

MINUTES of a special meeting of the MUNICIPAL COUNCIL of The Corporation of the District of Oak Bay, held in the Council Chambers, Oak Bay Municipal Hall, 2167 Oak Bay Avenue, Oak Bay, B.C., on Tuesday May 19, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor N. Jensen, Chair
Councillor H. Braithwaite
Councillor T. Croft
Councillor M. Kirby
Councillor K. Murdoch
Councillor E. W. Zhelka

STAFF: Municipal Clerk, L. Hilton
Deputy Municipal Clerk, M. Jones
Municipal Treasurer, P. Walker
Director of Building and Planning, R. Thomassen
Director of Engineering Services, D. Marshall

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and then gave a brief overview of the process to date with respect to the Financial Plan and associated bylaws, noting that although the proposed amendment bylaw was to address a typographical error, as outlined in the Bylaw Memorandum, correspondence has been received requesting the opportunity to address Council at this time.

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite,
Seconded by Councillor Zhelka, That all interested members of the public be allowed to speak to a maximum of 3 minutes each with respect to Bylaw No. 4646, *Tax Rates Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE – UPCOMING AGENDA ITEM:

1. ***Correspondence - Bylaw No. 4646, Tax Rates Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015***
 - ADDENDA - Corresp May 16 to May 19, 2015

MOVED by Councillor Croft,
Seconded by Councillor Kirby, That the correspondence listed under agenda item 1 be received.

CARRIED

BYLAWS:

2. ***Bylaw Memorandum***
 - Memo - Municipal Clerk, May 15, 2015

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite,
Seconded by Councillor Croft, That the Bylaw Memorandum of the Municipal Clerk dated May 15, 2015 be received.

CARRIED

3. ***Bylaw for First, Second and Third Reading***
- 4646, Tax Rates Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite,
Seconded by Councillor Croft, That Bylaw No. 4646, *Tax Rates Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*, be introduced and read a first time.

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite,
Seconded by Councillor Croft, That Bylaw No. 4646, *Tax Rates Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*, be read a second time.

David Rodenhuis, Oak Bay resident, spoke against the 5.1% tax rate increase, noting that it was out of keeping with both the increase in the cost of living and the tax rate increase in previous years. Mr. Rodenhuis commented that given the liability associated with addressing regional and local sewer issues, it was not supportable to undertake a tax rate increase at this time. He stated that he assumes this is related to the new Official Community Plan (OCP), which is very broad in scope.

Mary Douglas-Hunt, Oak Bay resident, noted that in her opinion it was the adoption of the new OCP which resulted in increased staffing and the 5.1% tax rate increase. Ms. Douglas-Hunt commented that the increase in taxes would impact affordable housing. With respect to the Strategic Plan, she stated that the drafting of a Development Cost Charges Bylaw and the Housing Strategy should be implemented first. Ms. Douglas-Hunt concluded her remarks questioning what taxes developers pay in the community.

Phyllis Campanello, Oak Bay resident, noted that her comments were also on behalf of Duanne Underwood and 22 other residents that were not able to attend the meeting. Ms. Campanello stated that she could provide a list of these residents if required. She noted that she agreed with the previous speakers that the 5.1% tax rate increase was problematic and well out keeping with the rate of inflation. She commented that many members of the community were not in support of the Oak Bay Beach Hotel but will nonetheless bare the tax burden resulting from the hotel entering foreclosure. She expressed concern with the impact of developers purchasing and demolishing character dwellings and then constructing to the maximum allowed in order to increase profit.

With no other members of the public wishing to speak, the question was then called.

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite,
Seconded by Councillor Croft, That Bylaw No. 4646, *Tax Rates Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*, be read a third time.

CARRIED

Mayor Jensen noted that another Special Council meeting would be held on Thursday May 21, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. at which adoption of Bylaw No. 4646, *Tax Rates Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015* would be considered.

ADJOURNMENT:

4. ***Motion to Adjourn***

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite

Seconded by Councillor Croft, That special meeting of Council be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Certified Correct

Municipal Clerk

Mayor Jensen