

THE CORPORATION OF THE DISTRICT OF CENTRAL SAANICH

Minutes of the **SPECIAL ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE** Meeting
Saturday, April 1, 2006 at 9:00 am
Central Saanich Municipal Council Chamber

PRESENT: Councillor Christopher Graham, Chair
Mayor Jack Mar
Councillors: Bryson, Garrison, King, Mason and Thompson
Gary C. Nason, Administrator
David J. Gawley, Consultant
Trish Flanders, Municipal Clerk
Hope V. Burns, Director of Planning & Building Services
Nirmal Bhattacharya, Municipal Engineer
Ron French, Fire Chief
Bonnie McKenzie, Manager of Community Services
Steve Epp, Assistant Treasurer
Clayton Pecknold, Deputy Chief Constable
John Currie, Central Saanich Police Board

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

348.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR THOMPSON
 NO SECONDER
 That the Agenda for the Special Administration & Finance Committee Meeting held on April 1, 2006 be approved as circulated.
 CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. REVIEW AND DECISIONS ON 2006 RECOMMENDED SUPPLEMENTALS

Mr. Gary C. Nason, Administrator, directed Council's attention to the 2006 Core Budget and Supplementary Budget Request binders which were previously distributed, and gave some brief introductory remarks and a recap of the decisions which have been undertaken to date. He advised that the purpose of this meeting was to conduct a review of the 2006 Recommended Supplementals, including the "New" and "Council Requested" Supplementals. Mr. Nason referred to the late items of correspondence and the new Supplemental for Peninsula Streams, as well as the Memorandum (previously received) from Councillor King in regards to the proposed utilization of the Gas Tax Revenues.

Operational Supplementals

Staff provided a brief overview of the new Council Requested "CRD Housing Trust Fund" Supplemental, and responded to questions from members of the Committee.

Due to a potential conflict of interest on the Sandhill Creek Stewardship and Senanus Drive issues, Councillors Graham and Bryson took their leave from the Meeting at 9:19 am. Councillor Graham stated that his mother is a member of the Hagan Creek-Kennes Watershed Project Steering Committee, and that his family owns property located on Senanus Drive. Councillor Bryson stated that the access easement to his property could allow for a water connection should a waterline extension be approved for Mt. Newton Cross Road.

Councillor Garrison assumed the Chair.

Staff then responded to questions in regards to the new Council Requested Supplementals for Peninsula Streams pertaining to Sandhill Creek Stewardship and Funding for its Core Budget, as well as the new Supplemental for Consulting Estimate Re: Watermain Extension to Senanus Drive Properties.

Councillors Graham and Bryson returned to the Meeting at 9:23 am.

Discussions continued in regards to the remaining new Operational Supplementals.

Equipment and Infrastructure Supplementals

An overview took place in regards to the new and Council Requested Equipment and Infrastructure Supplementals, and a question and answer session followed.

Ms. Jill Wake, 7046 Brentwood Drive, briefly commented on the Supplementals for road signage and the hiring of a co-op student.

The Administrator then gave a comprehensive overview of the list of Recommended Supplementary Requests for 2006 and the proposed sources of funding for the various recommended operational, equipment and infrastructure supplementary requests.

Mr. Nason then referred to the Proposed Next Step Options for the Brentwood Bay Traffic Corridor Revitalization Project and corresponding Spreadsheets 1, 2 and 3 which outline the proposed funding options for the Project.

A very lengthy discussion around the table took place.

Ms. Elizabeth Chambers, 901 Verdier Avenue, questioned the allocation of \$300,000 for various studies and stated that this amount seems to be unusually high.

Mr. Peter Parsons, 2008 Seamount Place, questioned the increase in taxation to fund the replacement of expended reserves.

Ginny Alger, 1189 Damelart Way, questioned if the District applied for the BC Hydro Beautification Grant.

Mr. Frank Witthoef, 2361 Tanner Ridge Place, referred to a 5th option that Council could consider during its deliberations on funding the Brentwood Bay Traffic Corridor Revitalization Project.

A lengthy discussion ensued in regards to the Brentwood Bay Traffic Corridor Revitalization Project.

Discussion around the table ensued re: Council's preference of the three spreadsheets and the options.

349.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR THOMPSON
NO SECONDER
That It Be Recommended To Council:

That Council endorse for the purposes of further discussion and finalization "Next Step Option" No. 1 as it relates to the Brentwood Bay Traffic Corridor Revitalization Project, and corresponding "Supplementary Request" Spreadsheet No. 1.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED, several concerns and comments were expressed by members of the Committee in regards to Option 1.

350.06 AMENDMENT
MOVED BY COUNCILLOR THOMPSON
NO SECONDER
That It Be Recommended To Council:

That the foregoing motion be amended by adding the words "with the project to also include the laying of the conduit only which would thereby reduce the Class A cost estimate for the proposed full scope of the roadway portion of the project (\$3.037 million) by approximately \$400,000."

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED ON THE AMENDMENT
THE AMENDMENT CARRIED
OPPOSED: COUNCILLORS BRYSON, GARRISON AND KING

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED ON THE MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED
THE MAIN MOTION, AS AMENDED, CARRIED
OPPOSED: COUNCILLORS BRYSON AND KING

351.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KING
NO SECONDER
That It Be Recommended To Council:

That Council endorse for the purposes of further discussion and finalization the inclusion of "CRD Housing Trust Fund Operational Supplemental - \$48,573" into the recommended list of Supplementary Budget Requests for 2006.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Due to a potential conflict of interest on the following item, Councillor Graham took his leave from the Meeting at 11:52 am. Councillor Graham stated that his mother is a member of the Hagan Creek-Kennes Watershed Project Steering Committee.

352.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KING
NO SECONDER
That It Be Recommended To Council:

That Council endorse for the purposes of further discussion and finalization the inclusion of "Peninsula Streams (Sandhill Creek Stewardship) Operational Supplemental - \$5,000" into the recommended list of Supplementary Budget Requests for 2006.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

353.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KING
NO SECONDER
That It Be Recommended To Council:

That Council endorse for the purposes of further discussion and finalization the inclusion of "Peninsula Streams (Funding for its Core Budget) Operational Supplemental - \$10,000" into the recommended list of Supplementary Budget Requests for 2006, with the stipulation that Peninsula Streams be required to provide periodic reporting to Council through the District's grants-in-aid mechanism.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED, it was

354.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR THOMPSON
That the foregoing motion be tabled.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Denis Coupland, representing the Hagan Creek-Kennes Watershed Project Steering Committee, briefly commented on the need to increase the core budget for Peninsula Streams in order to continue to undertake research and conservation work in the District of Central Saanich.

355.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR THOMPSON
That the motion be lifted from the table.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED ON THE MAIN MOTION
THE MAIN MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Due to a potential conflict of interest on the following item, Councillor Bryson took his leave from the Meeting at 11:58 am. Councillor Bryson stated that the access easement to his property could allow for a water connection should a waterline extension be approved for Mt. Newton Cross Road.

356.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR THOMPSON
NO SECONDER
That It Be Recommended To Council:

That Council endorse for the purposes of further discussion and finalization the inclusion of "Consulting Estimate Re: Watermain Extension to Senanus Drive Properties Operational Supplemental - \$15,000" into the recommended list of Supplementary Budget Requests for 2006.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED, it was

357.06 **** DEFEATED ****
 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR KING
 NO SECONDER

That It Be Recommended To Council:

That the foregoing motion be amended by adding the words "with the stipulation that the Central Saanich West Voters Association be required to assume up to one-third of the cost of the Supplemental."

MOTION DEFEATED

OPPOSED: MAYOR MAR, COUNCILLORS MASON AND THOMPSON

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED ON THE MAIN MOTION

THE MAIN MOTION CARRIED

OPPOSED: COUNCILLORS MASON AND KING

Councillor Mason requested that it be noted in the Minutes that she suggested the Central Saanich West Voters Association be required to pay the entire \$15,000 cost estimate for the proposed watermain extension to serve the Senanus Drive area properties.

Councillors Bryson and Graham returned to the Meeting.

358.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR GARRISON
 NO SECONDER

That It Be Recommended To Council:

That Council endorse for the purposes of further discussion and finalization the inclusion of "Farm Vehicle Cautionary Signage Operational Supplemental – \$2,500" into the recommended list of Supplementary Budget Requests for 2006.

BEFORE THE QUESTION WAS CALLED, it was

359.06 **** DEFEATED ****
 AMENDMENT
 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
 NO SECONDER

That It Be Recommended To Council:

That the foregoing motion be amended by deleting the number "\$2,500" and inserting the number "\$1,250" therefor.

MOTION DEFEATED

OPPOSED: MAYOR MAR, COUNCILLORS BRYSON, GARRISON, GRAHAM, AND KING

THE QUESTION WAS CALLED ON THE MAIN MOTION

THE MAIN MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

360.06 **** DEFEATED ****
 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
 NO SECONDER

That It Be Recommended To Council:

That Council endorse for the purposes of further discussion and finalization the inclusion of "Contribution to Lions Hall Improvements Operational Supplemental - \$10,000" into the recommended list of Supplementary Budget Requests for 2006.

MOTION DEFEATED

OPPOSED: COUNCILLORS GRAHAM, BRYSON, KING, MAYOR MAR

361.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR THOMPSON
 NO SECONDER

That It Be Recommended To Council:

That Staff be requested to make the appropriate inquiries in regards to the possibility of securing up to \$30,000 in funding from the "Investment In Agriculture" Program to assist in offsetting a portion of the costs of the District's proposed Official Community

Plan Update/Review Process.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

362.06 MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MASON
 NO SECONDER

That It Be Recommended To Council:

That the recommended Supplementary Budget Request Spreadsheets be amended to indicate a \$30,000 contribution from grants towards the cost of the "OCP Review and Update Operational Supplemental - \$75,000".

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Ian Bruce, Peninsula Streams, advised the Committee that increasing the level of core funding is essential to the continued operations of Peninsula Streams, and advised that he would like the opportunity to work with Staff on the environmental issues that will arise during the OCP Review discussions. In closing, Mr. Bruce thanked Council for its continued support.

Mr. Frank Witthoeft, 2361 Tanner Ridge Place, thanked Council for the opportunity to observe and participate in the District's budget process. He referred to the Brentwood Bay Traffic Corridor Revitalization Project and suggested that it may be prudent to postpone this project for a year or two until the local construction climate is less volatile. Mr. Witthoeft commented on his observation that many of the supplementals presented at today's meeting could be easily accommodated in the core budget.

Ms. Michele Haddon, 2031 Skyline Crescent, advised that in her opinion leaving the public comments to the last portion of the agenda is unfair to the public in attendance at the meeting as the process does not meet the public's needs and interests. She referred to the various comments made during the 2005 election campaign in regards to the Brentwood Bay Traffic Corridor Revitalization Project, and asked that Council remain accountable for those comments and opinions.

Ms. Jill Wake, 7046 Brentwood Drive, questioned the status of the District's Reserve Funds and whether any taxation revenues would replenish those accounts.

Ms. Sue Stroud, #105 – 7088 Wallace Drive, stated that she understands the pressure for wanting to proceed with the Brentwood Bay Traffic Corridor Revitalization Project, however in her opinion the project requires modification. She advised of her support for the CRD Housing Trust Fund and the need for subsidized, affordable housing for families, and advised of her disbelief that some members of Council place more importance on the development of boulevards and coloured pathways rather than increasing the number of affordable housing units in the District. Ms. Stroud further advised that a significant number of families in the District currently reside in sub-standard housing, and urged Council to support the CRD Housing Trust Fund.

Councillor Graham thanked the public in attendance at the meeting for their participation in the budget process.

ADJOURNMENT:

On motion, the Special Administration & Finance Committee Meeting held on April 1, 2006 adjourned at 12:35 pm.

Recorded by: Trish Flanders
 Municipal Clerk