



REPORT TO COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON CITY FINANCE AND SERVICES

MAY 29, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Standing Committee of Council on City Finance and Services was held on Tuesday, May 29, 2012, at 1:54 pm, in the Council Chamber, Third Floor, City Hall.

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

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Sadhu Johnston, Deputy City Manager
David McLellan, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Bonnie Kennett, Meeting Coordinator

*Denotes absence for a portion of the meeting.

1. Reduce Cigarette Butts on Vancouver Streets

At its meeting on May 29, 2012, Vancouver City Council referred the following motion this item to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on May 29, 2012, in order to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Councillor Carr
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. Vancouver has one of the lowest rates of smoking in Canada, but still, according to the most recent statistics, 12.3% of residents (113,423 people) in the Vancouver Coastal Health Authority region smoke;

2. The provincial ban on smoking in all public places and workplaces and the City of Vancouver's ban on smoking at beaches, parks and within 6 meters of doors, open windows and air intakes, have not been accompanied by placement of cigarette butt receptacles in public areas where people do smoke;
3. Community campaigns to clean up public streets and spaces, such as Keep Vancouver Spectacular, the West End Cleanup, and the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, have identified cigarette butts as the most common item of litter; and
4. Cigarette butts are not only unsightly but also, washed from sidewalks and streets into storm sewers, can damage Vancouver's sewage system and marine environment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City of Vancouver staff investigate options to reduce cigarette butt litter including providing cigarette butt receptacles in public areas where smoking is currently allowed;

FURTHER THAT staff report back to Council with sufficient time for options to be considered for the 2013 budget.

amended

Council heard from three speakers who were in support of the motion.

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Reimer

THAT the motion be struck and replaced with the following:

WHEREAS

1. Litter has been significantly reduced in Vancouver with a coordinated effort on awareness, education, infrastructure, enforcement and Provincial Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) programs;
2. Community campaigns such as Keep Vancouver Spectacular, the West End Cleanup, and the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup, have identified cigarette butts as the most common item of litter, with significant cigarette butt litter found even within short distances of garbage cans;
3. A March 2011 memo from Vancouver Coastal Health Authority on butt litter emphasized the importance of a coordinated campaign that includes awareness, education, enforcement and context, alongside infrastructure; and
4. According to the most recent statistics, only 12.6% of residents (69,764 people) in Vancouver smoke and the number continues to drop year after year.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City of Vancouver staff investigate options to further reduce litter, including cigarette butt litter, through increased awareness, education, infrastructure, enforcement and a Provincial government Extended Producer Responsibility program for cigarette butts;

FURTHER THAT staff consider litter within the context of an overall on-street waste management plan that provides greater recycling opportunities, especially in high pedestrian traffic areas;

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back prior to the 2013 Capital Budget.

carried

AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Carr

THAT the following be added to the motion:

AND FURTHER THAT staff report back on infrastructure options that include cigarette butt containers in time to be included in the 2013 Budget.

LOST

(Councillors Deal, Jang, Louie, Meggs, Reimer, Stevenson and Tang opposed)
(Mayor Robertson absent for the vote)

The amendment to the amendment having lost, the motion to strike and replace was put and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY with Mayor Robertson absent for the vote.

2. Federal Cutbacks to Local Marine Public Safety

At its meeting on May 29, 2012, Vancouver City Council referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services meeting on May 29, 2012, in order to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Mayor Robertson
THAT the Committee recommend to Council

WHEREAS

1. The Federal Government is closing the Kitsilano Coast Guard search and rescue station;
2. The station serves the busiest port in Canada, and responds to 300-350 search and rescue calls a year;
3. The consolidation of rescue services at the Sea Island hovercraft base will be 17 nautical miles farther away from its current location;

4. There was no public consultation on the closure, and the City of Vancouver, Park Board, and Vancouver Police Department had no advance warning of the closure;
5. The closure of the Kitsilano Coast Guard search and rescue station is another marine safety service for Vancouver being eliminated by the Federal Government, along with the recently announced closure of the coast guard communications centre in Vancouver, and the BC command centre for emergency oil spills;
6. Any response to increased risk to marine public safety due to Federal cutbacks may be borne by the City's first responders, such as the VPD's marine unit.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT the Mayor, on behalf of the City of Vancouver, write to the Federal Government expressing the City's opposition to these closures, and urge the Federal Government to reverse them.
- B. THAT staff report back on the full range of safety and financial impacts, including increased service demands on City of Vancouver first responders, as a result of the Kitsilano Coast Guard station closure and any other Federal marine safety cutbacks.

carried

Council heard from four speakers who were in support of the motion.

AMENDMENT MOVED by Councillor Affleck

THAT the motion be amended as follows:

In A, the phrase, "and urge the Federal Government to reverse them." be struck and replaced with "and request the Federal Government consult with the City of Vancouver before closure occurs with a goal to keep the station open."

LOST

(Councillors Carr, Deal, Jang, Louie, Meggs, Reimer, Stevenson, Tang and Mayor Robertson opposed)

The Committee agreed to separate the vote on the components of the motion.

The amendment having lost, the motion was put and CARRIED with Councillor Affleck and Ball opposed to A.

The Committee adjourned at 4:26 pm.

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

MAY 29, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Vancouver was held on Tuesday, May 29, 2012, at 4:40 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.

PRESENT: Mayor Gregor Robertson
Councillor George Affleck
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

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE: Sadhu Johnston, Deputy City Manager

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE: Bonnie Kennett, Meeting Coordinator

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson
SECONDED by Councillor Jang

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Report of Standing Committee on City Finance and Services
May 29, 2012

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. Reduce Cigarette Butts on Vancouver Streets
2. Federal Cutbacks to Local Marine Public Safety

Items 1 and 2

MOVED by Councillor Stevenson

THAT the recommendations and actions taken by the Standing Committee on City Finance and Services at its meeting of May 29, 2012, as contained in items 1 and 2, be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RISE FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOVED by Councillor Jang

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 Jang

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

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Council adjourned at 4:41 pm.

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