

CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT COUNCIL, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1999, AT 7:00 P.M., CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 2185 VOGHT STREET, MERRITT, B.C.

1. PRESENT:

COUNCIL: Mayor R.H. Baird
Councillors, L. Barr, G. Cavaliere, R. Gage, H. Kroeker,
R. Sherwood

STAFF: T. Day, Administrator
H. Osachoff, Treasurer
D. Brandt, Recreation Manager
J. Barry, City Clerk
C. Bacon, Confidential Secretary

MEDIA: NL Radio
Shaw Cable

PUBLIC: Nil.

2. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Baird called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:

A. Agenda, Regular Council Meeting, December 21, 1999.

645/99 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council adopt the Agenda, Regular Council Meeting, December 21, 1999 as amended with the addition of a Motion from Councillor Kroeker under 9B. Liaison and Commission/Committee Reports; and Fitness Equipment for the Aquatic Centre under 11. New Business.

CARRIED

4. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES/BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

A. Minutes, Regular Council Meeting, December 14, 1999.

646/99 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council adopt the Minutes, Regular Council Meeting, December 14, 1999 as amended by adding "AND FURTHER THAT the Recreation Manager arrange a meeting with residents", to Motion 623/99; AND THAT Motion 627/99 be amended to record Councillor Sherwood as Opposed.

CARRIED

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Nil.

6. **PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS:** Nil.

7. **BYLAWS:**

A. City of Merritt Community Recreation Facilities Rental Rates Amendment
Bylaw No. 1758, 1999.

647/99 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council adopt City of Merritt Community
Recreation Facilities Rental Rates Amendment Bylaw No. 1758, 1999.
CARRIED

B. City of Merritt 2000 Provisional Budget Bylaw No. 1759, 1999

648/99 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council adopt City of Merritt 2000
Provisional Budget Bylaw No. 1759, 1999. CARRIED

C. New Procedure Bylaw; City Clerk's December 16, 1999 Memorandum.

1. City of Merritt Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1760, 1999.

649/99 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council give FIRST READING to City of Merritt
Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1760, 1999. CARRIED

650/99 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council give SECOND READING to City of
Merritt Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1760, 1999. CARRIED

651/99 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT Council give THIRD READING to City of
Merritt Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1760, 1999. CARRIED

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Nil.

9. **REPORTS:**

A. **Mayor's Reports:**

Mayor Baird attended the Regular Meeting of the Thompson-Nicola Regional District where the Regional District Growth Strategy; control of noxious weeds; and Provincial Grazing Enhancement Fund application by the TNRD were discussed. He advised that the TNRD initiated proceedings to have Highway 97C declared a priority with respect to upgrading under the National Highways

System grant process; and that the Canada Millennium Partnership program for the Thompson-Nicola Library structure failed because it did not meet the criteria for the grant; and that a presentation was made by Constable Bob Collins, Area Coordinator regarding the DARE Program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education). Mayor Baird advised he was appointed as a Municipal Insurance Appointee by the Chair, TNRD. He also met with the Volunteers from the Info Center; attended Colletville Park and Voght Park Planning session.

B. Liaison and Commission/Committee Reports:

Councillor Gage attended a meeting with Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. Topics discussed included Merritt Mountain Music Festival funds and how they were used in the community for funding of health/education/justice along with the new sign bylaw. He advised that the Board of Directors would like to initiate a meeting in April called "Getting it Together", regarding Economic Development for the City. The next meeting of the Chamber of Commerce will be held on January 20th at 7:00 a.m.

Councillor Sherwood stated that winter crews were working seven days per week providing general maintenance and plowing. He also attended the hospital meeting on behalf of the Community Youth and Children's Committee regarding the Provincial Government initiative to place Psychiatric Observation Units at various hospitals around the province.

Councillor Barr advised that the Critical Incident Stress Management Committee Meeting has been postponed to next week.

Councillor Cavaliere: Nil.

Councillor Kroeker advised that the next meeting of the Community Futures Economic Development Committee will be held on January 5, 2000. He also stated that the Pestell Group would be adding on to NMV Lumber to process shavings for pet bedding and this industry will create eight more positions in the workforce. Councillor Kroeker also spoke briefly regarding a letter Staff received from the Interior Science Innovation Council.

652/99

Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council support in principle the application of the Interior Science Innovation Council for funding from the British Columbia Information, Science and Technology Agency to undertake a high tech strategy in the region.

CARRIED

C. Administration Reports:

1) Requires Council Action:

- i) Municipal Leases; Treasurer's December 16, 1999 Memorandum.
653/99 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the City publish its intention to lease property to Merritt Golf and Country Club and Merritt Curling Club. CARRIED
- ii) Trans-Canada Trail System; Recreation Manager's December 15, 1999 Memorandum.
654/99 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT Council direct staff to draft an agreement with the Ministry of Community Development, Cooperatives and Volunteers for the administration of the \$25,000.00 grant fund, to complete a trail plan which will link Merritt to the Trans-Canada Trail at Kingsvale. CARRIED
- iii) BC 2000 Homecoming Event; Recreation Manager's December 15, 1999 Memorandum.
655/99 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council designate July 1, 2000 as Merritt's BC2000 Homecoming Event and that the process to select a famous person to invite home to the BC2000 Homecoming Event be determined by the Recreation Commission. CARRIED
- iv) Resurfacing City Tennis Courts; Recreation Manager's December 13, 1999 Memorandum.
656/99 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT City Council support the grant application for BC 2000 Community Spirit Grant funds for the resurfacing of the two Merritt Tennis Facilities. CARRIED
- v) City Nature Park Beside Bench Elementary School; Engineer's December 17, 1999 Memorandum.
657/99 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council refer the requested pathway improvements to the 2000 budget deliberations. CARRIED

2) Receive for Information:

- i) Grant applications approved and pending; Treasurer's December 15, 1999 Memorandum.
- ii) Proposal Call – Commercial Operations at Tourist Information Centre; City Clerk's December 17, 1999 Memorandum.

The above two items were received as information only.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Potential Responses:

- i) UBCM, Aboriginal Issues Conference and Additional Funding for Community to Community Forums; December 14, 1999 Memorandum.
- ii) NCMA, Remote and Rural Health Care Conference, January 21, 22, 23, Prince George, December 13, 1999 Letter from North Central Municipal Association.
- iii) OMMA, Call for Resolutions for 2000 OMMA Annual Meeting, December 7, 1999 Letter from Okanagan Mainline Municipal Association.

The above three items were received as information only.

- iv) Merritt and District Minor Hockey Association; December 14, 1999 letter.

658/99 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council approve the request by the Merritt and District Minor Hockey Association to hold a parade on Friday, January 21, 2000. CARRIED

- v) Emergency Management for Municipal Elected Officials and Administrators; Provincial Emergency Program Registration Form.

659/99 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT the Emergency Measures Committee attend the Provincial Emergency Program one-day information session for Municipal Elected Officials and Administrators. CARRIED

B. Receive for Information:

- i) UBCM, President's Message: 2000 UBCM Membership; December 1, 1999, Memorandum from UBCM.
- ii) Government Bill C-10; December 6, 1999 Letter from Lou Sekora, M.P.
- iii) Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Jim Doyle, Minister; Letter dated December 6, 1999.
- iv) Letter from Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh dated November 15, 1999.

The above four items were received for information only.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Aquatic Centre Equipment.

Councillor Gage advised that Quality Fitness was closing and that some of their equipment might be suitable for use at the Aquatic Centre.

The Administrator indicated that staff will investigate the possibility of bidding on equipment that may be available and that a report will be on the January 11, 2000 agenda.

B. Film Board.

Mayor Baird initiated discussion regarding nominee to the Film Board.

660/99 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council support the nomination of Councillor Kroeker to the Film Board as a representative of the TNRD.

CARRIED

12. MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD:

Al Clarke, NL Radio requested comments on the letter from Attorney General Ujjal Dosanjh dated November 15, 1999 and the Thompson-Nicola Regional District Library Grant.

13. ADJOURNMENT TO IN-CAMERA: Nil.

14. TERMINATION OF MEETING:

661/99 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council terminate this meeting at 8:24 p.m.

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Robert H. Baird, MAYOR



J.E. Barry, CITY CLERK