



MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

July 4, 2024, 9:03 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 1 CENTENNIAL SQUARE

The City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees Nation and Xwsepsum Nation

PRESENT: Mayor Alto in the Chair, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Gardiner, Councillor Hammond, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton, Councillor Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: J. Jenkyns - City Manager, S. Thompson - Deputy City Manager / Chief Financial Officer, C. Kingsley - City Clerk, C. Anderson - Deputy City Clerk, S. Johnson - Director of Communications and Engagement, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, P. Rantucci - Director of Strategic Real Estate, T. Soulliere - Deputy City Manager, K. Hoesel - Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, K. Moore – Director, Business & Community Relations, S. Webb – Assistant Director, Corporate Planning and Project Support, R. Soward – Manager of Housing, A. Hudson – Assistant Director, Sustainable Planning and Community Development, A. Johnston - Assistant Director of Development Services, C. Mycroft – Manager of Intergovernmental and Media Relations, G. Diamond - Senior Legislative Coordinator, A. Klus - Legislative Coordinator

GUESTS: Chief Constable Del Manek, Victoria Police Department

A. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Committee acknowledged that the City of Victoria is located on the historical and contemporary homelands of the Songhees First Nation and the Xwsepsum First Nation and asked us about what words make sense to us individually to reflect on how differently our lives would be without the stewardship of the nations.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved and Seconded:

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Committee requested that the following item be removed from the Consent Agenda:

- H.1 - Council Member Motion: Financial relief for residents affected by crime and social disorder

Moved and Seconded:

That the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

F.2 Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Community Excellence Awards Submission

Committee received a report dated May 31, 2024 from the Director of Business and Community Relations seeking Council authority to submit an award to the UBCM Community Excellence Awards for OUR DWTN.

That Council authorize staff to submit an award for OUR DWTN for the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) Community Excellence Awards for excellence in service delivery.

F.3 Appointment of Bylaw Officers

Committee received a report dated June 17, 2024 from the Manager, Bylaw and Licensing Services recommending that Council approve the appointment of Alyson Barnes and Kurn Koshal to the position of Bylaw Officer and Business Licence Inspector.

That Council approve the appointment of Alyson Barnes and Kurn Koshal

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

That this motion be forwarded to the July 4, 2024 daytime meeting of Council for consideration.

H.2 Council Member Motion: Support for the Victoria Hockey Legacy Society Bid for the 2025 U17 Hockey Challenge

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated June 27, 2024 from Mayor Alto seeking support for the Victoria Hockey Legacy Society Bid for the 2025 U17 Hockey Challenge.

1. That Council request the mayor write to the Victoria Hockey Legacy Society, indicating support for their bid to host the 2025 World Under-17 Hockey Challenge, indicating contributions of in-kind and/or financial aid up to a value of \$100,000 which may be derived from an application to the City's Major Community Initiatives and Events Grants program.
2. That should this Motion be adopted, it be further considered at the daytime Council meeting July 4, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. PRESENTATIONS

E.1 Victoria Police Department - 2024 Quarter 1 report

Committee received a presentation from Chief Constable Del Manak from the Victoria Police Department regarding 2024 Quarter 1 report.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Operational approach to 900 block of Pandora*
- *Affect of Province's decriminalization roll-back on policing staff*
- *School liaison program in SD61*
- *Affect of protests and protesters on staff resources and to general public*
- *Feedback from downtown business and residents*
- *Trends in crime and calls for service*
- *Affect of overtime on budget, resources, and officer mental health*

Council recessed at 10:36 a.m. and reconvened at 10:47 a.m.

F. STAFF REPORTS

F.1 Centennial Square Revitalization Concept Design Update

Committee received a report dated June 21, 2024 from the Acting Director, Parks, Recreation and Facilities describing the updated conceptual design and implementation process for the Centennial Square Revitalization Project, for Council consideration.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Performance zone and amenities (i.e. washrooms, change rooms)*
- *Foundation on which the sequoia tree is planted and its removal*
- *City and Provincial funding for the project; burden on taxpayer, potential naming rights*
- *Amenities; public washrooms*
- *Central focal point and restoration of public art pieces*
- *Number of water features, hours of operations, and alignment with Island Health water regulations*
- *Improvements to Bike Valet*
- *Potential restrictions for future development*

Committee recessed at 12:00 p.m. and reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Moved and Seconded:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report.

Amendment:

Moved and Seconded:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report, **as amended by the following:**

1. **Increase the child-orientated play features in the final designs.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved and Seconded:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report, as amended by the following:

1. Increase the child-orientated play features in the final designs.
2. **In future phases of the Centennial Square redesign, for commercial mixed-use to return to the north side of the Square.**

Amendment to the amendment:

Moved and Seconded:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report, as amended by the following:

1. Increase the child-orientated play features in the final designs.
2. **In future phases of the Centennial Square redesign, for consider commercial mixed-use to return to the north side of the Square.**

OPPOSED (3): Councillor Coleman, Councillor Gardiner, and Councillor Kim

CARRIED (6 to 3)

On the amendment as amended:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report, as amended by the following:

1. Increase the child-orientated play features in the final designs.
2. **In future consider commercial mixed-use to return to the north side of the Square.**

OPPOSED (3): Councillor Coleman, Councillor Gardiner, Councillor Hammond

CARRIED (6 to 3)

Amendment:

Moved and Seconded:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report, as amended by the following:

1. Increase the child-orientated play features in the final designs.
2. In future consider commercial mixed-use to return to the north side of the Square.
3. **After removal of the unsafe trees, and without slowing down the project, use the Art in Public Places Fund to work with local artists to create a public art piece from the sequoia wood, leaving open a space in the final design for this future artwork.**

Amendment to amendment:

Moved and Seconded:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report, as amended by the following:

1. Increase the child-orientated play features in the final designs.
2. In future consider commercial mixed-use to return to the north side of the Square.
3. **After removal of the unsafe trees, and without slowing down the project, staff to repurpose the timber within the Victoria community as they see fit. use the Art in Public Places Fund to work with local artists to create a public art piece from the sequoia wood, leaving open a space in the final design for this future artwork.**

OPPOSED (2): Councillor Caradonna and Councillor Thompson

CARRIED (7 to 2)

On the amendment as amended:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report, as amended by the following:

1. Increase the child-orientated play features in the final designs.
2. In future consider commercial mixed-use to return to the north side of the Square.
3. **After removal of the unsafe trees, and without slowing down the project, staff to repurpose the timber within the Victoria community as they see fit.**

OPPOSED (2): Councillor Caradonna and Councillor Thompson

CARRIED (7 to 2)

Motion to extend:

Moved and Seconded:

Motion to extend the meeting to 2:45 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment:

Moved and Seconded:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report, as amended by the following:

1. Increase the child-orientated play features in the final designs.
2. In future consider commercial mixed-use to return to the north side of the Square.
3. After removal of the unsafe trees, and without slowing down the project, staff to repurpose the timber within the Victoria community as they see fit.

That the matter of Centennial Fountain be referred to the Heritage Advisory Committee for comment prior to final decision made about the monoliths.

OPPOSED (6): Mayor Alto, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Dell, Councillor Kim, Councillor Thompson, and Councillor Loughton

DEFEATED (3 to 6)

Moved:

That the matter of the Centennial Square Redevelopment Project be referred for consideration at the Crystal Pool Referendum process slated for 2025.

Motion failed due to want of a Seconder.

Motion to extend:

Moved and Seconded:

Motion to extend the meeting to 3:15 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

On the main motion as amended:

THAT Council approve the updated concept design for Centennial Square and direct staff to proceed with implementation as outlined in this report, as amended by the following:

1. Increase the child-orientated play features in the final designs.

2. In future consider commercial mixed-use to return to the north side of the Square.
3. After removal of the unsafe trees, and without slowing down the project, staff to repurpose the timber within the Victoria community as they see fit.

OPPOSED (3): Councillor Hammond, Councillor Gardiner, Councillor Coleman

CARRIED (6 to 3)

H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 Council Member Motion: Financial relief for residents affected by crime and social disorder

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated June 27, 2024 from Councillor Hammond requesting staff to investigate options for financial relief for residents affected by crime and social disorder.

Moved and Seconded:

That Council direct staff to investigate options for methods in which residents affected by crime, nuisance and/or social disorder might be compensated and return to Council with recommendations for such methods, including implications for their implementation.

CLOSED MEETING

Moved and Seconded:

MOTION TO CLOSE THE JULY 04, 2024 COUNCIL 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(1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

Section 90(1)(i) the receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege, including communications necessary for that purpose; and

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Committee of the Whole meeting was closed to the public at 3:02 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole meeting was reopened to the public at 3:17 p.m.

Motion to extend:

Moved and Seconded:

Motion to extend the meeting to 4:00 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion to call the question:

Moved and Seconded:

That the previous question be called.

OPPOSED (4): Mayor Alto, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Gardiner, and Councillor Hammond

CARRIED (5 to 4)

On the main motion:

That Council direct staff to investigate options for methods in which residents affected by crime, nuisance and/or social disorder might be compensated and return to Council with recommendations for such methods, including implications for their implementation.

OPPOSED (4): Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Dell, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton, and Councillor Thompson

DEFEATED (4 to 5)

J. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved and Seconded:

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 3:21 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR