

MINUTES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
BOARDROOM, SERVICE AND RESOURCE CENTRE
411 DUNSMUIR STREET, NANAIMO, BC
FRIDAY, 2019-JAN-18 AT 9:00 A.M.

Present: Mayor L. Krog
Councillor S. D. Armstrong
Councillor D. Bonner
Councillor T. Brown
Councillor B. Geselbracht
Councillor E. Hemmens
Councillor Z. Maartman
Councillor I. W. Thorpe

Absent: Councillor J. Turley

Staff: J. Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer
R. J. Harding, Director of Parks and Recreation
D. Lindsay, Director of Community Development
B. Sims, Director of Engineering and Public Works
J. Van Horne, Director of Human Resources
L. Fletcher, Inspector, Nanaimo RCMP (vacated 12:20 p.m.)
K. Fry, Fire Chief
L. Mercer, Acting Director of Financial Services
J. Elliot, Senior Manager of Public Works (entered 9:12 a.m., vacated 11:04 a.m.)
D. Thompson, Acting Manager, Sani, Recycling, and Public Works Admin (entered 9:12 a.m., vacated 11:04 a.m.)
P. Rosen, Senior Manager of Engineering (vacated at 12:05 p.m.)
G. de Boeck, Senior Client Support Specialist (entered 12:41 p.m., vacated 12:42 p.m.)
N. Sponaugle, Legislative Services Clerk
S. Gurrie, City Clerk
S. Snelgrove, Recording Secretary
G. Whitters, Recording Secretary (vacated 12:05 p.m.)

1. CALL THE REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Committee of the Whole Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

S. Snelgrove vacated the Boardroom at 9:01 a.m.

2. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS:

(a) Add Agenda Item 7 – Procedural Motion

3. APPROVAL 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 the Minutes of the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting held in the Shaw Auditorium, 80 Commercial Street, Nanaimo, BC on Monday, 2018-DEC-17 at 1:00 p.m. be adopted as circulated. The motion carried unanimously.

5. PRESENTATIONS:

(a) Strategic Planning Session with Tracey Lorenson, Paragon Strategic Services Ltd.

Introduced by Jake Rudolph, Chief Administrative Officer.

J. Elliot and D. Thompson entered the Boardroom at 9:12 a.m.

Tracey Lorenson, Paragon Strategic Services Ltd., outlined the purpose and elements of a Strategic Plan.

Committee discussion took place regarding the following:

- Frustrations around previous strategic planning processes
- Public expectations
- Management's support of Council
- Increasing good news stories
- Common issues and concerns heard during the campaign period included:
 - Governance
 - Public Safety, homelessness and housing
 - Environment
 - Community engagement
 - Relationships
 - Economic development
 - Transportation
 - Arts and culture
 - Protection of green spaces and recreational facilities
 - Waste management
 - Downtown and waterfront development

The Committee of the Whole broke into groups to discuss which stakeholders have expectations of the City.

Committee discussion continued regarding the following:

- Responsibility to the community
- Improving level of service
- Response times to public's concerns and where to direct them

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting recessed at 10:10 a.m.
The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting reconvened at 10:26 a.m.

Committee discussion took place regarding the definition of good governance and what makes Nanaimo unique which included:

- Bathtub race
- Location, size and spread of the City
- Amenities
- Social services
- Active deep water sea port
- Economy heavily dependant on development
- High crime rates
- High poverty

J. Elliot and D. Thompson, vacated the Boardroom at 11:04 a.m.
Councillor Brown vacated the Boardroom at 11:09 a.m.

The Committee of the Whole discussed efficiency of meetings, community engagement, collaboration, and predictability & clarity of policies to improve certainty for investors.

Councillor Brown returned to the Boardroom at 11:20 a.m.
J. Van Horne vacated the Boardroom at 11:31 a.m.
Councillor Armstrong vacated the Boardroom at 11:33 a.m.
Councillor Armstrong returned to the Boardroom at 11:40 a.m.
J. Van Horne returned to the Boardroom at 11:40 a.m.

Committee discussion took place regarding management excellence, customer service and community engagement which included the following:

- Creating and optimizing a system to acquire feedback from the community
- Harnessing talent in the community
- Clarity of agendas
- Developing an engagement strategy
- The role of committees
- Creating clear terms of reference for all committees
- First Nations engagement
- Facilitating and improving conversations between Council, the public and Staff
- Staff efficiency

S. Snelgrove entered the boardroom at 12:05 p.m.
P. Rosen vacated the boardroom at 12:05 p.m.

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting recessed at 12:05 p.m.
L. Fletcher vacated the Boardroom at 12:20 p.m.
The Special Committee of the whole Meeting reconvened at 12:38 p.m.

Staff present: S. Gurrie, D. Lindsay, J. Rudolph, B. Sims, S. Snelgrove, N. Sponaugle, J. Van Horne

K. Fry and L. Mercer entered the Boardroom at 12:40 p.m.

G. de Boeck entered the Boardroom at 12:41 p.m.

Tracey Lorenson, Paragon Strategic Services Ltd., continued her presentation which included the following:

- Discussion regarding which topics to focus on in the afternoon portion of the session: Revitalizing downtown, Public safety, Economic Health, Climate Change

G. de Boeck vacated the Boardroom at 12:42 p.m.

Councillor Armstrong returned to the Boardroom at 12:42 p.m.

Committee discussion continued regarding:

- Council's role in social issues such as:
 - Child poverty
 - Drug addiction
 - Public safety
- Intentional design of the City related to:
 - Climate change
 - Environmental sustainability
 - Social isolation
 - Recreation

Committee discussion took place regarding:

- Social Issues in Nanaimo and advocacy for social issues
- Creating services such as health centres
- Areas of legal jurisdiction to deal with addiction
- Need of Provincial and Federal government support
- Advocacy, education, facilitation and strengthening systems already in place
- Focus on issues Council can directly solve and influence
- Council is willing to be part of a solution to donate assets if needed and is open to partnerships
- Connections between social service agencies and the City of Nanaimo
- Ready to mobilize with other levels of government to support our community
- Not interested in funding the work that is the legal responsibility of other levels of government

R. Harding returned to the Boardroom at 1:14 p.m.

- Affordability and economic strategy
- How to implement strategies in place
- Economic development:
 - Expanded marina
 - 1 Port Drive Development
 - Economic benefits of development, wellbeing and liveability related to economic development
 - Development and enhancements of the downtown area is important
 - Waterfront walkway may be a way to support downtown revitalization

K. Fry vacated the Boardroom at 1:30 p.m.

- Downtown revitalization may be different and distinct from development of last piece of undeveloped waterfront
- Walkway along waterfront part of enhancing downtown and linkages downtown
- Diligent in protecting and maximizing final piece of land downtown

S. Gurrie vacated the Boardroom at 1:32 p.m.

Committee discussion took place regarding the south downtown waterfront lands, restrictions on lands, known archeological sites downtown, permitting process and that the Port Drive Waterfront Master Plan has been completed.

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting recessed at 1:36 p.m.

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting reconvened at 1:54 p.m.

Committee discussion continued regarding:

- Including the Official Community Plan (OCP) changes in the strategic plan

B. Sims returned to the Boardroom at 1:56 p.m.

- Role of the OCP
- OCP guiding development and long term planning
- Vision of community should be aligned with strategic plan
- OCP has tools to make Nanaimo carbon neutral
- Embed agreed values into long term planning
- OCP linked to transportation, recreation, environment and long term decision making regarding land use
- A vision of Nanaimo that is livable and environmentally sustainable, full of opportunity for all generations and walks of life

Committee discussion took place regarding the environment, including the following points:

- Environmental sustainability in OCP
- Environment was identified as one of the five pillars of priorities
- Potentially reformat staff reports to include an environmental impact section
- Create communities and villages within cities
- Walkable neighbourhoods connected by efficient transit
- Natural asset management
- Evidence based decision making

Discussion took place regarding next steps for the strategic plan, including cleaning up the language, reviewing with the CAO and potentially coming back for another discussion.

The Special Committee of the Whole Meeting recessed at 2:52 p.m.

The Special Committee of the whole Meeting reconvened at 3:08 p.m.

Tracey Lorenson, Paragon Strategic Services Ltd., continued her presentation which included the following discussion topics:

- Arts and Culture
 - Demand of services for aging population
 - Targeted focus on what matters most to the community
 - Expansion of the Port Theatre Performing Arts Centre

K. Fry returned to the Boardroom at 3:22 p.m.

- Arts and Cultural plan coming forward for renewal
 - Strong community groups around arts and culture
 - Make it easier for groups to access grants and remove impediments to them being successful
- Truth and Reconciliation:
 - Snuneymuxw First Nation territory
 - Relationships with First Nations
 - Establish personal and intergovernmental relationships
 - Establish good relations with other partners including: Nanaimo Port Authority, Vancouver Island University, Chamber of Commerce, School Board, Regional District of Nanaimo and others
 - Protocol Agreement Working Group
 - Valuing relationships with others that impact and support our community

6. QUESTION PERIOD:

No one in attendance wished to ask questions.

7. PROCEDURAL MOTION:

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be closed to the public in order to deal with agenda items under the *Community Charter* Section 90(1):

- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- (n) the consideration of whether a Council meeting should be closed under a provision of this subsection or subsection (2).

The motion carried unanimously.

The Committee of the Whole moved “In Camera” at 3:52 p.m.
The Committee of the Whole moved out of “In Camera” at 4:01 p.m.

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be closed to the public in order to deal with agenda items under the *Community Charter* Section 90(1):

- (a) personal information about an identifiable individual who holds or is being considered for a position as an officer, employee or agent of the municipality or another position appointed by the municipality;
- (c) labour relations or other employee relations;
- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the Council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality;
- (k) negotiations and related discussions respecting the proposed provision of a municipal service that are at their preliminary stages and that, in the view of the council, could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality if they were held in public;
- (l) discussions with municipal officers and employees respecting municipal objectives, measures and progress reports for the purposes of preparing an annual report under section 98 [*annual municipal report*]; and,

90(2)(b)

- (b) the consideration of information received and held in confidence relating to negotiations between the municipality and a provincial government or the federal government or both, or between a provincial government or the federal government or both and a third party;

The motion carried unanimously.

Council moved into "In Camera" at 4:02 p.m.

Council moved out of "In Camera" at 5:02 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 5:02 p.m. that the meeting terminate. The motion carried unanimously.

CHAIR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

CORPORATE OFFICER