



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

Minutes - Final

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

Committee of the Whole

Monday, March 8, 2021

6:00 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

Councillor Brame, Councillor Hundleby, and Councillor Vermeulen attended the meeting by conference call.

Staff: Blair McDonald, Acting Chief Administrative Officer /
 Director of Community Safety Services
 Rachel Dumas, Manager of Corporate Services
 Alicia Ferguson, Recording Secretary

Others: Chief Constable Manak, Victoria Police Department (VicPD) (via conference call)
 Deputy Chief Watson, VicPD (via conference call)
 Inspector Brown, VicPD Esquimalt Division
 Graeme Dempster, Chair, Advisory Planning Commission (via conference call)
 Roger Wheelock, Chair, APC Design Review Committee (via conference call)
 Doug Crowder, Chair, Board of Variance (via conference call)
 Brian Cant, Chair, Environmental Advisory Committee (via conference call)
 Lee Mauro, Chair, Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee (via conference call)

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Acting Chair Morrison called the Regular Council meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Acting Chair Morrison recognized and acknowledged the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations on whose traditional territory we live, we learn, and we do our work.

2. **LATE ITEMS**

There were no late items.

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Mayor Desjardins, seconded by Councillor Helliwell: That the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

4. MINUTES

- 1) [21-034](#) Minutes of the Regular Committee of the Whole meeting held November 9, 2020
- 2) [21-117](#) Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held January 18, 2021

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Helliwell: That the Minutes of the Regular Committee of the Whole meeting held November 9, 2020 and the Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held January 18, 2021, be approved as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

5. PRESENTATIONS

- 1) [21-138](#) Victoria Police Department - 2020 Fourth Quarterly Report & End of Year Review, Chief Del Manak

Chief Constable Manak attended the meeting via conference call at 6:00 PM, presented the Community Safety Report card regarding the fourth quarter of 2020 and the annual end of year review, and together with Deputy Chief Watson responded to questions from COTW. Highlights of the Presentation included calls for service stats, public satisfaction stats, staff time loss and impact on operations, notable crime in the community, special projects, community engagement efforts, operational updates, crime prevention, and strategic plan highlights.

COTW comments included financial accountability to Esquimalt residents and concerns of subsidizing policing costs for the City of Victoria, preference for the delineation of statistics for relevance to the Esquimalt community.

- 2) [21-142](#) Victoria Police Department - Report re dedicated resources movement to/from Esquimalt & Victoria - Deputy Chief Colin Watson, VicPD

Deputy Chief Watson attended the meeting via conference call at 6:00 PM, presented a PowerPoint Presentation, and together with Chief Constable Manak responded to questions from COTW. Highlights of the presentation included an analysis of the 2020 cross-over calls where Esquimalt Division Officers are assisting with Victoria Division emergencies, operational challenges associated with the cross-overs, limitations and accuracy of the data, and efforts to reduce cross-over frequency.

COTW comments included complexities and sustainability of policing two different communities, fiscal responsibility for the Esquimalt community, benefits of a regional policing service and greater cost equity.

Chief Constable Manak, Deputy Chief Watson, and Inspector Brown left the meeting at 7:19 PM.

Graeme Dempster, Chair, Advisory Planning Commission, Roger Wheelock, Chair, APC Design Review Committee, Doug Crowder, Chair, Board of Variance, Lee Mauro, Chair, Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee joined the meeting via conference call at 7:22 PM.

- 3) [21-139](#) Review of Committee Term, July 2020 - June 2021
Graeme Dempster, Chair - Advisory Planning Commission
Roger Wheelock, Chair - APC Design Review Committee
Douglas Crowder, Chair - Board of Variance
Brian Cant, Chair - Environmental Advisory Committee
Lee Mauro, Chair - Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

Chair, Advisory Planning Commission, provided an overview of the committee term July 2020 - June 2021 advising the Committee membership has good diversity, met eight times in 2020, and reviewed 26 applications. Chair Dempster elaborated on the impact of COVID on meetings and recommended consideration of continuing remote participation, increasing view ability of PowerPoint Presentations for remote participants, providing input on the parking bylaw and sign bylaw, and Council reviewing options for lot consolidation/land assembly in certain areas.

Chair, APC Design Review Committee, provided an overview of the committee term July 2020 - June 2021 advising the Committee met seven times, reviewed 20 applications, and provided input on various Township initiatives such as the proposed regulations for detached accessory dwelling units and the climate emergency action plan. Chair Wheelock recommended options to enhance the quality of landscape plans received as part of development applications, options to clarify the impact on neighbouring properties, and options to expedite approvals for detached accessory dwelling units while ensuring design quality. He further requested clarity on when accessibility impacts should be considered by the Committee.

Chair, Board of Variance, provided an overview of the committee term July 2020 - June 2021 advising the Committee has reviewed one application since 2018 and did not meet during this term. Chair Crowder provided recommendations as previously suggested to increase minor variance applications consistent with objectives.

Chair, Environmental Advisory Committee, provided an overview of the committee term July 2020 - June 2021 advising the Committee met three times in 2020 and three times in 2021 and provided input on various initiatives including climate plans, integrated resource management, heat

pump and retrofit incentives, and the Checkout Bag Bylaw. Chair Cant advised the Committee is seeking further opportunities to engage and advise as the Township may find useful.

Chair, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, provided an overview of the committee term July 2020 - June 2021 advising the Committee membership has good diversity and met twice in the past year to review various initiatives including the Archie Browning sign replacement proposal, anticoagulant rodenticide provisions, monument placement in Esquimalt Gorge Park, Hither Green nature playground, and phased re-opening of recreation activities during COVID-19. Chair Mauro recommended Council consider ways in which the Committee could take a more proactive approach with initiatives.

Committee Chairs entered into a question and answer period with the COTW. Comments included appreciation for the recommendations brought forward for consideration and consideration of increasing the Chair check-ins to twice a year.

Graeme Dempster, Chair, Advisory Planning Commission, Roger Wheelock, Chair, APC Design Review Committee, Doug Crowder, Chair, Board of Variance, Lee Mauro, Chair, Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee left the meeting at 8:11 PM.

6. ELECTRONIC 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.

Kylene Jackson, *non resident*, informed Council as the General Manager for Misty Mountain Cannabis that they have been operating without incident since September 2020 and expressed support for the extension of hours for cannabis retailers in the community.

Marc Pinkoski, *non resident*, offered his availability to advise on any questions the Township may have regarding cannabis regulations as he is currently working with seven municipalities across BC in this regard. He further advised that licensed cannabis retailers have been operating without incidence in the Province to date.

7. STAFF REPORTS

Community Safety Services

- 1) [21-038](#) Cannabis Retailers - Hours of Operation, Staff Report No. CSS-21-002

Director of Community Safety Services provided an overview of the report and responded to questions from COTW. Comments included consideration

of aligning hours with liquor retailers, the stringent regulations in place for cannabis retailers mitigating concerns with extending hours, and the pros and cons of extending the hours including whether 11:00 p.m. or 8:00 p.m. is an appropriate extension.

Councillor Brame disconnected from the meeting at 8:19 PM and reconnected at 8:21 PM.

8. ELECTRONIC 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.

There was no electronic public comment.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mayor Desjardins, seconded by Councillor Helliwell: That the Regular Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned at 8:44 PM. Carried Unanimously.

MAYOR BARBARA DESJARDINS
THIS 18TH DAY OF APRIL , 2021

ANJA NURVO, INTERIM CORPORATE
OFFICER
CERTIFIED CORRECT