

**Subject:** WVM01B: AGENDA Jan 23, FCmte, etc  
**From:** "Editor, West Van Matters" <EditorWVM@WestVan.org>  
**Date:** 21/01/2012 12:28 AM  
**To:** Editor WVM <EditorWVM@WestVan.org>

Since WVM so often delayed here's an earlier peek at Monday night's agenda.  
Main items first, then **GOOD news from the open Finance Cmte mtg Friday morning (20th) -- none from the Ambleside Revitalization Commission mtg b/c closed after four minutes --** followed by agenda.  
After that seriousness, some silliness and qtns/puns (pun quiz).

How do you catch a unique rabbit?

Unique up on it.

How do you catch a tame rabbit?

(I gave you the first answer, now scroll down for the second.)

The Police Bd notes will be in WVM but intriguing to hear the Chief say the Police Station will be completed in Jan 2014.  
Thought I'd heard about opening Ambleside Revitalization up for public consultation. IMO we need a list of what decisions have already been made and what we can have input on or make recommendations.

## MAIN ITEMS on Ccl Mtg AGENDA Jan 23:

WV Streamkeeper/EPN Delegation; **2012 Budget Presentation {WOW factor!}; Centennial Event Update {sadly, appears to have circumvented regular cmte protocol};** proposed geothermal heating; Devt Applic Status; Correspondence -- Financial Report availability.

## FINANCE CMTE MTG Jan 20 -- Highlights -- BUDGET

Report on the DWV Finance Committee Meeting Friday, January 20th from material provided by several correspondents

The District of West Vancouver's Chief Financial Officer, Nina Leemhuis, presented the draft 2012 Budget Book and collateral to Council and the public at the Finance Committee meeting Friday morning, January 20. The level of detail and supporting material (including, **for the first time ever, detailed business case justifications for all capital items over \$50K**) is unprecedented and represents an incredible accomplishment by any standard, all the more so for the short time the new CFO has been in place.

**The basic budget book and summaries have already been posted on the District's website ( <http://www.westvancouver.ca/Level3.aspx?id=37684> ).** The capital budget details including the business justifications will be posted shortly.

Ms Leemhuis stated that this budget is not a "roll over budget" from last year but represents a detailed examination of every expenditure and consideration of how comports with the Guiding Principles (from the presentation):

- Safe community
- Healthy community
- Financially strong community
- Sustainable community
- Continued commitment to deliver highly-valued services

This, according to the CFO, is **almost a Zero-Based Budget re-examination of every expenditure.\*** Another significant change is a move to a three-year detailed budget rather than one-year (with extrapolations to provide the required five-year budget bylaw). The Core Services Review continues and the further efficiencies that result of that work will be incorporated in future budgets. Also the CFO is planning to further improve and enhance the budget documentation for the next budget year along with a goal of moving to a budget process that proceeds in parallel with the discussion of the utility fees (which has a deadline of December each year).

The previous Council directed staff to bring in a budget with an increase in line with the a CPI of 2.1%. **The proposed**

**draft budget has an increase of 1.74% along with a list of possible additions (increments) and deletions (decrements) Council can consider. The average 2011 property tax was \$3,121. A 2.1% budget would result in a average of \$3,187. The proposed 1.74% budget will result in an average of \$3,175. There is also a \$1M surplus from last year that can be used to fund increments or special one-time projects (although the CFO would prefer that most of that surplus go into a non-statutory reserve fund).**

The CFO will be repeating the presentation at the public Council meeting Monday, January 23. At the **Finance Committee mtg January 30th**, there will be an in-depth analysis and discussion of the budget followed by a **public open house at the Library (or Community Centre) February 1st** where the public will have the opportunity to talk to the directors about the budget in detail.

Staff will take the input from the Open House and **present the bylaws to Council February 6th** with adoption planned for a special council meeting February 13th (although this may change).

**The 2012 fee rates were set with the adoption of bylaws during December 2011 coincident with the adoption of the utility fee bylaws.** The fee revenues shown in the budget documents reflect the new fee rates multiplied by the estimated volume of usage by activity summed across all fee-generating activities other than for the utilities, golf, and cemetery business units. Those represents staff's recommendations on the maximum amount of revenue appropriate to obtain through fees.

The tables in the preliminary budget document (74 pp) follow the form that was discussed with Nina last summer. As she indicated in her presentation, the detailed departmental estimates are rolled up into the summary revenue/expenditure table appearing on page 7. The result is a comprehensive set of estimates that have been put into a logical format. It is hoped this innovation will make the financial estimates more accessible and understandable to the general public. These estimates are not presented in GAAP full-accrual accounting format. The estimates follow the modified accrual method as adapted for budget presentation purposes. Statements of position in the accumulated surplus and reserve funds have not been included. No continuity of reserves statement is presented. As you may know, last year's budget book exhibited a negative year-ending balance for 2011 in the Capital Facilities Fund in contravention of the fund's 2010 establishing bylaw. Reserve and surplus changes and opening/ending balances are an important check on expenditure levels and serve as a measure of 'affordability'.

One important capital reserve which has not been mentioned in past years, but which was to have been set up to receive sports team payments for the usage of artificial turf fields makes its first appearance this year on page 7 of the preliminary budget. This is in connection with a capital infrastructure expenditure approval request by Parks & Community Services for \$800,000 to replace the artificial turf surfaces (fields D & E) due to (premature?) wear from heavy usage. We have not seen the balance in this reserve published in prior years' budget documentation so it should be of interest to see whether in fact the players' fees have been set aside in prior years for the purpose of playing surface replacement this year. This example illustrates the importance of full disclosure of all reserve balances and a full accounting of changes in position of the reserves where those capital reserves have been set up for a specific purpose associated with identifiable fees and revenues.

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{No surprise overjoyed. Anyone who's read my material, will know I've advocated a zero-based budget since 1988.

Furthermore, when they terminated the budget binder we used to get about ten years ago, I requested its return every budget cycle.

This new binder it appears has even more information than we used to get so it seems we've not only made up for lost ground but made a leap forward!

-- CR, Editor}

**=== CCL MTG AGENDA Monday January 23 ===**

5pm MFCR; 7pm in Chamber

**5:00 PM**

1. Call to Order.

## **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

2. RECOMMENDED:

THAT in the public interest, members of the public be excluded from part of the January 23, 2012 regular Council Meeting on the basis of matters to be considered under the following section of the *Community Charter*:

90. (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

1. personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;
- (d) the security of the property of the municipality;
- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- (i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and
- (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.

## **3. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

**7:00 PM**

## **4. RECONVENE OPEN SESSION**

## **5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

## **6. ADOPTION OF MINUTES -- No Items.**

## **DELEGATIONS**

### **7. J. Barker, West Vancouver Streamkeeper Society and West Vancouver Secondary School Students' Environmental Protection Network regarding Findings of Spawner Salmon Surveys (File: 0055-20-WVST1)**

*PowerPoint presentation to be provided; to be received for information, with thanks.*

## **REPORTS**

### **8. Reports from Mayor and Councillors on Boards, Committees, and Working Groups**

### **9. 2012 Budget Presentation (File: 0860-01)**

*Presentation to be provided; to be received for information.*

### **10. Centennial Event Update Presentation (File: 0100-01)**

*Presentation to be provided; to be received for information.*

### **11. [Proposed Geothermal Heating System - 5340 Seaside Place](#) (File: 1147 20 5340 Seaside Place)**

RECOMMENDED: THAT Ccl authorize staff to approve the installation of an underwater and intertidal geothermal works in the public foreshore adjacent to 5340 Seaside Pl, subject to:

- (a) Installation being in accordance with the Foreshore Technologies Inc. report dated June 26, 2007;
- (b) Receipt of confirmation by Transport Canada and Fisheries and Oceans Canada that the works and specifications

meet their requirements; and

- (c) Receipt of a signed letter of intent from the owner indicating a commitment to enter into a foreshore agreement once the foreshore policy has been ratified.

## **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

### **12. Consent Agenda Items**

RECOMMENDED: THAT the Consent Agenda items as follows be approved:

- Item 12.1 – Development Application Status List (to January 13, 2012); and
- Item 12.2 – Correspondence List.

**12.1 [Development Application Status List \(to January 13, 2012\)](#)** (File: 1010-01) -- to be received for information.

**12.2 [Correspondence List \(see link on electronic agenda\)](#)** (File: 0120-24)

RECOMMENDED received for information.

### **Council Correspondence Update to January 13, 2012 (Noon)**

#### **Referred for Action**

- (1) January 11, 2012, regarding Financial Report Availability At [westvancouver.ca](http://westvancouver.ca) Website – Reports Not Posted  
(Referred to Director of Financial Services for consideration and response)

#### **Received for Information**

- (2) N. Thompson, December 16, 2011, regarding Proposed Changes to Public Skating Times at West Vancouver Ice Arena
- (3) Grouse Mountain Resorts, January 11, 2012, regarding Grouse Mountain Year in Review – 2011
- (4) Vancouver Area Cycling Coalition – North Shore Committee, January 10, 2012, regarding North Shore Bike Map Project
- (5) BC Retired Teachers' Association, Jan 10, re Congratulations on 2011 Local Govt Election and Volunteer Role of Retired Teachers in BC

### **Council Correspondence Update to January 17, 2012 (4:30pm)**

#### **Referred for Action**

- (1) Gleneagles Community Centre Advisory Committee, January 17, 2012, regarding Request for Delegation  
(Referred to Mayor for consideration)
- (2) Metro Vancouver, January 11, 2012, re Invitation to Submit Nominations for MetroV's Agricultural Advisory Committee

(Referred to Mayor for consideration and response).

13. **OTHER ITEMS** -- No items.

14. **Public Questions and Comments**      15. **Adjournment**

**=== QUOTATIONS / THOUGHTS / PUNS ===**

In a library we are surrounded by many hundreds of dear friends imprisoned by an enchanter in paper and leathern boxes.  
-- Ralph Waldo Emerson, American writer and philosopher (1803 - 1882)

Why not try and see positive things, to just touch those things and make them bloom?  
-- Thich Nhat Hanh (now residing in France), [Vietnamese Buddhist monk](#), teacher, author, poet, and [peace activist](#) (b 1926)

Giving money and power to government is like giving whisky and car keys to teenage boys. -- P. J. O'Rourke, American writer, humorist (b 1947)

Tomorrow hopes that we have learned something from yesterday. -- John Wayne

The cheerful loser is the winner. -- Elbert Hubbard, American writer, publisher, artist, and philosopher (1856 - 1915)

## **Punning**

Punning is an art of harmonious jingling upon words, which, passing in at the ears, and falling upon the diaphragm, excites a titillary motion in those parts; and this, being conveyed by the animal spirits into the muscles of the face, raises the cockles of the heart.

-- Jonathan Swift, "The Physical Definition of Punning

According to Cardan"

How do you catch a unique rabbit?

Unique up on it.

How do you catch a tame rabbit?

Tame way. Unique up on it.

I have a high fidelity phone -- it can only call my wife's number.

Kings worry about a receding heir line.

**Hanging is too good for a man who makes puns; he should be drawn and quoted. --**

**Fred Allen**

Yours thoughtfully, Carolanne Reynolds \* Editor, West Van Matters; t 926 8649, f 484 5992;

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