



MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

March 12, 2020, 9:00 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 Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Young

STAFF PRESENT: J. Jenkyns - City Manager, S. Thompson - Deputy City Manager / Director of Finance, C. Coates - City Clerk, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, T. Soulliere - Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities, B. Eisenhower - Head of Engagement, J. Jensen - Head of Human Resources, K. Hoese - Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, A. Hudson - Assistant Director of Community Planning, J. Paul - Assistant Director Engineering, D. Newman - Assistant Director Facilities and Construction Management, L. Berndt - Manager Energy and Climate Action, R. Upadhyay - Corporate Energy Specialist, S. Young - Climate and Environmental Sustainability Specialist, C. Havelka - Deputy City Clerk, J. O'Connor - Deputy Director of Finance, C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, P. Bellefontaine - Assistant Director, Transportation, M. Heiser - Committee Secretary

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the agenda be approved.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the following Closed item be added to the agenda:

Community Charter Section 90(2)(b) – Intergovernmental Relations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the following item be added to the agenda:

H.4 Council Member Motion – Response to COVID-19 in Victoria, BC

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the agenda of the March 12, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting be amended as follows:

Consent Agenda:

C.1 Minutes from the meeting held February 27, 2020

C.2 Minutes from the special meeting held February 4, 2020

F.1 2020 Micro Grant Applications

F.4 Appointment Bylaw Officer

F.5 Proclamation - Purple Day

F.6 Proclamation - World Down Syndrome Day

F.7 Proclamation - Parkinson's Awareness Month

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**On the main motion as amended:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

B. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the following items be approved without further debate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C.1 Minutes from the meeting held February 27, 2020

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held February 27, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C.2 Minutes from the special meeting held February 4, 2020

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the minutes from the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held February 4, 2020 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.1 2020 Micro Grant Applications

Committee received a report dated February 28, 2020 from the Deputy Director of Finance regarding the proposed applications for the 2020 Micro Grant program intake.

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council approve the eligible Micro Grant applications outlined in Appendix A.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.4 Appointment Bylaw Officer

Committee received a report dated March 4, 2020 from the Manager of Bylaw and Licensing Services regarding the proposed appointment of Grant Love to the role of Bylaw Officer.

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council approve the appointment of Grant Love:

1. As a Bylaw Officer pursuant to section 2(a) of the Inspection Bylaw (06-061);
and
2. As a Business Licence Inspector for the City of Victoria

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.5 Proclamation - Purple Day

Committee received a report dated February 27, 2020 from the City Clerk regarding the proclamation for Purple Day, March 26, 2020.

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the *Purple Day* Proclamation be forwarded to the March 12, 2020 Council meeting for Council's consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.6 Proclamation - World Down Syndrome Day

Committee received a report dated February 27, 2020 from the City Clerk regarding the proclamation for World Down Syndrome Day, March 21, 2020.

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the *World Down Syndrome Day* Proclamation be forwarded to the March 12, 2020 Council meeting for Council's consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.7 Proclamation - Parkinson's Awareness Month

Committee received a report dated March 11, 2020 from the City Clerk regarding the proclamation for Parkinson's Awareness Month, April 2020.

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That the *Parkinson's Awareness Month* Proclamation be forwarded to the March 12, 2020 Council meeting for Council's consideration.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion to go into a closed Committee of the Whole meeting at 9:03 a.m.

Moved By Councillor Dubow
Seconded By Councillor Alto

That Council close the Committee of the Whole meeting for the following reason:
Community Charter Section 90(2)(b) – Intergovernmental Relations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The open Committee of the Whole meeting reconvened at 9:12 a.m.

D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

D.1 Letter from the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General

Committee received a letter of response dated February 11, 2020, regarding the City's concerns over the costs associated with policing the core area of the Capital Regional District.

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That this item be postponed to the March 19, 2020 Committee of the Whole meeting.

DEFEATED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Mayor Helps

That this letter be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F. STAFF REPORTS

F.2 Office of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

Committee received a report from the Head of Corporate Initiatives dated March 6, 2020 regarding the functions of positions approved through the 2020 Financial Plan to support the design and implementation of equity related policies, plans, programs and services for the City of Victoria.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Cross-sectional approaches throughout the organization*
- *Robust interactions with outside organizations*
- *Development and community planning initiatives*

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council receive this report for information.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council direct staff to implement the climate lens impact statement on an interim basis as soon as practical.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee discussed the following:

- *Ensuring each group receives attention*

- *Working with community groups individually and collectively*
- *Coordination and oversight of all action items*
- *Resources designated for this project*

Mayor Helps left meeting at 10:13 a.m. and Councillor Alto assumed the chair.

Councillor Thornton-Joe left the meeting at 10:13 a.m.

Mayor Helps returned to the meeting at 10:15 a.m. and assumed the Chair.

Councillor Thornton-Joe returned to the meeting at 10:21 a.m.

On the main motion as amended:

That Council:

1. Receive this report for information.
2. Direct staff to implement the climate lens impact statement on an interim basis as soon as practical.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.3 Climate Action Reserve Fund Draw - Corporate Building Energy and GHG Savings

Committee received a report from the Assistant Director of Engineering dated March 6, 2020 regarding the proposed implementation of priority greenhouse gas reductions and energy improvements into existing 2020 Facilities Capital Projects.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Specific funding initiatives*
- *Heating systems located on City of Victoria properties*
- *Usage and demand requirements for certain facilities*
- *Potential energy savings*
- *The conversion of GHG savings to equivalent car emissions*

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council:

Direct staff to amend the 2020 Financial Plan by adding a \$135,500 budget for facility energy and emission upgrades funded by the Climate Action Reserve Fund.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee recessed at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened at 10:58 a.m.

Councillor Alto was not present when the meeting reconvened.

H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 Council Member Motion - Endorsement of Universal Public National Pharmacare Program

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated March 2, 2020 from Councillor Isitt and Councillor Loveday regarding the proposed resolution from the City of Port Moody calling on the Federal Government to work with the provinces and territories to develop and implement a Universal Public National Pharmacare program.

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council:

1. Endorses the resolution from the City of Port Moody calling on the Federal Government to work with the provinces and territories to develop and implement a Universal Public National Pharmacare program as one of its first orders of business.
2. Directs staff to communicate this endorsement to the Prime Minister of Canada and the federal Minister of Health, with copies forwarded to the Provincial Minister of Health, the Premier of British Columbia and the Mayor and Council of the City of Port Moody.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

Directs staff to communicate this endorsement to the Prime Minister of Canada and the federal Minister of Health, with copies forwarded to the Provincial Minister of Health, the Premier of British Columbia and the Mayor and Council of the Cities of Port Moody **and New Westminster.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

That Council:

1. Endorses the resolution from the City of Port Moody calling on the Federal Government to work with the provinces and territories to develop and implement a Universal Public National Pharmacare program as one of its first orders of business.
2. Directs staff to communicate this endorsement to the Prime Minister of Canada and the federal Minister of Health, with copies forwarded to the Provincial Minister of Health, the Premier of British Columbia and the Mayor and Council of the Cities of Port Moody and New Westminster.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H.2 Council Member Motion - Extended Hours for Our Place

Committee received a Council Member Motion from Mayor Helps, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Alto dated March 6, 2020 regarding the proposed contribution to extend the hours of operation for Our Place.

Councillor Alto returned to the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Moved By Councillor Thornton-Joe

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council allocate \$50,000 from contingency to partner with BC Housing and Island Health to increase the hours and services for Our Place to match winter hours from April 1-October 31.

Amendment:

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That Council allocate \$50,000 from contingency to partner with BC Housing and Island Health to increase the hours and services for Our Place to match winter hours from April 1-October 31 **and request that staff include 50,000 for extended hours for Our Place for Council consideration in the draft 2021 budget from the new assessed revenue.**

Amendment to the amendment:

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council allocate \$50,000 from contingency to partner with BC Housing and Island Health to increase the hours and services for Our Place to match winter hours from April 1-October 31 **and request that staff include 50,000 for extended hours for Our Place for Council consideration in the draft 2021 budget from the new assessed revenue and request further information or a proposal from Our Place.**

DEFEATED UNANIMOUSLY

On the amendment:

DEFEATED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council:

1. allocate \$50,000 from contingency to partner with BC Housing and Island Health to increase the hours and services for Our Place to match winter hours from April 1-October 31; and

2. **forward an allocation to Our Place for Council's consideration as part of the 2021 budget process.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Young

That Council:

1. Allocate \$50,000 from contingency to partner with BC Housing and Island Health to increase the hours and services for Our Place to match winter hours from April 1-October 31; and,
2. Forward an allocation to Our Place for Council's consideration as part of the 2021 budget process; and
3. **Request that the Mayor write to the provincial government requesting adequate funding for Our Place.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

That Council:

1. Allocate \$50,000 from contingency to partner with BC Housing and Island Health to increase the hours and services for Our Place to match winter hours from April 1-October 31; and,
2. Forward an allocation to Our Place for Council's consideration as part of the 2021 budget process; and
3. Request that the Mayor write to the provincial government requesting adequate funding for Our Place.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H.3 Council Member Motion - Terms of Reference for Welcoming Cities Task Force

Committee received a Council Member Motion from Mayor Helps, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Dubow dated March 6, 2020 regarding the proposed Terms of Reference for the Welcoming Cities Task Force.

Moved By Councillor Dubow

Seconded By Councillor Alto

1. That Council approve the Welcoming Cities Task Force Terms of Reference and direct staff to seek participants.
2. That the Indigenous participants are compensated as per the City's protocol, to be funded from the Welcoming Cities budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Helps recalled the motion.

1. That Council approve the Welcoming Cities Task Force Terms of Reference and direct staff to seek participants.
2. That the Indigenous participants are compensated as per the City's protocol, to be funded from the Welcoming Cities budget.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Mayor Helps

3. That the Terms of Reference be amended to add an appointee from the Greater Victoria Public Library.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

1. That Council approve the Welcoming Cities Task Force Terms of Reference and direct staff to seek participants.
2. That the Indigenous participants are compensated as per the City's protocol, to be funded from the Welcoming Cities budget.
3. That the Terms of Reference be amended to add an appointee from the Greater Victoria Public Library.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H.4 Response to COVID-19 in Victoria, BC

Committee received a report dated March 11, 2020 from Councillor Isitt regarding the proposed resolution in response to COVID-19 in Victoria, BC and the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority.

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council endorse the following resolution and direct staff to forward copies without delay to the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority, the federal Ministers of Transport and Health, and the Provincial Health Officer of British Columbia:

Response to COVID-19 in Victoria, BC

WHEREAS Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry has advised that cruise ship visits to the Port of Victoria should be postponed to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19;

AND WHEREAS members of the public have expressed concern over the scheduled arrival of international cruise ships to the City of Victoria beginning in early April 2020, including a ship which has been quarantined in another jurisdiction with confirmed cases of COVID-19;

AND WHEREAS jurisdictions around the world have taken measures to restrict international transport in order to contain COVID-19 and reduce the risk to human health and the strain on public healthcare systems;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria requests that the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority follow the advice of the Provincial Health Officer and suspend authorization for the landing of international cruise ships at the Ogden Point Wharves until risks associated with COVID-19 have subsided;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria requests that the Government of Canada as the operator of the Port of Victoria follow the advice of the Provincial Health Officer and suspend authorization of international cruise ship visits to the Port of Victoria until risks associated with COVID-19 have subsided;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria requests that the Government of Canada work with other levels of government to provide relief to workers and businesses that experience hardship as a result of a postponement of cruise ship visits to the Port of Victoria.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Procedures relating to intergovernmental relations*
- *Specific recommendations from provincial organizations and informed authorities*
- *Feedback Council has received from members of the public*
- *Events that this could affected*

Motion to postpone:

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Young

That this motion be postponed until this evening's Council meeting, to enable Transport Canada to complete its situational analysis and provide their direction about Canadian ports, and ask GVHA to attend COTW March 19 to provide Council and the public with the latest information and actions for port Victoria.

FOR (3): Councillor Alto, Councillor Thornton-Joe and Councillor Young

OPPOSED (5): Mayor Helps, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday and Councillor Potts

DEFEATED (3 to 5)

On the main motion:

That Council endorse the following resolution and direct staff to forward copies without delay to the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority, the federal Ministers of Transport and Health, and the Provincial Health Officer of British Columbia:

Response to COVID-19 in Victoria, BC

WHEREAS Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry has advised that cruise ship visits to the Port of Victoria should be postponed to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19;

AND WHEREAS members of the public have expressed concern over the scheduled arrival of international cruise ships to the City of Victoria beginning in early April 2020, including a ship which has been quarantined in another jurisdiction with confirmed cases of COVID-19;

AND WHEREAS jurisdictions around the world have taken measures to restrict international transport in order to contain COVID-19 and reduce the risk to human health and the strain on public healthcare systems;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria requests that the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority follow the advice of the Provincial Health Officer and suspend authorization for the landing of international cruise ships at the Ogden Point Wharves until risks associated with COVID-19 have subsided;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria requests that the Government of Canada as the operator of the Port of Victoria follow the advice of the Provincial Health Officer and suspend authorization of international cruise ship visits to the Port of Victoria until risks associated with COVID-19 have subsided;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the City of Victoria requests that the Government of Canada work with other levels of government to provide relief to workers and businesses that experience hardship as a result of a postponement of cruise ship visits to the Port of Victoria.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The City Clerk delivered a verbal update on current discussions with provincial authorities with regards to implications or changes that may affect the April 4, 2020 By-Election.

Motion arising:

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council ask the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority to attend the Committee of the Whole meeting March 19 to provide Council and the public with the latest information and actions of the Authority.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council ask the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority to attend the a Committee of the Whole meeting ~~March 19~~ to provide Council and the public with the latest information and actions of the Authority.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the motion arising as amended:

That Council ask the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority to attend a Committee of the Whole meeting to provide Council and the public with the latest information and actions of the Authority.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion arising:

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council ask Island Heath to provide an update and information on its plans to provide urgent health care and other services to Victoria residents without homes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion arising:

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Mayor Dubow

That Council direct staff to provide an update to Council and the public on adjustments to city programs, services and procedures arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

I. ADJOURNMENT

Moved By Councillor Dubow
Seconded By Councillor Alto

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR