



SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 3, 2024

A Special Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 9:30 am, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall, for the purpose of hearing presentations and speakers to the draft 2025 Budget and a report recommending adjustments to the 2024 budget including benefit rate increases as well as other costs for the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) and Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services (VFRS). This Special Council meeting was convened in person and via electronic means as authorized by Part 14 of the *Procedure By-law*.

PRESENT:

Mayor Ken Sim
Councillor Adriane Carr
Councillor Pete Fry
Councillor Sarah Kirby-Yung
Councillor Mike Klassen
Councillor Peter Meiszner
Councillor Brian Montague
Councillor Lenny Zhou

ABSENT:

Councillor Lisa Dominato (Leave of Absence – Civic Business)
Councillor Rebecca Bligh (Leave of Absence – Civic Business)
Councillor Christine Boyle (Leave of Absence – Personal Reasons)

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE:

Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE:

Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Olivia Kam, Meeting Coordinator

WELCOME

The Mayor acknowledged we are on the unceded homelands of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh People. 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 Mayor also recognized the immense contributions of the City of Vancouver's team members who work hard every day to help make our city an incredible place to live, work, and play.

1. 2025 Capital and Operating Budget

- a) 2025 Engineering Fees
- b) 2025 Annual Review of Water Rates and Water Works By-law Amendments
- c) 2025 Annual Review of Sewer Rates - Sewer and Watercourse By-law
- d) 2025 Solid Waste Utility Fees and By-law Changes
- e) 2025 False Creek Neighbourhood Energy Utility Customer Rates
- f) 2025 Draft Operating and Capital Budget

The City Manager provided opening remarks and the General Manager of Finance and Supply Chain Management, along with the Chief Communications Officer and Director of Sustainability provided a presentation on the 2025 Draft Capital and Operating Budget.

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During questions of staff, it was

*MOVED by Councillor Kirby-Yung
SECONDED by Councillor Zhou*

THAT under section 5.4(e) of the Procedure By-law, Council ask a second round of questions to staff.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Following the presentation, members of the City's Leadership Team and staff responded to questions:

- Steve Jackson, General Manager, Parks and Recreation
- Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
- Paul Mochrie, City Manager
- Colin Knight, General Manager, Finance and Supply Chain Management
- Tadhg Healy, Chief Technology Officer
- Adam Palmer, Chief Constable, Vancouver Police Department
- Lon LaClaire, General Manager, Engineering Services
- Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
- Frank Chong, Chair, Vancouver Police Board
- Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager
- Karen Fry, Fire Chief, General Manager, Vancouver Fire Rescue Services

Following questions to staff, Council heard from two speakers who spoke in support of the recommendations, two speakers who spoke in opposition to the recommendations and two speakers who spoke to other aspects of the recommendations.

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During the hearing of speakers, it was

*MOVED by Councillor Montague
SECONDED by Councillor Carr*

THAT Council extend the meeting past noon in order to hear all remaining speakers on Report 1. 2025 Capital and Operating Budget.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AND
BY THE REQUIRED MAJORITY*

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Council recessed at 12:05pm and reconvened at 1:05 pm.

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2. 2024 Budget Adjustments - Vancouver Police Department and Vancouver Fire Rescue Services

Council heard from one speaker who spoke in support of the recommendations, two speakers who spoke in opposition to the recommendations and one speaker who spoke to other aspects of the recommendations.

MOVED by Councillor Klassen
SECONDED by Councillor Montague

- A. THAT Council approve a 2024 budget increase of \$2.1 million for the Vancouver Police Department (VPD) to match the final 2024 fringe benefit rates, to be transferred from the 2024 General Government contingency budget.
- B. THAT Council approve a 2024 budget increase of \$0.93 million for the Vancouver Fire Rescue Services Department (VFRS) to match the final 2024 fringe benefit rates, to be transferred from the 2024 General Government contingency budget.
- C. THAT Council approve a one-time budget reallocation to address the forecasted Vancouver Police Department (VPD) budget deficits for a total of \$11.2 million.
- D. THAT Council approve a one-time reallocation to address the forecasted Vancouver Fire Rescue Services (VFRS) budget deficits for a total of \$5.1 million through City's 2024.

Council separated the vote on the components of the motion with A, B and D CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 10370) and C CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (Vote No. 10371), with Councillors Carr, Fry and Kirby-Yung abstaining from the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Montague
SECONDED by Councillor Meiszner

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Special Council adjourned at 1:43 pm.

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