



Council Member Report

For the Committee of the Whole Meeting of July 12, 2018

To: Committee of the Whole

Date: July 5, 2018

From: Councillor Thornton-Joe

Subject: Naming the Topaz Dog Park the PSD Chase Dog Park

BACKGROUND

As the City of Victoria is embarking on a new plan for Topaz Park, it has been identified that an enclosed dog park will be added. Some cities such as New York City, have named their dog parks after dogs who have died in the line of duty.

PSD CHASE

On the night of September 14th, 1994, Constable Bruce Clark and PSD Chase were among several officers who responded to a domestic dispute. When police arrived on scene, the suspect attempted to run from them and a foot pursuit ensued. Officers lost sight of the suspect when he rounded a corner, but Chase picked up his trail and tracked him to a multi-level parking garage. As the team searched the parking garage, Chase suddenly turned and ran towards one of the outer walls, jumping over the four-foot barrier. The drop was not far, and the surface below was soft grass, but Chase landed on a sprinkler head that was protruding from the ground. Although the sprinkler had pierced his abdomen, the dog managed to free himself and continue the pursuit.

Realizing that his dog was hurt and bleeding, Constable Clark called off the pursuit and Chase was rushed by ambulance to the Animal Emergency Hospital. He underwent emergency surgery, and the prognosis for a full recovery was good. But sadly, Chase died the next day from cardiac arrest.

Hundreds of residents sent cards and letters of sympathy to Constable Clark and his family. Chase, a German Shepherd Dog of approximately 4 years of age, had served since August 1992 and was recognized as a valuable member of the Victoria City Police Department.

MOTION

Be it resolved that the new dog park at Topaz Park be named the PSD Chase Dog Park and that funds be used to attach a plaque with information regarding PSD Chase.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Charlayne Thornton-Joe".

Councillor Thornton-Joe

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucas".

Councillor Lucas