

CITY OF MERRITT

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT
COUNCIL, TUESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2000, 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,
E. Reimer, R. Sherwood

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

MEDIA: NL Radio
Merritt Herald
Shaw Cable

PUBLIC: 6 Members of the public.

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, January 11, 2000.

07/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council adopt the Agenda, Regular Council Meeting, January 11, 2000 as amended with the addition under 11. New Business of; 1) January 7, 2000 Meeting with MOTH Personnel and; 2) First Night 1999 Celebrations. CARRIED

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

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

08/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council adopt the Minutes, Regular Council Meeting, December 21, 1999 as amended by deleting "Chamber of Commerce" in Councillor Gage's report under B. Liaison and Commission/Committee Reports and replace with "Board of Directors". CARRIED

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B. Minutes, Special Council Meeting, January 4, 2000.

09/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council adopt the Minutes, Special Council Meeting, January 4, 2000. CARRIED

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Nil.

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

7. **BYLAWS:**

A. City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1748, 1999.

10/00 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council adopt City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1748, 1999. CARRIED

B. City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1756, 1999 .

11/00 Moved by Councillor Reimer THAT Council adopt City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1756, 1999. CARRIED

C. City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1757, 1999.

12/00 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council adopt City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1757, 1999. CARRIED

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

13/00 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT Council adopt City of Merritt Council Procedure Bylaw No. 1760, 1999. CARRIED

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Nil.

9. **REPORTS:**

A. **Mayor's Reports:**

Mayor Baird congratulated the organizers of the First Night Celebrations on New Year's Eve and expressed the appreciation of the Mayor and Council on the success of the evening festivities. He advised that he attended a two day orientation with Councillor Sherwood at the TNRD; spoke briefly about the need for a partnership with the TNRD, Film Commission, City of Kamloops, and Tourism; and also advised that Councillor Kroeker's name has been received by the Chair of the TNRD for the Film Commission position. Mayor Baird also advised that Tom Day, Administrator, has resigned and taken a position with the newly formed municipality of the District of Sooke.

B. Liaison and Commission/Committee Reports:

Councillor Sherwood reported that the annual elections for the Airport Committee would be held Wednesday night, January 12, 2000; that the Public Works Crew are working on snow removal and hydrant maintenance; and that Peter Polachek, Public Works Foreman resigned effective January 31, 2000.

Councillor Reimer reported that the city management team was developing a budget process and that the budget deliberations are scheduled for March 6th and 7th.

Councillor Gage reported on Protective Services and advised that he met with S/Sgt. Jim Senft and discussion was held regarding the role of CPAC in the community with the next meeting to take place March 1st which is open to the public. They also discussed the Teen Crime Stoppers Program implemented at the Merritt Secondary School and Coquihalla Middle School and reviewed the proposal by the RCMP regarding staffing resources.

Councillor Barr advised that the next meeting of the Access Awareness Committee is scheduled for February 3rd, 2000 at 7:00 p.m.

Councillor Cavaliere advised that he met with the City Planner regarding the Sign Bylaw review and met with the Recreation Facilities Manager regarding the equipment at Quality Fitness.

Councillor Kroeker attended the Economic Development orientation meeting to prepare for the budget process and will be attending the Forestry Forum at the Civic Centre with the Development Officer. He has been invited to attend a meeting with the Lower Nicola Indian Band Economic Development Committee on January 20th and to the Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee's next meeting on January 24th. He also advised that NVIT/UCC has received eight million dollars for funding of their project.

C. Administration Reports:

1) Requires Council Action:

- i) 2000 Local Government Grants Program, Water, Sewer Infrastructure Implementation and Infrastructure Planning; Engineer's January 5, 2000 Memorandum.

14/00

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council authorize staff to make application for the water and sewer infrastructure Improvements and planning grants contained in the Engineer's January 5, 2000 Memorandum. CARRIED

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- ii) Merritt Curling Club Lease Agreement and Merritt Golf and Country Club Lease Agreement; Recreation Manager's January 4, 2000 Memorandum.

15/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council approve the renewal of the Lease Agreement between the City of Merritt and the Merritt Curling Club as presented at the January 11, 2000 Regular Council Meeting, and that the agreement be prepared for signing by the Mayor and City Clerk. CARRIED

16/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council approve the renewal of the Lease between the City of Merritt and the Merritt Golf and Country Club as presented at the January 11, 2000 Regular Council Meeting, and that the agreement be prepared for signing by the Mayor and City Clerk. CARRIED

- iii) Truck Routes; Administrator's January 5, 2000 Memorandum.

17/00 Moved by Councillor Gage THAT Council appoint a Select Committee comprised of Councillors Sherwood and Kroeker and the City Clerk to meet with the trucking industry, effected property owners and interested members of the public to develop a recommendation for truck route regulations. CARRIED

- vi) Fitness Equipment; Recreation Facilities Manager's January 5, 2000 Memorandum.

18/00 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT upgrading the fitness room equipment at the Aquatic Centre be deferred to budget discussion and be considered for incorporation into the City's five-year financial plan at that time. CARRIED

- vii) Conayt Friendship Society, Visions for Future Conference; Recreation Manager's January 6, 2000 Memorandum.

Pursuant to Section 231 of the Municipal Act, Councillor Cavaliere declared he was unable to participate in discussing or voting on the above matter due to a family member being involved. Councillor Cavaliere immediately left the Council Chambers at 7:37 p.m.

19/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council deny the request to donate the facility rental cost to Conayt Friendship Society for the Visions for Future Conference, and that Council extend the 15% discount provided for in Bylaw No. 1387 to Conayt for the rental. CARRIED

Councillor Cavaliere returned to the Council Chambers at 7:47 p.m.

2) Receive for Information:

- i) Municipal Insurance Association of BC (MIA) Renewal; Treasurer's December 15, 1999 Memorandum.
- ii) MFA Long Term Debt; Treasurer's December 21, 1999 Memorandum.
- iii) Property Tax Assessments; Treasurer's January 6, 2000 Memorandum.
- iv) 1999 Bylaw Services Statistics Year Ending December 31, 1999; Monthly Statistics for December 1999.

The above four items were received as information only.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Potential Responses:

- i) Marathon – Saturday, April 15, 2000; Community Awareness Committee; letter dated December 20, 1999.
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20/00

Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council allow the Community Awareness Committee Marathon for Saturday, April 15, 2000 to go ahead as presented contingent upon approval from the necessary agencies.

CARRIED

- ii) Truck Donations; Merritt Secondary School; letter dated December 15, 1999.
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21/00

Moved by Councillor Gage THAT the two out of service city trucks be made available to the public under a sealed bid process as quickly as possible.

CARRIED

22/00

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council instruct Staff to prepare a policy on the disposal of city property.

CARRIED

Receive for Information:

- i) Highlights of UBCM Executive Meeting; Member Release December 15, 1999.

The above item was received as information only.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

A. January 7, 2000 meeting with MOTH Personnel

Councillor Barr advised that she, Councillor Kroeker, Councillor Reimer and members of staff attended a meeting at the local Ministry of Transportation and Highways office where the amended proposal for the four laning of the Coquihalla Highway was presented. She also advised that the amended proposal was being sent to the Agricultural Land Commission and that MOTH was meeting with property owners involved.

23/00

Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council support the Ministry of Transportation and Highways four laning initiative for Highway 97C from Aspen Grove to Merritt. CARRIED

B. New Year's Eve First Night Celebrations

Councillor Gage commented on the recent First Night Celebration.

24/00

Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council direct Staff to request the Coordinator, Morgan Ashbridge to present to Council a report on the activities of the celebration and plans for next year. CARRIED

C. Municipal Management Review

Mayor Baird advised that Joe Barry, City Clerk, has been appointed Acting Administrator effective February 1, 2000 and advised that the City has initiated a Management Review process and that the City will report further on this in due course.

12. MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD:

Al Clarke, from Radio NL, and Paul Varga from the Herald had questions regarding the duration of the Acting Administrator appointment; Coquihalla Highway realignment; resignation of the Public Works Foreman; Municipal Insurance Association costs; date of budget discussions and the Bylaw Services Statistics Report for 1999.

13. ADJOURNMENT TO IN-CAMERA:

1. Adjournment to In-Camera Motion; January 11, 2000.

25/00

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council deems it necessary to close this meeting to the public in order to deal with the following items In-Camera:

- A) Minutes, In-Camera Portion of the Regular Council Meeting, December 14, 1999.

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- B) Minutes, In-Camera Portion of the Special Council Meeting, January 4, 2000.
- C) Potential litigation affecting the City; 2 items.
- D) Employee Negotiations.

AND THAT this meeting be adjourned for five minutes to resume in the Boardroom of City Hall. CARRIED

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:25 p.m.

MEETING RESUMED IN-CAMERA 8:43 p.m.

(In-Camera portion of Minutes kept separately)

14. TERMINATION OF MEETING:

MEETING TERMINATED: 10:55 P.M.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Robert H. Baird, MAYOR



J.E. Barry, CITY CLERK