



## MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

April 4, 2024, 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 Nations  
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, T Soulliere - Deputy City Manager, C. Kingsley - City Clerk, C. Anderson - Deputy City Clerk, T. Zworski - City Solicitor, K. Hoese - Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development, P. Rantucci - Director of Strategic Real Estate, C. Tunis - Senior Process Planner, A. Johnston - Acting Director of Development Services, K. Stevenot – Senior Planner, B. Nicholls – Legislation and Policy Analyst, B. Bowker – Manager – Surface Infrastructure Ops, D. Mcara – Acting Assistant Director, Public Works, W. Doyle - Acting Director, Engineering & Public Works, K. Moore – Director, Business and Community Relations, D. McConachie – Arts, Culture & Events Liaison, A. Heimbürger - Legislative Coordinator

### **A. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Committee acknowledged that the City of Victoria is located on the homelands of the Songhees First Nation and Esquimalt First Nation communities, encouraging listeners to sit, ponder and reflect on something connected to the waters and lands on which we reside for which we can extend our appreciation and thanks to the Nations for allowing us to live, work and play on their lands.

### **C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved and Seconded:

That the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **D. CONSENT AGENDA**

*Committee requested that items **F.1 Municipal Licencing of Passenger Directed Vehicles, F.2 Bastion Square Projects & Upgrades and H.2 Council Member Motion: Spot Prawn Family Event** be removed from the consent agenda.*

Moved and Seconded:

That the following Consent Agenda items be approved:

**H.3 Council Member Motion: Council Approval for Participation on the National Board of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities**

Committee received a Council Member Motion requesting Council endorsement for Councillor Coleman's bid to be an elected member of the BC Caucus of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board for the 2024/2025 term.

That Council support Councillor Coleman's bid to be an elected member of the BC Caucus of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Board for 2024/2025 term.

**H.4 Council Member Motion: Attendance at Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) Annual Conference (Calgary, June 5th to 10th)**

A Council Member Motion requesting approval for Councillor Coleman to attend the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' AGM from June 5-10, 2024 in Calgary.

That Council authorizes the attendance & associated costs for Councillor Coleman to attend the FCM AGM in Calgary, Alberta.

Conference Registration Fee	\$1,161
Accommodation	\$1,400
Flights	\$842
Misc Transportation	\$200
Food & Incidentals	\$250
Carbon Tax	\$42
Total (estimated):	\$3,895

**H.5 Council Member Motion: Reimbursement of Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) Conference (April 12-14, 2024)**

Committee received a Council Member Motion requesting authorization for additional costs associated for the April 12-14, 2024 AVICC Conference in Victoria.

That Council authorise the attendance and associated additional AVICC Conference costs for Councillor Kim to be reimbursed. Costs include a workshop and taxes. The approximate costs additional to the early registration is approximately \$70.

**H.6 Council Member Motion: Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference (FCM) (June 7-9, 2024) Expenses**

Committee received a Council Member Motion requesting approval for the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Kim to attend the Federation of Canadian Municipalities AGM from June 7-9, 2024 in Calgary.

That Council authorize the attendance and associated costs for Councillor Kim to attend the Federation of Canadian Municipalities Conference held in Calgary, AB, on June 7-9, 2024.

The approximate cost for attending is:

Conference Registration Fee	\$1,160.25
Accommodations (3 nights)	\$940
Airfare to/from Calgary	\$400
Taxis to/from airports	\$200
Meals and Incidentals	\$200
Carbon Tax	\$42
Estimated total cost =	\$2,942.25

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**E. LAND USE MATTERS**

**E.1 1050 Pandora Avenue: Tax Incentive Program Application No.00032 (North Park)**

Committee received an update report dated March 21, 2024 from the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development regarding an application for a partial tax exemption under the City's Heritage Tax Incentive Program to assist in the seismic upgrading of the heritage-designated building at 1050 Pandora Avenue and recommending it be declined.

*Committee discussed:*

- *Considerations of approving a Tax Incentive Program application that does not meet criteria outlined in heritage policies*
- *Value to public, visitors and rental stock of retaining a heritage façade*

Moved and Seconded:

1. That Council instruct the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development to prepare a heritage tax exemption bylaw to exempt 433.29 square metres (4,664sf) of retail space and seven residential units on the second story of the assessed value of the property at 1050 Pandora Avenue for a period of three years.
2. That, after public notice, first second and third reading of the heritage tax exemption bylaw be considered by Council.
3. That subject to approval of first three readings, the applicant execute an exemption agreement with contents to the satisfaction of the Director of

Sustainable Planning and Community Development and form satisfactory to the City Solicitor prior to adoption of the bylaw that contains the following conditions:

- a. the final costs of seismic upgrading must be verified by a third-party consultant to the satisfaction of the Director of Sustainable Planning and Community Development; and
- b. the tax exemption does not apply in a calendar year during any part of which any residential dwelling unit is not used for residential purposes.

That the above recommendations be adopted on the condition that they create no legal rights for the applicant or any other person, or obligation on the part of the City or its officials, and any expenditure of funds is at the risk of the person making the expenditure.

OPPOSED (2): Councillor Coleman and Councillor Thompson

**CARRIED (7 to 2)**

## **F. STAFF REPORTS**

### **F.1 Municipal Licencing of Passenger Directed Vehicles**

Committee received a report dated February 28, 2024 from the City Clerk regarding modification of the *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw* and the *Business Licence Bylaw* to remove duplication with provincial legislation and to improve business licencing efficiencies for Passenger Directed Vehicle operators.

*Committee discussed:*

- *Process of collecting and accuracy of data being requested from Passenger Directed Vehicle operators for the Province*

Moved and Seconded:

1. That Council direct staff to bring forward bylaw amendments regarding municipal licencing of Passenger Directed Vehicles to:
  - a. Remove requirements for a copy of each Passenger Directed Vehicle operator's Record Check Certificate at Business Licence application/renewal.
  - b. Modify business licence requirements for trip data.
  - c. Review the Business Licence Bylaw, Vehicles for Hire Bylaw and Streets and Traffic Bylaw to ensure they align with regulatory changes; and
2. That Council conduct a public notice process pursuant to section 59(2) of the Community Charter outlining a method for those who consider they are affected by the Business Licence Bylaw to make written submissions to Council.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**F.2 Bastion Square Projects and Upgrades**

Committee received a report dated March 27, 2024 from the Acting Director of Engineering and Public Works requesting approval to transfer \$150,000 from the Bastion Square Revitalization Association (BSRA) Trust to the 2024-2028 Financial Plan for Bastion Square Capital Upgrades.

*Committee discussed:*

- *Legality of transferring funds from the Bastion Square Revitalization Association Trust into the Financial Plan*
- *Safety concerns and prioritization of the Bastion Square Capital Upgrades project*

**Motion to refer:**

Moved and Seconded:

That Council refer back to staff to consult with BSRA before moving forward with the project to return to Council by May 2, 2024.

**Amendment:**

Moved and Seconded:

That Council refer back to staff to consult with BSRA before moving forward with the project to return to Council by ~~May 2, 2024~~ **May 23, 2024**

OPPOSED (7): Mayor Alto, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Hammond, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton and Councillor Thompson

**DEFEATED (2 to 7)**

**On the motion to refer:**

That Council refer back to staff to consult with BSRA before moving forward with the project to return to Council by May 2, 2024.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Committee recessed the meeting at 10:25 a.m. and reconvened at 10:40 a.m.*

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

**H.1 Council Member Motion: Police School Liaison Officers and School District 61**

Committee received a Council Member Motion requesting Council support to send a letter to the Chair of the Board of Education for School District 61 (SD61) requesting for reinstatement of the School Police Liaison Officer program at SD61 schools.

Moved and Seconded:

That Council request the Mayor to write to the Chair of the Board of Education for School District 61 requesting reinstatement of the Police School Liaison Officers and that the letter be copied to the appropriate Provincial bodies, other School District 61 school hosting municipalities, and the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

*Committee discussed:*

- *Lack of substantive research showing effectiveness of School Liaison Officer program*
- *Approaches to creating safety and equity in schools*

**Motion to refer:**

Moved and Seconded:

That Council refer this motion until the next quarterly update by the Victoria Police Department and upon receipt of information from the School District 61 Board on the rationale informing their decision on this program.

*Committee discussed:*

- *Prioritization of police resources*

*Committee recessed at 11:36 a.m. and reconvened at 11:45 a.m.*

**Amendment:**

Moved and Seconded:

That Council refer this motion until **after** the next quarterly update by the Victoria Police Department and ~~upon~~**after** receipt of information from the School District 61 Board on the rationale informing their decision on this program.

OPPOSED (3): Councillor Gardiner, Councillor Hammond, and Councillor Loughton

**CARRIED (6 to 3)**

**Motion to refer as amended:**

Moved and Seconded:

That Council refer this motion until after the next quarterly update by the Victoria Police Department and after receipt of information from the School District 61 Board on the rationale informing their decision on this program.

OPPOSED (6): Mayor Alto, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Gardiner, Councillor Hammond, Councillor Kim, and Councillor Loughton

**DEFEATED (3 to 6)**

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

**Amendment to the main motion:**

Moved and Seconded:

1. That Council request the Mayor to write to the Chair of the Board of Education for School District 61:
  1. **requesting information on the rationale informing its decision to end the police school liaison officer program,**
  2. **urging SD61 to engage directly with diverse community interests,**
  3. **and further** requesting reinstatement of the Police School Liaison Officers.
2. ~~and~~ That the letter be copied to the appropriate Provincial bodies, other School District 61 school hosting municipalities, and the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**On the main motion as amended:**

1. That Council request the Mayor to write to the Chair of the Board of Education for School District 61:
  1. requesting information on the rationale informing its decision to end the police school liaison officer program,
  2. urging SD61 to engage directly with diverse community interests,
  3. and further requesting reinstatement of the Police School Liaison Officers.
2. That the letter be copied to the appropriate Provincial bodies, other School District 61 school hosting municipalities, and the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

OPPOSED (4): Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Dell, Councillor Kim, and Councillor Thompson

**CARRIED (5 to 4)**

**H.2 Council Member Motion: Spot Prawn Family Event**

Committee received a Council Member Motion requesting staff collaboration with organizations expressing interest in participating in the 2024 Spot Prawn Festival; either through sponsoring or permitting, and with financial and/or in-kind contributions.

*Committee discussed:*

- *Sponsoring and partnering practices of the City with for-profit organizations*

Moved and Seconded:

That Council direct staff to convene a meeting, or otherwise consult, with the organizations which have been identified as being interested in participating in a Spot Prawn Festival with the intent of the City facilitating the Spot Prawn Family event either through sponsoring or permitting, and with financial and/or in-kind

contributions. Such festival to be held on a Sunday in May during the spot prawn season.

**Amendment:**

Moved and Seconded:

That Council direct staff to convene a meeting, or otherwise consult, with the organizations which have been identified as being interested in participating in a Spot Prawn Festival with the intent of the City facilitating the Spot Prawn Family event either through sponsoring or permitting, ~~and with financial and/or in-kind contributions~~. Such festival to be held on a Sunday in May during the spot prawn season.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**On the main motion as amended:**

That Council direct staff to convene a meeting, or otherwise consult, with the organizations which have been identified as being interested in participating in a Spot Prawn Festival with the intent of the City facilitating the Spot Prawn Family event either through sponsoring or permitting. Such festival to be held on a Sunday in May during the spot prawn season.

**Motion to refer:**

Moved and Seconded:

That Council direct staff to bring back April 11, 2024

OPPOSED (5): Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Dell, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton, and Councillor Thompson

**DEFEATED (4 to 5)**

**On the main motion as amended:**

That Council direct staff to convene a meeting, or otherwise consult, with the organizations which have been identified as being interested in participating in a Spot Prawn Festival with the intent of the City facilitating the Spot Prawn Family event either through sponsoring or permitting. Such festival to be held on a Sunday in May during the spot prawn season.

OPPOSED (7): Mayor Alto, Councillor Caradonna, Councillor Coleman, Councillor Dell, Councillor Kim, Councillor Loughton, and Councillor Thompson

**DEFEATED (2 to 7)**

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

Moved and Seconded:

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting be adjourned at 1:33 p.m.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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CITY CLERK

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MAYOR

DRAFT