

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

**MEETING HELD THURSDAY, JUNE 26, 2003 AT 9:07 A.M.**

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

**ABSENT:** Councillor Hughes

Mr. Joe Martignago, City Manager, attended for the entire meeting and Messrs. Basey, Bauman, Chow, Dowdall, Leskiw, McCliggott, Stewardson, and Woodland, Ms. Higgins, Ms. O'Regan and Ms. Zink attended for portions of the meeting.

Recording Secretary: Linda Johnson

### **PARKS**

#### **GREENWAYS PLAN**

03/495

Committee received a memorandum dated June 16, 2003 from the Parks, Recreation and Community Services Advisory Committee advising that at its meeting on June 2, 2003 the Greenways Plan was discussed.

**ACTION:** Councillor Savoie moved that comments received from the organizations included in the Greenways Plan referral process be held until the July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Committee of the Whole meeting, and all presented for consideration at the same time.

#### **REQUEST FOR REMOVAL FROM BOULEVARD MAINTENANCE TAX - NORTHCOTT AVENUE**

03/494

Committee received a memorandum dated June 29, 2003 from the Manager, Parks Division, regarding a Petition received from the property owners on Northcott Avenue requesting removal from the Boulevard Maintenance Tax Program. Withdrawal of one or both sides of a block from this service requires a petition signed by 66% of property owners representing 66% of the assessed property value of both sides of the block.

**ACTION:** Councillor Madoff moved that it be recommended to Council that the petition from the property owners on Northcott Street requesting removal from the Boulevard Grass Service Program, be endorsed.

## RECREATION

### PROPOSED RATES AND FEES 2003 – RECREATION SERVICES

03/493

Committee received a memorandum dated June 20, 2003, from the Manager, Recreational Services Division, and Manager, Crystal Pool and Fitness Center, regarding proposed 2003 rates and fees for recreation services.

Staff conducted an overall review and recommended rate changes to facility admissions and rentals for the Crystal Pool and Fitness Center, Royal Athletic Park, Tennis Courts and Cameron Bandshell, for implementation September 1, 2003.

**ACTION:** Councillor Coleman moved that it be recommended to Council that:

- 1) The revised rates and fees be approved, effective September 1, 2003.
- 2) The City Solicitor be instructed to amend the *“Recreation Facilities Admission Bylaw (No. 96-28), Schedules “A” through to “G”* incorporating the approved rates effective September 1, 2003.

### TOPAZ PARK, FINAYSON FIELD – ARTIFICIAL TURF PROJECT

03/492

Committee received a memorandum dated June 20, 2003 from the Manager, Recreation Services providing an update on a partnership between the City, Bays United, and others to cost share improvements and upgrades to the City’s sports fields.

An Infrastructure Grant Application for cost sharing by federal, provincial and local governments has been prepared for development of an artificial turf facility at Topaz Park’s Finlayson Field. The Sport Field Users Group reviewed the proposal at a meeting on June 15, 2003, and there was general support for the proposal. There is, however, concern for the ball diamond that would require relocation or replacement.

**ACTION:** Councillor Coleman moved that it be recommended to Council that:

- 1) Approval be given to the Topaz Park, Finlayson Field, Artificial Turf Field Project, subject to the relocation or redevelopment of the current ball diamond.
- 2) Approval be given to the submission of the project for the Federal, Provincial and City Infrastructure Grant Application and for consideration by Council during the ranking process.
- 3) Approval in principle be given to a borrowing and repayment strategy subject to further investigation and report back to Council.

**AMENDMENT TO RULES AND REGULATIONS -  
"SO YOU THINK YOU'RE TOUGH" MATCHES**

03/491

Committee received a memorandum dated June 9, 2003 from the Victoria-Esquimalt Athletic Commission advising that they reviewed the Rules and Regulations of the Commission at a meeting on May 27, 2003, including additional requirements for the "So You Think You're Tough" matches.

**ACTION:** Councillor Coleman moved that it be recommended to Council that the additional requirements of "So You Think You're Tough" matches be amended to include mandatory use of 16 oz. gloves for all contestants.

**FINANCE**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION -  
ANNUAL REPORT & PUBLIC BODIES REPORT**

03/490

Committee received a memorandum dated June 26, 2003 from the Comptroller, Finance Department, regarding the City of Victoria's Statement of Financial Information. In order to comply with the revised Provincial Financial Information Regulations regarding the Statements of Financial Information, the Annual Report and Public Bodies Report requires approval by City Council and the Officer responsible for financial administration:

**The City of Victoria Annual Report** includes the 2002 Audited Financial Statements and various financial statistics.

**The City of Victoria Public Bodies Report** includes schedules of, payments to suppliers of goods and services in excess of \$25,000, 2002 grants paid, remuneration and expenses paid to Council members, employee expenses, and remuneration paid to employees in excess of \$75,000.

**ACTION:** Councillor Fleming moved that it be recommended to Council that the Statements of Financial Information, be approved as presented.

Councillor Fortin advised that he has an association with the following matter through his employer. Because of this potential conflict of interest, he left the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

**210 GORGE ROAD EAST  
GRANT TO OFFSET 2003 PROPERTY TAXES**

03/489

Committee received a memorandum dated June 25, 2003 from the Manager, Community Development Division, and the Manager, Business Support and Risk Management, regarding a grant request of \$6,511.66, by CEDCO Victoria, on behalf of the Canadian Housing Research Fund (CHRF), to offset the 2003 property taxes for the motel at 210 Gorge Road East. Neither CEDCO nor CHRF applied for a permissive tax exemption for the

2003 tax year but intends to do so for 2004. Since the deadline for the 2003 tax payment is July 2, 2003, the request is being brought forward at this time.

**ACTION:** Councillor Holland moved that it be recommended to Council that the grant request to cover the 2003 property taxes for 210 Gorge Road East be declined.

Councillor Fortin returned to the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

## **PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT**

### **REZONING APPLICATION #01-25** **206 ROBERT STREET**

03/488

Committee received a memorandum dated June 12, 2003, from the Senior Planner, advising that the applicant for Rezoning Application No. 01-25 for 206 Robert Street has sold the property and the new owners do not wish to proceed with rezoning.

**ACTION:** Councillor Madoff moved that Rezoning Application #01-25 be lifted from the table, received and filed.

## **DOCKSIDE REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

03/487

Committee received a memorandum dated June 23, 2003 from the Manager, Regulatory & Development Services regarding a recommendation from the Dockside Steering Committee that \$5,250 be added to the market risk analysis budget for the Dockside Lands. The public consultation process identified seven potential uses for the property, more uses than predicted in the original budget estimate. The Steering Committee recommended taking all uses through the market risk analysis, therefore additional funding is required.

**ACTION:** Councillor Holland moved that it be recommended to Council that \$5,250 be added to the Dockside Lands market risk analysis budget.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **DISPOSITION OF COMMUNICATION**

03/486

Committee received a memorandum dated June 19, 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 June 19, 2003 from the Manager, Administration, be received for information and filed.

## **VEHICLES FOR HIRE BYLAW**

03/485

The Corporate Administrator advised that the Motor Carrier Commission of British Columbia has approved an application from the Capital Region Taxi Owners Association for an increase in taxicab fares of 3.34% effective July 2, 2003.

**ACTION:** Councillor Fleming moved that it be recommended to Council that the taxi meter rates specified in the Vehicles for Hire Bylaw be amended to comply with the Motor Carrier Commission of British Columbia Order #12-03.

## **PROCLAMATION**

03/484

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

- "Pride Week 2003" June 29<sup>th</sup> to July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2003

## **RECREATION**

### **MULTI-PURPOSE FACILITY – PUBLIC ART COMPETITION**

03/483

Committee received a memorandum dated June 26, 2003 from the Project Manager of the Victoria Arena, Parks, Recreation & Community Development Department, regarding the Multipurpose Facility Public Art Project.

In October 2002, as part of the overall multipurpose budget approved by City Council, a sum of \$150,000 was earmarked for public art. Of this amount, which was to be paid for by the City, \$120,000 was set aside for the artwork, with the remainder allocated for the administration of the project and honoraria for the five finalists.

The three-stage jury process, which took approximately four months to complete, resulted in the selection of Mr. Mowry Baden for his piece entitled "Pavilion, Rock and Shell". Mr. Baden is an internationally recognized artist, and his work is located in galleries and cities across North America. As part of the proposal, the artist included a model, drawings and a fully developed budget. The model will be available for public viewing in the foyer of the City until July 4, 2003.

RG Properties has been advised of the jury's selection and will ensure the proper integration of the artwork into the plaza and landscape design.

**ACTION:** Councillor Madoff moved that the report dated June 26, 2003 from the Project Manager, be received for information.

## COUNCILLOR INQUIRIES

### RESOLUTION - SPACE TREATY PRESERVATION CONFERENCE

03/482

Committee received a memorandum dated June 23, 2003 from Councillor Rob Fleming requesting Committee's consideration of the following resolution in support of an emergency Space Preservation Treaty Conference to permanently ban the weaponization of space.

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

Whereas, the termination of the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty on June 13, 2002, permits research, development, testing, manufacturing, production and deployment of space-based weapons, thereby promoting an arms race in space;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty will establish a permanent ban on all space-based weapons, on the use of weapons to destroy or damage objects in space that are in orbit; and the permanent termination of research and development, testing, manufacturing, production and deployment of all space-based weapons;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty will establish an outer space peacekeeping agency to monitor outer space and enforce the permanent ban of space-based weapons;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty permits space exploration, space research and development, testing, manufacturing or deployment that is not related to space-based weapons or systems, including civil, commercial, or defence activities such as communications, navigation, surveillance, reconnaissance, early warning, or remote sensing;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty facilitates investment in clean, safe and sustainable technology, products and services to support expanded, cooperative, non-weapons space ventures and the consequent stimulation of the national and world economy;

And Whereas, the Space Preservation Treaty preserves the peaceful, cooperative uses of space for all residents of Victoria and prevents harmful health and safety impacts on residents from space-based weapons testing.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- 1) That Victoria City Council urge the Prime Minister of Canada to sign the Space Preservation Treaty and have the House of Commons of Canada ratify it; and
- 2) That Victoria City Council urge the Government of Canada to convene a treaty-signing conference for the Space Preservation Treaty, as Canada did in the treaty-signing conference in December 1997, where 122 countries signed the Convention Banning Land Mines, known as the Ottawa Convention; and
- 3) This resolution of Victoria City Council be sent to the President and Executive of the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for information.

## **COUNCILLOR INFORMATION SHARING**

### **SPAM**

03/481

Councillor Madoff requested an update at the next Committee of the Whole meeting (July 10, 2003) on the review by Information Systems staff regarding methods of reducing the amount of SPAM (unsolicited e-mail) received by Councillors and staff.

### **PHONE SYSTEM AT CITY HALL**

03/480

Councillor Madoff advised of public concerns regarding the City's telephone system. She requested an update on answering procedures, including statistics on the percentage of calls answered by an operator vs. those put through the automatic voice system.

### **DOGGIE BAG DISPENSERS**

03/479

Councillor Fleming advised that the Finance and Human Resources Committee reviewed a proposal for doggie bag dispensers, provided free to the City in exchange for allowing advertising on the dispensers. A full report on the proposal will be brought forward to the July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003 Committee of the Whole meeting.

### **"THE WORLD" CRUISE SHIP**

03/478

Councillor Holland advised that the cruise ship "The World", on her maiden voyage, will stop in Victoria on June 27, 2003.

### **CLOSED MEETING - 10:30 A.M.**

Councillor Madoff 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 - RECREATION INTEGRATION VICTORIA AGREEMENTS**

03/477

Committee received a memorandum dated June 20, 2003 from the Manager, Recreation Services Division, regarding renewal of two agreements related to Recreation Integration Victoria.

- ACTION:** Councillor Holland moved that it be recommended to Council that:
- 1) The renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding with the regional partners for provision of coordinated recreation and leisure activities for people with disabilities, be approved.
  - 2) The renewal of the Executive Director Service Agreement for the administration of coordinated recreation and leisure activities for people with disabilities, be approved.

## **LEGAL – FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST**

03/476

The Corporate Administrator advised that he will be meeting with Members of Council to review any files that respond to a recently received Freedom of Information Request.

Councillor Fortin left the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

## **LOWER CAUSEWAY COMMERCE**

03/475

Councillor Fortin returned to the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

Mayor Lowe provided an update on discussions with representatives of First Nations Bands regarding commerce on the Lower Causeway.

The meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

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Mayor Alan Lowe, Chair