



CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CITY HALL

2185 VOGHT STREET

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019

AT 7:00 PM

1. PRESENT:

Councillor M. Bhangu (Acting Mayor)
Councillor K. Christopherson
Councillor A. Etchart
Councillor T. Fehr
Councillor M. White

REGRETS

Mayor L. Brown
Councillor T. Luck

IN ATTENDANCE

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

MEDIA

Merritt Herald
Q101

PUBLIC

25 Members of the Public

2. CALL TO ORDER

2.1 Acting Mayor Bhangu called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

3. PUBLIC INPUT (10 Minutes)

Nil

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

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MINUTES

59/19

- 4.1 Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**
THAT the Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 be adopted

60/19

- 4.2 Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**
THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 be adopted

5. GENERAL MATTERS - Delegations and Recognitions

MERRITT YOUTH
ENTREPRENEUR
PROGRAM

- 5.1 Merritt Youth Entrepreneur Program Presentation; Manuel Olguin, Community Futures
File: 0250

Manuel presented an overview of the history and purpose of the Merritt Youth Entrepreneur Program in the City of Merritt. He discussed the achievements of this year's entrepreneurs, who set up businesses in a variety of sectors including, snow removal, baking, crafts, dog walking, babysitting and making pinatas. Several entrepreneurs or their parents made brief presentations about their businesses. Mr. Olguin invited Acting Mayor Bhangu to participate with him in presenting awards to the entrepreneurs.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

TRAFFIC BYLAW

61/19

- 6.1 Councillor Bhangu made the following Notice of Motion at the March 12, 2019 Regular Council Meeting:
File: 3900.1930

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**
THAT Council direct staff to prepare a report for Council on what can be done to make the City of Merritt Traffic Bylaw enforceable on Nicola Avenue

7. BYLAWS

Nil

8. NEW BUSINESS

**B.C. PNP
ENTREPRENEUR
IMMIGRATION
PILOT COMMITTEE**

- 8.1 City of Merritt B.C. Provincial Nominee Program (B.C. PNP) Entrepreneur Immigration Pilot Committee; Tourism & Economic Development Manager March 21, 2019 Report
File: 0570

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

62/19

THAT Council direct staff to prepare the Terms of Reference for a City of Merritt B.C. PNP Entrepreneur Immigration Pilot Committee for the April 09, 2019 Regular Council Meeting

**MERRITT VISITORS
CENTRE AT THE
BAILLIE HOUSE**

- 8.2 2018 Fourth Quarter Report for the Merritt Visitors Centre at the Baillie House; Tourism & Economic Development Manager March 21, 2019 Report
File: 2240.48

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

63/19

THAT Council accept for information the 2018 Fourth Quarter Report for the Merritt Visitors Centre at the Baillie House

**BCEDA ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
WORKSHOP**

- 8.3 BCEDA Economic Development Workshop for Local Leaders; Tourism & Economic Development Manager March 21, 2019 Report
File: 0590

Moved, Seconded and **DEFEATED**

THAT Council offer to host the one-day workshop, BCEDA Economic Development for Local Leaders, in Merritt for a total cost of twenty-seven hundred fifty (\$2,750) dollars plus travel expenses for the presenter
Voting Opposed: Councillors Fehr, Etchart, White

**CHARGE NORTH
ELECTRIC VEHICLE
NETWORK
PROGRAM**

- 8.4 Charge North Electric Vehicle Network Program Application;
Tourism & Economic Development Manager March 21, 2019
Report
File: 0135 & 0175

Moved, Seconded and **DEFEATED**

THAT the City of Merritt participate in the Charge North Electric Vehicle Network Project and associated CleanBC Communities Fund application, with the North Coast Regional District as the lead applicant; and provide up to twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars for the City's portion of four (4) Level 2 public electric vehicle charging stations at City-owned sites within Merritt
Voting Opposed: Acting Mayor Bhangu, Councillors Etchart and White

64/19

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

THAT Council direct staff to prepare a report providing Council with more information about Level 3 electric vehicle charging stations

**FIRE HALL
EXPANSION UPDATE**

8.5 Fire Hall Expansion Update: Acting Chief Administrative Officer
March 21, 2019 Report
File: 1700

Moved, Seconded

THAT Council direct staff to investigate new plans for the Fire Hall to address the health and safety requirements and bring a report back to Council

AND THAT Council request an update to the existing Fire Hall Location Study

65/19

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the main motion be amended by inserting the words "suspend the current plans for the fire hall expansion, and", between the words "to" and "investigate"

Voting resumed on the main motion as amended

66/19

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT Council direct staff to suspend the current plans for the fire hall expansion, and investigate new plans for the Fire Hall to address the health and safety requirements and bring a report back to Council

AND THAT Council request an update to the existing Fire Hall Location Study

**ACTING CHIEF
ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICER REPORT**

8.6 Acting Chief Administrative Officer Report; Acting Chief
Administrative Officer Verbal Report;
File: 0112

This report was provided for information only.

9. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

9.1 Councillor Fehr made the following Notice of Motion:

THAT Council direct staff to prepare a report for Council regarding the City's evacuation plans for a large-scale emergency, such as a wildfire

10. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL

Nil

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

**RCMP
APPRECIATION DAY**

- 11.1 Support for RCMP Appreciation Day in B.C. - February 01; Martin von Holst RCMP Day - Vernon Committee Chair February 28, 2019 Letter
File: 0630

67/19

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

THAT the City of Merritt send a letter of support in favour of recognizing February 1st of each year as RCMP Appreciation Day

**VACANCY
TAXATION**

- 11.2 Extension of Vacancy Taxation Authority to Local Governments; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 06, 2019 Letter
File: 0270

CLIMATE CHANGE

- 11.3 Support for Recovering Municipal Costs Arising from Climate Change; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 07, 2019 Letter
File: 0270

**PROVINCIAL
UNIVERSAL SCHOOL
FOOD PROGRAM**

- 11.4 Support for the Provincial Universal School Food Program; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 07, 2019 Letter
File: 0270

**PERMANENT
RESIDENTS TO VOTE
IN BC MUNICIPAL
ELECTIONS**

- 11.5 Support for Permanent Residents to Vote in BC Municipal Elections; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 07, 2019 Letter
File: 0270

**OBSERVED
INHALATION SITES
FOR OVERDOSE
PREVENTION**

- 11.6 Support for Observed Inhalation Sites for Overdose Prevention; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 13, 2019 Letter
File: 0270

**REVITALIZE ISLAND
RAIL**

- 11.7 Support to Revitalize Island Rail; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 13, 2019 Letter
File: 0270

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| SAFER DRUG SUPPLY | 11.8 | Support for a Safer Drug Supply to Save Lives in British Columbia; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 13, 2019 Letter
File: 0270 |
| SHIFTING INVESTMENT TO LOW-EMISSION TRANSPORTATION | 11.9 | Support for Shifting Investment to Low-Emission Transportation; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 13, 2019 Letter
File: 0270 |
| PROTECTION OF OLD GROWTH FORESTS | 11.10 | Support for the Protection of Old Growth Forests; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 13, 2019 Letter
File: 0270 |
| PROMOTING & ENABLING GHG REDUCTIONS | 11.11 | Support for Promoting and Enabling GHG Reduction; Lisa Helps, Mayor, City of Victoria March 13, 2019 Letter
File: 0270 |
| THE CURRENT | 11.12 | The Current; Highlights from the Thompson-Nicola Regional District Board of Directors March 14, 2019 Meeting
File: 0480 |

12. **TERMINATION OF MEETING**

The Mayor declared the meeting ended at 8:36 p.m.

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

**Original signed by
Corporate Officer**

Confirmed on the 09th day of April, 2019

**Original signed by
Acting Mayor**