



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

Minutes - Draft

Committee of the Whole

Municipal Hall
1229 Esquimalt Road
Esquimalt, B.C. V9A 3P1

Monday, February 12, 2024

6:00 PM

Esquimalt Council Chambers

Present 5 - Councillor Ken Armour
Councillor Darlene Rotchford
Councillor Andrea Boardman
Councillor Duncan Cavens
Councillor Jacob Helliwell

Regrets 2 - Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Tim Morrison

Councillor Cavens attended the meeting via conference call.

Staff: Dan Horan, Chief Administrative Officer
Bill Brown, Director of Development Services
Joel Clary, Director of Engineering & Public Works
Sarah Holloway, Deputy Corporate Officer
Jonah Ross, Recording Secretary

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Mayor Helliwell called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Councillor Boardman acknowledged that we are on the unceded territories of the Songhees and Esquimalt First Nations, and thank them for caring for this land and look forward to working with them in partnership as we continue to build this great Township together.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

1) [24-101](#) Late Correspondence

1) Item 7.1 - Review of the Updated Integrated Parking Management Strategy and Parking Bylaw, Staff Report No. EPW-24-003

- Ryan Jabs - received February 9, 2024
- Joshua Katz-Rosene and Doug Baer, Capital Bike - received February 12, 2024

3. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Councillor Rotchford, seconded by Councillor Boardman: That the agenda be approved as circulated with the inclusion of the late items. Carried Unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- 1) [24-092](#) Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 22, 2024
- 2) [24-095](#) Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 29, 2024

Moved by Councillor Rotchford, seconded by Councillor Boardman: that the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 22, 2024 and the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 29, 2024 be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

5. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS 6 AND 7

There was no public input.

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS***Presentations***

- 1) [24-093](#) Victoria Police Department - 2023 Fourth Quarter Report, Inspector Michael Brown

Inspector Mike Brown presented a PowerPoint and provided an overview of the Victoria Police Department (VicPD) 2023 Q4 Community Safety Report Card which included updates on operations, crime prevention, and community engagement. Inspector Brown noted VicPD's current areas of focus within the Township, including school engagement, emergency preparedness, and patrol supervisor training.

Inspector Mike Brown and Chief Del Manak provided the following responses to Committee questions:

- An increase in social disorder and domestic violence calls is not related to any one case or person.
- An addition of two specialists for domestic violence calls who work alongside the General Investigations section will provide assistance with files that go beyond the scope of patrol.
- Complaints regarding response times have reduced as e-comm has improved their efficiency and ability to handle overflow calls, and response times are trending downwards.

- 2) [24-094](#) BC Hydro - Victoria to Esquimalt Cable Replacement Project - Stephen Watson, Sr. Stakeholder Engagement Advisor and Justin Miedema, Project Manager

Stephen Watson, Senior Stakeholder Engagement Advisor with BC Hydro, presented a powerpoint on BC Hydro's Victoria to Esquimalt Cable Replacement Project.

In response to a Committee of the Whole question, the presenter confirmed that there are no service outages anticipated as a result of this project.

7. STAFF REPORTS

- 1) [24-090](#) Review of the Updated Integrated Parking Management Strategy and Parking Bylaw, Staff Report No. EPW-24-003

The Director of Development Services and Director of Engineering and Public works introduced the staff report, and consultant Dan Casey, Urban Systems, presented a PowerPoint.

Staff provided the following responses to Committee of the Whole questions:

- The Frequent Transit Areas are tied to the distance from bus routes, as they are less frequently subject to change than bus stops.
- The suggested cash in lieu of parking spaces added mechanism would contribute to a reserve fund to be used solely for transportation infrastructure.
- To prevent designated rental housing from being stratified prior to occupancy, covenants will be required.
- The draft bylaw could transition its calculation of housing units to accommodate ongoing provincial housing policy changes.
- The reserve fund from the cash-in-lieu mechanism cannot be used for parking enforcement.
- It could be possible to restrict participation in the parking permit system for residents who live in units where the developer has offset their parking minimums.
- An impact assessment outlining the prioritization of actions and cost considerations will be presented at a later date.

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Rotchford: That Committee of the Whole recommend that Council direct staff to amend the Frequent Transit Network Area in the draft Parking Bylaw to be 400 metres from a bus route. Carried Unanimously.

Staff provided the following responses to Committee of the Whole questions:

- Door width dimensions must be addressed in the bylaw, as they are too specific for development permit guidelines.

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Rotchford: That Committee of the Whole recommend that Council direct staff to change the width dimension of an access door for Bicycle Parking to 1 metre in the draft Parking Bylaw. Carried Unanimously.

The following responses were provided to Committee of the Whole questions:

- Cash-in-lieu for parking is intended to establish a mechanism for flexibility

and consideration of parking needs, filling a gap in previous iterations of the Bylaw which necessitated variance requests.

- With the cash-in-lieu mechanism being a discretionary option for applicants, it remains to be seen how this policy would serve smaller projects, and it may be more naturally appealing to large developers; an approach differentiated for smaller projects is possible.

Committee of the Whole comments included:

- Parking minimums may punish developers, and eventually buyers, by requiring them to offset parking that is not needed in the first place.
- The cash in lieu of parking amount of \$30,000 per parking space makes sense for larger developments which may be on the cusp of requiring additional parking garage floors, and offers a cheaper alternative to meeting the parking requirements while also funding related infrastructure.
- There is interest in developing a cash-in-lieu model differentiated for smaller projects.

Moved by Councillor Cavens, seconded by Councillor Armour: That the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council direct staff to differentiate the cash-in-lieu for parking policy for smaller developments. Carried Unanimously.

Committee comments continued:

- There is interest in considering the removal of parking minimums.
- With residents anticipating the residential parking permit program, it may be beneficial to complete implementation of this policy prior to revisiting parking minimums.

Moved by Councillor Rotchford, seconded by Councillor Armour: That the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council:

- a) direct staff to finalize the Parking Bylaw and bring it back to a future Council meeting for Council's consideration;
 - b) endorse the Integrated Parking Management Strategy;
 - c) direct staff to bring forward an Impact Assessment on implementing actions in the Integrated Parking Management Strategy; and
 - d) direct staff to continue processing requests for Residential Only Parking using the current process outlined in the Township's Guide to Traffic Calming until a Permit Parking process is in place;
- as described in Staff Report EPW-24-003. Carried Unanimously.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Linda O'keefe, resident, expressed appreciation for the Chinese New Year event held in the Town Square, noting the high turnout and the efforts of the organizers.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Rotchford, seconded by Councillor Boardman:
That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 7:45 PM.
Carried Unanimously.

MAYOR BARBARA DESJARDINS

THIS TH DAY OF ,2024

SARAH HOLLOWAY,
DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER
CERTIFIED CORRECT