

## **MINUTES – COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

### **MEETING HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2002 AT 9:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Councillor Bea Holland, Chair, Mayor Lowe, Councillors Fleming, Hughes, Lunt, McLean, Madoff, Savoie, Vanden Berg attended for the entire meeting.

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Joe Martignago, City Manager, Sheryl Masters, Manager, Administration, attended for the entire meeting. Messrs. Oberg, and Wiffen, attended for a portion of the meeting.

**Recording Secretary:** Ming Moodrey

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

02/264

The Agenda of the April 4, 2002 meeting was circulated.

Councillor Savoie indicated that the subject matter of "Kyoto Protocol" is to be added to the Committee of the Whole Open Meeting.

**ACTION:** It was moved by Councillor Hughes that the Agenda of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 4, 2002, be approved as amended.

***Carried***

### **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

02/263

The Minutes of the March 28, 2002 meeting was circulated. Councillor McLean indicated that his request regarding Tourism Victoria:

*"Councillor McLean requested that Tourism Victoria report to Committee of the Whole in May or June of 2002 with respect to the Conference Centre's share of the Destination Marketing revenue from the 2% hotel tax."*

be corrected to read as follows:

*“Councillor McLean requested that Tourism Victoria attend a Finance Committee Meeting in May or June of 2002 and provide a report on Tourism Victoria’s Share of the Destination Marketing revenue.”*

**ACTION:** It was moved by Councillor McLean that the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 28, 2002 be approved as corrected.

**Carried**

## **DELEGATION**

### **GREATER VICTORIA CYCLING COALITION**

02/262

Committee received a memorandum dated March 14, 2002 from the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition requesting the opportunity to address Committee of the Whole on the subject of the City’s Capital Budget for cycling infrastructure and traffic calming programs. John Luton, President, addressed Committee on the above-mentioned issues. He indicated that the Capital funding for the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition has been reduced from the \$100,000 that they received in 2001 to \$75,000 in 2002. He appreciates that the 2002 City Budget has been completed but asked Council to consider funding the Greater Victoria Cycling Coalition in the amount of \$100,000. He outlined the successes of the various projects that the Victoria Cycling Coalition was involved with in the Greater Victoria Region and their Regional Transportation Strategy.

Committee indicated that the 2002 City Budget has been completed and that the Capital grant of \$75,000 could not be revisited. The City Manager said that he would be happy to provide Committee with a report on this matter.

Committee thanked Mr. Luton for his presentation.

**ACTION:** Councillor Madoff requested that the City Manager provide a report to Committee of the Whole on this matter.

### **CANADIAN UNION OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, LOCAL 388**

02/261

Committee received a report dated March 20, 2002 from the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), Local 388 requesting the opportunity to address Committee of the Whole on March 28, 2002 with respect to the Memorandum of Understanding between R.G. Properties and the City. Susan Jensen, President of CUPE, Local 388, and Stewart Murray, Representative of the CUPE Regional Office, were present to address Committee.

Mr. Murray summarized CUPE's March 20, 2002 report on the Memorandum of Understanding between R.G. Properties and the City and outlined some of the problems identified by the CUPE Research Team.

Committee responded that this report should have been presented earlier by CUPE in order for the City to respond to it, since the matter will be going to a referendum on April 20, 2002. Committee indicated that when this report was prepared, CUPE did not have all the correct information and they provided Mr. Murray with this information.

The Chair and Committee thanked Mr. Murray and Ms Jensen for their presentation and report.

## **FINANCE**

### **AGREEMENT ON INTERNAL TRADE**

02/260

Committee received a report dated March 27, 2002, from the Manager, Supply Management Services, regarding the Agreement on Internal Trade (AIT). On July 18, 2001, the British Columbia Cabinet committed to extend the procurement provisions of the AIT to cover the MASH sector, which includes municipalities, universities, school districts and healthcare organizations. Implementation will be effective March 31, 2002. The Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) has requested input from municipalities regarding implementation concerns.

Major issues affecting the MASH sector, which were raised in 1993-95 regarding Internal Trade, seem to have been addressed in the latest "Annex". The major objection at that time was the reporting requirements and the increased staffing required to document compliance. The requirements have been eliminated from the Agreement.

Currently, there is no published detailed Impact Study regarding the implementation of the AIT on municipalities in British Columbia and more work will be required to fully assess the probable impact. At this point, the implementation of the AIT obligations on the City of Victoria appears to have a minor financial impact on the organization.

Committee considered Mr. O'Berg's report plus the August 1, 2001 letter that Premier Campbell wrote to Premier Klein on elimination of inter-provincial trade barriers that are hampering growth, investment and job creation across Canada. The British Columbia Government has set March 31, 2002 as the province's deadline for complying with the Agreement on Internal Trade's procurement provisions for the MASH sector. After careful deliberation, Committee indicates that it is not to the City's advantage to endorse this agreement.

**ACTION:** Councillor Fleming moved that the consideration of the Agreement on Internal Trade be tabled.

***Carried***

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

### FUTURE OF PUBLIC INSURANCE – NOTICE OF MOTION

02/259

Committee received a memorandum dated February 13, 2002, from the President of the Office & Professional Employees' International Union, Local 378 (OPEIU, Local 378,) requesting the opportunity to make Delegation to City Council on the future of public insurance and the implications to the City of Victoria and British Columbia.

James Morrison, representative of OPEIU, Local 378, addressed Council at the March 14, 2002 Council Meeting, as follows:

#### **James Morrison – Re: Public Insurance (ICBC)**

*Mr. Morrison requested Council's support of the Office & Professional Employees' International Union's, Local 378, workers for Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) initiative "Don't Wreck Public Auto Insurance" and to join other Councils across BC in endorsing a resolution of support to the Premier of the Provincial Government and local MLA.*

*It was moved by Councillor Madoff, seconded by Councillor Savoie, that the request from the Office & Professional Employees' International Union, Local 378, workers for Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) to support their initiative "Don't Wreck Public Auto Insurance" and to join other Councils across BC in endorsing a resolution of support to the Premier of the Provincial Government and local MLA, be referred to a Committee of the Whole meeting and that staff be requested to analyse the impact of privatizing auto insurance."*

OPEIU, Local 378 asked the Victoria City Council to endorse its initiative "Don't Wreck Public Auto Insurance" and to join other municipal Councils across British Columbia in endorsing a resolution of support for public auto insurance in British Columbia to the Premier and the local M.L.A.

**ACTION:** Councillor Savoie moved that it be recommended to Council that Council adopt the following resolution:

***"WHEREAS:*** *The Insurance Corporation was founded in 1973 as a direct result of the Wooten Royal Commission that investigated shoddy practices of private insurance companies, and;*

***WHEREAS:*** *The Insurance Corporation is mandated to provide fair rating which does not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, marital status nor postal code, and;*

***WHEREAS:*** *Statistics show that over 99% of all motorists carry valid insurance in British Columbia, unlike other jurisdictions where the incidence of uninsured motorists are as high as 30%; and*

**WHEREAS:** *The Insurance Corporation contributes \$60 million per year on road safety initiatives which is 30 times more than all private Insurance Carriers combined in the Province of Ontario; and*

**WHEREAS:** *Safer roads make our communities better places to live, and:*

**WHEREAS:** *The Insurance Corporation provides over 6000 direct jobs and many more in supporting business including, independent brokers, autobody shops, glass shops and others;*

**THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED** *that Victoria City Council call upon the local Member of Legislative Services, the Minister responsible for the Insurance Corporation of British Columbia, and the Premier of the Province of British Columbia to preserve universal public auto insurance, which does not discriminate, which decreased uninsured motorists, and which provides for road safety initiatives that benefit our City."*

**Carried**

## **KYOTO PROTOCOL**

02/258

Committee received a memorandum dated March 18, 2002 from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities (FCM) urging municipalities to endorse ratification of the Kyoto Protocol.

Countries around the world have recognized the urgent need to take action to reduce greenhouse gases (GHG) in order to address the climate change challenge. In December 1997, Canada and more than 160 other countries met in Kyoto, Japan, and agreed to targets to reduce GHG emissions. The agreement that set out those targets, and the options available to countries to achieve them, is known as the Kyoto Protocol. The Protocol will only become legally binding when it is ratified by at least 55 countries, covering at least 55 per cent of the emissions addressed by the Protocol. No country that has taken on a target has yet ratified the Kyoto Protocol. The Protocol also includes three market-based instruments known as the Kyoto Mechanisms that allow countries to earn or buy credits outside their borders. They are:

1. The Clean Development Mechanism
2. Joint Implementation; and
3. International Emissions Trading.

The FCM indicated that ratification of the Kyoto Protocol will improve Canada's productivity and stimulate innovation. Implementation of the Protocol can be designed to ensure that no industry or sector suffers disproportionately. Support for ratification of the Kyoto Protocol from the Municipal Governments could make the difference on whether or not the Government of Canada will decide to follow through on its international commitment, a decision expected by the end of the year. The FCM urged Victoria City Council to endorse its model resolution:

**ACTION:** Councillor Savoie moved that it be recommended to Council that Council adopt the following resolution:

*“**WHEREAS** climate change causes drought, permafrost melting, sea-level to rise, and floods that damage municipal infrastructure, displace citizens, and create a financial burden for municipal governments;*

***WHEREAS** economic activity in rural and northern communities relying on fisheries, tourism, forestry, and agriculture is disrupted by climate change;*

***WHEREAS** investments in building retrofits, community energy systems, water, conservation, renewable energy technologies, waste reduction, landfill gas capture, fleet management and public transit reduce municipal operating costs, help maintain community services, and protect public health while cutting greenhouse gas emissions contributing to climate change;*

***WHEREAS** forestry and agriculture sectors can expand business opportunities by increasing the capacity of trees and soils to absorb carbon dioxide and by developing renewable fuels like ethanol;*

***WHEREAS** fossil fuel producers are increasing investments in renewable energy and alternative fossil fuel technologies that reduce the amount of carbon dioxide going into the air; and*

***WHEREAS** 72 percent of Canadians want the Kyoto Protocol ratified.*

***BE IT RESOLVED THAT** Council for The Corporation of the City of Victoria endorses ratification of the Kyoto Protocol; and*

***BE IT FURTHER RESOLVE THAT** this resolution be communicated to our Member of Parliament, provincial environment and energy ministers, federal and provincial opposition leaders, community media and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.”*

**Carried**

### **DISPOSITION OF COMMUNICATIONS**

02/257

Committee received a Disposition of Communications dated April 2, 2002, from the Manager, Administration, reporting that certain communications received in the Legislative Services Division have been dealt with on the date and in the manner indicated.

Councillor McLean requested that a copy of the letter dated March 25, 2002, to Mr. Rick James and the background information be forwarded to the Maritime Museum for their information.

**ACTION:** Councillor McLean moved that the Disposition of Communications dated April 2, 2002 received from the Manager, Administration, Legislative Services Division, be received for information and filed.

*Carried*

### **PROCLAMATIONS**

02/256

**ACTION:** Councillor Hughes moved that the following proclamation be approved and forwarded to the appropriate Council Meeting:

- Administrative Professionals Week - April 21 – 27, 2002

*Carried*

### **COUNCILLOR INQUIRY**

#### **CYCLING PATH AND DOG LEASHES**

02/255

Councillor Vanden Berg informed Committee that there is a problem with the “extended leashes “ that dog owners use because those “extended leashes” are often too long and pose a hazard to cyclists and pedestrians. Leashed dogs are for the protection of cyclists and pedestrians, not for the benefit of the dogs or their owners. Councillor Vanden Berg indicated that the City’s bylaws should be changed to correct this problem.

**ACTION:** Councillor Savoie recommended that Committee send a letter to the City Parks Division and ask them to review this problem of dogs on extended leashes and report to Committee of the Whole.

#### **CLOSED MEETING - 10:00 A.M.**

Councillor McLean moved that Committee of the Whole convene a closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 10(6) of the Council Bylaw for the reason that the following agenda items deal with matters specified in Section 10 (3) of the Council Bylaw.

#### **LEGAL – JAMES BAY COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

02/254

Committee received a report dated January 22, 2002 from the Property Manager advising that the Agreement between the Greater Victoria Public Library, the City of Victoria, and the James Bay Health & Community Services for the provision of the James Bay

Community Library has expired. This matter was considered at the Committee of the Whole meeting of February 7, 2002, and Committee made the following motion:

*“Councillor Madoff moved that consideration of renewal of the James Bay Community Library Agreement be tabled, and that representatives from the Greater Victoria Public Library and the James Bay Health & Community Services be invited to meet with Committee of the Whole within one month.”*

Sandra Anderson, Greater Victoria Public Library, and Catriona Campbell, James Bay Project presented current information and statistics on the Central Library and James Bay Community Library to Committee.

**ACTION:** Councillor Madoff moved that it be recommended to Council that the Agreement between the Greater Victoria Public Library, the City of Victoria and the James Bay Health & Community Services for the provision of the James Bay Community Library be renewed for a one-year term.

***Carried***

**ACTION:** Councillor Hughes moved that the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned.

***Carried***

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

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Councillor Bea Holland, Chair