

Present:

Chairperson - Mayor Locke
Councillor Annis
Councillor Bains
Councillor Bose
Councillor Elford
Councillor Hepner
Councillor Kooner
Councillor Nagra
Councillor Stutt

Absent:**Staff Present:**

City Manager
Deputy City Clerk
General Manager, Community Services
General Manager, Corporate Services
General Manager, Engineering
General Manager, Finance
General Manager, Investment & Intergovernmental Relations
General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Culture
General Manager, Planning & Development
Fire Chief
City Solicitor

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

B. PRESENTATION BY THE GENERAL MANAGER, FINANCE

Item No. Foo1 2023 Five-Year (2023-2027) Financial Plan – Utilities and Other Self-Funded Programs
File: 1705-05

The General Manager, Finance, provided an overview of Corporate Report Foo1: 2023 Five--Year (2023-2027) Financial Plan – Utilities and Other Self-Funded Programs. Highlights of the proposed budget include:

- Utilities are self-funded programs that follow a "user-pay" approach. Necessary rate adjustments are proposed as required.
- It is recommended for 2023 that the water utility metered rate be increased to \$1.2239 per cubic metre, which represents a combined change in the Greater Vancouver Water District and the City's portion of water charges. This recommendation will equate to a total increase of \$13.54 per year for the average metered single-family dwelling and \$75.20 per year for an average business.
- The non-metered or flat-water rate will be increased based on the 'average' consumption of water by non-metered accounts and will reflect the proposed rate increase of \$.0376 per cubic metre. A residential flat rate customer will see a \$30.08 per year increase.

- It is recommended for 2023 that the sewer utility metered rate be increased to \$1.5520 of discharge volume, which represents a combined change in Greater Vancouver Sewage & Drainage District and the City's portion of sewer charges of discharge volume. This recommendation will equate to a total increase of \$31.39 per year for the average metered single family dwelling and \$174.38 per year for the average metered business.
- An increase of \$6.83 per residential and agricultural property per year and an increase of \$16.68 per commercial and industrial property per year is recommended for the Drainage Parcel Tax, which represents a 2.9% increase respectively are proposed to support increased maintenance and capital costs in relation to the City's drainage infrastructure. With this proposed increase, the Drainage Parcel Tax for 2023 will be \$242.47 for residential and agricultural properties and \$591.89 for commercial properties.
- A 5.6% increase is recommended for the 2023 Solid Waste Utility rates to support the increased Metro Vancouver tipping fee as well as waste diversion, general litter cleanup around the City and capital infrastructure for street cleaning initiatives. With this proposed increase, the Solid Waste Utility collection rate will be \$333.59 for Single and Multi-Family customers, and \$166.26 for secondary suites. It is also recommended that the rates for Apartment/Townhouse recycling customers increase to \$34.77 and for Apartment/Townhouse recycling and organic customers to \$45.64.
- 2023 parking rates are updated per the Surrey Fee Setting Bylaw, 2001, No. 14577. Rate increases from \$.25 to \$.75 for hourly rates and \$1.00 to \$2.00 for daily rates are recommended for four City parking sites in City Centre. In addition, staff recommend a revised rate structure for Level 2 Electric Vehicle charging ports of \$1.00 per hour for Level 2 public chargers and the first three hours free for Level 2 designated chargers for City staff vehicles.
- A 1.43% increase is proposed for the District Energy rate, as supported by an independent External Rate Review Panel. This increase enables the Utility to recover its capital and operating costs, while providing stable and competitive energy rates for its customers.

C. PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The Mayor called for speakers to the proposed 2023 Five-Year Financial Plan - Utilities and Other Self-Funded Programs.

R. Landale, Fleetwood: The delegation suggested reducing the proposed tax increase for utilities and other self-funded programs to 2.9%.

Written correspondence was received as follows:

- Pol expressing opposition to the rate hike for water sewer, drainage, and solid matters.
- R. Landale expressing concerns regarding levies.
- T. Jackson expressing concerns regarding upper limit on legal fees incurred by Council.
- J. Murphy expressing concerns regarding transparency and the Green City Fund.
- A. Huberman, Surrey Board of Trade, expressing concerns regarding proposed grants for the Cloverdale District Chamber of Commerce, the South Surrey and White Rock Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Surrey Business Improvement Area and the current economic development model.

- Petition with 11 signatures expressing opposition to higher property assessments and property tax increases.

D. CORPORATE REPORTS

The Corporate Reports, under date of January 30, 2023, were considered and dealt with as follows:

Item No. Foo1 2023 Five-Year (2023-2027) Financial Plan – Utilities and Other Self-Funded Programs'
File: 1705-05

It was
Moved by Councillor Hepner
Seconded by Councillor Kooner
That the Finance Committee recommend
that Council:

1. Approve the rate adjustments outlined in Section 2.0 of Corporate Report Foo1; and
2. Direct staff to prepare the 2023 Five-Year (2023-2027) Financial Plan for each of the Water, Sewer, Drainage, Solid Waste, Parking, and District Energy self-funded programs respectively, incorporating the recommendations as contained in the report.

Carried

Item No. Foo2 City Grants for 2023
File: 1850-20

The Committee noted that this is a challenging economic time for the City and suggested that grant applicants could be awarded the amount of funding they were provided in 2022. Funding requests for levels that were higher than the amount provided in 2022 could be considered when the entire budget is ready for consideration.

It was
Moved by Councillor Annis
Seconded by Councillor Bose
That the Finance Committee recommend
that Council:

1. Approve the proposed 2023 City Grants, except for the Crime Stoppers grant request, as recommended by the Grants Evaluation Committee and as documented in Appendices "I", "II", and "III" attached to Corporate Report Foo2, pending Council approval of the forthcoming 2023-2027 General Operating Financial Plan; and
2. Receive for information, a list of Council approved long-term lease in-kind arrangements between the City and non-profit organizations, as included in Appendix "IV" of the report.

An amendment motion was

Moved by Councillor Kooner

Seconded by Councillor Bose

That the Finance Committee recommend

that Council:

1. Approve the proposed list of 2023 City Grants as outlined in Appendices "I", "II" and "III" attached to Corporate Report Foo2, except for the Crime Stoppers grant request, at the same amount of funding each grant requestor received in 2022, pending Council approval of the forthcoming 2023-2027 General Operating Financial Plan; and
2. Receive for information, a list of Council approved long-term lease in-kind arrangements between the City and non-profit organizations, as included in Appendix "IV" of Corporate Report Foo2.

amendment motion Carried

main motion, as amended Carried

Councillor Annis declared a conflict of interest and left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

It was

Moved by Councillor Bose

Seconded by Councillor Bains

That the Finance Committee recommend

that Council approve the grant request at the same amount of funding received in 2022 for Crime Stoppers, pending Council approval of the forthcoming 2023-2027 General Operating Financial Plan.

Carried by members remaining

Councillor Annis re-entered the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

Item No. Foo3 2023 Budget – Outcome of Budget Engagement

File: 0250-07

The General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Culture, and General Manager, Finance, submitted a report to provide Council with information related to the budget engagement process undertaken regarding the City's 2023 budget. The purpose of the engagement process was to receive input from the community on their needs and priorities and to provide information to residents on the annual budget process.

The Committee commended staff on the public engagement process for the 2023 budget. The Committee noted that the public's priorities have changed since previous years and that transportation was identified as a higher priority.

It was

Moved by Councillor Kooner

Seconded by Councillor Hepner

That the Finance Committee recommend

that Council receive Corporate Report Foo3 for information.

Carried

E. ADJOURNMENT

It was

Moved by Councillor Kooner

Seconded by Councillor Bose

That the Finance Committee meeting be

adjourned.

Carried

The Finance Committee adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Jennifer Ficocelli, City Clerk

Mayor Locke, Chair

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION INDEX
Monday, January 30, 2023**

NOTE: These recommendations were considered and approved by Council at its January 30, 2023 Regular Council – Public Hearing meeting.

Item No. Foo1 2023 Five-Year (2023-2027) Financial Plan – Utilities and Other Self-Funded Programs'
File: 1705-05

That Council:

1. Approve the rate adjustments outlined in Section 2.0 of Corporate Report Foo1; and
2. Direct staff to prepare the 2023 Five-Year (2023-2027) Financial Plan for each of the Water, Sewer, Drainage, Solid Waste, Parking, and District Energy self-funded programs respectively, incorporating the recommendations as contained in the report.

Item No. Foo2 City Grants for 2023
File: 1850-20

That Council:

1. Approve the grant request at the same amount of funding received in 2022 for Crime Stoppers, pending Council approval of the forthcoming 2023-2027 General Operating Financial Plan.
2. Approve the proposed list of 2023 City Grants as outlined in Appendices "I", "II" and "III" attached to Corporate Report Foo2, except for the Crime Stoppers grant request, at the same amount of funding each grant requestor received in 2022, pending Council approval of the forthcoming 2023-2027 General Operating Financial Plan.; and
3. Receive for information, a list of Council approved long-term lease in-kind arrangements between the City and non-profit organizations, as included in Appendix "IV" of Corporate Report Foo2.

Item No. Foo3 2023 Budget – Outcome of Budget Engagement
File: 0250-07

That Council receive Corporate Report Foo3 for information.