

MINUTES of a meeting of ESTIMATES COMMITTEE 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, Oak Bay, B.C., on Wednesday, April 15, 2015.

PRESENT: Mayor N. Jensen (Chairman)
Councillor H. Braithwaite
Councillor T. Croft
Councillor M. Kirby
Councillor K. Murdoch
Councillor T. Ney
Councillor E. Zhelka

STAFF: Municipal Administrator, H. Koning
Municipal Clerk, L. Hilton
Municipal Treasurer, P. Walker
Director of Building and Planning, R. Thomassen
Planner, D. Jensen
Director of Engineering Services, D. Marshall
Superintendent of Public Works, D. Brozuk
Operations Manager, J. Brooks

Mayor Jensen called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Noting the discussion at the previous meeting regarding the tax rate ratios, the Municipal Treasurer presented an addendum to her budget memorandum outlining an option for setting the rates to address the impacts of the decreased assessments related to the Oak Bay Beach Hotel on the business class.

Building and Planning Department Operating and Capital Budget:

The Director of Building and Planning and the Planner continued from the last Estimates Committee meeting, providing further clarification and information in respect to the order of implementation processes in relation to the Official Community Plan.

Although some concerns were still raised in respect to the order of implementation processes, it was the majority view that the sequence as budgeted for currently and laid out in the draft Strategic Plan should remain at this time.

Engineering and Public Works Capital and Operating Budget:

The Director of Engineering Services and Superintendent of Public Works answered questions from the Committee in respect to the operating and capital budgets.

Referrals to Estimates Committee:

Attention was drawn to the various requests for funding referred to Estimates Committee.

There was discussion regarding whether or not Council was the appropriate body to be providing grants to some of the organizations that have requested them, and there was consensus that notwithstanding the decisions regarding the provision of grants for 2015, NEED 2 and the Greater Victoria Volunteer Society be advised that at this time it is the Committee's intention that future grants will not be provided.

Community Association of Oak Bay Grant Request - Welcome Pole

Noting a grant has previously been given to the Association in this regard, there was discussion regarding the provision of an additional grant for the Welcome Pole, and varying views and opinions were noted.

Moved by Councillor Ney

Seconded by Councillor Kirby, That it be recommended to Council that a grant to the Community Association of Oak Bay in the amount of \$13,813 for the Welcome Pole at Oak Bay High School be included in the budget.

CARRIED

(Councillors Braithwaite, Murdoch and Zhelka against the motion)

Arts Laureate Funding

It was noted that the Oak Bay Business Improvement Association has declined to provide funding this year towards the Arts Laureate, and there was consensus to add an additional \$2,500 to the budget to make up the unexpected shortfall.

Unallocated Grants Budget - Contingency

There was consensus to increase the unallocated grants budget to \$10,000 in the event special project grants are applied for.

The following list summarizes the recommendations made to Council with respect to the referrals to the Committee:

	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount Requested/ Referred</u>	<u>Decision</u>
1	Greater Victoria Bike to Work Week	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000
2	Oak Bay Volunteer Services Society	\$ 28,000	\$ 25,000
3	Oak Bay Heritage Foundation	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,000
4	Crisis Intervention and Public Information Society (Need2: Suicide Prevention Education & Support)	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,000
5	St John Ambulance	\$ 600	\$ 600
6	The Maritime Museum of BC Society	\$ 5,000	\$ 1,500
7	Vancouver Island South Film and Media Comm.	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,500
8	Help Fill A Dream Foundation	\$ 2,000	--
9	Oak Bay Music Society	\$ 1,500	--
10	Oak Bay Sea Rescue Society	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
11	Greater Victoria Volunteer Society	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,000
12	Bipolar Disorder Society of BC	\$ 5,000	--
13	Community Association of Oak Bay –General	\$ 2,670	\$ 1,500
13.1	Community Association of Oak Bay – Welcome Pole	\$ 13,813	\$ 13,813
14	Friends of Uplands Park – General	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000

14.1	Friends of Uplands Park – Cattle Point Marine Kiosk	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
15	Cadboro Bay/Thompson Intersect. – traffic calming	\$ 47,500	\$ 47,500
16	York Place – Sidewalk and Roadway improvements	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
17	Weald Road (300 block) – Asphalt Water Control	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000
18	Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,000
19	Girl Guides of Canada – Girl Guide Hall Repairs	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000
20	Salish Sea Sculpture	\$ 9,300	\$ 9,300

Remaining Capital and Operating Budgets:

The remaining portions of the budget were reviewed with adjustments being made as noted in the summary of adjustments.

Summary of Adjustments (to Estimates Budget)*:

* These adjustments relate to the original Estimates Budget presented to the Committee.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Increase to Taxes</u>	<u>Decrease to Taxes</u>
7 Vancouver Island South Film and Media Comm.	\$ 2,000	--
10 Oak Bay Sea Rescue Society	\$ 2,500	
11 Greater Victoria Volunteer Society		\$ 400
13.1 Community Association of Oak Bay – Welcome Pole Friends of Uplands Park – Cattle Point Marine Kiosk	\$ 13,813	
14.1 (Parks Department budget)	\$ 5,000	
18 Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association	\$ 500	
19 Girl Guides of Canada – Girl Guide Hall Repairs	\$ 20,000	
20 Salish Sea Sculpture	\$ 9,300	
Arts Laureate	\$ 2,500	
Grants Contingency	\$ 4,120	
Sub Total	\$ 78,233	\$ 400

Net Impact on Levy	\$77,833
Pre-Meeting General and Debt Levy	\$20,152,592
Revised General and Debt Levy	\$20,211,925
% Change from Prior Year Levy	5.3%

It was acknowledged that determining the overall increase for an average house including the solid waste charge was not possible during the meeting, prior to applying the new tax rate ratios as proposed for the business class, however, it was estimated that it would be just over 5%.

The Chief Administrative Officer noted that the Draft Council Strategic Plan would be updated in accordance with the budget deliberations and brought to Council for formal consideration with the budget related bylaws at the April 27, 2015 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Certified Correct:

Municipal Clerk

Chair