



CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY HALL
2185 VOGHT STREET
TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019
AT 7:00 PM

1. PRESENT:

Mayor L. Brown
Councillor M. Bhangu
Councillor K. Christopherson
Councillor A. Etchart
Councillor T. Fehr
Councillor T. Luck
Councillor M. White

IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. S. Thiessen, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. W. Anderson, Financial Services Manager
Mr. M. Brodrick, Planning and Development Services Manager
Mr. W. George, Tourism and Economic Development Manager
Mr. S. Smith, Director of Corporate Services

16 Members of the Public

2. CALL TO ORDER

2.1 Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

3. PUBLIC INPUT (10 Minutes)

3.1 Ginny Prowal spoke regarding item 5.2 on the agenda, saying that she supports any and all tourist activities, but the issue for out of towners is knowing where to park. She suggested putting up more parking signs and identifying their locations on the City map. She added that she still hears complaints about Exit 286 and reminded citizens that the City had nothing to do with that decision. She also stated that people are still scared to go through the breezeway to the museum because of others loitering in the area.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**ADOPTION OF
MINUTES
09/19**

- 4.1 Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**
**THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting
held on Tuesday, January 08, 2019 be adopted**

**LATE ITEM
10/19**

- 4.2 Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**
**THAT a report regarding the Community Emergency
Preparedness Grant Application be added to the
agenda as item 8.2**

5. GENERAL MATTERS – Delegations and Recognitions

BASS COAST

- 5.1 Bass Coast Presentation; Andrea Graham & Liz Thomson
File: 0250

Ms. Andrea Graham and Ms. Liz Thomson provided a history of what Bass Coast is and how it has evolved since the first festival 11 years ago. They discussed the fusion of art and music with yoga, camping, and a strong sense of community. They described how they have become known for their attention to detail, including the provision of emergency services. Their team is dedicated to respecting and protecting the health of the Coldwater River. Decibel levels will be monitored hourly to minimize the impact on the community.

Ms. A. Graham and Ms. L. Thomson invited Council to participate in the July 11th 2019 walkthrough and requested a letter of support to include in their annual plan.

**MERRITT TOURISM
ASSET INVENTORY**

- 5.2 Merritt Tourism Asset Inventory Project Presentation; Deborah Kulchiski
File: 6300

Ms. D. Kulchiski addressed Council over the phone, and expressed her gratitude that she was permitted to present despite not being able to make the trip over the Coquihalla due to road conditions.

Ms. Kulchiski presented the City of Merritt Tourism Asset Inventory Report, discussing the plans and process for creating the report, the purpose of the project, and a summary of findings and recommendations.

Council asked that a meeting be set up to discuss this plan in greater detail.

LOGGER SHOW

- 5.3 Logger Show Presentation; Jerry Canuel and Karen Bonneteau
File: 0250

Mr. J. Canuel and Ms. K. Bonneteau spoke regarding the formation of the Nicola Valley Forestry Recognition Society (NVFRS), which will be spearheading the planning and preparation for National Forest Week 2019. Jerry described the purposes of the society, its focuses for 2019, and its plans to make National Forest Week celebrations bigger, more informative and more engaging than ever.

Mr. J. Canuel and Ms. K. Bonneteau discussed the need to involve the entire community and proposed plans for partnership with the City to ensure that the event is a success.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

SNOW REMOVAL

- 6.1 City's Snow Removal Program; Public Works Superintendent
January 17, 2019 Report
Snow Removal Petition Resolution; November 27, 2018 Regular
Council Meeting
File: 5400

Mr. C. Henderson, Public Works Superintendent provided a review of the City's snow removal program, including priorities, deployment strategies, staffing, techniques, a review of procedure, and an overview of changes made for the 2018-2019 season, including new practices and equipment.

7. BYLAWS

Nil

8. NEW BUSINESS

ACTING CHIEF
ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER REPORT

- 8.1 Acting Chief Administrative Officer Report; Acting Chief Administrative Officer Verbal Report;
File: 0112

For Information Only - The purpose of this report is to provide information to Council on the operations of the City.

COMMUNITY
EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS
GRANT

- 8.2 Community Emergency Preparedness Grant Application, Manager of Recreation and Facilities January 21, 2019 Report;
File: 7140

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

11/19

**THAT Council support the Emergency Operations Center Community Emergency Preparedness grant fund application and indicate support and willingness to provide overall grant management;
AND THAT Council directs Administration to make provisions in the appropriate areas of the City's annual financial budget to address the needs of the proposal on an annual basis**

Voting Opposed: Councillor Bhangu

BASS COAST

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

12/19

THAT the Bass Coast delegation request, for Council to provide Bass Coast with a letter of support, be added to the agenda as item 8.3

LETTER OF SUPPORT

- 8.3 Letter of Support; Bass Coast
File: 0250

13/19

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT Council provide Bass Coast with a letter of support

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

10. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL

Nil

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

- DOG LICENCE FEES** 11.1 Neighbouring Community Dog Licence Fees; Niomi Delain, December 31, 2018 Letter
File: 3900.2241
- MINISTRY OF HEALTH & ADDICTIONS** 11.2 Honourable Judy Darcy; Ministry of Health & Addictions December 17, 2018 Letter
File: 0135
- LEADER OF THE OFFICAL OPPOSITION** 11.3 Honourable Andrew Scheer, P.C. M.P.; Leader of the Official Opposition November, 2018 Letter
File: 0430
- GOLD COUNTRY** 11.4 Gold Country Geocaching Event Sponsorship Request; Marciw Down, Executive Director, Gold Country Communities Society Letter
File: 0382

14/19

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

That the City of Merritt provide two hundred and fifty (\$250) dollars to sponsor the Gold Country Geocaching Event in the Merritt area

Voting Opposed: Councillor White

12. TERMINATION OF MEETING

The Mayor declared the meeting ended at 9:07 p.m.

Certified correct in accordance with Section 124(2) (c) of the Community Charter.

Corporate Officer

Confirmed on the 12th day of February, 2019

Mayor