

DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER COUNCIL WORKSHOP

Minutes of the Council Workshop for the District of North Vancouver held at 5:05 p.m. on Monday, October 26, 2020 in the Council Chambers of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Present: Mayor M. Little (arrived at 6:01 pm)
Councillor J. Back
Councillor M. Bond
Councillor M. Curren
Councillor B. Forbes – via Webex
Councillor J. Hanson
Councillor L. Muri

Staff: Mr. D. Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. G. Joyce, General Manager – Engineering, Parks & Facilities
Mr. D. Milburn, General Manager – Planning, Properties & Permits
Mr. A. Wardell, General Manager – Finance/CFO
Ms. T. Atva, Manager – Community Planning
Mr. R. Danyluk, Manager – Business Planning and Decision Support
Mr. J. Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services
Mr. S. Bridger, Section Manager – Engineering Design & Planning
Ms. G. Lanz, Deputy Municipal Clerk
Ms. N. Foth, Planner
Ms. J. Simpson, Confidential Council Clerk
Ms. C. Archer, Clerk Typist 3 – via Webex

Also in

Attendance: Amir Taleghani, Water Resources Engineer – Kerr Wood Leidal

In the absence of Mayor LITTLE, Councillor HANSON assumed the Chair.

1. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1.1. October 26, 2020 Council Workshop Agenda

MOVED by Councillor BACK

SECONDED by Councillor BOND

THAT the agenda for the October 26, 2020 Council Workshop is adopted as circulated, including the addition of any items listed in the agenda addendum.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1. September 28, 2020 Council Workshop

MOVED by Councillor BACK

SECONDED by Councillor BOND

THAT the minutes of the September 28, 2020 Council Workshop meeting are adopted.

CARRIED

3. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL OR STAFF

3.1. Draft North Shore Sea Level Rise Risk Assessment and Adaptive Management Strategy

File No. 11.5225.01/023.000

Ms. Nicole Foth, Community Planner, introduced the North Shore Sea Level Rise Strategy and noted the projections. Ms. Foth spoke to the process and the District's policy in regards to adaptation and mitigation of climate change.

Mr. Amir Taleghani, Water Resources Engineer with Kerr Wood Leidal, displayed the impacts of sea level rise and outlined resources and strategies for mitigation. Mr. Taleghani detailed potential consequences of flooding and intertidal habitat impacts.

Councillor BOND left the meeting at 5:13 pm and returned at 5:15 pm.

Mr. Taleghani explained the four adaptation approaches and concluded with examples from the adaptation measures toolkit.

Mr. Stephen Bridger, Section Manager – Engineering Design & Planning, presented the comprehensive adaptation planning zones on the North Shore and noted potential implementation actions.

In response to a question from Council, staff confirmed that the assessment is based on 1 metre and 2 metre rise scenarios, plus a storm event.

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

- Stated the importance of using recent data and current science;
- Suggested consulting with Metro Vancouver to identified global and regional approaches;
- Suggested further examination on ecological impacts; and,
- Commented on insurance and financing options in regards to nature-based climate solutions.

In response to a question from council, staff advised they are considering areas outside of the comprehensive planning zones as well.

In response to a question from council, staff noted that respondents in the September survey was comprised of residents from the District of North Vancouver.

Council discussion continued and the following comments were noted:

- Suggested researching the impacts on private property infrastructure;
- Spoke to the variety of potential cost impacts;
- Commented on the number of survey respondents; and,
- Suggested that staff reach out to residents again.

In response to a question from council, staff advised that a letter was sent to all residents identified in the sea level rise planning areas inviting them to participate in in-person workshops and online surveys. Additionally, communication was conveyed on social media to a broader audience.

Council discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- Requested local feedback regarding the four adaptation approaches; and,
- Requested research from other municipalities currently managing sea level rise and what these approaches look like in practice.

In response to a question from council, the consultant spoke to the current approaches locally and regionally. The consultant commented on the strategy's guiding principles and noted community interest will likely increase once areas are focused on.

Council discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- Questioned if there is a timeline for action;
- Spoke to the variety of risks and costs of resources;
- Spoke to current and future developments in regards to the adaptations required; and,
- Requested to see potential costs of the approaches presented.

In response to a question from council, the consultant advised that the Tsleil-Waututh Nation participated in the sea level rise project and the Squamish Nation was a direct partner in the strategy development. Both Nations will be included in the project moving forward.

In response to a question from council, staff advised that the timeframe for the strategy's six priority actions is ten years. Additionally, it was noted that sea level rise is considered in the 2021 long term financial plan.

Mayor LITTLE arrived and assumed the Chair at 6:01 pm.

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

- Spoke to environmental variables that will influence the projections;
- Commented on the expenses that climate action presents;
- Commented on local and global equity;
- Spoke to migration impacts;
- Suggested better communication about the interconnection of each climate action topic;

- Requested more information regarding human health concerns in terms of climate change;
- Supported the creation of new Development Permit Areas; and,
- Suggested that the District be a leader in climate action.

Councillor MURI left the meeting at 6:06 pm and returned at 6:07 pm.

In response to a question from council, the consultant clarified that the strategy is meant to be flexible and will be continually updated, noting that the predictions are variable. The consultant stated that the United Nation's next assessment is in 2022.

In response to a question from council, the consultant advised that overland flood insurance is an emerging private insurance market in Canada and suggested that the District stay well-informed with these trends. Additionally, the consultant noted that the project includes sea level rise flood mapping and that the introduction of a new Development Permit Area (DPA) for flooding would produce a flood map.

In response to a question from council, the consultant advised that the strategy looked at best practices globally.

Council discussion continued and the following comments were noted:

- Commented on depopulation of high risk areas;
- Spoke to climate effects on the North Shore in correlation with the broader region; and,
- Commented on emergency migration.

MOVED by Councillor MURI
SECONDED by Councillor BACK

THAT the October 13, 2020 joint report entitled Draft North Shore Sea Level Rise Risk Assessment and Adaptive Management Strategy is received for information;

AND THAT the North Shore Sea Level Rise Risk Assessment and Adaptive Management Strategy is referred to a Regular Meeting of Council for consideration.

CARRIED

3.2. Financial Plan Update
 File No.

Mr. Andy Wardell, General Manager – Finance/CFO, advised that staff is recommending 2% for inflation plus 1% based on cost pressures, and 2% plus 3% due to Metro Vancouver charges.

Mr. Rick Danyluk, Manager – Business Planning and Decision Support, presented the financial planning timeline, commented on the District's current financial state and detailed the 2021 budget assumptions. Additionally, Mr. Danyluk displayed the priorities, investment highlights and ratepayer impacts.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that expenditure reductions were correlated with revenue reductions.

Council discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- Spoke to the District's natural assets and questioned their values;
- Commented on the potential of natural assets being insurable; and,
- Suggested that the social support staff in Community Planning be a high priority for filling.

In response to a question from Council, staff advised that the District is connected with the Municipal Natural Assets Initiative and Municipal Insurance Association.

Council discussion ensued and the following comments were noted:

- Commented on the carbon budget;
- Requested further discussions regarding protective services funding;
- Mentioned Metro Vancouver's levies;
- Commented on the significant investments required for adaptation in regards to the climate emergency;
- Suggested the finance department educates taxpayers about reserves and flow through taxes;
- Commented on local small businesses struggling;
- Spoke to split assessments and highest and best use; and,
- Commented on the evolving need for social services.

Councillor CURREN left the meeting at 6:56 pm and returned at 6:58 pm.

Public input:

Mr. Peter Teevan – via Webex:

- Suggested that risks, such as sea level rise, are registered on property titles;
- Spoke to potential insurance issues if risks are noted on property titles; and,
- Commented on the pacific coastal plate tectonics.

MOVED by Councillor BACK

SECONDED by Councillor HANSON

THAT the October 23, 2020 report of the Manager – Business Planning and Decision Support entitled Financial Plan Update is received for information.

CARRIED

4. ADJOURNMENT

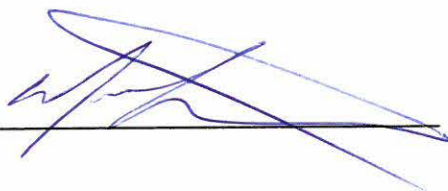
MOVED by Councillor BACK

SECONDED by Mayor LITTLE

THAT the October 26, 2020 Council Workshop is adjourned.

CARRIED
(7:03 p.m.)

Mayor



Municipal Clerk

