

## MOTION ON NOTICE

### 3. Fatal Fire at 2862 Pandora Street

MOVER: Councillor Suzanne Anton

SECONDER: Councillor

#### WHEREAS

1. Three people lost their lives in the fire which occurred on December 22, 2010, at 2862 Pandora Street: Dwayne Rasmussen, Garland McKay and Steven Yellowquill;
2. The house was well known to the City as inspectors had visited it many times;
3. An investigation of the tragedy will be undertaken by Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services and a further investigation may be undertaken by the Coroner;
4. Many questions arise from the tragedy which relate to City processes, such as:
  - (a) Are City by-laws sufficient to allow timely action on problem premises?
  - (b) Are there additional steps the City can take to move more quickly with problem premises?
  - (c) Is there sufficient staffing in the City's by-laws and inspections department to allow staff to take timely action?
  - (d) What is the relationship between the need for affordable housing and substandard housing?
5. Political statements made by a Councillor shortly after the fire concluded that nothing more could have been done by the City to prevent the tragedy;
6. An investigation can question all issues arising from the tragedy relevant to the City and report back with recommendations to prevent a similar occurrence;
7. Public confidence requires that the investigation be undertaken by a third party to the City.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council respectfully requests that the Coroner convene an inquest to review all of these issues.
- B. THAT, if all of the issues are not to be considered by the Coroner, Council appoint a third party Examiner to conduct a review of all City by-laws and processes relating to the fatal fire at 2862 Pandora Street on December 22, 2010, in order to make recommendations and report back to Council as to how such a tragedy might be prevented in the future, the Examiner to have full confidential access to staff.

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