



MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

September 5, 2024, 9:01 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. Hoese - Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, C. Mycroft - Manager of Intergovernmental & Media Relations, A. Johnston - Assistant Director of Development Services, M. Betanzo - Senior Planner, M. Angrove - Planner, S. Webb - Manager of Transportation, A. Klus - Legislative Coordinator

A. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Council acknowledged that the City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees First Nation and Xwsepsum First Nation communities, encouraging those in attendance and watching online to remain cognizant of principles and values of those who have come before us, continue to learn together, and thanked the Nations for allowing us to live, work and play on their lands.

B. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved and Seconded:

That the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. CONSENT AGENDA

Councillor Gardiner requested that item **F.2 - 309-329 Belleville Street: Development Permit with Variance Application No. 00278 (James Bay)** be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Moved and Seconded:

That the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

E. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

E.1 Minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held July 11, 2024

That the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held July 11, 2024 be approved.

E.2 Minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held July 25, 2024

That the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held July 25, 2024 be approved.

E.3 Minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held August 1, 2024

That the minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held August 1, 2024 be approved.

F. LAND USE MATTERS

F.1 1601 Douglas: Heritage Designation Application No.000210 (Downtown)

Committee received a report dated August 22, 2024 from the Director of Planning and Development regarding a Heritage Designation Application for the property located at 1601 Douglas Street in order to request a heritage designate to the exterior of the building and recommending that the application proceed to bylaw readings and a Public Hearing be scheduled.

That Council:

1. approve the designation of the property located at 1601 Douglas Street pursuant to Section 611 of the Local Government Act, as a Municipal Heritage Site; and
2. direct staff to prepare the Heritage Designation Bylaw for introductory readings at a subsequent meeting and a Public Hearing date be set.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F. LAND USE MATTERS

F.2 309-329 Belleville Street: Development Permit with Variance Application No. 00278 (James Bay)

Committee received a report dated August 22, 2024 from the Director of Planning and Development regarding Development Permit with Variance application for the property located at 309-329 Belleville Street to add eight small buildings for sauna use and associated facilities (reception, washroom and changing area) in the space between the two existing hotel uses on the subject property and recommending that the application be approved.

Moved and Seconded:

That Council, after giving notice, posting signage, and inviting written comments from the public for Council's consideration, consider the following motion:

"1. That Council authorize the issuance of Development Permit with Variances No. 00278 for 309-329 Belleville Street, in accordance with plans date stamped July 16, 2024, subject to:

a. Proposed development meeting all City zoning bylaw requirements, except for the following variances:

i. reduce open site space from sixty percent to thirty-nine percent

2. That the Development Permit with Variances, if issued, lapses two years from the date of this resolution."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

There were no notice of motions.

H. NEW BUSINESS

H.1 Council Member Motion: Standing COTW Agenda Item: Q&A of Mayor and General Manager

Committee received a Council Member Motion from Councillor Gardiner dated August 22, 2024, regarding a proposed agenda item, "Q&A Mayor and General Manager", be added to each Committee of the Whole agenda.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Logistics and time commitment*
- *Pros and cons to changing the structure of the agenda*
- *If precedents have been set by other jurisdictions*

Moved and Seconded:

1. That Council direct staff to include an agenda item, namely *Q&A Mayor and General Manager*, to be placed on each Committee of the Whole Agenda before Council Member Motions.

2. That this motion be forwarded to the September 5th, 2024, daytime Council meeting for consideration.

OPPOSED (8): Mayor Alto, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Hammond, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton, and Councillor Thompson

DEFEATED (1 to 8)

H.2 Council Member Motion: Update on the Mayor's Community Safety and Wellbeing Initiative

Committee received a Council Member Motion from Councillor Gardiner dated August 22, 2024, requesting an update on the Mayor's Community Safety and Wellbeing Initiative.

Moved and Seconded:

That Mayor Alto provide, as committed, the following information at the September 12th, 2024 COTW:

1. Community Leaders Panel: The names of Panel members has been made public, but not the residency of members.
 - a. What proportion, or how many members, of the Community Leader's Panel live in the City of Victoria?
2. Systemic Change Survey: 136 completed the Panel's "closed invitation only survey".
 - a. A list of the select participants? And their associations?
 - b. What proportion, or how many of the select participants, live in the City of Victoria?
3. Facilitated Dialogues: 20 sessions with 160 participants were held.
 - a. Which community groups were invited to participate?
 - b. What proportion, or how many of the select participants, live in the City of Victoria?
4. That this motion be forwarded to the September 5th, 2024, daytime Council meeting for consideration.

Motion to postpone:

Pending opportunity for the Mayor to report back following discussion with the panel.

The motion to postpone failed due to want of a seconder.

On the main motion:

That Mayor Alto provide, as committed, the following information at the September 12th, 2024 COTW:

1. Community Leaders Panel: The names of Panel members has been made public, but not the residency of members.
 - a. What proportion, or how many members, of the Community Leader's Panel live in the City of Victoria?

2. Systemic Change Survey: 136 completed the Panel's "closed invitation only survey".
 - a. A list of the select participants? And their associations?
 - b. What proportion, or how many of the select participants, live in the City of Victoria?
3. Facilitated Dialogues: 20 sessions with 160 participants were held.
 - a. Which community groups were invited to participate?
 - b. What proportion, or how many of the select participants, live in the City of Victoria?
4. That this motion be forwarded to the September 5th, 2024, daytime Council meeting for consideration.

OPPOSED (8): Mayor Alto, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Hammond, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton, and Councillor Thompson

DEFEATED (1 to 8)

H.3 Council Member Motion: Incentives for Temporary Sheltering on Some Surface Parking Lots

Committee recessed and 10:05 a.m. and reconvened at 10:20 a.m.

Committee received a Council Member Motion from Mayor Alto, dated August 30, 2024, regarding permissive tax exceptions for ethnocultural facilities and requesting that staff direct a policy incentivizing community organizations to offer temporary overnight sheltering spaces in surface parking lots.

Committee discussed the following:

- *Identifying parking lots on provincial and federal land*
- *Safety of participating sites*
- *Responsibility to consider neighbouring residents and businesses by participating sites*
- *Issues around providing financial incentives to local facilities taking on provincial responsibilities*
- *Impact on City staffing resources in developing the proposed policy*

Moved and Seconded:

Direct staff to craft a policy for Council consideration that offers incentives and rewards for community organizations to offer temporary overnight shelter spaces in parking lots, including but not limited to an interruption and/or reversal of ongoing tax exemption reductions, identifying timelines for each option.

Motion to postpone:

Moved and Seconded:

That this motion be postponed for 4 months.

OPPOSED (6): Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Gardiner, Councillor Hammond, and Councillor Thompson

DEFEATED (3 to 6)

On the main motion:

Direct staff to craft a policy for Council consideration that offers incentives and rewards for community organizations to offer temporary overnight shelter spaces in parking lots, including but not limited to an interruption and/or reversal of ongoing tax exemption reductions, identifying timelines for each option.

OPPOSED (5): Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Gardiner, and Councillor Hammond

DEFEATED (4 to 5)

I. CLOSED MEETING, IF REQUIRED

A closed meeting was not required.

J. ADJOURNMENT OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Moved and Seconded:

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CITY CLERK

MAYOR