

MINUTES - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MEETING HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2003, AT 9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Lowe, in the Chair, and Councillors Coleman, Fleming, Fortin (arrived at 9:45 a.m.), Holland, Hughes, Madoff, and Thornton-Joe.

ABSENT: Councillor Savoie

Mr. Joe Martignago, City Manager, attended for the entire meeting and Messrs. Galavan, Koch, Kresse, O'Reilly, Robertson, Silvester, Timms, Wiffen, and Woodland and Ms. Atkinson, Ms. Chase, Ms. Lowe, Ms. Masters, and Mr. Peter Johnson from Staples McDannold Stewart attended for portions of the meeting.

Recording Secretary: Linda Johnson

PARKS, RECREATION & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

REQUEST FOR REMOVAL FROM BOULEVARD MAINTENANCE TAX MINTO STREET

03/450

Committee received a memorandum dated June 2, 2003 from the Manager, Parks Division advising that property owners on Minto Street have, by letter dated May 29, 2003, put forward a request to be removed from the boulevard maintenance tax. Attached was a certified petition signed by at least 66% of the property owners representing at least 66% of the assessed property value of both sides of the block.

ACTION: Councillor Holland moved that it be recommended to Council that the petition received from the residents of Minto Street requesting removal from the taxed boulevard program, be endorsed.

19TH ANNUAL BRITISH CAR & MOTORCYCLE PICNIC

03/449

Committee received a memorandum dated June 5, 2003 from the Manager, Parks Division regarding an application for a permit to hold the 19th Annual British Car & Motorcycle Picnic in Beacon Hill Park on Sunday, June 15, 2003 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For the past 19 years the event has taken place at Camas Circle. This location was identified in the Beacon Hill Park Management Plan as a natural area to be reclaimed. The Picnic organizers have agreed to a new location known as the Turf Nursery. This will be the first time a car show has been held at this site.

ACTION: Councillor Coleman moved that it be recommended to Council that the 19th Annual British Car & Motorcycle Picnic be approved with the following conditions:

- no commercial activity of any kind permitted.
- because of the large number of participating vehicles, approval is given for this event on a trial basis. Following a post-event review by both organizers and Parks staff, approval may or may not be given in future years.
- applicant to obtain a Park permit and abide by all rules and regulations.

SNOWBIRDS DISPLAY

03/448

Committee received a memorandum dated June 4, 2003 from the Downtown Coordinator advising that, based on the success of last year's free Snowbird's air show, held over the Dallas Road waterfront, a group representing CFB Esquimalt, the Chamber of Commerce, and Tourism Victoria are proposing to hold another show in July 2003. The event is presented as a thank you to the citizens of Greater Victoria for their support for the Armed Forces. Plans were reviewed by city staff and the Special Events Technical Committee. Traffic and safety concerns have resulted in requirements for the organizing group to provide more resources and assume more responsibility than they did last year. The report outlined plans for traffic control, parking restrictions, liability insurance, event marshals, policing and clean-up costs, and a proposed communications plan.

ACTION: Councillor Holland moved that the report dated June 4, 2003 from the Downtown Coordinator regarding the Snowbirds Display, be received for information.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MARKET DAY

03/447

Committee received a memorandum dated May 5, 2003 from the Downtown Coordinator advising that the Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce is organizing a "Market Day" to be held Saturday, September 20, 2003. The event features downtown businesses displaying merchandise on the sidewalk outside their shops. A similar event was held in 2002. The Chamber has requested:

- a proclamation declaring "Victoria Market Day"
- a special event permit
- provision of any City services required at no cost
- First Hour Free parking in all City run parkades and parking lots without a coupon

ACTION: Councillor Fleming moved that it be recommended to Council that:

- 1) Staff process the proclamation request, the Special Event Permit, and the provision of any City services required.
- 2) The request for first hour free parking without a coupon on Market Day be declined, and that downtown businesses be encouraged to use First Hour Free coupons to encourage their customers to come downtown throughout the year.

LARC AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLE

PROPOSED ROUTE CHANGE

03/446

Committee received a memorandum dated June 5, 2003 from the Advisory Transportation Committee and the Cycling Advisory Committee regarding a request from the owners of the LARC Amphibious Vehicle to alter their existing route by traveling east along Belleville Street, turning left onto Government Street to load in front of the Empress Hotel, or continue south on Belleville to load at the Gray Line Bus Terminal on the corner of Douglas and Belleville. Both Advisory Committees recommend approval of the route change, but expressed concerns regarding increased traffic congestion, pollution, reduced road space and visibility for cyclists. Staff expressed concerns regarding an overwidth vehicle operating continuously in a dense tourist area.

ACTION: Councillor Madoff moved that it be recommended to Council that the application from Seaquest Adventurecraft Inc. to change the route of the LARC Amphibious Vehicle, as outlined in the report dated June 5, 2003 from the Advisory Transportation Committee and the Cycling Advisory Committee, be declined.

Councillor Madoff advised that she has a personal association with the next application. Because of this potential conflict of interest, she left the meeting at 9:14 a.m.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

REZONING APPLICATION #03-1 **240-252 COOK STREET & 1035/39/43 SUTLEJ STREET**

03/445

Victoria City Council, at its meeting on May 22, 2003, tabled Rezoning Application #03-1 for 240-252 Cook Street and 1035/39/43 Suttlej Street.

Committee now received a memorandum dated June 11, 2003 from the Planning Division advising that the applicant has had discussions with the Fairfield Community Association and has made revisions to the initial proposal. The report highlighted the changes made to the application, including changes to the amenity package.

ACTION: Councillor Holland moved that it be recommended to Council that:

- 1) Rezoning Application #03-1 for 240-252 Cook Street and 1035/39/43 Suttlej Street be forwarded for consideration at a public hearing and that the City Solicitor be instructed to prepare the necessary Official Community Plan and Zoning Bylaw amendments (including the extension of the Development Permit Area to cover the Suttlej Street properties) based on the draft zone subject to the conditions outlined in Appendix 1 of the report dated June 11, 2003 from the Planning Division, securing community amenities valued at \$724,000 or more.
- 2) The closure of the lane and its sale at fair market value to the applicant be approved on the basis that a surface right-of-way be retained by the City for vehicle and pedestrian use and subject to the rezoning of the land as proposed. And that the City Solicitor be authorized to commence with the preparation of the necessary bylaws, documents and survey plans. (Applicable costs to be at the expense of the applicant).

Councillor Madoff returned to the meeting at 9:16 a.m.

ENGINEERING

SPEED LIMIT AT QUADRA SCHOOL

03/444

At its meeting on March 20, 2003 Committee of the Whole referred a request from Quadra Elementary School to the Advisory Transportation Committee for its review. School staff and the Parents' Advisory Committee had requested a reduction of the speed limit on Quadra Street to 30 km/hour.

Committee received a memorandum dated June 5, 2003 from the Advisory Transportation Committee stating that the issue was reviewed at its meeting on May 20, 2003 and the following motion was approved:

The Advisory Transportation Committee supports implementation of Option A in the short term, and further support the long term recommendations as outlined in the Transportation Division report dated May 13, 2003.

ACTION:

Councillor Fleming moved that it be recommended to Council that:

- 1) Interim traffic management and speed reduction measures be implemented on Quadra Street adjacent to Quadra School and the posted speed limit be reduced to 40kmh as described in Option A attached to the report dated June 5, 2003 from the Advisory Transportation Committee.
- 2) Long term traffic management and speed reduction measures be implemented on Quadra Street at Finlayson Street, in partnership with ICBC by adding landscaped medians, left turn lanes and narrow traffic lanes.
- 3) The existing marked crosswalk at the intersection of Quadra Street and Topaz Avenue be upgraded to a Special Crosswalk with funding to be allocated from the 2003 Crosswalk Upgrade Program.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

UBCM RESOLUTION **CHANGES TO RESIDENTIAL TENANCY ACT**

03/443

Committee received a letter dated June 3, 2003 from the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) regarding a motion dealing with changes to the *Residential Tenancy Act* submitted by the City of Victoria for consideration at the 2002 UBCM Convention.

The motion did not meet the emergency criteria for admission, and was referred back to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities (AVICC) for their recommendation. Due to progress on the issues indicated in the resolution, AVICC recommended that no further action be taken. The motion will not be included in the UBCM 2003 Resolutions Book.

ACTION:

Councillor Holland moved that the letter dated June 3, 2003 from UBCM regarding a UBCM resolution regarding changes to the *Residential Tenancy Act*, be received for information.

DISPOSITION OF COMMUNICATIONS

03/442

Committee received a memorandum dated June 9, 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 Holland moved that the Disposition of Communications dated June 9, 2003 from the Manager, Administration, be received for information and filed.

COUNCILLOR INQUIRIES

VICTORIA CAPITALS

03/441

Councillor Coleman relayed inquiries he has received regarding the lack of volume on the public address system at Royal Athletic Park during Victoria Capitals baseball games.

The Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Development advised that the volume is lowered out of respect for the neighbourhood, and is also limited by the capacity of the sound system at the ball park.

COUNCILLOR INFORMATION SHARING

PRESENTATIONS

03/440

Councillor Coleman presented the following items to Mayor Lowe:

- a photo book from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan signed by the Mayor of that city.
- 2010 Olympic Candidate City flag from Vancouver/Whistler
- cedar plaque from the Royal Victoria Yacht Club recognizing the City of Victoria as a Major Supporter for the 2003 Swiftsure International Yacht Race

NEW ORGAN FOR CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

03/439

Councillor Coleman advised that Christ Church Cathedral has signed a contract for a new organ to be built by Helmut Wolfe and installed by 2005. The total cost is \$2.1 million, and the Cathedral already has \$1.8 million in place. Once installed, the organ will bring world-renowned concert organists to Victoria.

CANADA DAY FIREWORKS

03/438

Councillor Thornton-Joe advised that confirmed donations for the Canada Day Fireworks program are now \$43,500, with funding still expected from several businesses, municipalities and organizations.

Mayor Lowe will send a letter to area municipalities requesting funding assistance.

CLOSED MEETING - 9:35 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.

Councillor Fortin joined the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

LAND – ANTOINE’S RESTAURANT

03/437

Committee received a memorandum dated June 5, 2003 from the Property Manager providing an update on negotiations with the tenant of the city-owned building operating as Antoine’s Restaurant.

ACTION: Councillor Hughes moved that consideration of the Property Manager’s recommendation be tabled pending receipt of:

- 1) A legal opinion regarding issues raised by the tenant;
- 2) A business case analysis of the options for future uses of the building.

SALE OF LAND – DAVID & PLEASANT STREETS

03/436

Committee received a memorandum dated June 6, 2003 from the Property Manager regarding an amendment to the sale price on an Offer to Purchase received from Budget Steel for portions of David Street and Pleasant Street. The final subdivision plan specifies a reduction in the area of land proposed for sale from 36,405 sq.ft. to 31,527 sq.ft. The road closure bylaw necessitated by the offer to purchase is scheduled for public hearing at the June 12, 2003 Council meeting.

ACTION: Councillor Hughes moved that it be recommended to Council that a change of sale price on the Offer to Purchase portions of David Street and Pleasant Street, received from Budget Steel, be approved, from \$366,000 to \$316,846.35, in accordance with the Subdivision Plan and the appraisal.

LEGAL – GREATER VICTORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

03/435

Committee received a letter dated June 4, 2003 from the Chair, Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) Board advising of a pending legal action against the GVPL.

ACTION: Councillor Hughes moved that the letter dated June 4, 2003 from the Chair, Greater Victoria Public Library Board, be received for information.

APPOINTMENT – HERITAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

03/434

Committee received a memorandum dated June 10, 2003 from the Corporate Administrator advising of a vacant position on the Heritage Advisory Committee.

ACTION: Councillor Madoff moved that it be recommended to Council that Bryan Melnyk be appointed to the Heritage Advisory Committee for the term July 1, 2003 to December 31, 2004.

The Closed Meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m. and the Open Public Meeting resumed.

WORKSHOP

WATER AND ENVIRONMENT DIVISION
STRATEGIC PLAN – 2003-2007

03/433

The Manager, Water and Environment, conducted a workshop on the Division's 5 year strategic plan. He discussed the City's inventory of storm drain, sanitary sewer, and water distribution systems, focusing on the age and condition of the infrastructure. He outlined the proposed capital program for infrastructure re-investment, and the financial implications of this strategy. The presentation included comparisons of charges by area municipalities and other Canadian cities. Environment protection initiatives undertaken by the City were discussed and the presentation concluded with an explanation of future challenges and plans for managing them.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Mayor Lowe, Chair