

**MINUTES OF THE  
GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2015, 9:00 A.M.**

**1. THE CHAIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M.**

**Committee Members Present:** Mayor Helps in the Chair; Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff, Thornton-Joe and Young.

**Staff Present:** J. Johnson – City Manager; R. Woodland – Director of Legislative & Regulatory Services; C. Havelka – Recording Secretary.

**Staff Present for a Portion of the Meeting:** P. Bruce – Fire Chief; J. Jenkyns – General Manager, Victoria Conference Centre; K. Hamilton – Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning; J. MacDougall – Acting Director of Parks & Recreation; S. Thompson – Director of Finance; B. Dellebuur – Acting Assistant Director of Transportation & Parking Services, A. Hudson – Acting Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; T. Zworski – City Solicitor; B. Stark – Manager of Parks Construction, Arboriculture & Natural Areas; J. Potter – Manager, Citizen Engagement; T. Askham – Manager, Recreation Programs & Facilities; E. Gorman – Policy Analyst.

**Guests:** E. Donald and G. Dickson - Victoria Airport Authority.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the Agenda of the May 21, 2015, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

The Mayor requested that item # 3 – *2015 First Quarter Budget Status Report* be deferred to the June 4, 2015 Governance & Priorities Committee meeting.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the Agenda of the May 21, 2015, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be amended as noted.

On the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

On the main motion as amended:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

### 3. DELEGATION

#### 3.1 Victoria Airport Authority

Eric Donald, City of Victoria Board Representative to the Victoria Airport Authority (VAA) and Geoff Dickson, President and CEO of VAA, provided Committee with a PowerPoint Presentation with VAA highlights from 2014 and proposed programs for 2015.

Mayor Helps congratulated the VAA for receiving the Business of the Year award last week.

Committee discussed:

- Climate Action and the VAA response to airport activity;
  - The Victoria Airport is one of three airports in North America that measures its carbon output to set standards.
- Noting that airplane travel has the biggest impact on climate change; air transport is set to double by 2030.
- Working with BC Transit to enhance bus transportation to the airport.
- The revenues expected from increased volumes of air travel and the decision to increase fees.

Mayor Helps requested that the VAA write to the Minister of Transportation to request an increase in transit funding which may help to increase transit to the airport.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Committee receive the report from the Victoria Airport Authority for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

### 4. DECISION REQUESTS

#### 4.1 Action Plan for Housing & Supports for People Sheltering in City Parks

Committee received a report dated May 14, 2015 from Legislative & Regulatory Services that updated Committee on the status of the Action Plan for Housing and Supports for People Sheltering in City Parks.

Committee discussed:

- This action plan requiring partnerships to move forward; Solidarity Village could be an appropriate partner for City staff to work with.
- A range of initiatives is required to address this issue and presenting those options for the community.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee receive the report dated May 14, 2015 for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

#### **4.2 “Growing in the City” Urban Food Production & Boulevard Gardening in the City of Victoria**

Committee received a report dated May 1, 2015 from Parks and Recreation that is seeking Council approval of the proposed project charter to finalize the Boulevard Gardening Guidelines and to review, update and expand the City of Victoria policies and guidelines for urban food production.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council approve the “Growing in the City”: Urban Food Production and Boulevard Gardening project charter.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday that Committee amend the motion:

1. That Council approve the “Growing in the City”: Urban Food Production and Boulevard Gardening project charter, **and**
2. **That the City recognize the Victoria Urban Food Table as a consultative body during public engagement on the “Growing in the City” initiative, to facilitate efficient and effective engagement of organizations and individuals with expertise in the field of local food systems.**

Councillor Isitt provided information regarding the Victoria Urban Food Table and staff noted that the group has been identified in the project charter.

On the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed the main motion:

- Timelines for the implementation of growing guidelines which should be implemented for the 2016 growing season.
- The suggestion that beekeeping be considered as a part of the project charter.
- Ensuring that this work be driven by citizens, noting that citizen involvement builds community as well as providing food security.
- Creatively using City lands, such as closed roads.
- Managing issues such as deer and abandoned boulevard gardens.

- Using the term “Project Leads” in future project charters.
- Adding Our Place as a partner in creating food security.

On main motion as amended:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

*Councillor Loveday withdrew from the meeting at 10:09 a.m. and returned at 10:11 a.m.*

### **4.3 Urban Forest Management Plan Implementation Update**

Committee received a report dated May 8, 2015 from Parks and Recreation that provided an update on the implementation of the Urban Forest Master Plan and outlined actions for 2015 / 2016.

Committee discussed:

- The possibility of moving the revision of the Tree Protection Bylaw into short term goals.

*Councillor Lucas withdrew from the meeting at 10:18 a.m. and returned at 10:19 a.m.*

- Staff resources in terms of fitting this project into the workplan.
- A proposal coming to the June 4 GPC meeting to provide clarity on how to move forward with new initiatives in relation to the strategic plan.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Madoff, that Committee recommends that Council:

1. Receives the report dated May 8, 2015 for information, and
2. Directs staff to provide an annual update on the Urban Forest Master Plan implementation.

Committee discussed the motion:

- The importance of amending the Tree Protection Bylaw in order to retain the tree stock.
- The need for more discussion in terms of competing objectives regarding trees in neighbourhoods, such as large tree canopies conflicting with urban gardening.
- Receiving feedback on what trees residents would like to see on their streets.
- Expediting the replanting of trees;
  - Waiting until June 4 when reports on operational plans and new initiatives are forthcoming.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt that Committee amend the motion:

- That Council:
1. Receives the report dated May 8, 2015 for information, and

2. Directs staff to provide an annual update on the Urban Forest Master Plan implementation.
3. **Direct staff to report back on options for expediting the replanting of trees that have been removed.**

The motion failed due to no seconder.

Committee discussed the main motion:

- The issues that arise from planting trees, as well as the cultural importance of certain types of trees.
- The opportunity for a tree dedication program which is similar to the benches program; the Parks & Recreation Foundation providing this service.
- How this program fits into the Parks Master Plan.
- Including in the City's Annual Report the value of the tree stock.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee recessed at 10:51 a.m.

Committee reconvened at 10:56 a.m.

#### **4.4 Recreation Fees Bylaw Review**

Committee received a report dated May 21, 2015 from Parks and Recreation that is seeking Committee consideration of proposed changes to the Recreation Fees Bylaw effective September 1, 2015.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to amend the Recreation Fees Bylaw No. 10-036 to reflect a 1% overall increase with exceptions as listed in the report dated May 21, 2015, effective September 1, 2015.

Committee discussed:

- The social benefit for subsidizing recreation; noting this action will impact cost recovery.
- Showing in the report next year how many bookings have been made and how much revenue the bookings generated.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

#### **4.5 Community Mailboxes**

Committee received a report dated May 15, 2015 from Engineering & Public Works that provided Committee with information on the placement of new community mailboxes.

Committee discussed:

- The suggestion that Canada Post be charged a fee for installing mailboxes on the City's right of ways;
  - Canada Post has the authority to place mailboxes on City property.
  - The City of Hamilton is challenging this in court next week.
- Posting the 31 sites for community mailboxes on the City's website.
- The issue of garbage accumulating at mailbox sites; the need for some facilities at the sites to address this issue.
- Concerns regarding parking at mailbox sites and how to address mobility and parking issues.
- Requesting that mailboxes be wrapped with a design to enhance placemaking.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Madoff, that Committee recommends that Council:

1. Request that staff ask representatives from Canada Post to make a presentation to Council on the community mailbox transition.
2. Request more information from Canada Post regarding plans for community consultation on proposed locations, and post that information on the City's website, to inform residents.
3. That staff draft an agreement for use with Canada Post, similar to ones currently in place with third party users of public space and following the sample provided by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities with the additional clauses set out in Appendix B of the staff report dated May 15, 2015, setting out responsibility for the installation and maintenance of the mailboxes, while reducing the cost to the City and impacts to City infrastructure; and that Canada Post be advised that installation of community mailboxes should not proceed until this agreement has been finalized and agreed to by the City and Canada Post.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee amend the motion:

That Council:

1. Request that staff ask representatives from Canada Post to make a presentation to Council on the community mailbox transition.
2. Request more information from Canada Post regarding plans for community consultation on proposed locations, and post that information on the City's website, to inform residents.
3. That staff draft an agreement for use with Canada Post, similar to ones currently in place with third party users of public space and following the sample provided by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities with the additional clauses set out in Appendix B of the staff report dated May 15, 2015, setting out responsibility for the installation and maintenance of the mailboxes, while reducing the cost to the City and impacts to City infrastructure; and that Canada Post be advised that installation of community mailboxes should not proceed until this agreement has been finalized and agreed to by the City and Canada Post.

4. **That Council reaffirm its support for the retention of door-to-door postal delivery in Canada and directs the Mayor to write to the Mayor and Council of Hamilton expressing appreciation of that City's assertion of municipal interests in response to the unilateral decision of Canada Post to eliminate door-to-door postal delivery.**

Mayor Helps ruled that this is a separate motion.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee amend the motion:

That Council:

1. Request that staff ask representatives from Canada Post to make a presentation to Council on the community mailbox transition.
2. Request more information from Canada Post regarding plans for community consultation on proposed locations, and post that information on the City's website, to inform residents.
3. That staff draft an agreement for use with Canada Post, similar to ones currently in place with third party users of public space and following the sample provided by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities with the additional clauses set out in Appendix B of the staff report dated May 15, 2015, setting out responsibility for the installation and maintenance of the mailboxes, **including negotiation of fees to recover costs of staff time and right-of-way maintenance**, while reducing the cost to the City and impacts to City infrastructure; and that Canada Post be advised that installation of community mailboxes should not proceed until this agreement has been finalized and agreed to by the City and Canada Post.

**Amendment to the Amendment:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee amend the amendment:

That Council:

1. Request that staff ask representatives from Canada Post to make a presentation to Council on the community mailbox transition.
2. Request more information from Canada Post regarding plans for community consultation on proposed locations, and post that information on the City's website, to inform residents.
3. That staff draft an agreement for use with Canada Post, similar to ones currently in place with third party users of public space and following the sample provided by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities with the additional clauses set out in Appendix B of the staff report dated May 15, 2015, setting out responsibility for the installation and maintenance of the mailboxes, **including negotiation of fees to recover costs of staff time and right-of-way maintenance**, while reducing the cost to the City and impacts to City infrastructure; and that Canada Post be advised that installation of

community mailboxes should not proceed until this agreement has been finalized and agreed to by the City and Canada Post.

On the amendment to the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

**Amendment to the Amendment:**

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee amend the amendment:

That Council:

1. Request that staff ask representatives from Canada Post to make a presentation to Council on the community mailbox transition.
2. Request more information from Canada Post regarding plans for community consultation on proposed locations, and post that information on the City's website, to inform residents.
3. That staff draft an agreement for use with Canada Post, similar to ones currently in place with third party users of public space and following the sample provided by the Federation of Canadian Municipalities with the additional clauses set out in Appendix B of the staff report dated May 15, 2015, setting out responsibility for the installation and maintenance of the mailboxes, including negotiation of fees to recover **the City's** costs, while reducing the cost to the City and impacts to City infrastructure; and that Canada Post be advised that installation of community mailboxes should not proceed until this agreement has been finalized and agreed to by the City and Canada Post.

On the amendment to the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

On the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

On the main motion as amended:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

**Action:**

It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council reaffirm its support for the retention of door-to-door postal delivery in Canada and directs the Mayor to write to the Mayor and Council of Hamilton expressing appreciation of that City's assertion of municipal interests in response to the unilateral decision of Canada Post to eliminate door-to-door postal delivery.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee amend the motion:

That Council reaffirm its support for the retention of door-to-door postal delivery in Canada and directs the Mayor to write to the Mayor and Council of Hamilton, **and all the Mayors and Councillors of the suburban municipalities of Greater Montreal**, expressing appreciation



of that City's assertion of municipal interests in response to the unilateral decision of Canada Post to eliminate door-to-door postal delivery.

**Amendment to the Amendment:**

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee amend the amendment:

That Council reaffirm its support for the retention of door-to-door postal delivery in Canada and directs the Mayor to write to the Mayor and Council of Hamilton, **and all the Mayors and Councillors of the suburban municipalities of Greater Montreal, copying the municipalities in the Capital Regional District**, expressing appreciation of that City's assertion of municipal interests in response to the unilateral decision of Canada Post to eliminate door-to-door postal delivery.

On the amendment to the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

On the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed the main motion as amended:

- Concerns that support to retain door-to-door delivery is a separate issue from the installation of mailboxes.
- Noting that Council voted to retain door-to-door delivery in January 2014.

Mayor Helps requested that the motion be divided.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council reaffirm its support for the retention of door-to-door postal delivery in Canada.

Committee discussed the motion:

- Concerns this will detract from the issues around the installation of mailboxes;
- The declining need for door-to-door service.
- The issues around the process by which Canada Post initiated community mailboxes.

CARRIED 15/GPC

For: Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff and Thornton-Joe

Against: Councillor Young

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council directs the Mayor to write to the Mayor and Council of Hamilton, and all the Mayors and Councillors of the suburban municipalities of Greater Montreal, copying the municipalities in the Capital Regional District, expressing appreciation of that City's

assertion of municipal interests in response to the unilateral decision of Canada Post to eliminate door-to-door postal delivery.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends that Council communicate the list of 31 suggested community mailbox sites with the public, specifically with Vic West Neighbourhood Association, if legally possible.

The Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning advised that this can be posted on the website today.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### 5.1 Cycling Network Implementation

Mayor Helps and Councillors Isitt and Loveday provided Committee with a motion regarding the implementation of the cycling network and recommended actions for 2015.

**Action** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to:

1. Issue a Request for Proposals for consulting services to review and enhance the cycling network, beginning with further analysis of public input received during the 2014 Cycling Master Plan update, and including identification of corridors and design of facilities on each corridor, with a view toward an interim report to Council on the proposed enhanced network and conceptual designs for each corridor in September 2015 and a final report to Council with recommended detailed designs for on-road facilities by December 2015;
2. Re-activate a Technical Committee consisting of staff and members of the public to support this process of reviewing the network and recommending on-road facilities;
3. Work with partner organizations, including the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition, Bike Victoria, Women's Everyday Bicycling (WeBike) Association and the Greater Victoria Placemaking Network, to host a public information series in September 2015 on cycling facilities, active transportation and placemaking in the City of Victoria.

Committee discussed the motion:

- The series of activities planned by one partner organization.
- The removal of parking downtown and tracking what is the parking capacity downtown.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

## 5.2 Presumptive Clause for First Responders

Committee received a motion from Councillors Loveday, Madoff and Thornton-Joe regarding a presumptive clause for First Responders.

**Action** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that Committee recommends that Council approve the following motion:

*WHEREAS many First Responders have been affected by a Mental Health Injury "PTSD" Post Traumatic Stress Disorder;*

*AND WHEREAS there is a need to change the WorkSafe BC language to include a presumptive clause, as it is possible that within a first responder's duties they will encounter horrific acts, and develop a mental health injury;*

*AND WHEREAS it is imperative that a two month WorkSafe BC deadline be implemented to make a decision regarding a Mental Health Injury Claim based on one psychologist and/or psychiatrist report and immediate benefits;*

*AND WHEREAS it is paramount that The Presumptive Clause and changes be added to the Workers Compensation Act;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Victoria City Council affirms its support for the proposed Presumptive Clause and changes to the Workers Compensation Act that will allow for First Responders to receive the support and treatment that they need for Mental Health Injuries sustained on the job.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Victoria send a letter to Premier Christy Clark stating support for the proposed Presumptive Clause and changes to the Worker's Compensation Act and asking the Provincial Government to take action to make these changes.*

Committee discussed the actual text of the Presumptive Clause which was circulated by the Fire Chief.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee amend the motion:

That Council approve the following motion:

*WHEREAS many First Responders have been affected by a Mental Health Injury "PTSD" Post Traumatic Stress Disorder;*

*AND WHEREAS there is a need to change the WorkSafe BC language to include a presumptive clause, as it is possible that within a first responder's duties they will encounter horrific acts, and develop a mental health injury;*

*AND WHEREAS it is imperative that a two month WorkSafe BC deadline be implemented to make a decision regarding a Mental Health Injury Claim based*

*on one psychologist and/or psychiatrist report and immediate benefits;*

*AND WHEREAS it is paramount that The Presumptive Clause and changes be added to the Workers Compensation Act;*

*THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Victoria City Council affirms its support for a ~~the~~ proposed Presumptive Clause and changes to the Workers Compensation Act that will allow for First Responders to receive the support and treatment that they need for Mental Health Injuries sustained on the job.*

*BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Victoria send a letter to Premier Christy Clark stating support for a ~~the~~ proposed Presumptive Clause and changes to the Worker's Compensation Act and asking the Provincial Government to take action to make these changes.*

On the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed the amended motion:

- Information regarding Workers Compensation and how the Presumptive Clause fits into those regulations.
- New conditions, such as PTSD, that are now recognized and treated.
- Concerns that this is a complicated condition that needs to be medically evaluated.
- The language and clarification of the “presumptive clause”.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Young that Committee refer this motion to the next Council Meeting and that the Councillors proposing the motion provide relative material on this matter.

Motion failed due to no seconder.

On the main motion as amended:  
CARRIED 15/GPC

**For:** Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff and Thornton-Joe  
**Against:** Councillor Young

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the Governance & Priorities Committee convene a Closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 12(6) of the *Council Bylaw* for the reason that the following agenda items deal with matters specified in Sections 12(3) and/or (4) of the Council Bylaw, namely:

- Section 12 (3)(c) *Labour Relations or employee relations*
- Section 12 (3) (e) The acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure might reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the City.

- Section 12 (3) (i) The receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege including communications necessary for that purpose.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

## 6. CLOSED MEETING AT 12:30 P.M.

**Committee Members Present:** Mayor Helps in the Chair; Councillors Alto, Coleman, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff, Thornton-Joe and Young.

**Absent for a Portion of the Meeting:** Councillor Isitt.

**Staff Present for a Portion of the Meeting:** J. Johnson – City Manager; J. Jenkyns – General Manager of the Victoria Conference Centre; K. Hamilton – Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning; S. Thompson – Director of Finance; R. Woodland – Director of Legislative & Regulatory Services; T. Zworski – City Solicitor; C. Havelka – Recording Secretary.

## 7. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the Closed Meeting Agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee recessed from 12:35 p.m. to 1:03 p.m.

## 8. ADOPTION OF CLOSED MINUTES

### 8.1 Minutes from the Regular Closed Meeting held April 2, 2015

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the Minutes from the Regular Closed Meeting held April 2, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

## 9. DECISION REQUESTS

*Councillor Lucas withdrew from the meeting at 1:04 p.m. due to a pecuniary conflict of interest as she manages two liquor licensed establishments in Hotel Rialto.*

### **9.1 Legal Advice**

Committee received a report dated May 1, 2015 from the City Solicitor with respect to legal advice.

The discussion and motion were recorded and kept confidential.

*Councillor Lucas returned to the meeting at 1:14 p.m.*

### **9.2 Disposition of Land**

Committee received a report dated May 5, 2015 from Finance regarding the disposition of land.

The discussion and motion were recorded and kept confidential.

*Councillor Isitt returned to the meeting at 2:00 p.m.*

### **9.3 Land Disposition**

Mayor Helps provided committee with an update on a land disposition matter.

The discussion was recorded and kept confidential.

*All staff, except the General Manager of the Victoria Conference Centre and the City Manager, were excused from the meeting at 2:10 p.m.*

### **9.4 Employee Relations**

Staff provided Committee with an update on Employee Relations.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the Governance & Priorities Committee meeting of May 21, 2015, be adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

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Mayor Helps, Chair

