

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WORKSHOP
HELD THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2007, 10:00 a.m.
Committee Room # 1**

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

Staff Present: P. Ballantyne – City Manager; C. Havelka – Recording Secretary.

Staff Present for a Portion of the Meeting: M. Hornell – Manager, Community Planning Division; C. Gower – Senior Urban Design Planner; L. Chase – Senior Planner; D. Angrove – Fire Chief; P. Battershill – Police Chief; Inspector J. Ducker; B. Naughton – Deputy Chief; N. Taylor – Project Manager, Victoria Agreement; D. Day – Director of Planning & Development; R. Woodland - Corporate Administrator; J. Jenkyns – Acting General Manager Victoria Conference Centre; M. McCliggott – Director of Finance; T. Scott – Acting Director of Human Resources; D. Atkinson – Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Development; M. Mayhew, Executive Assistant.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Action: Councillor Fortin moved that the Agenda of the May 10, 2007 Special Committee of the Whole meeting be approved.

CARRIED 07/267

3. Grant Request – Victoria Housing Trust Fund

Committee received a report dated May 4, 2007 from Social Planning and Housing with respect to a Grant Request for the Victoria Housing Trust Fund. *Roofs and Roots Housing Cooperative* has submitted a grant request for \$75,000 to the City of Victoria to assist in the purchase of 1511 Bank Street. This property contains five rental units. *Roofs and Roots*' proposed target tenant group is single parent families and/or couples, who earn between \$18,000 - \$45,000 annually or are on a disability allowance. By purchasing this property, *Roofs and Roots* is meeting its priority of securing and maintaining affordable housing for those at risk.

The co-op has accepted offer on the property, and has received confirmation of funding support from Coast Capital Savings (\$15,000) and BC Housing (\$70,000), the latter of which is dependent on confirmation of other funding sources namely the Regional Housing Trust Fund, Victoria Housing Trust Fund and the Victoria Real Estate Foundation. The co-op will contribute \$27,000 of equity to the project. The Regional Housing Trust Fund will be assessing *Roofs and Roots* application on May 4, 2007. While the co-op has an accepted offer to purchase, it will expire unless additional funding is confirmed. If successful, the co-op will assume ownership of the property on June 29, 2007.

This proposal from *Roofs and Roots* meets the stated intention and approved purpose and principles of the Victoria Housing Trust Fund. A funding recommendation is presented for Council's decision, based on application of a per-unit maximum contribution of \$10,000.

In response to an inquiry regarding the status of the building code status of the building, a Committee member was advised by a *Roofs and Roots* representative that everything has been checked.

Committee members discussed the amount of money the City is funding for this project and was advised that *Roofs and Roots* will work to raise extra funds.

A Committee member noted the value of this conversion with respect to sustaining rental type housing stock as opposed to a condo conversion.

Action:

Councillor Fortin moved:

1. That City Council approves a grant of \$50,000 to Roofs and Roots Housing Co-operative to assist with the purchase of 1511 Bank Street to achieve the Victoria Housing Trust Fund objective to provide assistance to meet the housing needs of low and moderate income residents and to ensure consistency with the Trust Fund eligibility criteria, subject to registration of a Section 219 covenant restricting the use to affordable housing.
2. That Roofs and Roots Housing Co-operative ensures that the City of Victoria receives public recognition of its role as a financial contributor to this housing project and submits a final report on project completion to the Social Planning & Housing Division of the Planning & Development Department.

CARRIED 07/266

Councillor Young voted against this motion

Action:

Councillor Fortin moved that this item be forwarded to the Council meeting of May 10, 2007 for approval.

CARRIED 07/265

Councillor Young voted against this motion

4. CLOSED MEETING – 10:19 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)(f) and (k) of the Council Bylaw.

CARRIED 07/264

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

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

Staff Present for a Portion of the Meeting: M. Hornell – Manager, Community Planning Division; C. Gower – Senior Urban Design Planner; L. Chase – Senior Planner; D. Angrove – Fire Chief; P. Battershill – Police Chief; Inspector J. Ducker; B. Naughton – Deputy Chief; N. Taylor – Project Manager, Victoria Agreement; D. Day – Director of Planning & Development; D. Atkinson – Director of Parks, Recreation & Community Development; M. Mayhew, Executive Assistant.

5. Proposed Municipal Service – Downtown Plan Update

Committee received a presentation from Community Planning with respect to Proposed Municipal Service - Downtown Plan Update.

The discussion was recorded and kept confidential

Councillor Holland withdrew from the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Councillor Holland returned to the meeting at 11:18 a.m.

Councillors Chandler and Coleman withdrew from the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

Councillor Coleman returned to the meeting at 11:38 a.m.

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

6. Law Enforcement Strategies

Committee received information from the Police Department with respect to Law Enforcement Strategies.

The discussion was recorded and kept confidential

7. ADJOURNMENT

Action: Councillor Hughes moved that the Special Committee of the Whole meeting of May 10, 2007 be adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

CARRIED 07/263

Mayor Lowe, Chair