



**CORPORATION OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT**  
**Minutes - Draft**

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

**Committee of the Whole**

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Monday, May 8, 2023

6:00 PM

Esquimalt Council Chambers

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**Present** 6 - Mayor Barbara Desjardins  
Councillor Ken Armour  
Councillor Darlene Rotchford  
Councillor Andrea Boardman  
Councillor Duncan Cavens  
Councillor Jacob Helliwell

**Regrets** 1 - Councillor Tim Morrison

Councillor Rotchford attended the Regular Committee of the Whole meeting via conference call.

**Staff:** Dan Horan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Blair McDonald, Director of Community Safety Services  
Ian Irvine, Director of Financial Services  
Sarah Holloway, Deputy Corporate Officer  
Deborah Liske, Recording Secretary

**Others:** Alec Page, Senior Project Manager, CORE Project Management

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

Councillor Boardman recognized and acknowledged the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations on whose traditional territory we live, we learn, and we do our work.

**2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS**

1) [23-274](#) Late Correspondence

Item No. 7.1 Public Safety Building Project - Project Update and Governance Review, Staff Report No. CSS-23-005

- Kyler Nurmsoo - received May 5, 2023

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- 1) [23-262](#) Minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on April 17, 2023

Moved by Councillor Boardman, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That the minutes of the Committee of the Whole meeting held on April 17, 2023 be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

**5. PUBLIC INPUT ON ITEMS 6 AND 7**

Bruce McIldoon, resident, spoke in support of option 3 due to the excessive cost to build the Public Safety Building.

John Hastings, resident, agreed with Mr. McIldoon's input.

Lorne Argyle, resident, also agreed with Mr. McIldoon's input.

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

- 1) [23-249](#) Capital Region Food and Agriculture Initiatives Roundtable (CRFAIR) - Linda Geggie, Executive Director and Krista Larsen, Programs & Partnerships

Linda Geggie, Executive Director, Capital Region Food and Agriculture Initiatives Roundtable presented a PowerPoint reviewing the 2022/2023 Good Food Network Progress Report and the key issues around food systems and how the community is responding.

Laura Gair, Programs and Resource Development Manager, Victoria Community Food Hub Society provided an overview on the programs and services of the Victoria Community Food Hub located at 808 Viewfield Road. Ms. Gair noted decision making needs support for better food policy making through a regional food policy council. The Victoria Community Food Hub would like to discuss municipal involvement and participation with two annually hosted events of the Food Hub; the Flavour Trails program and festival; and the Good Food Gathering that supports community planning and network achievements to be held at the Gorge Park Pavillion.

- 2) [23-250](#) Esquimalt Celebration of Lights - Meagan Brame, Chair, Murray Boyce and Kurt Mikkelsen

Meagan Brame, Chair, Esquimalt Celebration of Lights Committee presented a PowerPoint which included an overview of the organization and events, responded to questions from the Committee of the Whole and expressed gratitude to municipal staff for assistance in event preparation and promotion.

The Committee enquired what the Township can do to assist the Esquimalt Celebration of Lights Committee recruit volunteers. Meagan Brame suggested the hosting of a volunteer fair or event where all organizations within Esquimalt can set up booths for people to come and find out about the organizations and the volunteer opportunities available.

## 7. STAFF REPORTS

### *Community Safety Services*

- 1) [23-224](#) Public Safety Building Project - Project Update and Governance Review - Staff Report No. CSS-23-005

The Chief Administrative Officer provided an update and reviewed the status of the Public Safety Building project.

Alec Page, Senior Project Manager, CORE Project Management presented a PowerPoint presentation and along with Dan Horan, Chief Administrative Officer, Blair McDonald, Director of Community Safety Services and Ian Irvine, Director of Financial Services responded to questions from Committee of the Whole.

Committee comments included:

- Consider Option 3B as a redefined project with further evaluation and information.
- Evaluate project with consideration to splitting property into two separate lots.
- Move forward with building the Fire Hall on the south portion of property below indentured portion.
- Explore options for north portion of the property.
- Explore options for office, meeting space and CRD requirements.
- Explore options to include housing and possible public/private partnerships.
- Investigate revision or removal of indenture.

Moved by Councillor Cavens, seconded by Councillor Boardman: That the Committee of the Whole recommends that Council direct staff to report back in June 2023 with further information about what a redefined project (Option 3B), as per Staff Report No. CSS-23-005, could accomplish including more information on the following:

- \* Look at the property as two separate lots.
- \* Build a firehall on the south section of the lot below the indentured portion.
- \* Provide options for office and meeting space.
- \* Provide options for housing and possible partnerships.
- \* Begin investigation of removal of indenture.

Carried Unanimously.

**8. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Bruce McIldoon, resident, expressed concern with policing, the associated funding, the unsustainable tax burden and implored Council to demand the Province enforce the amalgamation of regional police.

Michael Brinton, resident, expressed disappointment with the Alternative Approval process used for the original Public Safety Building project and is against the use of this process again.

Dan Bruyere, resident, spoke in favour of a referendum process to gauge community support for borrowing an additional \$14 million dollars needed to continue with the Public Safety building plans. The resident was opposed to incorporating housing into the plan as it would further increase the building cost.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Helliwell, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:27 PM. Carried Unanimously.

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MAYOR BARBARA DESJARDINS  
THIS DAY OF , 2023

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SARAH HOLLOWAY,  
DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER  
CERTIFIED CORRECT