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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WESTSIDE WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY SELECT COMMITTEE

Held Tuesday, January 13, Township of Esquimalt, Council Chambers, 1229 Esquimalt Road, Esquimalt, BC

PRESENT: K. Cossey (for R. Sam), Songhees Nation; B. Desjardins, Esquimalt (Co-Chair); C. Hamilton, Colwood (Co-Chair), L. Seaton, Langford; D. Screech, View Royal
Councillors: B. Burton-Krahn, Esquimalt
Staff: L. Hutcheson, C. Leahy (Recorder)

ABSENT: S. Young

Also Present: J. Miller, Esquimalt; M. Baxter, Colwood; J. Bowden, Langford; C. Houghton, D. Lawes, and J. O’Riordan from Aurora Consulting; S. Russell, City of Colwood

Chair Desjardins called the meeting to order at 10:36 am.

1. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The following item was added to the agenda:

- Presentation from Bryan Gilbert, member of the public

MOVED by K. Cossey, **SECONDED** by Mayor Hamilton,
That the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee approve the agenda as amended.

CARRIED

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 11, 2014

MOVED by Councillor Seaton, **SECONDED** by K. Cossey,
That the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee approve the minutes of December 11, 2014 as distributed.

CARRIED

3. CHAIR’S REMARKS

Mayor Desjardins advised that there will be a media event at Esquimalt hall this afternoon on Westside Solutions’ progress to date, as well as open houses in Westside municipalities in the coming weeks.

4. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS

Bryan Gilbert, member of the public, gave a presentation on the positive effect citizen input can have on government actions, citing the example of a Ministry of Forests plan to spray BTK in his neighbourhood in 2007. He would like to see a dialogue between the public and the Westside Select Committee/CRD staff on sewage treatment issues such as microplastics and Hartland leachate; present factual information that is validated by both sides.

5. OVERVIEW OF WESTSIDE WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY SELECT COMMITTEE TO DATE

This was included in the agenda package as background information for new committee members. In response to a question, L. Hutcheson advised that this is a select committee of the CRD Board. The Board has final authority on decisions regarding Westside sewage treatment, per provincial and federal funding regulations. The Westside Select Committee follows a different format from previous CRD sewage committees in that Westside staff and consultants approve CRD reports before they're finalized. There is recognition of the role of municipalities in bringing forward potential sites, although these will ultimately be approved by the Board.

MOVED by K. Cossey, **SECONDED** by Councillor Seaton, to receive the overview of the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee for information.
CARRIED

6. FEDERAL AND PROVINCIAL FUNDING FOR SEWAGE TREATMENT IN THE CORE AREA

It was decided to defer this item to the next meeting when Mayor Young is in attendance.

MOVED by Councillor Seaton, **SECONDED** by Mayor Screech,
That the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee defer discussion of this report to the next meeting.

CARRIED

7. PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

C. Houghton provided an update on public engagement. There was a soft launch in December at the Songhees Nation office and staff have improved the outreach materials based on feedback. Five open houses are scheduled in January. There have been 148 responses to the online survey so far. The survey and other information can be accessed at the website www.westsidesolutions.ca.

This update was received for information by the Committee.

8. WESTSIDE SOLUTIONS BUDGET PROPOSAL

L. Hutcheson advised that each month, staff will provide the Select Committee with a budget update. The proposed budget up to the end of March is presented in today's report; numbers for facilitation and technical review are estimates.

In response to a question, Ms. Hutcheson advised that funds initially intended for debt servicing for the phase in of the Seaterra program are being allocated to Westside Solutions participants for planning, using the cost-sharing shown on page 1 of the staff report. The First Nations will contribute later.

When asked about the total amount the Westside communities would have been paying in the phase-in process, L. Hutcheson advised that it's being held in a reserve fund for each participant. CRD staff will put this into context with this budget and provide that information to the committee.

It was decided that the budget proposal should be further discussed when Mayor Young is in attendance.

MOVED by K. Cossey, **SECONDED** by Mayor Hamilton,
That the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee receive this report for information and bring it back to the next meeting when Mayor Young is present.

CARRIED

9. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Desjardins referred to Mr. Gilbert's presentation (Item 4) and asked about opportunities for dialogue with the public. Communications staff advised that the idea of an online discussion forum was considered, but due to the quick turn-around time for the first round of public engagement, it would have been difficult to do properly. Staff are working towards an online forum for the second round of engagement to occur around March.

There was also discussion about educational opportunities for committee members and the public regarding technical processes such as gasification, anaerobic digestion, incineration, etc. Communications staff advised they are working on fact sheets, with input from technical staff.

Mayor Desjardins informed the Westside group that Director Derman made a motion at the Core Area Liquid Waste Management Committee (CALWMC) table regarding how to get information from companies on their types of equipment/processes. This topic will be discussed further by the CALWMC. Education is a region-wide issue.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Councillor Seaton, **SECONDED** by K. Cossey:
That the meeting of the Westside Wastewater Treatment and Resource Recovery Select Committee be adjourned at 11:23 am.

CARRIED

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 10:30 am in the View Royal Council Chambers.

Chair

Recorder