



MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

January 16, 2023, 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
Meeting will recess for a lunch break between 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.

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, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, T. Soulliere - Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities, J. Jensen - Director, People and Culture, K. Hoese - Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, K. Moore - Head of Business and Community Relations, S. Johnson - Director of Communications and Engagement, C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, P. Bellefontaine - Director of Engineering & Public Works, R. Kenney - Assistant Director of Transportation, S. Stoltz - Committee Secretary

GUESTS: Tracey Lorensen - Facilitator, Centre for Civic Excellence

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Alto noted the meeting would be conducted as a workshop, while still maintaining some rules of order.

Council received a presentation from Tracey Lorensen, Facilitator, Centre for Civic Excellence, regarding strategic planning and themes of strategic decision making.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Methods of discussion & planning to be used in the workshop sessions, as well as keys to success*
- *Making discussion straightforward and equitable*
- *Council's priorities regarding the strategic framework, and the desire to place an emphasis on deliverable, mid-level Strategic Plan items*
- *The desire to have a focus on the well-being of the residents in the City within the broader context of the Strategic Plan*
- *The need to be visionary, but also collaborate with staff in order to ensure that strategic plan items are feasible with current staff resources*

Committee recessed at 10:24 a.m. and reconvened at 10:38 a.m.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Council priorities, including: the safety of residents within the City, climate action and ecological restoration, childcare & other municipal services, streamlining City processes, updating infrastructure*
- *The broader context of climate change being of major importance to the Strategic Plan for the City; the need to place an emphasis on related matters such as active transportation and infrastructure, and the need for local governments to be actively involved in combatting the climate emergency*
- *The impacts of climate change being an economic issue as much as an ecological and cultural issue*

Committee recessed at 11:57 a.m. and reconvened at 1:04 p.m.

Committee discussed the following:

- *The desire to combine staff recommendations with Council opinions and initiative on climate change*
- *The shortage of housing in the City of Victoria as well as surrounding municipalities and the province as a whole*

Council noted the following points of significance for the Strategic Plan:

- *Climate Change*
- *Housing*
- *Homelessness*
- *Public Health & Sheltering*

Committee recessed at 2:18 p.m. and reconvened at 2:30 p.m.

Committee discussed the following:

- *The need to focus on what the City is already doing well and build on that while considering new issues*
- *Safety issues within the City*
- *Projects that were started by the previous Council*

C. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved By Councillor Gardiner

Seconded By Councillor Hammond

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR