

CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT  
COUNCIL, TUESDAY MAY 14, 2002, AT 7:00 P.M., CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS,  
2185 VOGHT STREET, MERRITT, B.C.

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1. **PRESENT:**

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

STAFF: J. Bridarolli, Administrator  
J.E. Barry, Corporate Services Manager  
H. Osachoff, Treasurer  
D. Lang, Leisure Services Manager

MEDIA: Shaw Cable  
Radio NL

PUBLIC: 2 members of the public

2. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Baird called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

A. Agenda, Regular Council Meeting, May 14, 2002.

243/02 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT the Agenda, Regular Council Meeting, May 14, 2002 be adopted as amended by inserting a revised page 64. CARRIED

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

A. Minutes, Regular Council Meeting, April 23, 2002.

244/02 Moved by Councillor Reimer THAT the Minutes, Regular Council Meeting, April 23, 2002 be adopted as amended by replacing "second reading" with "third reading" in motion #210/02. CARRIED

Business Arising:

Councillor Barr discussed the requirement for Council to appoint one member of Council to the Community Heritage Commission now that City of Community Heritage Commission Establishment Bylaw No. 1816, 2002 has been adopted.

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245/02 Moved by Councillor Gage THAT Councillor Barr be appointed to the Community Heritage Commission. CARRIED

B. Minutes, Special Council Meeting, April 26, 2002.

246/02 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the Minutes, Special Council Meeting, April 26, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

C. Minutes, Special Council Meeting, May 07, 2002.

247/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT the Minutes, Special Council Meeting, May 07, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

D. Minutes, Committee of the Whole Meeting, May 07, 2002.

248/02 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT the Minutes, Committee of the Whole Meeting, May 07, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Nil

6. **PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS:** Nil

7. **BYLAWS:**

A) City of Merritt Heyes Road Closure Bylaw No. 1808, 2002.

249/02 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT City of Merritt Heyes Road Closure Bylaw No. 1808, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

B) City of Merritt Reconstruction of Merritt Avenue Bylaw No. 1820, 2002

250/02 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT City of Merritt Reconstruction of Merritt Avenue Bylaw No. 1820, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Nil

9. **REPORTS:**

A. **Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Baird commented on today's capture of the felon just outside the Merritt boundaries; the recent OMMA Convention held at Silver Star and the disappointment that the proposed Community Charter was not circulated at the Convention.

Mayor Baird expressed his disappointment at the lack of communication from the Transportation Minister regarding the Request For Proposals that has been issued for the purchase of the Coquihalla Highway system. He indicated that the sale of the Coquihalla would have a negative effect on Merritt and that he was appealing to our MLA to fight this issue in Victoria.

Mayor Baird proclaimed May 19<sup>th</sup> to May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2002 as B.C.'s Children's Hospital Week.

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

Councillor Barr commented on the Communities In Bloom meeting she attended May 13, the upcoming plant exchange on May 25, and announced the next meeting is on June 10. Councillor Barr also reported on the May 9 Access Awareness Committee Meeting and passed on thanks from the Committee to the City for the recent parking survey and the increase in number of handicapped parking spaces. She concluded by announcing that following a summer hiatus, the next Access Awareness Committee meeting will be September 12.

Councillor Cavaliere reported on the Ice Users meeting on May 9 and the Family Fun Day on May 11; thanked Bloom's Nurseryland for their donations to the event and announced that the next Family Fun Day is on June 15. He also stated that the main pool at the Aquatic Centre was closed for two days due to a mechanical breakdown; the leisure pool will be closed for a few days; and the next Youth Park meeting is on May 16.

Councillor Kroeker advised that the Nicola Valley Tourism Association has moved into the Civic Centre and that an additional staff person has been hired; the P3 forum last week attracted 52 people; and there will soon be a Coquihalla Task Force meeting with the Ministry of Transportation to review the four-laning plans for Highway 97C. He also reported that heavy equipment for construction of the Wagon West Travel Plaza has been moved onto the site.

Councillor Gage commented that the RCMP process for appointing a new Commander for the Detachment is underway; the Merritt & District Chamber of Commerce and the Nicola Valley Arts Council are pleased to be settled in at City Hall; the Chamber's grand opening will be held on May 29 at 6 p.m.; and he will be attending a Chamber Directors meeting on May 23. Councillor Gage also advised that the tender for the new fire rescue vehicle has been issued; the RCMP have laid charges in relation to the recent grass fires; and congratulated the organizers of the Family Fun Day.

Councillor Reimer advised the City's Adopt-A-Road clean up has been rescheduled to May 21 at 6 p.m.; that he attended the recent Economic Development Conference; he heard that the Ducks Unlimited Conference was a success; and that the new Northeast Entrance sign should be in place next week.

Councillor Sherwood commented on various public works activities including the completion of sidewalk and dyke inspections; the planting of trees downtown and in Collettsville Park; announced the construction of Merritt Avenue will begin any day; and reported on his attendance at a co-generation meeting earlier today.

**C. Administration Reports:**

**1) Requires Council Action:**

- i) Property Assessment Appeal Board Decisions – 2000 2001; Financial Services Manager's April 22, 2002 Memorandum.

251/02

Moved by Councillor Kroeker WHEREAS the City is required to pay back to Aspen Planers Ltd. the monies owed as result of property assessment appeals authorized by the Property Assessment Appeal Board; AND WHEREAS the City's Five Year Financial Plan does not provide for this tax repayment adjustment in the year 2002; THEREFORE staff be authorized to charge the repayment of the municipal portion of these prior year tax adjustments against "Accumulated Surplus" of the City. CARRIED

- ii) Draft Policy and Procedure - Internal Complaint Process; Administrator's May 07, 2002 Memorandum.

252/02

Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council adopts the Internal Complaint Process Policy; AND THAT Council supports implementation of the Internal Complaint Process Procedure. CARRIED

- iii) 2001 Report of Council Remuneration and Expenses; Financial Services Manager's May 07, 2002 Memorandum.

253/02

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT City Council receives the 2001 Report of Council Remuneration and Expenses. CARRIED

- iv) Special Occasion Liquor License Applications: Beer Gardens; Leisure Services Manager's May 08, 2002 Memorandum.

254/02

Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT Council approves the following special occasion liquor license applications for a beer garden:

1. Men's Slo-Pitch on May 26 & 27, 2002 to be held in Central Park;
2. Ministry of Forests on June 1 & 2, 2002 to be held in Central Park;
3. Merritt Heat Ball Club on June 8 & 9, 2002 to be held in Central Park;
4. Merritt Men's Slo-Pitch on June 15 & 16, 2002 to be held in Central Park;
5. Merritt Men's Slo-Pitch on July 13 & 14, 2002 to be held in Central Park;
6. Merritt Mixed Slo-Pitch on July 27 & 28, 2002 to be held in Central Park;
7. Grasslands Mixed Slo-Pitch on August 17, & 18, 2002 to be held in Central Park;
8. Durango's Ladies Fastball on August 24 & 25, 2002 to be held in Central Park; and,
9. Nicola Valley Rodeo Association on August 31, & Sept. 1, 2002 to be held in NV Rodeo Grounds. CARRIED

- v) Selection of Design Consultant: "Merritt Youth Park Facility Design"; Leisure Services Manager's May 06, 2002 Memorandum.

255/02

Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT the City of Merritt proceed with acquiring quotes for the provision of a topographical and geotechnical survey for the proposed Youth Park development in Central Park and award the contract in accordance with the purchasing policy; AND THAT, subject to the suitability of the geotechnical site survey, van der Zalm & Associates Inc. be selected to complete the design phase only of the Youth Park Facility as outlined in the City of Merritt's Request for Proposals for a total of \$10,530.00 inclusive of GST. CARRIED

- vi) Disposition of Unit #1530 (17) 1982 International Dump Truck; Operations Manager's May 08, 2002 Memorandum.

256/02

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Unit #1530(17), a 1982 International Dump Truck Serial Number HTAA1951DCA10899, be placed for sale on consignment until August 31, 2002 through I.R.L. Trucking Centre Ltd. Kamloops, with upset price of \$2,000.00 and that cleanup costs not exceed \$200.00.  
CARRIED

- vii) Development Variance Permit 2002-01 – 2064 Clapperton Avenue; Administrator's May 07, 2002 Memorandum.

257/02

Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT Development Variance Permit application DVP2002-01 is approved by resolution.  
CARRIED

2) **Receive for Information:**

- i) First Quarter Policing Report Merritt Municipal Detachment 2002; Sgt. A.H. Clark, Detachment Commander's April 29, 2002 Memorandum.

Council questioned a discrepancy in the report between the text and graphical components regarding crimes against persons. Council agreed by consensus to invite Sgt. Clark to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

A. **Potential Responses:**

- i) Bid on Dodge Truck; Ken Isitt, letter dated April 26, 2002.

The Financial Services Manager stated that the Dodge Truck should be sold at the same time as other surplus items through a public disposal of assets.

258/02

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT Staff respond to Ken Isitt that the City will be proceeding with a public disposal of assets sometime within the next 4 to 6 weeks; AND THAT the City is looking forward to him bidding on the Dodge truck at that time.

CARRIED

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- ii) Letter of Support for the Creation of a Provincial Encroachment In-growth Strategy; Ken Balaski, Chair, Range Review Group letter dated April 08, 2002.

259/02

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT staff send a letter to the Range Review Group requesting more information through a meeting with Council. CARRIED

- iii) Mountain Pine Beetle; Muriel Dodge, Chair and Wade Fisher, Vice-Chair, Denim Pine Marketing Association letter dated April 28, 2002.

260/02

Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council send a letter of support to the Denim Pine Marketing Association in their efforts to educate the public and manufacturers as to the beauty and usability of blue-stained wood. CARRIED

- iv) Amendment to Sign Bylaw No. 1763; Nicole M. Pattie, Owner/Manager, Merritt A&W letter dated May 03, 2002.

261/02

Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT staff be instructed to draft an amendment to the sign bylaw to allow for roof-top balloon signs; AND THAT the bylaw amendment be brought forward to the next Council meeting. CARRIED

**B. Receive for Information:**

- i) UBCM Convention October 2002; Gayle Wildfong, Pemberton Bed & Breakfast Association letter dated April 16, 2002.
- ii) Final Report of the Drinking Water Review Panel; Honourable Joyce Murray, Minister Water, Land and Air Protection letter dated May 02, 2002.
- iii) Review of Civil Liability; Mayor Helen Sparks, Co-Chair letter dated May 06, 2002.
- iv) Third Annual Hot Spot Tooney Toss; Chris O'Connor, Mayor, The Corporation of the Village of Lytton letter dated May 02, 2002.
- v) Emergency Operations Centre Level 200; Alan Sanders, Merritt Emergency Coordinator's May 06, 2002 Memorandum.

The above four items were received as information only.

11. **NEW BUSINESS:** Nil

12. **MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD:** Nil

**13. ADJOURNMENT:**

Adjournment to In-Camera:

- 262/02      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, April 23, 2002;
  - B)      Minutes, In-Camera Portion of the Special Council Meeting, May 07, 2002;
  - C)      Litigation or Potential Litigation affecting the municipality (2 items);
  - D)      Employee Negotiations (1 item);

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

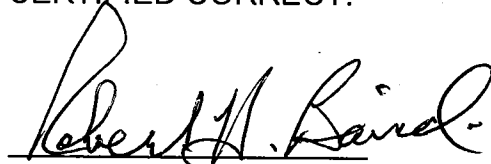
MEETING ADJOURNED AT:      8:31 P.M.

(In-Camera Portion of Minutes kept separately)

**14. TERMINATION OF MEETING:**

MEETING TERMINATED AT:      10:08 P.M.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

  
Robert H. Baird, MAYOR

  
J.E. Barry, CORPORATE  
SERVICES MANAGER