

MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2015, 10:00 A.M.

1. THE CHAIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 10:00 A.M.

Committee Members Present: Mayor Helps in the Chair; Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff, Thornton-Joe and Young.

Staff Present: J. Johnson – City Manager; R. Woodland – Director of Legislative & Regulatory Services; J. Schmidt – Manager of Legislative Services; C. Havelka – Recording Secretary.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Committee considered the Agenda of the January 8, 2015 special meeting.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, and seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that the Agenda of the January 8, 2015, Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC001

2.2 Attendance at the Local Government Leadership Academy

Committee received a report dated December 24, 2014 from the Mayor's Office regarding conference attendance requests for Council members to attend the Local Government Leadership Academy.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Coleman, and seconded by Councillor Madoff, that Committee recommends that Council approve the costs associated with Councillors Alto, Isitt, and Loveday to attend the Local Government Leadership Academy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC002

3. COUNCIL BUSINESS WORKSHOP

3.1 Council Bylaw Abbreviated Rules for Motions

R. Woodland, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Services, presented Committee with information and a PowerPoint Presentation that provided information on:

- Key elements of the *Council Bylaw*
- Review of the principles of Council decision-making

- Review of the Agenda structure
- What constitutes a meeting

Committee discussed the following:

- What constitutes a “point of order”.
- Whether a request to divide a motion requires a motion;
 - Any member of Council can request a motion be divided.
- The policy for speaking at a Public Hearing and options for the amount of time an applicant and the public are permitted to speak.
- The suggestion that staff provide introductory presentations for applications at the Public Hearing.
- The suggestion applicants be permitted to make a presentation at the Planning & Land Use Committee.
 - Currently, Committee members are able to ask questions of applicants at Planning & Land Use Committee.

Councillor Isitt provided a notice of motion:

That applicants be permitted up to 10 minutes to speak and the public be permitted up to three minutes to speak to applications that staff are recommending be declined at a Planning and Land Use Committee.

Committee discussed the possibility of staff presenting at the beginning of a Public Hearing to identify what is being considered for that application.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that Committee recommends that Council direct that starting at the January 22, 2015 Council meeting, staff provide a less than five minute overview of the application under consideration at the Public Hearing.

Amendment: It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee amend the motion as follows:

That Council direct that starting at the January 22, 2015, Council meeting, staff provide ~~an a less than five minute~~ overview of the application under consideration at the Public Hearing.

On the amendment:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/003

A Committee member requested that staff provide an explanatory note at the top of the reports for Planning and Land Use Committee meetings describing the relevant considerations for the application before committee.

On the main motion as amended:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/004

Committee continued its discussion on the following:

- The procedure for dealing with correspondence and emerging issues;

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Madoff, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report on options for the handling of correspondence at the next Governance Workshop.

Mayor Helps requested that Committee outline the issues to bring forward for a future workshop on Governance:

1. Reviewing options on how to respond to correspondence received by Council.
2. Reviewing the time limit applicants are permitted to make a presentation at a Public Hearing (to 15 minutes).
3. The point in the agenda at which Request to Address are considered and reviewing opportunities to comment or ask questions.
4. Allowing applicants and the public to present at Planning and Land Use Committee when the staff recommendation for an application is to decline.
5. Reviewing options for a more understandable and transparent meeting process with respect to the agenda and reports.
6. Reviewing what Council can consider at a Public Hearing in terms of amending the recommendation and what has been advertised for the Public Hearing.
7. Rescinding a motion specifically related to developments that didn't move forward.
8. A review of the Council Bylaw, and consideration of striking out Section 8 (1) (c) related to CRD Board nominations.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Action: It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting of January 8, 2015, be adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC006

Mayor Helps, Chair