

**DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER  
COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

Minutes of the Council Workshop for the District of North Vancouver held at 5:02 p.m. on Tuesday, September 25, 2018 in the Committee Room of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

**Present:** Mayor R. Walton  
Councillor M. Bond  
Councillor J. Hanson  
Councillor R. Hicks  
Councillor D. MacKay-Dunn (5:05 pm)

**Absent:** Councillor R. Bassam  
Councillor L. Muri

**Staff:** Ms. C. Grant, Acting Chief Administrative Officer  
Mr. G. Joyce, General Manager – Engineering, Parks & Facilities  
Mr. A. Wardell, Acting General Manager – Finance & Technology  
Mr. R. Danyluk, Manager – Financial Planning  
Ms. L. Brick, Deputy Municipal Clerk  
Ms. R. Jivraj, Section Manager - Financial Planning  
Ms. S. Dale, Confidential Council Clerk

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

**1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**1.1. September 25, 2018 Council Workshop Agenda**

**MOVED by Councillor MACKAY-DUNN**

**SECONDED by Councillor BOND**

THAT the agenda for the September 25, 2018 Council Workshop is adopted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

**2.1. July 17, 2018 Council Workshop**

**MOVED by Councillor HANSON**

**SECONDED by Councillor HICKS**

THAT the minutes of the July 17, 2018 Council Workshop meeting are adopted.

**CARRIED**

### 3. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF

#### 3.1. 2019 to 2023 Financial Plan Deliberations – September 25, 2018

File No.

Mr. Andy Wardell, Acting General Manager – Finance and Technology, reviewed the Financial Plan process to date, noting that public input had been received at the September 24, 2018 Regular Meeting of Council and that earlier questions brought forward by Council have been addressed. Mr. Wardell further advised that the purpose of the Council Workshop was to discuss the 2019 - 2023 Financial Plan and address any additional questions.

Mr. Wardell provided a brief overview of the 2019-2023 Financial Plan and it was noted that staff will work with the new Council in 2019 to review this budget and amend it to reflect their priorities.

Mr. Wardell advised that the estimated increase in residential property taxes is three percent for 2019, with two percent to adjust for inflation and one percent for capital replacement. The estimated increase in utility rates is 3.8% for 2019.

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

- Acknowledged that the Metro Vancouver sewer rates will rise at an accelerated pace over the next five years due to the construction of the Lions Gate Waste Water Treatment Plant but its impacts to taxpayers will be mitigated by the District's financial resiliency strategy which began in 2013;
- Noted the budget could be amended at any time;
- Commented on the growth of the affordable housing fund;
- Commented on the benefits of early approval of the budget noting that project costs are lower when contractors can be booked earlier in the year;
- Suggested continuing to budget using the principle that development pays for development;
- Reported that as debt is retired, funding that had been allocated to debt servicing will be added to the infrastructure reserve in order to stabilize future costs of major infrastructure replacement;
- Opined that residents are generally satisfied with levels of services within the District;
- Stated that transportation issues across the North Shore are reaching crisis levels and addressing the situation should be a high priority;
- Suggested lobbying different levels of government for funding assistance;
- Spoke to the 1% tax levy to support asset renewal which will allow the District to continue to focus on sustainable service delivery within available financial resources;
- Clarified that to ensure development charges supporting the capital plan keep pace with the growth related impacts from development, Development Cost Charges (DCC) will be adjusted for inflation;
- Requested that Council review the priority list for 2018 and have the opportunity to adjust how Community Amenity Contributions (CACs) are allocated;
- Spoke to the challenges of using CACs as the costs are significantly higher in foregone CACs;

- Commented that an acceptable cost to provide affordable housing needs to be determined by the new Council;
- Noted that the draft financial plan reflects past Council direction along with input from the public and ensures the District can continue as governance transitions to a new Council;
- Questioned the cost savings of a universal water metering program as the population on the North Shore grows and suggested the new Council review the universal water metering study;
- Questioned if the local schools can accommodate the increased density;
- Reported that the new Delbrook Community Recreation Centre has had a significant increase in memberships largely due to the addition of the leisure pool;
- Questioned when the Long-term Financial Plan will be further discussed;
- Commented that the replacement of Montroyal Bridge was a significant expense and asset renewal work will continue with the upgrade of Ross Road Bridge;
- Commented on the transit infrastructure in correlation to the population density within the District and the need to increase services;
- Noted that small incremental changes overtime can be beneficial;
- Acknowledged the general upgrades to hardware, software and other technology initiatives;
- Commented on revenue growth inside and outside town centres;
- Noted that the contribution the District has made to the Highway 1 Interchange project is significant compared to the City of North Vancouver and the District of West Vancouver as the majority of the interchange is situated in the District;
- Suggested the new Council review the proposed Seylynn Bridge providing enhanced park connectivity; and,
- Spoke in support of the proposed 2019 to 2023 Financial Plan.

#### Public Input:

##### Mr. Peter Teevan:

- Spoke in support of the District's draft financial plan;
- Encouraged Council to improve engagement of the public in the Financial Plan process;
- Commented on the lack of infrastructure to accommodate increased traffic; and,
- Noted that as the population increases there will be a need for increased services.

##### Mr. John Miller:

- Opined that development does not pay for itself;
- Questioned how the District is going to accommodate increased growth; and,
- Noted that local schools are already at capacity.

**MOVED by Councillor BOND**  
**SECONDED by Councillor MACKAY-DUNN**

THAT the September 19, 2018 report of the Acting General Manager – Finance & Technology entitled 2019 to 2023 Financial Plan Deliberations – September 25, 2018 is received for information.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED by Councillor BOND**  
**SECONDED by Councillor MACKAY-DUNN**

THAT the September 25, 2018 Council Workshop is adjourned.

**CARRIED**  
**(6:57 p.m.)**

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Mayor



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Municipal Clerk

