

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Monday, March 18, 2024 @ 6:00 PM
In the City Hall Council Chambers & Via Video-Conference
4850 Argyle Street, Port Alberni, BC

Present: Mayor S. Minions
Councillor D. Dame
Councillor J. Douglas
Councillor D. Haggard [electronic participation]
Councillor C. Mealey [arrived at 6:04pm]
Councillor T. Patola
Councillor C. Solda

Staff: M. Fox, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Monteith, Director of Corporate Services
A. McGifford, Director of Finance
F. Guevarra, IT Support
S. Lowe, Manager of Communications/Recording Secretary

Gallery: 8 & 1 Member Electronically

A. CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the agenda be amended to include an item under 'New Business' H.2 | Budget Presentations. The agenda was then approved, as amended.

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the minutes of the meeting held at 6:00 pm on March 4, 2024, be adopted, as presented.

CARRIED

C. PUBLIC INPUT PERIOD

Matthew

Requested whether the City is planning to build more affordable rental units.

J. Leskosek

Provided comments around trail stability and accessibility concerns at Roger Creek Trail and the fairgrounds.

N. Anderson

Commented on improvements to Dry Creek Park and requested the City do more to develop the disc golf area.

D. DELEGATIONS

1. **Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society | Alberni Pacific Railway**
R. Corbeil, President and R. Spencer, Manager, presented an update on the status of Island Coastal Economic Trust grant, as well as a preliminary budget for operations for the railway.

E. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **2024-2028 Financial Plan**

The Director of Finance provided changes made to date and invited any further questions or requests for clarification from members of the Committee.

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council continue to de-link major industry Class 4 and light industry Class 5 and set an effective tax rate for light industry that is approximately \$20 per thousand lower than major industry to rebalance the tax share and lower the effective tax rate of Class 1.

CARRIED

D. Haggard left the meeting (technical issues) at 6:45pm and returned at 6:53pm.

F. STAFF REPORTS

G. CORRESPONDENCE

H. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Canada Day Family Event**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that Council direct staff to coordinate a 2024 Canada Day family event in conjunction with local groups/organizations and staff seek any grants available.

CARRIED

2. **Budget Presentations**

MOVED AND SECONDED, THAT the Committee of the Whole recommend that in 2025 Council direct City staff to request managers make department presentations during tax time.

CARRIED

I. QUESTION PERIOD

N. Anderson

Requested why the public does not have input into the report to give them an opportunity to be part of decision making.

Charlaine

Inquired as to whether the GIS grant funding includes staff salaries.

J. Leskosek

Following up on a previous request regarding the timing of the crossing light at Tebo Avenue.

Matthew

Asked what the City is doing to ensure people secure their garbage to detract wildlife.

J. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED and SECONDED, THAT the meeting adjourn at 7:06 pm.

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT



Mayor



Corporate Officer