



MINUTES – SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

November 10, 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 Dubow, Councillor Potts (joined at 9:08 a.m.), Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young

PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY: Councillor Isitt (joined at 10:02 a.m.), Councillor Loveday

STAFF PRESENT: J. Jenkyns - City Manager, S. Thompson - Deputy City Manager / Director of Finance, C. Coates - City Clerk, P. Bruce - Fire Chief, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, T. Soulliere - Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities, B. Eisenhauer - Head of Engagement, J. Jensen - Head of Human Resources, K. Hoese - Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, C. Havelka - Deputy City Clerk, J. O'Connor - Deputy Director of Finance, K. Moore - Head of Business and Community Relations, C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, 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 2021 Draft Financial Plan

F.1.1 Intro/Overview/Department Presentations

The Deputy City Manager/Director of Finance provided an overview of the financial planning process for the Special Budget meetings.

F.1.1.1 Council

The Deputy City Manager advised that the council budget is based on Committee and Council meetings.

Committee discussed:

- *What do the miscellaneous expenses cover;*
- *What the remuneration level is based on*
- *What the amounts for travel will be for the 2021 budget and whether the budget could be cut in half*

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council reduce the 2021 budget for conference travel to \$25,000.

FOR (1): Councillor Isitt

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

DEFEATED (1 to 7)

F.1.1.2 Finance

The Deputy Director of Finance provided an overview of the Finance Department including Parking Services.

Committee discussed:

- *How the projections for parking revenue are arrived at.*
- *What the parking equipment upgrade includes.*
- *What the development stability fund is.*
- *Whether the Royal Athletic Park parking lot is being utilized during the day.*
- *Concerns with the amounts in the budget for tour stands.*

Councillor Isitt joined in person at 10:02 a.m.

F.1.1.3 Information Technology

The Chief Information Officer provided an overview of the Information Technology draft 2021 Budget.

Committee discussed:

- *Whether any technology updates are expected for 2021*
- *Whether any work from home/modern workplace implements are expected post-pandemic*

Committee recessed at 10:37 a.m. and returned at 10:42 a.m.

F.1.1.4 Corporate Initiatives

The Head of Service Innovation provided an overview of the Corporate Initiatives department 2021 draft budget.

F.1.1.5 Real Estate

The Head of Strategic Real Estate provided an overview of the 2021 draft budget for the Real Estate department.

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council Close the meeting to the public under Section 90(1)(e) of the Community Charter to receive information on land or disposition.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee recessed for the closed meeting at 11:05 a.m.

Land – Community Charter Section 90(1)(e)

Council discussed a land item. The discussion was recorded and kept confidential.

Committee returned to the open meeting at 11:26 a.m.

Committee discussed:

- *Whether the department will need a further FTE in the next year.*
- *Whether the City has lost any tenants from City properties.*

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council direct staff to provide an annual update by the end of Q2 2021 on Parks and Greenways Acquisitions.

Amendment:
Moved By Councillor Dubow
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council direct staff to provide an annual update by the end of Q2 2021 on Parks and Greenways Acquisitions, **informed by the equity framework.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council direct staff to provide an annual update by the end of Q2 2021 on Housing Acquisitions.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.1.1.6 Legislative Services

The City Clerk provided an overview of the 2021 draft budget for the Legislative Services department.

Committee discussed:

- *Whether the requested on-going FTE position is new and needed at this time.*

F.1.1.7 Parks, Recreation, and Facilities

The Director of Parks, Recreation and Facilities provided an overview of the 2021 draft budget for the Parks, Recreation and Facilities department.

Committee discussed:

- *Cost of providing free doggy bags to the public*
- *Possibility of adding paid parking along portions of Dallas Road*
- *How many plantings were completed in 2020.*
- *How insurance premiums will affect the budget.*

Committee recessed at 12:28 p.m. and returned at 1:03 p.m.

Councillor Isitt was not present for the recommencement of the meeting.

Committee discussed:

- *Will it be possible to recover some of the costs related to Topaz Park sheltering.*

- *More access to lighting near where CRD park trails and City Trails meet.*

Councillor Isitt rejoined the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

Committee discussed:

- *Possibility of improving the access to the Gorge Waterway*
- *Whether it is possible for the section of Mile zero being added to park space during this budget*
- *Where the extra COVID cleaning costs are captured.*
- *Possibility to add more playgrounds to the City's stock.*

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council request staff to report back with information regarding the potential for paid parking along a portion of Dallas Road.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That Council request staff to report back with information regarding the potential for paid parking along a portion of Dallas Road **with exemption for accessible parking spaces.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council direct staff to report back before the end of 2020 on the options and implications for security services

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.1.1.8 City Manager

The City Manager provided an overview of the 2021 draft budget for the City Manager's office.

F.1.1.9 Victoria Fire Department

The Chief of the Victoria Fire Department provided an overview of the 2021 draft budget for the Victoria Fire Department.

Committee discussed:

- *Reasoning for the Fire Department responding first to emergency calls.*
- *COVID related impact on fire prevention*

F.1.1.10 Legal Services

The City Solicitor provided an overview of the 2021 draft budget for the Legal Services Department.

Committee discussed:

- *Reasoning for the staff working reduced hours*

F.1.1.11 Engagement

The Head of Engagement provided an overview of the 2021 draft budget for the Engagement department.

Committee discussed:

- *The participatory budgeting process and why it is not included in the draft budget.*

I. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Potts

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR