

**COUNCIL-IN-COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Monday, April 20, 2020**

A Regular Meeting of the Council-in-Committee convened on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 2:04 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC with the following persons present:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Mayor Richard Stewart  
Councillor Brent Asmundson  
Councillor Craig Hodge  
Councillor Steve Kim  
Councillor Trish Mandewo  
Councillor Dennis Marsden  
Councillor Teri Towner  
Councillor Chris Wilson  
Councillor Bonita Zarrillo

STAFF: Peter Steblin, City Manager  
Raul Allueva, Deputy City Manager  
Jim Ogloff, Fire Chief  
Jaime Boan, General Manager Engineering and Public Works  
Michelle Hunt, General Manager Finance, Technology and Police Services  
Don Luymes, General Manager Civic Lands and Facilities  
Jim McIntyre, General Manager Planning and Development  
Donnie Rosa, General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services  
Kathleen Reinheimer, Manager Parks  
Kathleen Vincent, Manager Corporate Communications  
Mark Zaborniak, Manager Design and Construction  
Sean O'Melinn, Legislative Services Manager

<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>
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<b>ADOPTION OF MINUTES</b>
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**1. Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 6, 2020**

The Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held on Monday, April 6, 2020 were approved.

**REPORTS OF STAFF**

**PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES**

**2. Report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services – Pilot Mobile Food Vending in Town Centre Park – Update**

The General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services provided introductory comments relative to the Pilot Mobile Food Vending in Town Centre Park Update. She highlighted the success of the 2019 pilot and the modifications recommended by staff for 2020.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The challenges in collecting data related to park visits and the variable nature of public visits to parks
- The desire to compare Town Centre Park to similar parks in other municipalities to help determine the viability of mobile food vending
- The factors that make it difficult to draw a comparison between Town Centre Park and Rocky Point Park in Port Moody
- The understanding that the mobile food vending business model is a challenging one
- The understanding that the public is enthusiastic about food vendors in the park and the public's desire for consistency and continuity by vendors
- The understanding that inconsistent demand for their product caused by uncertain weather during the 2019 pilot was a concern for the mobile food vending businesses
- The many potential impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on mobile food vending businesses going forward
- The belief that nearby highrises, businesses, Douglas College and Pinetree Secondary School provide clientele for mobile food vendors in Town Centre Park and the need to promote the mobile food vendors to this market
- The impact of mobile food vendors diverting revenue from the stadium concession
- The expectation that Town Centre Park will be increasingly busy with unprogrammed park use in the summer of 2020 due to the impact of COVID-19
- The understanding that the stadium concession agreement expires in 2020 and the desire to schedule a future Council discussion on the subject in the context of the mobile food vending initiative
- The understanding that as public events have been cancelled this summer, mobile vendors will not be booked at events and therefore are potentially able to commit to a consistent presence in the park
- The current importance of not encouraging public gatherings
- The understanding that certain aspects of the discussion related to individual businesses and related confidential information should be discussed in a Closed Council Meeting
- The belief that the predictable presence of mobile vendors is critical to the success

- of their business and the mobile food vending initiative
- The various tools through which the City can promote the Town Centre Park mobile food vendors as well as means available to the vendors themselves
- Appreciation for the feedback and learnings from the first year of the pilot program
- The rationale for keeping the initiative as a pilot
- The future ability to modify the program and apply it to different locations in the city
- The challenges resulting from mobile vending trucks taking up parking spaces and how this could be managed
- Whether the program should be continued to be called a 'pilot'
- The desire, once COVID-19 restrictions have been relaxed, to allow mobile food vendors to improve their business viability by participating in the City's major events rather than imposing black-out dates on them
- The desire for further consultation with the mobile vendors related to their needs and the viability of their participation in the initiative
- The impact of COVID-19 on business and the suggestion that the initiative be delayed until 2021
- Concern related to the current struggle of restaurants to stay viable and the desire for the City to primarily focus on assisting local bricks and mortar restaurants
- The desire to explore other future locations for mobile vendors
- Uncertainty related to the future timing of the Provincial Health Officer easing general COVID-19 restrictions

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR ASMUNDSON  
AND SECONDED

That the Committee receive the report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services dated April 8, 2020 and entitled "Pilot Mobile Food Vending in Town Centre Park – Update" for information.

MOTION AMENDED  
(\*Note: The amendment motion failed)

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- The goal of delivering food service to the public and the understanding that the initiative is cost-neutral for the City
- The belief that the initiative is not revenue-neutral for other businesses
- The understanding that staff had not contemplated extending the pilot program to 2021
- Uncertainty regarding the public's desire to patronize mobile food vendors during the COVID-19 crisis
- The understanding that data collected during the summer of 2020 will be anomalous due to the impacts of COVID-19
- The future new washroom / server in Town Centre Park

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- The desire for the City to leave the option of mobile food vendors in Town Centre Park open should restrictions be lifted in 2020
- The desire for caution in raising public expectations about the initiative in 2020
- The hope that mobile food vendors in Town Centre Park take advantage of the opportunity to establish a strong clientele in 2020
- The desire to make more permanent the mobile food vending service in the City

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR ZARRILLO  
AND SECONDED

That staff be directed to postpone the mobile food vending initiative as proposed in the report to 2021.

DEFEATED

Mayor Stewart and Councillors Hodge, Kim, Marsden, Towner and Wilson registered opposition.

The Committee received the report of the General Manager Parks, Recreation and Culture Services dated April 8, 2020 and entitled "Pilot Mobile Food Vending in Town Centre Park – Update" for information.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**NEXT MEETING DATE – April 27, 2020**


**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT

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CHAIR

I hereby certify that I have recorded the Minutes of the Council-in-Committee Meeting held Monday, April 20, 2020 as instructed, subject to amendment and adoption.

  
Julie Hunter  
Committee Clerk