MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD DECEMBER 10, 2019 @ 6:00 PM IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT: Mayor Minions; Councillors Corbeil, Haggard, Paulson, Poon, Solda and

Washington

A. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved and seconded.

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

B. <u>2020 – 2024 Financial Planning – External Agency Presentations</u>

- 1. **BC Transit** Myrna Moore, Senior Manager of Government Relations attended to provide an update regarding the system performance of the Port Alberni Transit system. Highlights include:
 - overall system operated by Diversified Transportation Ltd. covers 4 routes operating 7 days per week (5 medium duty Vicinity buses; 4 light duty buses)
 - trend of annual ridership outlines an overall increase over the past 4 years with the years 2018-2019 slightly lower
 - revenue has shown a decrease of about 6% in 2018-2019 with a decrease in farebox cash, monthly and day pass sales but an increase in ticket, BC Bus Pass and Semester Pass sales.
 - total cost has decreased by 1% over last year primarily due to savings in fleet maintenance
 - new Strategic Plan and Vision launching in 2020
 - looking ahead fare changes effective April 1, 2020
 - ACRD Electoral Area Feasibility Study report with summary of engagement being presented in February and will be followed by more collaboration and engagement with the City of Port Alberni
 - BC Transit provides 50% funding for shelter installation costs (BC Transit to forward more info)
 - currently working towards washroom solutions for drivers
 - Handy Dart service expanding with use of taxis looking to make in-roads on 7 day week custom service
 - potential to commence high level planning through TIPS program for expanded service

- 2. **BC SPCA** Sam Sattar, Branch Manager and Leon Davis, Nanaimo Branch Manager attended to provide a community update in regards to the SPCA. Highlights include:
 - 5 full-time and 1 part-time staff; 5 casuals; 16 volunteers working to prevent animal cruelty, promote humane education, and ensure animals find homes
 - total revenues \$154,464 (adoption fees, service fees, donations)
 - costs to run Shelter in 2018 \$548.120
 - outline of community services offered including education, compassionate boarding, spay/neuter education and assistance
 - acquisition of land from the City will enable investment in their facility and expansion of services offered
- 3. Western Vancouver Island Industrial Heritage Society (WVIIHS) Ken Rutherford presented options and draft budget to operate the train during 2020 focused on a run from the Train Station to Stamp Ave:
 - 44 days summer weekends and special days on Fridays/Saturdays/ Sundays
 - revenue based on 4,500 passengers
 - staffing required (manager, mechanic, some paid crewing)
 - operation with diesel fuel
 - track work required to meet standards
 - City contribution \$150.732
 - propose full operation of steam train to Mill in 2021 and beyond with City funding to be reduced from \$186,180 in 2021 to \$57,970 in 2024 (does not include funding for track maintenance on ICF rightof-way)
 - reduced option includes operating on special occasions only along waterfront – less cost at \$75,000 but same costs for insurance, track maintenance, safety standards
 - no operation would cost about \$30,000 to cover ongoing equipment and track maintenance for future operation
 - meeting between WVIIHS, City and ICF was proposed to discuss costs and responsibilities for track maintenance

C. <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

It was moved and seconded:

That the meeting adjourn at 7:42 pm.

<u>CARRIED</u>

CERTIFIED CORRECT

Mavor

City Clerk