



# CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

## Minutes - Final

### Council

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

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Monday, March 20, 2023

7:00 PM

Esquimalt Council Chambers

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**Present:** 7 - Mayor Barbara Desjardins  
Councillor Ken Armour  
Councillor Andrea Boardman  
Councillor Duncan Cavens  
Councillor Jacob Helliwell  
Councillor Tim Morrison  
Councillor Darlene Rotchford

**Staff:** Dan Horan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Bill Brown, Director of Development Services  
Deb Hopkins, Manager of Corporate Services/Corporate Officer  
Mikaila Montgomery, Planner  
Sarah Holloway, Deputy Corporate Officer/Recording Secretary

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Councillor Rotchford 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) [23-180](#) Late Correspondence
- 1) Item No.8.3 - Email from Susan Nickerson dated March 13, 2023 Re:  
Proclamation and Light Up on May 5, 2023 for Huntington Disease  
Awareness
  - Susan Nickerson - received March 17, 2023
- 2) Item No.8.4 - Email from the Victoria Jazz Society dated March 14, 2023  
Re: Request to revise awarded funding to the Victoria Jazz Society for the  
TD Victoria International JazzFest in Bullen Park
  - Valerie Cameron - received March 20, 2023
  - Josh Marek - received March 20, 2023

#### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

**4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

- 1) [23-161](#) Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on February 27, 2023
- 2) [23-162](#) Minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on March 6, 2023

Moved by Councillor Rotchford, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on February 27, 2023 and the minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on March 6, 2023 be adopted as circulated. Carried Unanimously.

**5. PUBLIC INPUT ON AGENDA ITEMS 6, 7 AND 8.**

Item 8.4 - Victoria Jazz Society Re: Request to revise awarded funding for the TD Victoria International JazzFest in Bullen Park

Valerie Elliott, resident, spoke in support of the Victoria JazzFest in Bullen Park and the request for in-kind services of the venue, tables, chairs and fencing. The resident felt that Council should ensure that such cultural events be held in Esquimalt.

Christina Adjed, resident, spoke in support of the Victoria JazzFest and the importance of the location in Bullen Park and emphasized that it supports culture and local businesses.

Maureen Sherlock, resident, encouraged Council to approve the request from the Victoria Jazz Society.

Stephan Jacob, resident, spoke in support of the Victoria JazzFest request and expressed enjoyment of the music when in attendance last year.

Ian Black, resident, expressed that the Victoria JazzFest is an event that brings the community together and that the enjoyment of the experience should be embraced in Esquimalt.

Heather Leary, resident, expressed support due to the joy in having the event in Esquimalt, and that the public embraces coming together for community events and wants the experience in a grassy safe space.

Cassie Doyle, resident, spoke in support for the JazzFest at Bullen Park and the enjoyment of listening to international musicians playing along with local musicians.

Avrille Gosling, board member and hospitality supervisor for the Victoria Jazz Society, expressed enjoyment of having the event in Esquimalt and

welcoming musicians from around the world.

Gary Lindsay, Driftwood Brewery co-owner and JazzFest sponsor spoke in support and emphasized that the event is important in bringing the community together and can not occur without the in-kind support of the Township.

Megan Parris, resident, spoke in support of the in-kind request from Victoria JazzFest and emphasized the importance of having diverse music and visitors in the neighbourhood.

Tom Longman, resident, spoke of the need to continue to hold the JazzFest in the neighbourhood and the enjoyment it provides.

Darryl Mar, Executive and Artistic Director for the Victoria Jazz Society, emphasized that Bullen Park was a major site for the festival last year and they would like the opportunity to show that it could have a positive impact on the Esquimalt community for a second year. Also outlined was that last year's attendees and musicians came from international locations and that by staging the event on a grassy field in a safe environment it was welcomed by the community and gained their support. It was mentioned that the Victoria Jazz Society would like to increase their community involvement in Esquimalt as well.

## **6. STAFF REPORTS**

### ***Development Services***

- 1) [23-123](#) Regional Household Affordability and Prosperity Project, Staff Report No. DEV-23-015

The Director of Development Services introduced the report to Council.

Moved by Councillor Helliwell, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That the Township of Esquimalt support the City of Colwood as the primary applicant for a second round of grant funding from the Poverty Reduction Planning & Action Program, with the Community Social Planning Council leading the project in a consulting relationship. Carried Unanimously.

- 2) [23-144](#) Rezoning Application - 1072 & 1076 Colville Road - Requirement for a Public Hearing, Staff Report No. DEV-23-018

Mikaila Montgomery, Planner presented the report with a PowerPoint to Council.

The application is to amend Comprehensive Development Districts CD-128 and CD - 129 to allow Secondary Suites as a permitted uses on both properties.

Council commented that the applicant had made the changes suggested by the Advisory Planning Commission, the application was not a major change in density and that Esquimalt needs more housing.

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Armour:

That staff proceed with the appropriate public notification so that Zoning Bylaw, 1992, No. 2050, Amendment Bylaw No. 3099, allowing Secondary Suites as a permitted use in Zone CD-128 at 1072 Colville Road, can be considered by Council for first, second, and third readings without holding a Public Hearing; and

That staff proceed with the appropriate public notification so that Zoning Bylaw, 1992, No. 2050, Amendment Bylaw No. 3100, allowing Secondary Suites as a permitted use in Zone CD-129 at 1076 Colville Road, can be considered by Council for first, second, and third readings without holding a Public Hearing. Carried Unanimously.

## **7. REPORTS / MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES**

- 1) [23-168](#) Recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of  
March 13, 2023 - Remaining Resolutions to be Ratified

Council stated that it has a great respect for the high quality policing being provided to the Township by VicPD, acknowledged the challenges and risks the officers face everyday and are grateful for the services they provide to keep our citizens and community safe.

Council commented that last week they had recommended a budget increase to VicPD of 7.14% which is less than the 9.55% that was originally proposed, but still significantly higher than last year. Items that were not supported from an Esquimalt perspective included 7 net new positions and additional expenses for contracted services. Council acknowledged that these new services may be required to support VicPD into the future but are uncertain of the value to Esquimalt right now given that in the coming months they will be looking at new policing models. The resolution to be ratified is related to the 2020 recommendation from the Lepard report, that there are 3-5 extra officers assigned to the Esquimalt division. Based on that recommendation, the Police Board and Chief Constable Manak provided and approved the change in Esquimalt's deployment by a reduction in three officers.

Moved by Councillor Boardman, seconded by Councillor Rotchford: That the recommendations from the Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 13, 2023 be ratified:

1. Council Budget Discussion - Victoria Police Department 2023 Budget, Staff Report No. ADM-23-007
  - i. "That Council request that the 2022 decision to reduce the number of

officers deployed in Esquimalt by 3 be upheld.”

2. Accessible BC Act - Municipal Requirements, Staff Report No. ADM-23-011

“That it be recommended to Council:

That in response to the Provincial requirement to establish an Accessibility Committee by September 1, 2023, the municipality participate in a joint sub-regional Accessibility Committee, the Capital West Accessibility Advisory Committee, representing the City of Colwood, the Township of Esquimalt, the District of Highlands, the City of Langford, the District of Metchosin, the District of Sooke, and the Town of View Royal; and

That each member municipality of this joint sub-regional Accessibility Advisory Committee provide an equal share of the costs to retain a consultant to prepare an Accessibility Plan which member municipalities will apply to their own accessibility initiatives; and

That each member municipality of this joint sub-regional Accessibility Advisory Committee allocate nominal annual operating funds for Committee expenses; and

That the draft Committee Terms of Reference, provided as Attachment C to this report, be adopted; and

That a joint Accessibility Advisory Committee advertisement be placed seeking members for this Committee; and further

That the member municipalities each establish an email address to receive public comments as set out in the legislation.

Council commented that they were part of the discussion regarding the number of deployed officers to Esquimalt but the decision was not strictly Council's, as it was the Police Board and the Administrative Committee that made the request.

Moved by Councillor Helliwell, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That the resolution be amended to be "That Council request that the 2022 decision by the Police Board to reduce the number of officers deployed in Esquimalt by 3 be upheld". Carried Unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Helliwell, seconded by Councillor Morrison:

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED

1. Council Budget Discussion - Victoria Police Department 2023 Budget, Staff Report No. ADM-23-007

i. “That Council request that the 2022 decision by the Police Board to reduce the number of officers deployed in Esquimalt by 3 be upheld.”

2. Accessible BC Act - Municipal Requirements, Staff Report No. ADM-23-011

“That it be recommended to Council:

That in response to the Provincial requirement to establish an Accessibility Committee by September 1, 2023, the municipality participate in a joint sub-regional Accessibility Committee, the Capital West Accessibility Advisory Committee, representing the City of Colwood, the Township of Esquimalt, the District of Highlands, the City of Langford, the District of

Metchosin, the District of Sooke, and the Town of View Royal; and  
That each member municipality of this joint sub-regional Accessibility Advisory Committee provide an equal share of the costs to retain a consultant to prepare an Accessibility Plan which member municipalities will apply to their own accessibility initiatives; and  
That each member municipality of this joint sub-regional Accessibility Advisory Committee allocate nominal annual operating funds for Committee expenses; and  
That the draft Committee Terms of Reference, provided as Attachment C to this report, be adopted; and  
That a joint Accessibility Advisory Committee advertisement be placed seeking members for this Committee; and further  
That the member municipalities each establish an email address to receive public comments as set out in the legislation. Carried Unanimously.

\* Corporate Officer Note: The motion on the Accessible BC Act was rescinded at the Regular Council meeting of August 28, 2023.

## 8. COMMUNICATIONS

### *For Council's Consideration*

- 1) [23-169](#) Letter from the BC Association of Farmers' Markets dated February 16, 2023 Re: BC Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program Letter of Support.

Council commented that the Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program is important to maintain especially with the cost of food increasing due to inflation.

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Armour: That Council direct staff to send a letter to the Minister of Health in support of the ongoing funding for the Farmers' Market Nutrition Coupon Program to ensure the continued building of healthier BC communities. Carried Unanimously.

- 2) [23-171](#) Email from Mandy Stanhope dated March 13, 2023 Re: Light Up Green on May 3, 2023 for Lyme Disease Awareness

Council suggested that the illumination occur from May 3 - 5, 2023 providing no other illumination is required.

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That Council direct staff to illuminate the Esquimalt Adventure Park and Archie Browning Sports Centre green from May 3 - 5, 2023 in support of Lyme Disease awareness and to share the information on social media. Carried Unanimously.

- 3) [23-172](#) Email from Susan Nickerson dated March 13, 2023 Re:

Proclamation and Light Up on May 5, 2023 for Huntington Disease Awareness

Moved by Councillor Morrison, seconded by Councillor Rotchford: That Council direct staff to illuminate the Municipal facilities blue and/or purple on May 5, 2023 in support of Huntington Disease awareness; and that the following Proclamation be declared:

WHEREAS Huntington disease (HD) is a hereditary, neurodegenerative illness with physical, cognitive and emotional symptoms for which there is no cure; and

WHEREAS one in every 7,000 Canadians has HD and approximately one in every 5,500 is at-risk for developing the disease. Many more are touched by HD as a caregiver, family member, or friend; and

WHEREAS HD causes cells in specific parts of the brain to die. The disease leads to incapacitation and, eventually, death. It is likened to experiencing the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, and schizophrenia all in one disease; and

WHEREAS Huntington disease Awareness Month reflects the Huntington Society of Canada's (HSC) mission, which is to aspire to a world free from HD. HSC celebrates the resilience and hope demonstrated by the HD community. HSC aims to maximize the quality of life of people living with HD by delivering support services; enabling others to understand the disease; and supporting further breakthroughs in research to find treatments that address the root cause of HD; and

WHEREAS HSC works with health and social services professionals to enable them to better serve people living with HD; and

WHEREAS HSC is a respected leader in the worldwide effort to end Huntington disease. HSC is the only national health charity dedicated to providing help and hope for families dealing with HD across Canada.

NOW, THEREFORE I do hereby proclaim the month of May 2023 as "HUNTINGTON DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH. Carried Unanimously.

- 4) [23-174](#) Email from the Victoria Jazz Society dated March 14, 2023  
Re: Request to revise awarded funding to the Victoria Jazz Society for the TD Victoria International JazzFest in Bullen Park

Council comments included:

- It was acknowledged that the Victoria JazzFest adds to the richness of the community and the public support received at the meeting was evident.
- If approved, the organization would receive significantly more funding than other Esquimalt based and focused events.
- Concerns that an unfair advantage is being afforded to the Victoria JazzFest society as this request was not reviewed during the Local Grant Committee allowing them to bring out supporters to the Council meeting.
- In-kind support costs the Township money and is equivalent to cash

funding.

The Chief Administrative Officer, in response to questions, informed Council that there is \$12,700 remaining in the Local Grant budget and any other funds would be taken out of contingency.

Council comments continued:

- Public events are the best way to engage with the community.
- Concerns were raised over increasing taxes.
- The Victoria JazzFest is an internationally recognized event and is clearly supported by the community.
- As this would only be its second year in Esquimalt, there is no understanding of the impact and value that this event could bring to the community at this time.
- This could be an opportunity for Council to be a leader in welcoming cultural events in the region and by supporting the arts.
- Concerns were raised over the application process.
- There are other opportunities in the private sector to raise funds.
- Concerns were raised over the fairness to groups that have abided by the rules.
- Should the grant amounts for other groups who also applied for funding be increased in fairness.

Moved by Councillor Armour, seconded by Councillor Morrison: That Council deny the request of the Victoria Jazz Society. Defeated with Mayor Desjardins and Councillors Boardman, Cavens, Helliwell, Morrison and Rotchford Opposed.

In Favour: 1 - Councillor Armour

Opposed: 6 - Mayor Desjardins, Councillor Boardman, Councillor Cavens, Councillor Helliwell, Councillor Morrison, and Councillor Rotchford

Council discussion continued:

- The major sponsor for the JazzFest is the Toronto Dominion (TD) bank.
- This amount is supportable but there are concerns that other groups will return to request further funds.

Moved by Councillor Rotchford and seconded by Councillor Armour: That Council approve in-kind funding from the local grant account of \$7,000 to the Victoria Jazz Society for the TD Victoria International JazzFest in Bullen Park.

Council discussion continued:

- As there is a limited amount of funds, making the grant available for one year only is supportable.
- Many Esquimalt based groups did not receive the requested amount of



funds and are struggling.

- The Esquimalt Farmers Market and the Township Community Arts Hub do not have major corporate sponsorship, yet are able to provide several events per year in Esquimalt and were awarded less funding.

- Additional funding can be provided to other longstanding community groups if the entire amount in the fund is not depleted.

Moved by Mayor Desjardins, seconded by Councillor Cavens: That the motion be amended to approve in-kind funding of \$12,700. Carried with Councillors Armour, Morrison and Rotchford Opposed.

In Favour: 4 - Mayor Desjardins, Councillor Boardman, Councillor Cavens, and Councillor Helliwell

Opposed: 3 - Councillor Armour, Councillor Morrison, and Councillor Rotchford

Moved by Mayor Desjardins, seconded by Councillor Cavens:

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

That Council approve in-kind funding from the local grant account of \$12,700 to the Victoria Jazz Society for the TD Victoria International JazzFest in Bullen Park. Carried with Councillors Armour, Morrison and Rotchford Opposed.

In Favour: 4 - Mayor Desjardins, Councillor Boardman, Councillor Cavens, and Councillor Helliwell

Opposed: 3 - Councillor Armour, Councillor Morrison, and Councillor Rotchford

## **9. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Darryl Mar, Executive and Artistic Director of the the Victoria Jazz Society and Valerie Elliott, resident, requested clarification on the in-kind funding and further direction.

Mayor Desjardins suggested that the Victoria Jazz Society contact staff for clarification and that in-kind support has a cash equivalent value and is a cost to the Township.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Councillor Rotchford, seconded by Councillor Helliwell: That the Regular Council meeting be adjourned at 8:05 PM. Carried Unanimously.

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MAYOR BARBARA DESJARDINS  
THIS 3RD DAY OF APRIL, 2023

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DEBRA HOPKINS,  
CORPORATE OFFICER  
CERTIFIED CORRECT