

CITY OF MERRITT

AGENDA FOR THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT
COUNCIL, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2000, AT 7:00 P.M., CITY HALL COUNCIL
CHAMBERS, 2185 VOGHT STREET, MERRITT, B.C.

AGENDA

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1. PRESENT:
2. CALL TO ORDER:
3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:
 - A. Agenda, Committee of the Whole Meeting, December 5, 2000.
4. REPORTS:
 - A. Budget Discussions.
5. ADJOURNMENT:

cow Dec 5/2000

**Notes for Committee of the Whole Meeting (Budget 2001)
scheduled for Tuesday, December 5th, 2000**

- Harry Osachoff – overview of layout of Budget {how it has been put together in the binder and where/how expenditure/revenue accounts are grouped, where reserve account balances are, capital program page(s)}
- Review 2000 Capital Program – what projects were completed, what projects were remaining and which are to be carried over to 2001 – i.e., Merritt Ave. Storm Sewer (refer to Nov. 29th/00 memo from Brian Hobbs circulated); priority projects from “Council’s viewpoint”.

Note: Brian Hobbs, USL will be present.

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Dec 5/2000

November 29, 2000

City File: 5700.06
USL File: 7052141.1

Mayor Baird and Council
City of Merritt

Attention: J. Bridarolli, Administrator

RE: MERRITT AVENUE STORM SEWER

1. INTRODUCTION

The following report is based on a review of available information in City files, USL files and discussions with various City staff, the Contractor and others.

2. BACKGROUND

On October 24, 2000, five contractors responded to an invitational tender for the above project. The tender was for construction of a storm sewer on Garcia Street, North of Merritt Avenue and along Merritt Avenue to Blair Street. Dale McTaggart, P.Eng, prepared the design.

On October 30, Council on Dale's recommendation, awarded the contract to Action Construction Ltd. of Kamloops.

3. TECHNICAL ISSUES

The project as currently designed calls for replacing the existing 200mm (8 inch) storm sewer with a larger pipe but at exactly the same grade and vertical location. A brief review of the original concept for the project indicates its main purpose was to extend storm service to several areas of poor drainage:

- McGorin Place
- Merritt Avenue, East of Blair Street

- Blair Street South to Seyom and /or the Lane North of Nicola

To permit this it is necessary to lower the storm pipe on Merritt Avenue.

4. INITIAL RECOMMENDATION

On the basis of the above it is recommended that the contract be delayed until spring of 2001.

Note: a meeting was held on November 2, 2000 involving:

- Councillor Ron Sherwood
- Jennifer Bridarolli, Administrator
- Gary Laursen, Public Works Foreman
- Brian Hobbs, P.Eng., Urban Systems

After review of the issues the above recommendation was accepted and has been communicated to the Contractor. The proposed delay is acceptable to the contractor.

5. OTHER ISSUES

There are a number of other issues/questions regarding the design and the tender/contract package, which do not appear to be addressed:

- In 1997 the City undertook a study related to inflow and infiltration (I&I) into the sanitary sewer. That study indicated this area may be a source of I&I due to sump pumps and/or pipe defects.
- Gary Laursen indicates the sanitary sewer on Merritt Avenue has never been inspected.
- The locations/elevations of sanitary sewer services have not been identified which is desirable in any case and necessary to lower the storm sewer.
- Only partial provisions were included in the contract to replace some water services. Gary Laursen indicates that all of the water services in this area are galvanized iron and likely in poor condition. They should therefore likely all be replaced.

Mayor Baird and Council

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- The proposed design calls for installation of a new 450mm (18 in.) storm main on Garcia ending in an existing 250mm (10 in.) main adjacent to Taylor Place, with no upgrading from this point to the outfall. It is not clear why the upgrading has been ended at this point or if it may lead to flooding of Garcia at this location.
- A number of usual contractual requirements do not appear to be included:
 - performance bonds/maintenance provisions;
 - labour and materials payment bonds;
 - insurance requirements appear low; and
 - nothing is included requiring the contractor to certify that labourers, suppliers, etc., have been paid.

These are all items requested by the City of Merritt on previous USL administered contracts.

- There are no technical specifications. The Subdivision and Development Servicing Bylaw 1187 which is referenced is very dated (1987) and does not address two of the three pipe types specified. (These pipe types were developed after 1987).
- There is significant contractual uncertainty as to Contractor/City responsibilities for:
 - additional asphalt cutting;
 - asphalt removal and disposal;
 - reinstatement requirements prior to winter;
 - removal and disposal of existing storm pipe; and
 - public notification during watermain repairs.
- There appears to be ambiguity as to process/costs for activities undertaken by City crews and staff, or other owner's responsibilities:
 - materials testing; and
 - collection of as-built data.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are recommended in order to facilitate construction in the spring.

- City request design calculations from Dale McTaggart regarding pipe sizing and effect of proposed termination on Garcia Street at Taylor Place.
- City crews locate and survey sanitary sewer services in areas of likely conflict.
- City crews locate representative water services to confirm material and condition.
- Undertake camera inspection of sanitary sewer mainline, to identify condition and location of defects.
- Undertake inspection of houses with potential sump pumps to determine need vs. cost for individual household storm sewer services.
- Undertake a complete field survey, and prepare revised design drawings, contract documents and technical specifications for construction of all works (storm, sanitary services, water services, curb and gutter, sidewalk, roadworks etc.) which are required.
- Prepare a revised budget for completion of the project (utilizing 2000 and 2001 monies) for construction in the spring of 2001.


7. CONCLUSIONS

Subsequent to the decision to delay the project the following steps have been taken in preparation for construction in 2001:

- City sewer flushing program was changed to include the sanitary sewer line on Merritt Avenue, in preparation for video camera inspection (Cleaning completed November 24).
- The video camera inspection program, planned for January 2001 will be modified to include Merritt Avenue.

Yours truly,

URBAN SYSTEMS LTD.



B.H. Hobbs, P.Eng.