

CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT
COUNCIL, TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 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, E. Reimer
R. Sherwood, R. Gage

ABSENT: Councillor H. Kroeker, G. Cavaliere

STAFF: J. Barry, Acting Administrator
H. Osachoff, Treasurer
D. McTaggart, Engineer
J. Johnson, City Planner
J. Norburn, Recreation Facilities Manager
R. Nicolas, Building Inspector
D. Brandt, Recreation Manager
C. Bacon, Administrative Assistant

MEDIA: Shaw Cable
NL Radio
Merritt Herald
Nicola Valley Voice

PUBLIC: 7 Members of the public.

2. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Baird called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

A. Agenda, Regular Council Meeting, March 14, 2000.

129/00 Moved by Councillor Reimer THAT Council adopt the Agenda, Regular Council Meeting March 14, 2000. CARRIED

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

A. Minutes, Regular Council Meeting, February 22, 2000.

130/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the Minutes, Regular Council Meeting February 22, 2000 be adopted as amended by deleting "slide presentation" and

replacing with "PowerPoint presentation" under Petitions/Delegations Section 6. C.; by deleting "sign/leader" and replacing with "sign/reader"; under New Business Section 11 A.; and by deleting "with the Flying Club" in line #9 and replacing with "at budget" under Reports Section 9 B, Councillor Sherwood.

CARRIED

B. Minutes, Special Council Meeting March 6, 2000.

131/00 Moved by Councillor Barr, THAT the Minutes, Regular Council Meeting March 6, 2000 be adopted. CARRIED

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Nil.

6. **PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS:**

A. Bonnie Cowan; Reduction in Pool Hours of Operation, February 28, 2000 Letter.

Bonnie Cowan spoke to Council on the proposed schedule change and possible reduction in hours of operation at the Nicola Valley Aquatic Centre. She outlined various ideas that Council may wish to explore as an alternative to the proposed reduction of hours.

B. Community Justice Centre; Sheila Langlois; Justice Centre Coordinator, February 4, 2000 Letter.

Cliff Thorstenson gave a brief report to Council on activities to date of the Restorative Justice Program and advised that a Grant-In-Aid application has been submitted for consideration to the 2000 budget.

C. Aaron Dinwoodie, President of the Okanagan Mainline Municipal Association; Fax dated February 24, 2000.

Aaron Dinwoodie made a presentation to Council regarding the benefits of local government participation in the Okanagan Mainline Municipal Association.

D. Middlesboro Neighbourhood Pub; Mike Mitchell, March 6, 2000 Letter.

Mike Mitchell, owner of the Middlesboro Neighbourhood Pub made a presentation to Council requesting their support for a permanent change to their liquor license to permit off premise sales.

7. BYLAWS:

A. Amendment to Section #24 Fire Limit Areas of Building Bylaw No. 1381, 1993; Building Inspector's March 14, 2000 Memorandum.

1. City of Merritt Building Amendment Bylaw No. 1766, 2000.

132/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council give FIRST READING to City of Merritt Building Amendment Bylaw No. 1766, 2000. CARRIED

133/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council give SECOND READING to City of Merritt Building Amendment Bylaw No. 1766, 2000. CARRIED

134/00 Moved by Councillor Gage THAT Council give THIRD READING to City of Merritt Building Amendment Bylaw No. 1766, 2000. CARRIED

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Bonnie Cowan; Reduction in Pool Hours of Operation, February 28, 2000 Letter.

135/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT the letter from Bonnie Cowan be forwarded to the Recreation Facilities Manager for preparation of a report to Council on Pool Hours of Operation prior to or during budget discussions; AND THAT the report consider other correspondence received from the public on Pool Hours of Operation. CARRIED

B. Community Justice Centre; Sheila Langlois, Justice Centre Coordinator, February 4, 2000 Letter.

For information only.

C. Aaron Dinwoodie, President of the Okanagan Mainline Municipal Association; Fax dated February 24, 2000.

For information only.

D. Middlesboro Neighbourhood Pub; Mike Mitchell, March 6, 2000 Letter.

The Acting Administrator read two letters that were sent to the City by fax from the Val Nicola Hotel and the Coldwater Hotel, objecting to any change to the current status of the Middlesboro Pub.

136/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood that Council endorse the Middlesboro Pub's application to the Liquor Control Board for off premise sales.
OPPOSED: Councillor Barr CARRIED

- E. Liquid Waste Management Plan (LWMP); City Engineer's March 8, 2000 Memorandum.
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Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council defer a decision on the Liquid Waste Management Plan to the next regular meeting with full Council attendance.

- 137/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT the motion be amended by adding "or special meeting within one month of March 14, 2000". CARRIED

Voting resumed on the amended motion:

- 138/00 Moved by Councillor Barr that Council defer a decision on the Liquid Waste Management Plan to the next regular or special meeting with full Council attendance within one month of March 14, 2000. CARRIED

REPORTS:

- A. **Mayor's Reports:** Nil.

- B. **Liaison and Commission/Committee Reports:**

Councillor Barr advised that on March 9th she attended the Critical Incident Stress Management Steering Committee meeting and also attended the Community Justice Centre Board Annual General Meeting. As Acting Chair of the Economic Development Committee, Councillor Barr advised that the 1999 year-end reports for the Planning Department Year-end Review 1999 and the Economic Development Committee Report 1999 are submitted with this Agenda. Councillor Barr then called on Councillor Reimer to report on the Tourism Association Meeting of March 9th.

Councillor Reimer reported that he and Councillor Kroeker attended the Tourism Association meeting. There was discussion regarding a project the association is proposing to undertake that would include contracting for a Tourism Coordinator. The association is also open to negotiating with the City to undertake operation of the Civic Centre. The formation of the Tourism Association gives the association the potential to apply to the government for matching funds.

- 139/00 Moved by Councillor Reimer THAT Council send a letter of Support in Principle to the Tourism Association supporting their grant application for government funding. CARRIED

Councillor Reimer advised that he and Councillor Kroeker attended the Forest Renewal BC Conference in Vancouver; the BC Snowmobile Federation Summit

in Logan Lake on March 25th which included discussion of the possible establishment of a long distance snowmobile touring industry in Logan Lake.

Councillor Gage advised that he attended a Community Policing Advisory Committee meeting on March 1st with Councillors Cavaliere, Sherwood and Kroeker; attended with the Fire Chief, the Thompson/Okanagan Inter-agency Committee Meeting which included discussion about wildland fires and interfacing with structural fires. Councillor Gage also met with seniors in Merritt regarding Protective Services.

Councillor Sherwood reported on Youth and Personnel. The Public Health Unit has organized a special program called, "Nobody's Perfect Parenting Course" available through the Health Centre; the Child Youth Mental Health Worker position has not been filled to date; the Ministry for Children and Families will be constructing a new building at the Rail Yard Mall site; the Youth Centre is now open every night to all youth; five youth from the Youth Centre will attend the Link and Learn Conference in Penticton. Councillor Sherwood reported that the classification of the airport and future development are presently being discussed.

Public Works crews are continuing to work on fire hydrant service; renovation on the public works yard; relocation of the building situated on the BC Gas pipeline in the public works yard has been completed; the painting is complete at the airport building; sweeping is ongoing; storm sewer outlets are all clear; sign and patching repairs are ongoing; engineering is costing out budget items; vehicle wash pit at the yard has been completed; pruning trees at Claybanks RV Park; infiltration basins have been cleaned; crews are starting to grade shoulders; pruning and clean up of downtown; Hazardous Area sign is now posted above the Claybanks.

Councillor Sherwood asked the Engineer provide Council with a verbal update on the Coldwater River Dyking Project. The Engineer advised that 15% is now complete; 75% will be complete by the end of March with the majority of the work complete by the end of April.

C. Administration Reports:

1) Requires Council Action:

- i) City Advertising; Recreation Facilities Manager's March 2, 2000 Memorandum.

140/00

Moved by Councillor Gage THAT the advertising proposal be deferred to the next regular meeting of Council. **CARRIED**

- ii) Development Permit Application 2000-A – Inn Towne Motel; Planning Department February 25, 2000 Memorandum.
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141/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Development Permit application 2000– A be approved by resolution. CARRIED

- iii) Recommendations from the Recreation Commission Re: Voght Park – SkatePark; Recreation Manager's March 7, 2000 Memorandum.
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142/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT City Council consider the recommendations from the Recreation Commission and defer the decision to the 2000 Budget discussions. CARRIED

- iv) Truck Route Issues; Truck Route Committees March 10th 2000 Memorandum.
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143/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT no changes be made to the existing truck regulations on Voght Street North and South of Nicola Avenue. CARRIED

144/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the following items be referred to the City's Engineer for further review:

- width of pavement on Houston Street (south side of Coldwater River);
- sharpness of corners on "S" curves on Houston Street;
- truck movements and parking in Gasoline Alley vicinity;
- feasibility of delayed traffic signal movements at Houston/Nicola intersection;
- review of temporary access permits for overweight trucks;
- negotiation of an access into Tolko property from Houston Street;
- winter road maintenance on Houston Street south of Coldwater River bridge;
- review of existing truck route signage. CARRIED

145/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Administration be directed to prepare a bylaw amendment to Traffic Bylaw No. 1264, 1989 that would incorporate an exemption to the truck route regulations for registered truck driving schools. CARRIED

Council directed that the draft bylaw amendment contain a clause "subject to any further weight restrictions deemed necessary by Council".

2) Receive for Information:

- i) Comparison of Pool Hours of Operation; Recreation Facilities Manager's March 6, 2000 Memorandum.
- ii) February Building Permit Activity Report; City Planner's March 6, 2000 Memorandum.
- ii) Planning Department Year-end Review 1999; City Planner's March 6, 2000 Memorandum.
- iv) Economic Development Committee Report – 1999; Development Officer's February 25, 2000 Memorandum.
- v) Coldwater River Dyking Project; City Engineer's Verbal Report to Council.

Above five items received as information only.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Potential Responses:

- i) Response to Provincial Ministry of Social Development and Economic Security (MSDES) Child Care Paper; Office of the City Clerk, City of Vancouver, letter February 28, 2000.
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Received as information only.

- ii) Community Awareness Committee; Letter February 8, 2000.
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146/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Councillor Barr be appointed as Liaison to the Community Awareness Committee. CARRIED

- iii) Invitation to Community & Downtown Revitalization Workshop; hosted by Urban Systems Ltd., March 17th, 2000.
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147/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council support attendance by one member of Council and one member of Administration to the Community and Downtown Revitalization Workshop on March 17, 2000. CARRIED

- iv) Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1767; Letter from Thompson-Nicola Regional District dated February 8, 2000.
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148/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the City of Merritt formally accept the Regional Growth Strategy Bylaw No. 1767 submitted by the Thompson-Nicola Regional District. CARRIED

- v) Support in Principle of a First Nations Youth Hockey Initiative; Mike Josephson, March 2, 2000 Letter.
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149/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council direct Staff to write a letter of support in principle of a First Nations Youth Hockey initiative to the Merritt Hockey School. CARRIED

- vi) Beverage Containers – New Charges; UBCM Environment Committee March 8, 2000 Memorandum.
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150/00 Moved by Councillor Gage THAT Council direct Staff to write a letter to Premier Ujjal Dosanjh, the Honourable Joan Sawicki, Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks and MLA Harry Lali in response to the Memorandum from UBCM indicating that Council does not support new charges on beverage containers instituted by the beverage container industry. CARRIED

- vii) March 21 – United Nation's International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination; Nicola Valley Inter-Cultural Committee, Letter March 9, 2000.
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151/00 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the City of Merritt tie multicoloured ribbons on City of Merritt vehicles in support of the March 21st International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. CARRIED

B. Receive for Information:

- i) 2000 Local Government Awareness Program; Memorandum UBCM Local Government Awareness Committee 2000.
- ii) Resolutions for 2000 Okanagan Mainline Municipal Association Annual Meeting; City of Enderby, Letter February 28, 2000.
- iii) Resolutions for 2000 OMMA Annual Meeting; District of Logan Lake, Letter March 9, 2000.
- iv) Environment Week, June 4 – 10, 2000; Letter from Minister of Environment, Lands and Parks, February 21, 2000.

Above four items received for information only.

11. NEW BUSINESS: Nil.

12. MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD:

Al Clarke from Radio NL asked questions of Council regarding the Okanagan-Mainline Municipal Officers Association conference and concerns expressed by Senior's regarding policing in our community.

13. ADJOURNMENT TO IN-CAMERA:

1. Adjournment to In-Camera Motion; March 14, 2000.

152/00 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council deems it necessary to close the meeting to the public in order to deal with the following items In-Camera:

- A) Minutes, In-Camera Portion of the Regular Council Meeting, February 22, 2000.
- B) Minutes, In-Camera Portion of the Special Council Meeting, March 6, 2000.
- C) Land Issues.
- D) Employee Negotiations: 2 items.

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

CARRIED

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:46 p.m.

MEETING RESUMED IN-CAMERA: 10:10 p.m.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 10:45 p.m. to resume in the Boardroom of City Hall on March 15, 2000 at 8:00 p.m.

MEETING RESUMED IN-CAMERA: 8:20 p.m. March 15, 2000

14. TERMINATION OF MEETING:

MEETING TERMINATED AT 11:25 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY MARCH 15, 2000.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



R.H. Baird, MAYOR



J.E. Barry, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR