

## **MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

### **MEETING HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2003, AT 9:00 A.M.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Lowe, in the Chair, and Councillors Coleman, Fleming, Fortin, Holland, Hughes, Madoff, and Thornton-Joe.

**ABSENT:** Councillor Savoie

Mr. Joe Martignago, City Manager, attended for the entire meeting and Messrs. Carlsen, Chow, Daly, Dowdall, Koch, Lam, O'Reilly, Robertson, Scoones, Sikstrom, Silvester, Wiffen, Woodland, Ms. Atkinson, Ms. Fowler, Ms. Low, Ms. McKay, Ms. Masters, Ms. Mayhew, Ms. Meyer, Ms. Miller, Ms. O'Keeffe, Mr. O'Regan, Ms. Price-Douglas, and Ms. Zink attended for portions of the meeting.  
Recording Secretary: Linda Johnson

### **DELEGATIONS**

#### **VIATeC**

03/91

Mr. Bill Cooke, Chief Executive Officer, Vancouver Island Advanced Technology Centre (VIATeC) addressed Committee regarding this not-for-profit organization mandated to promote and enhance the development of the advanced-technology industry on Vancouver Island. He outlined the growth of the high tech sector, with 800 companies in Greater Victoria and 1,100 on Vancouver Island. It is a \$400 - \$500 million industry in the Victoria area. For the past 13 years this industry has steadily outpaced other forms of commerce in the area, and is now providing one quarter of the province's high tech revenue. Mr. Cooke described the programs sponsored by VIATeC and outlined the services provided to members.

Government funding for VIATeC has been drastically reduced. This has resulted in a 40% reduction in staff, however the organization is attempting to maintain its level of service through technical advancements and volunteer support. They are looking for alternate funding sources, and will be approaching other area municipalities. Mr. Cooke requested that Victoria maintain its 2002 level of support with a grant of \$25,000.

### **FESTIVAL INVESTMENT GRANTS**

03/90

Committee received a memorandum dated January 30, 2003 from the Community Recreation Development Coordinator regarding Festival Investment Grants for 2003. The program has been in place for 5 years and assists organizers with the production of festivals and celebrations held within the City of Victoria.

A total of 21 grant applications were received from 17 organizations covering 23 events. Given the City's current budget constraints, staff are recommending that the event funding remain at the 2002 level with some additional funding to accommodate the 3 new events. The total 2003 funding recommended is \$95,500. The report also included figures for a further grant reduction of 21.5%, that, if approved, would reduce total funding to \$74,971.

**ACTION:**

Councillor Madoff moved that it be recommended to Council that:

- 1) The following Festival Investment Grants be approved, for a total of \$95,500.
- 2) The recipients of the grants be required to:
  - a) ensure that the City of Victoria receives public recognition of its role as a financial sponsor at a value of both the approved grant and in-kind support.
  - b) submit a final report upon completion of their event, including a financial statement.
  - c) participate in the 2003 "City of Festivals" web page feature and any other City marketing initiatives.

<b>EVENT NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>2003 GRANT APPROVED</b>
TerrifVic Jazz Festival	The TerrifVic Jazz Festival Society	\$ 2,500
Folkfest	Intercultural Association of Greater Victoria	12,000
JazzFest International	Victoria Jazz Society	6,000
Vancouver Island Blues Bash	Victoria Jazz Society	4,000
Dragon Boat Festival	Victoria Dragon Boat Festival Society	5,000
Uno Festival - Solo Performance	Intrepid Theatre Company Society	2,500
Fringe Festival	Intrepid Theatre Company Society	9,500
Latin and Caribbean Festival	Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society	5,000
Bandfest	Victoria Military Music Festival Society	5,000
The Summer Festival 2003	Victoria Conservatory of Music	1,500
Walking with our Ancestors	Victoria Native Friendship Centre	5,000
SKA Festival	CFUV 101.9 FM Student Public Radio Society	4,000
Victoria Independent Film/Video Festival & Free B Film Festival	Victoria Independent Film and Video Festival	3,000
Victoria Asian Heritage Month	Victoria Asian Heritage Month Society	500
Dragon Boat Kidsfest	Victoria Dragon Boat Festival Society	1,000
Literary Arts Festival	Victoria Literary Arts Festival Society	2,000
Luminara Victoria	Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria	12,500
Community Living Day Festival	Victoria Association for Community Living	0
Symphony Splash	Victoria Symphony Society	4,000
Victoria Day/Santa's Light Parade	Greater Victoria Festival Society	8,000

Councillor Fortin advised that he is employed by an organization that sponsors the next festival, therefore, because of this potential conflict of interest, he left the meeting at 9:30 a.m.

<b>EVENT NAME</b>	<b>ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>2003 GRANT APPROVED</b>
Selkirk Waterfront Festival	Foundation 2000 Plus	\$ 2,500

Councillor Fortin returned to the meeting at 9:31 a.m.

## **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

### **REZONING APPLICATION #02-25 – 625 HILLSIDE AVENUE**

03/89

Committee received a memorandum dated January 22, 2003 from the Senior Planner regarding Rezoning Application #02-25 for 625 Hillside Avenue. The proposal is to change the zoning of an existing building, located on the south east corner of Hillside and Rock Bay Avenues from the M-2 zone (Light Industrial District) to the M2-I zone (Douglas-Blanshard Industrial District). The applicant wishes to include a broader range of uses in the building. The M2-I zone allows all the uses of the M-2 zone as well as high-tech, call centres, business and professional offices and retail sale of home furnishings, home supplies or sporting goods. It is noted that several of these uses would not be possible at this location due to on-site parking limitations.

**ACTION:** Councillor Madoff moved that it be recommended to Council that Rezoning Application #02-25 for 625 Hillside Avenue be forwarded for consideration at a public hearing and that the City Solicitor be instructed to prepare the necessary Zoning Bylaw amendment.

### **CITY INITIATED ZONING AMENDMENT** **PROPERTY ADJACENT TO THE RAILYARDS PROJECT**

03/88

Committee received a memorandum dated January 17, 2003 from the City Planning Division regarding a City initiated program to amend the zoning for the property (land and water) located adjacent to the Railyards project. This is part of a plan to address areas in Victoria West that currently have inappropriate M-3 zoning (Heavy Industrial District). The proposed new zone will permit the development of a community dock, boat launch, and pier, and to accommodate accessory uses. The plans for these community amenities were developed in conjunction with the Railyards rezoning application.

**ACTION:** Councillor Madoff moved that it be recommended to Council that the City initiated zoning amendment for those parts of Lot 1, District Lot 119, Esquimalt District, Plan VIP 54427 and that part of the foreshore and water of Victoria Harbour fronting Lot 1 and Lot 2, District Lot 119, Esquimalt District, Plan VIP 54427 (Water and Upland adjacent to Railyards Project) be forwarded for consideration at a public hearing and the City Solicitor be instructed to prepare the necessary Zoning Bylaw amendments, based on the draft zone appended to the report dated January 17, 2003 from the City Planning Division.

Councillor Madoff advised that she has a personal association with the next application, and because of this potential conflict of interest she left the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

**DEVELOPMENT PERMIT #02-35B**  
**105 WILSON STREET**

03/87

Committee received a memorandum dated January 30, 2003 from the Head, Urban Design regarding Development Permit #02-35B for 105 Wilson Street. The proposal is to develop a residential development of 86 dwelling units (58 strata and 28 rental) to replace the existing RCAF Wing building at 105 Wilson Street. The proposed development is arranged into two blocks, Buildings A & B, connected with a canopy at the rear of the site. The Advisory Design Panel reviewed the proposal on January 22, 2003 and recommended rejection.

**ACTION:** Councillor Hughes moved that consideration of Development Permit Application #02-35B for 105 Wilson Street, be postponed to the February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Committee of the Whole meeting, to allow time for the Advisory Design Panel to review the most recent changes to the project.

Councillor Madoff returned to the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

**ENGINEERING**

**NORTH EAST SEWER MAIN**

03/86

Committee received a memorandum dated January 23, 2003 from the Manager, Water & Environment regarding the proposed designation of the North East Sewer Main as a Regional Trunk. This sewer main was constructed in 1912 and services Victoria, Oak Bay and Saanich. The recent collapse of a section in Oak Bay has highlighted the question of its future ownership and operation. The other partner municipalities have approved its transfer to the Capital Regional District (CRD) to operate as a regional trunk.

**ACTION:** Councillor Hughes moved that it be recommended to Council that, pursuant to the letter from the CRD's Executive Director dated December 2, 2002, and the CRD staff report dated November 6, 2002:

- 1) Consent be given to the adoption of CRD Bylaw No. 3028 in accordance with Section 802 of the Local Government Act.
- 2) Approval be given to Addendum #4 to the December 1993 Northeast Trunk and East Coast Interceptor Operating Agreement to include the Bowker section.

**UTILITY RATE INCREASES**

03/85

Committee received a memorandum dated January 31, 2003 from the Manager, Water & Environment regarding a proposed rate increase for the sewer and water utility. In December 2000 Council adopted, in principle, a five year capital program to gradually increase re-

investment in the City's sewer and water systems infrastructure. In keeping with the five year plan, and adjusting the utilities operating budget to reflect negotiated salary increases, the report outlined an increase based on water consumption. It is anticipated that the increase will be approximately 2.4% for a typical residential user, to 3.5% for a large volume user.

- ACTION:** Councillor Fleming moved that it be recommended to Council that:
- 1) The sewer consumption fee increase from \$0.54 to \$0.59 per unit effective March 1, 2003.
  - 2) The water consumption fee increase from \$1.306 to \$1.33 per unit effective March 1, 2003.

## **PARKS**

### **BEACON HILL PARK – WATER SPRAY FACILITY**

03/84

At its meeting on January 23, 2003, Committee of the Whole considered a proposal for a Water Spray Facility at Beacon Hill Park. At that time, they received for information a report dated January 8, 2003 from the Parks, Recreation & Community Development Department and requested that the subject be placed on the February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003 agenda for further consideration.

- ACTION:** Councillor Coleman moved that it be recommended to Council that:
- 1) Support be given to the replacement of the wading pool in Beacon Hill Park, with a water spray park at the location described in the report dated January 8, 2003 from Parks, Recreation & Community Development staff.
  - 2) Request that the Parks and Recreation Foundation of Victoria initiate a fund raising campaign in support of the project, with the goal of achieving 100% of the required funds through donation.
  - 3) Partner with the Foundation by providing staff support for the design and fund raising campaign.

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

### **AFFORDABLE HOUSING AGREEMENT** **246 GORGE ROAD EAST**

03/83

Committee received a memorandum dated February 3, 2003 from the Manager, Community Development Division regarding 246 Gorge Road East, a proposal to convert a two storey, 45-unit motel to a 49-unit affordable housing structure. The owner has secured a favourable mortgage rate subject to the mortgage being insured by CMHC. As a condition of insuring the mortgage, CMHC requires confirmation from the City that, in the event of a court approved foreclosure and subsequent sale of the property, the City will abandon the Affordable Housing Agreement attached to the property, and cause it to be released from the Land Title Office.

Councillors pointed out an inconsistency between the federal government's position regarding affordable housing, and a government agency (CMHC) whose policies are not supportive of this proposal. It was suggested that a letter be sent to The Honourable Stephane Dion and

The Honourable Claudette Bradshaw advising of the City's concern with the CMHC requirement.

**ACTION:** Councillor Hughes moved that it be recommended to Council that the City Solicitor be instructed to confirm to CMHC that, in the event of a court approved foreclosure and ultimate sale of 246 Gorge Road East to a bona fide arms-length purchaser or CMHC, the City of Victoria will abandon the Housing Agreement presently registered, and cause it to be released from the Land Title Office.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **DISPOSITION OF COMMUNICATIONS**

03/82

Committee received a memorandum dated January 31, 2003, 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.

**ACTION:** Councillor Madoff moved that the Disposition of Communications dated January 31, 2003 from the Manager, Administration, be received for information and filed.

## **COUNCILLOR INQUIRIES**

### **SOBERING CENTRE**

03/81

Councillor Fortin requested an update on the establishment of a Vancouver Island Health Authority Sobering Centre. Mayor Lowe advised that he continues to meet with VIHA representatives and they plan to have a Centre operating by April 2003.

## **COUNCILLOR INFORMATION SHARING**

### **CRD RESERVOIR WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

03/80

Councillor Fleming advised that he and Councillor Thornton-Joe will be attending a ground-breaking ceremony in Sooke for an ultra-violet water treatment plant.

## **DOWNTOWN POSTERING**

03/79

Councillor Fleming reported on a meeting he attended recently regarding postering in the downtown area. Representatives of organizations and businesses using the poster cylinders established a code of conduct and discussed business plans. Councillor Fleming was encouraged by their willingness to follow City regulations and become a self-policing group.

**CLOSED MEETING - 10:55 A.M.**

Councillor Hughes 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.

**LAND - SIDEWALK LEASE WITH HUDSON BAY COMPANY**

03/78

Committee received a memorandum dated January 21, 2003 from the Property Manager regarding a portion of city sidewalk at the corner of Fisgard and Blanshard Streets that was built on property owned by the Hudson Bay Company (HBC). Since the 1960's this encroachment has been recognized by means of a lease between the HBC and the City. The current lease will expire on February 28, 2003 and the HBC has agreed to renew the lease for another 5 year term, despite their plans to sell the property.

**ACTION:** Councillor Holland moved that it be recommended to Council that the lease with the Hudson Bay Company for a portion of sidewalk at Fisgard Street and Blanshard Street be renewed for a 5 year term commencing March 1, 2003 at a rental rate of \$1 per year.

**LEGAL – VICTORIA CARRIAGE TOURS – USE COVENANT**

03/77

The Senior Bylaw Officer provided a verbal update on the issue of a business license application for Victoria Carriage Tours, operating from 251 Superior Street. Since 1996, a covenant on the property must be reviewed and renewed by the applicant each year. It was agreed that this issue be placed on the agenda for the February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Committee of the Whole meeting for further consideration.

**APPOINTMENT – ST. ANN'S ACADEMY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

03/76

Committee received a memorandum dated January 30, 2003 from the Corporate Administrator advising that the term of one of the City's representatives on the St. Ann's Academy Advisory Committee, Councillor Pam Madoff, expired on October 31, 2002.

**ACTION:** Councillor Hughes moved that it be recommended to Council that Councillor Pam Madoff be re-appointed to the St. Ann's Academy Advisory Committee for a one-year term, ending October 31, 2003.

**APPOINTMENTS – ADVISORY HOUSING COMMITTEE  
AND ADVISORY SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Committee received a memorandum dated January 21, 2003 from the Corporate Administrator regarding appointments to the Advisory Housing Committee and the Advisory Social Planning Committee. Advertisements were placed soliciting applications, and outlining draft terms of reference for the committees. The applications received were presented to Committee for review and recommendations.

- ACTION:** Councillor Hughes moved that it be recommended to Council that:
- 1) The Terms of Reference for the Advisory Housing Committee and the Advisory Social Planning Committee be approved.
  - 2) The following appointments be approved, for terms ending June 30, 2003:

Advisory Housing Committee

Barbara Carter, John Crean, Erin Davis, Candis Elliott, Julie Holder, Wayne Hopkins, Lee King, Gene Miller, Maurice Rachwalski, Herman Rebneus, Marge Reitsma-Strut.

Advisory Social Planning Committee

Jacquie Ackerly, Val Green, Sally Hamilton, Gordon Harper, Colleen Kasting, Rachel LeBlanc, Don McTavish, Louise Parton, Greg Shaw, Gail Simpson, Christie Stoneman.

The closed meeting adjourned, and the open public meeting re-convened at 11:40 a.m.

**2003 BUDGET**

03/74

Committee of the Whole, at its Special Meeting on January 30, 2003, gave preliminary approval to the 2003 Operating Budget as presented.

They now considered borrowing decisions, grants, and the 2003 – 2007 Capital Budget.

- ACTION:** Councillor Holland moved that preliminary approval be given to the 2003-2007 Capital Budget as presented.

It was agreed that the following amounts be allocated in the 2003 Grants budget:

Capital Grants	\$ 40,000
Social Services Grants	39,523
Integrated Recreation	24,033
Maritime Museum	16,500
Greater Victoria Film Commission	37,500
Pacific Sport	7,500
Tourism Victoria	45,000

VIATeC	12,500
CEDCO	10,000
Festival Investment Grants	95,000
Special Project	82,276
Neighbourhood Development	71,000
Youth & Adult Outreach	75,000
Adult School Crossing Guards	12,500
Victoria Compost Education Centre	12,500
Building Incentive	193,500
Victoria Civic Heritage Trust	92,820
Victoria Heritage Foundation	125,000
Youth Outreach (Fernwood/Fairfield/Oaklands)	60,000
Downtown Ambassadors Program	15,000
Victoria AM Association	1,250
Victoria Youth Empowerment Society	1,500
Greater Victoria Bike to Work Society	1,000
Greater Victoria Hospitality Award Society	750

Other issues discussed included:

- A request to Community Development staff to review the Youth Outreach and Adult Outreach grant amounts – taking into consideration the recent proposal for VIHA outreach workers.
- Transferring Victoria Compost Education Centre funding to the CRD.
- Removing the Greater Victoria Hospitality Award Society funding from “Grants” and including it as a protocol expense.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

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Mayor Lowe, Chair