

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2017, 8:00 A.M.**

1. THE CHAIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 8:01 A.M.

Committee Members Present: Mayor Helps (Chair); Councillors Alto, Coleman, Loveday, Lucas, and Young.

**Attending via
telephone conference** Councillor Madoff

**Absent for a portion
of the meeting:** Councillors Isitt and Thornton-Joe

Staff Present: J. Jenkyns – Acting City Manager; C. Coates – City Clerk; C. Havelka – Deputy City Clerk; P. Bruce – Fire Chief; S. Thompson – Director of Finance; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; T. Soulliere – Director of Parks, Recreation, & Facilities; F. Work – Director of Engineering & Public Works; B. Eisenhauer – Head of Engagement; J. Jensen – Head of Human Resources; J. O'Connor – Manager, Financial Planning; T. Zworski – City Solicitor; D. Manak – Chief Constable, Victoria Police Department; S. Hurcombe – Victoria Police; N. Sidhu – Assistant Director, Parks, Recreation and Facilities; C. Royle - Deputy Fire Chief; D. Atkinson – Deputy Fire Chief; T. Patterson – Emergency Management Coordinator; C. Mycroft – Manager of Executive Operations; A.K. Ferguson – Recording Secretary

Councillors Isitt and Thornton-Joe were not present at the commencement of the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Motion: It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the Agenda of the October 31, 2017, Special Committee of the Whole meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

3. FINANCIAL PLAN PRESENTATIONS

Councillor Thornton-Joe arrived to the meeting at 8:01 am

Councillor Isitt arrived to the meeting at 8:04 am

The Chief Constable of the Victoria Police Department, presented Committee with the proposed budget for the Victoria Police Department. The presentation included an overview of services provided by the department, a summary of their operating budget, and their proposed initiatives for 2018.

Councillor Thornton-Joe withdrew at 8:31 am and returned at 8:32 am

Committee discussed:

- Whether police will be looking at reopening a community policing office in Burnside/Gorge area.
- The functions of the ACT team and where the clients live
- The costs associated with the increased demand for naloxone kits.
- Timeline for the full review of the ACT program.
- How Victoria Police plan on responding to the new cannabis laws.
- Possible ways to recover costs for police to attend special events.
- Whether police will start educating youth on fentanyl and other potentially deadly drugs.
- How the hours of establishments selling liquor impacts police officers workload.

Motion:

It was moved by Councillor Isitt seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Council request that the Mayor, on behalf of Council:

1. Write to the provincial Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, copying the Minister of Health and the Chair of the Vancouver Island Health Authority Board of Directors, requesting that the Province of British Columbia and the Vancouver Island Health Authority fully fund the operations of the Greater Victoria Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams for the 2018 fiscal year; and
2. Include the following rationale in the letter:
 - a) the orientation of the teams toward the provision of health services;
 - b) the focus of the teams on case management and the health outcomes of individuals;
 - c) the regional nature of the services and clientele accessing these services; and
 - d) actual and potential cost-savings to the provincially funded health system arising from the provision of this service.

Amendment: It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that the motion be amended as follows:

That Council request that the Mayor, on behalf of Council:

1. Write to the provincial Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, copying the Minister of Health and the Chair of the Vancouver Island Health Authority Board of Directors, requesting that the Province of British Columbia and the Vancouver Island Health Authority fully fund the operations of the Greater Victoria Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams for the 2018 fiscal year; and
2. Include the following rationale in the letter:
 - a) the orientation of the teams toward the provision of health services;
 - b) the focus of the teams on case management and the health outcomes of individuals;
 - c) the regional nature of the services and clientele accessing these services; and
 - d) actual and potential cost-savings to the provincially funded health system arising from the provision of this service.

- e) **include with the letter, the annual report of the ACT Team that was provided to Council.**

On the amendment:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

Main motion as amended:

That Council request that the Mayor, on behalf of Council:

1. Write to the provincial Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, copying the Minister of Health and the Chair of the Vancouver Island Health Authority Board of Directors, requesting that the Province of British Columbia and the Vancouver Island Health Authority fully fund the operations of the Greater Victoria Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Teams for the 2018 fiscal year; and
2. Include the following rationale in the letter:
 - a) the orientation of the teams toward the provision of health services;
 - b) the focus of the teams on case management and the health outcomes of individuals;
 - c) the regional nature of the services and clientele accessing these services; and
 - d) actual and potential cost-savings to the provincially funded health system arising from the provision of this service.
- e) include with the letter, the annual report of the ACT Team that was provided to Council.

On the main motion as amended:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

Councillor Lucas withdrew from the meeting at 9:27 am due to a pecuniary conflict of interest with the following item, as she is the general manager of a hotel.

Motion: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that Council direct staff to report back on options for levying a surcharge on licenced liquor seats to offset the costs of policing arising from consumption of alcohol.

Amendment: It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that the motion be amended as follows:
That Council direct staff to report back on options for levying a surcharge on licenced liquor seats to offset the costs of policing arising from consumption of alcohol.

That Council direct staff to report back on December 7, 2017 on the implications of carrying out this work.

On the amendment:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

Main motion as amended:

That Council:

1. Direct staff to report back on options for levying a surcharge on licensed liquor seats to offset the costs of policing arising from consumption of alcohol.
2. Direct staff to report on December 7, 2017 on the implications of carrying out this work.

On the main motion as amended:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

*Councillor Lucas returned to the meeting at 9:31 am
Committee recessed at 9:35 am and returned at 9:40 am*

The Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities, presented Committee with the proposed budget for Parks, Recreation and Facilities. The presentation included an overview of services provided by the department, a summary of their operating budget, and their proposed initiatives for 2018.

Committee discussed:

- Total revenues for Save on Foods Memorial Centre and Royal Athletic Park
- Possibility to attract more events to the two facilities.
- Nuisance impacts of the surrounding neighbourhoods.

Councillor Coleman withdrew from the meeting at 9:54 am and returned at 9:56 am
Councillor Loveday withdrew from the meeting at 9:56 am

Committee discussed:

- Looking at more cost effective elements for children's playground renewals.

Councillor Loveday returned to the meeting at 9:58 am

Committee discussed:

- The number of trees that are replaced as old or dying trees are removed.
- The rationale for the large change in usage and revenue projected for the parks revenue and the facilities revenue.

Committee discussed adding an explanatory note in the Business Unit Summaries if there is a large degree of change in various departmental budgets. Also requested was ensuring that supplementary FTE requests are also included in the Business Unit Summaries.

Committee discussed:

- The timeline to implement online registration for Crystal Pool programs.
- Ensuring that drought resistant plants are being planted in parks.
- Insurance costs for parks and facilities and how they are recovered.
- Considering the use of low pollen and low fragrant trees and plants for all parks.
- The potential for active removal of spear grass to lessen the likelihood of spreading the seeds.

Councillor Lucas withdrew at 10:22 am

Committee discussed:

- The potential of utilizing water bags for new tree plantings.
- The status of the Ross Bay cemetery plan.

Councillor Lucas returned at 10:23 am

Committee discussed:

- Whether there are plans to touch up the paint on City Hall in 2018.
- What will be covered included in the Centennial Square Arcade renovations.
- Whether the City is responsible for the maintenance of the Save on Food Memorial Centre.

- Where the construction and implementation of the new skateboard park fits into the budget.

Councillor Isitt withdrew from the meeting at 10:43 am and returned at 10:44 am

Committee discussed:

- Whether the cleaning of police vehicles is charged back to the police budget.
- Status of the memorial bench program.

Councillor Alto withdrew from the meeting at 10:50 am

Committee discussed:

- Timeline for condition assessments for parks.

Councillor Alto returned to the meeting at 10:53

Councillor Young withdrew from the meeting at 10:53 am

Committee discussed:

- Analysis of cost and economic impact of Save on Foods Memorial Centre.

Councillor Young returned to the meeting at 10:57 am

Motion:

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Council direct staff to undertake a cost/benefit review of the Save-On Foods Memorial Centre and report to Council, with specific reference to:

1. Economic impact of the facility to city residents and businesses;
2. Summary of revenues and liabilities to the city under the operating agreement, including avoided costs and foregone revenues;
3. Information on city and contractor contributions to construction costs and ongoing capital and maintenance costs.

Amendment:

It was moved by Councillor Isitt,

That Council direct staff to undertake a cost/benefit review of the Save-On Foods Memorial Centre and report to Council, with specific reference to:

1. ~~Economic impact~~ **Usage statistics** of the facility to city residents and businesses;
2. Summary of revenues and liabilities to the city under the operating agreement, including avoided costs and foregone revenues;
3. Information on city and contractor contributions to construction costs and ongoing capital and maintenance costs

Failed due to no seconder

Motion to Refer:

It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Alto, that the motion be referred to the December 7, 2017 Committee of the Whole.

DEFEATED 17/COTW

For:

Councillors Alto, Isitt, and Loveday

Against:

Mayor Helps, Councillors Coleman, Lucas, Madoff, Thornton-Joe, and Young

Committee discussed:

- The potential to acquire new community gardens.
- The use of scents in City of Victoria buildings.

Motion: It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Loveday, That Council direct staff to report back on the opportunities and possible costs to add no fragrant and low pollen plantings especially around playgrounds.

Motion to Refer:

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that the motion be referred to the November 2, 2017 Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

Motion: It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Council direct staff to report back on the implications of including a new skateboard park in the financial plan starting in 2018.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

The Chief of the Victoria Fire Department, presented Committee with the proposed budget for the Victoria Fire Department. The presentation included an overview of services provided by the department, a summary of their operating budget and their proposed initiatives for 2017.

Committee discussed:

- Whether it would be beneficial for fire fighters to learn how to use Google Translate.
- Statistics for structure fires, overdose calls, and first responder calls.

Motion: It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the presentations for Fire, Legislative and Regulatory Services, Engagement, Human Resources, Strategic Real Estate and Legal be forwarded to the November 2, 2017 Committee of The Whole Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

3. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Alto, that the Special Committee of the Whole meeting of October 31, 2017, be adjourned at 11:55 am

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CITY CLERK

MAYOR