion of lane east of Seymour Street and north from Davie Street, and being adjacent to said Lot A;
4. The said portion of lane was dedicated by the deposit of Plan 210;

5. The proposal requires the consolidation of the said portion of lane to be closed with said Lot A and said Lots 3 to 16, to create a single parcel to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services;
6. The City is to take back a Right of Way for public utilities over the lane to be closed.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT all that portion of lane east of Seymour Street and north from Davie Street, and being adjacent to Lot A, Except Part in Plan BCP9161, Block 94 District Lot 541 Group 1 New Westminster District Plan BCP8785; the same as shown in heavy bold outline on Reference Plan prepared by David W. Parkin, B.C.L.S., completed and checked on the 3rd day of November, 2008 and marginally noted "LD4816", be closed, stopped-up and conveyed to the abutting owner; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the said portion of lane to be closed be consolidated with said Lot A and Lots 3 to 16 all of Block 94 District Lot 541 Group 1 New Westminster District Plan 210 to form a single parcel as shown within heavy bold outline on the Reference Plan prepared by David W. Parkin, B.C.L.S., completed and checked on the 9th day of February, 2009 and marginally noted "LD4817R", to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Motions on Notice

1. Request for Leave of Absence - Councillor Deal

MOVED by Councillor Reimer
SECONDED by Councillor Cadman

THAT Councillor Deal be granted Leave of Absence from the Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic meetings to be held April 7, May 5th, September 8 and October 6, 2009, in order to attend Metro Vancouver Environment Committee Meetings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Request for Leave of Absence - Councillor Stevenson

MOVED by Councillor Deal
SECONDED by Deputy Mayor Chow

THAT Councillor Stevenson be granted Leave of Absence from the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meetings to be held April 9, June 11, September 10 and October 15, 2009, in order to attend Metro Vancouver Intergovernmental Committee Meetings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Request for Leave of Absence - Councillor Stevenson

MOVED by Councillor Reimer
SECONDED by Councillor Jang

THAT Councillor Stevenson be granted Leave of Absence from the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets and the Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meetings to be held March 26, 2009, in order to attend the Municipal Finance Authority AGM.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Small Business Tax Bracket

MOVED by Councillor Cadman
SECONDED by Councillor Woodsworth

WHEREAS:

1. Small businesses in Vancouver are suffering from the economic down turn;
2. Small businesses deserve a share of the tax responsibility commensurate with the size of their businesses;
3. Only the Province has the ability to amend/create new property classes under Section 19(14) of the BC Assessment Act[RSBC 1996] and the Community Charter, Municipal Tax Regulation that define tax classes;
4. The 2002-2005 Council requested changes from the provincial government to create a new tax class for small business;
5. A report back was requested from staff during the 2005-2008 term;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT

This Council reiterate its desire to see a differentiated class bracket for small business and urges the provincial government to authorize this change in this legislative session.

referred

The Mayor advised requests to speak to Motion B.4 had been received. Council agreed to refer the motion to a Standing Committee meeting Thursday, February 19, 2009, in order to hear from speakers.

5. Empowering Citizen Voices on Citizen Advisory Committees

Councillor Reimer noted a required correction to the Terms of Reference for the Persons with Disabilities Advisory Committee, which is attached as "Appendix A" to the motion, to replace any reference to seniors, the elderly and their families, with "persons with disabilities".

* * * * *

During the discussion on this item, Mayor Robertson left the meeting on Civic Business and Deputy Mayor Chow assumed the Chair.

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MOVED by Councillor Reimer
SECONDED by Councillor Woodsworth

WHEREAS in November 2006, Council established several "Type A" and "Type B" advisory committees with terms that expired on December 7, 2008 to coincide with that Council's term of office. Since their establishment, these advisory committees have undertaken valuable work and provided important advice on policy matters to Council that have materially improved Vancouver's quality of life.

AND WHEREAS the "rolling together" of several previously existing committees into two larger committees - Advisory Committee on Access and Inclusion and Advisory Committee on Diversity - has not guaranteed representation for each community these committees seek to represent, nor has it proved an optimal situation for advancing the issues of individual communities.

AND WHEREAS the City created a Women's Task Force in 2004 that developed a Gender Equality Strategy that has not been implemented.

AND WHEREAS many advisory committees continue to express confusion about their roles, responsibilities and rights.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council establish the following Type A committees as advisory to Council and that their mandates and terms of reference remain unchanged:
- Bicycle Advisory Committee
 - Food Policy Council
- B. THAT Council establish the following Type A committees as advisory to Council and that their terms of reference and size be established as follows:

Committee	Terms of Reference	Number of Members
Multicultural	As set out in "Appendix A" of the Motion entitled "Empowering Citizen Voices on Citizen Advisory Committees"	Maximum of 12
LGBTQ	As set out in Appendix A.	Maximum of 12

Women	As set out in Appendix A.	Maximum of 12
Seniors	As set out in Appendix A.	Maximum of 12
Persons with Disabilities	As set out in the revised Appendix A.	Maximum of 12

- C. THAT Council establish the following Type B committees as advisory to staff and that their mandates and terms of reference remain unchanged:
- Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee
 - First Shaughnessy Design Panel
 - Gastown Historic Planning Committee
- D. THAT Council appoint a non-voting Councillor liaison to each of the committees listed in A and B above and invite the Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation and the Vancouver Board of Education to send a non-voting liaison.
- E. THAT Council direct the City Manager to assign a staff liaison to each committee listed in A and B above for the purpose of providing information and advice on City programs and work that is relevant to the mandate and workplan of the assigned advisory body.
- F. THAT Council direct staff to proceed with advertising for all committees requiring appointment with the goal that all committee members be appointed no later than May, 2009. Interim to this date, and to aid in continuity of workplans, existing members from committees listed in A and C above may continue the committee's existing work should they wish to.
- G. THAT Council direct staff to organize a one-time "Council of Councils" no later than June 2009. This facilitated meeting shall be: open to all members of Type A advisory committees; include information on roles, responsibilities and rights; allow each advisory committee to briefly present their priorities/workplans for the year; and provide information on effective meeting facilitation and follow up.
- H. THAT Council acknowledge the dedication of all outgoing committee members.

CARRIED

(Councillor Anton opposed to B)

(Mayor Robertson absent on civic business for the vote)

6. Building Affordable and Rental Housing

MOVED by Councillor Louie

SECONDED by Councillor Meggs

WHEREAS buying a home in the City of Vancouver requires an annual family income that is at least double what most families earn in this city; and

WHEREAS a sufficient stock of affordable rental and market housing is necessary for the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the city; and

WHEREAS private sector developers have indicated a strong willingness to work with the City to find solutions to the challenge of creating rental and affordable market housing; and

WHEREAS City action to support private sector investment in the generation of this kind of housing will help the city's economy and lay the foundation for long-term benefits to citizens; and

WHEREAS Vancouver should be a leader in the development of innovative programs to accelerate the construction of affordable housing, both for rental and home ownership;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT:

1. Council ask the Mayor to convene as soon as practicable, a round-table consultation engaging City staff with housing specialists, developers, real estate consultants, architects and designers, neighbourhood leaders and other stakeholders to seek their advice and input on, but not limited to:
 - Short-term measures by which the City can increase the stock of rental and affordable housing;
 - elements of a longer-term strategy that builds on or reshapes existing initiatives;
 - prioritizing and streamlining the development permit processing of rental housing applications;
 - new initiatives, including consideration of incentives, to create new rental and affordable housing stock;
 - encouraging these new developments at or near rapid transit station locations.
2. Council direct staff to report back to Council as soon as possible following the round table consultation on methods to increase the supply of rental housing in the immediate term;
3. Council direct staff to report back to Council by the end of September 2009 on the state of rental and affordable housing in the city, including need, existing affordable housing, and the City's role in the development, operation and funding of affordable housing in the city, as well as affordable housing strategies now being employed in other municipalities, especially those championed by SmartGrowth BC;
4. Council direct staff to report back to Council, by the end of March 2009, on additional measures to protect existing rental housing stock.

referred

The Deputy Mayor noted requests to speak to Motion B.6 had been received. Council agreed to refer the motion to a Standing Committee meeting on Thursday, February 19, 2009, in order to hear from speakers.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request for Leave of Absence - Councillor Stevenson

MOVED by Deputy Mayor Chow
SECONDED by Councillor Jang

THAT Councillor Stevenson be granted Leave of Absence for civic business from the Standing Committee on Transportation and Traffic meeting to be held March 3, 2009.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mayor Robertson absent on civic business for the vote)

2. Leaves of Absence for Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Meetings

MOVED by Councillor Reimer
SECONDED by Deputy Mayor Chow

WHEREAS at the Inaugural Meeting of Council held on December 8, 2008, Council approved the appointment of Councillor Raymond Louie as an alternate non-voting delegate of the FCM Board of Directors until the 2009 FCM Annual General Meeting and his appointment as a voting member of the FCM Board of Directors as of the 2009 FCM Annual General Meeting; and

WHEREAS at the Inaugural Meeting of Council held on December 8, 2008, Council approved Councillor Tim Stevenson as an alternate non-voting delegate to the FCM Board of Directors effective immediately, and Councillor Heather Deal as an alternate non-voting delegate as of the 2009 FCM Annual General Meeting; and

WHEREAS Councillor Suzanne Anton is Vancouver's current voting member of the FCM Board of Directors for the March 2009 meeting.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

1. THAT Councillor Raymond Louie be granted a leave of absence for civic business for the following meetings:
 - The Public Hearing scheduled on the evening of September 8, 2009;
 - Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets and Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meetings to be held on March 5, 2009, September 10, 2009; and November 19, 2009; and

- The proposed Public Hearing back-up scheduled for the evening of September 10, 2009.
2. THAT Councillor Tim Stevenson be granted a leave of absence for civic business for the following meetings:
 - The Public Hearing scheduled on the evening of September 8, 2009;
 - Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets and Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meetings to be held on March 5, 2009, September 10, 2009; and November 19, 2009; and
 - The proposed Public Hearing back-up scheduled for the evening of September 10, 2009.
 3. THAT Councillor Heather Deal be granted a leave of absence for civic business for the following meetings:
 - The Public Hearing scheduled on the evening of September 8, 2009;
 - Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets and Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meetings to be held on September 10, 2009; and November 19, 2009; and
 - The proposed Public Hearing back-up scheduled for the evening of September 10, 2009.
 4. THAT Councillor Suzanne Anton be granted a leave of absence for civic business for the following meetings:
 - Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets and Standing Committee on Planning and Environment meetings to be held on March 5, 2009.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mayor Robertson absent on civic business for the vote)

3. Travel Expenses to Attend the Federation of Canadian Municipalities

MOVED by Councillor Reimer
SECONDED by Deputy Mayor Chow

WHEREAS at the Inaugural Meeting of Council held on December 8, 2008, Council approved the appointment of Councillor Raymond Louie as an alternate non-voting delegate of the FCM Board of Directors until the 2009 FCM Annual General Meeting and his appointment as a voting member of the FCM Board of Directors as of the 2009 FCM Annual General Meeting; and

WHEREAS at the Inaugural Meeting of Council held on December 8, 2008, Council approved Councillor Tim Stevenson as an alternate non-voting delegate to the FCM Board of Directors effective immediately, and Councillor Heather Deal as an alternate non-voting delegate as of the 2009 FCM Annual General Meeting; and

WHEREAS Councillor Suzanne Anton is Vancouver's current voting member of the FCM Board of Directors for the March 2009 meeting;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT all travel expenses incurred by Councillor Raymond Louie, Councillor Tim Stevenson, Councillor Suzanne Anton and Councillor Heather Deal for attending the meetings of the FCM Board of Directors as a voting member or an alternate non-voting member, as the case may be, be authorized for as long as each retains their appointment.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mayor Robertson absent on civic business for the vote)

4. Vancouver City Planning Commission - Council Liaison

MOVED by Councillor Louie
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

THAT Councillor Chow be appointed as a second Council liaison to the Vancouver City Planning Commission.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Mayor Robertson absent on civic business for the vote)

5. Class 8 Conversions

MOVED by Councillor Woodsworth
SECONDED by Councillor Cadman

WHEREAS

1. As a result of installing gardens (including temporary ones), developers can get their land reclassified by the BC Assessment Authority from Class 6, which business or commercial, to Class 8, which is recreational or non-profit;
2. A reclassification from Class 6 to 8 can result in a property tax reduction of more than 70%;
3. While gardens fit into an important sustainability mandate, this reclassification may unfairly shift the tax burden to other commercial property owners;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

THAT Staff be directed to report back on how many of these reclassifications have taken place, how much it may or may not cost in lost tax revenue, and what recourse the City has.

amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the motion be struck and replaced with the following:

THAT staff be directed to report back as expeditiously as possible on the following:

- the number of reclassified properties from any class to Class 8;
- the property tax implications on the remaining properties within each property tax class that a reclassification has occurred;
- action options for Council to consider in order to ensure a fair taxation model.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Mayor Robertson absent on civic business for the vote)

The amendment having carried, the motion, as amended, was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Mayor Robertson absent on civic business for the vote.)

FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED

THAT staff be directed to report back as expeditiously as possible on the following:

- the number of reclassified properties from any class to Class 8;
- the property tax implications on the remaining properties within each property tax class that a reclassification has occurred;
- action options for Council to consider in order to ensure a fair taxation model.

6. Request for Leave of Absence - Councillor Reimer

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

SECONDED by Councillor Louie

THAT Councillor Reimer be granted Leave of Absence for civic business from the Special Council meeting to be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2009.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Mayor Robertson absent on civic business for the vote)

ENQUIRIES AND OTHER MATTERS

1. Downtown Eastside Engineering Department Sweeps

Councillor Woodsworth expressed concern regarding reports of City Engineering crews performing street sweeps in the Downtown Eastside whereby persons in that neighbourhood are having their possessions taken away to a City works yard. Councillor Woodsworth requested a memo from staff explaining what is occurring and why.

The Council adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

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