

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR FINANCE / POLICY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM, CITY HALL,
ON MONDAY, 2009-FEB-02 COMMENCING AT 4:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor J. R. Ruttan, Chair

Members: Councillor W. L. Bestwick
Councillor W. J. Holdom
Councillor D. K. Johnstone
Councillor J. A. Kipp
Councillor L. D. McNabb
Councillor J. F. K. Pattje
Councillor L. J. Sherry
Councillor M. W. Unger

Staff: G. D. Berry, City Manager
A. C. Kenning, Deputy City Manager
D. W. Holmes, General Manager of Corporate Services
E. C. Swabey, General Manager of Development Services
I. Howat, Director of Legislative Services
T. L. Hartley, Director of Human Resources
T. P. Seward, Director of Permits and Properties
Chief R. Lambert, Nanaimo Fire Rescue
R. J. Harding, Director of Parks, Recreation and Culture
J. E. Harrison, Manager of Legislative Services
P. Kristensen, Director of Information Technology
S. Graham, Manager of Financial Planning and Payroll
D. Duncan, Manager Finance, Community Services
W. Smith, Assistant Fire Chief
B. Simpson, Deputy Fire Chief, Operations
K. Lindsay, Emergency Program Manger
K. King, Recording Secretary
S. McMillan, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Finance / Policy Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 4:35 p.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

- (a) Add Agenda Item 13 (c) – Councillor Unger re: Housing.
- (b) Add Agenda Item 11 Procedural Motion to move "In Camera".

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda, as amended, be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

It was moved and seconded that Minutes of the Regular Finance / Policy Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Board Room, City Hall, on Monday, 2008-OCT-27 at 4:30 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Minutes of the Special Open Finance / Policy Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Board Room, City Hall on Wednesday, 2008-DEC-17 at 4:30 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that Minutes of the Special Open Finance / Policy Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Board Room, City Hall on Monday, 2009-JAN-19 at 4:30 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. DELEGATIONS PERTAINING TO AGENDA ITEMS:

It was moved and seconded that the Delegations be permitted to address Council. The motion carried unanimously.

(a) 2009 – 2013 Financial Plan

Mr. Fred Taylor, 204 Emery Way, Nanaimo, BC, V9R 6T1, asked if the servicing and sewer costs associated with the Provincial Government's proposal for low cost housing units at Fielding Road are included in the budget. Mr. Taylor also requested that Council consider last year's budget surplus and freezing Administration income, before adopting a 5.3 percent increase to taxes.

6. STAFF REPORTS:

ADMINISTRATION:

(a) Strategic Direction – Budget [referred from 2009-JAN-12 Open Council Meeting]

It was moved and seconded that Council confirm a tax policy target for residential taxation in 2009 of 4 percent with a combined rate of 3.5 percent. The motion was defeated.

Opposed: Councillors Bestwick, Kipp, Pattje, Sherry, and Unger

It was moved and seconded that Council confirm a tax policy target of 3 percent. The motion was defeated.

Opposed: Mayor Ruttan, Councillors Holdom, Johnstone, and McNabb

It was moved and seconded that Council confirm a tax policy target for residential taxation in 2009 of 5.3 percent. The motion carried.

Opposed: Councillors Bestwick, Kipp, Pattje and Sherry

It was moved and seconded that Council instruct Staff to schedule a line by line review of the proposed budget. The motion carried.

Opposed: Councillor McNabb

7. PRESENTATIONS:

- (a) Mr. Ron Lambert, Fire Chief, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the 10 Year Plan and Overview of the Roles and Responsibilities of Fire Rescue operations.

Councillor Kipp vacated the Board Room at 5:38 p.m.

Councillor Kipp returned to the Board Room at 5:40 p.m.

Councillor Unger vacated the Board Room at 5:48 p.m.

Councillor Unger returned to the Board Room at 5:51 p.m.

Councillor Unger vacated the Board Room at 6:37 p.m.

Councillor Unger returned to the Board Room at 6:38 p.m.

8. STAFF REPORTS, continued:

CORPORATE SERVICES:

- (a) 2009 Council Remuneration

It was moved and seconded that Council appoint a citizens committee to recommend a new policy for Council remuneration, to report back to Council by June 2009, and that no increase in remuneration be implemented in the meantime. The motion was defeated.

Opposed: Mayor Ruttan, Councillors Bestwick, Holdom, Johnstone, Kipp, McNabb, Pattje, and Sherry

It was moved and seconded that Council amend its Council Remuneration Policy to utilize the BC Consumer Price Index for determining Council remuneration increases. The motion carried.

Opposed: Councillors Kipp and McNabb

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

- (a) Letter dated 2009-JAN-20 from Lorraine Price, Corresponding Secretary of the Cedar District 4-H Senior Advisory Council, requesting that Council reconsider the reduction to the 4-H barnyard funding partnership in the 2009 provisional budget.

It was moved and seconded that the request from the Cedar District 4-H Senior Advisory Council, requesting that Council reconsider the reduction to the 4-H barnyard funding partnership in the 2009 provisional budget, be referred back to the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

10. OTHER BUSINESS:

NOTICE OF MOTION:

- (a) Councillor Holdom put forward the following Notice of Motion for consideration at the Finance / Policy Committee of the Whole Meeting to be held 2009-FEB-02.

“That Council authorize removing \$750,000 for the upgrade to the City’s jail cells.”

Councillor Holdom withdrew the motion.

- (b) Councillor Kipp put forward the following Notice of Motion for consideration at the Finance / Policy Committee of the Whole Meeting to be held 2009-FEB-02.

“That Council freeze Council’s remuneration at the 2008 level, and that the Council remuneration policy be referred to the September 2009 Finance/Policy Committee of the Whole to commence a review and possible amendment for 2010 and years following.”

Councillor Kipp withdrew the motion.

- (c) Councillor Unger – Report re: Housing

Councillor Unger provided a verbal report regarding a recent announcement by the Provincial government proposing the development of social housing at a mobile home park on Fielding Road. How this proposal fits in with the City’s social housing agreement with the Provincial government and the waiving of development fees will be looked at within a feasibility study.

Mr. Toby Seward, Director of Permits and Properties, outlined some of the challenges faced by the Province in the development of the Fielding Road property.

11. PROCEDURAL MOTION:

It was moved and seconded that Council move “In Camera” in order to deal with the following matters under the *Community Charter* Section 90(1):

- (g) litigation or potential litigation affecting the municipality. The motion carried unanimously.

Council moved out of “IC” at 7:50 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 7:50 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

C H A I R

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

DIRECTOR,
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES