



MINUTES
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, November 1, 2023, 1:00 P.M.
SHAW AUDITORIUM, VANCOUVER ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTRE
80 COMMERCIAL STREET, NANAIMO, BC

Members:

- Mayor L. Krog, Chair
- Councillor S. Armstrong (arrived 1:37 p.m.)
- Councillor T. Brown* (joined 1:02 p.m.)
- Councillor H. Eastmure
- Councillor B. Geselbracht* (joined 1:02 p.m.)
- Councillor E. Hemmens
- Councillor P. Manly
- Councillor J. Perrino
- Councillor I. Thorpe

Staff:

- D. Lindsay, Chief Administrative Officer
- B. Sims, General Manager, Engineering and Public Works
- T. Doyle, Fire Chief
- B. Corsan, Director, Corporate and Business Development
- J. Holm, Director, Planning and Development
- D. LaBerge, Director, Bylaw Services
- L. Mercer, Director, Finance
- L. Brinkman, Manager, Community Planning
- C. Wood, Social Planner
- S. Gurrie, Director, Legislative Services*
- K. Robertson, Deputy Corporate Officer
- J. Vanderhoef, Recording Secretary

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

The Special Council Meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m.

* Denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by "Council Procedure Bylaw 2018 No. 7272"

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

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

Councillors Brown and Geselbracht joined the meeting electronically at 1:02 p.m.

3. PRESENTATION:

a. Discussion re: Options for a Warming Centre

Introduced by Mayor Krog.

Dale Lindsay, Chief Administrative Officer, noted that Staff were available to answer questions and continue the discussion regarding warming centres which began during the Governance and Priorities Committee (GPC) meeting on 2023-OCT-23.

Laura Mercer, Director, Finance, noted the City currently has a project that is under budget and funding allocated to that project could be made available.

Christy Wood, Social Planner, noted that Staff had presented options regarding warming centres during the Governance and Priorities Committee meeting held on 2023-OCT-23. Staff have been in contact with local service providers to enquire about their capacities for warming centres.

Council and Staff discussion took place regarding options for warming centres and entering into a potential service agreement with Risebridge Society as well as other service providers.

Councillor Armstrong entered the Shaw Auditorium at 1:37 p.m.

It was moved and seconded that Council:

1. Direct Staff to reallocate up to \$230,000 from the Asset Retirement Obligation project surplus to fund warming centre services approximately between November 14, 2023, and March 31, 2024, 7 days per week; and,
2. Authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to enter into a service agreement with Risebridge Society to:
 - a. Provide warming centre services during identified service gaps; and,
 - b. Mitigate impacts on the surrounding neighbourhood through good neighbourhood agreement requirements.

It was moved and seconded that the motion be amended to add the following:

- “3. That a further call for expressions of interest be posted for organizations willing and able to run an additional warming centre in Nanaimo; and
4. If an additional site is found, that additional funds be identified.”

The vote was taken on the amendment.

The motion carried unanimously.

The vote was taken on the main motion, as amended, as follows:

That Council:

1. Direct Staff to reallocate up to \$230,000 from the Asset Retirement Obligation project surplus to fund warming centre services approximately between November 14, 2023 and March 31, 2024, 7 days per week; and,
2. Authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to enter into a service agreement with Risebridge Society to:
 - a. Provide warming centre services during identified service gaps
 - b. Mitigate impacts on the surrounding neighbourhood through good neighbourhood agreement requirements
3. That a further call for expressions of interest be posted for organizations willing and able to run an additional warming centre in Nanaimo; and
4. If an additional site is found, that additional funds be identified.

The motion, as amended, carried unanimously.

It was moved and seconded that correspondence be sent to Premier Eby outlining:

- the continued and severe health needs of unsheltered populations in Nanaimo; and,
- the community wide need for provincial funding, that matches the scale of the crisis, for programs and shelter space for unsheltered populations in Nanaimo.

The motion carried unanimously.

All staff, with the exception of the Chief Administrative Officer, vacated the Shaw Auditorium at 1:55 p.m.

3. 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) A part of a Council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

- (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; and,
- (m) a matter that, under another enactment, is such that the public may be excluded from the meeting.

The motion carried unanimously.

Special Council Meeting moved In Camera at 1:57 p.m.

Special Council Meeting moved out of In Camera at 2:50 p.m.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 2:51 p.m. that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

MAYOR

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

DEPUTY CORPORATE OFFICER