

CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES FOR THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT  
COUNCIL, TUESDAY JUNE 18, 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, H. Kroeker,  
E. Reimer, R. Sherwood,

ABSENT: Councillor R. Gage

STAFF: J. Bridarolli, Administrator  
P. Strain, Operations Manager  
C. Fraser, Corporate Administrative Assistant

MEDIA: Merritt News  
Nicola Valley Voice

PUBLIC: 6 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, Committee of the Whole Meeting, June 18, 2002.

Moved by Councillor Reimer THAT the Agenda, Committee of the Whole Meeting, June 18, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

4. **REPORTS:**

A. Local Policing Issues; Sgt. A.H. Clarke letter dated June 10, 2002.

Sgt. Al Clark and Cpl. Craig O'Neil, Merritt Detachment, RMCP presented to Council some of the changes taking place at the local detachment.

- The closing date for the new Staff Sgt position is June 27.
- Highway patrol is amalgamating with and moving to Kamloops as part of the Provincial Highways unit. This will have an effect on our force as Merritt will be a lower priority. The Provincial Highways unit will target problem areas with the unit service area including Chase, Kamloops, Sorrento, Clearwater, Ashcroft, Spences Bridge, Merritt to the Toll Booth.

**MINUTES, CITY OF MERRITT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING,  
JUNE 18, 2002**

- With Cpl. Neary moving to Prince George in September the membership may not have a DARE facilitator for next year.
- 2 transfers are pending
- 3 members will be attending the G-8 summit

Discussions were had regarding the high crime rate in Merritt as well as crimes against persons; the social issues of our community; high rates of alcoholism and drug use and abuse; member case burdens; accurate data reporting system; bike patrol in the downtown core; 911 services; continuing with community programs rather than responding and enforcement; the impact of reduced victim services and resources; and the possibility of more lenient sentences with Court proceedings done outside our community.

Council expressed appreciation for the services provided by our police members.

Mayor Baird thanked Sgt. Clark and Cpl. O'Neil for their attendance and appreciated the interaction between the RCMP and Council.

The Committee agreed by consensus at 7:43 p.m. to recess for 5 minutes.

Mayor Baird called the meeting back to order at 8:07 p.m.

- B. Liquid Waste Management Plan – 2002 Activities; Brian Hobbs, P.Eng., Urban Systems correspondence dated March 25, 2002.

Brian Hobbs, Chris Town and Dr. Joanne Harkness of Urban Systems made a presentation to Council.

Chris Town reviewed the tasks completed in 2001

- assemble the Public Advisory Committee (PAC) and the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
- prepare and distribute background report
- meet with Public Advisory Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee
- prepare, distribute, and compile public responses
- prepare and host two Public Open Houses
- prepare detailed list of potential treatment and disposal options

**MINUTES, CITY OF MERRITT COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING,  
JUNE 18, 2002**

Mr. Town also discussed the 2002 program

- hydrogeological investigation of existing Rapid Infiltration site
- environmental impact study
- define practical options
- prepare draft stage 1 report and submit to Committee members
- review draft
- finalize Stage 1 report
- submit to Water, Land and Air Protection for approval
- commence Stage 2

Dr. Joanne Harkness summarized the Historical Information

- literature review
- data review
- preliminary conclusions
- relevance to today

Dr. Harkness also summarized the Meeting with Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection key discussion points

- upgrade option – maintain status quo
- City's effluent discharge parameters
- year round direct river discharge was discouraged
- frequency of historical direct river discharge

The next steps to consider

- Development of Terms of Reference for the completion of the Environmental Impact Study
- need for future monitoring


Brian Hobbs advised of the recent changes in the Ministry; the overall direction towards a more regulatory approach; lack of manpower and resources; infiltration and inflow; and the preparation of a report for the Ministry as the last report is dated 1997.

**5. ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Councillor Cavaliere at 9:22 p.m. THAT the meeting be terminated.

CARRIED

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

  
R.H. Baird, MAYOR

  
C. Fraser, CORPORATE  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT