

## CITY OF MERRITT

### MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT COUNCIL, MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1999, AT 7:00 P.M., CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2185 VOGHT STREET, MERRITT, B.C.

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1. **PRESENT:**

COUNCIL: Mayor C. Norgaard  
Councillors L. Barr, D. Laird, H. McCormack, D. McLean, R. Sherwood  
Mayor-elect B. Baird  
Councillors-elect G. Cavaliere, R. Gage, H. Kroeker, E. Reimer

ABSENT: Councillor R. Typusiak

STAFF: T. Day, Administrator  
J. Barry, Clerk  
H. Osachoff, Treasurer  
J. Johnson, Planner  
B. Kelsey, Fire Chief  
C. Bacon, Confidential Secretary  
J. Norburn, Recreation Facilities Manager  
D. Brandt, Recreation Manager  
D. McTaggart, Engineer

Guests: Judge H. Rohrmoser  
S/Sgt. J. Senft, RCMP  
K. Klein, Merritt Youth Ambassador

MEDIA: Merritt Herald, Merritt News, Shaw Cable, NL Radio  
Merritt Morning Market

PUBLIC: Approximately 80 members of the public.

2. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Norgaard called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

A. Agenda, Inaugural Council Meeting, December 6, 1999.

The Agenda, Inaugural Council Meeting, December 6, 1999 was adopted by unanimous consent of Council.

4. INAUGURAL CEREMONIES:

A. Mayor's Outgoing Address.

Mayor Norgaard thanked Council and Staff and wished the incoming Council all the best of luck for the next three years.

B. The Honourable Judge Rohrmoser – Oaths of Office/Allegiance.

Judge Rohrmoser administered the Oaths of Office and Oaths of Allegiance to Mayor-elect B. Baird and Councillors-elect L. Barr, G. Cavaliere, R. Gage, H. Kroeker, E. Reimer and R. Sherwood.

C. The Honourable Judge Rohrmoser – Duties & Responsibilities.

Judge Rohrmoser briefly addressed the new Council on their responsibilities and challenges they will face in the new millennium.

D. Official Passing of the Gavel.

C. Norgaard passed the Gavel to Mayor Baird and the new Council took their places at the Council table.

5. PRESENTATIONS:

A. 1996 to 1999 Council Members.

Mayor Baird presented gifts to former Mayor Norgaard and former Councillors Laird, McCormack and McLean. Councillor Typusiak was not present and will receive his gift at a later date.

B. The Honourable Judge Rohrmoser and Staff Sergeant Senft.

Mayor Baird presented gifts to Judge Rohrmoser and S/Sgt. Senft.

C. Merritt Youth Ambassador Kristina Klein

Mayor Baird presented a gift to Merritt Youth Ambassador Kristina Klein.

D. Honourable H. Lali, MLA Yale-Lillooet

The Honourable H. Lali, MLA was present at the Inaugural Meeting to congratulate the new Mayor and Council and presented pins.

6. INAUGURAL BUSINESS:

A. Mayor's Address

Your Honour, Council, Ambassador Kristina, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Our community has come a long way since April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1952, the official date of the return of the City Charter and Letters Patent from Victoria. Since that historic date we have witnessed the transferring of the executive authority on many occasions.

The past councils stood and were counted for what they believed in and what they accomplished. Their leadership and direction in large measure is clearly responsible for the uniqueness and character of our city today.

We are fortunate indeed to be able to share this beautiful Nicola Valley with the people of the First Nations, and people of so many cultures to the North, South, East and West of Merritt.

We must cherish the trust and confidence our neighbours and residents have bequeathed to us. Speaking with your new Councillors one on one, I sense they are very team oriented and they share similar visions and goals for this new term of office. A very real and positive example of what sharing visions and goals can produce, will be the appearance and the completion of the new Nicola Valley Institute of Technology/University College of the Cariboo facility in the not too distant future.

No local government deserves, nor should its citizens tolerate, a council that isn't extraordinarily effective and competent in leading the community. Leadership is a process that helps people transform intentions into positive action and visions into reality. Wherever, whenever and whatever our youth are involved in, this council must be creative in their efforts to support and guide their continuous growth and constructive endeavors.

We know diversification of our economic investments will prove to be one of the pillars of success for Merritt, we know also of the very real profits of tourism; but tourism also brings wear and tear of our natural resources and our community resources.

We the people of Merritt and the Nicola Valley must never lose sight of our caretaker role!

Adjusting our sights periodically and fine tuning our focus, will provide us with an acceptable balance when determining the direction for the next three years. Merritt's corporate attitude and public image needs a huge measure of improvement. I'm satisfied this newly elected council is up to the task.

Once again Merritt's Council will entertain the subject of developing a City theme; this time the confidence level is higher; I believe they will succeed. We will be looking to the provincial government to enter partnerships with Merritt to assist us with infrastructure grants, building and developing positive, sustainable enterprises, businesses and employment. I'm hoping to convince our Federal and Provincial Governments to "experience sharing with small communities". It's a win, win for all.

They like to "talk the talk" in Ottawa and Victoria, I think its high time they prove they can also "walk the walk".

Today marks the tenth anniversary of a terrible tragedy in Montreal. This Council has a serious and real concern about creating a safer community for all. We tell our Secondary School Grads annually to "follow their dreams"; maybe we too should practice this more often. My wish for this Council is they transform their joint deliberations and visions into reality. My challenge to this council; I want them to lead the way, I expect them to lead the way; and I'm confident and trusting as I know you are, that they will. Thank you.

**B. Appointment of Standing Committees**

Mayor Baird announced the following Standing Committee appointments:

<b>Administration and Finance:</b>	Councillor Reimer, Chair Councillor Barr
<b>Human Resources and Youth Advisory:</b>	Councillor Sherwood, Chair Mayor Baird
<b>Protective Services:</b>	Councillor Gage, Chair Councillor Cavaliere
<b>Economic Development and Planning:</b>	Councillor Kroeker, Chair Councillor Reimer Councillor Barr
<b>Recreation and Civic Properties:</b>	Councillor Cavaliere, Chair Councillor Kroeker
<b>Public Works:</b>	Councillor Sherwood, Chair Councillor Gage

C. Appointment of Select Committees

<b>Emergency Measures Committee:</b>	Mayor Baird Councillor Sherwood Councillor Kroeker
<b>Access Awareness Committee:</b>	Councillor Barr
<b>Community Justice Centre Board:</b>	Councillor Barr
<b>Environmental Advisory Committee:</b>	Councillor Reimer
<b>Chamber of Commerce / Sidewalk Business Opportunities:</b>	Councillor Gage
<b>Airport Advisory Committee:</b>	Councillor Sherwood
<b>Sign Bylaw Review Committee:</b>	Councillor Cavaliere
<b>Tourism Advisory Committee:</b>	Councillor Kroeker
<b>Critical Incident Stress Management Steering Committee:</b>	Councillor Barr
<b>Nicola Valley Development Centre:</b>	Councillor Kroeker
<b>Nicola Dam Advisory Committee:</b>	Mayor Baird
<b>Community Health and Seniors Advisory:</b>	Councillor Barr

D. Appointments of Thompson-Nicola Regional District Director and Alternate

Mayor Baird, Director  
Councillor Sherwood, Alternate Director

E. Appointment to Board of Variance

Ted Kampa

F. Appointments to the City of Merritt Court of Revision

Court of Revision – Electors and Frontage Rolls: Council of the Whole

**MINUTES, CITY OF MERRITT INAUGURAL COUNCIL MEETING, DECEMBER 6, 1999**

G. Appointments for 1999/2000 Acting Mayors

Dec. 1999 & Jan. 2000	Councillor Barr
February & March 2000	Councillor Cavaliere
April & May 2000	Councillor Gage
June & July 2000	Councillor Kroeker
August & September 2000	Councillor Reimer
October & November 2000	Councillor Sherwood

H. Appointments of Signing Officers

Mayor Baird	Administrator T. Day
Councillor Reimer	City Clerk J. Barry
Councillor Sherwood	Treasurer H. Osachoff

603/99 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the appointments made by Mayor Baird be endorsed by Council. CARRIED

Mayor Baird distributed City of Merritt Pins & Coins to each member of Council.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

604/99 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council terminate this meeting at 7:45 p.m. CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

  
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R.H. Baird, MAYOR

  
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J.E. Barry, CLERK