

**MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**  
**HELD THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2007, 8:00 a.m.**

**Committee Members Present:** Mayor Lowe in the Chair, Councillors Coleman, Fortin, Holland, Hughes, Madoff, Thornton-Joe and Young.

**Absent:** Councillor Chandler

**Staff Present:** R. Woodland - Corporate Administrator; P. Ballantyne – City Manager; C. Havelka - Recording Secretary.

**Staff Present for a Portion of the Meeting:** P. O'Reilly – Director of Engineering; M. Hornell – Manager, Community Planning; S. Schopp – Manager, Regulatory & Development Services; K. Ramsay – Community Development Planner; D. Leslie – Manager, Engineering Information & Technology; D. Koch – Manager, Development Services; B. Kerr – Manager, Water & Environment Engineering; T. Phillips – Manager, Revenue; C. Ho – Executive Assistant; W. Zink – Manager, Social Planning & Housing; L. Chase – Senior Planner; B. Dellebuur – Transportation Planner; J. Daly – Manager, Research, Planning & Design; G. Price-Douglas – Community Development Planner; C. O'Regan – Manager, Facilities & Operations.

**1. CLOSED MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR AT 8:05 a.m.**

**Action:** Councillor Holland moved that Committee of the Whole convene a Closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 11(6) of the Council Bylaw for the reason that the following agenda items deal with matters specified in Section 11(3) and/or (4) of the Council Bylaw.

CARRIED 07/111

*Councillor Fortin withdrew from the Council Chambers at 8:06 a.m. as he is the Executive Director of the Burnside Gorge Community Association and has a direct pecuniary interest with Dockside Green.*

*Councillor Chandler joined the meeting at 8:08 a.m.*

**1.1 Development Cost Charges**

Committee received a report dated January 31, 2007 from Corporate and Regulatory Services with respect to Development Cost Charges.

The discussion was recorded and kept confidential.

**Action:**

Councillor Holland moved that that Council:

1. Receives this report for information;
2. Instructs City Staff to review alternative mechanisms for the City to support the implementation of “green development” initiatives;
3. Support the UBCM in its efforts to pursue implementation of UBCM Resolution B118 Authority to Waive or Reduce Development Cost Charges.

CARRIED 07/110

**1.2 January 25, 2007 Special Committee of the Whole In Camera Minutes**

**Action:**

Councillor Holland moved that the In Camera Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held January 25, 2007 be adopted.

CARRIED 07/109

**1.3 February 6, 2007 Special Committee of the Whole In Camera Minutes**

**Action:**

Councillor Holland moved that the In Camera Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held February 6, 2007 be adopted.

CARRIED 07/108

**2. ADJOURNMENT OF CLOSED MEETING AT 9:09 a.m.**

**3. OPEN MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR AT 9:10 a.m.**

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Mayor outlined the following changes to the February 15, 2007 Committee of the Whole agenda:

- Item # 3 – should read as January 25, 2007 minutes
- Item # 4 – should read as February 1, 2007 minutes
- Additional Correspondence for item # 7
- Additional Correspondence for item # 8
- Addition of item # 22 – Offer to Lease
- Councillor Inquiries / Information Sharing:
  - a) Councillor Hughes – one sharing
  - b) Councillor Fortin – one inquiry and two sharing
  - c) Councillor Thornton-Joe - two sharing
  - d) Councillor Chandler – two sharing
  - e) Councillor Madoff – one sharing

**Action:**

Councillor Coleman moved that the Agenda of the February 15, 2007 Committee of the Whole meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED 07/107

## 5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

### 5.1 January 25, 2007 Special Committee of the Whole Minutes

**Action:** Councillor Hughes moved that the minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held January 25, 2007 be adopted.

CARRIED 07/106

### 5.2 February 1, 2007 Committee of the Whole Minutes

**Action:** Councillor Hughes moved that the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held February 1, 2007 be adopted.

CARRIED 07/105

## 6. PRESENTATION

### 6.1 2007 Police Budget Presentation

Committee received an overview of the 2007 Police Budget, including 2007 budget requests, an overview of significant changes and 2007 budget allocation.

The presentation detailed expense increases due to personnel changes, with overtime costs accounting for a large portion of those increases. From 2002 to 2006 the overtime expenditure has increased by almost \$1.3 million, from \$817,524 to \$2,112,000 (158%). In 2006 the budget was \$981,000 and the overtime cost was \$2,112,000. Committee was advised that this was an unusual year due to murder investigations; however, the reality is that the Police Department will face these challenges again.

In previous years the deficit in the overtime budget was offset by surpluses in salaries and benefits due to hiring lag and early retirements. However the department is at full strength so it is anticipated that there will be no savings in salaries this fiscal year. Also noted was the increase in police overtime costs in all jurisdictions across Canada.

Committee was advised by staff that overtime cannot be eliminated altogether because of the shift schedules, court appearances and emergency situations. However, the department has put in control measures to assist in reducing overtime.

Committee members expressed concern and inquired on the following:

- Costs related to officers attending court hearings has been reduced from \$300,000 to \$100,000; a level the Police Chief advised is lowest he's seen.
- The Police Chief advised that Victoria is one of the last core cities, others are regional.

- A Committee member's concern regarding enforcement being used for social problems was addressed with the Police Chief advising that traditional enforcement was not the goal but rather regulatory control to provide a safe place to live and work.
- Bar patron problems resulting from nightclubs closing late is being addressed through the Cabaret Owners Association which is working with city staff and police.
- A Committee member expressed concern with respect to increases in crime downtown and lack of prosecution attracting an undesirable element to the core.
- Less than 10¢ on every tax dollar is allocated to municipal taxes, constraining the City's ability to respond to these issues.

There will be further discussion on this topic during the 2007 Financial Plan portion of the Committee of the Whole meeting to be held on March 1, 2007.

*Councillor Holland withdrew from the meeting at 9:55 a.m. as she is a UBCM Executive Board member which creates a non-pecuniary conflict of interest in the following item.*

## **7. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES**

### **7.1 Development Permit Application # 000074 for 525 Government Street**

Committee received a report dated February 6, 2007 from Development Services with respect to Development Permit Application # 000074 for 525 Government Street. The application is to construct a new facility for Municipal House, Victoria's headquarters for the Union of BC Municipalities. This project is also subject to a rezoning application, which amends the Legislative Precinct Master Development Agreement.

The applicant, by correspondence, has outlined the project, provided details of the neighbourhood response and assessed the project in relation to the *Legislative Precinct Urban Design Manual Build Form Guidelines 1974*. These design guidelines are not prescriptive and do provide for variations in building design. While the preferred roof form is a pitch roof, the trade-off in this case is a green roof which also speaks to the building's use as office.

The Advisory Design Panel reviewed the proposal and recommended its approval subject to a true "living wall" being created on the south side incorporating native plants, with attention to seasonal changes of colour.

**Action:** Councillor Madoff moved that the resolution of approval be considered at the same public meeting for which the rezoning hearing is scheduled. Following the Public Hearing, Council authorize the issuance of a Development Permit in accordance with:

1. Plans stamped "Development Permit # 000074" dated December 20, 2006.
2. Development meeting all bylaw requirements.
3. Final plans to be in accordance with the direction of the Advisory Design Panel to incorporate a true "living wall" being created on the south side incorporating native plants,

with attention to seasonal changes of colour, to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Development.

CARRIED 07/104

*Councillor Holland returned to the meeting at 9:56 a.m.*

## **7.2 Development Variance Permit Application # 00039 for 710 Linden Avenue**

Committee received a report dated February 6, 2007 from Development Services with respect to Development Variance Permit Application # 00039 for 710 Linden Avenue. This application is to relax the rear yard landscaping requirement and parking landscape strip for a five unit conversion to allow five surface parking stalls to be located in the rear yard. To meet the Bylaw standard (due to non-conforming rights) three stalls are required, however, the applicant wishes to provide five stalls (one for each unit). In order to achieve this, the rear yard landscaping standards must be relaxed.

The current zoning of the property is the R1-B Zone, Single Family Dwelling, and the property is being redeveloped in accordance with the conversion regulations. The applicant has provided a rationale for the request and has submitted a petition from the adjacent neighbours in support of this proposal. The applicant met with the Fairfield Community Association; the letter was attached to the report.

Council's decision is subject to the *Local Government Act* and *Land Use Procedures Bylaw* notification requirements. A Council Hearing is required for this application.

**Action:** Councillor Holland moved that Council authorize the issuance of the Development Variance Permit for enlarged parking area for a five unit strata conversion subject to the development meeting all Zoning Bylaw requirements with the following variances:

- Schedule C, Section 7.2 (h) – Relax the requirement for parking to be surrounded by a landscaped area from 0.6 m wide to 0.1 m (north side).
- Schedule C, Section 7.1 (i) – Relax the requirement for parking to be surrounded by a landscaped area from 1.5 m wide to 0.1 m.
- Section 1.2.1.(o)(vii) Relax the requirement for landscape of the rear yard from 33% to 6%.  
subject to the application providing a green parking plan based on permeable paving and secured by covenant, to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Development.

CARRIED 07/103

*Councillor Fortin voted against this motion*

## **7.3 Rezoning # 00103 for 819 – 821 Yates Street**

Committee received a report from Development Services dated February 5, 2007 with respect to Rezoning Application # 00103 for 819-821 Yates Street. This resubmission significantly changes a proposal tabled at the December 7, 2006 Committee of the Whole meeting. The proposal replaces a surface parking lot with twin 14 storey residential towers, retail fronting on Yates and View Streets and two levels of underground parking. Rezoning is required to increase density from 3.0:1 FSR to 5.83:1. The applicant's letter of February 2, 2007 detailing this proposal was attached to the report.

The following points were taken into consideration in assessing this application from a triple bottom line perspective:

- The requested density lift from 3.0:1 to 5.83 FSR is justified by the residential use, mid-block walkway, public art worth approximately \$200,000 and economic benefits to north Downtown;
- The height, siting and facades' massing have been revised to comply more closely with zoning;
- Onsite parking, while reduced in number, meets Zoning standards and is now entirely underground (previously three levels were above ground);
- Ground level open space, in the form of a private internal courtyard and public walkway, has been significantly enlarged;
- Reorientation of the dwellings' windows to the streets and inner court will enhance liveability;
- Shop front uses have replaced residential at the street level on View Street;
- Although the dwellings are 100% condominium, 10% will be adaptable;
- The building will be LEED certified.

Committee members made inquiries and noted the following points:

- The distance between the two buildings is from 39 to 52 feet.
- The garden in the middle is secured and private.
- The two towers are the same height; varying the height be more acceptable.
- The pedestrian perspective could be improved.
- A mid-block walkway can take 50 – 100 years to be successful.

Some members expressed concerns over the complete change in the plan and felt the original plan with adjustments would have sufficed.

**Action:** Councillor Madoff moved that further consideration of this matter be postponed pending Advisory Design Panel review, and staff review of design options with the applicant to more fully meet the expectations expressed by Committee.

CARRIED 07/102

*Councillor Young voted against this motion*

#### **7.4 Rezoning # 000115 for 1044 Davie Street**

Committee received a report from Development Services dated February 2, 2007 with respect to Rezoning Application # 000115 for 1044 Davie Street. The application is to rezone a large lot (711 m<sup>2</sup>) to allow the construction of a one and a half storey side by side duplex to replace an existing single family dwelling.

The following points were considered in recommending approval of this application:

- The proposal is in keeping with the *Regional Growth Strategy*, the “General Residential” policies of the *Official Community Plan* and in the housing policies of the *Gonzales Neighbourhood Community Plan*.
- The proposed land use and density are in keeping with a triple bottom line approach by adding to the variety of housing in a neighbourhood in a location that is close to work, schools, shopping and parks.
- The proposal complies with the *Neighbourliness Guidelines for Duplexes* and fits in with neighbouring single family homes and duplexes.
- The existing single family dwelling is in poor condition and in need of significant repairs.
- The Fairfield Community Association and neighbours have been consulted.

The applicant’s letter outlining the proposal and its rationale was attached to the report. It was noted that the lot will be included in Intensive Residential Development Permit Area # 26 regulating the exterior design, finish and landscaping.

**Action:** Councillor Holland moved that the application be forwarded for consideration at a Public Hearing and that the City’s Solicitor be instructed to prepare the necessary Zoning Bylaw amendments, subject to approval of the Development Permit concurrent with the rezoning to allow construction in accordance with the plans date stamped December 15, 2006.

CARRIED 07/101

## **7.5 Rezoning Application # 00121 for 412 Quebec Street**

Committee received a report dated February 15, 2007 from Development Services with respect to Rezoning Application # 00121 for 412 Quebec Street. This application is to amend the existing T-6 Zone to permit the expansion of an existing ground floor breakfast room and enclosure of an existing exterior seating area. The proposal is in accordance with the *Official Community Plan, 1995* and *James Bay Neighbourhood Plan, 1993*.

The following points were considered in assessing this application:

- Density – The amendment to the T-6 zone would not impact any other locations. The proposed density is an increase of 0.04:1.
- Site Coverage – represents a small increase in site coverage compared to the building size.
- Open Site Space – A minimal relaxation would be required.
- Front Set-back – Due to a previous Development Permit with variances, this proposal reflects a small change in setback from that currently in existence.
- The applicant has consulted with neighbours and the James Bay Neighbourhood Environment Association and has made modifications to the roof and angled roof glass treatment as requested.

Overall, there is little impact on the neighbourhood as the outdoor seating space is currently in place.

**Action:** Councillor Holland moved that the application be forwarded for consideration at a Public Hearing and that the City's Solicitor be instructed to prepare the necessary Zoning Bylaw amendments as set out in 6.1 subject to the Development Permit concurrent with the rezoning to allow construction in accordance with the plans date stamped December 14, 2006 (amended Elevation and Roof Plans date stamped February 1, 2007).

CARRIED 07/100

## **8. COMMUNITY PLANNING**

### **8.1 Notice of Motion Regarding Developer Pro-Formas**

Committee received a report dated February 8, 2007 from Community Planning with respect to a Notice of Motion regarding Developer Pro-Formas. Committee of the Whole discussed a notice of motion to require developers to provide a summary of projected costs and profit to Council for review by an independent consultant, as part of applications for rezoning. The Committee requested that the proposed motion be referred to staff for consideration and report back with more information on the issue. Subsequently, Council approved the fast-tracking of four Downtown Plan Update strategic priorities including development of an interim policy on bonus density/securing public amenities, with a target of staff reporting back with options and recommendations in March/April 2007.

Coriolis Consulting Corp. has completed a draft discussion paper that reviews approaches and current practice in BC with respect to obtaining amenity contributions from new development. This draft report provides a thorough overview to the subject, including a detailed discussion of the use of pro-forma financial analysis to determine the potential for amenity contributions from new development, using both hypothetical and municipal case study examples. Consistent with the Project Charter approved by Council, the draft discussion paper will be discussed by Advisory Planning Commission and will be the topic of a public information meeting to be held in the coming month. The approved Project Charter is attached to the report as Schedule B. Further consideration of the notice of motion could be deferred for these discussions, following which Council will have opportunity to review the interim bonus density/amenity contribution policy options and recommendations targeted for March/April, 2007.

Committee members discussed the following:

- How to approach amenity density bonuses for large areas and sites.
- Some municipalities use a combination of information from staff and developers to calculate the value of the land.
- Negotiating with neighbourhoods on amenities and allowable height.
- If it is appropriate to sell bonus density.
- Bonus density needs to be used strategically.

*Councillor Chandler withdrew from the meeting at 10:50 a.m.*

A Committee member inquired as to the number of developments with bonus density that are coming forward. The Director of Planning & Development advised she will confirm and share this information with Committee.

*Councillor Chandler returned to the meeting at 10:54 a.m.*

Staff advised that this is a draft discussion paper and that there is a public information session on February 28, 2007 and the subject will also be discussed by the Advisory Design Panel.

*Councillor Coleman withdrew from the meeting at 11:05 a.m.*

*Councillor Coleman returned to the meeting at 11:07 a.m.*

**Action:** Councillor Holland moved that Council receive this report for information.

CARRIED 07/099

*Councillor Young voted against this motion*

## **8.2 Advisory Planning Commission 2007 Priorities**

Committee received a report dated February 8, 2007 from Community Planning with respect to Advisory Planning Commission 2007 Priorities. On October 30, 2006 the Advisory Planning Commission passed a resolution advising Council that it would focus in 2007 on five priority areas: density bonus; a strategy to accelerate important or high value aspects of the Downtown Plan; a strategy to accelerate important or high value aspects of Neighbourhood Plans; land economics and relation to planning policies; and integration of other themes into the planning process.

The purpose of this report is to clarify the Advisory Planning Commission's (APC) role and priorities for 2007. This is in response to a November 16, 2006 request from Committee of the Whole, that the Planning and Development Department report back within ninety days clarifying the APC's role and priorities. The Department has evaluated the priorities identified and finds them consistent with the APC Terms of Reference and the Department's priorities for 2007. The Department values APC as a sounding board on the development of planning policy, and welcomes the potential to consider the integration of other themes that bear on community planning broadly.

**Action:** Councillor Holland moved that Council:

1. Receive this report for information.
2. Approve the priorities identified by the Advisory Planning Commission in their report of October 30, 2006, specifically:

*"That the Advisory Planning Commission during its current term advise Council on planning priorities in the following areas, beginning with the first two:*

- a) density bonus;*
- b) strategy to accelerate important or high value aspects of the Downtown Plan;*
- c) strategy to accelerate important or high value aspects of Neighbourhood Plans;*
- d) land economics and relation to planning policies;*

- e) *integration of other themes (such as transportation, infrastructure, social issues, inter-governmental cooperation) into the planning process.”*

CARRIED 07/098

## **9. ENGINEERING**

### **9.1 2007 Emergency Planning Program Grant Application**

Committee received a report dated January 31, 2007 from Engineering with respect to 2007 Emergency Planning Program Grant Application. In November 2006, the Union of British Columbia Municipalities announced the launch of the 2007 Emergency Planning Program for local governments, which is supported by the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Provincial Emergency Program and the Provincial New Relationship Fund. The 2007 Emergency Planning Funding Program supports local governments in conducting Hazard Risk and Vulnerability Analysis within their boundaries, in reviewing and updating emergency plans to meet BCERMS standards and in providing exercising and/or training funds to support local emergency plans. The maximum eligible program costs is \$5,000.

Based on purpose and objectives of the 2007 Emergency Planning Funding Program, staff believes that submitting an application to obtain training funds will receive serious consideration during the evaluation process. The total estimated cost of the training project is \$8,500 for 24 staff members in the Engineering Department.

**Action:** Councillor Fortin moved that Council approves and supports staff's application for the 2007 Emergency Planning Funding Program for training related to emergency planning, response, and recovery.

CARRIED 07/097

### **9.2 Licence to Use City of Victoria Underground Ducts**

Committee received a report dated February 6, 2007 from Engineering with respect to Licence to Use City of Victoria Underground Ducts. The City has an underground duct system with capacity in excess of City requirements. For many years the City has allowed the Provincial Government and private utilities to place communication cables in these ducts. This has been done with written and verbal agreements or proclamations of cooperation.

This agreement will establish standard terms, conditions and rental rates for the users of the duct system. The intent is to enter into this agreement with all current and future users of the City's duct system.

The agreement "Licence to Use City of Victoria Underground Ducts" attached to the report, was drafted by Peter Johnson of Staples McDannold Stewart and the City's Engineering Department. It is recommended that the City use a "Licence to Use City of Victoria Underground Ducts" agreement for all companies wishing to

use City of Victoria ducts. A map attached to the report indicates the extent of the City of Victoria underground ducts available for rent.

**Action:**

Councillor Fortin moved that City Council:

1. Endorse the "Licence to Use City of Victoria Underground Ducts" agreement.
2. Authorize the Corporate Administrator to execute these agreements on behalf of the City.

CARRIED 07/096

### **9.3 Localmotion Grant Application**

Committee received a report dated February 5, 2007 from Engineering with respect to Localmotion Grant Application. The Provincial Government recently established the Localmotion program, designed to assist local governments in creating vibrant and integrated communities. The program will provide \$40,000,000 in funding over the next four years in 50/50 cost-sharing grants to local governments, to accelerate the development of capital projects that build bike paths, walkways, greenways, and improve accessibility for people with disabilities throughout the province. The maximum funding each municipality can receive is \$1,000,000/year. Applications to the program are to be submitted by February 17, 2007.

Staff proposed applying for funding for three projects:

1. **Esquimalt Road between Dominion Road and Tye Road** – an \$800,000 (approximately) cycling/pedestrian/streetscaping/greenway project, consistent with the City's Greenways Plan, the Bicycle Master Plan, and the Victoria West Transportation Study.
2. **Craigflower Road/Skinner Street between Dominion Road and Bay Street** – a \$400,000 (approximately) cycling /pedestrian/ streetscaping/ greenway project, and consistent with the City's Greenways Plan, Bicycle Master Plan, and the Victoria West Transportation Study. Both projects in Victoria West tie in with corridor improvements currently being considered by the Township of Esquimalt.
3. **Chatham Street/Caledonia Avenue between Store Street and Blanshard Street** – an \$800,000 (approximately) cycling/pedestrian/ streetscaping/greenway project, consistent with the City's Greenways Plan, and Bicycle Master Plan. This project builds on the work recently completed on the block of Caledonia Avenue between Blanshard Street and Quadra Street.

*Councillor Thornton-Joe withdrew from the meeting at 11:23 a.m.*

The Localmotion program requires that municipalities assign a priority to each project when making multiple applications. The projects are listed in order of priority, as suggested by staff.

*Councillor Thornton-Joe returned to the meeting at 11:25 a.m.*

A Committee member expressed concerns with respect to the Community Association's current work on these issues and was assured by staff that approving the funding for these applications would not preclude solutions provided from these groups.

*Mayor Lowe withdrew from the meeting at 11:26 a.m. Councillor Chandler assumed the Chair.*

- Action:** Councillor Young moved that Council endorse the three following projects for Local motion grant applications:
1. Esquimalt Road between Dominion Road and Tyee Road.
  2. Craigflower Road/Skinner Street between Dominion Road and Bay Street.
  3. Chatham Street/Caledonia Avenue between Store Street and Blanshard Street.

CARRIED 07/095

*Mayor Lowe returned to the meeting at 11:29 a.m. and assumed the Chair*

## 10. PARKS

### 10.1 Lotbiniere Avenue

Committee received a report dated February 5, 2007 from Parks with respect to closing a portion of Lotbiniere Avenue to through vehicle traffic.

A portion of Lotbiniere Avenue is a narrow roadway located on the west side of Government House and connects between Rockland Avenue and Richardson Street. Residents living on this portion of Lotbiniere Avenue have expressed concerns that the narrow road width, steep grade and limited visibility present a safety risk.

This portion of Lotbiniere Avenue is fee simple land in the name of the province (Lot A, Fairfield Farm Estate, Victoria City, Plan 955). The province has advised the City that the province interprets this property to be a travelled road as defined by the Transportation Act. The municipality has the right to close a travelled road through bylaw.

The Rockland Community Association and Government House have indicated support for the closure of the road to through vehicle traffic and limiting vehicle traffic to local residents only. The City of Victoria Greenways Plan (2003) identifies Lotbiniere Avenue as a Greenway. Transportation Division staff and Parks Division staff support the proposal to close Lotbiniere Avenue to through vehicle traffic, limiting vehicle traffic to local residents and maintaining the road as a greenway connection for pedestrians and cyclists.

- Action:** Councillor Holland moved that Council instructs staff:
1. To prepare the necessary bylaw to close Lotbiniere Avenue to through vehicle traffic and
  2. Subject to passing the bylaw, close Lotbiniere Avenue to through vehicle traffic.

## 11. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### 11.1 2007 Festival Investment Grant Recommendations

Committee received a report dated February 6, 2007 from Community Development with respect to the 2007 Festival Investment Grant Recommendations. Festival Investment Grants have been given to arts and cultural organizations over the last nine years, to add to the vitality and cultural diversity of the City. (Appendix II was attached to the report). The City's annual FIG Program nurtures the development and sustainability of high quality festivals and celebrations in the City, by supporting long standing anchor festivals and celebrations as well as newer events. Continued City support is essential to provide organizers with valuable operational support and credibility to secure other levels of funding. The City's Corporate Strategic Plan places the pursuit of arts, culture and tourism opportunities as key objectives towards enhancing the City's liveability.

This year a total of twenty Festival Investment Grant (FIG) applications were received from seventeen organizations covering twenty events for a total request of \$168,500. The Recreation & Community Development Division has in its operational budget \$114,669 allocated towards this program.

Applications were reviewed on the basis of the Festival Investment Grant Guidelines, which include program criteria and merits of each event; their economic impact on the City; community support and the organization's effectiveness. Also factored into the review was the tight funding environment; other City and CRD support provided towards the event; weather risks associated with outdoor events; and the available grant budget.

For the 2007 FIG allocations, staffs recommends funding two new festivals; increased funding for ten events; a decrease for one celebration and maintenance of 2006 funding levels for several applicants. One application did not meet the funding criteria.

*Councillor Fortin withdrew from the Council Chambers at 11:33 a.m. as he is the Executive Director of the Burnside Gorge Community Association and has a direct pecuniary interest with this item.*

Staff advised Committee that the insurance costs which the City helps defray has seen a reduction as decided by Council motion and is now at \$8,500.

*Councillor Madoff withdrew from the Council Chambers due to a non-pecuniary conflict with the following item.*

- Action:** Councillor Holland moved that:
1. The 2007 Festival Investment Grant for Bandfest 2007 be approved for a total of \$4,000 as recommended.
  2. That recipients of the City's 2007 Festival Investment 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 & promotional material

CARRIED 07/093

*Councillor Madoff returned to meeting at 11:39 a.m.*

**Action:**

Councillor Madoff moved that:

1. The 2007 Festival Investment Grants be approved for a total of \$102,000 as recommended.
2. That recipients of the City's 2007 Festival Investment 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 & promotional material

CARRIED 07/092

*Councillor Fortin returned to the meeting at 11:40 a.m.*

## **12. FINANCE**

### **12.1 Council Remuneration**

Committee received a report dated February 9, 2007 from Finance with respect to Council Remuneration. In June 22, 2006, when Council received a report on Council Remuneration, it was moved that a Citizens Committee be established to review the Mayor and Council Remuneration and that recommendations be made on the appropriate level of compensation and the method of determination. The Citizen Committee would also make any other recommendations that may deem appropriate including transparency and when any changes should take effect.

A presentation was made by the Council Remuneration Committee members at Committee of the Whole on December 14, 2006. The recommended annual wage for Councillors is \$39,104 and for the Mayor \$97,760 with the same expense account reporting as exempt city staff. These salaries should increase annually according to the CPI (Consumer Price Index) and be published in a quarterly report posted on the website. The Committee also recommended Council have two full-time employees to assist with their workload as well as Information Technology support and training.

The Remuneration Committee recommends that these changes be implemented in January 2009 for the next incoming Council.

As a result of this review, the Director of Finance listed three options for Council's consideration:

**Option 1.** That Council approve the recommendations of the Council Remuneration Committee members for implementation in January 2009.

**Option 2.** That Council approve, effective immediately, increasing the annual remuneration of Mayor and Council to the average of the Municipalities surveyed (i.e. Mayor from \$66,789 to \$74,458 and Councillors from \$21,236 to \$25,878) and implement the recommendations of the Council Remuneration Committee in January 2009.

**Option 3.** That Council approve continuing with the normal practice of annual remuneration for Mayor and Council being determined by the consumer price index.

**Action:** Councillor Young moved that Council approve continuing with the existing practice of annual remuneration for Mayor and Council being determined by the consumer price index.

DEFEATED 07/091

*Mayor Lowe and Councillors Chandler, Coleman, Fortin, Holland, Hughes, Madoff and Thornton-Joe voted against this motion.*

Committee discussed the value Council represents for the community and the dedication and expense that comes with being a Councillor. The recommendation for an increase in pay comes from the Remuneration Committee and recommends a salary that allows all members of society to participate.

Some Committee members expressed concerns about the elimination of the tax free allowance and how the public views other levels of government awarding themselves pay hikes.

**Action:** Councillor Holland moved that Council approve:

1. Effective February 22, 2007, increasing the annual remuneration of Mayor and Council to the average of the Municipalities surveyed (i.e. Mayor from \$66,789 to \$74,458 and Councillors from \$21,236 to \$25,878); and
2. Implement the recommendations of the Council Remuneration Committee in January 2009.

CARRIED 07/090

*Councillors Coleman, Thornton-Joe and Young voted against this motion*

## **13. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

### **13.1 Disposition of Communications dated February 2, 2007 and February 9, 2007.**

**Action:** Councillor Coleman moved that the Disposition of Communications dated February 2, 2007 and February 9, 2007 from the Manager, Administration, be received for information and filed.

CARRIED 07/089

*Mayor Lowe withdrew from the meeting at 11:58 p.m. and Councillor Chandler assumed the chair.*

#### **14. COUNCILLOR INQUIRIES AND SHARING**

##### **14.1 Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group – Spirit Squares Program of British Columbia**

Councillor Hughes shared with Committee a request from the Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group with respect to funding to revitalize Fernwood Square. Fernwood NRG is requesting a matching grant for the Spirit Squares Program of the Government of British Columbia to enhance the social, cultural and economic well-being of Fernwood. A revitalized square will create an accessible outdoor venue for community events such as a weekly market space. The Fernwood NRG has letters of support from all businesses that front the square and an urban planner has offered his services pro bono. The application to the Province must be submitted by February 16, 2007.

The City Manager expressed concerns with respect to the Spirit Squares Program application the City has submitted for revitalizing Centennial Square and would like to avoid potential competition with this application. Committee expressed a desire to support the Fernwood NRG with the revitalization of the square by way of staff meeting with the community group. The applicant advised monetary support is the primary need of the Fernwood NRG to meet the February 16, 2007 deadline.

**Action:** Councillor Hughes moved that Council receive the correspondence from the Fernwood Neighbourhood Resource Group dated February 8, 2007 for information and that the City Manager work with staff to review options to help the Fernwood NRG revitalize the Fernwood Square.

CARRIED 07/088

*Councillor Young voted against this motion*

##### **14.2 Councillor Inquiry – TILMA**

Councillor Fortin had an inquiry with respect to TILMA (B.C. – Alberta Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement) and the City's authority to pass bylaws for pesticide use and greenways, as examples, under this provincial legislation. Councillor Fortin requested that legal staff provide information with respect to this agreement and to have an opportunity to make representation to the provincial authorities. Staff advised Committee that this agreement will become a part of the legislative framework and will be investigated further through the UBCM. The City

Manager advised she will provide Committee with more information on this agreement.

#### **14.3 Councillor Sharing – North Park Neighbourhood Association**

Councillor Fortin shared with Committee information with respect to the North Park Neighbourhood Association convening a meeting to gather residents' input with respect to the Cormorant Street issue.

#### **14.4 Councillor Sharing – CRD Request**

Councillor Fortin shared with Committee a request from the Chair of the Capital Regional District for documentation of environmental initiatives the City has pursued. For example, our City vehicle fleet uses 95% biodiesel fuel and spear-headed other environmental initiatives that are not documented.

#### **14.5 Councillor Sharing – Chinese New Year**

Councillor Thornton-Joe wished Committee Happy Chinese New Year and advised that this Sunday, February 18, 2007 is the lion dance at 1:00 p.m. in Chinatown.

#### **14.6 Councillor Sharing – Dine Around Stay in Town**

Councillor Thornton-Joe shared with Committee that from February 15 to March 04, 2007, Tourism Victoria and the Victoria branch of the BC Restaurant and Foodservices Association (BCRFA) are teaming up to once again present Dine Around, Stay in Town in Victoria. For more information go to: [www.tourismvictoria.com/dinearound](http://www.tourismvictoria.com/dinearound)

#### **14.7 Councillor Sharing – Adhoc Committee on Homelessness**

Councillor Chandler shared with Committee that the *Adhoc Committee on Homelessness* has changed their name to *Committee to End Homelessness*. On Tuesday, February 20, 2007 at noon, this Committee is having a BBQ lunch on the lawns of the Legislature.

#### **14.8 Councillor Sharing – Ethical Purchasing Forum February 23 & 24**

Councillor Chandler shared with Committee that the first Ethical Purchasing Forum will be held in Victoria at the University of Victoria on February 23 & 24, 2007. The Ethical Purchasing Forum is a space for ongoing dialogue and collaboration, designed to bring together active citizens to explore trade issues and expand ethical trade in the Victoria region. The forum aims to increase the market for ethically traded products through policy development at the municipal and institutional levels and by co-operating to increase public awareness and develop locally-based regional alternatives for ethical trade.

#### **14.9 Councillor Sharing – P3 Forum February 21**

Councillor Madoff shared with Committee that a forum discussing Public/Private Partnerships will be held at City Hall on February 21, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. This will

help to inform politicians and residents on this issue at a time when funding sewage treatment will soon be an issue.

**15. CLOSED MEETING at 12:50 p.m.**

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor Chandler in the Chair, Councillors Coleman, Fortin, Holland, Hughes, Madoff and Thornton-Joe.

**Committee Members Absent:** Mayor Lowe.

**Staff Present:** R. Woodland – Corporate Administrator; P. Ballantyne - City Manager; C. Havelka - Recording Secretary.

**Staff Present for a Portion of the Meeting:** D. Day – Director of Planning & Development; M. McCliggott – Director of Finance; C. Ho – Executive Assistant; T. Scott – Deputy Director, Human Resources.

**Action:** Councillor Coleman moved that Committee of the Whole convene a Closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 11(6) of the Council Bylaw for the reason that the following agenda items deal with matters specified in Section 11(3) and/or (4) of the Council Bylaw.

*Councillor Young withdrew from the meeting at 12:54 p.m.*

*Councillor Young returned to the meeting at 12:57 a.m.*

CARRIED 07/087

**15.1 Municipal Strategic Plan Objectives**

Committee received information from the City Manager with respect to the Municipal Strategic Plan Objectives.

*Mayor Lowe returned to the meeting at 1:10 p.m.*

**15.2 Land – Offer to Lease**

*Councillor Fortin withdrew from the Council Chambers at 1:10 p.m. as he is the Executive Director of the Burnside Gorge Community Association and has a direct pecuniary interest with the following item.*

The Corporate Administrator provided Committee with information with respect to an offer to lease land and advised that a written report will be presented to Committee at the March 1, 2007 Committee of the Whole meeting.

16. **ADJOURNMENT**

**Action:** Councillor Coleman moved that the Committee of the Whole meeting of February 15, 2007 be adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

CARRIED 07/086

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Mayor Lowe, Chair