



City of Surrey

Council-in-Committee

Minutes

Council Chamber
City Hall
14245 - 56 Avenue
Surrey, B.C.
MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2007
Time: 4:48 p.m.

Present:

Councillor Steele - Chair
Mayor Watts
Councillor Bose
Councillor Gill
Councillor Hepner
Councillor Higginbotham
Councillor Hunt
Councillor Martin
Councillor Villeneuve

Absent:

Staff Present:

City Manager
City Clerk
City Solicitor
General Manager, Planning & Development
General Manager, Engineering
General Manager, Finance & Technology
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
General Manager, Human Resources

A. DELEGATIONS

1. Bruno Zappone, President Friends of the Surrey Museum and Archives Society File: 1855-01; 0550-20-10

Bruno Zappone, President, Friends of the Surrey Museum and Archives Society (the "Society") was in attendance to discuss the Society's desire to provide an annual gift to offset the expected admission revenues of the Surrey Museum and the Historic Stewart Farm. Comments were as follows:

- The mandate of the Society is to support the Museum and Archives through the capital campaign development for which the building has now been completed.
- The Society has an ongoing mandate, through the Museum Endowment Fund (the "Fund") that is managed by the Surrey Foundation, to profile and support the Museum and Archives operations by building public awareness of these unique facilities.
- The principal of the Fund now totals over \$680,000.

Jim King, Treasurer, Friends of the Surrey Museum and Archives Society, was introduced and provided the following comments:

- At the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on November 3, 2007, the general membership discussed and endorsed the Fund policy with regard to the use of the annual interest.
- Starting in 2009, the Society would like to sponsor free general admission to the Surrey Museum and the Historic Stewart Farm by utilizing the revenue expectations from admission fees and donations (which in 2006 totaled \$45,000) to promote and increase attendance to these two unique facilities.
- As the first priority of the Society to make these operations more visible, accessible and affordable for all residents, tourists and the facilities itself, the Society is making the offer to pay the expected revenue on a continued basis from the interest of the Fund on an annual basis.

- The offer is for general admission only; the facilities will continue to charge for special services including public programs, workshops, guided tours and curriculum programs for school programs.
- The Society will continue to build the Fund in order to ensure that this contribution is free admission, is stable and continuing.
- The Society would like to be identified as the admission sponsor and is requesting Council approve a voluntary donation box be placed at the two facilities in order to provide an opportunity for donations to the Fund in support of the Society.

Council applauded the Society for their initiative, noting the opportunity to increase awareness and appreciation of these facilities by providing general access and availability to everyone.

It was

Moved by Councillor Hunt
Seconded by Councillor Villeneuve
That:

1. An annual gift from the Friends of the Surrey Museum and Archives Society be accepted to offset the expected admissions revenues of the Surrey Museum and the Historic Stewart Farm for providing free admission to these facilities; and
2. That permission be granted to provide a donation box noting the support of the Surrey Museum and Archives Society, in both the Surrey Museum and the Historic Stewart Farm, to accept unsolicited and voluntary admission donations.

Carried

**2. Amy Hennessy
Community Relations Manager
Terasen Gas Inc.
File: 5500-07-01; 0550-20-10**

Terasen Gas Inc. representatives Amy Hennessy, Community Relations Manager, and Kareem Allam, Commercial & Industrial Account Manager, were in attendance to provide an update and presentation regarding energy use, efficiency and alternatives in British Columbia. Comments were as follows:

- Terasen is under Canadian ownership again. Terasen Inc. is a subsidiary of Fortis Inc., the largest investor owned gas and electric utility in Canada.
- Terasen is the third largest local natural gas utility in Canada and the largest in BC.
- Locally, Terasen Gas is the largest private sector employer in Surrey.
- A natural gas system is more expensive to put in, but at the end of the day it makes a huge difference and a smaller ecological footprint (charts were shown using efficiency models).
- CNG technology is global. 95% (approximately 2000) of LA city busses run on CNG.

- California has the most stringent environmental and air quality standards.
- Shanghai and Beijing are adopting Westport technology for CNG busses to address environmental concerns.
- When looking at fuel consumption of vehicles, Terasen encourages groups to look at the full life-cycle emissions of that fuel (i.e. from well to wheel). Diesel and other fuels require more energy to refine and ship than natural gas.
- From well to wheel the natural gas comes from BC wells, through BC pipelines, into bus engines designed here in BC (employing thousands of British Columbians).
- While natural gas busses are \$50,000 more expensive, operating costs are significantly lower. CNG is about 50% cheaper than diesel resulting in a pay-back of 3-5 years on a bus. CNG busses produce 20% less GHG, 50-70% less NOx and Sox. The expected CNG bus life cycle is 18 years.
- The Port of LA is implementing a program to move all short-haul trucks to NG, or LNG to improve air quality.
- The Honda Civic GX is the cleanest production vehicle in the world, producing 30-40% less GHG than the comparable Honda vehicle.

3. Hugh Kellas
Manager, Policy & Planning Department
Metro Vancouver
File: 0450-01; 0550-20-10

Hugh Kellas, Manager, Policy & Planning Department, Metro Vancouver was in attendance to make a presentation regarding the new Regional Growth Strategy. Council were provided with a booklet entitled “Choosing a Sustainable Future for Metro Vancouver: Options for Metro Vancouver’s Growth Management Strategy” as a guide for discussion. Various charts were reviewed and the following comments were made:

- A presentation to public meetings throughout the region regarding this information is underway to look at potential issues and ideas shared region wide, and policy solutions recommended for the past due replacement of the Livable Regions Strategic Plan which was adopted in 1996.
- A presentation will be held at the Newton Senior Centre at 7:00 p.m. on January 17, 2008.
- The challenge is to go to a sustainable region without losing the qualities already enjoyed as a top-ranked city in the world (as regarded in many global surveys).
- The concept of sustainability is built around the balance of three principals: social, economic and environment.
- Some of the key issues are population growth, diversity and affordability in housing, making sure we have a competitive economy and sustainable transportation.
- It is expected that there will be an increase from 1,000,000 in 1961 to 3,000,000 by 2031.
- At present, 76% of the population travel by vehicle.

- Five proposed goals have been set out as a starting point for discussion:
 - Accommodate growth in a sustainable and compact metropolitan structure. Concentration on growth in the major centres and how large the metropolitan footprint should be. Urban growth will be concentrated in compact communities with access to a range of housing choices and close to employment and service centres. Much of the development in the future will be a re-urbanized solution to the already established areas;
 - Offer diverse and affordable housing choices. A range of housing types and an adequate supply of housing at all affordability levels to meet the needs of residents;
 - Support and strengthen a diverse regional economy by providing the land base and infrastructure needed to sustain both traditional and new economy activities - building up growth around the town centres;
 - Protection of natural assets and building nature into the city; and
 - Creating a sustainable regional transportation system offering travel choices that support local and regional access.
- The board's plan is expected to be available by spring 2008.

Council made the following comments:

- The information provided is not an accurate picture of how fast we are growing; Surrey will be absorbing a share of the growth and it is important to have an accurate picture of the anticipated growth.
- In Surrey we have always said that transportation to Vancouver does not do us a whole lot of good for jobs because there is no data supporting a decided number that travel from Surrey to Vancouver, yet we continue to see a transportation system that revolves around moving into the Vancouver downtown centre. This is a concern especially when using population measurements and dealing with growth.
- This council has agreed that we need to significantly increase the diversity in our city centre and community centres for residential growth. All of those densities are equal or greater than what exists in Vancouver neighbourhoods (ie. Kerrisdale) and many of the other communities.
- There is some concern about this planning exercise and the effectiveness of it regarding Surrey as the 1996 Strategic Plan identified Surrey's city centre as second largest, yet this new document shows Surrey on a much smaller scale, giving no validity to the notion of the region's second city centre north of the Fraser. The language and the graphics do not send the right message.
- Going forward, it is really important to look at the transportation model, particularly in Surrey.

B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL

C. CORPORATE REPORTS

D. DELEGATION REQUESTS

E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

G. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Higginbotham

Seconded by Mayor Watts

That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Margaret Jones, City Clerk

Chairperson