

Subject: Notice of Motion

Date: Thu, 20 Feb 2003 08:19:55 -0800

From: "Ernie Crist" <ernie_crist@dnv.org>

To: "Nathalie Valdes" <Nathalie_Valdes@dnv.org>

CC: "Mayor and Council - DNV" <Council@dnv.org>, "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

Notice of Motion

Report Councillor Crist;

That notwithstanding any other factor, agenda items which are listed on a Regular Agenda, but are, due to "lack of time", not dealt with during the evening in which they are listed and supposed to be dealt with, be listed and dealt with at the following Council meeting irrespective of any other reason.

Reason for Report:

Council recently decided to devote one Monday evening of every month to the "discussion of strategic issues" more or less.

This scenario, leaves itself wide open to abuse. A typical example was the Regular Council Meeting of Feb 17, 2003 when Mayor Bell allowed the Olympic debate to go on long over the 20 minutes allocated for it on the advertised agenda. Mayor Bell did so without taking a Council vote. The result was that listed agenda items, people had been waiting for all evening, were never dealt with.

This included a motion to release sensitive and controversial information pertaining to the District waterfront and another one pertaining to Grouse Mountain both of which had been submitted by Councillor Crist.

What is more, since the next scheduled Regular Council Meeting will not be held until March 3, 2003, the items in question cannot be dealt with until that date at the earliest. Not only is this un-businesslike but it also leaves the Mayor and Council open to charges of being disrespectful to the public.

What is more, since these items are highly controversial, the public is obliged to assume that the process was manipulated to avoid or delay discussion in a timely fashion. It arouses suspicion of political subjectivism. Be that as it may, it is un-businesslike and has the taste of a "Banana Republic".

At the very least, such methods indicate a lack of respect for the democratic process.

Therefore, any and all items listed on a regular agenda should be dealt with either on the night in which they are listed or (for lack of time) on the following meeting of Council notwithstanding any other issue dealt with by Council on such a night.

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