

**MINUTES OF THE  
GOVERNANCE & PRIORITIES COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2015, 9:00 A.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M.**

**Committee Members Present:** Mayor Helps in the Chair; Councillors Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff and Young.

**Absent:** Councillors Alto and Thornton-Joe

**Staff Present:** J. Johnson – City Manager; J. Jenkyns – Deputy City Manager; R. Woodland – Director of Legislative & Regulatory Services; C. Mycroft – Executive Assistant to the City Manager; C. Havelka – Recording Secretary.

**Staff Present for a Portion of the Meeting:** P. Bruce – Fire Chief; B. Dellebuur – Acting Assistant Director of Transportation & Parking Services; K. Hamilton – Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning; T. Soulliere – Director of Parks & Recreation; S. Thompson – Director of Finance; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; L. Campbell – Manager of Parks Planning, Design & Development; A. Johnson – Senior Parks Planner.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Madoff, that the Agenda of the September 3, 2015, Governance & Priorities Committee meeting be approved.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the agenda of the September 3, 2015 meeting be amended to include the following agenda items on the consent agenda.

Item # 1 – Minutes from the Regular Meeting held August 20, 2015  
Item # 8A – Request to Attend Conference

On the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC696

On the main motion as amended:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC697

### 3. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the following items be approved without further debate:

#### 3.1 Minutes from the meeting held August 20, 2015

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the Minutes of the Meeting held August 20, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC698

#### 3.2 Request to Attend Conference

Councillors Isitt and Loveday submitted reports requesting authorization to attend the Union of British Columbia Municipalities annual convention in Vancouver.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council authorize the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Isitt and Councillor Loveday to attend the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Conference to be held in Vancouver September 21-25, 2015.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC699

### 4. DECISION REQUESTS

#### 4.1 Update on Implementation of new Municipal Service – Parking Ambassador Program

Committee received a report dated August 26, 2015 from Citizen Engagement and Strategic Planning regarding the implementation strategy for the newly created Parking Ambassador Program.

Committee discussed:

- The change in service and how employees are affected.
- The customer service efficiencies that were identified; moving the dispute office into City Hall.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee receive the report dated August 26, 2015 for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC700

#### **4.2 Pilot Boulevard Community Garden, Pandora Parkway (900 Block Pandora)**

Committee received a report dated August 27, 2015 from Parks and Recreation regarding a proposed pilot boulevard community garden to be located on the Pandora Parkway (900 Block Pandora).

Mayor Helps provided information on the informal Pandora Task Force that proposed this initiative.

Committee discussed:

- How this may impact those sheltering on the boulevard.
- Re-opening the discussion regarding a mid-block crosswalk at this location.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee recommends that Council:

1. Authorize the Mayor and Corporate Administrator to execute a new License of Occupation with the Lifecycles Project Society for a pilot boulevard community garden on Pandora Parkway (900 Block Pandora Avenue) for a period of one year, at an annual consideration of \$1.00, in a form satisfactory to staff and subject to the publication of the statutory notices required by the *Community Charter*, and
2. Direct staff to report back to Council within one year on the outcomes related to the pilot garden.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC701

#### **4.3 Relocation of the Neighbourhood Garden of All Sorts (formerly the Michigan Street Community Garden) to MacDonald Park**

Committee received a report dated August 27, 2015 from Parks and Recreation regarding a proposal to relocate the Neighbourhood Garden of All Sorts (formerly Michigan Street Community Garden) to MacDonald Park, adjacent to Niagara Street.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Lucas, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council:

1. Approve the proposal for a community garden at MacDonald Park, and
2. Authorize the Mayor and Corporate Administrator to execute a new License of Occupation with Lifecycles Project Society, for a community garden at MacDonald Park for a period of three years, at an annual consideration of \$1.00, in a form satisfactory to staff and subject to the publication of the statutory notices required by the *Community Charter*.

Committee discussed how this proposal is an acceptable compromise for a community garden and suggestions for future improvements.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC702

#### 4.4 Socially Responsible Investments and Pension Funds

Committee received a report dated August 28, 2015 from Finance regarding options to align the City of Victoria's investment portfolio with the socially responsible investing objectives of the City's investment policy particularly with regard to fossil fuel divestment.

Committee discussed:

- Changes that can occur at the MFA level; the MFA is aware of local government interest in socially responsible investing.
- The proposal that Council writes to institutions investing in fossil fuels to inquire about possible options for divesting.
- The proposal that financial returns the City earns on fossil fuel investments is used to fund City sustainable transportation initiatives.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee receive the report dated August 28, 2015, for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC703

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council direct staff to write the institutions where the city currently has short term investments to inquire about options for fossil fuel free investments that currently exist or may exist in the near future.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee amend the motion:

1. That Council direct staff to write the institutions where the city currently has short term investments to inquire about options for fossil fuel free investments that currently exist or may exist in the near future, **and**
2. **That staff report back with the information received and what action they intend to take based on this information.**

**Amendment to the amendment:**

It was moved by Mayor Helps, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that the amendment be amended:

1. That Council direct staff to write the institutions where the city currently has short term investments to inquire about options for fossil fuel free investments that currently exist or may exist in the near future, **and**
2. **That staff report back with the information received and what action they intend to take, or any recommendations that Council might take to amend its investment policy, based on this information.**

A Committee member expressed concerns regarding this motion, noting any action should be aimed at those consuming fossil fuels.

Amendment to the amendment:  
CARRIED 15/GPC704

For: Mayor Helps, Councillors Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas and Madoff

Against: Councillor Young

On the Amendment:  
CARRIED 15/GPC705

For: Mayor Helps, Councillors Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas and Madoff

Against: Councillor Young

Committee discussed the main motion as amended:

- How the City of Vancouver organizes its investments, noting it is guided by separate legislation (Vancouver Charter).
- The position of pension boards and how directors are appointed.

Main motion as amended:  
CARRIED 15/GPC706

For: Mayor Helps, Councillors Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas and Madoff

Against: Councillor Young

Committee discussed convening a workshop to discuss what services the MFA and other agencies provide to local governments.

#### **4.5 Lessons Learned from the 2014 Municipal Election and Proposed Improvements for 2018**

Committee received a report dated August 26, 2015 from Legislative Services regarding lessons learned from the 2014 Municipal Election and identifying anticipated changes for the next election in 2018.

*Councillor Lucas withdrew from the meeting at 10:20 a.m. and returned at 10:22 a.m.*

Committee discussed:

- The suggestion that door to door enumeration would reach more citizens.
  - Noting the high turn-over at rental units and that voter registration is available on the day of voting.
- Election signs and questioning if they should be permitted on public property.
  - The pros and cons of signs of public property;
  - Improving the regulation of signs as it pertains to public safety.
- Options for increasing public engagement.

- Receiving clarity from the Province in terms of the legislation regarding scrutineering.
- The suggestion shopping malls and other locations be used for voting opportunities;
  - The challenge of ensuring people register in their home municipality.
  - Working with other municipalities to improve this service.

*Mayor Helps withdrew from the meeting at 10:41 a.m. Councillor Coleman assumed the Chair.*

*Mayor Helps returned to the meeting at 10:43 a.m. and assumed the Chair.*

- Possible changes regarding financial reporting regulations.
- The possibility that General Voting Day is scheduled in October.
- Information regarding a select committee on campaign financing limits.

- Action:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that Council:
1. Receive the report for information.
  2. Direct staff to:
    - a. Write to the Provincial government requesting that the *Local Government Act* be amended to increase the amount of time between the end of the nomination period and the start of the advance election dates, and prepare a Council Resolution to submit to AVICC recommending this action, and
    - b. Bring forward amendments to the *Elections Procedures Bylaw* by December 31, 2015.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee amend the motion:

- That Council:
1. Receive the report for information.
  2. Direct staff to:
    - a. Write to the Provincial government requesting that the *Local Government Act* be amended to increase the amount of time between the end of the nomination period and the start of the advance election dates, and prepare a Council Resolution to submit to AVICC recommending this action, and
    - b. Bring forward amendments to the *Elections Procedures Bylaw* by December 31, 2015.
    - c. **Direct staff to report back on estimated cost, advisability and feasibility of undertaking a municipal enumeration of voters prior to the 2018 election.**

Committee discussed the amendment:

- The benefits of registering voters at their homes.
- The ease of registering people when they vote.
- Continuing to use other opportunities to engage voters.

- The types of mail outs staff use to reach voters; improving that process.

On the amendment:  
DEFEATED 15/GPC707

For: Councillors Isitt and Loveday  
Against: Mayor Helps, Councillors Coleman, Lucas, Madoff and Young

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee amend the motion:

That Council:

1. Receive the report for information.
2. Direct staff to:
  - a. Write to the Provincial government requesting that the *Local Government Act* be amended to increase the amount of time between the end of the nomination period and the start of the advance election dates, and prepare a Council Resolution to submit to AVICC recommending this action,
  - b. Bring forward amendments to the *Elections Procedures Bylaw* by December 31, 2015, **and**
  - c. **Request Elections BC resume enumeration of provincial voters.**

On the amendment:  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC708

Main motion as amended  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC709

*Councillor Coleman withdrew from the meeting at 10:59 a.m.*

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### 5.1 Intergovernmental Correspondence – Response Regarding Oil Spill Preparedness

Committee received a letter dated August 4, 2015 from M. Polak, Minister of the Environment regarding a request from the City of Victoria for an independent review of the current state of oil spill preparedness and response in British Columbia.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that Committee receive the correspondence from Minister Polak, dated August 4, 2015.

Committee discussed the marine incident in the Gorge waterway and that better response is needed. It was noted that an emergency resolution on this matter will be going to UBCM.

*Councillor Coleman returned to the meeting at 11:01 a.m.*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC710

## **5.2 Intermunicipal Correspondence – Letter from the City of Hamilton**

Committee received a letter dated July 16, 2015 from the City of Hamilton in regards to Canada's Post's challenge to the their By-law regulating the installation of equipment on, in and under its road allowance and a request for financial support to appeal the Ontario Superior Court's decision.

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that Committee recommends that the City of Victoria contribute a grant in aid of \$2,500.00 to the City of Hamilton to support that municipality's appeal of the elimination of door to door postal delivery in Canada.

Committee discussed:

- The request from Hamilton as it pertains to door to door service, or municipal jurisdiction regarding the placement of mailboxes.
- Concerns regarding the suggestion that daily, door to door service of mail should continue.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee amend the motion:

That the City of Victoria contribute a grant in aid of \$2,500.00 to the City of Hamilton to support that municipality's appeal **of the jurisdiction's authority to reasonably regulate their road allowance.** ~~of the elimination of door to door postal delivery in Canada.~~

On the amendment:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC711

Committee discussed the amended motion:

- The option of Canada Post reducing daily, door to door mail delivery.
- Clarity that this is a one-time contribution.

**Amendment:** It was moved by Councillor Lucas, seconded by Councillor Isitt, that Committee amend the motion:

That the City of Victoria contribute a **one-time** grant in aid of \$2,500.00 to the City of Hamilton to support that municipality's appeal of the jurisdiction's authority to reasonably regulate their road allowance.

On the amendment:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC712



On the main motion as amended:

CARRIED 15/GPC713

For: Mayor Helps, Councillors Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas and Madoff

Against: Councillor Young

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that the Governance & Priorities Committee convene a Closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 12(6) of the *Council Bylaw* for the reason that the following agenda item deals with matters specified in Sections 12(3) and/or (4) of the Council Bylaw, namely:

- Section 12(3)(c) Labour relations or employee relations
- Section 12(3)(e) The acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure might reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the City;
- Section 12(3)(i) The receipt of advice that is subject to solicitor-client privilege including communications necessary for that purpose.
- Section 12(4)(b) The consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the City and a Provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party.

## 6. CLOSED MEETING AT 11:14 A.M.

**Committee Members Present:** Mayor Helps in the Chair; Councillors Coleman, Isitt, Loveday, Lucas, Madoff and Young

**Absent:** Councillors Alto and Thornton-Joe

**Staff Present:** J. Johnson – City Manager; J. Jenkyns – Deputy City Manager; B. Dellebuur – Acting Assistant Director of Transportation & Parking Services; K. Hamilton – Director of Citizen Engagement & Strategic Planning; J. Huggett – Project Director, Johnson Street Bridge Replacement Project; K. Martin - Partner, Dentons Canada LLP; S. Thompson – Director of Finance; T. Soulliere – Director of Parks & Recreation; J. Tinney – Director of Sustainable Planning & Community Development; R. Woodland – Director of Legislative & Regulatory Services; T. Zworski – City Solicitor; C. Mycroft – Executive Assistant to the City Manager; C. Havelka – Recording Secretary.

## **7. APPROVAL OF THE CLOSED AGENDA**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Loveday, that the Closed Agenda of the September 3, 2015 meeting be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC714

## **8. ADOPTION OF CLOSED MINUTES**

### **8.1 Minutes from the Closed Meeting held August 20, 2015**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that the Minutes from the Closed Meeting held August 20, 2015 be adopted.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC715

## **9. DECISION REQUESTS**

### **9.1 Legal / Mediation Update**

Committee received a verbal report regarding legal / mediation update.

The discussion was recorded and kept confidential.

### **9.2 Intergovernmental Relations**

Committee received a report dated August 14, 2015 from the City Solicitor regarding intergovernmental relations.

The discussion and motion were recorded and kept confidential.

*All staff, except the City Manager and Deputy City Manager, were excused from the meeting at 12:03 p.m.*

### **9.3 Employee Relations**

Committee received a verbal report regarding employee relations.

The motion was recorded and kept confidential.

#### **9.4 Land / New Lease**

Committee received a letter dated August 30, 2015, regarding a new lease.

The motion was recorded and kept confidential.

#### **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**Action:** It was moved by Councillor Loveday, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the Governance & Priorities Committee meeting of September 3, 2015, be adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 15/GPC719

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Mayor Helps, Chair