3.1 Capital Regional District Water Supply Commission - Voting

Committee received a report dated February 1, 2017 from the City Clerk regarding correspondence received from the Capital Regional District related to weighted votes for the CRD Water Supply Commission.

Motion:

It was moved by Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Lucas, that the extra vote be allocated:

- 1. to the Mayor when she or he is a water board member.
- 2. to other members in order of votes received at the most recent election.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW

Motion:

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, that Council consider the issue of weighted voting at the Capital Regional District Water Supply Commission.

Failed due to no seconder

Motion:

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Young, that Council adopt the policy that representation by population be retained at the Capital Regional District Water Supply Commission.

Councillor Lucas withdrew from the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Committee discussed:

• The value of weighed votes being of benefit to Victoria.

Councillor Lucas returned to the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

Motion to postpone:

It was moved by Councillor Isitt, seconded by Councillor Young, that the motion be postponed for one month.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 17/COTW



Committee of the Whole Report

For the meeting of March 2, 2017

To:

Committee of the Whole

Date:

February 1, 2017

From:

Chris Coates, City Clerk

Subject:

Capital Regional District Water Supply Commission - Voting

RECOMMENDATION

That Council allocate the additional CRD Water Commission vote by way of voting by all members of Council

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The attached correspondence from the Capital Regional District attached as Appendix A, highlights an issue that requires a determination by Council in terms of distributing the City's 17 "weighted" votes at the CRD Water Commission, between the City's four appointed representatives. The weighted voting strength is established to address the issues of population and assessment differences between the participants in the region's water service. It had only recently become recognized that the City's 17 votes required Council's authorization to distribute between the City's four appointed Commissioners.

Council is free to distribute the additional vote I anyway between the four appointees. There is no prescribed methodology.

Options to distribute the votes each of which can be applied to future terms of office, include:

Option 1 - Voting by Council (Recommended)

Council members would vote for one of the four appointed Commissioners to assign the extra weighted vote to for the duration of the term as a Commissioner. This method is consistent with how Council makes appointments to other Boards.

Option 2 - By Random Draw

One of the four of the four appointed Commissioner would be randomly selected to receive the additional vote for the duration of the term.

Option 3 – By the highest number of Votes received at the general election.

This option would follow the process established in the Council Procedures Bylaw for determining the alternate CRD Board Directors.

Each of the options noted above follow clear processes. On balance, Council may consider that voting by all of Council to distribute the 17th Water Commission weighted vote most closely follows the City's standard practice for making appointments.

Respectfully submitted.

Chris Coates

City Clerk

Deputy City Manager

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:

Date: Feb. 23, 7017

List of Attachments:

CRD Correspondence dated January 31, 2017



Making a difference...together

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RECEIVED

FEB 0 2 2016

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

File 0360

Mr. Chris Coates City Clerk, Legislative & Regulatory Services City of Victoria 1 Centennial Square Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Dear Mr. Coates:

January 31, 2017

RE: Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Water Supply Commission - Voting

I am writing to request that the City of Victoria Council assign weighted votes to its Regional Water Supply Commission members (Commissioners) in accordance with section 197 of the Local Government Act (the Act).

The CRD Regional Water Supply Commission Bylaw No. 1, 1997 requires that resolutions of the Commission be decided by weighted voting in accordance with the same formula that establishes the weighted voting for the CRD Board. There are 4 Commissioners from the City of Victoria and together they are entitled to 17 votes. The 4 Commissioners from Victoria are Councillors Chris Coleman, Jeremy Loveday, Ben Isitt and Geoff Young.

Because equal distribution of the 17 votes amongst the 4 Commissioners is not possible, Victoria Council must assign the municipality's votes as evenly. The Act (s. 197) requires that in no case may the difference between the maximum and minimum number of votes assigned be greater than 1. This means that 3 of the 4 Victoria Commissioners are entitled to 4 votes, and 1 is entitled to 5 votes. Victoria Council must determine which Victoria Commissioner is entitled to 5 votes.

Please bring this issue forward to Council for decision and inform me of the vote assignment after a decision has been made. Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Brent Reems Senior Manager

Legislative & Information Services

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