

#### REPORT TO COUNCIL

# STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON CITY FINANCE AND SERVICES

#### **JANUARY 22, 2020**

A meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on City Finance and Services was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at 9:35 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

PRESENT: Councillor Melissa De Genova, Chair

Mayor Kennedy Stewart\* Councillor Rebecca Bligh

Councillor Christine Boyle\* (Leave of Absence after 5 pm -

Civic Business)

Councillor Adriane Carr Councillor Lisa Dominato\* Councillor Pete Fry, Vice-Chair Councillor Colleen Hardwick Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung\* Councillor Jean Swanson Councillor Michael Wiebe

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Sadhu Johnston, City Manager

Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Tina Penney, Deputy City Clerk

Tamarra Wong, Meeting Coordinator

#### WELCOME

The Chair acknowledged we are on the unceded territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh Nations and we thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great city together.

The Chair also recognized the immense contributions of the City of Vancouver's staff who work hard every day to help make our city an incredible place to live, work, and play.

<sup>\*</sup> Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

#### MATTERS ADOPTED ON CONSENT

MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT Council adopt Item 3, on consent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

(Councillors Dominato, Kirby-Yung and Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

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During opening remarks, the Committee agreed to a hard start of 2:00 pm for Item 4, entitled "Employment Lands & Economy Review – Update on Phase 1 and Next Steps".

Note: For ease of reference, the Minutes are recorded in chronological order.

\* \* \* \* \*

# 3. Contract Award for Asphalt, Concrete and Rock Crushing Services December 24, 2019

THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council authorize City staff to negotiate to the satisfaction of the City's General Manager of Engineering Services, the City's Director of Legal Services, and the City's Chief Procurement Officer and enter into a contract with Regehr Contracting Ltd., for the provision of asphalt, concrete and rock crushing services, for an initial term of three (3) years, with the City's option to extend for two (2) additional one (1) year terms, with an estimated contract value of \$3,742,846 million plus applicable taxes over the initial 3-year term. Funding is available from the 2020 Engineering Operating and Capital Approved Budgets for the first year. The 2021 and beyond expenditures for this contract are subject to the Council approval of the 2021 Annual Capital and Operating Budgets.
- B. THAT the City's Director of Legal Services, Chief Procurement Officer and General Manager of Engineering Services be authorized to execute on behalf of the City the contract contemplated by A above.
- C. THAT no legal rights or obligations will be created by Council's adoption of A and B above unless and until such contract is executed by the authorized signatories of the City as set out in these motions.

ADOPTED ON CONSENT (Vote No. 05448) (Councillors Dominato, Kirby-Yung and Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

# 1. Presentation: City's Internal Audit Division

Tony Hui, Chief of Internal Audit, and Carmen Fuellbrandt, Manager of Internal Audit, provided a presentation and responded to questions.

Following the first round of questions to staff, it was

MOVED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the Committee allow members to ask an additional round of questions to staff.

#### **CARRIED**

(Councillors Boyle and Swanson opposed)

# 2. Community Amenity Contribution (CAC) Policy Update January 8, 2020

Prior to the start of the item, it was

MOVED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the Committee hear from speakers prior to the staff presentation.

#### CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee heard from two speakers who spoke in general support of the recommendations and three speakers who spoke to other aspects of the report, all relating to neighbourhood houses.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Committee recessed at 11:58 am and reconvened at 2:16 pm with Item 4, entitled, "Employment Lands & Economy Review – Update on Phase 1 and Next Steps".

\* \* \* \* \*

# 4. Employment Lands & Economy Review – Update on Phase 1 and Next Steps November 11, 2019

At the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on November 27, 2019, the Committee heard from speakers and referred the presentation, questions, discussion and decision of the item to a future meeting.

Staff from Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability and external consultants from Hemson Consulting, provided a presentation and along with staff from Arts, Culture and Community Services, responded to questions.

Following the first round of questions to staff, it was

MOVED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the Committee allow members to ask an additional round of questions to staff.

#### LOST

(Councillors Bligh, Boyle, De Genova, Dominato, Kirby-Yung and Swanson opposed) (Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

MOVED by Councillor Swanson
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council receive this project update report and initial list of economic and employment lands challenges and opportunities and direct staff to continue engagement with the Vancouver Economic Commission (VEC), stakeholders, and others, including integration into the Vancouver Plan engagement processes, to identify high level policy directions and report back to Council in mid-2020 in parallel with the Vancouver Plan report back on challenges and principles including how to use city tools from Greenhouse Gas (GHG) producing industry to carbon neutral industry.

## not put

The Chair ruled Councillor Swanson's addition to the main motion as out of order as work is already being done by staff and is therefore redundant.

MOVED by Councillor Swanson THAT the Committee recommend to Council

THAT Council receive this project update report and initial list of economic and employment lands challenges and opportunities and direct staff to continue engagement with the Vancouver Economic Commission (VEC), stakeholders, and others, including integration into the Vancouver Plan engagement processes, to identify high level policy directions and report back to Council in mid-2020 in parallel with the Vancouver Plan report back on challenges and principles.

#### amended

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the words "the public" be inserted between the words "stakeholders" and "and others."

#### carried

The Chair ruled the amendment out of order as staff are already engaging with the public and is therefore redundant.

Subsequently, Councillor Hardwick challenged the ruling of the Chair. During the challenge of the Chair, Councillor De Genova relinquished the Chair to Councillor Fry.

## MOVED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the Chair's ruling be sustained.

LOST (Vote No. 05444)

(Councillors Carr, Dominato, Fry, Hardwick, Kirby-Yung, Swanson and Wiebe opposed) (Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

A two-thirds majority of those present is required to overrule the ruling of the Chair; the Chair's ruling was therefore overturned.

Following the challenge of the Chair, the amendment was put and CARRIED (Vote No. 05446), with Councillor De Genova opposed, Councillors Bligh and Boyle abstaining from the vote and Mayor Stewart absent for the vote.

Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states "Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative."

Prior to the final vote, Councillor De Genova resumed the Chair.

The motion as amended was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05447) with Mayor Stewart absent for the vote.

#### **FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

THAT Council receive this project update report and initial list of economic and employment lands challenges and opportunities and direct staff to continue engagement with the Vancouver Economic Commission (VEC), stakeholders, the public, and others, including integration into the Vancouver Plan engagement processes, to identify high level policy directions and report back to Council in mid-2020 in parallel with the Vancouver Plan report back on challenges and principles.

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The Committee recessed at 4:58 pm and reconvened at 6:10 pm with the staff presentation for Item 2, entitled "Community Amenity Contribution (CAC) Policy Update".

\* \* \* \* \*

# 2. Community Amenity Contribution (CAC) Policy Update (continued) January 8, 2020

Following the completion of Item 4, staff from City Wide and Regional Planning provided a presentation and responded to questions.

# MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT the Committee allow members to ask an additional round of questions to staff.

#### **CARRIED**

(Councillor De Genova opposed) (Mayor Stewart absent for the vote)

MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

- A. THAT Council repeal and replace the "Community Amenity Contributions through Rezonings Policy" found in Appendix A of the report dated January 8, 2020, entitled "Community Amenity Contribution (CAC) Policy Update", with the "Community Amenity Contributions Policy for Rezonings" generally as contained in Appendix B of the above-noted report.
- B. THAT Council adopt a CAC Target of \$3.00 per sq.ft. applicable to 100% institutional rezoning applications of hospitals, care facilities and post-secondary schools, with the CAC Target taking effect upon Council approval.
- C. THAT Council instruct staff to notify landowners and in-stream rezoning applications of the City's intent to increase CAC Targets in the Little Mountain Adjacent and Southeast False Creek M-2 zoned areas to \$47.00 and \$67.00 per sq.ft. respectively, and report back on an implementation plan in July 2020.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to monitor and report back to Council on the need to index cash CACs between Council approval in-principle of a rezoning application and rezoning enactment by Council and/or impose a required time limit to enact a new zoning, whereby if the time limit lapses, the approval in-principle of the rezoning application may expire.
- E. THAT Council direct staff to report back on a city-wide CAC allocation strategy following public engagement on the Vancouver Plan and the completion of the City's 10-year Capital Strategic Outlook.
- F. THAT Council direct staff to report back on the potential for allocation of Community Amenity Contributions to neighbourhood houses, arts venues and other non-profit venues that support growth and ongoing community services delivery in Vancouver through contributions to external endowment funds that support such organizations;

FURTHER THAT the report back review key considerations such as but not limited to legal considerations and requirements for potential external endowment fund recipients.

#### amended

At 7:31 pm, Councillor Carr rose on a point of order and enquired if a staff report recommendation can be moved with additional language. The Chair ruled that

Councillor Kirby-Yung's addition of F was in order as Councillor Kirby-Yung still had the floor and the addition of F only directs staff for a report back.

# AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Fry

THAT E be amended as follows:

- Insert the phrase "in 2020 on Vancouver Plan engagement and a framework for" between the words "back" and "a city-wide";
- Delete the phrase "following public engagement on the Vancouver Plan and the completion of the City's 10 year Capital Strategic Outlook"; and
- Add the phrase "to target areas specifically commensurate with an abundance of DCL-waiver incentivized density increases, so as to ensure increased geographic equity of public benefits as well as increased equity of public benefits between new buildings that are rental and strata" to the end.

#### withdrawn

# AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Fry

• THAT E be amended to delete the phrase "in 2020 on Vancouver Plan engagement and a framework for" between the words "back" and "a city-wide".

#### withdrawn

WITHDRAWAL MOVED by Councillor Fry

THAT, under Section 8.4 of the *Procedure By-law*, the amendment to the amendment be withdrawn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05449) (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

WITHDRAWAL MOVED by Councillor Fry

THAT, under Section 8.4 of the *Procedure By-law*, the amendment be withdrawn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05450) (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

# AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Swanson

THAT the following be added as G:

THAT Council direct staff to report back by Q4 2020, on how a public benefits strategy could prioritize more housing for households earning under \$50,000, and for people receiving social assistance and basic old age pension.

LOST (Vote No. 05451)

(Councillors Bligh, Carr, De Genova, Dominato, Hardwick and Wiebe opposed)

(Councillor Fry abstaining from the vote)

(Councillors Boyle and Kirby-Yung absent for the vote)

Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states "Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative."

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT F be deleted.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05452)

(Councillors Bligh, De Genova, Dominato and Swanson opposed)

(Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

Subsequently, Councillor Kirby-Yung declared that she had voted incorrectly and requested that the vote be reconsidered.

RECONSIDERATION MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung

THAT the Committee reconsider the vote for the amendment to delete F.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05453)

(Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT F be deleted.

LOST (Vote No. 05454)

(Councillors Bligh, De Genova, Dominato, Kirby-Yung, Swanson and Mayor Stewart opposed) (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

# AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Dominato

THAT the following be added as G:

That Council direct staff to work with the development sector to address their persistent concerns about negotiated CACs, in particular transparency, process, timelines and dispute resolution, and to report back to Council in Q2 with options for addressing the aforementioned concerns.

withdrawn

# WITHDRAWAL MOVED by Councillor Dominato

THAT, under Section 8.4 of the *Procedure By-law*, the amendment be withdrawn.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05455) (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

The motion as moved was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05456), with Councillor Hardwick abstaining from the vote and Councillor Boyle absent for the vote.

Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states "Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative."

#### **FINAL MOTION AS APPROVED**

- A. THAT Council repeal and replace the "Community Amenity Contributions through Rezonings Policy" found in Appendix A of the report dated January 8, 2020, entitled "Community Amenity Contribution (CAC) Policy Update", with the "Community Amenity Contributions Policy for Rezonings" generally as contained in Appendix B of the above-noted report.
- B. THAT Council adopt a CAC Target of \$3.00 per sq.ft. applicable to 100% institutional rezoning applications of hospitals, care facilities and post-secondary schools, with the CAC Target taking effect upon Council approval.
- C. THAT Council instruct staff to notify landowners and in-stream rezoning applications of the City's intent to increase CAC Targets in the Little Mountain Adjacent and Southeast False Creek M-2 zoned areas to \$47.00 and \$67.00 per sq.ft. respectively, and report back on an implementation plan in July 2020.
- D. THAT Council direct staff to monitor and report back to Council on the need to index cash CACs between Council approval in-principle of a rezoning application and rezoning enactment by Council and/or impose a required time limit to enact a new zoning, whereby if the time limit lapses, the approval in-principle of the rezoning application may expire.
- E. THAT Council direct staff to report back on a city-wide CAC allocation strategy following public engagement on the Vancouver Plan and the completion of the City's 10-year Capital Strategic Outlook.

F. THAT Council direct staff to report back to Council on the potential for allocation of Community Amenity Contributions to neighbourhood houses, arts venues and other non-profit venues that support growth and ongoing community services delivery in Vancouver through contributions to external endowment funds that support such organizations;

FURTHER THAT the report back review key considerations such as but not limited to legal considerations and requirements for potential external endowment fund recipients.

\* \* \* \*

Following the completion of Item 2, it was

MOVED by Councillor Bligh

THAT the Committee hear from speakers for Item 5 and refer debate and decision to the reconvening Council portion of the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting, immediately following the Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28, 2020.

CARRIED (Vote No. 05457) (Councillor Wiebe opposed) (Councillor Hardwick abstaining from the vote) (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states "Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative."

MOVED by Councillor Bligh

THAT the Committee hear from speakers for Item 6 and refer debate and decision to the reconvening Council portion of the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting, immediately following the Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 05458) (Councillor Hardwick abstaining from the vote) (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

Section 145.1 of the Vancouver Charter states "Where a member present at a meeting abstains from voting, they are deemed to have voted in the affirmative."

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# 5. Making it Easier for the Public to Speak at Council Meetings

At the Council meeting on January 21, 2020, Council referred the above-noted motion to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on January 22, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

The registered speaker for this item was not present.

The Committee referred debate and decision on the motion to the reconvening Council portion of the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting, immediately following the Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28, 2020.

## 6. Election Finance: Transparent Funding in Local Politics

At the Council meeting on January 21, 2020, Council referred the above-noted motion to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on January 22, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

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

The Committee referred debate and decision on the motion to the reconvening Council portion of the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting, immediately following the Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28, 2020

The Committee adjourned at 9:08 pm.

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# COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON CITY FINANCE AND SERVICES

### **JANUARY 22 AND 28, 2020**

A meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, at 9:08 pm, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, following the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting, to consider the recommendations and actions of the Committee. Subsequently, the meeting reconvened on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 9:57 pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Kennedy Stewart

Councillor Rebecca Bligh\*

Councillor Christine Boyle\* (Leave of Absence – Civic Business

- January 22, 2020) Councillor Adriane Carr

Councillor Melissa De Genova Councillor Lisa Dominato

Councillor Pete Fry

Councillor Colleen Hardwick Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung Councillor Jean Swanson Councillor Michael Wiebe\*

**CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:** Sadhu Johnston, City Manager (January 28, 2020)

Paul Mochrie, Deputy City Manager (January 22, 2020)

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Rosemary Hagiwara, Deputy City Clerk (January 28, 2020)

Tina Penney, Deputy City Clerk (January 22, 2020) Tamarra Wong, Meeting Coordinator (January 22, 2020) Tina Hildebrandt, Meeting Coordinator (January 28, 2020)

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Report of Standing Committee on City Finance and Services Wednesday, January 22, 2020

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

- 1. Presentation: City's Internal Audit Division
- 2. Community Amenity Contribution (CAC) Policy Update
- 3. Contract Award for Asphalt, Concrete and Rock Crushing Services
- 4. Employment Lands & Economy Review Update on Phase 1 and Next Steps
- 5. Making it Easier for the Public to Speak at Council Meetings
- 6. Election Finance: Transparent Funding in Local Politics

<sup>\*</sup> Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

Items 1-6

MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services at its meeting of January 22, 2020, as contained in items 1-6, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

#### **URGENT BUSINESS**

## 1. Request for Leave of Absence – Councillor De Genova

MOVED by Councillor Carr SECONDED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT Councillor De Genova be granted a Leave of Absence for personal reasons from meetings between 6:00 to 8:30 pm, on Thursday, January 23, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

#### **BY-LAWS**

MOVED by Councillor De Genova SECONDED by Councillor Bligh

THAT Council enact the by-laws listed on the agenda for this meeting as numbers 1 through 2 and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign and seal the enacted by-laws.

# CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

- 1. A By-law to enact a Housing Agreement for 2133 Nanton Avenue and 4189 Yew Street regarding Market Rental and Moderate Income Rental Housing (By-law No. 12631)
- 2. A By-law to enact a Housing Agreement for 2133 Nanton Avenue and 4189 Yew Street regarding Social Housing (By-law No. 12632)

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On January 22, 2020, it was

MOVED by Councillor Bligh SECONDED by Councillor Hardwick

THAT the meeting be recessed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Councillor Boyle absent for the vote)

On Wednesday, January 22, 2020, Council recessed at 9:11 pm and reconvened on Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 9:57 pm.

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#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

REFERRAL MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung SECONDED by Councillor De Genova

THAT Council refer debate and decision on Unfinished Business Items 1 and 2 to the Council Meeting on February 11, 2020, as Unfinished Business.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Councillors Bligh and Wiebe absent for the vote)

## 1. Making it Easier for the Public to Speak at Council Meetings

At the Council meeting on January 21, 2020, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on January 22, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

The Committee referred debate and decision on the following motion to the reconvening Council portion of the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting, immediately following the Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28, 2020.

MOVED by Councillor Swanson
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

#### **WHEREAS**

- 1. It is difficult to predict the timing of when speakers will present to Council at Council and Standing Committee meetings as there are many variables which impact the meeting length;
- 2. Some speakers scheduled to speak during Council and Standing Committee meetings miss their turn on the speakers list due to this uncertainty;

- 3. People who have access to vehicles, internet and phone data, childcare, and other privileges are therefore currently more likely to be able to speak to Council;
- 4. Some speakers who miss their turn may be able to speak to Council at the conclusion of the speakers list for that particular agenda item;
- 5. The Procedure By-law does not specify that speakers who missed their turn during Council and Standing Committee meetings should be given the opportunity to be called to speak at the end of the speakers list.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to report back to Council with proposed amendments to the Procedure By-law to specify that those speakers who are registered on the speakers list for Council or Standing Committee meetings, and have missed their turn to speak, should be given an opportunity to speak at the conclusion of all other speakers on the registered list.

referred

# 2. Election Finance: Transparent Funding in Local Politics

At the Council meeting on January 21, 2020, Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on January 22, 2020, in order to hear from speakers.

The Committee referred debate and decision on the following motion to the reconvening Council portion of the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting, immediately following the Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 28, 2020.

MOVED by Councillor Fry
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

### **WHEREAS**

- Elections, election campaigns, referendums, and political operations should have transparent and compliant contributor funding so elected officials are free from real or perceived potential conflicts of interest, which undermine their duty to represent the people they were elected to serve;
- The federal and provincial levels of government have laws regarding political financing which apply at all times and require that all political contributions be made by individuals, that individuals have yearly contribution limits, and that political parties must make annual public disclosures reporting received contributions and their contributors;
- 3. In 2017 the B.C. legislature amended the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act (LECFA), banning special interest and corporate political donations at the local government level during an election year, placing limits on contributions and mandating public disclosures. However, the LECFA only applies to electoral organizations and candidates during an election year for the specific purpose of

- campaigning, or the last 28 days before the election in the case of a third party sponsor;
- 4. The LECFA does not regulate local electoral organizations in non-election years or during an election year for their normal activities that are not part of their election campaigns. Local electoral organizations have separate operating bank accounts for these purposes and can accept unlimited donations from corporations and special interests. The LECFA regulations do not require any public disclosures of electoral organization operating bank accounts, nor do they place maximum donation limits, or prevent corporations and special interests from contributing to municipal political organizations;
- 5. Local Elector Organizations can have a significant impact and influence on local politics, and on who becomes an elected official. This happens both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods. Extending the LECFA contribution restrictions, annual reporting and disclosure requirements, and including the electoral organization operating account would create a level playing field for all electoral organizations, improve transparency and limit contributions to compliant BC residents only;
- 6. Third party sponsors can also have a significant impact and influence on local politics and on who becomes an elected official or on a ballot question. In the 2018 Vancouver local election there were examples of significant unreported third party spending prior to the election, which ended only 28 days before the election, notwithstanding the intent of the LECFA;
- 7. The June 2019 City of Vancouver-convened volunteer-led Independent Election Task Force on Campaign Finance Regulations 1 encouraged the City of Vancouver to strongly urge the provincial government to improve upon the existing campaign finance laws, along with specific recommendations:
  - 7.1. To enhance transparency in campaign financing, require all donations to candidates, elector organizations and third parties to be donated to a centralized portal run by Elections BC with real time disclosure of donations.
  - 7.2. THAT the Independent Elections Task Force be reconvened to review the following policy proposals, which have not previously been considered by Council, and provide recommendations regarding: Appropriate regulation of third-party groups wishing to engage on policy during municipal elections; The suggestion that contributions to candidates running with elector organizations to be in line with contributions to candidates running as independents.;
- 8. The October 2019 Elections BC Report of the Chief Electoral Officer 2 recommendations on Improving Accessibility, Transparency and Compliance included the following:
  - 8.1. An elector organization is an organization that endorses or intends to endorse a candidate in an election.

- 8.2. Require elector organizations to register with Elections BC and file annual disclosure statements including reports of all financial transactions, similar to those filed by provincial political parties. Maintain the membership requirement (50 members) for elector organizations as prescribed by s. 93(2)(a) of the Local Government Act.;
- Political finance regulations are the cornerstone of responsible government.
   Contribution limits and transparency requirements are necessary safeguards which prevent corruption and undue influence and ensure accountability of elected officials to the public.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council affirms a commitment to full and transparent reporting of financial contributions to elector organizations and candidates both during a campaign and outside of campaign periods, including contributions to operating expenses.
- B. THAT Council reconvene the Independent Election Task Force, to review policy questions laid out under the report's Current Mandate proposal.
- C. THAT Council direct staff to submit the following resolution along with the above preamble (articles 3, 8) for consideration at the Lower Mainland Local Government Association and/or working with other municipalities to present at Union of BC Municipalities:

"Therefore be it resolved THAT the Union of BC Municipalities request that the Province amend the Local Elections Campaign Financing Act to apply contributor and contribution limits to operating accounts of elector organizations and candidates for operational purposes at all times, and to require that they provide annual disclosure reports of contributions received in operating bank accounts, in election years and non-election years;

FURTHER THAT Third Party Sponsors be required to provide disclosure reports for the full election year or the date that a referendum is announced, whichever is later."

- 1. <a href="https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/independent-election-task-force-report-on-campaign-financing-june-2019.pdf">https://vancouver.ca/files/cov/independent-election-task-force-report-on-campaign-financing-june-2019.pdf</a>
- 2. <a href="https://elections.bc.ca/docs/rpt/2018-General-Local-Elections-Report.pdf">https://elections.bc.ca/docs/rpt/2018-General-Local-Elections-Report.pdf</a>

referred

# **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Councillor Hardwick SECONDED by Councillor Boyle

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Councillors Bligh and Wiebe absent for the vote)

The Council adjourned on January 28, 2020, at 9:58 pm.

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