

**Present:**

Chairperson - Mayor Watts  
Councillor Bose  
Councillor Martin  
Councillor Rasode  
Councillor Villeneuve

**Absent:**

Councillor Gill  
Councillor Hepner  
Councillor Hunt  
Councillor Steele

**Staff Present:**

City Manager  
City Clerk  
Deputy City Manager  
General Manager, Planning & Development  
City Solicitor  
General Manager, Engineering  
General Manager, Finance & Technology  
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture  
General Manager, Human Resources

**A. DELEGATIONS****1. Bruno Zappone, President, Surrey Heritage Society (SHS)**  
File: 6800-01; 0550-20-10

Before Council to request funding to acquire assets of the Teamsters Freight Transportation Museum with the express purpose of opening a Surrey Transportation Museum and Archives.

- The goal of the SHS is to convince Council the opportunity to acquire the collection is rare and would complement the historical record of Surrey.
- The delegation noted acquiring the vehicles is extremely time sensitive as Surrey is in close competition with another City. The Teamsters Union acquired the collection, is leasing space in Coquitlam at a fee of approximately \$6,000 / month; unfortunately continuing at the current location is not possible due to associated fees.
- The SHS fully recognizes more due-diligence is require with respect to identifying associated costs on an ongoing basis and would be happy to provide further detail. Going forward they hope to acquire funds through sponsorships, and individual contributions.
- The group requested the City of Surrey to provide access to the former museum site located on the rodeo fairgrounds and noted the location would be only used as an interim measure until a more permanent solution can be arranged.
- Council requested clarification of how the collection would be housed at the Surrey Museum, the delegation explained slight modification would be needed in terms of adding a large overhead garage door in order for the collection of large scale vehicles to be stored in the building.

The SHS requested the City to provide use of the old museum facility, and to provide associated funding to offset the costs of heat, and electricity.

Council thanked the delegation and noted they will refer the request to staff for further review.

Before the Smart Meter presentations began, Mayor Watts and Council reported that at the September 26-30 Union of Municipalities Meeting (UBCM), the following resolution was endorsed by all City Council's throughout British Columbia:

**B174 BC HYDRO WIRELESS SMART METERS**

*WHEREAS significant and serious health, privacy and other concerns have been identified regarding the installation of wireless smart meters in British Columbia;*

*AND WHEREAS BC Hydro is proceeding with its program to install wireless smart meters in British Columbia although it recognizes there is active discussion and ongoing research into the possible health and environmental effects related to radio frequency signals and it is aware the World Health Organization has called for further investigation on this matter in its press release issued on May 31, 2011:*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a moratorium be placed on the mandatory installation of wireless smart meters until the major issues and problems identified regarding wireless smart meters are independently assessed and acceptable alternatives can be made available at no added cost to the consumer.*

Note: Recommendation B174 will be forwarded to the appropriate Area Associations for consideration in 2012; minutes from the UBCM September 26-30, 2011, meeting can be viewed at: <http://www.ubcm.ca>.

Council suggested that all Smart Meter interveners lobby both the Provincial and Federal Governments with their specific concerns.

**2. Liz Walker, Director CST, Surrey Residents**

File: 5500-01; 0550-20-10

Before Council to express concerns regarding the BC Hydro Smart Meter Program.

- Noted the mandate to change the current metering system has created public opposition to the Smart Meter Program.
- Opposition of the program is due to health and safety, fiscal, privacy and security concerns.
- Noted the program could have submitted to public consultation and it did not.
- Provided information on smart metres and radiation; and noted that how the statistics regarding signal use are inaccurate and misleading.
- Stated electro-magnetic radiation has risen dramatically due to increased technology. Second hand exposure has risen rapidly. Expressed concern that study information regarding public exposure has not been provided by BC Hydro.
- Further noted radio frequency (RF) radiation and biological effects are largely unknown and exposure standards need to be created. The Smart Meter Plan is lacking detail; other jurisdictions are exploring ways to reduce the risk.

The delegation requested Council to continue supporting the moratorium.



3. **Eileen Lindner, Surrey Citizens Refusing Meters (SCRM)**

File: 5500-01; 0550-20-10

Before Council to request a moratorium on the BC Hydro Smart Meter Program.

The following comments were made:

- Expressed concern regarding the health issues, referred to literature / scientific papers substantiating the biological effects of RF radiation and linking electromagnetic radiation to various health issues for humans, wildlife and the environment.
- Noted Smart Meters expose individuals to radiation 24/7 and shared there was controversy concerning the matter.
- Sited privacy concerns regarding installation of Smart Meters and the type of information tracked.

The delegation requested Council to explore another avenue and to launch an independent review panel and requested continued support for the moratorium.

4. **Jayne Priest, Friends 4 Safe Technology**

File: 5500-01; 0550-20-10

Before Council to express concerns regarding the BC Hydro Smart Meter Program.

It was

Moved by Councillor Villeneuve

Seconded by Councillor Martin

That information provided by the delegation

be received.

Carried

The following comments were made:

- Noted the Smart Meter Program has missing critical checks and balances for important government safe guards. Indicated there has been no involvement of the British Columbia Utilities Commission (BCUC) in the Smart Meter program and offered the review of the program is well within the mandate of the BCUC.
- No public consultation was conducted regarding proposed changes.
- Installation can be installed without consent of the owner. Individual rights of property owners must be respected and protected.
- Canadian Standards Association (CSA) guidelines have not been observed product testing. BCUC and CSA certifications are important for all consumer products, as well as observing electrical safety regulations.
- Cited the 2B Human Carcinogen Guide published by the World Health Organization (WHO). Noted lower levels should be set as a precautionary measure and that residents and Council must call for action on Wireless Smart Meters and other radiation devices within the City of Surrey.
- The delegation stated there is a legacy of science putting things out in the public domain without having the proper testing / controls in place and suggested society should err on the side of protecting children.

- The installation and placement of meters is not compliant with the US Federal Communications Commission (FCC ); health and safety standards (which are similar to Canadian standards); further noted the installation and placement of Smart Meters is non-consensual; the onus for due-diligence, health, and safety management should not be transferred to consumers.

Council requested further detail regarding correlation between installation of Smart Meters and fires.

The delegation asked Mayor and Council consider carefully how the issue will affect Surrey residents, and for the City of Surrey to provide an alternate wireless meter.

5. **Fiona Taylor, Deputy Project Director, Smart Meter Program, BC Hydro**  
File: 5500-01; 0550-20-10

Before Council to make a presentation regarding the BC Hydro Smart Meter Program.

It was

Moved by Councillor Martin  
Seconded by Councillor Villeneuve  
That correspondence be received as

information.

Carried

The following comments were made:

- The delegation clarified Smart Meters are not a 'consumer product' and explained CSA approval ratings relate to consumer products only. Smart Meters are subject to Industry Canada Standards and there are stringent protocols that apply.
- Explained the driving factor behind the Smart Meter initiative is the energy distribution grid infrastructure is more than 50 years old; has only 1 way distribution, power is generated at the dams, and it is transmitted through the distribution lines into the homes. The meter is the service delivery / terminus point.
- Upgrading from single function meters to an intelligent device is part of an end-to-end metering system which captures usage on an hourly basis, can track three different loads / voltage factors.
- The new program will have a theft detection program at all metering stations and feeders. Will have the ability to manage how much electricity is coming through at substations.
- Smart Meters have in-home feedback capabilities which can provide information consumer consumption (at no additional cost), and can show consumers through the Power Smart Program what their hourly home energy consumption rate is.

- Consumers can compare their usage daily, weekly, and monthly and calculate the impact their usage has on their bill. Power Smart Tips offer ways for consumers to realize further savings; consumers can save anywhere from 5 – 15% of their energy costs.
- Smart Meters have the capacity built in to allow for two-way flow of electricity. Two-way flow would actually allow consumers to re-sell unused electricity (i.e., gains from electric vehicle). The two-way flow process is not easy today; however, in the future, every meter will have the ability (if consumers so choose).

Council requested further detail regarding the Health Canada Standards discussed by the Smart Meter interveners. The delegation explained Smart Meters are heavily governed by both Federal and Provincial Regulation and fall well within the acceptable range.

The delegation was asked to explain what occurs when residents refuse to voluntarily switch over to the new Smart Meter Program. She explained consumers have contractual obligations regarding compliance to the utility supplying their residential power and noted the Smart Meter will become the new standard in British Columbia. In the event consumers have concerns, the Smart Meter installation work-order for their residence will be temporarily be put on hold, at which time BC Hydro will engage in one-on-one consultation. To-date BC Hydro has implemented 367,000 meters and is actively working with customers who have expressed concern to install Smart Meters in alternate locations.

**B. ITEMS REFERRED BY COUNCIL**

**C. CORPORATE REPORTS**

**D. DELEGATION REQUESTS**

**E. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS**

**F. OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS**


G. ADJOURNMENT

It was  
  
now adjourn.

Moved by Councillor Martin  
Seconded by Councillor Villeneuve  
That the Council-in-Committee meeting do

Carried

The Council-in-Committee adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

  
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Jane Sullivan, City Clerk

  
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Mayor Watts, Chairperson