

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH

Minutes of the **ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE COMMITTEE** Meeting
Tuesday, October 14, 2008, at 7:10 p.m.
Central Saanich Municipal Council Chamber

PRESENT: Councillor John Garrison, Chair
Mayor Jack Mar, Councillors Bryson, Graham, King, and Mason
Gary C. Nason, Administrator
Sara C. Ribeiro, Municipal Clerk
Rosalyn Tanner, Director of Financial Services

ABSENT: Councillor Thompson

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

1125.08 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
NO SECONDER
That the Agenda for the Administration & Finance Committee Meeting held on October 14, 2008, be approved as distributed.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Administrator overviewed the Agenda and the process for consideration of Property Tax Exemptions and Grants-in Aid.

1. 2009 Permissive Tax Exemption & 2009 Grants-In-Aid

- a) Staff Memorandum dated October 2, 2008, from the Director of Financial Services entitled "2009 Property Tax Exemptions"
- b) Staff Memorandum dated October 4, 2008, from the Director of Financial Services entitled "2009 Grants-in-Aid Requests"

The Director of Financial Services overviewed the 2009 Property Tax Exemptions Staff Memorandum and responded to questions from Council.

A brief discussion occurred between Committee.

1126.08 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KING
NO SECONDER
That it be recommended to Council:

That the Staff Memorandum dated October 2, 2008, from the Director of Financial Services entitled "2009 Property Tax Exemptions" be received, and when the 2010 Permissive Tax Exemption applications are to be considered by the new Council, Staff be requested to provide historical background information on the dollar value of both Permissive Tax Exemptions and Grants-in-Aid which have been approved by previous Councils, and the related budgetary/tax impact of these approvals.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1127.08 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR BRYSON
NO SECONDER
That it be recommended to Council:

That in regards to the issue of tax exemptions for Churches and other places of worship, Staff be requested to contact the Ministry of Community Development and attempt to obtain some background rationale or clarification on the intent and application of the legislation which is currently contained in the Community Charter and which was previously contained in the Local Government Act and the Municipal Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1128.08 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GRAHAM
NO SECONDER
That it be recommended to Council:

That at the next Regular Council Meeting, Council proceed with the necessary readings of "Central Saanich Tax Exemption (Church Halls and Church Land) Bylaw No. 1637, 2008" and "Central Saanich Tax Exemption Bylaw No. 1638, 2008", in the form as attached to the Staff Memorandum dated October 2, 2008, from the Director of Financial Services.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Director of Financial Services overviewed the 2009 Grants-in-Aid Staff Memorandum and responded to questions from Committee.

It was noted representatives from the Community Arts Council of the Saanich Peninsula, the Friends of Dominion Brook Park Society, the Greater Victoria Development Society, the Kids' Help Phone, the Peninsula Celebrations Society, the Saanich Peninsula Piranhas Swim Club, the Sea Change Marine Conservation Society, the Stelly's Parent Advisory Council, and the Stelly's 25th Reunion Committee were not in attendance to address their application.

Mr. Derek Chow, Beacon Community Services, was available to answer questions of Committee.

Mr. Ralph Hembruff and Ms. Lauren Steeg, Boys and Girls Club, spoke to their application.

Due to a potential conflict of interest, Councillor Mason excused herself from the Meeting at 7:26 p.m. Councillor Mason stated she is a Director for the Brentwood Bay Revitalization Committee.

It was noted a representative from the Brentwood Bay Revitalization Committee was not in attendance to address their application.

Councillor Mason returned to the Council Chamber at 7:26 p.m.

Mr. Keith Payne, Central Saanich Lions' Club, spoke to their application.

Mr. Robert Wickson and Ms. Stephanie Johnson, Greater Victoria Bike to Work Society, spoke to their application.

Mr. Adam Taylor, Habitat Acquisition Trust, spoke to their application.

Mr. Mike Lawless, Navy League of Canada Saanich Peninsula Branch, spoke to their application.

Ms. Jane Arnott, NEED Crisis and Information Line, spoke to their application.

Mr. Ian Bruce, Peninsula Streams, spoke to their application.

Mr. Lyle Copeland, Peninsula Stroke Recovery Branch, spoke to their application.

Ms. Eileen Leddy, Saanich Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, spoke to their application.

Ms. Joan Axford, School District No. 63 (Saanich), spoke to their application.

Ms. Jan Carroll, Saanichton Village Association, spoke to their application.

Mr. Rod Seginson, 676 Kittyhawk Air Cadet Squadron, spoke to their application.

Ms. Val Green, Volunteer Victoria, spoke to their application.

1129.08 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
NO SECONDER
That it be recommended to Council:

That the Staff Memorandum dated October 4, 2008, from the Director of Financial Services entitled "2009 Grants-in-Aid Requests" be received and any decisions by Council with respect to 2009 Grants-in-Aid approvals be referred to the new Council for consideration no earlier than mid-December 2008.

CARRIED

The Chair called a brief recess from 7:45 p.m. to 7:49 p.m.

2. Notice of Motion Submitted by Councillor Garrison Re: Council Remuneration

Councillor Garrison briefly spoke to his Notice of Motion.

A discussion occurred between Committee, and Staff responded to questions. In particular, Committee discussed benefit packages for Council, other expenses of Council, and the practice of other municipalities with respect to reviewing Council remuneration rates.

1130.08 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KING
NO SECONDER
That it be recommended to Council:

That further consideration of the issue of Council remuneration be deferred to a future Committee Meeting when all members of Council are anticipated to be in attendance.

DEFEATED

In discussion around the table, Staff were requested to rework the spreadsheet and determine the average Council (Mayor and Councillors) salaries for the seven comparable Capital Regional District municipalities based on the Mayor and Council dollar per capita figures noted in the spreadsheet, with the additional inclusion of any cost relating to health and dental benefits where applicable.

1131.08 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GRAHAM
NO SECONDER
That it be recommended to Council:

That Staff be requested to rework the spreadsheet, noting where applicable, revised population figures in the various jurisdictions to both include and exclude First Nations Reserves.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1132.08 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
NO SECONDER
That it be recommended to Council:

That further consideration of the issue of Council remuneration be postponed to a future Committee Meeting, pending the receipt of the aforementioned additional information related to Mayor and Council dollar per capita average salary figures, and the revised population figures relating to First Nations Reserves where applicable.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion, the Administration & Finance Committee Meeting held on October 14, 2008, adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Councillor John Garrison, Chair

Recorded By: Sara C. Ribeiro
Municipal Clerk