

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF VERNON

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
HELD THURSDAY JANUARY 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2012  
AND FRIDAY, JANUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2012  
2012 – 2016 FINANCIAL PLAN**

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PRESENT: Mayor Rob Sawatzky

Councillors: M. J. O’Keefe, B. Quiring, C. Lord, P. Nicol (9:09 am) J. Cunningham, B. Spiers

Staff: M. Bailey, Chief Administrative Officer  
P. Bridal, Manager, Corporate Services  
K. Bertles, Manager, Finance  
K. Flick, Manager, Community Development  
R. Dickinson, Manager, Engineering & GIS  
S. Koenig, Manager, Operation Services  
F. Munro, Senior Accountant  
\*W. Ikesaka, Manager, Information Services  
\*C. Cotter, Manager, Human Resources  
\*J. Patenaude, Manager, Protective Services  
\*K. Green, Fire Chief  
\*R. Burgess, Officer in Charge, RCMP  
\*J. Rice, Manager, Public Works  
\*I. Currie, Manager, Building Services  
\*E. Stranks, Manager, Engineering Development  
\*M. Dowhaniuk, Infrastructure Engineer  
\*G. Thompson, Municipal Financial Technician III

*\*present as required*

Others: Media and Members of the public

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**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Robert Sawatzky called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**AGENDA ADOPTION** Moved by Councillor O’Keefe, seconded by Councillor Lord:

THAT the Agenda for the January 12 and 13, 2012, Special Committee of the Whole meeting be adopted.

**CARRIED.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**2012-2016 FINANCIAL PLAN**

Mr. Kevin Bertles, Manager Finance, provided Council with a PowerPoint presentation on the Financial Plan. The following points were reviewed:

- Economic Developments since 2011 Plan

- What are the impacts to the 2012 Financial Plan
- Fundamental Changes
- What are the impacts to this year's Financial Plan
- What are the challenges
- 2012 Proposed Revenues
- 2012 Expenditures
- Net General Operating Budget

*Councillor Nicol attended the meeting at 9:09 am.*

- Amortization Issues
- Asset Values – December 31, 2010
- Accumulated Amortization – December 31, 2010
- Asset Carrying Values – December 31, 2010
- Asset Remaining Life by Value – December 31, 2010
- Recommended Asset Funding
- The Funding Gap – Infrastructure
- Infrastructure Funding Recovery
- Where are the City's reserves
- Reserve Estimate 2010
- 2012 Capital Program

#### **FINANCIAL PLAN – SCHEDULE OF CHANGES**

Mr. Bertles, reviewed the 2012 – 2016 Financial Plan Schedule of Changes, which indicates the items, like Transit, MIA Liability Premiums, and other changes already adopted by Council. This document will be updated through-out the Budget process.

#### **BUDGET REQUESTS – EARLY APPROVAL AND UPDATE INFORMATION**

Following are requests from various Divisions regarding Early Budget Approvals and additional information to Budget Items.

- **Capital Works -  
Updated  
Information and  
Early Request**

Mr. Stranks, Manager, Engineering Development provided a PowerPoint presentation to the report dated December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 regarding a: Revision to phasing of Polson greenway. (Capital Budget works request)

Moved by Councillor Lord, seconded by Councillor Quiring:

THAT Council **defers** consideration of the Polson Greenway Phasing and the Capital Works Early Budget Approval Updates until further budget discussions have taken place.

**CARRIED.**

- **Cisco Phone  
Upgrade – Early  
Request (1310-**

Report dated January 4, 2012 from Manager, Information Services, re: Early Budget Approval for Cisco Phone Systems upgrades from Reserves

05;1700-40)

Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Lord:

THAT Council **approves** the Information Services Early Budget Request for Item #2012 – 67 in the amount of \$38,721 from IS reserves, to upgrade the City’s Cisco Phone system, RDNO will be also requesting early budget approval to coincide with the City, as the systems are linked.

**CARRIED.**

- **Enterprise Backup Solution – Early Request (1310-05;1700-40)**

Report dated January 4, 2012 from Manager, Information Services, re: Early Budget Approval for Enterprise Backup Solution from Reserves

Moved by Councillor O’Keefe, seconded by Councillor Nicol:

THAT Council **approves** the Information Services Early Budget Request for Item #2012 – 66, in the amount of \$55,000 from IS reserves to research and replace our aging Enterprise Backup solution.

**CARRIED.**

- **Paved Roads – Updated Information**

Ms. Shirley Koenig, provided a Power Point presentation of the memorandum dated January 3, 2012, , regarding the Paved Roads – Information to Support for Increased Maintenance Funding.

**RECESS**

Mayor Sawatzky called for a recess at 10:28 am.

**RECONVENE**

Mayor Sawatzky called the recessed meeting back to order at 10:39 am.

PRESENT: Mayor Rob Sawatzky

Councillors: M. J. O’Keefe, B. Quiring, C. Lord, P. Nicol  
J. Cunningham, B. Spiers

Staff: M. Bailey, Chief Administrative Officer  
P. Bridal, Manager, Corporate Services  
K. Bertles, Manager, Finance  
K. Flick, Manager, Community Development  
R. Dickinson, Manager, Engineering & GIS  
S. Koenig, Manager, Operation Services  
F. Munro, Senior Accountant  
\*I. Currie, Manager, Building Services  
\*M. Dowhaniuk, Infrastructure Engineer

*\*present as required*

Others: Media and Members of the public

Mr. Bertles reviewed Pages 42 through 44, of the Financial Plan proceeding to pages 49 for the Summary By Division review.

**Operations Department** Budget Summary reviewed.

Council reviewed the Exempt Salary Allocation, Bands, CPI and the Reserve Accounts

- **Exempt Salaries** Moved by Councillor Lord, seconded by Councillor Spiers:

THAT Council directs staff to bring forward the Policy on budgeting for Exempt Staff Salaries for detailed review and re-consideration.

**CARRIED.**

**Public Works Division** Budget Summary reviewed.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Mayor Sawatzky called for Public Input on the 2012 to 2016 Financial Plan at 11:34 am.

**Barry Beardsell**  
**2201 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

- Budget looks more like a wish list in a format which must be very difficult to review
- No Comparisons within this new budget
- Vernon has more functions through RDNO than most municipalities which impact this budget
- Core review is required, however, you can't leave everything until a new CAO is in place
- Council needs to cut some staff
- Exempt Staff should be receiving 0% increase for 2012
- No reference to the capital asset deficit
- Council doesn't seem to understand the reserves
- Non essential infrastructure should be delayed and only do the essential infrastructure
- Recognize there are systemic problems with the roads which need to be realized.

**John Shumyk**  
**#32 - 9196 Tronson Road**

- Appreciate the work of Council to reign in Finance
- Concerned with the sanding and plowing practices
- Questions if some employees could not be seasonal

- City Employees should not be receiving free parking
- Read his letter to the Morning Star regarding his concerns with the funds provided to non profit societies like the Public Art Gallery – Council should have a ceiling for non profit groups – it is not a bottomless pit - City taxpayers should not have to pay for others interests

**Alan Gilder**

**8197 Okanagan Landing Road**

- Concern with the Vernon Public Art Gallery – not Vernon residents; private residents – better to fund an Art in the Park in Polson Park; does Vernon actually have an art collection?
- Sport Track at the College is NOT for the Vernon residents – it is not on City Lands – it is for the college and in 10 years would belong to the college – City would not have any control
- O’Keefe Ranch is not within the City of Vernon – why is the Provincial Government not responsible for this?
- So many of the ‘shared’ expenses we have are not revenue generators and we have to fund these expenses and operating costs, causing further debt
- Economic Development is suppose to be bringing in business and we have vacant properties and no industrial properties – is it worth it
- TDM initiatives? – currently no bus service or sidewalks in his neighbourhood so what is the point
- Affordable Housing – don’t want to hear anything further on this. Who pays for all this – the people that own properties and pay taxes,
- City Review – don’t waste our money if you don’t intend to cut the staffing and programs to get the budget down
- Bike Lanes – have never witnessed a person utilizing a bike lane – City is paying someone for this initiative?
- Airport – How much is the City subsidizing the airport? Believes it is around \$1,000 per day
- Farmers Market get subsidized and they are going head to head with business’s in town
- Residents who are being asked to subsidize the non profit societies are earning \$10.00 - \$12.00 per hour

**Jim Bodkin**

**5935 Roche Point Drive**

- Commended Mayor for refusing salary increase in 2012
- Recognizes there are so many shared services in which City cannot make the decision on their own
- Administration requires a stronger frugality – this does not mean cheap design – it means the most Civic good for each

dollar spent

- Road Diets – for larger compact Cities than the City of Vernon and are a poor use of budget funds; however, support the idea of walking and biking but only at a reasonable cost and with reasonable consideration
- Core Reviews – should focus on specific areas within the City where we see the most value for the dollar; requests via a service review to look at the Emergency Response Budget – do we always need to dispatch so many vehicles? There should be some protocol developed on the dispatch of vehicles for non-fire calls (Triage approach)
- Bylaw and Policing Review – a couple years ago the City hired many bylaw officers as there was many concerns expressed by the DVA – this need should be reviewed; Does not believe in firing people, but in minimizing through attrition, retirement, etc.; review should look at the relationship between Bylaws and the RCMP
- RCMP serves the North Okanagan, however, is City being properly compensated? Are we paying too much or too little?
- Traffic Cameras – Vernon has only 1 camera and the fines generated from this go to the Province – Vernon gets a portion of this back – so we should get more cameras (buy or lease) rotate among the intersections and it would not only improve the driving habits but provide some revenue.

**RECESS**

Mayor Sawatzky recessed the meeting at 12:13 pm.

**RECONVENE**

Mayor Sawatzky reconvened the recessed meeting at 1:06 pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Rob Sawatzky

Councillors: M. J. O’Keefe, B. Quiring, C. Lord, P. Nicol  
J. Cunningham, B. Spiers

Staff: M. Bailey, Chief Administrative Officer  
 P. Bridal, Manager, Corporate Services  
 K. Bertles, Manager, Finance  
 K. Flick, Manager, Community Development  
 \*R. Dickinson, Manager, Engineering & GIS  
 S. Koenig, Manager, Operation Services  
 F. Munro, Senior Accountant  
 \*I. Currie, Manager, building Services  
 \*M. Dowhaniuk, Infrastructure Engineer  
 \*A. Marr, Manager, Water Reclamation Services  
 \*J. Rice, Manager, Public Works

*\*present as required*

Others: Media and Members of the public

**Public Works  
(continued)**

Clarified that the Tree Trimming Budget is utilized yearly – based on Transport Canada regulations.

Staff transfers are shown as the reallocation of the various Divisions within Operations.

Airport Revenue at the end of November has increased.

**Fleet Services**

Budget Summary reviewed.

The Reserve for Fleets is around \$1 million which does not include Fire – they are within their separate budgets. Replacement vehicles come out of the reserves and new vehicles are capital.

**Facility Services**

Budget Summary reviewed.

The Old Vernon Flower Shop has a demolition cost attached to it and the Library facility will have furniture to be disposed of – questions on the status of this.

**Sewer Utility Department**

Budget Summary reviewed.

Questions on the Transfer Surplus to Reserve in the amount of \$530,567 and the Net Budget by Category which says \$430,567. Mr. Bertles will review.

Council requested additional information on the Sewer Reserves and Policies.

Biosolids budget goes through the City of Kelowna, and City is invoiced for our portion of the budget. Ms. Koenig suggested that Council have a working session on the Biosolids Plant and the Manager from Kelowna be invited for a working session with Council.

**Storm**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**Water Utility Department**

Budget Summary reviewed.

Contracted service through Greater Vernon Water. This is the first time this is being recognized in the City's Financial Plan.

- **SLA #2012-32 through 39**

Moved by Councillor Spiers, seconded by Councillor Nicol:

THAT Council **approves** Operations - Water Reclamation Plant SLA's , which are **funded from Reserves**, as follows:

1. Item # 2012 – 32, Chlorine Shut Off Vales, \$20,000

2. Item # 2012 – 33, MacKay Reservoir Valve Replacement, \$275,000
  3. Item # 2012 – 34, Irrigation System – Poplar Stand, \$30,000
  4. Item # 2012 – 35, Fermenter Foam Spray System, \$10,000
  5. Item # 2012 – 36, Blower Modification, \$75,000
  6. Item # 2012 – 37, Dissolved Oxygen, \$140,000
  7. Item # 2012 – 38, Centrate Storage, \$85,000
  8. Item # 2012 – 39, Digester Building Re-roofing, \$26,000
- CARRIED.**

- **SLA #2012-30**

Moved by Councillor Spiers, seconded by Councillor Cunningham:

THAT Council **approves** Operations General SLA Item #2012- 30 for the Benchmarking Program Server, **funded from Reserves** in the amount of \$15,000.00  
**CARRIED.**

- **SLA #2012-04**

Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor O’Keefe:

THAT Council approves Operations Airport SLA Item #2012- 04 for the Airport Master Plan Update in the amount of \$35,000.  
**DEFEATED, with Councillors Quiring, Spiers, Lord and Mayor Sawatzky opposed.**

- **SLA #2012-05**

Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Spiers:

THAT Council **approves** Operations Airport SLA Item #2012- 05 for the AV – Gas Fuel Tank, to the maximum amount of \$30,000 subject to the existing tank being sold to offset costs if the tank price is higher.  
**CARRIED, with Councillor O’Keefe opposed.**

- **SLA #2012-06**

Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Spiers:

THAT Council **approves** Operations Airport SLA Item #2012-06 for the Airport Emergency Response Plan in the amount of \$10,000;

AND FURTHER, that this item be brought forward in 2016 as a non-discretionary amount.  
**CARRIED.**

- **SLA #2012-08**

Moved by Councillor O’Keefe, seconded by Councillor Spiers:

THAT Council **approves** Operations Airport SLA Item #2012- 08 for the Airport Rotating Beacon in the amount of \$5,000.  
**CARRIED.**

- **SLA #2012-09**

Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Lord:

THAT Council **approves** Operations Airport SLA Item #2012- 09 for the Airport Safety Management System in the amount of \$10,000.

**CARRIED.**

- **SLA #2012-10**

Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Quiring:

THAT Council **approves** the amended Operations Airport SLA Item #2012-10 for the removal of the existing Airport Hazard Beacon in the amount of \$3,000.00.

**CARRIED.**

**RECESS**

Mayor Sawatzky recessed the meeting at 2:54 pm.

**RECONVENE**

Mayor Sawatzky reconvened the recessed meeting at 3:07 pm

PRESENT: Mayor Rob Sawatzky

Councillors: M. J. O’Keefe, B. Quiring, C. Lord, P. Nicol  
J. Cunningham, B. Spiers

Staff: M. Bailey, Chief Administrative Officer  
P. Bridal, Manager, Corporate Services  
K. Bertles, Manager, Finance  
K. Flick, Manager, Community Development  
S. Koenig, Manager, Operation Services  
F. Munro, Senior Accountant  
\*I. Currie, Manager, Building Services  
\*A. Tishenko, Manager, Fleet Services  
\*W. Ikesaka, Manager, Information Services

*\*present as required*

Others: Media and Members of the public

**SLA Review**

Council reviewed the Operations Division SLA’s

- **SLA #2012-40, 2012-42, 2012-43, 2012-44, and 2012-45**

Moved by Councillor Spiers, seconded by Councillor Nicol:

THAT Council **approves** Operations Fleet SLA’s, which are **funded from Reserves**, as follows:

1. Item 2012 – 40, Replacement of Unit #63 – 1997 FL80 S/A Dump - \$190,000.
2. Item 2012 – 42, Replacement of Unit #32, 200 Ford F350 - \$45,000
3. Item 2012 – 43, Replacement of Unit 55, 1997 Western Star

S/A Dump - \$205,000

- 4. Item 2012 – 44, Replacement of Unit #101, Tennant Sweeper, \$275,000
- 5. Item 2012 – 45, Replacement of Unit #40, 2001 Chevy 1500 Pickup, \$35,000

**CARRIED.**

**ADJOURN**

Mayor Sawatzky adjourned the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting at 4:35 pm and advised that Council will reconvene on Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00am.

**RECONVENE**

Mayor Sawatzky reconvened the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting for Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012, at 9:02 am.

PRESENT: Mayor Rob Sawatzky

Councillors: M.J. O’Keefe, B. Quiring, C. Lord, P. Nicol  
J. Cunningham, B. Spiers

Staff: M. Bailey, Chief Administrative Officer  
 P. Bridal, Manager, Corporate Services  
 K. Bertles, Manager, Finance  
 K. Flick, Manager, Community Development  
 R. Dickinson, Manager, Engineering  
 F. Munro, Senior Accountant  
 \*R. Dickinson, Manager, Engineering Services  
 \*W. Ikesaka, Manager, Information Services  
 \*B. Bandy, Manager, Real Estate  
 \*C. Cotter, Manager, HR  
 \*R. Burgess, RCMP  
 \*K. Green, Fire Chief  
 \*J. Patenaude, Manager, Protective Services  
 \*E. Stranks, Manager, Engineering Development  
 \*M. Dowhaniuk, Infrastructure Engineer

*\*present as required*

Others: Media and Members of the public

**DIVISIONAL SUMMARY REVIEWS**

Mr. Kevin Bertles, Manager of Finance brought forward the following Divisions for Review

**Corporate Services**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**Information Services**

Budget Summary reviewed.

- **SLA #2012-63, #2012-64, #2012-65**

Moved by Councillor Spiers, seconded by Councillor O’Keefe:

THAT Council approves Information Services SLA’s, funded from reserves, as follows

1. Item 2012 – 63, Software Upgrades & Repairs, \$24,779
2. Item 2012 – 64, Hardware Upgrades & Repairs, \$54,019
3. Item 2012 – 65, I/S Infrastructure Upgrade, \$28,602.

**CARRIED.**

**Legislative Services**

Budget Summary Reviewed.

**Land Services**

Budget Summary Reviewed.

- **SLA #2012-62**

Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Quiring:

THAT Council advises staff that the Demolition of the Vernon Flower Shop is **not to proceed in 2012** and therefore does not approve the SLA #2012-62 in the amount of \$100,000.

**CARRIED.**

**Communications**

Budget Summary Reviewed.

**Human Resources – General**

Budget Summary Reviewed.

Severance Payout Budget for 2011 in the amount of \$50,000 was utilized - Council questioned if this budget amount should be a reserve account that just gets topped up each year versus taxation each year.

**Human Resources - Corporate**

Budget Summary Reviewed.

Clarification requested why the HR Division was split into two budget accounts – Ms. Cotter advised there was a desire to separate the Corporate expenditure, which are costs applied City-wide, whereas the General accounts are specific to HR Divisional costs.

Staff Awards and Events are within the Corporate HR Budget. What is the Staff Rewards Reserve for \$13,000? – can this be used to reduce the funded budget amount for 2012? Council were advised that the reserve dollars are already allocated, but not spent as staff have 2 years in which to register for a program.

**Occupational Health and Safety**

Budget Summary Reviewed.

**RCMP Detachment**

Budget Summary Reviewed.

Fine Revenue reviewed – the amount is not very predictable, however, Council believes this could be increased by approximately \$200,000.

Council indicated that with the unused RCMP Contract Budget (due to vacant positions) there may be an additional \$200,000, of which some of this could be utilized for some of the SLA requests.

**RCMP Detention Centre** Budget Summary Reviewed.

**RECESS** Mayor Sawatzky recessed the meeting at 10:26 am.

**RECONVENE** Mayor Sawatzky reconvened the recessed meeting at 10:37 am.

**Fire General** Budget Summary Reviewed.

Fire Hydrant budget increase is due to increased rates by RDNO.

Transfer to Ammonia Chlorine Reserve is for the eventual replacement of equipment.

FMR (First Medical Response) with BC Ambulance defines which calls VFRS attends, and the budget has not been impacted as a result of this initiative.

Predator Ridge Fire Hall land has been dedicated and the Land Manager will be bringing forward a Lease Agreement.

**Fire Fighting** Budget Summary Reviewed.

Council noted the IAFF increases and retro pay and were advised that ‘parity’ with the lower mainland dictates these amounts.

- **SLA #2012-58 and 2012-59** Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Lord:

THAT Council **approves** Fire Rescue SLA’s, **from Fire Services Reserves**, as follows:

1. Item #2012 - 58, CAD in VFRS apparition - \$26,050.
2. Item #2012 - 59, Mobile CAD Work Stations in VFRS Apparatus, \$66,936.

**CARRIED.**

**Emergency Management** Budget Summary reviewed.

**Protective Services – General** Budget Summary reviewed.

**Bylaw**

Budget Summary reviewed.

A number of the Bylaw Officers are part-time, and therefore are available for summer coverage by increasing their hours. Bylaw Officers are 7 days a week, from 7am until midnight which includes approximately 15 full time and part time staff.

- **SLA #2012-01**

Moved by Councillor Spiers, seconded by Councillor Cunningham:

THAT Council **denies** Bylaw & Parking SLA Item #2012-01 for Auto Chalking/Licence Plate Recognition in the amount of \$70,000.

**CARRIED.**

- **SLA #2012-02**

Moved by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor O'Keefe:

THAT Council **denies** Bylaw & Parking SLA Item #2012- 02 for the reinstatement of Bylaw man hours in the amount of \$10,488.00.

**CARRIED.**

- **SLA #2012-75**

Moved by Councillor O'Keefe, seconded by Councillor Lord:

THAT Council **defers** the Bylaw & Parking SLA Item #2012-75 for Parking Meter Retrofit for new coins in the amount of \$77,700.00 until later on in the budget review.

**CARRIED.**

Moved by Councillor O'Keefe, seconded by Councillor Lord:

THAT Council **approves** the Bylaw & Operations SLA Item #2012-75 for Parking Meter Retrofit for new coins in the amount of \$77,700, **with \$50,000 being allocated from Parking Reserves** and additional funding being realized from the Parking Meter Revenues.

**CARRIED.**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

Email from Mr. Roy Campbell distributed to Council.

**John Olsson**  
**3045 Crosby Road**

- 43<sup>rd</sup> and 32<sup>nd</sup> intersection requires a right turn lane and is a priority for safety reasons and traffic congestion – dangerous situation. Coming down 43<sup>rd</sup> to the east the turn lights are not timed adequately.
- Left turn on 32<sup>nd</sup> by Staples has no turning arrows.
- First snowfall on a Sunday in December we saw 4 plow trucks between 7:30 am and midnight and it was not necessary.
- Requested the actual costs of the works for the new bus

terminus.

**Chubb Downe  
Vernon, BC**

- Interesting to see that Council have become captains of the bureaucrats at City Hall – Council is the Board of Directors who set the tone, direction, budget and core review.
- Economic downturn – need to step back and look at where the money is being spent and look at the core which provides a service that looks after all citizens.
- 29<sup>th</sup> Street is inconvenient for traffic and should be reviewed.
- Look at each Division and what is actually needed.

**Richard Hamilton  
4540 Cascade Drive**

- Citizens of Vernon go to great lengths to live within their means and he doesn't believe the City does this.
- \$400,000 just to cover wage increases this year is unsustainable
- Instead of looking at an increase of 2 to 3% should be a decrease of this amount.

**Barry Beardsell  
2201 – 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

- Believe Council is starting out in the wrong direction – Audit of Provincial Government is not going to solve the problems, however, there are areas that this will be of benefit if it is done in concert with the services, like water, with RDNO.
- Core Review is required – staff have been dictating what Council does – Council should be directing the direction the City is going.
- Concern over the various services like Economic Development/Tourism, etc. that should be Regional Services and not City of Vernon.
- Need to know the direction Council is going before the budget can be dealt with.

**Don Hood (Independent Living)  
70, 3800 40<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

- Believes in accessibility and would like Vernon to be totally accessible – thank you to Kim Flick, Manager, Community Services, and Councillor Cunningham for addressing concerns at Polson Park.
- Would like more emphasis on business and development to

meet these needs.

- Transit decisions are huge – Handydart was excluded from the review as it is a Provincial Review and requires a priority. Double-decker buses do not provide for people with disabilities.
- Number 1 Transit priority is sidewalks so users can get to the bus stops (No. 3 bus, by Walmart an example). He will be providing a list to Transportation Technician.
- Number 2 Transit priority is OUC bus and should have a bus on standby - request additional hours.
- Number 3 Transit priority is the Number 3 bus which should have the large doors for the disability passengers.
- Sidewalks – at least 3 corners do not have ‘let downs’ and should be addressed.
- Halina Centre has no sidewalk to the downtown – it ends in front of the Winter Carnival Office – would address the Seniors’ needs.
- Recreation Centre requires proper maintenance.

**Victor Porcher**  
**1604 – 29<sup>th</sup> Street**

- Expressed concerns with 29<sup>th</sup> Street and money could have been spent on better projects

**Bill Howard**  
**7208 Summit Drive**

- Concern with salaries and increases
- Commend the Mayor for not accepting the wages, but should have taken a 10% decrease.
- Only so much money so we can’t keep raising taxes – suggests every employee who makes over \$100,000 should take a 4% salary decrease
- Need to eliminate staff who are not producing

**Eric Reisch**  
**Sunshine Place**

- Recession in place and Administration staff doesn’t seem to realize this
- Council is on the right track
- Suggests starting at a negative budget
- Core Review is very welcome and should take precedent over the Provincial audit

**RECESS**

Mayor Sawatzky recessed the meeting at 12:13 pm.

RECONVENE

Mayor Sawatzky reconvened the recessed meeting at 1:05 pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Rob Sawatzky

Councillors: M. J. O’Keefe (1:24pm), B. Quiring, C. Lord, P. Nicol  
J. Cunningham, B. Spiers

Staff: M. Bailey, Chief Administrative Officer  
P. Bridal, Manager, Corporate Services  
K. Bertles, Manager, Finance  
K. Flick, Manager, Community Development  
R. Dickinson, Manager, Engineering  
F. Munro, Senior Accountant  
R. Dickinson, Manager, Engineering Services  
\*J. Patenaude, Manager, Protective Services  
\*E. Stranks, Manager, Engineering Development  
\*M. Dowhaniuk, Infrastructure Engineer  
\*C. Kanester, Manager, Bylaw Enforcement  
\*I. Currie, Manager, Building Services  
\*K. Poole, Economic Development Officer  
\*G. Thompson, Municipal Financial Technician III  
*\*present as required*

Others: Media and Members of the public

**Bylaws**

Mr. Kanester, Manager, Bylaw Enforcement, provided Council with additional information in regards to the Parking Meter Retrofit required for the new coins.

Council held a discussion on Parking meter fees and questioned if rates should be reviewed.

**Safe Communities**

Budget Summary reviewed.

*Councillor O’Keefe attended the meeting at 1:24 pm.*

**Administration**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**City Council**

Budget Summary Reviewed.

Moved by Councillor Spiers, seconded by Councillor Nicol:

THAT Council directs staff to **amend** the City Council Budget by **deleting** \$150,000 from the Grants Budget;

AND FURTHER, directs staff to reinstate a Community and a Discretionary Grant budget **in the amount of \$50,000** each, at which funding would be allocated by a top up utilizing unspent monies from 2011.

**CARRIED.**

Moved by Councillor Lord, seconded by Councillor Spiers:

THAT Council directs staff to reduce the City Council Grants portion for Heritage Grants by \$41,000, which will leave \$20,000 for the Heritage Revitalization and Heritage Incentive Programs.

**CARRIED.**

Moved by Councillor O’Keefe, seconded by Councillor Quiring:

THAT Council directs staff to amend the Community and Discretionary Grant Policy to indicate a yearly funding of \$50,000.

**DEFEATED, with Councillors Lord, Nicol, Cunningham and Spiers opposed.**

Moved by Councillor Spiers, seconded by Councillor Nicol:

THAT Council directs staff to transfer the unspent monies from the Council meeting pay budget to the Community and Discretionary Grants budgets as part of the top up to \$50,000 each.

**CARRIED.**

Moved by Councillor Spiers, seconded by Councillor Quiring :

THAT Council directs staff to defer for 1 year the scheduled increase for the Council meeting pay stipend.

**CARRIED.**

Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Quiring:

THAT the Mayors Discretionary Budget be maintained at \$8,500.00.

**CARRIED.**

*Councillor Lord confirmed to Council that she has **no** Conflict of Interest with the O’Keefe Ranch discussions, as she no longer is employed by nor sits on the Board.*

Council reviewed the request for funding for the O’Keefe Ranch. In 2011 the City granted \$150,000 to the O’Keefe Ranch. In addition, the City of Vernon also funded the O’Keefe Ranch water bill in excess of \$11,000.

Council held a discussion on the level of funding being considered for the O’Keefe Ranch.

- **SLA #2012-55**

Moved by Councillor Quiring, seconded by Councillor O’Keefe:

THAT Council **approves** Council SLA Item #2012-55 for the O’Keefe Ranch, in the amount of \$37,403.00.

**DEFEATED, with Mayor Sawatzky and Councillors Nicol, Cunningham and Spiers opposed.**

- **O’Keefe Ranch Task Force**

Moved by Councillor Lord, seconded by Councillor O’Keefe:

THAT Council directs staff to reconvene the O’Keefe Ranch Task Force.

**CARRIED.**

- **SLA #2012-57**

Moved by Councillor Nicol, seconded by Councillor Cunningham:

THAT Council **approves** Council SLA Item #2012-57 for the End of Day Celebration Grant in the amount of \$8,000.

**CARRIED.**

**Community Development – General**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**RECESS**

Mayor Sawatzky recessed the meeting at 2:32 pm.

**RECONVENE**

Mayor Sawatzky reconvened the recessed meeting at 2:46 pm.

**Planning**

Budget Summary reviewed.

Projects in the amount of \$123,000 refers to public consultation meetings, City Centre Plan implementation, Development Process Review Implementation, Foothills Neighbourhood Plan and the Preliminary OCP review studies, and other contracted works.

**Building and Inspections**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**Economic Development**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**Environmental**

Budget Summary reviewed.

Projects Budget includes expenses for Earth Hour, Earth Day, Environmental Week, Rivers Day, Boulevard and Tree Education, Pesticides Education, etc.

**Transportation Demand Management**

Budget Summary reviewed.

Projects Budget includes many initiatives, including TDM website, bicycle awareness, provincial back to work week, clean air day, staff travel plan, and more, many of which are co-funded from the Environmental budget as well.

**Tourism – City**

Budget Summary reviewed.

Tourism Manager Budget is split between Tourism – City and AHRT

Clarification on the Leasing rates for North and South Tourism Booth, as well as contract amounts for the operation of the facilities.

**Financial Services – Accounting**

Budget Summary reviewed.

Liability Insurance covers all City of Vernon functions and divisions. City is a member of the Municipal Insurance Association.

**Financial Services – Purchasing**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**Fiscal Services**

Budget Summary reviewed.

Moved by Councillor Spiers, seconded by Councillor Lord:

THAT Council directs staff to amend the Fiscal Services Budget by **removing** the item “Reinstate Transfer to Infrastructure Reserve”, in the amount of **\$242,053**.  
**CARRIED.**

Council requested staff provide a presentation to staff regarding the Infrastructure Reserves.

Council questioned when the City would know the amount of Terasen Gas Franchise Fees.

**Collections To/From Other Governments**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**Taxation**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**Public Transit - Conventional**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**Public Transit – Custom**

Budget Summary reviewed.

**Engineering Services – GIS**

Budget Summary reviewed.

Projects Budget includes a Drainage study for upper BX Creek, 27<sup>th</sup> Street timing, Head of Lake Plan, Annual Road Safety Report, Road Side Barrier Assessment, Trail Standards, Asset Management, etc.

**CAPITAL WORKS – Early Budget Approval**

Mr. Mark Dowhaniuk, Infrastructure Engineer provided Council with a PowerPoint presentation on the 2012 Capital Budget. *(to be*

## Requests

*distributed)*

- **Capital Works - Updated Information and Early Request**

Report dated December 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 from Manager of Engineering Development, re: Revision to phasing of Polson greenway. (Capital Budget works request)

THAT Council support extension of the phased Polson Greenway Project from five years to a minimum of nine years, with the option to extend further by postponing the final phase, if needed.

Mr. Dowhaniuk, provided a Power Point presentation on each capital item outlined in the report dated December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 from Infrastructure Engineer, regarding 2012 Capital Works Early Budget Requests.

*Councillor Nicol excused himself from the meeting at 4:19 pm.*

Mr. Dowhaniuk, continued his individual review of the Capital Projects for Early Budget Approval.

Ms. Flick reviewed the Library Building Retrofit.

Moved by Councillor O'Keefe, seconded by Councillor Lord:

THAT staff be directed to bring forward a detailed report on the Library **(January 23<sup>rd</sup> In Camera)**  
**CARRIED.**

## 2012 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Moved by Councillor O'Keefe, seconded by Councillor Quiring:

THAT Council endorses early Capital Projects Budget as follows:

1. Item #2, Tronson Sewer Trunk - \$1,806,000
2. Item #8, Tronson Road Bicycle Lane - \$200,000
3. Item #19, Tronson Road Municipal Fee Sewer - Project \$589,000

**CARRIED**

Moved by Councillor Cunningham, seconded by Councillor Quiring:

THAT Council endorses early Capital Projects Budget for Item #10, Lane East of 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Sanitary Upgrade - \$153,000.  
**CARRIED.**

Moved by Councillor O'Keefe, seconded by Councillor Quiring:

THAT Council endorses early Capital Projects Budget for Item #16, New Trails Program - \$229,000.

**CARRIED.**

**CLOSE**

Mayor Robert Sawatzky closed the meeting at 4:57 pm.

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Corporate Officer: