



**CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**
Minutes - Final
Council

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

Monday, October 4, 2021

7:00 PM

Esquimalt Council Chambers

Present: 7 - Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Ken Armour
Councillor Meagan Brame
Councillor Jacob Helliwell
Councillor Lynda Hundleby
Councillor Tim Morrison
Councillor Jane Vermeulen

Staff: Laurie Hurst, Chief Administrative Officer
Ian Irvine, Director of Financial Services
Blair McDonald, Director of Community Safety Services
Deb Hopkins, Manager of Corporate Services / Recording Secretary
Alex Tang, Planner
Alicia Ferguson, Recording Secretary

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Desjardins called the Regular Council meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Mayor Desjardins acknowledged with respect that we are within the Traditional Territories of the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations.

2. LATE ITEMS

(1) ADD as Item No. 5.1: **STAFF REPORTS** - Appointment of Acting Fire Chief, Staff Report No. ADM-21-017
And re-number the agenda accordingly.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Brame: That the agenda be approved as circulated with the inclusion of the late item.
Carried Unanimously.

4. PUBLIC INPUT ON ANY ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

Address Council on any item included on this Agenda, including Staff Reports and Communications (excluding items which are or have been the subject of a Public Hearing). Limit 2 minutes per speaker.

Tony Cond, *resident*, expressed concerns regarding the continued traffic safety on Old Esquimalt Road and recommended Council consider implementing curb to curb speed humps to address the issue.

Mario Bernier, *resident*, expressed concerns regarding safety on Old Esquimalt Road and recommended Council consider addressing residential parking issues in the area, implementing curb to curb speed humps, and creating a three-way stop at the intersection of Rockheights Avenue with a pedestrian controlled crossing.

Jo Rozon, *resident*, requested Council address neighbourhood concerns regarding traffic safety on Old Esquimalt Road and advising that the speed pods in place are ineffective.

5. STAFF REPORTS

Administration

- 1) [21-493](#) Appointment of Acting Fire Chief, Staff Report No. ADM-21-017

Moved by Councillor Helliwell, seconded by Councillor Brame: That Council appoint Neal Widdifield as the Acting Fire Chief for Esquimalt and the Local Assistant to the Fire Commissioner effective October 4, 2021. Carried Unanimously.

Community Safety Services

- 2) [21-470](#) Public Safety Building - Council Authorization to Expend Funds - Staff Report No. CSS-21-013

Director of Community Safety Services responded to questions from Council.

Moved by Councillor Hundleby, seconded by Councillor Brame: That Council delegate to staff authority to expend funds in accordance with the budget relating to construction of temporary police and fire facilities as attached to Staff Report CSS-21-014. Carried Unanimously.

Finance

- 3) [21-444](#) Local Grant Request - Connections Place Society

Council comments included rationale for local grant application decisions during this year's process as managing expenditures in a time of reduced revenues by declining new requests and not approving requests for increased funding.

Director of Financial Services responded to questions from Council.

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Helliwell: That Council decline the local grant request from Connections Place Society as outlined in Staff Report No. FIN-21-014. Carried.

In Favour: 6 - Mayor Desjardins, Councillor Armour, Councillor Brame, Councillor Helliwell, Councillor Morrison, and Councillor Vermeulen

Opposed: 1 - Councillor Hundleby

Mayor Desjardins recused herself from the meeting at 7:21 PM due to a pecuniary conflict of interest with the following item due to proximity of her principle dwelling. Councillor Brame assumed the role of Chair in her absence.

- 4) [21-450](#) Revitalization Tax Exemption - 501, 503 & 505 Park Place and 1216 Carlisle Avenue, Staff Report FIN-21-015

Director of Financial Services responded to questions from Council.

Council comments included:

- * Whether the former site was in need of revitalization.
- * The original intent of the revitalization tax exemption program and whether the bylaw should be amended.
- * The Town Square project as a revitalization for the community.
- * Concerns of the tax offset impacting other tax payers.

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Vermeulen: That Council not approve the application for a revitalization tax exemption for the properties located at 501, 503 and 505 Park Place and 1216 Carlisle Avenue. Defeated.

In Favour: 1 - Councillor Morrison

Opposed: 5 - Councillor Armour, Councillor Brame, Councillor Helliwell, Councillor Hundleby, and Councillor Vermeulen

Absent: 1 - Mayor Desjardins

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Brame: That Council approve a 10-year revitalization tax exemption for properties located at 503 and 505 Park Place (office/commercial spaces within the Esquimalt Town Square development) and authorize the Director of Financial Services and the Corporate Officer to execute the necessary agreements as outlined in Staff Report FIN-21-015.

Amendment Motion:

Moved by Councillor Hundleby, seconded by Councillor Brame: That the Main Motion be amended to reduce the tax exemption to 5-years with a gradual decrease to the exemption as follows:

- Year One - 100% exemption
- Year Two - 75% exemption
- Year Three - 50% exemption
- Years Four & Five - 25% exemption. Carried.

In Favour: 5 - Councillor Brame, Councillor Helliwell, Councillor Hundleby, Councillor Morrison, and Councillor Vermeulen

Opposed: 1 - Councillor Armour

Absent: 1 - Mayor Desjardins

Council comments included encouraging benefits that revitalize the community.

The vote was taken on the Main Motion as Amended and declared Carried with Councillor Morrison opposed.

Mayor Desjardins returned to the meeting at 7:56 PM and assumed the role of Chair.

5) [21-458](#) 2022 Permissive Tax Exemptions, Staff Report FIN-21-016

Councillor Armour provided an overview of the rationale for the recommendations including managing expenditures in a time of reduced revenues by declining new applications and not approving requests for increased exemptions with a focus on applications providing a service to Esquimalt.

Director of Financial Services responded to questions from Council.

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Helliwell: That Council give first, second and third readings to Tax Exemption (Non-Profit Organizations) Bylaw, 2021, No. 3045 as attached to Staff Report FIN-21-016. Carried Unanimously.

Development Services

6) [21-469](#) Development Permit Amendment – 669 Constance Avenue, Staff Report No. DEV-21-069

Planner and Mark Holland, applicant, responded to questions from Council.

Moved by Councillor Helliwell, seconded by Councillor Armour: That Council approves Development Permit No. DP000163, Amendment No.1, attached as Appendix A to Staff Report DEV-21-069, consistent with the landscape plan by Scatliff + Miller + Murray Inc., stamped “Received September 20, 2021”.

Amendment Motion:

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Hundleby: That the Main Motion be amended to include amendments to the Landscaping Plan to revise the green boulevard frontage space into a mix of suitable plantings. Defeated.

In Favour: 2 - Councillor Hundleby, and Councillor Morrison

Opposed: 5 - Mayor Desjardins, Councillor Armour, Councillor Brame, Councillor Helliwell, and Councillor Vermeulen

Council comments included the pros and cons of necessitating further discussions with staff to discuss the suitability of the plantings.

The vote was taken on the Main Motion and declared Carried with Councillor Morrison opposed.

6. BYLAWS

- 1) [21-474](#) Fireworks Bylaw, 2021, No. 3038 - For Adoption

Moved by Councillor Helliwell, seconded by Councillor Brame: That the Fireworks Bylaw, 2021, No. 3038, be adopted. Carried Unanimously.

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- 1) [21-471](#) Draft Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, June 17, 2021

This item was received.

- 2) [21-472](#) Adopted Minutes of the APC Design Review Committee, August 11, 2021

This item was received.

- 3) [21-473](#) Draft Minutes of the Local Grant Committee, September 20, 2021

This item was received.

8. COMMUNICATIONS***For Council's Consideration***

- 1) [21-476](#) Email from Tony Cond, dated September 24, 2021, Re: Speeding & Inappropriate Traffic on Old Esquimalt Road

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Helliwell: That Council direct staff to prepare a report for Council's consideration, detailing the history of the traffic calming measures implemented on Old Esquimalt Road in approximately 2012 and include recommendations to address the safety concerns as outlined in the email from Tony Cond, dated September 24, 2021, Re: Speeding & Inappropriate Traffic on Old Esquimalt Road. Carried Unanimously.

- 2) [21-477](#) Email from Lorna Bennet, dated September 26, 2021, Re: Farmers Markets and Fairs Documentary Series Funding Request

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Vermeulen: That Council direct staff to prepare a letter to Lorna Bennet in response to their email dated September 26, 2021, Re: Farmers Markets and Fairs Documentary Series Funding Request, advising them of the Local Grants process. Carried Unanimously.

- 3) [21-491](#) Email from Rhonda Vanderfluit, Registrar, Youth Parliament of BC Alumni Society, dated September 27, 2021, Re: 93rd BC Youth Parliament

Moved by Councillor Brame, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That Council forward the email from Rhonda Vanderfluit, Registrar, Youth Parliament of BC Alumni Society, dated September 27, 2021, Re: 93rd BC

Youth Parliament, to Esquimalt High and Victor Brodeur encouraging youth to apply and highlight the opportunity on the Township's website and social media. Carried Unanimously.

9. RISE AND REPORT

There was no rise and report.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Address Council on any topic that impacts Esquimalt (excluding items which are or have been the subject of a Public Hearing). Limit 2 minutes per speaker.

Tony Cond, *resident*, expressed concerns relating to the revitalization tax exemption approved for the Town Square project.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Vermeulen, seconded by Councillor Brame: That the Regular Council meeting be adjourned at 8:27 PM. Carried Unanimously.

MAYOR BARBARA DESJARDINS
THIS 6TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2021

DEBRA HOPKINS, CORPORATE OFFICER
CERTIFIED CORRECT