



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, December 1, 2025

4:30 pm

Council Chambers, Langley City Hall
20399 Douglas Crescent

- Present: Mayor Pachal
Councillor Albrecht
Councillor James (via videoconference)
Councillor Mack
Councillor Solyom
Councillor Wallace
Councillor White
- Staff Present: F. Cheung, Chief Administrative Officer
G. Flack, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
A. Chang, Director of Financial Services
K. Hilton, Director of Recreation, Culture and Community Services
C. Johannsen, Director of Development Services
S. Kennedy, Fire Chief
K. Kenney, Corporate Officer
P. Kusack, Deputy Corporate Officer
D. Pollock, Director of Engineering, Parks and Environment
B. Zeller, Manager of Human Resources

1. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Mayor Pachal acknowledged that the land on which we gather is on the traditional unceded territory of the Katzie, Kwantlen, Matsqui and Semiahmoo First Nations.

2. **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the December 1, 2025 special meeting agenda be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

3. **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Council commence Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED

a. Best Practices for Efficient and Effective Council Meetings

Kelly Kenney, Corporate Officer, provided a PowerPoint presentation to Council on feedback received from Council members on elements of efficient and effective meetings and then proposed next steps.

It was MOVED

THAT any further work, revisions or bylaw amendments be referred to a lawyer for a legal opinion to ensure that the recommendations do not undermine sections 115(b), 115(c) and any member of Council's 2(b) Charter Right.

It was MOVED

THAT staff be directed to identify, and report back to Council best practices, approaches, and tools that could be used to incorporate the following elements of effective council meetings into Council's meeting processes:

Order:

1. There is effective management of questions from Council members to staff before, during, and after Council meetings to allow members to be informed and enable focused discussion at Council meetings

Focus

1. Have clarity in what we're doing
2. Focused discussion occurs with all members having equal opportunity to be heard
3. There is consistency in how staff present information to Council, time management of agenda items, and how members of Council get their questions answered, allowing focused discussion during meetings

Efficiency

1. Agenda items requiring more "brainpower" are placed early on the agenda

2. Staff provide neutral advice to Council members to ensure proposed motions are actionable, written following best practices, and consider potential City resourcing requirements
3. There is a consistent approach for members of Council to direct inquires/complaints from community members to appropriate channels to ensure that matters are addressed, including follow up to Council, for example, a quarterly report on top requests for service trends
4. Appropriate time, number, and type of meetings is allotted to facilitate Council's full consideration of significant agenda items; ex. initial meeting to provide information and context to Council, follow up meeting for Q&A from Council members, further information/updates provided as necessary prior to item coming forward to meeting for Council decision

Equality

1. Getting a broad perspective of participation
2. everyone has equal time for sharing their perspectives

Decorum

1. All members understand the process to make a motion to take a recess during meetings as needed

Safe Meeting Environment

1. Valuing different perspectives while at the same time working together effectively

4. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - RISE AND REPORT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED

5. RATIFICATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Mayor Pachal called for a mover and seconder of the following motion:

THAT the following recommendation from the Committee of the Whole be ratified:

THAT any further work, revisions or bylaw amendments be referred to a lawyer for a legal opinion to ensure that the recommendations do not undermine sections 115(b), 115(c) and any member of Council's 2(b) Charter Right.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED, a Council member raised a Point of Order that under the Council Procedure Bylaw, a motion moved in Committee of the Whole did not require a seconder.

The Chair ruled against the Point of Order, advising that as Council was no longer in Committee of the Whole, motions required a seconder.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following recommendation from the Committee of the Whole be ratified:

THAT any further work, revisions or bylaw amendments be referred to a lawyer for a legal opinion to ensure that the recommendations do not undermine sections 115(b), 115(c) and any member of Council's 2(b) Charter Right.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the foregoing motion be amended to read:

THAT any further work or revisions of the Council Procedure Bylaw be referred to a lawyer for a legal opinion to ensure that the recommendations do not undermine sections 115(b), 115(c) and any member of Council's 2(b) Charter Right.

CARRIED

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED on the motion, as amended, and it was

CARRIED

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the following recommendation from the Committee of the Whole be ratified:

THAT staff be directed to identify, and report back to Council best practices, approaches, and tools that could be used to incorporate the following elements of effective council meetings into Council's meeting processes:

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CARRIED

Opposed: Councillors Mack and Solyom

MOTION TO HOLD A CLOSED MEETING

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the Council Meeting immediately following this meeting be closed to the public as the subject matter being considered relates to items which comply with the following closed meeting criteria specified in Section 90 of the Community Charter:

1 (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public;

(m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting;

(n) the consideration of whether a council meeting should be closed under a provision of this subsection or subsection (2).

CARRIED

Opposed Councillor Mack

7. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT the meeting adjourn at 5:01 pm.

CARRIED

Signed:

MAYOR

Certified Correct:

CORPORATE OFFICER