



# City of Surrey

## Finance Committee

### Minutes

Council Chamber  
City Hall  
14245 - 56 Avenue  
Surrey, B.C.  
**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2008**  
Time: 4:06 p.m.

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#### **Present:**

Councillor Gill - Chair  
Mayor Watts  
Councillor Bose  
Councillor Hepner  
Councillor Rasode  
Councillor Martin  
Councillor Steele  
Councillor Villeneuve

#### **Absent:**

Councillor Hunt

#### **Staff Present:**

City Manager  
General Manager, Finance & Technology  
Deputy City Clerk  
General Manager, Engineering  
General Manager, Planning & Development  
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
General Manager, Human Resources  
City Solicitor  
Deputy City Manager  
Manager, Area Planning & Development, South Division  
Manager, Area Planning & Development, North Division  
Land Development Engineer

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## **A. CORPORATE REPORTS**

1. The Corporate Report, under date of December 16, 2008, was considered and dealt with as follows:

#### **Item No. F019**

City Grants for the Year 2009  
File: 1850-20

The General Manager, Finance & Technology submitted a report concerning the City grants for the year 2009.

The General Manager, Finance & Technology was recommending approval of the recommendations outlined in her report.

It was

Moved by Councillor Martin  
Seconded by Councillor Steele

That the Finance Committee approve:

1. 2009 City grants as recommended by the Grants Evaluation Committee and as documented in Schedules A, B and C attached to this report;
2. an allocation of \$2,500 from the Special Recognition Fund for the purchase of City of Surrey pins to be distributed by the Mayor's Office to parties hosting and/or attending provincial events, and
3. assistance of \$30,000 from the Council Initiatives Fund to the Surrey Community Crime Prevention Society for the Society's Anti-Graffiti Program.

Carried

**B. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**

1. At the December 15, 2008 Regular Council - Public Hearing, Council adopted the following resolution:

**Transportation Committee - December 3, 2008****1. Heritage Rail Demonstration Project**

*"That the Transportation Committee refer the Heritage Rail Demonstration Project to the Finance Committee for review."*

The General Manager, Engineering, gave a presentation to the Committee in regard to the history and a proposal from the Fraser Valley Heritage Rail Society (FVRHS) for their Demonstration Project. The FVRHS is proposing to run the heritage rail car 1225 from Cloverdale to Sullivan on the old Interurban Line. To establish the demonstration project they will require a minimum of \$1.5 million and a one-year operating agreement with Fraser Rail along with a number of other agreements and certifications. The \$1.5 million does not contain a contingency amount. The City would be required to carry all liability for this project. The General Manager of Engineering was concerned about the ability of the FVRHS meeting the timelines established to ensure the deadline of being in service for the 2010 Olympics.

It was

Moved by Councillor Bose

Seconded by Councillor Hepner

That Council supports the Heritage Rail

Demonstration Project proceeding and further, that they approve the Capital Expenditure of \$1.5 million toward this Project.

Before the motion was put to question:

A thorough discussion on the funding and the timeline requirements of this project proceeded.

The replica baggage car is to be powered with a diesel generator and Councillor Hepner stated that the Olympic interest was only if the baggage car was to be powered with hydrogen. It was stated that the decision to order a diesel generator was reached, as the cost of a hydrogen power train was prohibitive. Without hydrogen the project is not of interest as an Olympic project so the projected timeline is not a necessity.

A discussion ensued on the all of the efforts to secure corporate sponsorship for the project was discussed and it was agreed that the lack of sponsorship was not due to lack of effort. As it stands the City would be the only major funding agency with an initial capital requirement of the \$1.5 million and an expectation of assistance with operational funding and the cost to cover liability insurance requirements.

To meet the capital and operational funding needs for this Project, another committed capital project for 2009 would have to be cancelled. To commit to covering the operational and liability insurance may result in an operational shortfall.

A discussion on finding alternate ways of raising this capital and other funding source possibilities continued at length.

It was

Moved by Councillor Villeneuve  
Seconded by Councillor Hepner  
That this item be deferred to the next

Finance Meeting when all of Council were present.

Carried

**B. ADJOURNMENT**

It was

Moved by Councillor Villeneuve  
Seconded by Councillor Hepner  
That the Finance Committee meeting do

now adjourn.

Carried

The Finance Committee adjourned at 5:01 pm.

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Jane Sowik, Deputy City Clerk

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Councillor Tom Gill, Chairperson