



MINUTES – SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

January 18, 2021, 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 Andrew, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young

PRESENT ELECTRONICALLY: Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts

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, M. Sandhu - Head of Service Innovation & Improvement, J. Paul - Assistant Director of Engineering, P. Bellefontaine - Director of Engineering & Public Works, A. Mahimwalla – Arts, Culture & Events Liaison, J. Ho – Community Energy Specialist, D. Lee – Manager Public Works Administration, G. Pemberton – Neighbourhood Liaison, L. Berndt – Manager Energy and Climate Action, D. Newman – Assistant Director of Facilities and Construction Management, N. Sutic-Bata – Manager of Underground Utilities, M. Heiser - 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**

Mayor Helps delivered an overview of the day's proceedings.

Councillor Andrew joined the meeting at 9:06 am.

F.1 2021 Draft Financial Plan

F.1.1 Draft 2021 Financial Plan – Public Input Summary

Committee received a report dated January 15, 2021 from the Head of Engagement regarding public feedback and correspondence received during the consultation period for the 2021 Draft Financial Plan.

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That Council receive this report for information.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Budgetary concerns as it relates to residents' age*
- *Weightings of responses demonstrated in the survey*
- *Representation of different priorities*
- *Separation of results for renters and non-renters*
- *Identification of residents' neighbourhoods*

On the main motion:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F.1.2 2021-2025 Draft Financial Plan - Remaining Recommendations

Committee received a report dated January 7, 2021 from the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer regarding the remaining recommendations from the 2021-2025 Draft Financial Plan.

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

1. That Council direct staff to reallocate \$10,000 in the 2021 Financial Plan from the Council Meeting Catering line item to the Housing Reserve Fund, in recognition of increased reliance on remote meetings and heightened economic hardship arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. That this reallocation of funds be implemented with immediate effect.

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Andrew

1. That Council direct staff to reallocate \$10,000 in the 2021 Financial Plan from the Council Meeting Catering line item to the Housing Reserve Fund, in recognition of increased reliance on remote meetings and heightened economic hardship arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.

2. That this reallocation of funds be implemented with immediate effect **and direct staff to remove from the 2022 budget the catering line item.**

Amendment to the amendment:

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Councillor Isitt

1. That Council direct staff to reallocate \$10,000 in the 2021 Financial Plan from the Council Meeting Catering line item to the Housing Reserve Fund, in recognition of increased reliance on remote meetings and heightened economic hardship arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. That this reallocation of funds be implemented with immediate effect. ~~**and direct staff to remove from the 2022 budget the catering line item.**~~
3. **reallocate the \$10,000 from the catering line item to the housing reserve fund on an ongoing basis.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the amendment:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

1. That Council direct staff to reallocate \$10,000 in the 2021 Financial Plan from the Council Meeting Catering line item to the Housing Reserve Fund, in recognition of increased reliance on remote meetings and heightened economic hardship arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.
2. That this reallocation of funds be implemented with immediate effect.
3. Reallocate the \$10,000 from the catering line item to the housing reserve fund on an ongoing basis.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Mayor requested Committee to identify any specific line items on the budget that they may want to adjust.

2021-2022 Budget for Mile Zero

Moved By Councillor Potts

Seconded By Councillor Andrew

That Council defer \$275,000 for the orphaned land at Mile Zero to the 2022 budget.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Unspent funds in the reserve*

- *Work done to advance this project*
- *Improved pedestrian experience*

FOR (5): Councillor Alto, Councillor Andrew, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Potts, Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (4): Mayor Helps, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Young
CARRIED (5 to 4)

Committee recessed at 10:51 a.m. and reconvened at 10:59 a.m.

2021 VicPD Budget Funding

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council not approve the salary line item in the VicPD Budget and request that the Police Board send a revised amount to Council that results in no net increase in the VicPD Budget in 2021.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Quarterly updates from the Chief*
- *Involvement with the Police Board*

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council not approve **\$747,000** of the salary line item in the VicPD Budget and request that the Police Board send a revised amount to Council that results in no net increase in the VicPD Budget in 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion to go into a closed Committee of the Whole meeting at 11:38 a.m.

Moved By Councillor Loveday
Seconded By Councillor Potts

MOTION TO CLOSE THE JANUARY 18, 2021 SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

That Council convene a closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 90 of the Community Charter for the reason that the following agenda items deal with matters specified in Sections 90(1) and/or (2) of the Community Charter, namely:

Section 90(2) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to one or more of the following:

- Section 90(2)(b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial

- government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party;
- Section 90(2)(d) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public must be excluded from the meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The open Committee of the Whole meeting reconvened at 11:50 a.m.

Councillor Loveday proposed an amendment; however, Mayor Helps ruled that the amendment was not germane to the main motion. Councillor Loveday appealed the decision and the question as to whether the Mayor was to be sustained was put to a vote:

FOR (5): Councillor Andrew, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Young
OPPOSED (3): Councillor Alto, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts

CARRIED (5 to 3)

The Chair's ruling was sustained.

On the main motion as amended:

That Council not approve \$747,000 of the salary line item in the VicPD Budget and request that the Police Board send a revised amount to Council that results in no net increase in the VicPD Budget in 2021.

FOR (4): Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts
OPPOSED (5): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Andrew, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Young

DEFEATED (4 to 5)

Moved By Councillor Loveday
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council request the Victoria Esquimalt Police Board report back with any budgetary savings due to reduced nightlife, lack of special events, and limited protest activity;
And that Council request the Victoria Esquimalt Police Board apply similar budget mitigation measures as the City of Victoria and report back to Council with budget savings found.

FOR (6): Councillor Alto, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Young
OPPOSED (3): Mayor Helps, Councillor Andrew, Councillor Thornton-Joe

CARRIED (6 to 3)

Legal Services

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Young

That Council approve allocating additional new property tax revenue from new development as follows:

- a. additional Legal Services resources of \$183,410

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Youth Strategy

Moved By Councillor Andrew

Seconded By Councillor Alto

That Council approve a one-time allocation of \$30,000 to continue the implementation of the Youth Strategy with funding from the one-time envelope as outlined in this report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mayor Helps requested Committee to deliberate whether there are any budget items they wish to add.

Create Victoria

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Councillor Alto

That Council fund the Create Victoria - Cultural Spaces Road Map \$25,000 and Create Victoria - Cultural Infrastructure Grant Program \$100,000 from the one-time envelope.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Banfield Park Swimming Dock - Study and Implementation

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Loveday

That Council allocate \$95,000 from a portion of \$3 million capital reallocation for the Banfield Park Swimming Dock - Study and Implementation.

Committee recessed at 12:33 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

On the motion:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reconciliation Dialogues and Indigenous Relations Function - Options Development

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council

1. fund \$40,000 from one-time funding for the Reconciliation Dialogues
2. fund \$37,500 from Corporate Consulting, for the Indigenous Relations Function - Options Development

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Alto
Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council

1. fund **up to** \$40,000 from one-time funding for the Reconciliation Dialogues
2. fund \$37,500 from Corporate Consulting, for the Indigenous Relations Function - Options Development

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Councillor Young requested that the numbered items within the motion be voted on separately.

That Council

1. fund up to \$40,000 from one-time funding for the Reconciliation Dialogues

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. fund \$37,500 from Corporate Consulting, for the Indigenous Relations Function - Options Development.

FOR (8): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Andrew, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

CARRIED (8 to 1)

Vic West Skate Park Lighting

Moved By Councillor Potts
Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council fund the Vic West Skate Park Lighting.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Prominent use of the facility by city-wide residents*
- *Ensuring residents have the opportunity to recreate in unprecedented times.*

Amendment:

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Andrew

That Council fund the **preliminary planning work** for the Vic West Skate Park Lighting **at some point in 2021 and that the capital project be deliberated in 2022.**

FOR (6): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Andrew, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young
 OPPOSED (3): Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts

CARRIED (6 to 3)

Amendment:

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Andrew

That Council fund the preliminary work for the Vic West Skate Park Lighting at some point in 2021 and that the capital project be delivered in 2022.

That Council fund up to \$85,000 from the \$3 million unallocated capital to undertake this preliminary work.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Main motion as amended:

That Council fund the preliminary work for the Vic West Skate Park Lighting at some point in 2021 and that the capital project be delivered in 2022.

That Council fund up to \$85,000 from the \$3 million unallocated capital to undertake this preliminary work.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

International decade for people of African Descent

Moved By Councillor Dubow
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That Council fund up to \$25,000 from one-time funding and \$75,000 from corporate funding for the International decade for people of African Descent.

Amendment:

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council fund up to \$25,000 from ~~one-time funding the Council strategic grant funding~~ and fund \$75,000 from corporate funding for the International decade for people of African Descent.

FOR (7): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Andrew, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young

OPPOSED (2): Councillor Dubow, Councillor Potts

CARRIED (7 to 2)

Amendment:

Moved By Councillor Dubow

Seconded By Mayor Helps

That Council fund up to \$25,000 from the Council strategic grant funding **to support leadership opportunities for children and youth of African descent and the grant program to be developed in consultation with the IDPAD advisory committee once it has been formed** and fund \$75,000 from corporate consulting for the International decade for people of African Descent.

Councillor Thornton-Joe withdrew from the meeting at 2:41 p.m.

On the amendment:

FOR (7): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, Councillor Young

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Andrew

CARRIED (7 to 1)

Councillor Thornton-Joe returned to the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

On the main motion as amended:

That Council fund up to \$25,000 from the Council strategic grant funding to support leadership opportunities for children and youth of African descent and the grant program to be developed in consultation with the IDPAD advisory committee once it has been formed and fund \$75,000 from corporate consulting for the International decade for people of African Descent.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Extended Hours for Our Place

Moved By Councillor Thornton-Joe
Seconded By Councillor Alto

That Council fund the Extended Hours for Our Place for \$50,000 and Our Place - Storage of belongings, for \$50,000 from one-time.

Motion to postpone:

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Councillor Young

That consideration of this matter be postponed until the January 25 special COTW meeting and that staff be directed to inquire with the Our Place Society as to whether they have sought other funding for this service.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

South Island Prosperity Partnership

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Alto

That SIPP be funded for \$218,962

Amendment:

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Alto

That SIPP be funded for \$218,962 **and staff report back at the January 25, meeting on allocating funding from these sources:**

- **Late Night Great Night**
- **special events, and**
- **other funding sources**

Amendment to the amendment:

Moved By Councillor Isitt
Seconded By Mayor Helps

That SIPP be funded for \$218,962 **and staff report back at the January 25, meeting on allocating funding from these sources:**

- **Late Night Great Night**
- **special events,**
- **increase in the property tax requisition, and**
- **other funding sources**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the amendment:

That SIPP be funded for \$218,962 and staff report back at the January 25, meeting on allocating funding from these sources:

- **Late Night Great Night**
- **special events,**
- **increase in the property tax requisition, and**
- **other funding sources**

FOR (8): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Andrew, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

CARRIED (8 to 1)

On the main motion as amended:

That SIPP be funded for \$218,962 and staff report back at the January 25, meeting on allocating funding from these sources:

- **Late Night Great Night**
- **special events,**
- **increase in the property tax requisition, and**
- **other funding sources**

FOR (8): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Andrew, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Thornton-Joe

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

CARRIED (8 to 1)

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 3:30 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR