

General Purpose Committee

Date: Monday, February 21st, 2000

Place: Council Chambers
2nd Floor, Richmond City Hall

Present: Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt, Mayor
Councillor Linda Barnes
Councillor Malcolm Brodie
Councillor Derek Dang
Councillor Lyn Greenhill
Councillor Ken Johnston
Councillor Harold Steves

Absent: Councillor Kiichi Kumagai
Councillor Bill McNulty

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

MINUTES

1. It was moved and seconded
That the minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held on Monday, February 7th, 2000, be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION

2. **BILLIARD/POOL HALL CLOSING HOURS**
(Report: Feb. 10/00; File: 8060-20-7090; REDMS 135937, 136107)

City Solicitor Paul Kendrick reviewed his report with Committee members.

In response to questions Mr. Kendrick advised that unless directed otherwise, staff would continue to allow the operator of Oscars Billiards to remain open 1 hour after closing to give late arriving patrons the opportunity to complete their games.

Discussion then took place among Committee members and staff about this 'grace period' and questions were raised about whether this 'courtesy' was applied to the operators of other facilities and why it had been extended in the first place. Advice was given that closing hours for these facilities had not been enforced for a number of years, and that no action was taken by the City to prosecute owners and operators who were not adhering to the established hours. Further advice was given that staff would have to ensure that all rules were applied equally, and that staff interpreted the closing time as

meaning that the doors would be locked and the lights turned off at the posted time. However, the suggestion was also made that the additional hour could be added to the proposed closing time with the stipulation that the facilities would be closed at that time.

Mr. Joseph, the owner for Hi-Lite Billiards, 7777 Alderbridge Way, spoke about the existing closing hours for billiard and pool halls, and the financial impact which these reduced hours were having on his operation. In response to questions, he provided information on the closing procedures which he had implemented for his facility.

Mr. Habib Samari, the owner of Oscar Billiards, reviewed the history of his operation with Committee members, during which he advised that he had submitted his business licence application prior to the reduction in operating hours. He also expressed concern that young adults and teenagers were being denied entertainment because of the reduced hours of operation. In response to questions he advised that his busiest time of the week was Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings.

Discussion then ensued among Committee members and staff members about the various options which might be available to deal with this matter. Questions were raised about whether the Oscar Billiards operation could be "grandfathered" because the owner had submitted his application prior to the adoption of the reduced operating hours. However, advice was given that the Business Regulation Bylaw did not allow "grandfathering" to occur. Mr. Kendrick stated that the City could simply revert back to its original position, or alternatively, establish one set of rules for all of Richmond, including the Oscar Billiards facility. He noted that the purpose of the proposed bylaw was to resolve a problem in a particular neighbourhood and to ensure that other neighbourhoods were not impacted in the future.

As a result of the discussion, the following **amended** motion was introduced

It was moved and seconded

(1) That Bylaw No. 7090, which amends the Business Regulation Bylaw to amend the operating hours for Billiard/Pool Halls, be introduced and given first, second and third readings, with an amendment to:

(a) delete the hours set out in subsection 5.1.1, and to substitute the following:

**Monday, 8:00 a.m. to midnight
Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. to midnight
Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. to midnight
Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to midnight
Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Saturday
Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. Sunday
Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to midnight; and**

(b) add the following as subsection 5.1.3,

5.1.3 A billiard/pool hall operator must ensure that there are no customers on the billiard/pool hall premises except during the hours specified in subsection 5.1.1 and 5.1.2, whichever is applicable.

- (2) *That staff report to Council, through the General Purposes Committee, in 6 months time on whether complaints had been received from residents living in the area of the Oscar Billiard facility with respect to the change in the hours of operation for this business.*

CARRIED

It was moved and seconded

That staff prepare a report to the Planning Committee on existing 'late-night' uses, such as 7-11 and other corner stores, which were abutted on at least two sides by residential neighbourhoods, and on the feasibility of preventing such operations in the future.

CARRIED

3. **VISUAL IDENTITY PROGRAM**

(Report: Feb. 8/00; File: 0265-01; REDMS 135310)

The Coordinator, Customer Service Technologies, Colleen Smith reviewed her report with Committee members.

Discussion then ensued on the proposed identity program, during which the following comments were made:

- the proposed letterhead too informal, as well as being dull and uninteresting
- the position of the City's shield and department name and the "Island by Nature" logo should be reversed, with the City logo and department name at the top and "Island by Nature" logo at the bottom
- the proposed logo would be suitable for marketing but was not appropriate for official City correspondence
- the additional information which was included following the name of the signatory was unnecessary
- the tradition of having the Coat of Arms on City stationery should be maintained as this was the official 'signature' of the City
- photocopies taken of the proposed letterhead would be dull and boring
- the City shield should be at the top of the page and larger in size
- the Coat of Arms was boring, and the suggestion was made that attention should be given to the purpose of the letter, whether it was routine correspondence or an official City document.
- the logo was innovating and creative, however there was agreement that the heron watermark would not photocopy satisfactorily
- the proposal merited consideration and should be tested and feedback obtained on both the proposed and current logos
- the proposed logo was very progressive and upscale, and the question of the formality of City documents was not an issue
- steps should be taken to save the logo, which should be 'front and centre', with the City shield at the bottom of the page – the proposal should be redesigned and re-refined
- the proposed watermark should be used with caution and the cost of such use considered in greater detail
- the prototype for the proposed community association signs was very attractive
- the colours were good, however the Committee was concerned with the layout.

Ms. Smith responded to the comments and suggestions made by Committee members, during which she provided information on the different options which were available to address the photocopying problems relating to the 'heron' watermark.

As a result of the discussion, the following **referral** motion was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

That the report (dated February 8th, 2000, from the Coordinator, Customer Service Technologies), regarding the Visual Identity Program, be referred to staff for further review with the Visual Identity Project Committee and a subsequent report to Council, through the General Purposes Committee.

CARRIED

4. **2000 GRANTS BUDGET**

(Report: Feb. 11/00; File: 1085-01; REDMS 132975) (Individual grants: 134572, 134574, 134575, 134576, 134581, 134583, 134585, 134590, 134593, 134598, 134602, 134606, 134608, 134610, 134612, 134614, 134616, 134619, 134620, 134622, 134626, 134630, 134631, 134633, 134638, 134727, 134756, 134757, 134759, 134762, 134764, 134766, 134770, 134772, 134786, 134798, 134857, 134817, 134824, 134840, 134469)

The Manager, Customer Services, Anne Stevens, accompanied by Kari Huhtala, reviewed the staff report. In response to questions, she provide the following information:

- *summer programs* – the grant was being denied because additional funding was available through the federal government and local community associations
- *category 2 organizations* – the policy would be followed in subsequent years

During the discussion, questions were raised about whether the City would be expected to maintain the same level in 2001. Reference was also made to the gaming revenue received by the City, and the suggestion was made that the correspondence to the applicants must clearly indicate that 2000 was an exceptional year because of the receipt of this additional revenue, and that funding for category 2 organizations would follow the current policy in coming years. Discussion also ensued on the rationale for denying a grant in the first review and then recommending a grant of \$2,000 to the Community Arts Council. Questions were also raised about whether Committee should be giving direction to staff on the recommending of grants, and discussion ensued on this matter.

Frances Clark, 8140 Railway Avenue, referred to a task force report submitted by the Richmond Community Services Advisory Council in July, 1999 on the City grant process, and she suggested that this report should be reviewed. She also suggested that a process should be initiated for the creation of programs which could address social problems caused by gaming, when this revenue became available.

Discussion then ensued among Committee members and the delegation on her suggestion, and on whether or not the City should be providing funding for programs to deal with issues created by a provincially-created problem (i.e. gaming). Concern was also expressed that adoption of the proposed recommendations could set a precedent for future years by using the gaming revenue to help provide grant funding.

As a result of the discussion, the following **referral** motion was introduced:

It was moved and seconded

- (1) *That the report (dated February 11th, 2000, from the Manager, Customer Services), regarding the 2000 Grants Budget, be referred to the Grants Review Committee of Council, for review with staff on the direction which should be taken with respect to the additional gaming revenue being received by the City.***

- (2) ***That Councillor Linda Barnes be appointed as a member of the Grants Review Committee of Council.***

Prior to the question being called, direction was given that the review should:

- (a) consider whether the gaming revenue should provide funding for programs which were not funded by the Provincial Government;
- (b) ensure that the City did not become dependent on this additional revenue as a means of providing funding for community services;
- (c) include a review of (i) the RCSAC report as well as liaising with the Committee to obtain current information, and (ii) the Nanaimo experience; and
- (d) be returned to Council, through the General Purposes Committee, in a timely manner.

The question on the motion was then called, and it was **CARRIED**.

5. **HAMILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL/COMMUNITY CENTRE EXPANSION**

(Report: Feb. 21/00; File: 1000-10-007; REDMS 137583)

The Manager, Arena Services, Vern Jacques reviewed the proposed recommendation with the Committee, during which he responded to questions. Reference was made to the unexpended funds for the Minoru Park project, and he provided information on this matter to the Committee.

It was moved and seconded

- (1) ***That the funding be increased for the Hamilton Community Centre expansion from \$150,000 to \$225,000.***
- (2) ***That the additional \$75,000 be made available from the 1997 Capital Expenditure Reserve (Bylaw 6721) unexpended funds by redistributing the \$225,000 still available from the Minoru Park change facilities project.***

CARRIED

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved and seconded

That the meeting adjourn (5: 40 p.m.).

CARRIED

Certified a true and correct copy of the Minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes Committee of the Council of the City of Richmond held on Monday, February 21st, 2000.

Mayor Greg Halsey-Brandt,
Chair

Fran J. Ashton,
Executive Assistant