

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2007, 9:00 a.m.

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

Staff Present: M. McCliggott – Acting City Manager; R. Woodland - Corporate Administrator; C. Havelka - Recording Secretary.

Staff Present for a Portion of the Meeting: P. O'Reilly – Director of Engineering; D. Day – Director of Planning & Development; D. Atkinson – Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Development; P. Sparanese – Deputy Director of Engineering; D. Koch – Manager, Development Services; S. Barber – Senior Heritage Planner; W. Zink – Manager, Social Planning & Housing; N. Taylor – Victoria Agreement, Project Manager; L. Baryluk - Planner; S. Schopp – Manager, Regulatory & Development Services; E. Robertson – Manager, Water & Environment; B. Sikstrom – Senior Planner; M. Hornell – Manager, Community Planning; C. Gower – Senior Planner, Urban Design; T. Phillips – Manager, Revenue.

1. CLOSED MEETING CONVENED AT 8:00 A.M. WITH NO STAFF PRESENT AT COMMITTEE'S REQUEST

2. CLOSED MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE CHAIR AT 8:30 a.m.

Action: Councillor Hughes 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 07/227

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

Staff Present: M. McCliggott – Acting City Manager; R. Woodland – Corporate Administrator; C. Havelka - Recording Secretary.

2.1 April 5, 2007 Committee of the Whole In Camera Minutes

Action: Councillor Hughes moved that the In Camera Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held April 5, 2007 be adopted.

CARRIED 07/226

Councillor Fortin withdrew from the Council Chambers at 8:32 a.m. as he is the Executive Director of the Burnside Gorge Community Association and has a direct pecuniary interest with following item

2.2 Land – Offer to Lease

Committee received a report from the Corporate Administrator dated March 8, 2007 with respect to an Offer to Lease City Land.

This discussion and resolution were recorded and kept confidential.

(Resolution Closed 07/225)

Councillor Fortin returned to Council Chambers at 8:47 a.m.

2.3 Appointment – Advisory Social Planning Committee

Committee received a report dated April 13, 2007 from Corporate & Regulatory Services regarding Advisory Social Planning Committee appointments.

Action: Councillor Fortin moved that it be recommended to Victoria City Council that Corrina Craig, Karen Dennis and Carol Romanow be appointed to the Advisory Social Planning Committee for the term ending December 31, 2007.

CARRIED 07/224

2.4 Appointment – Advisory Transportation Committee

Committee discussed a vacancy in the Advisory Transportation Committee.

Action: Councillor Young moved that it be recommended to Victoria City Council that Barbara Pedrick be appointed to the Advisory Transportation Committee for the term ending December 31, 2007.

CARRIED 07/223

Councillor Coleman withdrew from Council Chambers at 8:50 a.m. as he works for a restaurant business which creates a non-pecuniary interest in the following item.

2.5 CRD Non-Smoking Bylaw on Patios – Discussion

Committee discussed the CRD's proposed amendment to their Clean Air Bylaw to prohibit smoking on patios of businesses where food and beverages are served.

Councillor Coleman returned to Council Chambers at 8:57 a.m.

3. CALL TO ORDER – OPEN MEETING

The Mayor called the Open Meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Mayor outlined the following changes to the April 19, 2007 Committee of the Whole agenda:

- Additional Document – item # 2 – Corporate Strategic Plan Document
- Additional Correspondence – Item # 8 – Secondary Suites Review
- Addition of item # 13A - Infrastructure Grants
- In Camera - Addition of item # 21 - Appointments to the Advisory Social Planning Committee
- In Camera - Additional Report - item # 20 – Land – Offer to Lease
- Councillor Inquiries / Information Sharing:
 - a. Councillor Coleman – one sharing
 - b. Councillor Holland – one sharing
 - c. Councillor Fortin – five inquiries, two sharing
 - d. Councillor Chandler – one inquiry

Action: Councillor Thornton-Joe moved that the Agenda of the April 19, 2007 Committee of the Whole meeting be approved as amended.

CARRIED 07/222

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

5.1 April 5, 2007 Committee of the Whole Minutes

The Mayor advised that he voted against item 6.1 *Rezoning Application for 1620 Blanshard Street* on page 5 of the minutes.

Councillor Young advised that the motion for item 9.1 *2007 Tax Rates and Ratios* should be corrected to read as follows:

Councillor Young moved that Council approve Option # 7:

1. The Business and Industrial Tax Ratios to remain unchanged and that all rates to be adjusted to produce a Tax Increase of 3.99 % for the Residential Property Class.
2. The Utility Class is two and a half times the business rate.
3. The remaining additional New Construction Revenue (\$121,600) be added to the contingency account to help fund 2007 Collective Agreement Settlements.

Action: Councillor Hughes moved that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held April 5, 2007 be adopted as corrected.

CARRIED 07/221

6. PRESENTATION

6.1 City of Victoria Strategic Plan

Committee received a report dated April 9, 2007 from Deputy Directors Peter Sparanese, Engineering and Trina Scott, Human Resources, with respect to unveiling the new City of Victoria Strategic Plan (2007 – 2009). The planning of this document started over a year ago and involved considerable discussion amongst the various elected officials, city staff from each department and from information gathered through the community from the Citizen Survey.

The City's vision and mission essentially remains the same as in previous years and is as follows:

- Vision – To be the most liveable city in Canada.
- Mission – To enhance the vitality of our region through exceptional leadership and stewardship of our cultural, social, economic and environmental assets.

This new plan outlines how we propose to fulfill our vision and mission by using a “triple-bottom” line approach which was translated into four key themes that have become the guiding goals for the city. The goals of the plan include: Environmental Sustainability; Social and Cultural Development; Economic Vitality; and Service and Staff Excellence.

Each of the goals in the Corporate Strategic Plan has a series of objectives, strategies and performance measures which ensure we are fulfilling the vision of the plan. What is unique about this plan over the previous plans is that we have incorporated performance measures. These measures will help identify how well progress is being made and is part of the requirement according to the Community Charter.

Highlights of the new Corporate Strategic Plan include:

- Three year plan that guides decisions and budgets for Council and Staff,
- Provides a balance between our cultural, social, economic and environmental assets,
- The plan is citizen focused and allows the City to measure its progress towards achieving the goals,
- The plan involves annual reporting to our citizens to ensure we meet the City's vision and mission,
- The plan is multi-faceted and cross-departmental in achieving the goals, objectives and strategies.

Once the plan is approved, it will be communicated to staff and the community. We will also re-align other plans such as the Department Business Plans and Financial Plan (20-Year capital Program) to the Corporate Strategic Plan, in the next budget cycle. The yearly capital and operating budgets will also be reviewed to ensure the objectives of the plan are given a priority. As part of the Corporate Strategic plan, staff will be reporting on the progress on a yearly basis to ensure we are achieving the vision and mission of the plan and adjust the plan accordingly, if required.

Committee members thanked staff and all those who collaborated on this project. Also appreciated was the introduction of performance measures which make this an action orient document. Distributing the Corporate Strategic Plan to various community and business groups as well as having it on the City's website is important to ensure the engagement of the community. As part of the economic vitality of Victoria, Councillor Thornton-Joe requested that staff report on developing an entranceway sign to the city, saying "Welcome to Victoria".

Action: Councillor Fortin moved:

- That Council approve the new Corporate Strategic Plan (2007-2009).
- That the new Corporate Strategic Plan be communicated to staff and the community.
- That staff report back to Council each year on the progress of the plan and realign budgets.
- That Council thank the corporate strategic planning Committee and the Directors for their contribution.

CARRIED 07/220

7. DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

7.1 Development Permit Application # 000073 for 675 Superior Street

Committee received a report dated April 10, 2007 from Development Services with respect to Development Permit Application # 000073 for 675 Superior Street. This application is to construct twenty-one townhouses as a replacement for the Shamrock Motel at the corner of Douglas and Superior Streets. Included in the proposal is the continuing operation of a six-bedroom bed and breakfast establishment in the *Heritage Registry* Robert Porter House (Heritage Designation in progress). The project is also subject to a rezoning application and will be included in Development Permit Area 2 (Heritage Conservation) Inner Harbour and Lower Douglas.

The applicant has outlined the changes to address the issues raised by Council and staff in letters dated September 7, 2006, January 26, 2007 and March 30, 2007. At its meeting on April 4, 2007, the Advisory Design Panel reviewed this application and recommended approval.

As this Development Permit application does not include any variance, it will not require sign posting, notification and a hearing. However, the separate rezoning application for this proposal requires a Public Hearing.

Councillor Madoff requested meeting with staff to review design details on this project. In response to a Committee member's inquiry, staff reviewed the Arborist's report. Thirty-one trees are on the site and twenty-two will be removed. They are to be replaced two to one; either onsite or in Beacon Hill Park.

A Committee member inquired regarding the James Bay Neighbourhood Environment Association's report on this project and was advised it is usually

released with the rezoning application. The Committee member noted it would be helpful to have their comments tied together.

- Action:** Councillor Holland 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 # 000073" dated April 4, 2007.
 2. Development meeting all bylaw requirements.
 3. Finals plans to be in accordance with plans identified above to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning & Development Department.

CARRIED 07/219

7.2 Heritage Alteration Permit # 00056 for 905 Government Street

Committee received a report dated April 10, 2007 from Development Services with respect to Heritage Alteration Permit # 00056 for 905 Government Street. The application is to construct a new wood and glass storefront on the *Heritage Registry* building at the corner of Courtenay and Government Streets. The application requires Council approval of a Heritage Alteration Permit as it is a *Heritage Registry* building in the Old Town Heritage Conservation Area. The application is in compliance with the *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Historic Places* in Canada. A Committee member inquired about the lack of a comprehensive report for the main floor with staff advising this discussion had not occurred with the building owner.

A Public Hearing is not required for this application.

- Action:** Councillor Thornton-Joe moved that City Council authorize the issuance of Heritage Alteration Permit # 00056 in accordance with:
1. Plans dated March 23, 2007;
 2. Development meeting all bylaw requirements;
 3. Final plans to be in accordance with plans identified above

CARRIED 07/218

7.3 Owner Request for Heritage Designation for 1228 McKenzie Street "Anian"

Committee received a report dated April 10, 2007 from Development Services with respect to an Owner Request for Heritage Designation for 1228 McKenzie Street "Anian". This request is for a Craftsman-style bungalow in the Fairfield neighbourhood as a municipal heritage site. The property is currently not on the Heritage Registry, but is part of an area of historic value identified in the current review of the Fairfield Heritage Registry.

- Action:** Councillor Thornton-Joe moved that, whereas the house at 1228 McKenzie Street is of heritage significance, City Council designate is as a municipal heritage site.

CARRIED 07/217

7.4 Owner Request to add a House to the Heritage Registry for 1372 Craigdarroch Road

Committee received a report dated April 10, 2007, from Development Services with respect to an owner request to add an existing 1925 British Arts and Crafts-style house at 1372 Craigdarroch Road to the Heritage Registry. The house is located in the Rockland neighbourhood. There are relatively few houses of this style and age on the Heritage Registry.

Action: Councillor Thornton-Joe moved that, whereas the house at 1372 Craigdarroch Road is of heritage significance, and pursuant to Section 954 of the Local Government Act, City Council adopt a resolution to add 1372 Craigdarroch Road to the City of Victoria Heritage Registry.

CARRIED 07/216

7.5 Alterations to Heritage Registry Houses / Communications Plan

Committee received a report dated April 10, 2007 from Development Services with respect to Alterations to Heritage Registry Houses / Communications Plan. Committee of the Whole, at its meeting of June 15, 2006, considered a staff report with respect to window replacement on a Heritage Registry house, and asked for a communications plan to inform all owners of Heritage Registry homes of their responsibilities. The letter and brochure attached to the report address the issue of window replacement, and will help to advise owners on the heritage values of original wood windows. Window replacements do not require a building permit, therefore the normal system of the Heritage Planners offering advice does not occur.

Action: Councillor Thornton-Joe moved that the draft letter attached to the report dated April 10, 2007 be approved and mailed to the 214 owners of Heritage Registry houses on the City's Heritage Inventory, and posted on the City's website.

CARRIED 07/215

Councillor Chandler withdrew from Council Chambers at 9:35 a.m. as she has a decommissioned secondary suite, which creates a direct pecuniary interest with the following item.

7.6 Secondary Suites Review and the Setting of a Non-Statutory Public Hearing Date

Committee received a report from Development Services dated April 11, 2007, with respect a Secondary Suites Review and the Setting of a Non-Statutory Public Hearing Date. Following receipt of Urban Aspects Consultants' Report on an expanded City of Victoria *Secondary Suite Policy* in June 2006, Committee of the Whole held two workshops on an expansion of the *Secondary Suite Policy*. Staff facilitated and provided information on issues and options at both of these workshops. As well, staff convened a discussion meeting with community and

housing industry representatives to discuss impacts of secondary suites, particularly with respect to teardowns.

The workshops and meeting served to further increase an understanding of the issues with continued exploration of options and their possible impacts. As a result, staff has reached the conclusions, based on:

- The main issues that were distilled from all the work done to date;
- A timely and effective implementation of an expanded secondary suites policy in the City.

Staff conclusions are as follows:

Exterior Changes and Additions: Retain the current restrictions on exterior changes and additions to single family dwellings. This is an effective zoning mechanism that ensures a house is large enough for a secondary suite, as is, and the architectural character is retained.

Parking: Remove the requirement for an on-site parking stall for a secondary suite. This is one of the greatest impediments to the provision of a secondary suite in a single family dwelling. The rental and accessory nature of a secondary suite significantly reduces any need for a parking stall.

Single Family Dwelling Age: A change to allow secondary suites in dwellings built prior to 2002 instead of only those built prior to 1970 significantly expands the number of single family dwellings that could qualify for the introduction of secondary suite.

Licensing: A business licence for a secondary suite should not be required. A licence fee would add to the costs of having a secondary suite and legal liability associated with licensing and bylaw enforcement.

Bylaw Enforcement: Continuing with current practices, based on health and safety priorities and complaint-based procedures. This approach is in line with a more permissive approach to secondary suites and a continuing need for ground-orientated housing in the City.

The next step is to hold a non-statutory Public Hearing, to be followed by a Public Hearing on the possible expansion of the City's *Secondary Suites Policy*.

A Committee member proposed amending the motion to eliminate the recommended age restriction to allow a secondary suite to be built on any single family dwelling, including new construction. Committee discussed the following issues:

- No date requirement could lead to demolitions, an example occurring in the Gonzales neighbourhood.
- Houses in neighbourhoods with a lower cost base may incur more demolitions.
- Neighbourhoods with lower cost single family dwellings were likely built before 2002.
- Construction costs are prohibitive; it is less costly to renovate.
- Affordable housing is a concern which secondary suites can help address.

In response, Committee members discussed the Public Hearing for Secondary Suites and proposed offering two options for discussion. (1) A dwelling built prior to 2002 age requirement and (2) no age requirement.

A Committee member inquired about the procedure for enforcing building code regulations. The Corporate Administrator advised there are three routes the City can take:

1. Voluntary Building Code Compliance
2. Voluntary Life/Safety Compliance
3. Non-Compliance

While an upgrade is underway, the Manager of Regulatory and Development Services advises that occupancy is allowed to continue for a reasonable amount of time (sixty to ninety days).

A Committee member reviewed the issue of secondary suites in ancillary buildings and noted this subject will need to be addressed.

Action: Councillor Fortin moved that the following staff recommendations should form the basis of a non-statutory public hearing on the expanded secondary suite policy.

1. That the zoning regulations governing secondary suites in single family dwellings in the R1-B, R-2 and R1-A zones be amended consistent with the following table:

	Proposed Regulations	Current Regulations	Notes
Exterior Changes and Additions	No additions 5 years before and none after introduction of a secondary suite except for doors and windows on façade not facing street No age restriction	Same	Continuation of the existing regulation ensures that existing house is large enough for a secondary suite, as is, and that the existing architectural character is retained.
Parking	No parking stall required for the secondary suite	One parking stall for the principal dwelling unit and one for the secondary suite; both located behind the front wall of the house	The proposed regulation is based on the reduced incidence of car ownership for tenants of secondary suites. Should the principal dwelling unit not have one on-site

			parking stall, a development variance permit would be required to allow this to continue with the introduction of a secondary suite.
Single Family Dwelling Age	<p>That two options are provided for discussion at the Public Hearing:</p> <p>Option 1: No age requirement for houses that can qualify for a secondary suite.</p> <p>Option 2: An age requirement that houses built prior to 2002 can qualify for a secondary suite.</p>	Built prior to 1970 (except in the Gonzales Neighbourhood, where there are no age requirement for a house with a secondary suite)	The regulation increases the number of houses that can qualify for a secondary suite by offering these two options (Note: census info indicated construction of 750 single family dwellings between 1971 & 2001)

2. That any impacts of the zoning regulation changes be monitored and staff are to report back to Council within three years of adoption of the changes.
3. That no business licence be required for a secondary suite.
4. That Bylaw Enforcement continue consistent with current practices based on formal complaints and three levels of priority, i.e. (1) life safety, (2) friction between neighbours and (3) all others.
5. That a non-statutory Public Hearing be held on **Thursday, May 3, 2007** at 7:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers with the general public asked to address the proposed zoning regulations regarding exterior changes and additions, parking and building age (Options 1 and 2).
6. That, following the non-statutory Public Hearing, staff provide a report on the hearing with a view to preparing zoning bylaw amendments to the R1-B, R1-A and R-2 zones and holding a Public Hearing on **Thursday, June 14, 2007**.

CARRIED 07/214

Councillor Young voted against this motion

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

7.7 Advisory Planning Commission Motions

Committee received three Advisory Planning Commission Motions dated April 12, 2007 from Development Services. At their meeting dated April 3, 2007, the Advisory Planning Commission made three motions:

“That within 30 days, with reference to the Coriolis Report and existing community consultation, the Planning Department prepare a list of amenities which are consistent with defined planning goals for review by the APC.”

Carried

One voted against the motion

“That until the new Victoria Downtown Plan is adopted, land value appraisal be independently analyzed at the expense of the proponent and that an amount of 85% of projected increase in land value, as a result of bonus density, be traded for payment or amenities.”

Carried

One voted against this motion

“That the conclusions in section 7 of the Coriolis Report dated February 2007 on amenity contributions be adopted in principle by Council immediately.”

Carried unanimously

Committee members inquired when staff would report back to Committee addressing these motions. The Director of Planning & Development advised that the Downtown Plan update will address these motions and will be brought before Committee in May 2007.

Action: Councillor Holland moved that the motions from the April 3, 2007 Advisory Planning Commission meeting be received for information and referred to staff for a report.

CARRIED 07/213

8. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

8.1 Developing Core Area Residential High Density – Interim Design Guidelines

Committee received a report dated April 11, 2007 from Community Development with respect to Developing Core Area Residential High Density – Interim Design Guidelines.

- On January 18, 2007, Council directed staff to review current policies and guidelines for the Harris Green neighbourhood and similar areas in Victoria’s core designated for higher density residential use, related to design concerns including: building setbacks, exposure of windows between facing units and exposure of balconies between facing residences.
- This report recommends interim guidelines regarding reasonable access to light and air and protection of privacy, with respect to new higher-density residential buildings.

- This toll-kit of basic siting requirements will supplement existing design guidelines by adding guidelines related to clearances for residential units.
- Four guiding principles for high density residential development have been recommended that will apply to all zones that permit residential use with no internal setback standards, as appropriate, until such time as Local Plan updated have been completed and adopted by Council.

Guiding Principle	Response
1. Ensure minimal clearances for residential buildings and elements of construction such as walls and windows facing adjacent lots.	Reasonable minimum widths for side yard and rear yard separations have been confirmed with those recommended in CMHC standards.
2. Ensure minimal clearances for residential balconies facing adjoining lots.	Minimum distances are proposed for the side yard and rear yard lot boundary separations for faces of balconies.
3. Encourage selective screening for portions of balconies to enhance privacy.	Landscape and mesh screens are recommended for the more acute conditions of potential privacy conflicts between adjacent buildings.
4. Offset windows from those of neighbouring residential units to enhance privacy.	Residential windows should not be aligned face to face with those of adjoining buildings, as possible.

A Committee member inquired as to the setbacks of a new construction situated adjacent to an older building. Staff advised the existing setbacks would be followed.

Staff gave examples of a non-habitable room: a bathroom, storage, or laundry room. The building code contains regulations on the size of a window in a bedroom. It was noted by a Committee member that these are design guidelines and not meant to allow an increase in density.

- Actions:** Councillor Holland moved that Council approve the following interim urban residential design guidelines which address internal and rear lot lines, where one or more facing buildings contain residential uses, for use in the City's developing core as identified in OCP Map 1:
1. Minimum Clear Distance for Walls and Windows Facing Common Property Lines:
 - A. Blank walls and windows of non-habitable rooms – 2.5 metres.
 - B. Main windows of habitable rooms other than a living room – 4 metres.
 - C. Main windows of a living room 7.5 metres.

Note, where a continuous street-wall podium is desired for the lower three to six storeys, the front (14 meter) portion of the building's

sidewall may be constructed adjacent to the property line provided it does not compromise neighbouring windows or balconies.

2. Minimum Clear Distance for Residential Balconies:
 - A. Side yards – 3.5 metres.
 - B. Rear yards – 5.5 metres.
3. Balconies will be screened where appropriate.
4. Facing windows will be offset where possible.

CARRIED 07/212

9. ENGINEERING

9.1 View and Vancouver Intersection Upgrade and Beautification – Open House Results

Committee received a report dated April 10, 2007 from Engineering with respect to the View and Vancouver Intersection Upgrade and Beautification Open House Results. The purpose of this report is to get Council's authorization to proceed with the core project estimated at \$2,700,000; and to proceed with the optional streetscape beautification elements as a Council initiative funded through a Local Area Service Bylaw.

This is further to our report to Committee of the Whole on February 6, 2007 regarding the Public Open House Meeting for the View and Vancouver Streets Intersection Upgrade project. A copy of the report and Public Open House material was attached to the report in Appendix "A".

The Engineering Department held an Open House Meeting on March 21, 2007 in the Council Chambers at # 1 Centennial Square between 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and a second information meeting with the residents of Regent Towers on March 27, 2007 between 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. to review the proposed concept plan and to gather public input for further improvements.

The Public Open House and Information meetings were well attended. Eighty people attended the meetings. Based on both meetings, we received sixty-nine responses. This represents an 86% response rate. Of the responses received, fifty-seven people (83%) indicated their support for the proposed Upgrade for the View and Vancouver Intersection.

The top three things people like most about the project were:

- That the intersection will finally be repaired and improved;
- The pedestrian environment will be enhanced and the addition of traffic calming; and
- The tree strategy is reasonable and will improve aesthetics and diversity of species.

The main comments that the public would like addressed in the concept were:

- Provide additional parking especially in front of the businesses;
- Benches are not required as part of the beautification component of the project; and
- Minimize disruption to local businesses and residents during construction.

These comments will be addressed based on further discussions with the property owners and will be reflected in the detail design and tender documents for the project. The tentative start date is June 2007, and is expected to be substantially completed by December 2007. The project cost is \$2,700,000.

Committee members revisited the high cost of this project; it was noted other options had been reviewed and repairs must go forward. Committee members discussed boulevard design modifications with staff advising View Street parking will be adjacent to the sidewalk.

Action:

Councillor Holland moved:

1. That staff proceeds with the implementation of the core project based on the results of the Public Open House and Information meetings as described in this report dated April 10, 2007.
2. That Council proceeds with the optional streetscape beautification project through Council initiative, and instructs the Corporate Administrator to prepare a Local Area Service Bylaw for this purpose.

CARRIED 07/211

Councillor Young voted against this motion

9.2 Utility Rate Increases

Committee received a report dated April 11, 2007 from Engineering with respect to Utility Rate Increases. Water and Sanitary Sewer services are provided by City Utilities funded by user fees. Due to increased costs and expenditures staff recommend an increase in these fees.

Some of the significant factors that are affecting the increases this year are an increase in the bulk water rate from the CRD, funding for replacement of our large diameter steel water distribution mains and the work to reduce inflow and infiltration in our Sanitary Sewer system.

Attached to the report is a summary of the Utility budgets for 2007, which note a shortfall using 2006 rates. It is proposed that the sewer consumption fee be raised from \$0.78 to \$0.93 (per unit) and that the water consumption fee be raised from \$1.64 to \$1.71 (per unit). The sewer frontage rate will remain unchanged.

The impact of these changes will vary between consumers; however, a typical residential user (using 100 units of water per year) would see an increase of \$22.00 (from \$356.15 to \$378.15 for sewer and water) or approximately 6.2%. Approximately 84% of our customers are in this category. A table attached to the report shows that the City's rates remain below the national average.

Committee members discussed the following:

- Charging consumers the real cost of water is a way to protect this resource.
- Cost increase is due to the CRD Water Board's decision to pool costs across the region.
- Sewage frontage rates and whether they can be increased. The issue is complicated and is simpler to deal with user charges.

Councillor Young advised Committee that the CRD Water Board is imposing this increase on all municipalities to fund the extension of the water line to Sooke. He advised that there is a counter-petition that can be signed to oppose this decision. He will report back with more information.

Action: Councillor Young moved that Council approve that:

1. The sewer consumption fee increase from \$0.78 to \$0.93 per unit effective June 1st 2007.
2. The water consumption fee increase from \$1.64 to \$1.71 per unit effective June 1st, 2007.

CARRIED 07/210

9.3 Waterworks Bylaw

Committee received a report dated April 11, 2007 from Engineering with respect to the Waterworks Bylaw. The City's current Waterworks Bylaw dates from 1981. Staff have rewritten the bylaw to update its language and format, address operational issues and to incorporate amendments to the original document.

There are no significant changes in operating philosophy; rather, it was rewritten as "housekeeping" to increase clarity and ease of use.

Action: Councillor Fortin moved that Council approve staff's recommendation that the Waterworks Bylaw No. 07-030 be adopted.

CARRIED 07/209

10. FINANCE

10.1 Infrastructure Grants Update

Committee received a report dated April 12, 2007 from Finance with respect to an Infrastructure Grants Update. On January 11, 2007, Council approved the ranking and submission of four infrastructure grant applications under the Canada/BC Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund. Amendments have been made to the infrastructure grant projects and/or applications since Council approval on January 11, 2007:

- The estimated project costs for the Conference Centre Expansion are now \$6,505,000.
- The Bicycle Facilities-Point Ellice Bridge & Approaches infrastructure grant application was moved to the Other Category at the request of the Ministry.
- The Ministry has requested the ranking be amended to indicate which project is first, second, third and fourth priority.

Rank	Project Description	Type	Estimated Project Cost	Grant Requested
1	Conference Centre Expansion	Other	\$6,505,000	\$2,000,000
2	Field Facility Rejuvenation	Other	\$3,500,000	\$2,000,000
3	Victoria Harbour Marine Protection	Green	\$3,000,000	\$2,000,000
4	Bicycle Facilities – Point Ellice Bridge & Approaches	Other	\$3,000,000	\$2,000,000

Action: Councillor Hughes moved that Council approves the infrastructure grant projects as amended in the report dated April 12, 2007.

CARRIED 07/208

11. CORPORATE AND REGULATORY SERVICES

11.1 Animal Control Officer / Pound Keeper Appointment

Committee received a report dated April 3, 2007 from Corporate and Regulatory Services with respect to Animal Control Officer / Pound Keeper Appointments. Ian Fraser and Andrea Moraes are employed with Victoria Animal Control (VAC) which by way of a contract with the City of Victoria enforces the City Animal Control Bylaw. In order to properly execute their duties, Ian Fraser and Andrea Moraes will require appointments to the position of “pound keeper” by Council.

Action: Councillor Hughes moved:

1. THAT it be recommended to Council that Ian Fraser be appointed to the position of pound keeper effective immediately.
2. THAT this recommendation be forwarded to Council as soon as possible.

CARRIED 07/207

Action: Councillor Hughes moved:

1. THAT it be recommended to Council that Andrea Moraes be appointed to the position of pound keeper effective immediately.
2. THAT this recommendation be forwarded to Council as soon as possible.

CARRIED 07/206

11.2 Alternative Approval Process – Loan Authorization (Parkades) Bylaw No. 06-84

Committee received a report dated April 10, 2007 from the Corporate Administrator with respect to the Alternative Approval Process – Loan Authorization (Parkades) Bylaw No. 06-84. Council gave third reading to *Loan Authorization (Parkades) Bylaw No. 06-84* on December 14, 2006. The bylaw, which authorizes borrowing of up to \$8,800,000 for the structural and aesthetic rehabilitation of the City’s parkade facilities, received the Inspector of Municipalities’ approval on January 17, 2007. The annual costs of borrowing estimated to be \$879,482 for this multi-year project are accounted for in the Five-Year Financial Plan Bylaw (2007). Prior to adopting

this bylaw Council must receive the electors' assent through either a referendum or the Alternate Approval Process (AAP).

For each AAP Council must:

1. Establish the deadline for receiving elector responses;
2. Make a fair determination of the total number of electors in the City of Victoria;
3. Establish elector response forms that must be available to the public at City Hall.

Action: Councillor Young moved that Victoria City Council proceeds with the Alternate Approval Process for *Loan Authorization (Parkades) Bylaw No. 06-84*, and establish the following process parameters:

1. The deadline for the receipt of Elector Response Forms is 4:30 pm on May 29, 2007;
2. The number of electors in the City of Victoria is 64,381;
3. The Elector Response Form is the form attached to this report.

CARRIED 07/205

12. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

12.1 Disposition of Communications dated April 13, 2007.

Councillor Thornton-Joe responded to a letter of disposition that requested Kate Winslet, Leonardo DiCaprio and Celine Dion, stars from the Titanic movie, be invited to the RBC Museum's Titanic Exhibit. She requested a letter be sent from the Mayor's office asking them to attend.

Action: Councillor Coleman moved that the Disposition of Communications dated April 13, 2007 from the Manager, Administration, be received for information and filed.

CARRIED 07/204

12.2 Proclamations – “Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Awareness Day”

Action: Councillor Coleman moved that the day of May 12th, 2007 be proclaimed as “Fibromyalgia and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome Awareness Day” in the City of Victoria, Capital City of the Province of British Columbia.

CARRIED 07/203

12.3 Proclamations – “Sroptimist International of Greater Victoria Day”

Action: Councillor Coleman moved that May 11th, 2007, be proclaimed as “Sroptimist International of Greater Victoria Day” in the City of Victoria, Capital City of the Province of British Columbia.

CARRIED 07/202

12.4 Proclamations – “Emergency Preparedness Week”

Action: Councillor Coleman moved that May 6 - 12th, 2007 be proclaimed as “Emergency Preparedness Week” in the City of Victoria, Capital City of the Province of British Columbia.

CARRIED 07/201

12.5 Proclamations – “World Tai Chi and Qi Gong Day”

Action: Councillor Coleman moved that the week of April 28th, 2007 be proclaimed as “World Tai Chi and Qi Gong Day” in the City of Victoria, Capital City of the Province of British Columbia.

CARRIED 07/200

12.6 Proclamations – “National Missing Children’s Day”

Action: Councillor Coleman moved that May 25th, 2007 be proclaimed as “National Missing Children’s Day” day in the City of Victoria, Capital City of the Province of British Columbia.

CARRIED 07/199

13. COUNCILLOR INQUIRIES AND SHARING

13.1 Councillor Chandler - Regional Affordable Housing Strategy

Committee received correspondence from Councillor Chandler dated March 27, 2007 with respect to Regional Affordable Housing Strategy. Councillor Chandler advised the matter has been acknowledge by staff and she is satisfied by this outcome.

13.2 Councillor Chandler – Nurturing the Community

Councillor Chandler advised Committee about the upcoming “Nurturing the Community” event being held at City Hall, April 24, 2007. She invited Committee to attend this event and advised of the proposal to nominate “heroes” of the community. Councillor Chandler inquired whether these volunteers could be acknowledged by issuing them a signed certificate at a Council or Committee of the Whole meeting as an annual event. Committee members noted a policy would need to guide this proposal and of the need to work around Honorary Citizens awards.

Councillor Chandler also advised Committee of the “Conservation Connection Meeting” taking place in City Hall on April 20, 2007 and asked Committee to come and liaise at this information sharing meeting.

13.3 Councillor Coleman – Greater Victoria Economic Development Agency

Councillor Coleman advised Committee that the Chamber of Commerce has started the Greater Victoria Economic Development Agency and is requesting

support from Saanich and senior levels of government. They are having meetings with the four core municipalities, as well as other districts and are in the process of collating survey results.

13.4 Councillor Holland – Vancouver Island Coastal Communities Conference

Councillor Holland shared with Committee the success of the Vancouver Island Coastal Communities Conference she attended last week which included a panel on social issues in communities.

Councillor Holland advised Committee that UBCM will be meeting in Victoria April 18 to 20, 2007, which is the first time the UBCM Executive has met in the capital city.

13.5 Councillor Fortin – Pesticide Bylaw

Councillor Fortin requested a written report from staff on the status of the Pesticide Bylaw.

13.6 Councillor Fortin - Anti-Idling Bylaw

Councillor Fortin requested more information on the status of the Anti-Idling Bylaw. Councillor Young advised that this subject had been discussed recently at the Advisory Transportation Committee and Councillor Chandler advised that the Environment and Shoreline Advisory Committee has also asked for a formal report on this issue.

13.7 Councillor Fortin – Brandon Williams Incident

Councillor Fortin requested that staff report back on the analysis of the Brandon Williams accident at the Blanshard and Bay Street intersection.

13.8 Councillor Fortin – Measuring Up Program

Councillor Fortin advised Committee on the “Measuring Up” program that benefits people with disabilities to become more active in their community and assesses the degree to which people with disabilities are successful in life. Councillor Fortin requested a report back from staff with more information on this program.

13.9 Councillor Fortin – Integrated Look at Street Issues

Councillor Fortin requested that Committee consider using the funds excised from the Police budget to take an integrated look at the issues on Cormorant Street and around the Streetlink shelter. There is a level of frustration with the conditions that continue to exist at these locations that could benefit from certain actions to mitigate the impact on the community.

The Mayor advised that the Police budget was reduced but it was suggested to keep the funds in reserve in the event of a major investigation.

Councillor Thornton-Joe noted it would be useful to have a discussion with the Manager of Social Planning & Housing, the Police and the Councillors that work closely with the Needle Exchange and Streetlink. This group could update those Committee members not familiar with the issues that create problems at certain locations. Councillor Thornton-Joe would also like to revisit the proposal of having drop boxes for needles situated downtown.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Action: Councillor Holland moved that the Committee of the Whole meeting of April 19, 2007 be adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

CARRIED 07/198

Mayor Lowe, Chair