

COUNCIL-IN-COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, July 5, 2021

A Regular Meeting of the Council-in-Committee convened on Monday, July 5, 2021 at 2:05 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mayor Richard Stewart
Councillor Brent Asmundson
Councillor Craig Hodge
Councillor Steve Kim
Councillor Trish Mandewo
Councillor Dennis Marsden
Councillor Teri Towner
Councillor Chris Wilson
Councillor Bonita Zarrillo

STAFF: Peter Steblin, City Manager
Jamie Boan, General Manager Engineering and Public Works
Nikki Caulfield, General Manager Corporate Services
Lanny Englund, General Manager Parks, Culture, Facilities and Recreation
Michelle Hunt, General Manager Finance, Lands and Police
Don Luymes, General Manager Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities
Jim McIntyre General Manager Planning and Development
Darren Carr, Inspector Operations RCMP
Jim Ogloff, Coquitlam Fire Chief
Jonathan Helmus, Director Utilities
Jennifer Keefe, Manager Community Recreation and Culture Service
Caresse Selk, Manager Environment
Kathleen Vincent, Manager Corporate Communications
Shannon Wagner, Environmental Education and Enforcement Manager
Stephanie Lam, Legislative Services Manager
Rachel Cormack, Legislative Services Clerk
Adam Shroff, Legislative Services Clerk

Councillor Towner, as per the Acting Mayor schedule, assumed the role of Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

On behalf of the committee, The Chair offered a land acknowledgement of the traditional ancestral territories of the Coast Salish People.

The Legislative Services Manager noted that one additional item was identified for discussion and this was accepted under Other Business.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held on Monday, June 28, 2021

The Committee, with the exception of Councillor Wilson, approved the Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held on Monday, June 28, 2021.

DELEGATIONS

2. Sharee Dubowits – Renewed Funding for the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable

Sharee Dubowits of the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable (CRWR) gave a presentation entitled “Renewed Funding for the Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable” with slides titled as follows:

- Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable
- The Coquitlam River Watershed Roundtable
- The majority of the CRWR’s core operations are funded by: / The Request
- Our Plan (2022-2026)
- Next Steps

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The acknowledgement of BC Hydro’s impacts on the river
- The recognition that BC Hydro does not appear to provide funding for the project
- The desire to encourage BC Hydro to become a core source of funding in light of their impact on the river

The Mayor recommended that the City write to BC Hydro regarding the impact and importance of funding the CRWR’s projects.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The appreciation for the work of CRWR to set up funding for this project
- The desire to involve the City of Vancouver based on the far-reaching impacts of the Coquitlam River Watershed

REPORTS OF STAFF

PARKS, RECREATION, CULTURE AND FACILITIES

3. Report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities – Use of Rodenticides on City-Owned Lands

The General Manager Parks, Culture, Facilities and Recreation provided introductory comments relative to the report and noted the following:

- The efforts to move from Rodenticide to snap traps
- The understanding that this transition has necessitated increased on-site servicing
- The need for an additional \$20,000 budget to support the new need for service and rodent control

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The appreciation for the “lead-by-example” approach taken
- The understanding that the additional \$20,000 would bring the program total to \$34,000
- The need to reduce rodent attractants followed by control methods such as traps
- The understanding that mechanical traps will be checked more frequently
- The understanding that rodenticide has some applications, but only as a last resort method
- The impact of rodenticide on the ecosystem and its transfer through the food chain
- The importance of providing education to residents as to the benefits of using snap-traps over rodenticide
- The appreciation for the work done by the Sustainability and Environmental Committee

The Committee received the report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities dated June 29, 2021 and entitled “Use of Rodenticides on City-Owned Lands” for information.

4. Report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities – Library Services and Spaces Study – Terms of Reference

Councillor Towner left the meeting at this time (2:34 p.m.) and returned at 2:37 p.m.

Mayor Stewart left the meeting at this time (2:36 p.m.) and returned at 2:41 p.m.

The General Manager Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities, Lands and Police provided introductory comments relative to the report.

The Manager Community Recreation and Culture Services gave a presentation entitled “Library Services and Spaces Study – Terms of Reference” with slides titled as follows:

- Background
- Why is this necessary?
- Population Growth
- Coquitlam Growth Area Numbers 2016-2046
- Existing Libraries
- Intention of Study
- Major Sections of Study
- Timeline
- Financial Implications
- Thank You

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The knowledge that libraries have a continued relevance to the community
- The importance of the partnership between the City and service providers
- The role of libraries as a community center
- The importance of a mobile service to ease pressure on brick-and-mortar locations
- The continued need for physical books
- The desire to increase accessibility and outreach of libraries
- The importance of seeing numbers relative to service delivery

Councillor Mandewo left the meeting at 2:49 p.m. and returned at this time (2:51 p.m.)

Councillor Hodge left the meeting at this time (2:53 p.m.).

- The desire for more information
- The importance of the library link and other innovations
- The understanding that there are challenges in meeting the demand and the vast scope of the library within the limitation of a given budget
- The desire to re-examine the relationship between the city and the library and bring the two closer together
- The knowledge that the Library is governed by the provincial Library Act

The Committee received the report of the General Manager, Parks, Recreation, Culture and Facilities dated June 29, 2021 and entitled “Library Services and Spaces Study – Terms of Reference” for information.

Councillor Hodge returned to the meeting at this time (3:01 p.m.).

ENGINEERING AND PUBLIC WORKS

5. Report of the General Manager Engineering and Public Works – Inflow and Infiltration, Cross-Connections, and Property Owner Responsibility

The General Manager Engineering and Public Works provided introductory comments relative to the report and noted:

- The knowledge that Coquitlam has achieved excellent results, having only one sanitary sewer overflow incident of 150 that have occurred in the region
- The knowledge that there is a focus on preventative strategies and measures

The Director of Utilities gave a presentation entitled “Inflow & Infiltration, Cross-Connections and Property Owner Responsibility” with slides titled as follows:

- Agenda
- Sanitary and Stormwater System Overview
- Sewer System Ownership
- I&I Definition
- Sources of I&I
- I&I Measurement
- I&I Measurement
- I&I Implications
- What are we doing about it?
- Identification & Measurement
- Mitigation
- Monitoring
- Next Steps
- Questions?

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The manner in which cross-connections come to be
- The methods available to homeowners to resolve issues
- The knowledge that new developments are built properly to prevent problems
- The importance of a long duration of measurement data to learn how and where to mitigate problems
- The knowledge that cameras are used once every 20 years to detect tree roots impacting flow lines
- The knowledge that cross-connections are the main culprit of contributing to I&I
- The appreciation for the efforts by residents of Stony Creek to mitigate issues
- The knowledge that there are proposed sources for funding for future efforts
- The importance of the project to reduce I&I and bring flows below capacity

The Committee received the report of the General Manager Engineering and Public Works dated June 25, 2021 entitled “Inflow & Infiltration, Cross-Connections, and Property Owner Responsibility” for information.

OTHER BUSINESS

OB-1 Driving Over Fire Hoses

A member of Council described an incident documented on Twitter by a member of City of Coquitlam's Fire and Rescue Service in which a motorist drove over and damaged a fire hose at the scene of an active incident.

The Fire Chief spoke about the incident and noted the following:

- The resultant danger to firefighters operating in a building
- The risk posed to bystanders near a hose
- The jeopardy caused to efforts of firefighters in saving victims of a fire
- The costly damage to equipment
- The knowledge that it is an offence to drive over a firehose as per the *Motor Vehicle Act* resulting in a fine of \$81 and two demerit points
- The knowledge that it is also a Municipal bylaw infraction with an associated fine

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The belief that the fines for such an offence are too low
- The desire to support the Fire and Rescue Service through legislative backing to increase fines and punitive measures and deter such actions
- The desire to re-assess fine structures in regards to this offence
- The appreciation for the hard work of the members of the fire department
- The possibility of a letter from the City to the province to examine this issue
- The suggestion of a UBCM resolution crafted in joint effort between the Fire and Rescue service and the City of Coquitlam
- The desire to examine acquiring protective equipment for hoses in order to improve safety
- The recognition that, in incidents such as the particular one noted, such equipment would not have prevented the problem

NEXT MEETING DATE – July 12, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned 3:46 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

CHAIR

I hereby certify that I have recorded the
Minutes of the Council-in-Committee
Meeting held Monday, July 5, 2021 as
instructed, subject to amendment and
adoption.

 for:

Adam Shroff
Legislative Services Clerk