

0117-20-FIN
(23)

From: George Pajari [George@Pajari.ca]
Sent: November 18, 2009 5:48 AM
To: MayorandCouncil
Subject: Adhering to the Meeting Requirements of the Community Charter and Council Procedure Bylaw

Dear Mayor and Council:

It has come to my attention that the Finance Committee of Council has been holding meetings in violation of the Council Procedure Bylaw and the BC Community Charter.

In particular, meetings have been held without the required proper public notice so that members of the public were not aware of the meeting. Furthermore, on at least two occasions, notice was published that a scheduled meeting was cancelled, when in fact it was not cancelled and was held as planned.

As you are aware, even meetings that are closed to the public must start as a public meeting in order to pass the resolution to close the meeting (cf. Community Charter S. 92) and the Council Procedure Bylaw requires all meetings to be announced/posted (cf. Bylaw 4483, S. 4.18).

Not only are we distressed that these violations of the provincial legislation and Council's own bylaw have occurred, but also it appears it has happened multiple times with the active participation of both Council members and staff.

Would Your Worship please let me know:

(a) what steps you plan to take to ensure such illegal meetings do not take place in future; and

(b) what training you propose for Council members and staff so that they are fully cognizant of their obligation under both Provincial and Municipal legislation and conduct themselves accordingly?

Your earliest attention to this matter would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely,

George Pajari
West Vancouver, BC

(Permission granted to publish unredacted.)