

**MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2015, 9:00 A.M.**

1. THE CHAIR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:02 A.M.

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

Absent: Councillor Coleman

Absent for a Portion of the Meeting: Councillors Alto and Loveday

Staff Present: J. Johnson – City Manager; P. Bruce – Fire Chief; K. Hamilton – Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning; J. Jenkyns – Deputy City Manager; C. Coates, City Clerk; T. Soulliere – Director of Parks & Recreation; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; B. Dellebuur – Acting Assistant Director of Transportation & Parking Services; J. MacDougall – Assistant Director of Parks; J. O’Connor – Manager of Financial Planning; J. Schmidt – Manager of Legislative Services; C. Mycroft – Assistant to City Manager; L. Maxwell – Recording Secretary.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

2.1 Approval of the Agenda

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that the Agenda of the November 20th, 2015, Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

3. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Committee continued the discussion for Engineering and Public Works from the previous Governance and Priorities Committee special meeting on November 12, 2015. They received a report dated October 22nd, 2015 from Finance providing information on the 2016 Draft Financial Plan. This report was received for

information at the Governance & Priorities Committee of October 22nd, 2015.

Councillor Alto joined the meeting at 9:03 a.m.

Councillor Isitt withdrew from Committee at 9:04 a.m. and returned at 9:05 a.m.

Committee discussed:

- Comprehensive plan for crosswalk installations and upgrades, both city initiated and community lead.

Councillor Loveday joined the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

- Rehabilitation and resurfacing of major streets, and implementation of #Biketoria.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to accelerate the crosswalk project at Douglas and Michigan in 2016.

CARRIED 15/GPC

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

Against: Councillor Young

Councillor Lucas withdrew from the meeting at 9:22 a.m. and returned 9:24 a.m.

Committee discussed:

- New bus shelter installations and cost-sharing partnerships.
- Condition and maintenance of storm drains.
- Assessment of the multi-stream waste pilot project.
- Concerns that roadway upgrades lack proper pedestrian access at major intersections.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that Council direct staff to incorporate pedestrian improvements into crossings of major roadways along the cycling network route once approved.

- Concerns about how the motion will implicate the budget.

Amendment: It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee requests that Council direct staff to **report on the budget implications of incorporating** pedestrian improvements into crossings of major roadways along the cycling network route once approved.

On the amendment:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

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

Committee discussed:

- Installation of sidewalks on Pembroke Street.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to include alternate forms of design treatments to improve pedestrian and cycling safety on Pembroke Street between Belmont and Fernwood.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Councillor Alto withdrew from the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Committee discussed:

- Replacement and installation of new benches throughout the City in 2016.
- Concerns that improvements to the Douglas Street Charrette are not included in the City's capital plan.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Mayor Helps, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on options for incorporating elements of the Douglas Corridor Charrette to include into the multi-year capital plan.

Committee discussed:

- Effect of this plan on the current strategic plan initiatives.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed:

- Public realm improvements and Belleville Terminal redevelopment.
- Recreational multi-use trail along Dallas Road.
- Concerns of the absence of active transportation in Burnside Neighbourhood.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Young, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on the budget implications of including active transportation facilities in the capital project for Bridge Street from Ellice Street to Hillside Avenue.

Councillor Alto returned to the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed:

- Development of city-wide wayfinding signage plan.

- Continuation of sidewalk on Pleasant Street.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on budget implications of extending the sidewalk on Pleasant Street to Point Ellice House.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Mayor Helps withdrew from committee at 10:52 a.m. and returned at 10:54 a.m.

Committee recessed at 10:53 a.m. and reconvened at 11:02 a.m.

Thomas Soulliere, Director of Parks, Recreation, & Facilities, presented Committee with the proposed budget for Parks, Recreation, & Facilities. The presentation included an overview of services provided by the department; a summary of their operating budget and their proposed initiatives for 2016.

Committee discussed:

- Improvements of current and need for additional public washrooms.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on the budget implications of relocating the urinal from Pandora and Government St. to the 900 block of Pandora Street.

Committee discussed:

- Pros and cons of relocation of washroom.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed:

- Improvements of public tennis courts.
- Installation of new drinking fountains.
- Concerns with number of contracted services.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on the cost incurred for private garbage collection at the Crystal Pool, community centres and senior centres.

Committee discussed:

- Concerns on the implication of the proposed budget.

Amendment: It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on the cost **and rationale** of private garbage collection at the Crystal Pool, community centres and seniors centres.

On the amendment:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

On the main motion as amended:
CARRIED 15/GPC

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

Against: Councillor Young

Committee discussed:

- Refurbishments and fee structure for Royal Athletic Park.
- Condition assessments and strategic review of various facilities.
- Project plan and timelines for the David Foster Harbour Pathway.
- Naming policies for City parks.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on options for a name your park initiative at Shelbourne, Pembroke and Begbie.

Amendment: It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on options for a name your park initiative at Shelbourne, Pembroke and Begbie **including budget implications for a name your park initiative.**

On the amendment:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

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

Committee recessed at 11:57 a.m. and reconvened at 12:23 p.m.

Councillor Isitt returned to the meeting at 12:38 p.m.

Committee discussed:

- Implementation of the Urban Forest Master Plan.
- Concerns about trees in Centennial Square

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on the budget implications of fixing the pavement and bricks around the two trees at the North entrance of the foyer at City Hall.

Committee discussed:

- The City Manager informed Committee that the repairs requested can be incorporated in the proposed budget.

DEFEATED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed:

- Revision of Community Centre agreements.
- Allocation of funds to the Accessibility Reserve Fund.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to re-allocate the funds spent on the Mile 0 projects from the Accessibility Reserve Fund.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Action: It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to:

1. Report back on replenishing the Accessibility Reserve on an annual basis;
2. Work with the Accessibility Working Group to identify projects funded by the Accessibility Reserve for 2016 and to develop a policy to guide future funding recommendations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed:

- Options for building a playground downtown.

Action: It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on the budget implications for a kid friendly structure in the downtown for 2016.

Committee discussed:

- Options for themes and portability for the proposed playground.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed:

- Additional funding for the David Foster Harbour Pathway.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Mayor Helps, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back on the budget implications of completing detailed design and construction of the David Foster Harbour Pathway from Ogden Point to Bay Street by the end of 2018.

Committee discussed:

- Pros and cons to implementing detailed design for the project as a whole.

Amendment: It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Alto, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to report back to Council on the budget implications of completing a **phased approach** to detailed design and construction of the David Foster Harbour Pathway from Ogden Point to Bay Street by the end of 2018.

On the amendment:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

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

Katie Hamilton, Director of Citizen Engagement and Strategic Planning, presented Committee with the proposed budget for the Citizen Engagement and Strategic Planning Department. The presentation included an overview of services provided by the department; a summary of their operating budget and their proposed initiatives for 2016.

Committee discussed:

- Upgrades to on street parking meters.
- Downtown beautification strategy.
- Efficiencies of new Parking Ambassador program.

Tom Zworski, City Solicitor, presented Committee with the proposed budget for Legal Services. The presentation included an overview of services provided by the department; a summary of their operating budget and their proposed initiatives for 2016.

Susanne Thompson, Director of Finance, presented Committee with the proposed budget for Corporate. The presentation included an overview of services provided by the department; a summary of their operating budget and their proposed initiatives for 2016.

Committee discussed:

- Increased costs of festivals.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to look into the budget implications of increasing the festival investment grants based on past oversubscription.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Committee discussed:

- Allocation for affordable housing.
- Expansion of the Community Garden Volunteer Coordination Grants.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council consider upon receipt of public consideration an allocation of \$24,000 to the Community Garden Volunteer Coordinator Grants.

Committee discussed:

- Postponing motion until public input stage.

DEFEATED 15/GPC

For: Councillor Isitt

Against: Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff, Thornton-Joe, and Young

Committee discussed:

- Status of multiple reserve funds.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Committee recommends that Council supports, in principle, a 7500 sqft Public Library Branch in James Bay to come out of the capital budget in 2017.

Committee discussed:

- Specifications of plans and obtaining property for new library.

Action: It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Young, that Committee postpone consideration until the Thursday, November 26, 2015 Council meeting in order to allow receipt of information on the size of branches within the Greater Victoria Library system.

DEFEATED 15/GPC

For: Councillors Loveday, Isitt, and Young

Against: Mayor Helps, Councillors Alto, Lucas, Madoff, and Thornton-Joe

Committee discussed:

- Specifications of plans and obtaining property for new library.

On the main motion:
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Action:

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council:

1. Direct staff to bring forward the Five-year Financial Plan Bylaw, 2016 for first reading prior to commencing public consultation.
2. Approve transferring \$500,000 of assessment growth (non-market change) revenue to the Buildings and Infrastructure Reserve and direct staff to bring forward options for the use of the remainder once public consultation has been completed.
3. Direct staff to bring forward options for the use of 2015 surplus once public consultation has been completed.
4. Direct staff to bring forward options for funding supplementary budget requests once public consultation has been completed.
5. Approve an additional tax increase for capital, if any, and outline for which projects in Appendix A.
6. Allocate \$2,818,000 of the annual gas tax funding to the Storm Drain Brick Main project and direct staff to bring forward options for the allocation of the remainder once public consultation has been completed.
7. Approve the direct-award grants as outlined in this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

3. ADJOURNMENT

Action:

It was moved by Councillor Alto, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that the Special Governance & Priorities Committee meeting of November 20th, 2015, be adjourned at 3:07 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC

Mayor Helps, Chair