



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING [BUDGET]
OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2010

5:45 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Lynda Hundleby
Councillor Meagan Brame
Councillor Alison Gaul
Councillor Donald Linge
Councillor Randall Garrison
Councillor Bruce McIldoon

STAFF: Laurie Hurst, Chief Administrative Officer
Robin Middleton, Director of Financial Services
Jeff Miller, Director of Engineering & Public Works
Barb Snyder, Director of Development Services
Scott Hartman, Director of Parks & Recreation Services
Mary Turner, Deputy Director of Financial Services
Gord Anderson, Deputy Fire Chief
Marlene Lagoa, Sustainability Coordinator
Carollyne Evans, Corporate Administrator

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Desjardins called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

2. **MINUTES**

- (1) Minutes of the Special Meeting [Budget] of Council, February 22, 2010

Moved by Councillor Brame, seconded by Councillor Linge that the minutes of the Special Meeting [Budget] of Council, February 22, 2010 be approved.

The motion **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- (2) Minutes of the Special Meeting [Budget] of Council, February 23, 2010

Page 1: Change Monday to Tuesday

Page 3 Item (xii): change to read “agreement to do building inspections on 1st Nations lands; no longer do inspections for View Royal as they have 2 FTEs.

Page 3 Item (xiv): Spelling error of Admirals

Page 4 Item (xxi) delete sentence and replace with “maintenance of 35 islands will require additional summer student and equipment; with the completion of Phase 2, additional staff resources and equipment will be required”.

Page 4 Item (xxiii) delete “in the ground work has been deferred” and replace with “an environmental study has been proposed to be done this year without budget impact”...

Moved by Councillor Brame, seconded by Councillor Gaul that the minutes of the Special Meeting [Budget] of Council, February 23, 2010 be approved as amended.

The motion **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

3. **BUDGET OPTIONS**

- (1) Power Point Presentation – Director & A/Director of Financial Services

Deputy Director Turner provided a power point presentation summarizing Council's recommendations from the previous budget meetings held February 22 and 23, 2010.

Ms. Turner stated Department Heads have made further reductions to their core budgets of .56% to bring down the 4.81% increase presented February 23rd to 4.25%. After factoring in supplementary additions and use of casino funds, deferred revenue and Capital Projects Reserve Funds, staff recommendation to Council is a 4.78% budget increase for 2010.

Discussion:

Concern was expressed that 4.78% increase is still too high given these economic times. Comments expressed included:

DCCs

- Council needs more information about DCCs before spending \$50,000 [.24% budget increase].
- DCCs are a way for the municipality to gain revenue; the Township does not know and will not know the benefits of DCCs until the Township does the process; indications are the market is improving; concern to delay another year.
- Funds for DCCs that were given early approval in January 2009 went into surplus as operating funds were not spent.
- The DCC costs shown before as split between Engineering and Planning have been rolled together under Engineering as \$50,000.
- Historically Esquimalt chose not to charge DCCs as they do not attract developers and are considered punitive; revenue is gained from permit fees and taxes.
- The DCC process cannot be done in house; consulting expertise is required for calculating costs for the first time.

Local Grants

- The provincial government cuts will increase the request for local grants from non-profit organizations; local grants needs to be increased

Other Budget Reductions

- The salary for the Assistant to the Fire Chief and Deputy can be reduced for the time the position was not filled.
- The salary for the Archivist can be reduced for the 6 months the position is expected to be vacant.
- \$200,000 was received from the CRD for the Admirals/Colville project so the Township does not have to borrow \$.5 million and the annual costs of short-term debt borrowing are reduced.

Moved by Councillor Garrison, seconded by Councillor Hundleby that Council directs that the \$50,000 allocated in the 2010 budget for development cost charges be removed.

Discussion:

Recommendation was made that Council needs a session to talk about DCCs in principle. DCCs may not be the best revenue source for a developed community like Esquimalt. Comment was made that in the last eight boom years Esquimalt did not attract that much development; larger projects will still come forward in spite of DCCs being charged. If DCCs were charged, amenity bonusing fees could go for amenities and would not have to be spent on infrastructure costs.

Director Snyder clarified that DCCs have only been discussed with one project - 669 Constance Avenue.

Comment was raised that Council must take a stand for long-term planning in spite of the DCC costs; must provide residents with good service over the long term.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED ON THE MOTION AND IT **CARRIED** with Councillors McIldoon, Hundleby, Brame, Garrison, Gaul In Favour and Mayor Desjardins, Councillor Linge Opposed.

Question was raised about the marketing program. Director Hartman clarified that in 2010 he would like early approval to get started with business planning, brand marketing, and securing event bids in preparation for the Marketing Manager position to start in January 2011.

Moved by Councillor Garrison, seconded by Councillor Brame that Esquimalt Council increase the Local Grants Fund base by \$5,000 starting this year.

Director Hartman clarified that the Parks & Recreation Services core budget for event grant funding is set at \$5,000 each year.

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED ON THE MOTION AND DECLARED **DEFEATED** with Mayor Desjardins, Councillors McIldoon, Hundleby, Linge, Brame, Gaul Opposed and Councillor Garrison In Favour.

Clarification was sought on the \$25,000 for a traffic study for bike lanes and the use of casino funds. CAO Hurst stated the policy is to use these funds for capital and one time projects. Director Miller stated the traffic study will review if the road right of way from Admirals/Colville to Admirals/Esquimalt Road would have the capability to support bike lanes.

Comment was made that it is important to keep this budget item in as Esquimalt has a lot of commuters and it is important to increase safety on the roads.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS**

- (1) Memorandum from the Manager of Corporate Services re: Municipal Archives Trust Fund

Moved by Councillor Hundleby, seconded by Councillor Brame that the memorandum from the Manager of Corporate Services re: Municipal Archives Trust Fund, be received for information. The motion **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**.

5. **PUBLIC INPUT (On items listed on the Agenda)**

Excluding items which are or have been the subject of a Public

Hearing.

Mayor Desjardins called for public input and there was none.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Hundleby, seconded by Councillor McIldoon that the Special Meeting [Budget] of Council recess at 7:42 p.m. to March 16, 2010 at 5:45 p.m.

The motion **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MAYOR OF THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT
THIS 29th DAY OF MARCH, 2010

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CAROLLYNE EVANS
CORPORATE ADMINISTRATOR