



MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

October 21, 2019, 8:02 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE

The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt People

PRESENT: Mayor Helps in the Chair, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, Councillor Thornton-Joe,

ABSENT: Councillor Alto, Councillor Young

ABSENT FOR A PORTION OF THE MEETING: Councillor Dubow

ON LEAVE Councillor Collins

STAFF PRESENT: J. Jenkyns - City Manager, C. Coates - City Clerk , P. Bruce - Fire Chief, S. Thompson - Deputy City Manager / Director of Finance, F. Work - Director of Engineering & Public Works, B. Eisenhauer - Head of Engagement, J. Jensen - Head of Human Resources, C. Havelka - Deputy City Clerk, A. Hudson - Acting Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development, C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, M. Sandhu - Head of Service Innovation & Improvement, S. Webb - Manager of Transportation, N. Sidhu - Assistant Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities, J. O'Connor - Deputy Director of Finance, C. Royle - Deputy Fire Chief, AK Ferguson - Committee Secretary

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Helps outlined the process for the budget meetings.

Committee recessed at 8:06 a.m. and returned at 8:07 a.m.

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F. STAFF REPORTS

F.1 2020 Draft Financial Plan

Committee received a report from the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer dated October 3, 2019 regarding the 2020-2024 Draft Financial Plan.

Councillor Dubow joined the meeting at 8:13 a.m.

Committee discussed the following departmental budgets:

Council

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer provided an outline of the 2020 Budget for Council.

Council discussed:

- *Exploring remuneration for Council being equivalent to City Staff remuneration.*

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council direct staff to report back on financial implications of adjusting salary and benefit line items for 2020 to account for remuneration rates for councillor's equivalent to the median income of a city employee excluding police and fire.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

And include this information as part of public engagement on the 2020 draft financial plan.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the Main Motion as amended:

That Council direct staff to report back on financial implications of adjusting salary and benefit line items for 2020 to account for remuneration rates for councillors equivalent to the median income of a city employee excluding police and fire and include this information as part of public engagement on the 2020 draft financial plan

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Finance

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer provided an outline of the 2020 Budget for the Finance Department.

Council discussed:

- *Ensuring safety in parkades.*
- *The amount of parking revenue put into reserve for parkade upgrades.*

Information technology

The Chief Information Officer presented to Committee the Information and technology portion of the 2020 Budget.

Council discussed:

- *Whether the City has a program for technology that is being replaced.*

Real Estate

The Head of Strategic Real Estate outlined for Committee the 2020 budget for the Real Estate department.

Council discussed:

- *The possibility of phasing out natural gas in city owned rental spaces as units become available.*
- *The reasoning for the budget for public washrooms being lower than in previous years.*

Legislative Services

The City Clerk outlined for Committee the 2020 budget for the Legislative Services Department.

Committee discussed:

- *Ensuring that an accessible voting machine is incorporated within the 2020 budget.*
- *Administrative support for working groups and task forces.*

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That staff be directed to report on the financial implications of providing staff support to the Seniors Task Force and the Community Wellness Task force.

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That this motion be referred to the December 5, 2019 Budget meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee discussed:

- *Whether the potential for a by-election is included within the Legislative Services budget.*
- *Exploring other opportunities to make public notifications.*
- *The possibility of putting microphones in the Esquimalt Room.*

Committee recessed at 9:45 a.m. and returned at 9:52 a.m.

The Mayor noted that the Parks, Recreations and Facilities budget presentation will take place after Bylaw on October 31, 2019.

Corporate Initiatives

The Head of Service Innovation and Improvement outlined the 2020 Budget for the Corporate Initiatives Department.

Committee discussed:

- *How open government is affecting the frequency of Freedom Of Information requests.*

City Manager

The City Manager outlined the 2020 Budget for the City Manager's office.

Committee discussed:

- *Whether the protocol budget is adequate.*

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Potts

Direct staff to report back as part of the 2021 budget on the protocol activities and budget of other capital cities in Canada and how this compares to Victoria

Amendment:

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

On the implications of reviewing the protocol activities

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

Direct staff to report back as part of the 2021 budget on the implications of reviewing the protocol activities and budgets of other capital cities in Canada and how this compares to Victoria.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Human Resources

The Head of Human Resources provided an outline of the 2020 Budget for the Human Resources Department.

Committee discussed:

- *Whether the budget includes monies for bargaining.*

Victoria Fire Department

The Fire Chief outlined the 2020 budget for the Victoria Fire Department.

Committee discussed:

- *Whether the fire department has any electric vehicles.*
- *Possibilities for cost recovery from Transport Canada when fire attends emergencies in the inner harbour.*
- *The number of oil tanks in the City and what oil burner permits are used for.*

I. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved By Councillor Potts

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 11:26 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR