



## MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

April 13, 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 Kim, Councillor Loughton, Councillor Thompson

**ABSENT:** Councillor Hammond

**STAFF PRESENT:** J. Jenkyns - City Manager, S. Thompson - Deputy City Manager / Chief Financial Officer, C. Kingsley - City Clerk, C. Anderson - Deputy City Clerk, T. Soulliere - Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities, K. Hoese - Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, J. O'Connor - Deputy Director of Finance, K. Moore - Head of Business and Community Relations, C. Mycroft - Manager of Executive Operations, P. Bellefontaine - Director of Engineering & Public Works, J. Biem, D. Atkinson - Fire Chief, S. Stoltz - Committee Secretary, S. Johnson - Director of Communications and Engagement, P. Rantucci - Director of Strategic Real Estate

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

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman  
**Seconded By** Councillor Loughton

That the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **B. CONSENT AGENDA**

**Moved By** Councillor Caradonna  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That the following items be approved without further debate:

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **G. STAFF REPORTS**

#### **G.1 Proclamation - Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness Month**

Committee received a report dated March 29, 2023 from the City Clerk regarding a proclamation for Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness Month, May 2023.

**Moved By** Councillor Caradonna  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That the Melanoma and Skin Cancer Awareness Month Proclamation be forwarded to the April 27th, 2023, Council meeting for Council's consideration.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**G.2 Proclamation - Huntington Disease Awareness Month**

Committee received a report dated March 29, 2023 from the City Clerk regarding a proclamation for Huntington Disease Awareness Month, May 2023.

**Moved By** Councillor Caradonna  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That the Huntington Disease Awareness Month Proclamation be forwarded to the April 27th, 2023, Council meeting for Council's consideration.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**G.3 Proclamation - Polonia Day**

Committee received a report dated March 30, 2023 from the City Clerk regarding a proclamation for Polonia Day, May 2, 2023.

**Moved By** Councillor Caradonna  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That the Polonia Day Proclamation be forwarded to the April 27th, 2023, Council meeting for Council's consideration.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**G.4 Proclamation - Tourism Week 2023**

Committee received a report dated April 5, 2023 from the City Clerk regarding a proclamation for Tourism Week, April 24<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

**Moved By** Councillor Caradonna  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

That the Tourism Week Proclamation be forwarded to the April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, Council meeting for Council's consideration.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**G.5 Appointment of Animal Control Officers**

Committee received a report dated April 13, 2023 from the Director of Bylaw and Licensing Services report regarding the appointment of two new Animal Control Officers.

**Moved By** Councillor Caradonna  
**Seconded By** Councillor Coleman

1. That Glen Shiels and Kyle Gros be appointed as
  - a. "Animal Control Officers" pursuant to section 49(1) of the Community Charter, and
  - b. That their appointments be rescinded upon termination of their employment by Victoria Animal Control Services Ltd.
2. That this motion be forwarded to the April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Council Meeting for ratification.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**C. READING OF MINUTES**

**C.1 Minutes from the Citizens' Assembly Council Committee meeting held April 3, 2023**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman  
**Seconded By** Councillor Kim

That the minutes from the Citizens' Assembly Council Committee meeting held April 3, 2023 be approved.

*Committee discussed the following:*

- *That the Province has requested a progress report by December 31, 2023 confirming the Citizens' Assembly recruitment process and the preliminary workplan*

**On the main motion:**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. Presentation**

**D.1 Downtown Victoria Business Association 2023 Budget**

Committee received a presentation from the Downtown Victoria Business Association regarding the 2023 Budget, current initiatives, and partnership opportunities.

*Committee discussed the following:*

- *Potential gaps in the services being offered versus the demographics that they are reaching*
- *Disconnect and concern regarding the ongoing narrative of downtown Victoria*
- *Current initiatives in Downtown Victoria*
- *Safety concerns regarding the downtown area*

*Committee recessed at 10:54 a.m. and reconvened at 11:06 a.m.*

## **G. STAFF REPORTS**

### **G.6 Revenue and Tax Policy Benchmark Monitoring and 2023 Tax Rates**

Committee received a report dated April 3, 2023 from the Deputy Director of Finance providing updated benchmark measures related to the City's Revenue and Tax Policy and seeking direction on the 2023 tax rates.

*Committee discussed the following:*

- *Benefits and disadvantages of equalizing tax increases*
- *2023 tax rates and increases in neighboring and comparable municipalities*
- *The fact that exclusions for certain businesses such as medical offices are typically not possible, except occasionally for non-profits*
- *Driving factors behind the rate changes for the 2023 year*

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

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded By** Councillor Thompson

That Council:

1. Approve 2023 tax rates in alignment with the Revenue and Tax Policy as follows:

Residential	2.8109
Utility	34.7235
Major Industrial	10.6951
Light Industrial	10.6951
Business	10.6951
Rec/Non Profit	6.2949
2. That Council forward this item to the daytime Council meeting of April 13, 2023 for ratification.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **G.7 10-year Official Community Plan Update and Implementation**

Committee received a report dated March 23, 2023 from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding considerations of

endorsing a renewed process to updating and implementing the Official Community Plan to meaningfully address the housing crisis.

**Moved By** Mayor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Dell

That Council:

1. Instruct the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development (the “Director”) to explore the possibility of amending Victoria’s Official Community Plan (OCP) to better address the City’s current and future housing needs and sustainably manage growth and change.
2. Rescind previous direction for the phased approach to village and corridor planning provided on July 8, 2021.
3. Endorse the proposed approach to the 10-year OCP Update and Implementation process as detailed in Appendix A in place of village and corridor planning, including targeted place-based planning, broad updates to the OCP, consolidation of supporting land use policy documents, and updates to the zoning bylaws, Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw and other policy and regulatory mechanisms as required.
4. Instruct the Director to incorporate the following high-level objectives in the context of anticipated amendments to the OCP:
  - a. Equitably adding required housing opportunities to meet diverse needs in response to the housing crisis and climate emergency.
  - b. Considering opportunities for new residential and commercial capacity to advance safe, affordable and sustainable mobility solutions.
  - c. Identifying community needs to support added housing capacity, including for the local economy, community amenities, services, and public space.
  - d. Updating development permit areas and associated guidelines for a consistent and modern approach across the city.
  - e. Planning for related requirements to sustainably manage growth, including but not limited to parks and open spaces, urban design, heritage, economic prosperity, ecological health, infrastructure and utilities, and community and individual well-being.
5. Consider who is affected by the proposed changes to the OCP, and determine that the following persons, organizations and authorities will be affected:
  - a. the entire City of Victoria;
  - b. the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations;
  - c. the Capital Regional District Board;
  - d. Island Health;
  - e. the Province of British Columbia;
  - f. the Federal Government;
  - g. the Township of Esquimalt;
  - h. the District of Saanich;
  - i. the District of Oak Bay; and
  - j. School District 61 Board.

6. Provide an opportunity for broad consultation pursuant to section 475 of the Local Government Act and instruct the Director to:
  - a. Engage the general public through the approach detailed in Attachment B; and
  - b. Refer a high-level summary of the proposed amendments to the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, the Capital Regional District Board, Island Health, the Province of British Columbia, the Federal Government, the Township of Esquimalt, the District of Saanich, the District of Oak Bay and the School District 61 Board once the general nature of the amendments are confirmed by Council.
7. Instruct the Director to defer secondary housing-related work items to ensure resources are available to support the above-mentioned work in the near term.
8. Instruct the Director to report back to Council with details of the feedback received and to seek instructions for drafting bylaw amendments.

**Motion to extend:**

**Moved By** Councillor Coleman

**Seconded By** Councillor Kim

That the meeting be extended to 3:00 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Committee discussed the following:*

- *That the housing crisis is actively harming renters, owners, and small business owners in the City of Victoria*

**Amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Thompson

**Seconded By** Councillor Dell

**9. To direct staff to report to Council by the end of May on the resources that would be required in order to shorten the project timeline to 16 months.**

**Amendment to the amendment:**

**Moved By** Mayor Alto

**Seconded By** Councillor Caradonna

**9. To direct staff to report to Council by the end of May on how, and the resources that would be required in order to shorten the project timeline to 16 months.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Amendment to the amendment:**

**Moved By** Councillor Dell  
**Seconded By** Councillor Caradonna

**9. To direct staff to report to Council by the end of May on how, and the resources that would be required in order to shorten the project timeline to 16 months.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**On the amendment:**

**9. To direct staff to report to Council by the end of May on how, and the resources that would be required in order to shorten the project timeline.**

FOR (7): Mayor Alto, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton, Councillor Thompson  
OPPOSED (1): Councillor Gardiner

**CARRIED (7 TO 1)**

**On the main motion as amended:**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Councillor Kim recused herself from the meeting at 2:48 p.m. due to a potential future conflict of interest with the following item.*

## **I. NEW BUSINESS**

### **I.1 Late Items**

#### **I.1.1 Council Member Motion: Funding for North Park Neighbourhood Association and Downtown Residents Association**

Committee received a Council Member Motion dated April 12, 2023 from Councillor Thompson and Councillor Hammond regarding additional funding for the North Park Neighbourhood Association and Downtown Residents Association.

**Moved By** Councillor Thompson  
**Seconded By** Councillor Caradonna

That Council direct staff to:

- Make arrangements to provide above-noted funding to both Associations for 2023.
- Provide such funds from contingency funds.

*Committee discussed the following:*

- *Concerns regarding disparities in funding between community associations, and the desire to ensure that funding is distributed as equitably as possible*

FOR (6): Mayor Alto, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Dell, Councillor Loughton, Councillor Thompson  
OPPOSED (2): Councillor Coleman, Councillor Gardiner  
CONFLICT: Councillor Kim

**CARRIED (6 TO 2)**

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

**Moved By** Councillor Thompson  
**Seconded By** Councillor Caradonna

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

---

CITY CLERK

---

MAYOR