

**DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER
COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

Minutes of the Council Workshop for the District of North Vancouver held at 6:12 p.m. on Monday, April 8, 2019 in the Committee Room of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Present: Mayor M. Little
Councillor J. Back
Councillor M. Bond
Councillor M. Curren
Councillor B. Forbes
Councillor J. Hanson
Councillor L. Muri

Staff: Mr. D. Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer
Ms. C. Grant, General Manager – Corporate Services
Mr. G. Joyce, General Manager – Engineering, Parks & Facilities
Mr. D. Milburn, General Manager – Planning, Properties & Permits
Mr. A. Wardell, General Manager – General Manager – Finance/CFO
Mr. R. Danyluk, Manager – Financial Planning
Mr. B. Dwyer, Manager – Development Services
Mr. J. Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services
Ms. J. Paton, Manager – Development Planning
Ms. A. Reiher, Confidential Council Clerk

Also in

Attendance: Mr. Brian Bydwell, B. Bydwell Consulting Services

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1. April 8, 2019 Council Workshop Agenda

MOVED by Councillor MURI

SECONDED by Councillor BACK

THAT the agenda for the April 8, 2019 Council Workshop is adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Nil

3. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF

3.1. Budget Discussion

File No.

Mr. Rick Danyluk, Manager – Financial Planning, provided an overview of the five-year financial plan and advised that the plan is adopted annually. He provided an

overview of the guiding principles of the financial planning process, the long-term financial plan, priorities and suggested plan amendments.

Mr. Danyluk spoke about the principles of the financial plan, including sustainable service delivery, capital renewal funding levels, fairness in taxation and user fees, growth management and maintaining a long-term rolling plan to support decision making. He reviewed the funding models and the revenue required for amenities such as parks, transportation, utilities, development services and recreation. He noted that financial strategies are in place to guide fairness between customer classes and reported that utility rates, tax rates and user fees are adjusted annually to keep pace with inflation. The District tax rate has remained at 3% every year since 2009, ensuring a stable and predictable rate.

Mr. Danyluk spoke about growth management, housing reserves and the long-term financial planning process. He discussed collaboration with the Province on housing, tax matters and grant opportunities and transportation improvements, including the Lower Lynn Interchange and the B-line service along Main Street and Marine Drive. He provided an overview of new community amenities including the community recreation centres, upgraded parks, artificial turf fields and public safety improvements.

Mr. Danyluk reported that the five-year capital plan is valued at approximately \$70 million per year and that the combined utility rate increase is under 4% and expected to continue at approximately 4% for the next 10 years. He advised that Council can amend the Financial Plan at any time before the tax rate is approved.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that any unused capital funds are returned to reserves each year.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that the total amount for the Trail Maintenance Agreement is \$300,000.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that a plan is being developed for the trails in Seymour in addition to the Fromme Mountain trails. Staff noted that an overall budget is not available for the Seymour area trails work as multiple stakeholders are involved.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that funding to the North Shore Mountain Biking Association (NSMBA) includes staff, supplies and volunteers.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that a priority is to create a long-term financial plan and options, and reported that a discussion on the allocation of Community Amenity Contribution's (CAC's) will be brought back to Council.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that the funding allocated in the budget for Fromme Mountain is \$50,000 which is often supplemented by grants. Staff advised that a work plan is created annually.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that there is a certain amount of money that can be allocated from CAC's for affordable housing projects.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that a strategic plan encompasses high level items, whereas the Financial Plan provides greater detail and may be amended at any time.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that the projects that are DCC or CAC funded have reference to a particular plan that has been previously accepted by Council and are Council driven.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that the contracts identified will not be awarded on projects discussed without prior information to Council.

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

- Requested a budget and capital projects discussion and that plans for the capital projects be provided to Council;
- Expressed support for NSMBA and trail maintenance program volunteers as long as the work is carried out equally across all District trails;
- Commented about the funding model for the NSMBA and queried if the core principle of the work is as a trail building organization or mountain biking association;
- Commented about the protected bike network project and requested further information on the plans;
- Commented about the implementation of playgrounds and expressed concern about the playground at Panorama Park;
- Commented about transit priorities and needs on the North Shore;
- Requested further information on work plans and funding for parks;
- Expressed concern about the Lynn Canyon park resurfacing project and the Lynn Creek Recreation Centre;
- Expressed concern about the lack of lighting and sidewalks on Riverside Drive; and,
- Requested that Community Energy and Emissions Plan be incorporated into future plans.

Public Input:

Mr. Peter Teevan, 1900 Block Indian River Crescent:

- Expressed concern about staff reports being made available to the public;
- Requested information regarding the cost to run a municipality each year; and,
- Expressed concern about the perceived lack of engagement with community associations.

Mr. David Cesar, Valley Road:

- Expressed concern about municipal costs and Council wishes and requested that the Council be strict with the use of tax payer funds.

Mr. Corrie Kost, 2800 Block Colwood Drive:

- Commented about capital maintenance and inquired regarding street-level imaging.

A District Resident:

- Requested that the staff presentation be made available to the public.

Mr. Cooper Quinn:

- Commented on the work of NSMBA;
- Advised that NSMBA will work with District staff to provide clarity on how the operating agreement activities on Fromme Mountain and in the Seymour area are tracked; and,
- Spoke to the importance of transparency during these projects.

Council recessed at 7:25 p.m. and reconvened at 7:32 p.m.

3.2. Design Guidelines, Process and Vision

File No. 08.3030.01/000.000

Mr. Brian Bydwell, B. Bydwell Consulting Services, provided an overview of design principles, tools, process and implementation and advised that the characteristics of good design is influenced by good architecture. He commented about buildings and how they shape places and communities. He discussed the challenges and opportunities this presents and the broad characteristics required for these types of neighbourhoods and the wide range of services and key design principles they require. He spoke about urban design principles and the need for buildings to be visually cohesive.

Mr. Bydwell noted that tools and processes available to Council include Development Permits (DP) and rezoning. The Province attaches limitations to municipal powers on DP's to focus on the general character of the development and not the particulars of the landscaping or the exterior design and finish of buildings and other structures. He provided an overview of the Village and Town Centre design guidelines.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that the consolidation of lots can be obtained by the land owner.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that parking can be further explored for Marine Drive and that there is the ability to provide a cash payment towards transportation demand management in lieu of parking.

In response to a question from Council, Mr. Bydwell advised that design lessons can be learned from Marine Drive and that further ways to facilitate small businesses can be researched.

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

- Commented about Marine Drive design and the lack of pedestrian traffic and vibrancy;
- Spoke about Mountain Highway and opined it is important to review building designs;
- Spoke about the research by Mr. Charles Montgomery with respect to Happy Cities;

- Commented about parking restrictions and accommodations;
- Commented about the need to measure green house gas emissions;
- Spoke about small businesses, land use and transportation priorities to make retail spaces more viable;
- Commented about the Burnaby Heights area, its walkability and accessible parking lots;
- Commented about Ambleside and it's design which supports local businesses;
- Commented about the Advisory Design Panel and issues and thoughts identified by Council for solutions;
- Asked about the tools available by the District to retain and recruit locally operated businesses;
- Commented about the Business Improvement Area (BIA) along Lonsdale; and,
- Commented about the need to review where applications are for future developments ahead of a review of other town centres.

Mr. Millburn advised that a direct benefit cannot be given to an individual business; however, local governments can support business with a progressive regulatory environment and with the creation of BIA's.

Public Input:

Mr. Peter Teevan, 1900 Block Indian River Crescent:

- Commented about function over form and expressed that businesses need to be viable;
- Spoke about his experience as an employee of a locally-owned business on Marine Drive; and,
- Expressed concern about the effects of increased density on traffic.

Mr. Corrie Kost, 2800 Block Colwood Drive:

- Expressed that food dispensaries need to be a part of design features; and,
- Spoke about Edgemont Village and the future parking spaces.

Mr. Cooper Quinn:

- Commented on the importance of improving transit on Marine Drive;
- Suggested lowering parking requirements to encourage smaller lot developments; and,
- Commented that lowering parking requirements may create more vibrant communities.

Mr. Peter Teevan, 1900 Block Indian River Crescent:

- Requested that Council be mindful to attract businesses.

4. **ADJOURNMENT**

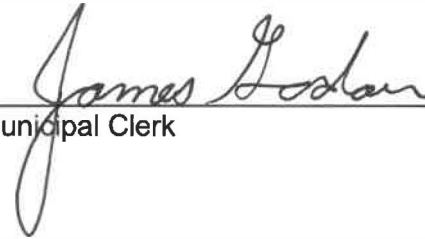
MOVED by Councillor MURI
SECONDED by Councillor BACK

THAT the April 8, 2019 Council Workshop is adjourned.

CARRIED
(8:50 p.m.)



Mayor



Municipal Clerk