



MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

March 4, 2021, 9:00 A.M.

**6TH FLOOR BOARDROOM, CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT,
625 FISGARD STREET, VICTORIA, B.C.**

The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees and Esquimalt People

PRESENT: Mayor Helps in the Chair, Councillor Alto, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young

**PRESENT
ELECTRONICALLY
AND IN PERSON:** Councillor Isitt

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

**PRESENT
ELECTRONICALLY
FOR A PORTION OF
THE MEETING:** Councillor Andrew

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, A. Meyer - Assistant Director of Development Services, A. Hudson - Assistant Director of Community Planning, C. Havelka - Deputy City Clerk, L. Van Den Dolder - Assistant City Solicitor, J. O'Connor - Deputy Director of Finance, K. Moore - Head of Business and Community Relations, C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, L. Taylor - Senior Planner, P. Bellefontaine - Director of Engineering & Public Works, S. Perkins - Manager of Bylaw Services, D. Newman - Assistant Director of Construction and Facilities Management, P. Rantucci - Head of Strategic Real Estate, C. Tunis - Planner, M. Thomaidis - Planning Assistant, M. Heiser - Council Secretary

GUESTS: Chief Constable D. Manak - Victoria Police Department, D. Gibson - Community Council, L. Mari - ARYZE Developments, J. Daly - Our Place Society, H. Hartman - BC Housing

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. CONSENT AGENDA

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Alto

That the following items be approved without further debate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

I.1 Council Member Motion: Support for Laid-off Hotel and Tourism Industry Workers

A Council Member Motion dated February 26, 2021 from Councillor Dubow regarding the proposed support for Hotel and Tourism Industry workers.

Moved By Councillor Isitt

Seconded By Councillor Alto

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of City of Victoria affirms that people should not lose their livelihoods due to the pandemic; and
THAT the City of Victoria write to the Ministers of Labour and Tourism expressing our support for the right for laid off workers to return to their jobs when the pandemic eases; and
THAT this letter be forwarded to all BC municipalities asking to write their support; and
THAT the City of Victoria writes to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. Presentations

E.1 Victoria Police Department - Quarter 4 Update

Committee received a presentation from Chief Constable Del Manak regarding an overview of the Victoria Police Department's Quarter 4 2020 update highlighting the following:

- Annual overview of events and case load measures
- Special projects
- Proactive work
- Financial Services Division

Councillor Andrew joined the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

Moved By Councillor Thornton-Joe
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That the report be received for information.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Enforcement and discretion with Public Health Orders*
- *Sale of replication and imitation firearms*
- *Current programs for supporting mental health initiatives among officers*
- *Crime severity index*
- *Collaboration with mental health authorities*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee recessed at 10:14 am and reconvened at 10:19 a.m.

Councillor Thornton-Joe withdrew from the meeting at 10:20 a.m. due to a potential non-pecuniary conflict of interest with the following item as she has been asked to sit on the Board of the Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness.

F. LAND USE MATTERS

F.1 940 Caledonia Avenue and 953 and 963 Green Street: Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00017 and Development Permit with Variances Application No. 000591 (North Park)

Committee received a report dated February 25, 2021 from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding the proposed Temporary Use Permit Application and Development Permit with Variances Application for the properties located at 940 Caledonia Avenue and 953 and 963 Green Street in order to permit temporary, purpose-built transitional housing on a portion of the Royal Athletic Park (RAP) parking lot for a period of 18 months and recommending that it move forward to an Opportunity for Public Comment.

Committee recessed at 10:28 a.m. and reconvened at 10:31 a.m.

Moved By Mayor Helps
Seconded By Councillor Isitt

1. That Council allocate \$61,866 from the remaining balance of the Restart Grant Funding, to fund the costs related to the installation of water and sewer services for the temporary transitional units and the removal of the units and capping of services when the temporary use permit expires.
2. That Council allocate \$110,000 from the 2021 Corporate Contingency Budget to contribute to the estimated 2021 operating costs, and further consider allocating \$105,000 as part of the 2022 Budget process to contribute to the estimated 2022 operating and closure costs for the temporary transitional housing operated by Our Place Society.

3. That Council authorize the City staff to consider, and if determined by staff to be eligible and advantageous to the City's overall ability to secure maximum grant funding, include the City costs for set-up and operating of the transitional housing project within any application made to the Province's Strengthening Communities' Services Program.

Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00017

1. That Council after giving notice and allowing an Opportunity for Public Comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion:

"That Council authorize the issuance of Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00017 for 940 Caledonia Avenue and 953 and 963 Green Street, in accordance with:

- a. Plans date stamped February 11, 2021.
- b. The Temporary Use Permit lapsing 18 months from the date of this resolution."

2. That the recommendation be forwarded to the March 4, 2021 daytime Council Meeting and a special Council meeting is scheduled on March 18, 2021 to allow for an Opportunity for Public Comment.

Development Permit with Variances Application No. 000591

1. That Council, after giving notice and allowing an Opportunity for Public Comment at a meeting of Council, consider the following motion:

"That Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit with Variance Application No. 000591 for 940 Caledonia Avenue and 953 and 963 Green Street in accordance with:

- a. Plans date stamped February 11, 2021.
- b. Development meeting all Zoning Regulation Bylaw requirements, except for the following variances:
 - i. relaxation to all of the impacted lots for setback requirements;
 - ii. relaxation to permit buildings over property lines;
 - iii. relaxation to permit more than one building on a lot;
 - iv. reduce the required number of parking spaces from five to nil.
- c. The Development Permit lapsing 18 months from the date of this resolution."

2. That the recommendation be forwarded to the March 4, 2021 daytime Council Meeting and a special Council meeting is scheduled on March 18, 2021 to allow for an Opportunity for Public Comment.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Appropriate use of parcel for current sheltering*
- *Providing necessary supports*
- *Operating costs for the project*
- *Building code specifics and exemptions*

Motion to permit speakers:

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Isitt

That external individuals be permitted to speak on this application.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee discussed the following:

- *Current and future residents of the space*
- *Risk and assessment process*
- *New units that may be identified by the province*
- *Ensuring safety for residents and the neighbourhood*
- *Correspondence received from the North Park Neighbourhood Association*
- *Noise and activity mitigation*

On the main motion:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee recessed at 12:05 p.m. and reconvened at 12:12 p.m. Councillor Isitt was not present.

Councillor Thornton-Joe returned to the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

G. STAFF REPORTS

G.1 Regional Rent Bank Pilot Program

Councillor Isitt joined the meeting at 12:14 p.m.

Committee received a report dated February 11, 2021 from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding an expedited Victoria Housing Strategy action to explore the development of a non-profit administered rent bank on a pilot basis, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Committee recessed at 12:28 p.m. and reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

1. That Council receive the Greater Victoria Rent Bank Pilot Program report for information.
2. That Council direct staff to:
 - a. Provide a progress report on the Greater Victoria Rent Bank Pilot Program as part of the next Victoria Housing Strategy Annual Review;
 - b. Report back on an as-needed basis if rent bank funding requests arise; and
 - c. Report back near completion of the pilot program in 2022 to report on program effectiveness and to determine if City support is needed for longer-term sustainability of the program.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Working directly with landlords*
- *Region wide program specifics*
- *Providing funding for residents located in Victoria*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G.2 Citizen's Assembly Process - Next Steps

Committee received a report dated February 2, 2021 from the City Clerk regarding the proposed next steps required to move forward with the Citizen's Assembly process.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Accommodation for accessibility and barrier free participation*
- *Number of proposed participants*

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Young

That Council approve the recommendations as provided in Option 1 of this report:

1. Approve the estimated costs associated with the Citizens' Assembly and reaffirm the commitment of \$250,000.
2. Direct staff to present the estimated costs to the Provincial Government and seek provincial funding to accommodate at least 1/3 of the associated costs of a Citizens' Assembly.
3. Upon funding approval initiate the procurement process to seek a consultant for the Citizen's Assembly Process upon funding approval from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.
4. Upon funding approval initiate the procurement process for consultant services for the Technical Analysis upon funding approval from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.
5. Request staff to work with the consultant to develop a term of reference for an Oversight Committee on the Citizens' Assembly.
6. Approve the in-person participation concept of a Citizens' Assembly.
7. Reduce the number of participants on the Citizens' Assembly to the 'Best Practice' number of 48.
8. Remove or reduce any options for honorarium or per diems from the approved Terms of Reference for the Citizens' Assembly should that be necessary for cost reduction to the overall budget not to exceed \$750,000.
9. That Council accept the remaining changes to sections 3.5, 6, 7.1, 7.2.3, 7.5 and 8.2.1 the Terms of Reference identified in this report to align with Saanich Council's approvals

Motion to extend:

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be extended to 2:30 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Committee discussed the following:

- *Assembly composition and genders*
- *Conflict of interest provisions within the Terms of Reference*

On the main motion:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion arising:

Moved By Councillor Loveday

Seconded By Councillor Alto

That Council flag for the District of Saanich and the consultant that people of all genders should be represented and that the Terms of Reference should be amended before the lottery process to include people who are Transgender, Non-Binary or Two-Spirit.

Amendment:

Moved By Mayor Helps

Seconded By Councillor Dubow

That Council flag for the District of Saanich and the consultant that people of all genders should be represented and that the Terms of Reference should be amended before the lottery process:

1. to include people who are Transgender, Non-Binary or Two-Spirit.
2. **that the composition of the citizens assembly reflect the composition of the census population with respect to ethno-cultural diversity**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On main motion as amended:

That Council flag for the District of Saanich and the consultant that people of all genders should be represented and that the Terms of Reference should be amended before the lottery process:

1. to include people who are Transgender, Non-Binary or Two-Spirit.
2. that the composition of the citizens assembly reflect the composition of the census population with respect to ethno-cultural diversity

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

J. **ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Moved By Councillor Alto

Seconded By Councillor Thornton-Joe

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 2:13 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR