

PRESENT:

COUNCIL:

Mayor R.H. Baird
Aldermen: J. Cade, G. Henderson,
L. Lemire, R. Sherwood

ADMINISTRATION:

H.C. Ellens, Clerk-Administrator
G. Zorn, Administrative Assistant

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

Harcharon & Jaswinder Sekhon and Family
Tarsam Bajaj
Al & Ruth Steffens
Angelo De Simoni
Herman Kneller
Julia D'Souza
Sherwin D'Souza
Pakher Hothi
Murti Buttar
Kamlesh Bajaj
Peter Dowd
Balwinder Sekhon

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Baird called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. He explained that the purpose of a public hearing was to allow persons who believed their interests affected by the proposed rezoning, to express their verbal or written views to Council.

INTRODUCTION OF BY-LAW NO. 1270, 1990:

Mayor Baird cited "City of Merritt Zoning Amendment By-law No. 1270, 1990" and the intended purpose of the proposed By-law.

Mayor Baird called for presentations from the public to speak in favour of, or in opposition to the proposed rezoning.

PRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

The Clerk-Administrator read a letter from Harbans Sekhon, from 1953 Sage Street, opposing the proposed rezoning because he said the existing detached dwellings would lose their value.

Harcharon Sekhon, 1928 Sage Street

Mr. Sekhon spoke against the proposed rezoning, stating that he had saved his money for 22 years to buy a home in his chosen location, and he felt the value of the existing dwellings would go down. Further, he said, streets would not accommodate the increase in vehicular traffic and, in fact, the proposed development would make the streets unsafe for the large number of children living in the area.

Mayor Baird called a second time for comments on, or objections to, the proposed rezoning.

Ruth Steffens, 1617 Armstrong Street

Mrs. Steffens asked whether the City would, in the future, provide upgraded services to accommodate the increase in the area's population.

Mrs. Steffens said she felt that given the subdivision was comprised primarily of young families, and Armstrong Street was already too narrow, the area would not accommodate the extra traffic. She further stated that the young families would lose the value of their homes, and she was against the proposed rezoning.

Herman Kneller, 2988 Armstrong Street

Mr. Kneller said he wondered why the developer wanted to rezone the whole parcel and not just the area proposed for development. He asked what assurance area residents had that the developer would not one day want to develop the green space as well.

Al Steffens, 1617 Armstrong Street

Mr. Steffens explained that his main concern was whether the City would control windblown garbage and litter should the proposed complex eventually deteriorate. He said that in the event the residents of the proposed complex did not look after their dwellings, the value of the existing homes in the area would depreciate.

Harcharon Sekhon, 1928 Sage Street

Mr. Sekhon pointed out that presently, the area already contained townhouse developments which resulted in many children and crowded schools. He said he was concerned that, in the future, the developer would construct more townhouses than the just the ones he proposed at this time.

Mr. Sekhon said that, in his opinion, the high density in the area already affected both the temperature and pressure of the water.

Al Steffens, 1617 Armstrong Street

Mr. Steffens said he wondered whether the developer or the City would maintain the green space -- or if it would be left in its present condition.

Mayor Baird asked a third time for presentations from the public to speak in favour of, or in opposition to, the proposed rezoning.

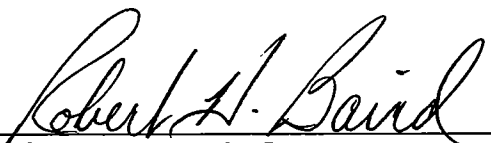
ADJOURNMENT:

Upon hearing none, Mayor Baird adjourned the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



H.C. Ellens,
Clerk-Administrator



Robert H. Baird,
Mayor