



Corporation of the Township of Esquimalt

SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Monday, March 23, 2009

Esquimalt Municipal Hall – Council Chambers

5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Desjardins (Chair), Councillor Meagan Brame, Councillor Randall Garrison, Councillor Alison Gaul, Councillor Lynda Hundleby, Councillor Don Linge

REGRETS: Councillor Bruce McIldoon

STAFF: Tom Day, Chief Administrative Officer, Barbara Snyder, Director of Development Services, Andy Katschor, Acting Director of Parks and Recreation, Jeff Byron, Recreation Manager, Paul Nelson, Fire Chief

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Desjardins called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. LATE ITEMS

There were no late items.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Linge, seconded by Councillor Brame that the agenda be approved.
The motion **CARRIED**.

4. ESQUIMALT VILLAGE PROJECT

1) PRESENTATION

Project Consultants: Hotson Bakker Boniface Haden Landeca

Norm Hotson, Allison Wood and Peter Hume made a presentation on the Esquimalt Village Project. The presentation included discussion on:

- Opportunity to integrate commercial, residential and recreational uses;
- Would include a lively and sustainable town centre;
- Revitalize town core (more shops);
- Multi-phased process, completed four of seven phases to date.

The next steps include:

- Second round of options;
- Develop preferred options;
- Recommend implementation steps.

- Aware that this Council believes it is Important that Archie Browning Sports Centre (ABSC) programs be retained and that any transition be seamless;
- Developed twelve planning principles to measure options against;
- Public input last occurred one year ago with review of five overall land use options;
- Consultants then developed options around three municipally owned sites;
- Analyzed land values and tax revenues by various options.

Next Steps:

- Discussion on density and height could influence plan;
- Refinement of options;
- Possible May Open House;
- Analysis of feedback;
- Then Final Option Refinement.

2) DISCUSSION

Discussion from Council included:

- Space for Buccaneer Day celebration not parking for that day;
- Impacts on neighbourhoods to the south of the study area;
- Impact of the global economic change on the project;
- Incentives for land owners to redevelop ;
- Interest of new mall owners in redevelopment;
- Regional curling opportunity and the impact on this study;
- Requirement for number of parking spaces;
- Strategy for phasing implementation of the project;
- Involvement of Lyall Street in the project;
- The possible involvement of a transportation planner in the project once options are defined;
- Options available for tenure;
- Size of arena possible on site north of recreation centre;
- Locating an arena adjacent to the recreation centre on the east side;
- Including a lacrosse box use;
- Scale of buildings on the “edges” of the study area;
- Possibility of connecting an arena to the recreation centre at the second floor;
- Building height;
- Retention of Esquimalt Curling Facility if a regional facility proceeds elsewhere;
- Sale value of land will be offset by requiring the purchaser to provide parking for municipal uses underground on their site.

Next steps:

- See if preferred site is identified in regional curling study;
- Council thoughts on ABSC made known;

- Council thoughts on building height and density;
- Other general observations of Council around the planning results to date.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Hundleby, seconded by Councillor Brame to adjourn the Special Committee of the Whole meeting at 7:25 p.m.
The motion CARRIED.

MAYOR OF THE CORPORATION
OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT
THIS 14TH DAY OF APRIL, 2009

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

LARRY RANDLE
CORPORATE OFFICER