



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

Minutes - Final

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

Local Grant Committee

Monday, January 20, 2025

5:15 PM

Esquimalt Council Chambers

Present: 3 - Councillor Jacob Helliwell
Councillor Duncan Cavens
Councillor Tim Morrison

Staff: Ian Irvine, Director of Financial Services & IT
Terése Finegan, Manager of Economic Development
Victoria McKean, Committee Coordinator/Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Helliwell called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM.

Councillor Helliwell was elected chair by acclamation.

2. LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Cavens, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

4. MINUTES

1) [25-011](#) Minutes of the Local Grant Committee Meeting held September 9, 2024

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That the minutes of the Local Grant Committee meeting held on September 9, 2024 be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

5. STAFF REPORTS

1) [25-010](#) Local Grant Applications

Committee comments included the following:

- It can be difficult to allocate funds and compare different initiatives, consistency is important when evaluating the various applications.
- Funding decisions are subjective and are difficult to make.
- This is a difficult financial year for Esquimalt and a choice not to allocate funding to an application is not a commentary on the importance or validity of the causes and initiatives represented by the applications.
- Sensitivity to challenges within Esquimalt's current budget, specifically with

respect to the proposed tax increase Council is considering, is understandable but the small amount of funding being requested would have a large impact to these groups and may not have a large impact on Council's concerns regarding the current budget concerns.

- Appreciation for the effort made to submit these applications was expressed.

- It was expressed that difficult financial decisions must be made, and the larger context of the current budget process must be considered when making decisions.

Moved by Councillor Helliwell, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That it be recommended to Council that no funds be allocated to the local grant applications received from the Compost Education Centre, FED Urban Agriculture Society, Lifecycles Project Society, Maritime Museum of BC Society, Theatre Al Dente Society, VI Senior Lacrosse League, Victoria Brain Injury Society, Victoria Community Food Hub Society, Victoria Jazz Society, and the Victoria Shakespeare Society.

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That the main motion be amended to exclude the application received from the Theatre Al Dente Society. CARRIED. Councillor Helliwell opposed.

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED: That it be recommended to Council that no funds be allocated to the local grant applications received from the Compost Education Centre, FED Urban Agriculture Society, Lifecycles Project Society, Maritime Museum of BC Society, VI Senior Lacrosse League, Victoria Brain Injury Society, Victoria Community Food Hub Society, Victoria Jazz Society, and the Victoria Shakespeare Society. CARRIED. Councillor Cavens opposed.

Moved by Councillor Cavens, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That it be recommended to Council that a grant of \$3,400 be awarded to the Theatre Al Dente Society. Carried Unanimously.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Cavens, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That the meeting be adjourned at 5:52 PM. Carried Unanimously.

COUNCILLOR JACOB HELLIWELL, CHAIR
LOCAL GRANT COMMITTEE
THIS 17TH DAY OF APRIL, 2025

VICTORIA MCKEAN
RECORDING SECRETARY
CERTIFIED CORRECT