



REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT

APRIL 30, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on Planning, Transportation and Environment was held on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, at 9:34 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Andrea Reimer*, Chair
Councillor George Affleck
Councillor Elizabeth Ball
Councillor Adriane Carr*
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang*
Councillor Raymond Louie* (Civic Business - Item 3)
Councillor Geoff Meggs, Vice-Chair
Councillor Tim Stevenson*
Councillor Tony Tang

ABSENT: Mayor Gregor Robertson (Leave of Absence - Civic Business)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Penny Ballem, City Manager
Mukhtar Latif, Chief Housing Officer

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk
Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

* Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT

MOVED by Councillor Deal

THAT Item 2 be adopted on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Campaign Financing Limits for November 15, 2014 Vancouver Civic Election

At the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2014, Vancouver City Council, when considering a motion on the above-noted matter, referred part B of the motion to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, to hear from speakers and receive information from staff.

The City Clerk responded to questions in relation to campaign finance regulation.

The Committee heard from four speakers in support of the motion.

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During debate it was

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

THAT the meeting be extended to complete the business on the agenda and that the Committee recess at 1 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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MOVED by Councillor Carr

- B. THAT, should the Provincial Government fail to amend Bill 20 as requested above, Council shall quickly establish an all-party subcommittee of Council which, in a process allowing for public input, shall develop for Council's consideration a set of campaign finance guidelines based on the recommendations outlined in A above, including specified limits on sources and amounts of donations and campaign expenditures, for Council to consider and to urge all parties and candidates to adopt voluntarily in the absence of legal constraints, and that these guidelines shall be made ready in time for the November 15, 2014, election campaign period.

LOST

(Councillors Affleck, Ball, Deal, Jang, Louie, Meggs, Reimer, Stevenson and Tang opposed)

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VARY AGENDA

MOVED by Councillor Jang

THAT the Committee vary the order of the agenda to place item 5 at the end of the agenda.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Note: For clarity the minutes are recorded in chronological order.

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2. Grant Request - Streetohome Foundation
April 1, 2014

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council approve a grant of \$125,000 to Streetohome Foundation for 2014 with the source funds to be the Community Services 2014 Operating Budget for Street Homelessness.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

3. 2013 Housing and Homelessness Strategy Report Card
April 17 2014

The General Manager, Community Services and Housing Policy staff presented the 2013 Housing and Homelessness Strategy Report Card and, along with the City Manager, responded to questions.

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The Committee recessed at 12:53 pm and reconvened at 2:04 pm with the same members present, except Councillor Louie who was absent on Civic Business.

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MOVED by Councillor Jang
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Vancouver City Council receive the Policy Report dated April 17, 2014, entitled "2013 Housing and Homelessness Strategy Report Card" for information;

FURTHER THAT in the 2015 Housing and Homelessness Strategy Report Card, staff include metrics on the following:

- i) the amount of new units of family housing;
- ii) average rents city wide, by unit type;
- iii) standards of maintenance violations resolved through the use of injunctions, and time to achieve resolution; and
- iv) number of units, including single room occupancy and social housing, renting at shelter portion of welfare rate;

AND FURTHER THAT the 2015 Housing and Homelessness Strategy Report Card be published in an easily accessible format, similar to the Greenest City Annual Update.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
(Councillor Louie absent for the vote)

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VARY AGENDA

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

THAT the Committee vary the agenda to consider item 6 as the next order of business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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6. Plebiscite on Phasing Out Cetaceans in Captivity in the Vancouver Aquarium

At the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, April 29, 2014, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, to hear from speakers.

The Committee heard from ten speakers in support of the motion and one who spoke in support of the Park Board's decision to obtain further facts on the matter and receive thorough public input prior to making a decision.

The City Clerk, along with the City Manager and Legal Services staff, responded to questions related to legislation.

MOVED by Councillor Carr

WHEREAS

1. There is considerable scientific evidence that cetaceans (whales and dolphins) are sentient beings with complex social relations that naturally are accustomed to living in large habitats (belugas, for example, travelling 11 to 30 km per day and deep diving up to 800 m) and that suffer distress and premature death in captivity in aquarium pools;
2. Large and globally renown aquariums, such as the Monterey Bay Aquarium, the Maui Ocean Centre and the Sydney Sea Life Aquarium in Australia, are financially successful without holding cetaceans captive;
3. The Vancouver Aquarium's current \$100 million expansion plans to accommodate more dolphins and up to ten whales has prompted citizens concerned about the ethics of keeping cetaceans in captivity and contradictions with Vancouver's aim to become the world's "greenest city", to call for a plebiscite on keeping whales and dolphins in the Vancouver Aquarium;
4. The Park Board passed a motion November 27, 2006, to review in 2015 the Parks Control By-law regarding captive cetaceans at the Aquarium in Stanley Park;
5. The November 15, 2014, Civic Election offers an opportunity to survey the opinion of electors through a non-binding plebiscite on the ballot—a democratic process that can educate and engage the public as well as inform and guide subsequent Park Board decisions;
6. Under the Vancouver Charter, City Council, not the Park Board, has the authority to submit a plebiscite question to the electors;
7. Mayor Gregor Robertson has expressed the hope that the Aquarium and the Park Board can work collaboratively and come to an agreement on how to achieve phasing out the holding of whales and dolphins in captivity (the *Vancouver Sun* April 9, 2014, *CBC News* April 10, 2014) but there is no guarantee that this would occur prior to the November 15, 2014, Civic Election or prior to the commencement of the 2015 Parks Control By-law Review or prior to the start of construction of expanded whale and dolphin pools by the Aquarium.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT unless, prior to the six week deadline for Council to arrange a plebiscite question for the November 15, 2014, ballot, a decision has been reached between the Vancouver Park Board and the Vancouver Aquarium to phase out keeping cetaceans in captivity, Council will arrange a plebiscite question on phasing out existing cetacean exhibits located in Vancouver on land leased by the Park Board.

LOST

(Councillors Affleck, Ball, Deal, Jang, Louie, Meggs, Reimer, Stevenson and Tang opposed)

4. 2013 Annual Financial Report
April 17 2014

The General Manager, Financial Services Group, along with the City Manager and Financial Services staff, responded to questions.

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council receive for information the City of Vancouver Consolidated Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2013.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillors Stevenson, Jang, Carr, and Reimer absent for the vote)

5. Creation of a New Nuisance By-law

At the Regular Council meeting on Tuesday, April 29, 2014, Vancouver City Council referred this matter to the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, to hear from speakers.

Police Services staff explained the rationale for a new nuisance by-law.

The Committee heard from one speaker in support of the motion.

MOVED by Councillor Louie

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. In the City of Vancouver there are property owners whose properties generate repeated calls to 911 for a response from emergency personnel;
2. In the City of Vancouver some properties are responsible for over 100 police calls for service with a great majority of the calls for service related to noise and neighbourhood disturbances;
3. The City of New Westminster through By-law No. 6926, 2004 regulates and licences the letting of rooms for living purposes and prescribes standards for the maintenance of residential property and rental units including sections related to Repeat Nuisance Service Calls and Conditions of Licence;

4. The City of Vancouver has previously supported and funded a proactive approach to property management through the implementation practices recommended by the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Vancouver City Council direct staff to investigate the feasibility and advisability of a new nuisance by-law in conjunction with a Crime Free Multi-Housing Program and report back to Council with options to more effectively deal with problem properties that generate repeated calls for service.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee adjourned at 5:09 pm.

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REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON
PLANNING, TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT

APRIL 30, 2014

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, April 30, 2014, at 5:09 pm, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee.

PRESENT: Councillor George Affleck, Chair
Councillor Elizabeth Ball
Councillor Adriane Carr
Councillor Heather Deal
Councillor Kerry Jang
Councillor Raymond Louie
Councillor Geoff Meggs
Councillor Andrea Reimer
Councillor Tim Stevenson
Councillor Tony Tang

ABSENT: Mayor Gregor Robertson (Leave of Absence - Civic Business)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Penny Ballem, City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk
Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment
April 30, 2014

Council considered the report containing the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment. Its items of business included:

1. Campaign Financing Limits for November 15, 2014 Vancouver Civic Election
2. Grant Request - Streetohome Foundation
3. 2013 Housing and Homelessness Strategy Report Card
4. 2013 Annual Financial Report
5. Creation of a New Nuisance By-law
6. Plebiscite on Phasing Out Cetaceans in Captivity in the Vancouver Aquarium

Items 1 to 6

MOVED by Councillor Louie
SECONDED by Councillor Jang

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on Planning, Transportation and Environment at its meeting of Wednesday, April 30, 2014, as contained in items 1 to 6, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND ITEM 2
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Jang
SECONDED by Councillor Deal

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 5:10 pm.

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