

Minutes of a Joint Meeting of the Municipal Councils of the District of Coquitlam, the City of Port Coquitlam and the City of Port Moody, held in the Council Chambers of the Port Coquitlam City Hall, 2272 McAllister Avenue, Port Coquitlam, B.C. at 7:30 p.m., January 21st, 1976.

In attendance were Mayor J.M. Campbell, Mayor N.A. Patterson, and Mayor J.L. Tonn. Aldermen L. Sekora, M. Butler, J. Parks, and L. Garrison represented the District of Coquitlam; Aldermen F. Friend, I.E. Young, E. Murphy, W. Black and B. Flinn represented the City of Port Moody; and the City of Port Coquitlam was represented by Aldermen L.M. Traboulay, J.J. Keryluk, M.A. Thompson, G.R. Laking and P.F. Ranger.

Staff represented included Coquitlam Municipal Manager R. LeClair, Port Moody Administrator R. Blackwood, and Port Coquitlam City Administrator L.D. Pollock. Press in attendance were Alex Coffin, representing the Vancouver Province and Audrey Murray of the Coquitlam Herald.

Mayor Campbell acted as Chairman and after introductions, an Agenda was circulated and Mayor Campbell asked if there were any objections to any of the items on the Agenda. It was decided that Item 2, dealing with the Town Centre, and Item 6, dealing with Labour Negotiations by the Regional District, would be deferred and dealt with In Camera. With these changes, the Agenda was adopted.

Item 1 - Appointment of a Continuing Intermunicipal Committee

This topic was discussed at length and it was

Moved by Mayor Tonn - and duly seconded:

That no formal Intermunicipal Committee be struck.

After further discussion on this resolution, the vote was called and the resolution was Defeated.

Moved by Alderman Garrison - and duly seconded:

That we embark on structuring an Intermunicipal Committee.

In support of his resolution, Alderman Garrison stated that there area many issues dealt with by the individual Councils in which it would be advantageous to refer the matters to a Committee of Intermunicipal Representatives for discussion, and if an ongoing Committee was struck, it should meet on a regular basis and deal with matters referred to it by the respective Councils. Alderman Garrison suggested that the exact structuring of the Committee might be further discussed by the meeting. There was considerable further discussion

on this resolution and the possible structuring of such a committee. The general concern seemed to center around who would represent each Council on the Committee and whether or not a small Committee could be struck that could represent the respective Councils on all topics that were likely to come up for discussion. The vote was called on the resolution of Alderman Garrison and the resolution was Defeated.

Alderman Ranger then proposed a further resolution.

Moved by Alderman Ranger - and duly seconded:

That appropriate Council-appointed Committees of the affected municipalities meet to discuss similar topics of concern and of mutual interest as the occasions arise from time to time.

This motion was voted on and Carried.

Item 2 - Oxbow Ranch

Mayor Campbell asked if Coquitlam had anything to report on progress of the Oxbow Ranch Development. Mayor Tonn replied that the project had progressed no further than the report given to the Port Coquitlam Council before the end of the year and that the By-law was presently at third reading stage and that the municipality had requested the Developer to respond to certain concerns that had been expressed by the Port Coquitlam City Council. As yet the Developer had not responded. Mayor Tonn informed the Council that the Developer had been told that fourth and final reading would not be given until these concerns were satisfied.

Item 3 - Area Road System - Highways

Mayor Campbell referred to a previous intermunicipal meeting with the Department of Highways wherein certain highway routes were discussed with the Minister and asked if the meeting wished to ask the current Minister of Highways to attend a Joint Council Meeting as a follow-up. After some discussion, it was suggested that perhaps Mayor Campbell could suggest to the Minister of Highways that he meet with the three Mayors to discuss the package proposal for highway improvements in the area presented to the previous Government, and that the Minister meet with the Mayors when he is in the Coquitlam area (which was believed to be within the next two weeks.)

Item 4 - Coquitlam Hospital

Mayor Tonn referred to a letter just received from Mayor Andrews, Chairman of the Greater Vancouver Regional District, referring to recent problems with road patterns through the proposed hospital site in Port

Moody and advising that these problems had been resolved and that further debate on the siting of the hospital was not necessary.

Mayor Tonn advised further that, in relation to hospitals, he would like to put a formal motion to this Joint Meeting and it was

Moved by Mayor Tonn - and duly seconded:

That we request the Regional District Representatives eligible to put forward a motion at the Board Meeting at the end of this month that the \$18.5 Million unallocated be specifically allocated for the Coquitlam and District Hospital.

Carried.

Alderman Flinn outlined to the meeting that a proposal of the Port Moody Historical Society to suggest naming the proposed hospital the 'Eagle Ridge Health Centre'. Alderman Flinn advised that he wanted to notify the Joint Councils as they would, no doubt, be hearing more from this name proposal from the Hospital Society.

It was the general feeling of the meeting that the naming of the hospital should be left up to the Hospital Society.

Item 5 - Transit

Alderman Ranger proposed the following motion:

Moved by Alderman Ranger - and duly seconded:

That as elected representatives of the benefactors of a relatively new bus service in Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam and Port Moody, we are aware of the many benefits of said Transit System and look forward to an increase in Transit Services as our respective communities expand at a phenomenal rate.

Carried.

Some members expressed concern that any resolution by the Councils should include reference to our concern over costs that might be imposed upon the municipalities to cover the Transit deficit, and Alderman Thompson proposed the following motion:

Moved by Alderman Thompson - and duly seconded:

That we express, to the appropriate Minister, our feelings that any transfer of transit costs to the municipalities would be met with great disfavour and certainly were costs that the municipalities could ill-afford.

This resolution was discussed at length and it was felt that nothing definite had been received indicating that the Government was, in fact, planning to transfer costs. The vote was called and the motion was Defeated.

Mayor Campbell asked Mayor Tonn if he could bring the Council up to date on the planned developments on Burke Mountain and at Essondale. Mayor Tonn reported that the Minister of Housing was meeting with Dunhill on the developments and, as yet, there was nothing to report on whether or not these projects would proceed. Some discussion ensued on the reaction of the community to these projects and traffic connectors to service these subdivisions. Mayor Tonn advised that his Council had, some time ago, taken the stand that they did not want the Austin - Bury Connector and Council policy is to oppose this as the connector route.

Alderman Traboulay mentioned the problems of the timing of the traffic light at the Lougheed and Brunette intersection and Mayor Tonn replied that this was being investigated by the Department of Highways. Alderman Thompson questioned the progress of Coquitlam's Industrial area. Mayor Tonn advised that at present there is a hold-up in trying to gain access to the Lougheed Highway from the Department of Highways and that the hold-up is principally due to the announcement of the Mary Hill By-pass and the amounts required for acquisition of this particular route.

Alderman Thompson then questioned Port Moody on the plans for Light Rapid Transit along St. Johns Street in Port Moody. Mayor Patterson informed the meeting that in his discussions with the Minister of Highways, it was indicated that before decision could be made on the widening of St. Johns Street, that a decision would have to be made on Light Rapid Transit and as yet the Department had not yet reached a decision.

Item 6 - Housing

Mayor Campbell then asked for the comments of the meeting on the G.V.R.D.'s involvement in housing and advised that it was his view that the G.V.R.D. should not be involved in the provision of housing in the Lower Mainland. A motion was proposed by Mayor Patterson that these three Councils suggest to the G.V.R.D. that they get out of housing. The question was discussed at length and Alderman Laking pointed out that there are a number of units that have been constructed or are under construction in the Lower Mainland by the G.V.R.D. that would have to be dealt with and that it is not a simple question of getting out of housing without making provision for these existing units. Mayor Tonn pointed out that the misconception is that the G.V.R.D. are involved in all types of housing which

is not the case. The main purpose of the G.V.R.D. Housing Department is as an agency co-ordinating the spending of Federal and Provincial funds in construction of housing and in providing the subsidy required to operate Senior Citizens' Housing and Subsidized Housing. Mayor Patterson commented that he did not feel that the G.V.R.D. should be involved in this; that the Department of Municipal Affairs should assist municipalities in servicing land for development and that the Province should pay the subsidy required for Subsidized Housing.

The pros and cons of housing were debated and Mayor Tonn proposed that the matter be tabled and that Mayor Andrews, the Chairman of the G.V.R.D., and Mr. Casson be asked to attend the next Intermunicipal Meeting of Councils to discuss the G.V.R.D.'s role in housing.

Alderman Traboulay stated that he felt that the G.V.R.D. was involved in too many functions and that if the Chairman of the G.V.R.D. was being invited to attend, that he should be prepared to discuss other functions of the G.V.R.D. at the same time. There was considerable discussion on this point, regarding the involvement of the G.V.R.D. in its various functions, in particular, planning.

Item 7 - Other Business

Mayor Campbell asked if there were any other items to be brought up. Alderman Parks asked if he could get the comments of the members regarding the handling of developments, in particular looking for some uniformity in approval of developments, citing an experience in the Coquitlam Council where a development was approved at third reading and then was subsequently defeated at final reading. He asked if other Council members felt that they would be bound by a decision at third reading. The general consensus was that Council members were not obligated by virtue of the fact that they have given consent at third reading and any number of things could intervene before final adoption to change a particular Alderman's views on approval of the project.

Item 8 - Restructure Committee

Alderman Thompson brought up the question of the continuation of the Restructure Committee in view of resolutions passed by each Council requesting that the Department of Municipal Affairs disband the Committee. Mayor Patterson advised the meeting that in discussions with the Assistant Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs in Victoria recently, he had been advised that the Restructure Committee is dead and the Minister of Municipal Affairs will

not force amalgamation. If any municipality, locally, is interested in amalgamation, they will have to ask for it. Considerable discussion followed on the pros and cons of studying amalgamation and joint services. Alderman Ranger then made the following motion:

Moved by Alderman Ranger - and duly seconded:

That any studies on Restructure, Amalgamation, Boundary Realignment in School District No. 43 cease forthwith.

Carried.

Item 9 - Regional Auditorium

Alderman Black asked about the status of the Regional Auditorium which has been proposed by the School Board. It was indicated that the location was still in question due to the study of the Regional Town Centre. It was also indicated that this might be best left to the School Board in view of the fact that it involved Grants from Victoria, however, as it was a Regional item that, ultimately, it would involve the three Councils when the final decision is to be made.

Item 10 - S.P.C.A. Incinerator

Alderman Traboulay mentioned the problem with the incinerator presently being used by the S.P.C.A. and also urged the Councils to give favourable consideration to the S.P.C.A.'s request for funds for the Low-cost Spay and Neuter Clinic.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. and reconvened later In Camera.