

CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT COUNCIL, TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 1996, MEETING ROOM #1, CIVIC CENTRE CITY HALL, 2185 VOGHT STREET, MERRITT, B.C.

1. **PRESENT:**

COUNCIL:

Mayor - C.Norgaard
Councillors - B.Cowan, L.Miller, H.McCormack, D.Laird, R.Typusiak,
D.McLean

ADMINISTRATION:

Administrator - T.Day
Treasurer - S.Gill
Public Works Super. - A.Hunchuk

MEDIA:

Merritt Herald, NL Radio, Merritt News

2. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Norgaard called the meeting to order at 7:43 p.m.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

a) Special Budget Meeting, Tues., Apr.30/96

398/96 Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Laird that Council
ADOPT the Agenda, Special Budget Meeting, Tues., Apr.30/96. CARRIED

4. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Nil.

5. **PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS:** Nil.

6. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES:** Nil.

7. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** Nil.

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Nil.

9. REPORTS:

a) 1996 ANNUAL BUDGET WORKING PAPERS

The Administrator and Treasurer discussed the Budget Working Papers with Council, explaining any changes between the Provisional Budget and the Final Budget.

REVENUES:

General Taxation

The Regional Hospital Revenue from General Taxation, increased by \$37,620 which reflects the Boundary Extension. The TNRD Revenue from General Taxation increased by \$281,451 which is a direct result of the Solid Waste Management Plan initiated by the TNRD. The increase of \$44,500 in Taxation Revenue is a result of the Boundary Extension and new growth.

Sale of Services

A reduction under Fire, Aquatic Centre and Recreation were all a function of the Boundary Extension. There was a refund of \$63,000 by the TNRD for tipping fees previously paid and the sale of the library building produced \$257,500 in revenue.

Information Centre

The Information Centre is projected to produce \$48,600 in revenue above what was budgeted, however, costs to maintain the Centre will be addressed later in the budget.

Licences, Permits, Fees and Fines

Building Fees increased by \$5,500 which is an estimate equal to expense.

Grants

The Provincial Revenue Sharing Grant increased by \$8,530 over projections.

Transfers

The Contribution from Surplus increased by \$22,162 which had been previously budgeted and then never used. There was \$164,000 carried over from Colletville Administration Funding.

9. REPORTS:

a) 1996 ANNUAL BUDGET WORKING PAPERS

EXPENDITURES:

Administration

There was an increase of \$27,000 which reflects the temporary replacement of the City Clerk due to illness. Legal expenditures increased \$15,000 due to two lawsuits resulting in the City being required to pay a deductible of \$10,000 per suit. An increase of \$8,100 for Past Survey/Easement Registration is from 1995.

Finance

An Accounts Receivable Write-Off of \$6,300 was made to cover an long outstanding account by KinKen Holdings.

Fire Protection

Decreases in Staff Benefits, Vacation, Sick, Wages reflected the decision not to hire a second Fire Protection Staff Member and contract the services of a Fire Inspector which created a net savings of \$21,700.

Provincial Emergency Program

An increase of \$14,000 was budgeted to cover the PEP Coordinator's wages as these had been originally eliminated as PEP was to have been covered by the second Fire Protection Staff Position which has since been eliminated.

Other Protective Services

The costs of the November, 1995 flood were not all covered by the Provincial Emergency Program, with the City left with an expenditure of \$10,000.

Building Inspection

\$5,500 has been budgeted to allow for vacation relief and an additional \$1,500 to purchase a new portable radio.

Development Services

\$11,000 was carried over from last year's Economic Development projects to make an increased budget of \$30,000 in total.

9. REPORTS:

**a) 1996 ANNUAL BUDGET WORKING PAPERS
EXPENDITURES: - Cont'd.**

Snow Removal

\$15,000 has been added to the Snow Removal Budget as the original \$15,000 which was provisionally budgeted has already been spent and there will most certainly be snow removal needed before the end of 1996.

Garbage Maintenance

\$25,000 has been added to fund the Recycling Program and \$82,055 has been removed from the Dumping Site cost as the City now participates in the TNRD function.

Merritt Info Centre

The Janitorial budget has been increased by \$15,000, the Hydro budget by \$5,500, Building Maintenance by \$8,500, Security by \$800 all of which will be reimbursed by Ministry of Forests. The Volunteer transportation has been increased by \$2,400 which reflects year around costs instead of a shortened season.

Arena

The Management contract for the arena has been reduced by \$40,000 which reflects the period that the arena will be closed for the retrofit period of May to October, 1996.

Facility Maintenance

The rental property next to the curling rink required \$1,500 in furnace repairs.

Fiscal Services

Contribution to Capital increased by \$486,462 which was due to:

- i. sharing the current revenue source for City Hall Project.
- ii. carrying forward funds from reserve for future expenditures for Truck Route and Arena Projects.

9. REPORTS:

a) 1996 ANNUAL BUDGET WORKING PAPERS - Cont'd.

Taxes Levied by Others

The Regional Hospital budget has increased \$37,620 and the Regional District budget has increased by \$281,451.

The total expenditures have increased by \$818,878 over the Provisional Budget for a surplus of revenue over expenditures of \$97,250.

GENERAL CAPITAL FUND:

General Capital Revenues:

Long Term Borrowing has been increased \$715,000 for the truck route and \$797,000 for the arena. General Revenue has been increased \$471,462 which has come from reserves. The budget for the truck route has increased to \$1,430,000 and the arena budget was increased \$1,594,000 which came from infrastructure grants, the capital works reserve was increased by \$192,500 and \$498,000 was taken from the City Hall Reserve. Short term borrowing has been increased by \$60,000.

General Capital Expenditures:

The new City Hall budget has been increased by \$201,662.

Fire Department/PEP:

There has been \$17,000 removed from the budget for the second fire department vehicle as the position has been eliminated. \$10,000 has been eliminated for the PEP generator upgrade.

Public Works Projects:

The truck route project has been increased by \$12,000 which is carried over from 1995 and \$2,145,000 which is covered by grants.

Road Projects:

The \$36,000 that was provisionally budgeted to recap Garcia Street has been deferred until a later date.

CITY OF MERRITT 1996 BUDGET MEETING, TUESDAY, APRIL 30/96

9. REPORTS:

a) 1996 ANNUAL BUDGET WORKING PAPERS - Cont'd.

Recreation:

The arena upgrade budget has been increased by \$2,462,400 to cover the cost of the project and there has been \$3,900 added to grass or gravel the old pool site.

TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURES HAVE INCREASED \$4,761,962.00 OVER THE PROVISIONAL BUDGET LARGELY DUE TO THE ARENA, TRUCK ROUTE AND CITY HALL PROJECTS.

WATER OPERATING FUND:

Revenues:

The N.E. Sector Specified Area Charge has been increased by \$17,700 which reflects the debt payment for the Specified Area.

Fiscal Services:

MFA - Interest has been increased by 17,700 which is the afore mentioned debt charge from the N.E.Sector Specified Area.

THERE HAS BEEN NO NET CHANGE IN THE SURPLUS/DEFICIT IN THE WATER FUND.

399/96

Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council AUTHORIZE the purchase of a leak detector at a cost of \$3,500 to come from the contribution to surplus. CARRIED

SEWER OPERATING FUND:

Revenues:

The N.E.Sector Specified Area Charge has been increased \$12,400 to reflect the debt charge.

9. REPORTS:

**a) 1996 ANNUAL BUDGET WORKING PAPERS
SEWER OPERATING FUND: - Cont'd.**

Fiscal Services:

The MFA Interest Payment has been increased by \$12,400 which is the debt charge from the N.E.Sector Specified Area.

THERE HAS BEEN NO NET CHANGE IN THE SEWER OPERATING FUND SURPLUS/DEFICIT.

ADDITIONAL REVENUES:

There is approximately \$79,000 in additional revenues from the following sources:

1. Gas franchise fee of \$4,500
2. Administration fee for Specified Areas - \$20,000 for N.E.Sector which will be recovered when the debt is placed.
3. Facilitator's reserve of \$5,000 from the City Hall Project.
4. Office Renovation Reserve of \$9,500
5. Surplus of \$40,000 after garbage refund.

ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES:

400/96

Moved by Councillor Typusiak, seconded by Councillor Laird that Council AUTHORIZE:

1. a two(2) percent reduction in the general taxation rate for 1996
2. the additional expenditures for the 1996 budget:
 - i. \$2,000 for Special Events Committee (July 1st, Labour Day Celebrations)
 - ii. \$3,000 for an office paper shredder
 - iii. \$10,000 for a 1½ inch concrete subfloor for the second floor of the new City Hall Building.
 - iv. \$42,000 for new sidewalks bordering the Brian Dafoe Motorcade property.
 - v. \$5,300 for a relief Bylaw Services Officer.
 - vi. \$2,400 for cement no-posts along the edge of the Parkview Residential Development.
- 3) any additional revenues to be placed in reserves/surplus.

CARRIED

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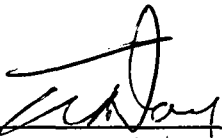
10. BYLAWS: Nil.
11. CORRESPONDENCE: Nil.
12. NEW BUSINESS: Nil.
13. ADJOURNMENT:

401/96 Moved by Councillor Laird, seconded by Councillor Cowan that Council
TERMINATE this Meeting at 8:29 p.m. CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



D. McLean, ACTING MAYOR



T.C. Day, ACTING CLERK