



TOWN OF SIDNEY

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, October 19, 2020

Council Chambers

9:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor C. McNeil-Smith
Councillor S. Garnett and B. Fallot
Councillors: S. Duncan, T. O’Keeffe, Councillor C. Rintoul and P. Wainwright (*electronically*)

Staff: R. Humble, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Hicik, Director of Corporate Services
A. Verhagen, Senior Manager of Current Planning
P. Kully, Executive Assistant

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 9:05 p.m.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Mayor respectfully acknowledged that this evening’s meeting is being held on the traditional territory of the WSÁNEĆ First Nations.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2020.48.590 Moved by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councilor B. Fallot, that the agenda be approved with amendments to add item 4.B Councillor’s Report and move the current Item to 4.C.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. A. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PERIOD (maximum 20 minutes)
(*Written submissions, if any, to be read aloud*)

There were no written submissions.

B. COUNCILLORS’ REPORTS

Report from Councillor T. O’Keeffe:

- Councillor T. O’Keeffe provided a report on small business week and acknowledged the many small businesses that operate in Sidney.
- In her conversations with local business, it has been noted that COVID has taken a toll on many small businesses.
- On behalf of Council, she extended thanks to Sidney’s small businesses for their contribution and encouraged the community to support small business.

C. PRESENTATIONS

i. COVID Recovery Task Force – Recommendation to Council (item 4.b)

Presentation by David Calvey provided an overview and the rationale for the Task Force’s recommendation to Council to provide an operating budget for a committee of the Task Force, or alternately, the EAC, to carry out short-term and long-term initiatives in response to the economic impacts of the pandemic.

- Recommendations for short-term initiatives include engaging a consultant to conduct a follow-up survey of local businesses similar to the one undertaken by the EOC at the onset of the pandemic and carry out any identified response actions.
- Long-term initiatives include developing and implementing an economic strategy for Sidney.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. COVID-19 Recovery Task Force - October 8, 2020

2020.48.591 Moved by Councillor B. Fallot, seconded by Councillor S. Garnett, that Minutes of the COVID-19 Recovery Task Force Meeting of October 8, 2020, be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Minutes contain recommendations(s) regarding:

R.1 Business Support Project

Councillor B. Fallot suggested the recommendation be amended as follows:

That the Task Force recommends that Council approve providing a budget of \$30,000 to a working group of the EAC to be used as they see necessary to contract, survey, and report on how businesses can be supported in response, resiliency and recovery and to implement actions that come out of the survey within the budget.

R.2 Long-term Economic Strategy

The Committee had questions regarding use of the requested budget and expressed concerns about the workload set upon the EAC.

Staff advised that the economic development fund is near depleted and funding for the project would have to come from surplus.

2020.48.592 Moved by Councillor P. Wainwright, seconded by Councillor C. Rintoul, that the following recommendation - R.1 Business Support Project - be referred to the EAC for information and comment:

“That the Task Force recommends that Council approve providing a budget of \$30,000 to a working group of the EAC to be used as they see necessary to contract, survey, and report on how businesses can be supported in response, resiliency and recovery and to implement actions that come out of the survey within the budget.”

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2020.48.593 Moved by Councillor B. Fallot, seconded by Councillor P. Wainwright, that the following recommendation - R.2 Long-Term Economic Strategy - be referred to the EAC for information and comment:

“That Council task the EAC with preparing and implementing a long-term economic strategy following a detailed planning tool to develop road map.”

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. ADJOURNMENT

2020.48.594 Move by Councillor S. Garnett, seconded by Councillor B. Fallot, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MAYOR

CORPORATE OFFICER