

MINUTES of a regular meeting of the MUNICIPAL COUNCIL of The Corporation of the District of Oak Bay, held in the Council Chambers, Oak Bay Municipal Hall, 2167 Oak Bay Avenue, Victoria, B.C., on Monday, March 9, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

We acknowledge that the land on which we gather is in the traditional territory of the Coast and Straits Salish Peoples. Specifically we recognize the Lekwungen speaking people, known today as the Songhees and Esquimalt Nations, and that their historic connections to these lands continue to this day.

PRESENT: Mayor K. Murdoch, Chair
Councillor A. Appleton
Councillor H. Braithwaite
Councillor C. Green
Councillor T. Ney
Councillor E. Paterson
Councillor E.W. Zhelka

STAFF: Chief Administrative Officer, L. Varela
Director of Corporate Services, D. Hopkins
Director of Engineering Services, D. Horan
Manager of Planning, D. Jensen
Manager of Parks Services, C. Hyde-Lay
Recorder, A. Nurvo

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Murdoch called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

MINUTES AND REPORTS:

1. Minutes

MOVED and seconded: That the Minutes from the Committee of the Whole meeting held February 18, 2020, the Special Committee of the Whole meeting held February 20, 2020, the Public Hearing held February 24, 2020 and the Council meeting held February 24, 2020, be adopted.

CARRIED

MAYOR'S REMARKS:

2. Mayor's Remarks

Mayor Murdoch provided an update of recent meetings he had attended, including the Police Board conference which was co-hosted by Saanich, a meeting with the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing regarding upcoming initiatives, the quarterly Regional Mayors' lunch to review common issues, and the municipality's annual dinner to thank volunteers. Mayor Murdoch also attended a meeting regarding the Francophone Games

which will be held this summer and advised that arrangements for core fundraising are proceeding. Mayor Murdoch advised that the Oak Bay High School Alumni had recently raised \$110,000 for a piano for the High School, and now they are raising funds to replace the track at the High School as a legacy of the 1994 Commonwealth Games for our community.

Mayor Murdoch stated that the District is watching the developing situation on the Coronavirus, with the first death in our Province today, There has been lots of work behind the scenes during the past few weeks, with all department heads involved, working with health authorities to identify and prioritize the approximately 90 separate services provided by the District to ensure that we keep key services operating.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD:

3. There were no comments provided by the members of the public.

COMMUNICATIONS:

4. Climate Action Budget Items

The Manager of Planning provided a summary of her report, including the establishment of the Climate Action Working Group with a mandate to provide up to five recommendations for Council's consideration into the strategic priorities and budget processes. One of the recommendations was the neighbourhood engagement program with Coolkit and additional information on that program has been provided in her report. Ms. Jensen stated that Council had some questions regarding the Climate Action Reserve Fund and that staff have confirmed there are no restrictions that limit its use, so these funds could be used for climate action initiatives.

The Manager of Parks Services introduced Dr. Stephen Sheppard from the University of British Columbia (UBC), who provided a presentation including further details of the Coolkit program and the proposed community engagement program for Oak Bay over a three year period. He advised that student interns would be available to provide support to assist residents in implementing community projects. Dr. Sheppard reviewed the proposed budget breakdown and answered questions from Council.

MOVED and seconded: That Council receive the report from the Manager of Planning dated March 9, 2020 for information.

CARRIED

5. Request for Financial Assistance - Ride Don't Hide Event - June 14, 2020

MOVED and seconded: That a grant be approved for police marshaling costs related to the Ride Don't Hide event on June 14, 2020.

CARRIED

6. Mayor's Standing Committee on Parks, Recreation, and Culture Minutes - February 20 and 24, 2020

MOVED and seconded: That Council receive the Minutes from the Mayor's Standing Committee on Parks, Recreation, and Culture meetings held February 20 and 24, 2020 for information.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS/REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES:

7. New Business & Verbal Reports

- New Business

There was no new business.

- Report on the Capital Regional District

Mayor Murdoch advised that there had been no meetings recently at the CRD so he did not have any updates.

- Other Verbal Reports

Councillor Green advised that the Tourism Committee meeting has been rescheduled to next week and that the BIA mixer scheduled for this week has been cancelled and will be rescheduled to a future date to be determined in May. Councillor Green advised that she had attended the YES Awards event and volunteer dinner, and will be attending a meeting on Friday with Councillor Paterson and two residents regarding the Jubilee Transportation proposal.

Councillor Braithwaite advised that she had attended the YES Awards, and noted that all of Council attended, and that there was great support from the community. Councillor Braithwaite expressed congratulations to the ten students who were celebrated at the event.

Councillor Appleton stated he had attended the YES Awards, and thanked Councillor Braithwaite for all of her work organizing the event. Councillor Appleton advised that the Greater Victoria Public Library (GVPL) Board met on February 25, 2020 kicking off its strategic planning process. They are considering revising the room booking policy, due to recent challenges experienced in renting civic facilities and determining how freedom of speech and protection of public interest come into play. He also advised that the Community Climate Action Working Group held its final meeting last week, and that the two final recommendations were decided upon, which will be going to the Committee of the Whole meeting on March 16, 2020.

Councillor Paterson reported that as Acting Mayor she attended a meeting regarding the Francophone Games to be held here July 14-18, and that the District is acknowledged as one of the sponsors.

Mayor Murdoch advised that he attended the Transit Commission meeting a few weeks ago where a motion was submitted to develop a business case to review the cost implications of providing free ridership for youth. The motion was defeated on a split vote. It was acknowledged that the recent service improvements, including the rapid bus lanes and the West Shore connector, have resulted in a significant increase in ridership. The consensus was that investing in infrastructure was the best way to continue to improve the service.

BYLAWS:

8. Bylaw No. 4742, Tree Protection Bylaw, 2020

MOVED and seconded: That Council adopt the Tree Protection Bylaw, 2020, No. 4742.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT:

9. Motion to Adjourn

MOVED and seconded: That the meeting be adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

CARRIED

Certified Correct:

Mayor

Director of Corporate Services