



MINUTES – SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

November 4, 2019, 8:00 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 Alto, Councillor Dubow (arrived at 8:24 am) Councillor Isitt (arrived at 8:12 am) Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young

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, T. Soulliere - Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities, B. Eisenhauer - Head of Engagement, J. Jensen - Head of Human Resources, C. Havelka - Deputy City Clerk, A. Meyer - Assistant Director of Development Services, C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, M. Sandhu - Head of Service Innovation and Improvement, AK Ferguson - Committee Secretary

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F. STAFF REPORTS

F.1 2020 Draft Financial Plan

F.1.1 Corporate

The Deputy City Manager outlined the 2020 Corporate Budget.

Committee discussed:

- *Possibility of adding an allocation to surplus to fund an additional washroom.*
- *Reasoning for the Gas Tax Funding being lower than in previous years.*
- *Ongoing funding for the Witness Reconciliation Program (City Family) and what amount would be appropriate.*

Councillor Isitt joined the meeting at 8:12 a.m.

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Alto

That Council direct staff to report back on the appropriate amount to fund the Witness reconciliation program (the City family) on an ongoing basis.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee discussed:

- *Ways to increase the Climate action reserve.*

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council direct staff to report back on an appropriate funding amount and source of funding for the climate action reserve given the climate emergency.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

Council direct staff to report back on payment in lieu of taxes for past years where data is readily available.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Dubow joined the meeting at 8:24 a.m.

Committee discussed:

- *Possible alternatives to property tax penalty.*

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of adjusting the property tax penalty to 5% paid on July 1 and 5% on September 1.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee discussed:

- *Reconciliation training for staff and associated costs.*
- *Reasoning for no funding being allocated to the aboriginal coalition.*

Councillor Thornton-Joe withdrew from the meeting at 8:43 am due to a pecuniary conflict of interest as she is on the Board of the Aboriginal Coalition.

Councillor Thornton-Joe returned at 8:43 a.m.

Committee discussed:

- *Whether Council receives annual reports from the recipients of the direct award grants.*

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council direct that each of the bullet point organizations for direct award grants provide a written report to Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Alto

That Council direct the Film Commission, Urban Food Table, and the Coalition to End Homelessness report on an annual basis to Council.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of increasing the per capita grant to neighbourhoods that are not serviced by City funded Community Centres.

Amendment:
Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of increasing the per capita grant to neighbourhoods that are not serviced by City funded Community Centres, **including consideration of doubling the amount of the grant for those neighbourhoods.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of increasing the per capita grant to neighbourhoods that are not serviced by City funded Community Centres, including consideration of doubling the amount of the grant for those neighbourhoods.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the Engineering and Public Works section be moved before the Supplemental Presentations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.1.3 Engineering and Public Works

Committee resumed questions regarding the 2020 Budget carried over from the October 31, 2019 Special Committee of the Whole meeting for The Director of Engineering and Public Works.

Committee discussed:

- *The possibility of including more crosswalks in the 2020 budget.*
- *Whether the under-grounding of hydro lines is included within the budget.*

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of examining pedestrian improvement on the south sidewalk between Cedar Hill and Belmont Ave along Hillside Avenue including the crosswalk at Gosworth.

FOR (7): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

CARRIED (7 to 1)

Committee discussed:

- *Ensuring having all neighbourhood associations have an opportunity to provide the City with their feedback on transportation improvements for their community.*

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of installing a pedestrian/cyclist controlled stop light at Cook and Princess.

FOR (7): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

CARRIED (7 to 1)

Committee recessed at 10:49 a.m. and returned at 10:56 a.m.

Committee discussed:

- *When the 2020 portion of the cycling infrastructure will begin.*

Moved By Councillor Loveday
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of adding \$250,000 of funding of pedestrian improvements either for crosswalk upgrades or pedestrian master plan budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee discussed:

- *Whether accessibility was looked at when creating the bike lanes and crosswalks.*
- *How other cities deal with discarded furniture being left on the roadside.*

Moved By Councillor Dubow
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council direct staff report back on implications of assessing pedestrian improvement at Quadra and Queen crossing adjacent to Crystal Pool.

FOR (7): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

CARRIED (7 to 1)

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Dubow

after having discussion with faith groups

Motion failed to proceed due to no seconder

Moved By Councillor Dubow

Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of examining pedestrian improvement at Faith Group based centres and cultural centres.

FOR (7): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

CARRIED (7 to 1)

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council direct staff to report back on the implications of obtaining bathometric data for shorelines in the City.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

bathometric/seabed data, including consideration of identifying non-natural objects up to a depth of 15 meters.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

That Council direct staff to report back on the implications of obtaining bathometric/seabed data for shorelines in the City. including consideration of identifying non-natural objects up to a depth of 15 meters

FOR (4): Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, and Councillor Potts

OPPOSED (4): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Young

DEFEATED (4 to 4)

Committee recessed at 12:01 p.m. and returned at 12:16 p.m.

Committee discussed:

- *The possibilities of establishing an accessible shoreline access point.*

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of establishing accessible shoreline access on the southern waterfront of the City with particular consideration to option at Fonyo Beach/ Holland point and/or Ross Bay waterfront.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee discussed:

- *Potentially deferring fleet replacement to allow for the possibility of purchasing electric fleet vehicles.*

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of taking an approach to capital projects based on countercyclical spending.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.1.2 Supplemental Presentations

The various departmental directors presented their 2020 Supplemental Requests.

Committee discussed:

- *The level of development applications being received by the City.*
- *Reasoning for Centennial Square not being included in the Overnight sheltering bylaw.*

Moved By Councillor Loveday
Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council direct staff to report back on the implications of not approving the small-scale housing ambassador.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council direct staff to report back on the implications of not doing the Technology Advisory Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee recessed at 1:25 p.m. and returned at 1:34 p.m.

Committee discussed:

- *The reasoning for the need of a staff person for the Welcoming Strategy when other committees have none.*
- *Support for Council led task forces.*

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council direct staff to report back on the implications of having additional mulch available to members of the public as part of the materials pilot project.

Motion to postpone:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That this motion be postponed indefinitely.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council direct staff to report back on the implications of adding a person on a one-year contract and joining the welcoming America initiative for the Welcoming City Strategy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Dubow

The Council authorize an expenditure from the 2019 contingency to ensure adequate resources for clerking Councillor-led task forces.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council direct staff to report back on the implications of providing a resource to develop a draft parks acquisition strategy following a Council workshop in a closed meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee discussed:

- *What the threshold is for requiring police presence at festivals.*

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council direct staff to report back on implications of providing a grant to a third party to put on a mural festival.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the Coalition's report be forwarded to a COTW meeting for a discussion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

I. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR