

## Regular Council Meeting of White Rock City Council

### Minutes



February 10, 2025, 4:00 p.m.

Gallery Room, White Rock Community Centre Council Chambers  
15154 Russell Ave, White Rock, BC, V4B 0A6

#### PRESENT:

Mayor Knight  
Councillor Chesney  
Councillor Cheung (via electronic means)  
Councillor Klassen  
Councillor Lawrence  
Councillor Partridge  
Councillor Trevelyan

#### STAFF:

Guillermo Ferrero, Chief Administrative Officer  
Tracey Arthur, Director of Corporate Administration  
Anne Berry, Director of Planning and Development Services  
Candice Garty, Director of Financial Services  
Jim Gordon, Director of Engineering and Municipal Operations  
Kari Laing, Director of Human Resources  
Ed Wolfe, Fire Chief  
John Woolgar, Director of Recreation and Culture  
Robyn Barra, Manager of Communications and Government Relations  
Debbie Johnstone, Deputy Corporate Officer

Public: 15

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#### 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

## 1.1 FIRST NATIONS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

*We would like to recognize that we are gathered on the traditional unceded territory of the Semiahmoo First Nation, within the broader territory of the Coast Salish Peoples.*

## 2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**Motion Number: 2025-048 It was MOVED and SECONDED**

**THAT the Corporation of the City of White Rock Council adopt the agenda for its regular meeting scheduled for February 10, 2025 as circulated.**

**Motion CARRIED (7 to 0)**

## 3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**Motion Number: 2025-049 It was MOVED and SECONDED**

**THAT the Corporation of the City of White Rock Council adopt the meeting minutes of January 27, 2025 as circulated.**

**Motion CARRIED (7 to 0)**

## 4. QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD (15 MINUTES / 2 MINUTES PER SPEAKER)

Question and Answer Period was held in person at the meeting.

### 4.1 CHAIRPERSON CALLS FOR SPEAKERS TO QUESTION AND ANSWER PERIOD

- L. Tien, Executive Director, Semiahmoo Arts Society, noted their support for the City's proposed Community Hub and the potential of additional arts and cultural space it will offer.
- A. Anderson, White Rock, concerned with e-bikes on City sidewalks, asked that the bylaws be reviewed and e-bikes be noted as not permitted on City sidewalks (fines & signage should be implemented to clarify this).

It was noted that staff will review this.

- G. Gumley, White Rock, stated concern with the City's lack of clarity around the deadline for accepting submissions in regard to the Financial Plan survey and the fact his submission was not

accepted. It was noted that the Mayor and Council had received the email / submission and the Mayor was given a hard copy by Mr. Gumley at this time.

Staff were asked to ensure the deadline for surveys / receipt of submissions be made clear within future communications.

- J. Singh Gill, White Rock, noted concern with the impact of Bill 44 legislation and the recent City Zoning Bylaw amendments made to accommodate it (RS-1 and RS-2). The floor area calculation definition has been amended to include open areas (including stairs and deck space) within the required calculations. Previously they there not and asked if this can be reviewed.

Staff noted they are reviewing the Bylaw at this time.

- D. Moffy, White Rock, noted the same concerns as Mr. Gill in terms of the new Zoning Bylaw in regard to the calculation of floor area and asked that Council consider the new bylaws and their potential impacts.
- Gurpreet, White Rock, noted similar concerns as the previous two (2) speakers in regard to the Zoning bylaw amendments and asked that they be reviewed.

## **5. DELEGATIONS AND PETITIONS**

### **5.1 DELEGATIONS (5 MINUTES)**

#### **5.1.a MARK KROEKER AND KEITH PENNER - HARDSHIP REVIEW OF CANCELLED BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATION**

Mark Kroeker and Keith Penner attended to discuss the cancellation of their building permit application.

#### **5.1.b GINNY HASSELFIELD AND JASROOP GOSAL, SURREY BOARD OF TRADE AND SOUTH SURREY & WHITE ROCK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - ACTION PLANS FOR US TARIFFS**

Jasroop Gosal and Ginny Hasselfield, Surrey Board of Trade and South Surrey & White Rock Chamber of Commerce, attended to discuss Action Plans for US Tariffs.

**5.1.c WHITE ROCK HOMEOWNERS AND TAXPAYERS SOCIETY - WHITE ROCK COMMUNITY HUB PROJECT**

Gary Gumley, Director of the White Rock Homeowners and Taxpayers Society, attended to speak on behalf of the White Rock Community Hub project and requested open discussion with the community about the project so that the public can participate in the decision-making process (including live streaming the Internal Community Hub meetings for public viewing).

**5.1.d JENNIFER RATCLIFFE - PARKING CONSIDERATION FOR PEBBLE LANE EARLY LEARNING WHITE ROCK**

Jennifer Ratcliffe, Pebble Lane Early Learning White Rock, attended to discuss potential parking solutions (pick-up/drop-off zones and parking passes) for families dropping off and picking up for the daycare located at 15670 Columbia Avenue.

**5.2 PETITIONS**

None

**6. PRESENTATIONS AND CORPORATE REPORTS**

**6.1 PRESENTATIONS (10 MINUTES)**

None

**6.2 CORPORATE REPORTS**

**6.2.a PUBLIC COMMENTS ON DRAFT 2025 - 2029 FINANCIAL PLAN**

Corporate report dated February 10, 2025 from the Director of Financial Services titled "Public Comments on Draft 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan".

**Note: Mayor and Council provided a further opportunity at this time for in-person public comments regarding the 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan.**

G. Gumley, White Rock, had comments / questions on the following noted topics:

- Increases in operating expenses (26.1% from 2023)
- Higher amounts in the City's chequing account
- Consideration of utilizing, for portions of funds, higher interest-bearing cash investment for 90 days at a time

- Has the City staff report requested by Council on January 13, 2025 been provided yet?
- Current status of the Capital Asset Reserves report
- Current status of the Tangible Capital Assets report
- With \$187M in cash why is there a 5.4% property tax increase needed?
- Request to establish a Finance and Audit Committee

**Motion Number: 2025-050 It was MOVED and SECONDED**

**THAT Council receive:**

1. All submissions provided at this time verbally in regard to the Draft 2025 - 2029 Financial Plan; and
2. The February 10, 2025, corporate report from the Director of Financial Services, titled “Public Comments on Draft 2025 – 2029 Financial Plan” for Council’s review and consideration.

**Motion CARRIED (7 to 0)**

**7. MINUTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMITTEES**

**7.1 SELECT COMMITTEE MINUTES**

None

**7.2 SELECT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

None

**8. POLICIES**

None

**9. BYLAWS AND PERMITS**

**9.1 BYLAWS**

None

**9.2 PERMITS**

None

**10. CORRESPONDENCE**

## **10.1 CORRESPONDENCE - RECEIVED FOR INFORMATION**

**Motion Number: 2025-051 It was MOVED and SECONDED**

**THAT Council receive correspondence Item 10.1.a as circulated.**

**Motion CARRIED (7 to 0)**

### **10.1.a METRO VANCOUVER BOARD IN BRIEF**

Metro Vancouver Board in Brief for the Friday, January 31, 2025 meetings.

## **11. MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

### **11.1 MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Knight noted the following information:

- Jan 29, Post Council Overview and Highlights from the January 27 Regular Council meeting:
- Jan 30, TransLink Mayors' Council
- Jan 30, South Surrey White Rock Chamber of Commerce and Surrey Board of Trade mixer
- Jan 31, Metro Vancouver Board of Directors' meeting
- Feb 6, Metro Vancouver Regional Planning Committee meeting
- Feb 6, Retirement for David Young, President and CEO for Sources Community Resources
- Feb 7, Metro Vancouver Fraser River Crossing Task Force meeting
- Thank you to City Staff, the residents and local business owners for their hard work in addressing the recent snow removal needs

### **11.2 COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Councillor Chesney noted information on the following:

- February Black History Month, "Hope Meets Action: Echoes Through the Black Continuum," exhibit at the White Rock Museum and Achieves
- Reminder for residents and local business to clear your sidewalks, many rely on this being completed

Councillor Klassen noted information on the following:

- Film "Toxic" presented by the Southrock Social Justice Society and White Rock's Tides of Change
- Feb 22, The Coldest Night of the Year Challenge reminder

Councillor Partridge noted information on the following:

- Jan 30, South Surrey White Rock Chamber of Commerce networking event
- Feb 7, "Outside Mullingar" Peninsula Production
- Feb 8, Soroptimists Hosted "Dream it Be It"

Councillor Lawrence noted the following:

- Feb 7, Celebration of Black Excellence for 2025 Celebrating Black History in BC

## 12. **MOTIONS AND NOTICES OF MOTION**

### 12.1 MOTIONS

#### 12.1.a ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Trevelyan provided the following motion for consideration at this time:

**Motion Number: 2025-052 It was MOVED and SECONDED**

**Given the imposition of tariffs on Canada by the United States, and given the looming potential of a recession:**

**THAT the City of White Rock creates an Economic Development Committee, in which the City, our BIA, local businesses and the public will meet to share ideas, concerns, and solutions, and take concrete actions to improve and enhance business success and viability in the City of White Rock.**

Voted in the negative (6): Mayor Knight, Councillor Chesney, Councillor Cheung, Councillor Klassen, Councillor Lawrence, and Councillor Partridge

**Motion DEFEATED (1 to 6)**

#### **12.1.b WATERFRONT ACCESSIBILITY**

Councillor Trevelyan provided the following motion for consideration at this time:

**Motion Number: 2025-053 It was MOVED and SECONDED**

**That the City of White Rock adds accessible beach access for all ages and abilities to our list of top strategic priorities of the City of White Rock.**

Voted in the negative (4): Mayor Knight, Councillor Cheung, Councillor Lawrence, and Councillor Partridge

**Motion DEFEATED (3 to 4)**

#### **12.2 NOTICES OF MOTION**

None

#### **13. RELEASE OF ITEMS FROM CLOSED COUNCIL MEETINGS**

None

#### **14. OTHER BUSINESS**

None

#### **15. CONCLUSION OF THE FEBRUARY 10, 2025 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

The meeting was concluded at 5:20 p.m.



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Mayor Knight

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Tracey Arthur, Director of  
Corporate Administration