

CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT
COUNCIL, TUESDAY MARCH 26, 2002, AT 7:00 P.M., CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
2185 VOGHT STREET, MERRITT, B.C.

1. **PRESENT:**

COUNCIL: Councillors L. Barr, G. Cavaliere, R. Gage, H. Kroeker,
E. Reimer, R. Sherwood

ABSENT: Mayor Baird

STAFF: J. Bridarolli, Administrator
J.E. Barry, Corporate Services Manager
D. Lang, Leisure Services Manager
H. Osachoff, Financial Services Manager
P. Strain, Operations Manager
C. Fraser, Corporate Administrative Assistant

MEDIA: Radio NL
Shaw Cable
Nicola Valley Voice

PUBLIC: 2 members of the public

2. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Acting Mayor Cavaliere called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

A. Agenda, Regular Council Meeting, March 26, 2002.

122/02 Moved by Councillor Reimer THAT the Agenda, Regular Council Meeting, March 26, 2002 be adopted as amended by adding Item 9 C 1 vii) Award for Replacement and Installation of Compressor Motor at the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena; Leisure Services Manager's March 22, 2002 Memorandum; Item 9 C 1 viii) Development Permit 2002-B Shell Gas Bar and Convenience Store – 3603 Voght Street; Administrator's March 22, 2002 Memorandum; Item 9 C 1 ix) Award for Replacement and Installation of Brine Pump Motor at the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena; Leisure Services Manager's March 26, 2002 Memorandum and Item 10 A iv) Advertising at the Coquihalla Visitor Information Centre; Julie Charbonneau, Pro *Motions* Consulting letter dated March 18, 2002 and with additional information for items 10 A ii) Partnership Proposal by Community Futures Development Corporation of the Nicola Valley; Councillor Kroeker's March 20, 2002 Memorandum and 10 A iii) Expression of Interest in Operating Coquihalla Information Centre;

MINUTES, CITY OF MERRITT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, MARCH 26, 2002

Margaret McCormick, Director, Visitor Services & Sales, Tourism British Columbia correspondence dated March 21, 2002; and Peter Walters, Acting Regional Manager, Land and Water British Columbia Inc. correspondence dated March 22, 2002. CARRIED

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

A. Minutes, Regular Council Meeting, March 12, 2002.

123/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT the Minutes, Regular Council Meeting, March 12, 2002 be adopted by changing "Dylan Thorstenstein to Dylan Thorstenson" in motion #110/02. CARRIED

B. Minutes, Committee of the Whole Meeting, March 19, 2002.

124/02 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the Minutes, Committee of the Whole Meeting, March 19, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS: Nil

6. PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS: Nil

7. BYLAWS:

A) City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw 1814, 2002.

125/02 Moved by Councillor Gage THAT the City of Merritt Official Community Plan Amendment Bylaw No. 1814, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

B) City of Merritt Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 1815, 2002.

126/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT the City of Merritt Zoning Bylaw Amendment Bylaw No. 1815, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Nil

9. REPORTS:

A. Mayor's Report:

Acting Mayor Cavaliere reported that Mayor Baird was in Victoria this week. On March 25, Mayor Baird met with 4 MLA's to express our concerns with the Interior Health Authority as well as the Attorney General to discuss our Court House and Legal Aid.

Acting Mayor Cavaliere reported the deadline for Ice Users Request was March 15, 2002 and the Ice Users Meeting will be May 09, 2002; the Public Meeting for User Groups for the Bylaws Governing the Civic Centre will be April 11, 2002; the Public Meeting for the General Public for the Bylaws Governing the Civic Centre will be April 18, 2002; Easter Egg Hunt will be March 30, 2002 in Rotary Park; Recreation Commission Meeting will be April 08, 2002 and Youth Park Committee Meeting will be April 22, 2002.

B. Liaison and Commission/Committee Reports:

Councillor Barr reported on the Access Awareness Committee Meeting held March 14, 2002.

- 127/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT staff be directed to write a letter from City Council to Canada Post thanking them for the renovations that have been completed; AND THAT a request be made to have the hand rail be completed all the way down the steps. CARRIED

Councillor Barr reported the next Access Awareness Committee Meeting is May 09, 2002; thanked the organizers of the Erase Racism Forum, of which she was a panel member and summarized the Forum "through education and communication we can find understanding".

Councillor Barr along with Councillor Cavaliere participated in the Anti-Racism Walk held March 21 and thanked the organizers of that event.

Councillor Barr reported on the Communities in Bloom Meeting held March 25, 2002.

- 128/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT the Communities in Bloom Committee be given permission by Council to use 4 parking spaces in the parking lot adjacent to the Baillie House for the plant exchange being held May 25, 2002 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.. CARRIED

- 129/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT City Council refer \$1500.00 for hanging planters and watering system at City Hall to the budget process. CARRIED

Councillor Kroeker attended a seminar for Community Economic Development.

Councillor Gage met with the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief March 26, 2002; reported on the Wildland Interurban Interface Symposium and the Merritt Youth Ambassadors Coronation he attended.

- 130/02 Moved By Councillor Gage THAT Council invite the new Ambassadors to a Council Meeting to congratulate the new Ambassadors. CARRIED

Councillor Gage reported on the special recognition luncheon held for retiring RCMP Staff Sergeant Jim Senft and advised he will be attending a Directors Meeting with the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber of Commerce has conducted a survey regarding the parking time limit in the downtown core and of the 58 businesses responding, 33 favor a 2 hour parking limit, 23 favor a 1 hour parking limit and 2 favor no parking limit.

Councillor Reimer had no report.

Councillor Sherwood reported on the many ongoing projects of the Public Works Department; the Nights Alive Meeting held March 26, 2002 and the Merritt Youth Ambassadors Coronation he attended along with Mayor Baird on March 23, 2002.

C. Administration Reports:

1) Requires Council Action:

- i) Charter/Burgess Improvement; Administrator's March 14, 2002 Memorandum.

131/02

Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council, at this time, does not support improvements to Charters Street and/or Burgess Avenue; AND THAT John Collett be advised building permits will not be denied simply because Charters and Burgess are not paved. CARRIED

132/02

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council rescind Resolution #807/98, Regular Council Meeting, December 22, 1998. CARRIED

133/02

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council deal with building permits on an individual basis as they come in until such time as Council can meet with the residents regarding improvements to Burgess Avenue, Charters Street and Blackwell Street. CARRIED

- ii) Fuel and Gasoline Tender Award; Operations Manager's March 15, 2002 Memorandum.

134/02

Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council award the Fuel and Gasoline Contract to Shell Canada Products Limited for a three-year term with an additional two-year option to renew. CARRIED

- iii) Recommendations from the Regular Recreation Commission Meeting held on March 04, 2002; Leisure Services Manager's March 15, 2002 Memorandum.

135/02 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Staff be instructed to report back to Council on the costs of a laminated floating floor and a floating wooden floor to be installed in Rooms 2 and 3 of the Civic Centre; AND THAT staff proceed with a request for proposal. CARRIED

136/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT the City provide the use of the band shell free of charge to the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee for the purpose of coordinating community entertainment which will be offered free of charge to the public at no cost to the City. CARRIED

137/02 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Claybanks RV Park be allowed to use the City owned parking lot across from the Claybanks RV Park for an overflow "dry camping area" for special events and ball tournaments. CARRIED

- iv) Hate Free Community Policy; Corporate Services Manager's March 19, 2002 Memorandum.

138/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council adopt the Discrimination and Harassment Policy as attached to the Corporate Services Manager's March 19, 2002 Memorandum. CARRIED

- v) Airport Road Improvements; Administrator's March 20, 2002 Memorandum.

139/02 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council proportion the estimated total cost, which should be borne by the parcels of land that abut the Airport Road Improvement works or, can be served by the works, at 20% with the specific conditions THAT; construction of the road improvements would not proceed unless construction on the individual sites was well underway, not just at the building permit issuance stage; AND THAT the road must be constructed with a 1.5 metre shoulder which means the variance to 0.5 metre which was previously approved should be rescinded; AND FURTHER THAT construction of a proposed right in/out only lane to Lot 1 would be 100% responsibility of the property owner/developer. CARRIED

MINUTES, CITY OF MERRITT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, MARCH 26, 2002

- vi) Facility Management Agreement – Civic Centre; Administrator’s March 26, 2002 Memorandum.
- 140/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council approves the Facility Management Agreement between the City and Nicola Valley Tourism Association as presented; AND THAT the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to sign on behalf of the City of Merritt; AND FURTHER THAT the effective date be May 01, 2002. CARRIED
- vii) Award for Replacement and Installation of Compressor Motor at the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena; Leisure Services Manager’s March 22, 2002 Memorandum.
- 141/02 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council affirms the emergency expenditure of \$3,800.00 plus GST and Freight Charges to Norlock Refrigeration for the replacement and installation of the No. 2 Compressor Motor for the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena; AND THAT the expenditure be included in the 2002 Capital Program. CARRIED
- viii) Development Permit 2002-B Shell Gas Bar and Convenience Store – 3603 Voght Street; Administrator’s March 22, 2002 Memorandum.
- 142/02 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT City of Merritt Development Permit Application 2002-B is approved. CARRIED
- ix) Award for Replacement and Installation of Brine Pump Motor at the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena; Leisure Services Manager’s March 26, 2002 Memorandum.
- 143/02 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Council affirms the emergency expenditure of \$1,561.00 plus GST to Norlock Refrigeration for the replacement and installation of the Brine Pump Motor for the Nicola Valley Memorial Arena; AND THAT the expenditure be included in the 2002 Capital Program. CARRIED
- 2) **Receive for Information:**
- i) February 2002 Activity Report; Bylaw Services Officer’s March 20, 2002 Report

The above item was received as information only.

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Potential Responses:

- i) Ratification of the Kyoto Protocol: what's the hot air all about?; Jack Layton, President, Federation of Canadian Municipalities letter dated March 18, 2002.

144/02

Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council request staff to make arrangements for a Council Presentation from Federation of Canadian Municipalities on Ratification of the Kyoto Protocol. CARRIED

- ii) Partnership Proposal; George Mathieu, Chairperson, Community Futures Development Centre's proposal dated March 21, 2002.

145/02

Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Council approves the partnership proposal by Community Futures Development Corporation of the Nicola Valley for provision of economic development and related services to the City in the amount of \$55,625/year under a 2 year service agreement; AND THAT a Special Council Meeting be scheduled for April 02, 2002 at 6:45 p.m. for Council's consideration of the Service Agreement. CARRIED

- iii) Expression of Interest in Operating Coquihalla Information Centre; George Mathieu, Chairperson, Community Futures Development Corporation of Nicola Valley's letter of March 20, 2002.

146/02

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Staff be directed to respond to Community Futures Development Corporation, that due to uncertainty of our lease situation on the land at the Visitor Information Centre, at the present time we are unable to make any commitments as we do not have a long term lease at this time. CARRIED

147/02

Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Expression of Interest in Operating Coquihalla Information Centre; George Mathieu, Chairperson, Community Futures Development Corporation of Nicola Valley's letter of March 20, 2002 be added to the Agenda, Committee of the Whole Meeting, April 02, 2002. CARRIED

- iv) Advertising at the Coquihalla Information Centre; Julie Charbonneau, Pro *Motions* Consulting letter dated March 18, 2002.

148/02

Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT Advertising at the Coquihalla Information Centre, Julie Charbonneau, Pro *Motions* Consulting letter dated March 18, 2002 be added to the Agenda, Committee of the Whole Meeting, April 02, 2002.
CARRIED

B. Receive for Information:

- i) Unconditional Grant Funding 2002/03; George Abbott, Minister, Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services', letter of March 11, 2002.
- ii) 2002 Local Government Grants; Lori Wanamaker, Assistant Deputy Minister Corporate Services', letter of March 11, 2002.
- iii) Interim Report of the Task Force on BC Energy Policy, Lenora M. Harwood, Mayor, District of Hudson Hope's letter of March 07, 2002.
- iv) Highland Valley Copper – Basal Aquifer Dewatering Project; Mark R. Freberg, Superintendent, Environmental Services' letter of March 06, 2002.
- v) Softwood Lumber Trade; The Honourable Pierre S. Pettigrew, Minister for International Trade's letter dated March 04, 2002.
- vi) Town Hall Meeting; Joe Davies, President, Industrial, Wood and Allied Workers of Canada letter dated March 13, 2002.

The above six items were received as information only.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

Councillor Gage discussed a letter received from Martin McMahon, Interior Health Authority, indicating that elected officials should contact him prior to any contact with the media.

149/02

Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT staff be directed to write a letter to Martin McMahon, Interior Health Authority, indicating the onus lies with the Interior Health Authority to keep elected officials informed of activities through regular quarterly reports; AND THAT elected officials should not have to request updates.
CARRIED

Councillor Sherwood referred to a letter received from the Bread Basket and inquired when was the deadline for submitting Grant-In-Aid requests. The Financial Services Manager advised that the deadline is in early November.

MINUTES, CITY OF MERRITT REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING, MARCH 26, 2002

12. **MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD:** Nil

13. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Adjournment to In-Camera:

150/02 Moved by Councillor Barr 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, March 12, 2002;
- B) Disposition of land that disclosure might reasonable be expected to harm the interests of the City (1 item); and
- C) Employee Negotiations (2 items)

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

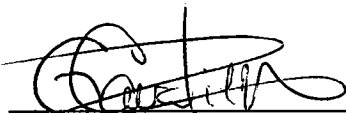
MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 9:24 p.m.

(In-Camera Portion of Minutes kept separately)

14. **TERMINATION OF MEETING:**

MEETING TERMINATED AT 10:31 p.m.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



G. Cavaliere, ACTING MAYOR



J.E. Barry, CORPORATE SERVICES MANAGER