



## MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

March 21, 2019, 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:** Councillor Isitt, Acting Mayor, in the Chair, Councillor Alto, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young, Councillor Potts, Councillor Collins

**ABSENT FOR A PORTION OF THE MEETING:** Mayor Helps

**PRESENT FOR A PORTION OF THE MEETING VIA ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION:** Councillor Dubow

**STAFF PRESENT:** J. Jenkyns - City Manager, C. Coates - City Clerk, P. Bruce - Fire Chief, T. Soulliere - Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities, C. Havelka - Deputy City Clerk, A. Hudson - Acting Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development, AM Ferguson - Committee Secretary, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, J. O'Connor - Deputy Director of Finance, M. Fedyczkowska - Legislation & Policy Analyst, L. Milburn - Senior Planner - Housing Policy, B. Cockle - Lead of Bylaw & Licensing, D. Manak - Chief Constable, H. Follis - Communications Advisory, J. Paul - Assistant Director - Engineering

### **A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Moved By** Councillor Collins

**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

That the agenda be approved.

#### **Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That the Agenda of the March 21, 2019, Committee of the Whole meeting be amended as follows:

Councillor Alto requested that item D.1., 2019 Victoria Police Budget, be discussed when all attending Councillors are present.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Councillor Potts joined the meeting at 9:03 a.m.*

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Collins

**Seconded By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

That the Agenda of the March 21, 2019, Committee of the Whole meeting be amended as follows:

**Consent Agenda:**

- F.2     Proclamation - Sikh Heritage Day**
- F.3     Emergency Operations Centre Training Grant**
- H.1     ADP Landscape Architect Report**
- H.2     Call for Appropriate Levels of Funding for Legal Aid**
- H.4     Conference Attendance Request for Councillor Alto: High Ground Governance Forum**
- H.5     Conference Attendance Request Councillor Dubow: Association of Vancouver Island Municipalities Conference**
- H.6     Conference Attendance Requests for Councillor Loveday: Association of Vancouver Island Municipalities Conference**
- H.7     Conference Attendance Request for Councillor Loveday: Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference**
- H.8     Conference Attendance Request for Councillor Loveday: High Ground Governance Forum**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Main Motion as Amended:**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**B.     CONSENT AGENDA**

That the following items be approved without further debate:

## **F.2 Proclamation - Sikh Heritage Day**

Committee received a report dated March 13, 2019 from the City Clerk regarding a proclamation for a Sikh Heritage Day on April 14, 2019.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That the *Sikh Heritage Day* Proclamation be forwarded to the March 28, 2019 Council meeting for Council's consideration.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **F.3 Emergency Operations Centre Training Grant**

Committee received a report dated March 15, 2019 from the Fire Chief regarding the proposal to support Esquimalt's grant application.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That Council support by way of resolution Esquimalt's grant application for \$50,000 for the Community Emergency Preparedness Fund-Emergency Operations Centre and Training Stream.

The grant will be used for joint training with the City of Victoria and the Township of Esquimalt. The Township of Esquimalt will provide overall grant management for the project, and the Esquimalt Mayor and Corporate Officer are authorized to execute any agreements related to a successful grant application. The City of Victoria Emergency Program Coordinator will work directly with Esquimalt on the project.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **H.1 ADP Landscape Architect Report**

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated March 11, 2019 from Mayor Helps regarding the proposal to appoint two Registered Landscape Architects to the ADP.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That Council appoint two Registered Landscape Architects to ADP, resulting in a temporary increase in the number of panel members appointed to the ADP.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **H.2 Call for Appropriate Levels of Funding for Legal Aid**

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated March 15, 2019 from Councillor Collins and Councillor Potts regarding the Call for Appropriate Levels of Funding for Legal Aid.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

WHEREAS legal aid is an essential service which provides the marginalized, vulnerable and poor with access to justice;

WHEREAS legal aid has been chronically underfunded for over 25 years making it very difficult for the marginalized, vulnerable and poor to get legal assistance from a lawyer;

WHEREAS many studies and reports, including those commissioned by Government, have noted the serious consequences for society by the continued chronic underfunding of legal aid;

WHEREAS the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers have been attempting to negotiate appropriate levels of funding for legal aid;

AND WHEREAS the over 590 members of the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers voted overwhelmingly to withdraw services on April 1, 2019, to protest the intolerable levels of funding;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

1. THAT the City of Victoria recognizes that legal aid is an essential public service that provides legal representation to the most vulnerable, marginalized and impoverished members of our city and that the chronic underfunding of legal aid has led to a serious inequality in the delivery of legal services in our communities and
2. THAT the City of Victoria encourages the Province of British Columbia to resolve this matter with the Association of Legal Aid Lawyers.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**H.4 Conference Attendance Request for Councillor Alto: High Ground Governance Forum**

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated March 15, 2019 from Councillor Alto requesting authorization for attendance and the associated costs for the High Ground Governance Forum.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That Council approve the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Alto to attend the High Ground Governance Forum March 29-30, 2019. The costs are as follows:

Registration (Presenter Rate) \$195  
Additional Session \$10  
Accommodation \$149.64  
\*Transportation (Mileage) \$220.98

\*Transportation (Ferry) \$91.90

Total Requested: \$665.52

\*NB. Transportation costs includes passage for two councillors.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**H.5 Conference Attendance Request Councillor Dubow: Association of Vancouver Island Municipalities Conference**

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated March 12, 2019 from Councillor Dubow requesting authorization for attendance and the associated costs for the AVICC Conference to be held in Powell River.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That Council authorize the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Sharmarke Dubow to attend the AVICC Conference to be held in Powell River, April 12-14, 2018.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**H.6 Conference Attendance Requests for Councillor Loveday: Association of Vancouver Island Municipalities Conference**

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated March 14, 2019 from Councillor Loveday requesting authorization for attendance and the associated costs for the AVICC Conference to be held in Powell River.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That Council authorize the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Loveday to attend the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities annual meeting at Powell River, BC, from April 12-14, 2019, with estimated costs as follows:

Registration: \$315

Transportation: \$250

Accommodation: \$250

Incidentals: \$100

Estimated total costs: \$915

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**H.7 Conference Attendance Request for Councillor Loveday: Federation of Canadian Municipalities Annual Conference**

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated March 14, 2019 from Councillor Loveday requesting authorization for attendance and the associated costs for the Federation of Canadian Municipalities annual convention.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That Council authorize the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Loveday to attend the Federation of Canadian Municipalities annual convention in Quebec City, QC, with estimated costs as follows:

Registration: \$1000  
Transportation: \$800  
Accommodation: \$1145  
Incidentals: \$200

Estimated total costs: \$3145

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**H.8 Conference Attendance Request for Councillor Loveday: High Ground Governance Forum**

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated March 14, 2019 from Councillor Loveday requesting authorization for attendance and the associated costs for the High Ground Governance Forum.

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That Council authorize the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Loveday to attend the High Ground Governance Forum at Harrison Hot Springs, BC, from March 29-30, 2019, with estimated costs as follows:

Registration: \$450  
Transportation: \$250  
Accommodation: \$300  
Incidentals: \$100

Estimated total costs: \$1100

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**C. READING OF MINUTES**

**C.1 Minutes from the meeting held January 24, 2019**

**Moved By** Councillor Alto  
**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held January 24, 2019 be adopted.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**D.2 2558 Quadra Street - Victoria Housing Reserve Fund Application (Forest Heights)**

Committee received a report dated February 28, 2019 from the Acting Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development providing Council with information for a Victoria Housing Reserve Fund Grant Application from the Greater Victoria Housing Society to assist in the construction of a five-storey, 40-unit, affordable housing apartment that will replace an existing apartment known as Forest Heights located at 2558 Quadra Street.

Committee discussed the displacement of tenants and compensation along with factors to make the project more affordable for families

**Moved By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

That Council approve a Victoria Housing Reserve Fund grant application from the Greater Victoria Housing Society in the amount of \$440,000 to assist in the construction of 40 units of housing for low-income seniors, working adults, adults with disabilities and small families at Forest Heights located at 2558 Quadra Street, subject to the following conditions:

1. The applicant receives Council approval for the required rezoning and development permit applications for 2558 Quadra Street and the applicant executes a Housing Fund Agreement and Housing Agreement in the form satisfactory to the City Solicitor and the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development; and
2. The applicant fulfills the requirements of the Victoria Housing Reserve Fund Guidelines.

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

3. **All existing tenants are offered alternate rental housing at affordable rent levels.**

**Amendment to the Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Isitt

3. All existing tenants are offered alternate rental housing at rent levels **that are affordable to them.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**On the Amendment:**

FOR (6): Councillor Alto, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, Councillor Thornton-Joe, and Councillor Collins

OPPOSED (1): Councillor Young

**CARRIED (6 to 1)**

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

That Council approve a Victoria Housing Reserve Fund grant application from the Greater Victoria Housing Society in the amount of ~~\$440,000~~ **\$330,000** to assist in the construction of 40 units of housing for low-income seniors, working adults, adults with disabilities and small families at Forest Heights located at 2558 Quadra Street, subject to the following conditions:

**Failed to proceed due to no seconder.**

**Motion to Refer:**

**Moved By** Councillor Potts

**Seconded By** Councillor Isitt

That final decision on this matter be referred to the next Council meeting subject to staff having conversation with the Victoria Housing Reserve to see if the three two-bedroom units can be retained at the current rent levels, or at 30% of the person's income.

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Potts

**Amendment:**

**And that staff report back with revised recommendations adjusting the grant amount and adding subject to clause specifying at least three two-bedroom units in the new building will be priced at existing rent levels and accounting for annual increases as permitted in the residential tenancy act.**

*Mayor Helps joined the meeting and assumed the chair at 9:55 a.m.*

**On the Amendment:**

FOR (4): Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Collins

OPPOSED (4): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young



**DEFEATED (4 to 4)**

**On the Motion to refer:**

FOR (4): Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Collins

OPPOSED (4): Mayor Helps, Councillor Alto, Councillor Thornton-Joe, Councillor Young

**DEFEATED (4 to 4)**

**On the Main Motion as Amended:**

That Council approve a Victoria Housing Reserve Fund grant application from the Greater Victoria Housing Society in the amount of \$440,000 to assist in the construction of 40 units of housing for low-income seniors, working adults, adults with disabilities and small families at Forest Heights located at 2558 Quadra Street, subject to the following conditions:

1. The applicant receives Council approval for the required rezoning and development permit applications for 2558 Quadra Street and the applicant executes a Housing Fund Agreement and Housing Agreement in the form satisfactory to the City Solicitor and the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development; and
2. The applicant fulfills the requirements of the Victoria Housing Reserve Fund Guidelines.
3. All existing tenants are offered alternate rental housing at rent levels that are affordable to them.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D.3 330 - 336 Michigan Street - Victoria Housing Reserve Fund Application (Michigan Square)**

Committee received a report dated February 28, 2019 from the Acting Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development providing Council with information for a Victoria Housing Reserve Fund Grant Application from the Capital Region Housing Corporation to assist in the construction of a four-storey, 98-unit, affordable housing apartment that will replace an existing apartment know as Michigan Square at 330-336 Michigan Street.

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That Council approve a Victoria Housing Reserve Fund grant application from the Capital Region Housing Corporation in the amount of \$1,395,000 to assist in the construction of 98 units of affordable housing for seniors, adults with disabilities, working singles and small families at Michigan Square located at 330-336 Michigan Street, subject to the following conditions:

1. The applicant receives Council approval for the required development permit applications for 330-336 Michigan Street and the applicant executes a Housing Fund Agreement and Housing Agreement in the form satisfactory to the City Solicitor and the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development; and
2. The applicant fulfills the requirements of the Victoria Housing Reserve Fund Guidelines.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion Arising:**

**Moved By** Councillor Young

**Seconded By** Councillor Isitt

That staff be requested to report back on options for basing City grant programs on net additions to the affordable housing stock.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*The Committee recessed at 10:11 a.m. and returned at 10:14 a.m.*

*Councillor Dubow joined the meeting via telephone at 10:14 a.m.*

**D.1 2019 Victoria Police Budget**

Committee received a report dated March 15, 2019 from the Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer providing an update on the Police Budget Discussion.

Committee discussed tax percentage and Police Budget increases.

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That Council approves the following measures to cover costs incurred by VicPD in relation to introduction of the Employer Health Tax and the decision of the Director of Police Services to mandate the hiring of 6 new officers, in order to avoid the layoff of any existing VicPD employees:

- a. That Council approves cost-savings and efficiencies in Non-Staffing Expenditures outlined in pages 5 and 6 of the March 14<sup>th</sup> report from VicPD (\$212,000 savings from the Provisional Budget);
- b. That Council supports deferring consideration of funding for the proposed new Service Desk position until 2020, and does not approve this position for 2019 (\$75,000 savings from the Provisional Budget);
- c. That Council approves an amount of \$400,000 for Departmental Retirements (Code 2520 4096) consistent with the 2018 expenditure, and

does not approve the \$300,000 proposed increase (\$300,000 savings from the Provisional Budget).

- d. That Council approves an amount of \$756,000 for Capital Transfer, and does not approve the proposed amount of \$1,156,000 (\$400,000 savings from the Provisional Budget).

**Motion to Adjourn:**

**Moved By** Councillor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 11:02 a.m. to convene the Council Meeting to consider the hearing for 1176 Yates Street.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*The Committee of the Whole Meeting reconvened at 11:06 a.m. and continued with item D.1 – 2019 Victoria Police Budget.*

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Thornton-Joe

**Seconded By** Mayor Helps

**That Council approve half of employer health tax be paid for and the other amounts be adjusted accordingly.**

FOR (3): Mayor Helps, Councillor Thornton-Joe and Councillor Young

OPPOSED (6): Councillor Alto, Councillor Collins, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday and Councillor Potts

**DEFEATED (3 to 6)**

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Mayor Helps

- e. **That Council approves the allocation of any funds remaining to the Capital Transfer.**

**Amendment to the Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Alto

- e. That Council approves the allocation of any funds remaining to the Capital Transfer or departmental retirements.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Amendment to the Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Isitt

- e. That Council approves the allocation of any funds remaining as a result of these adjustment to the Capital Transfer or departmental retirements.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**On the Amendment:**

- e. That Council approves the allocation of any funds remaining as a result of these adjustment to the Capital Transfer or departmental retirements.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**On the Main Motion as Amended:**

That Council approves the following measures to cover costs incurred by VicPD in relation to introduction of the Employer Health Tax and the decision of the Director of Police Services to mandate the hiring of 6 new officers, in order to avoid the layoff of any existing VicPD employees:

- a. That Council approves cost-savings and efficiencies in Non-Staffing Expenditures outlined in pages 5 and 6 of the March 14<sup>th</sup> report from VicPD (\$212,000 savings from the Provisional Budget);
- b. That Council supports deferring consideration of funding for the proposed new Service Desk position until 2020, and does not approve this position for 2019 (\$75,000 savings from the Provisional Budget);
- c. That Council approves an amount of \$400,000 for Departmental Retirements (Code 2520 4096) consistent with the 2018 expenditure, and does not approve the \$300,000 proposed increase (\$300,000 savings from the Provisional Budget).
- d. That Council approves an amount of \$756,000 for Capital Transfer, and does not approve the proposed amount of \$1,156,000 (\$400,000 savings from the Provisional Budget).
- e. That Council approves the allocation of any funds remaining as a result of these adjustment to the Capital Transfer or departmental retirements.

FOR (6): Councillor Alto, Councillor Collins, Councillor Dubow, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Loveday and Councillor Potts

OPPOSED (3): Mayor Helps, Councillor Thornton-Joe and Councillor Young

**CARRIED (6 to 3)**

**Motion Arising:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Potts

**Direction for 2020 VicPD Budget**

That Council requests that VicPD examine the following measures in order to fund the Employer Health Tax and the increase in officers in 2020:

(a) Consolidation of exempt management positions.

(b) Discussions with City of Victoria and Township of Esquimalt staff to identify potential efficiencies and cost savings to VicPD through the potential transfer of delivery of some functions from VicPD civilian employees to direct City of Victoria delivery of services, with cost recovery from the Township of Esquimalt.

**Motion to Refer:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Mayor Helps

That discussion on this matter be referred to April 4, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

**Motion to Postpone:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Mayor Helps

That discussion on the Motion to Refer be postponed until after discussion on the Motion Arising.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Loveday

That Council requests that VicPD examine the following measures **as part of 2020 budget process** in order to fund the Employer Health Tax, **the decision of the Director of Police Services to mandate the hiring of 6 new officers**, and the increase in officers in 2020:

(a) Consolidation of exempt management positions.

(b) Discussions with City of Victoria and Township of Esquimalt staff to identify potential efficiencies and cost savings to VicPD through the potential transfer of delivery of some functions from VicPD civilian employees to direct City of Victoria delivery of services, with cost recovery from the Township of Esquimalt.

**Motion to Refer:**

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Mayor Helps

That discussion on this matter be referred to April 4, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Committee recessed at 11:40 a.m. and reconvened at 11:45 a.m.*

**F. STAFF REPORTS**

**F.1 2018 General Local Election - Lessons Learned**

Committee received a report dated February 24, 2019 from the City Clerk regarding the 2018 general local election lessons learned and to provide Council with the opportunity to bring forward any issues for consideration.

Committee discussed the proximity of voting stations, advertising of care home voting for fairness of all candidates, cost and resource impacts of a by-election, candidate naming on the ballots, and technological advancements.

**Moved By** Councillor Isitt

**Seconded By** Councillor Collins

That Council direct staff to:

1. Arrange for two voting machines at each voting location for the 2022 election.
2. Secure additional voting locations in the City for general voting day 2022.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

**H.3 Improving Public Safety and Efficiency through a Regional Police Department**

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated March 15, 2019 from Councillor Loveday, Councillor Isitt, Councillor Potts, and Councillor Dubow

regarding a resolution requesting favourable consideration for increasing public safety and efficiency through a regional police department.

**Moved By** Councillor Loveday

**Seconded By** Councillor Isitt

That Council endorse the following resolution and forward a copy to the provincial Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, to Members of the Legislative Assembly representing residents of the Township of Esquimalt and City of Victoria, to the Victoria and Esquimalt Police Board, and to the Mayor and Council of the Township of Esquimalt, requesting favourable consideration:

**Resolution: Increasing Public Safety and Efficiency through a Regional Police Department**

WHEREAS the costs of providing policing services in the metropolitan area of Greater Victoria is disproportionately borne by rate payers in the Township of Esquimalt and City of Victoria;

AND WHEREAS social problems in all municipalities and electoral areas result in increasing demands for policing services in the core area of the region, suggesting that these costs should be distributed equitably;

AND WHEREAS consolidation of command and coordination of resourcing and equipment will produce fiscal and operational efficiencies, with corresponding benefits to public safety;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Province of British Columbia establish a Regional Police Department for the Capital Region, governed by a reconstituted Police Board, with funding allocated according to established funding formula among CRD member local governments.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**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 1:33 p.m.

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR