

**DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of the Council for the District of North Vancouver held at 6:02 p.m. on Monday, November 9, 2015 in the Council Chamber of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Present: Mayor R. Walton
Councillor R. Bassam
Councillor M. Bond
Councillor J. Hanson
Councillor R. Hicks (6:13 pm)
Councillor D. MacKay-Dunn (6:03 pm)
Councillor L. Muri

Staff: Ms. C. Grant, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. B. Bydwell, General Manager – Planning, Properties & Permits
Mr. G. Joyce, General Manager – Engineering, Parks & Facilities
Mr. W. Kennedy – Deputy Fire Chief - Operations
Mr. D. Milburn, Deputy General Manager – Planning & Permits
Mr. D. Desrochers, Manager – Engineering Projects & Development Services
Mr. J. Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services
Ms. J. Paton, Manager – Development Planning
Ms. S. Rogers, Manager – Parks
Ms. M. Welman, Manager – Strategic Communication & Community Relations
Ms. S. Dal Santo, Section Manager – Planning Policy
Ms. T. Smith, Project Manager – External Projects
Mr. A. Robinson, Senior Park Ranger
Ms. S. Dale, Confidential Council Clerk

Also in

Attendance: Mr. Jay Porter, Senior Project Manager - Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1. November 9, 2015 Committee of the Whole Agenda

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor BASSAM

THAT the agenda for the November 9, 2015 Committee of the Whole be adopted as circulated, including the addition of any items listed in the agenda addendum.

CARRIED

Absent for Vote: Councillors HICKS and MACKAY-DUNN

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1. October 26, 2015 Committee of the Whole

MOVED by Councillor MURI
SECONDED by Councillor BASSAM

THAT the minutes of the October 26, 2015 Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted.

CARRIED

Absent for Vote: Councillors HICKS and MACKAY-DUNN

3. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF

Councillor MACKAY-DUNN arrived at this point in the proceedings.

3.1. Mountain Interchange Update

File No.

Ms. Tegan Smith, Project Manager – External Projects, provided an update on the Mountain Interchange. Ms. Smith advised that the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure is leading the Lower Lynn Interchange improvements at Mountain, Lillooet, and Dollarton Interchanges. The Ministry indicates upgrades are needed to accommodate future widening of Highway 1, including Lynn Creek Bridge. This will also include improvements to address merging which impacts traffic flows and causes accidents. The interchange upgrades are an important opportunity for the community to improve east-west traffic flow on the municipal road network and to improve conditions for walking and cycling. It was noted that the interchange upgrades are not the single solution to congestion at the Second Narrows bridgehead. It is recognized that demand-side investments will still be important such as transit, walking and cycling infrastructure and land use strategies which put more services closer to home.

Ms. Smith advised that staff will report back at a Committee of the Whole session in January.

Councillor HICKS arrived at this point of the proceedings.

Council discussion ensued and the following comments and concerns were noted:

- Suggested using ramp metering to reduce traffic congestion and to look at other integrated approaches for managing bridgehead traffic;
- Suggested implementing All Ages & Abilities cycling infrastructure in the construction of new roadways, streets and bridges;
- Suggested that continual construction is creating gridlock on the North Shore;
- Opined that the proposed Mountain Interchange will be more efficient but won't solve all traffic issues;
- Proposed that the Mountain Interchange construction proceed as quick as possible;

- Confirmed that the structure for the Mountain Interchange be designed to work with the Lynn Creek Bridge;
- Commented that transportation issues are a regional issue;
- Commented on the importance of collaborating with the North Shore municipalities;
- Commented that transportation issues are continuing to get worse; and,
- Suggested meeting with the Highway 1 Working Group to provide an update.

MOVED by Councillor MACKAY-DUNN

SECONDED by Councillor MURI

THAT it be recommended to Council:

THAT staff be directed to inform the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure that:

1. The District is generally supportive of Mountain Interchange construction proceeding next year, on the condition that the structure can be easily adapted with the upgrade of the Lynn Creek Bridge to provide access from Lynn Valley southbound on Mountain Highway to eastbound Highway 1.
2. The District encourages the Ministry to advance easy to implement improvements like better traveler information, traffic monitoring, variable speed limits, and perhaps ramp metering on existing Highway 1 near the Second Narrows bridgehead.
3. Before there can be an agreement on funding and the package of improvements at Lillooet and Dollarton Interchanges, more information is needed on how the design can best meet municipal objectives.

CARRIED

3.2. 2015 Summer Park Report

File No.

Ms. Susan Rogers, Manager – Parks, provided an overview of key park areas the Parks Department managed through the peak summer months, from June to September 2015. Ms. Rogers noted that the District Park Ranger Program plays a key role in managing and monitoring parks and beaches, focusing on Lynn Canyon, Deep Cove and Cates Park/Whey-ah-wichen, as well as the Alpine trails on Fromme Mountain and Mount Seymour. Ms. Rogers advised that the goal of the Park Ranger Program is to ensure the safety of park visitors to the District. The Park Rangers act as first responders and also educate and inform the public on safety, bylaw, park ecology and wildlife issues. Park Rangers monitor and patrol District parks, hiking, mountain bike trails, playgrounds, beaches, sports fields, marine access areas and five District wharves.

Ms. Rogers discussed issues that each park faces, the demographics, and the key activities taking place in each individual park. She suggested the following be considered for the 2016 peak summer season:

- Expanding the role of seasonal Rangers beyond Lynn Canyon Park;
- Dedicating a summer Ranger to manage Deep Cove, Panorama Park, Cates Park and Quarry Rock;
- Expanding authority for seasonal Rangers to enforce the Park Control Bylaw;
- Continuing to work closely with the RCMP, Fire & Rescue and the Bylaw Department during the peak season;
- Developing public relations and communication messaging to park visitors;
- Reviewing special event permit fees and rates;
- Formalizing a commercial permitting process for eco companies operating in District parks; and,
- Reviewing feasibility of seasonal pay parking options at high use parks.

Council discussion ensued and the following comments and concerns were noted:

- Suggested implementing pay parking in all parks as a way to generate revenue;
- Commented that Park Rangers play a key role in the safety of park visitors to the District;
- Requested the District hire additional Park Rangers on a permanent basis; and,
- Requested this item be brought forward to a future meeting for further discussion.

4. PUBLIC INPUT

Nil

5. RISE AND REPORT

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor BOND

THAT the November 9, 2015 Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED
(6:58 pm)

Mayor

Municipal Clerk