



MINUTES – VICTORIA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING OF THURSDAY, APRIL 15, 2010, AT 7:05 P.M.

PLACE OF MEETING: Council Chambers, City Hall

PRESENT: Mayor Fortin in the Chair and Councillors Coleman, Hunter, Luton, Thornton-Joe and Young

ABSENT: Councillors Chandler, Lucas and Madoff

CLOSED MEETING

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council convene a closed meeting that excludes the public under Section 12(6) of the Council Bylaw for the reason that the following agenda items deal with matters specified in Sections 12(3) and/or (4) of the Council Bylaw. Carried

Council agreed not to rise and report, but requested that the discussion be recorded and kept confidential.

CALL TO ORDER - OPEN MEETING

Mayor Fortin called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Corporate Administrator outlined changes to the agenda.

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the agenda be approved. Carried

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Fortin canvassed members of Council, who approved bringing forward the following items for approval:

- Item B - Minutes
- Item C - Proclamations
- Item F - Unfinished Business
- Item G1 - Planning and Land Use Standing Committee Report – April 01, 2010
- Item G2 - Governance and Priorities Committee Report – April 01, 2010
- Item H - Motions for Public Hearing

MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the minutes of the regular Council meeting of April 15, 2010, be approved. Carried

PROCLAMATIONS

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the following Proclamations be endorsed:

1. "Landscape Architecture Day" – April 24, 2010
2. "National Day of Mourning" – April 28, 2010
3. "Family Caregiver Week" – May 8th – 14th, 2010
4. "National Meeting Industry Day" – April 15, 2010

Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00260 for property known as 940/946 Wharf Street

At the February 11, 2010 Council meeting Council endorsed the following motion:

"That Council Postpone consideration of Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00260 for the property known as 940/946 Wharf Street and request staff to bring a report back, as soon as possible, with respect to unauthorized access to the business site and measures to mitigate the impact on the Dragon Boat Festival."

The applicant has met with staff and members from the Dragon Boat Festival and has revised his proposal, which is supported by the Dragon Boat Festival.

Motion:

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council authorize approval of Temporary Use Permit Application No. 00260 for 940/946 Wharf Street, with the following conditions:

1. Plans date stamped April 07, 2010
2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements. Carried

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Planning and Land Use Standing Committee – April 01, 2010

1. Development Permit Application No. 000177 for 1992 Fairfield Road

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council authorize the issuance of a Development Permit in accordance with plans stamped "Development Permit # 000177" dated October 31, 2009, subject to:

1. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements.
2. Final plans to be in accordance with the plans identified above prior to the issuance of a building permit to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Development.
3. Additional information regarding the potential relocation of the existing house. Carried

2. Development Permit Application No. 000195 for 608 Broughton Street

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council authorize the issuance of a Development Permit in accordance with:

1. Plans stamped "Development Permit # 000195" dated March 5, 2010.
2. Development meeting all *Zoning Regulation Bylaw* requirements.
3. Final plans to be in accordance with the plans identified above, to the satisfaction of the Director of Planning and Development. Carried

3. Heritage Designation No. 000063 for 2203 Chambers Street

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that, whereas the house at 2203 Chambers Street is of heritage significance, City Council designate the building as a Municipal Heritage Site and the public hearing be held concurrent with the rezoning application. Carried

4. Heritage Designation No. 000063 for 2205 Chambers Street

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that, whereas the house at 2205 Chambers Street is of heritage significance, City Council designate the building as a Municipal Heritage Site and the public hearing be held concurrent with the rezoning application. Carried

5. Heritage Designation No. 000097 for 218 – 220 St. Andrews Street

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that, whereas the house at 218 – 220 St. Andrews Street is of heritage significance, City Council designate the building as a Municipal Heritage Site. Carried

6. Heritage Designation No. 000098 for 1436 Elford Street

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that, whereas the house at 1436 Elford Street is of heritage significance, City Council designate the building as a Municipal Heritage Site. Carried

7. Heritage Alteration Permit No. 000108 for 705 – 711 Johnson Street

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that City Council authorize the issuance of Heritage Alteration Permit #00108 in accordance with:

1. Plans date stamped March 9, 2010.
2. Development meeting all bylaw requirements.
3. The windows in the lightwell be replaced with vinyl windows.
4. The wood windows on the rear (south) elevation be retained and upgraded in the same method as the street (north) elevation.
5. Final plans to be in accordance with plans identified above. Carried

2. Governance and Priorities Committee – April 01, 2010

1. Financial Support to Host the FCM Sustainable Communities Conference

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council approve the financial support of \$40,000 to host the Federation of Canadian Municipalities' Sustainable Communities Conference in Victoria in 2011 subject to the Capital Regional District Board's approval of the joint sponsorship. Carried

2. Authority to Grant an Easement over City Land

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council authorizes staff to enter into an easement for ornamental brickwork projecting into Waddington Alley. Carried

3. **Grant to Support Economic Literacy Event**
It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council approve a grant of up to \$600.00 to the South Islands Regional Co-op Council for the purpose of staging an economic literacy event. Carried
4. **Amendment to Land Use Procedures Bylaw to Update Land Use Development Fees**
It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council request that staff:
 1. Convene a stakeholder meeting that would include a presentation on the business process review and the presentation on proposed land use development fees, and;
 2. Provide an opportunity for verbal and possibly written feedback by way of forms, and;
 3. Use that feedback to report back to Committee for its consideration. Carried
5. **Proposed Strata-Titling for 417 Vancouver Street**
It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council direct staff and the City's Solicitor to work with the applicant to create the appropriate legal mechanisms as noted previously in the report dated March 24, 2010, to secure the rooming house units at 1114 Rockland Avenue and 3030 Quadra Street, as rental in perpetuity, prior to consideration of approval of the strata conversion of 4 one-bedroom and 4 two-bedroom self contained units at 417 Vancouver Street, and bring back a report linking approval of the strata at 417 Vancouver Street to the proposals at 1114 Rockland Avenue and 3030 Quadra Street as noted above and to recover city costs. Carried
6. **Motion to Refer Economic Development Strategy to Council Priorities Setting Session**
It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council refer the issue of an Economic Development Strategy to Council's next priorities setting session. Carried
7. **Land – Legal**
It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Council direct staff to write a letter to Transport Canada inquiring if a risk management assessment of Victoria Inner Harbour has been undertaken as part of the review of the application by Community Marine Concepts Ltd. Carried

MOTIONS

1. **For Public Hearing to be held on Thursday, April 29, 2010**
It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, at the following Public Hearings be held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, on **THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.:**
 1. Rezoning Application No. 00209, Development Permit and Heritage Alteration Permit Application for property known as 151 Oswego Street
 2. Development Permit Application No. 000197 for property known as 1308 Gladstone AvenueCarried

HERITAGE DESIGNATION PUBLIC HEARING

1. **Heritage Designation No. of property known as 652 Battery Street**
 1. **Heritage Designation No. 00094**
Under the provisions of the *Local Government Act*, the City of Victoria intends to designate the building located at 652 Battery Street, legally described as Lot 24, Beckley Farm, Victoria City, Plan 248, as protected heritage property under Heritage Designation (1057 Moss Street) Bylaw – No. 10-018.

Mayor Fortin opened the public hearing at 7:45 p.m.

Mayor Fortin closed the public hearing at 7:46 p.m.
 2. **Bylaw Motion – Consideration of Third Reading**
It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the following bylaw **be given third reading:**
Heritage Designation (652 Battery Street) 10-018 Carried
 3. **Bylaw Motion – Adoption**
It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Luton, that the following bylaw **be adopted:**
Heritage Designation (652 Battery Street) 10-018 Carried

HEARINGS – REQUESTS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that the following speakers be permitted to address Council. Carried

1. Phil Lyons, South Island Health Coalition, re: Needle Exchange: Supervised Injection Site: His experience is a Co-Chair of the South Vancouver Island Health Coalition. There is no accountability from VIHA and so he looked for other organizations and found Harm Reduction Victoria (HRV) is trying to get changes. He is here to support HRV and the speakers. It is time for Council to take a proactive stance to help the least influential people in Victoria. Council has purchased the Inn for homeless and he hopes Council will follow-up on this issue. Council needs to take a proactive role for the least privileged people.
2. Mark Johnson, S.O.L.I.D., re: Supervised Injection/NEX Site: He read an article in the paper about VIHA is working on three temporary needle exchange sites and then there was talk about VIHA putting it in a building on Pandora by St. Andrews School and there was a lot of flack and now the school is closing down, so the needle exchange can go there. There is nowhere for people to do their illicit drugs in a supervised condition, so needles are left behind. When can something be done about it? Something has to be done about it.
3. Lori Hutchinson: We need more farms like they have in Fort Langley and Campbell River for people to get away from downtown and its influences. She has personal experience of using drugs and as well has her husband who needed a safe place for his injections, but there is nothing in Victoria. Her son has not seen his father since he was 3, he is now 24. She supports HRV and the work they do.
4. Raven James: He is here on behalf of users and speaking from experience as he has been through it and seen the causes. His father was a residential school survivor. He had a lot of money to spend and was spending money on things; he wondered where it went to. His father told him that it is going to drugs and he was doing it on streets, but he was not raised on the streets. There should be site for them to do their drugs. There is not place to do it around here; just alleyways of buildings and other dark places. There should be a place to do it and there is no where to do it.
5. Andrew Beckerman, re: Safe Injection Site: As a citizen of the City, he is dismayed by the treatment of people who are members of the drug using population. He spends \$1000/month for medication for his HIV. It is not cost effective to allow people to be at risk, and people who are sharing needles are at risk. It is apparent that there is a prevalence of active drug use in the City and it is not a pretty healthy picture. The City is dependant on tourists and it is not a pretty picture. Council is putting people at risk who live on the street and work downtown and those who are dependant on tourists; people are avoiding downtown. Having a provision of a safe injection site and needle exchange is beneficial at reducing human pain and suffering and health budgets and City would become a healthy place to visit. VIHA should be looking at adopting a needle exchange site.
6. Jenne Applejuice: People who use drugs should be treated with respect the same as you treat family and friends. Policies, studies, and reports talk about harm reduction, which is great, but action is needed now. People are suffering and dieing and they use drugs and alcohol for relief. Everyone has a personal experience and she calls on Council to think of those experiences you have had and come from a place of compassion. Council has the power to make these changes happen.
7. Chris Aller: These people need help and we have to support these people.
8. Dave McMain: In human history addiction has always been there. People in Victoria deserve a safe needle site.
9. Huckleberry Flett: Little people can make a very big change.
10. Tyler Roach, Fixed Needle Exchange: He is new to Victoria and lived in the East. Victoria wants to be like other great cities and doesn't want to fall behind. Halifax has had a needle change since 1992, and they are expanding. St. Johns also has a new needle exchange and are also expanding. Belleville, Dryden and Perth, Ontario also all have needle exchanges. Some of these are tiny cities and Victoria should not be behind, but leading the way. Council has made a lot of steps and comments; but it is time to just do it.
11. Emily Beinbauer: She knows at least six students at UVIC who need safe injection materials. Are we denying them, she is not sure, but she believes they are available if they need them. So her question is why if people at UVIC can get them, why can't people downtown get them. Why are we segregating people with the same need? She commends Council on the changes, but it is inhumane to not allow everyone to have health care with a supervised injection site and fixed site exchange and counselling; we all deserve that.
12. Renee McBeth: Addiction is not just for the poor, but health care services are disproportionate to people with higher income, and stigmatizes those who are most marginalized. She has seen drug addiction play out in many ways; some get off them and live meaningful lives while others don't. Think about how we spend money in this City and prioritize caring for those that have been excluded and face huge barriers. Why does City Council continue to support the "No Go Zone"; that is where the most people need the supports and the people must be treated where they are.
13. Lorna Mace, re: Harm Reduction/Fixed Needle Exchange: For the past 13 years she has lived in downtown core and voted in all elections and has been active in the community and is an addictions counsellor. A safe injection site and fixed needle exchange is beneficial for the people and to the City. She finds it appalling that a community with substance abuse is not provided the basic needs they are entitled to. They have a right to safety and health care with a fixed needle exchange, which are basic social health needs. She supports HRV needs and requests.

14. Andrew Shopland, re: Harm Reduction: He attended the public forum on new Strategic Plan and they talked about diversity and inclusion of all people to create a sustainable City. Harm reduction is a great way to further increase inclusion in the City. We are pretty good about harm reduction for nicotine and alcohol by controlling access to them and a lot of education. There is also control of purchase and when and where they can be consumed. He lives next to St. Andrews which is part of the "No Go Zone" and was surprised that it was part of the area given the amount of needles around and that there is a school there. A McDonald's is across the street from the school; drug addiction is not any worse than fast food. He supports HRV demands and would like to see a needle exchange done in conjunction with strategic plan.
15. Emilie Rhone, re: Harm Reduction: As a mother, she was born in Victoria and raised her kids here (Huckleberry, who spoke earlier is her son). She wants to leave a more compassionate City for her kids. When she drives down Pandora her kids ask why those people are not being taken care of. Harm reduction is a safe place for them. If her child or a friend has trouble with drugs, she would want to know that there is somewhere for them to go.
16. Cameron DeLaCroix, re: Harm Reduction: He has been a resident of Victoria most of his life and he is a business owner, and property owner. He became an alcoholic and addicted to drugs and he is now sober and works with addicts. He is an example that harm reduction does work and it has worked on large numbers of people who were street drug addicts and they are now functioning people in society. Some were desperate and they are now alive and that is the end goal of harm reduction. If you can't keep people alive then there is no hope for people to stop using drugs. Recently Council passed a motion about harm reduction education for the police and he would encourage that as during an interview with a police officer, he said that the mobile exchange is working. He does not believe that as they are giving out more needles than they are taking in. We need a harm reduction resource centre not a needle exchange; harm reduction is much more than just giving out needles. Addiction happens to due emotional pain, which is similar to physical pain. Take the lead, VIHA is not going to do it. Council is the steward of the City and if VIHA does not do anything, he hopes the City council will take the initiative.
17. Mark Willson, Harm Reduction Victoria, re: City's Harm Reduction Mandate: There has been some breakdown and VIHA's failure; a safe consumption site is off the map. We have to get back to where we were two years ago. There is a lack of leadership in this area; a lack of space and a lack of coordination. He is sympathetic to Council and the offloading of responsibilities from the Federal and Provincial Governments, so he is not surprised that we are facing a crisis. We are all on the same team and what is required is some form of leadership as there is no one else but the municipality to take it up and Council need to reach out. The "No Go Zone" has to be removed. We need to get back to a safe consumption site and research supports this and if there is good leadership it will go in and work efficiently.
18. Connie Carter, re: Drug Police in the City of Victoria: Why are the police involved in setting health services in Victoria, such as the "No Go Zone"? Ongoing involvement of the police creates disorder. Victoria needle exchange was responsible for disorder as people congregated, which is a right not a problem. It is a downstream effect of policy decisions made elsewhere. We have a dire need related to the inadequate funding of Victoria for a fixed needle exchange. The City has the opportunity to intervene by providing services. Concrete supports are needed and she questions the police involve for health policy and "No Go Zone."
19. Beverly Brookman, Harm Reduction Victoria, re: Encouraging Council to Enable Fixed Needle Exchange: Violence is being done to too many people in the City. Harm reduction is not about needles, but a clear action that Council must take now. Violence is being done to our citizens by what is happening from the cuts to our social services by the present government. The truth is that the cuts to social services hit the most vulnerable and it is our responsibility. Harm reduction is not about needles, it is about basic health care, community, belonging and rehabilitation. There are clear actions that Council must and can take. May 31st is the anniversary of the closure of the fixed needle exchange, which was the oldest in Canada. Declare the end of the "No Go Zone". Council has to address the dangerous situation as it leads to violence and that leads to hopelessness and helplessness. We need a central harm reduction centre and the City can be the landlord. Council can count us and many professionals, but it cannot remain silent.
20. Derek Peach, Harm Reduction Victoria, Fixed-site Needle Exchange Request: This could look like a contest; the loudest voices and largest numbers will carry the argument. That is not so, there is no argument, a consensus was reached long ago. He is not here to tell Council why, you already know why. It might be said that Council doesn't know where to put an injection site, but the City owns buildings and ran a site that was closed two years ago. The only question that is left is when?
21. Bruce Wallace, re: Harm Reduction Strategy: What has the City's role been? Seven years ago Council announced a downtown health action plan. In April 2004 Council endorsed a harm reduction framework. In July 2005 "Fitting the Pieces Together" was released and it says not to decrease services, but to increase to 24x7. Five years ago Council approved the pilot project of giving out crack pipes. In April 2007 a feasibility study was done on a safe injection site. Two years ago the Mayor's Task Force report was released. In April 2008 Council wanted to reduce open drug use and individual use and apply to funding from the Federal government. In March 2009 harm reduction was one of the seven priorities listed to address within 3-6 months. 15 years ago he ran a needle exchange in the "No Go Zone." He has lobbied VIHA for two years, and if a change is going to come then it has to come from City Council.
22. Larry Wartels, Victoria Peace Coalition, re: Harm Reduction: 25 years ago corporate Canada paid 25% of all tax revenues and now they pay less than 8%. There is room to raise taxes.

23. David W. Tatarn, Committee to End Homelessness, re: Need a Needle Exchange Victoria: When you do nothing then you have made a decision. 100 people are going to get sick and over years they die. He lives downtown, so if a needle exchange is put in the downtown, then it will be in his back yard. We need a fixed site, dozens of people are using needles in alleyways and doorways as they have no where to go; yes they should pick them up and exchange them, but that is asking a lot of people who are doing things to keep their addiction going. We pay the least in Canada for addiction services. We have a problem with too many liquor stores; stop pushing addiction or start pushing treatment.
24. Carol Romanow, re: Safe Consumption Site: It is sad that after 15 years we are still talking harm and death reduction. She had a meeting with Alan Lowe, when he was Mayor, and he came to speak to the drug users in the City. She invites Council to come. How much longer is Council going to talk and do studies; we need to do something now. Built it and they will come.
25. Mik Turje, Harm Reduction Victoria, Victoria Coalition Against Poverty, re: Harm Reduction Services: Illicit drug use is not going away. He is concerned that the middle class holds more clout than others in the City. The issue is complicated and there is a lot of work to do and VIHA is not helpful. The City is a landlord and has unused space. He asks that the City end the "No Go Zone" and create a harm reduction centre now.
26. Gordon O'Conner, re: Harm Reduction Services: Council made harm reduction a priority when it took office. Lack of harm reduction service is a crisis and it is affecting people who don't have a voice in the City. Don't have problem with the blue bridge and marina debate. But to ignore something that affects the most vulnerable people. He knows the people of HRV; this is a warm up, they will be back. This is Council's opportunity to address this problem now.
27. Kim Toombs, Harm Reduction Victoria, re: Harm Reduction: Agrees with everything that has been said, Council needs to move into action. There have been a number of town hall meetings with service providers and invited drug users to come to the meeting while the other attendees were paid; the users are being tokenized. Emphasize action means not holding more public forums; we know what we need. We are not getting action from VIHA. We need leadership and champions and VIHA is not going to do that. Use political will and assert power where you can. We know harm reduction works and it is effective. We will come back and bring more people; things need to happen and change. It has to start here and Council can make that happen.
28. Heather Hobbs, Harm Reduction Victoria, re: Harm Reduction Services: She wants this Council to be the Council that leaves a legacy that it takes care of people and takes people in. Listen tonight and go home and come back and figure out together how to be creative. Council has the ability to help people who have been stigmatized with mental illness to be treated with dignity and give space to obtain information and have an opportunity to take care of themselves in the most basic way. Recognize humanity and respond in compassion.
29. Shannon Luy, re: Harm Reduction and the Importance of Healthcare for Everyone: Everyone in the room is calling for action not another consultant, study or report. That is not creating change and it has been going on for years. We need action or people are going to get more frustrated and take things to the next level. Do something immediately, action now please.
30. Danielle Hagel, Victoria Coalition Against Poverty, re: Harm Reduction Services: She has worked for the last two years as a mental health worker for VIHA and has met numerous people who are suffering. Her employers know the situation is fixable with a fixed needle exchange and that is a travesty. A needle exchange is the bare minimum that is needed. She challenges the City to take harm reduction and accountability to the community.
31. Tamara Herman, re: Harm Reduction: She has heard that the City has done lots of research on harm reduction and that it is VIHA's responsibility. VIHA may be responsible, but Council made it a priority with the bulk of the work to be done by VIHA. The City is responsible for harm reduction. Municipal government elected leaders have a responsibility to all citizens and their first job is to ensure their health is respected. Other cities have stepped forward to ensure that their citizen's health is respected. Political will was why the exchange was closed and why other sites have not been permitted. There is a lot of support in the media and HRV. She thinks some voices are being listened to and others. They have two demands, and they are still targeting VIHA and the Province. First abolish the "No Go Zone" and second as a property owner provide a harm reduction centre.
32. Melanie Sylvestre, re: Harm Reduction: She agrees with everything that has been said. She hopes things are clear and the two demands are there. She hopes to read about action and not just hear talk.
33. Shane Calder, Harm Reduction Victoria, re: Harm Reduction: He commends Council on what he sees as taking responsibility for the housing crisis in Victoria. He became an anti-poverty activist during Bob Cross' first term. It is much easier to speak to Council compared to then. Housing is not a municipal responsibility but has taken it on. He feels this is similar. He has worked as an outreach worker and at the needle exchange. We don't need anymore studies, we need action. Vancouver did it as the right thing to do, not as a political thing to do. It would not be as divisive as it was in Vancouver. We can show the world it is not our job, but we took responsibility because we care.
34. Robert A. Crosby, re: Fixed Needle Exchange: He is not just as advocate, but is a consumer of illicit drugs and a lay person who has done street outreach service. He spent ten years in the medical field

with the Canadian Forces and they did a lot of prevention of injury, death and disease. To prevent is good. It is having a detrimental effect to the general public not to have a fixed site for a needle exchange. There is an increase in the number of improperly disposed of needles; it is getting less. SOS and SOLID have street outreach and are lucky if they are bringing in 50% of the needles. There is a desperate need for a needle exchange by the users and the general public. A safe consumption site would be good as the use of drugs would not be in the public eye, which looks bad. A safe consumption site is also a better chance for people to get off drugs as they have counsellors on site and there would be a decrease in overdoses as there are people there.

It was moved by Councillor Thornton-Joe, seconded by Councillor Coleman, that the following speakers be permitted to address Council. Carried

35. Marilyn Ericson: If you needed to access services or needed help and couldn't find it anywhere then you would feel the way people on street feel – hopeless. She is nine years in recovery from cocaine a \$400/day habit and if it were not for Cool Aid and that she had a roof over her head, she would have been on street. She had barriers, so could not access the services she needs and friends and family would turn away. Recently she was nominated and voted as co-community leader of the year by CFA. She still has flashbacks; it could happen to anyone. She has changed her life to reflect values of love of self and to live. She needed that step up and she could not have done it without strangers helping her. The people on the street don't want to be there, that is not what they had envisioned for themselves. She hopes this Council will make change. Did you know that you cannot pickup your welfare cheque if there is an outstanding warrant?
36. Christina McCallum: She cannot stay silent any longer about how it has changed since 1994 when she moved from East Vancouver. She doesn't think it is as bad as there, but we should not waste time in taking action, people are being affected and they are human beings and deserve compassion. BC has the highest child poverty rate; all other provinces have gone down and BC has gone up 30%. BC has not raised the minimum wage in 10 years. Victoria can take a stand and lead the way to ensure we take care of all citizens, no matter where they come from. There dozens of credible studies on harm reduction. She sees more needles than ever and Council has to stop the "No Go Zone."
37. Lisa Rigley: She lives on Johnson Street and sees what is going on. She appreciates Council taking time to listen to everyone. Shane Calder is right; this Council is more respectful than previous ones. She came before Council on homelessness and had to wait hours during a liquor licence public hearing. Alcohol hits everyone and a safe consumption site would be a much safer place and more positive place for everyone and probably safer than pubs. If we had a safe consumption site she would consider it an improvement to Fernwood. She hopes this Council will create this as a legacy for itself.
38. Stewart Johnson: He owns a heritage office on Amelia Street. When he arrived at the office he had to step around feces and when his wife arrived she saw needles in garden; eight that weren't there yesterday as they picked those up. There is a problem. He was one of those that worked to get the needle exchange closed. He had to live with it everyday and saw congregations of people, he saw people getting high, he saw fences selling stolen goods and he saw dealers and pimps. It was not a nice neighbourhood; the fixed needle exchange on Cormorant was a failure. The Mayor's Task Force and a number of good recommendations, and he notes that one a fixed site was not recommended, but a number of them. We need harm reduction, but that is not synonymous with a fixed needle exchange and closure of the "No Go Zone". We need dignity for everyone in this community.
39. Chenile: She was addicted to cocaine but got out of it due to harm reduction. A needle exchange brings people together and they are not ostracized from society. They get to talk to people and get self confidence and it is the first step in kicking what is making them unhappy. Guelph has the biggest police enforcement for addiction.
40. Rose Henry: We have been down this road for a long time. Historically, Victoria Street Community Association had the first needle exchange where the Wildfire Bakery is. After six years they had to relocate to Trounce Alley. It is the same issues 20 years later, where can a needle exchange go and where can these people go. They have an illness and some want help and some don't know as society looks down at them. The cry is out there for a safe site to use with services such as a walk in clinic. They have them for people who are sick. Doctors and nurses want to help, but cannot due to bylaws that are being imposed on these people. It is bordering on human rights violations. People are dying; two a week from one agency and that is not including drug overdoses. If you support IV users, the homeless and support the most marginalized, they can become production citizens. Stop talking and legalize some sites and see these people turn their lives around.
41. Cheryl O'Brice: Came tonight to support and not speak. She would like to see the "No Go Zone" eliminated. What she had heard tonight is familiar to the Indigenous community. She hopes the Mayor's words are not empty as they have been in the past. Council has worked on issues for 10 years. You are on territory that was impacted by illness from the settlers. How many have to die before something is done? She says this as an Indigenous person, and she is asking you to take action.

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE

3. Special Governance and Priorities Committee – April 08, 2010

1. 2010 Tax Rates and Ratios and Revenue and Tax Policy

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that Council approve Tax Ratio and Rate Option 1, as outlined in the report dated April 8, 2010.

Councillor Thornton-Joe said as at the Committee meeting, she will support this motion, but not happily or willingly. She agrees that Council is trying to get the business tax lower and are not achieving it as fast as they had hoped but when a reduction of taxes to one group, it increases to them to another; it is difficult to achieve balance.

Carried

Councillor Coleman and Young voted against this motion

2. Allocation of 2009 Surplus

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Luton, that Council Transfer the entire surplus to Reserves.

Carried

3. Harmonized Sales Tax and Ross Bay Cemetery Bylaws

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Luton, that Council direct staff to proceed with a review of the Ross Bay Cemetery Bylaws to include amending the bylaws to permit collection of HST and a consolidation of the bylaws into a single master bylaw. Carried

BYLAWS

1. INTRODUCTION

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the following bylaws **be introduced:**

Parks Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 6)	10-021
Business Improvement Area Rate Bylaw, 2010	10-023
Boulevard Tax Bylaw, 2010	10-024 <u>Carried</u>

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the following bylaw **be introduced:**

Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw, 2010	10-022 <u>Carried</u>
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Councillors Coleman and Young voted against this motion

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the following bylaw **be introduced:**

Tax Bylaw, 2010	10-025 <u>Carried</u>
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Councillor Young voted against this motion

2. SECOND READING

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the following bylaws **be given second reading:**

Parks Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 6)	10-021
Business Improvement Area Rate Bylaw, 2010	10-023
Boulevard Tax Bylaw, 2010	10-024 <u>Carried</u>

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the following bylaw **be given second reading:**

Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw, 2010	10-022 <u>Carried</u>
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Councillors Coleman and Young voted against this motion

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the following bylaw **be given second reading:**

Tax Bylaw, 2010	10-025 <u>Carried</u>
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Councillor Young voted against this motion

3. THIRD READING

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the following bylaws **be given third reading:**

Parks Regulation Bylaw, Amendment Bylaw (No. 6)	10-021
Business Improvement Area Rate Bylaw, 2010	10-023
Boulevard Tax Bylaw, 2010	10-024 <u>Carried</u>

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the following bylaws **be given third reading:**

Five Year Financial Plan Bylaw, 2010	10-022 <u>Carried</u>
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Councillors Coleman and Young voted against this motion

It was moved by Councillor Luton, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the following bylaws **be given third reading:**

Tax Bylaw, 2010	10-025 <u>Carried</u>
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Councillor Young voted against this motion

QUESTION PERIOD

A question period was held.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Use of Ante Chamber

Robert Woodland (Corporate Administrator): CFB Esquimalt has requested the use of the Ante Chamber for a press conference on Tuesday, April 20th for Navy Days. This request does not fall within guidelines for use of City Hall. Staff have suggested that the Navy or Armed Forces media rooms be used, but they would prefer to hold the press conference at City Hall.

Motion:

It was moved by Councillor Coleman, seconded by Councillor Thornton-Joe, that the Council grant the request for use of the Ante Chamber on Tuesday, April 20th for a press conference for Navy Days.

Carried

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Councillor Young, seconded by Councillor Hunter, that the Council meeting adjourn.
Time: 10:10 p.m.

Carried

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE ADMINISTRATOR

MAYOR OF THE CITY OF VICTORIA