

CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF MERRITT
COUNCIL, TUESDAY AUGUST 27, 2002, 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, G. Cavaliere, R. Gage, H. Kroeker,
E. Reimer, R. Sherwood

STAFF: J. Bridarolli, Administrator
J.E. Barry, Corporate Services Manager
H. Osachoff, Financial Services Manager
C. Fraser, Corporate Administrative Assistant

MEDIA: NL Radio
Merritt Herald
Shaw Cable
Nicola Valley Voice

PUBLIC: 7

2. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Baird called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA:**

A. Agenda, Regular Council Meeting, August 27, 2002.

441/02 Moved by Councillor Reimer THAT the Agenda, Regular Council Meeting,
August 27, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

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

A. Minutes, Regular Council Meeting, August 13, 2002.

442/02 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the Minutes, Regular Council
Meeting, August 13, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** Nil

6. PETITIONS/DELEGATIONS:

A. Nicola Valley Community Coalition.

L.B. Wotton, a representative for the Nicola Valley Community Coalition introduced to Council the reasons for the initiation of the Nicola Valley Community Coalition, its purpose, and expressed that it is a non-partisan organization.

The Nicola Valley Community Coalition expressed it is pleased to see Council has taken a position on the Coquihalla Highway; presented the views of the coalition of the proposed sale of the Coquihalla Highway and the situation regarding continued tolls and advised that the Coalition will be at the Toll Plaza on August 30, 2002 with a petition for travellers to sign if they wish.

Mr. Wotton expressed it is the intent of the Nicola Valley Community Coalition to act as a facilitator to reduce violence, drug problems, and address issues of the young people of the community.

Mr. Wotton also advised that an organizational meeting of the Nicola Valley Community Coalition will be held on September 11, 2002.

B. Matt Williams; Nicola Valley Pro Rodeo.

Matt Williams, President, Nicola Valley Pro Rodeo expressed his appreciation to the Administrator and the Mayor for the support of the City for the rodeo.

Mr. Williams spoke of the many volunteers and community organizations involved with the rodeo and invited everyone to support and enjoy the parade, pancake breakfast, street mall, Fall Fair and the rodeo.

7. BYLAWS:

A. City of Merritt Traffic Amendment Bylaw No. 1811, 2002.

443/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT City of Merritt Traffic Amendment Bylaw No. 1811, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

B. City of Merritt Highway Encroachment (Coquihalla Motor Inn) Bylaw No. 1822, 2002.

444/02 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT City of Merritt Highway Encroachment (Coquihalla Motor Inn) Bylaw No. 1822, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

C. City of Merritt Records Retention Bylaw No. 1828, 2002.

445/02 Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT City of Merritt Records Retention Bylaw No. 1828, 2002 be adopted. CARRIED

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Nicola Valley Community Coalition.

Councillor Kroeker thanked the Nicola Valley Community Coalition for working alongside of Council and being sensitive to the fact that having opposing voices in the community does not have any strength.

B. Matt Williams; Nicola Valley Pro Rodeo.

Mayor Baird encouraged everyone to come out and enjoy the parade, Fall Fair, Street Mall and Rodeo.

9. REPORTS:

A. Mayor's Report:

Mayor Baird reported on the meetings held with Guy Rose of the Agriculture Land Commission; Dave Chutter, MLA and Doug Kirk, local Manager of Highways.

Mayor Baird also reported on the meetings held with industry in Merritt and the pre-feasibility study for the co-generation plant.

B. Liaison and Commission/Committee Reports:

Councillor Barr reported that the Communities in Bloom evaluation went very well and thanked the Administrator, Corporate Administrative Assistant and Brent Lindquist for their assistance. The awards for the Communities in Bloom will be held in Kelowna in early October and Councillor Barr will attend.

Councillor Barr advised of some upcoming meeting dates: Access Awareness September 12; Communities in Bloom September 16 and the Inaugural meeting of the Community Heritage Commission September 18.

Councillor Cavaliere reported the Nicola Valley Aquatic Centre will be shut down September 03 to September 22 for annual maintenance; the "doggy dip" will be September 02; Youth Park Committee met August 21 and is hosting an open house September 18; the Recreation Commission has a vacancy and the Recreation Commission Sports, Recreation and Cultural Fair will be September 04 and September 05.

Councillor Cavaliere brought forward a recommendation from the Recreation Commission.

- 446/02 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT staff prepare an amendment to Bylaw No. 1631 to eliminate the voting member from the Board of School Trustees of School District No. 58 (Nicola Similkameen) and increase from 8 to 9 the number of members from the Municipality at large.
OPPOSED: Councillors Barr, Kroeker, Gage, Reimer and Sherwood
DEFEATED

- 447/02 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT direction be given to the Administrator to send a letter to the Board of School Trustees of School District No. 58 advising that the appointee from the Board of School Trustees of School District No. 58 to the Recreation Commission has not attended the last 3 meetings of the Recreation Commission; AND THAT their appointee be requested to attend the Recreation Commission meetings.
CARRIED

Councillor Cavaliere reported on the informal gathering he attended in Voght Park August 24; rodeo, parade, Fall Fair and street mall August 30 and August 31, Picnic in the Park September 02 and advised the Fall Leisure Services Guide is now available.

Councillor Kroeker reported he will have committee reports in September when the committees are back to regular meetings.

Councillor Gage reported the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors Meeting will be held August 29; the exterior of the Merritt Fire and Rescue building is being painted; and the City and the Merritt Fire and Rescue department have entered in the parade.

Councillor Sherwood left the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Councillor Sherwood returned to the meeting at 8:11 p.m.

Councillor Gage congratulated Sergeant Al Clark on his promotion to Staff Sergeant, Merritt detachment RCMP.

Councillor Reimer commented on the City Auction held August 17; signage for Nicola Valley Institute of Technology; a delay in the Aquifer Protection plan study and the water conservation contests.

Councillor Sherwood discussed the employment application process for the upcoming Election; improvement on the landscape at the Post Office; noxious weeds in the community and the many activities of the Public Works Department.

C. Administration Reports:

1) Requires Council Action:

- i) City Equipment offered for sale; Manager Financial Services August 21, 2002 Memorandum.

448/02

Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the highest bids be accepted for the mobile equipment:

- a. 1964 Dodge-Step Up Van – Angelica Pet Resort - \$760.00
- b. 1975 Chevrolet Equipment Van – Garry Laursen - \$2625.00
- c. 1980 Dodge Van – Dez Services - \$227.00; AND THAT the single bid from V. Friesen in the amount of \$125.00 for the 11 foot Monroe Angle Plow not be accepted because it has substantially more value; AND FURTHER THAT the 11 foot Monroe Angle Plow be re-advertised in trade and other publications including Civic Info. CARRIED

- ii) Nicola Native Lodge Society – 35 Unit Complex; Administrator's August 21, 2002 Memorandum.

449/02

Moved by Councillor Kroeker THAT the request from the Nicola Native Lodge Society for a reduction or elimination of development cost charges for the Society's proposed 35 unit assisted living complex be denied. CARRIED

2) Receive for Information: Nil

10. CORRESPONDENCE:

A. Potential Responses:

- i) Request to Support Emergency Resolution at 2002 UBCM Convention and Annual General Meeting; District of Wells Mayor and Council correspondence dated August 14, 2002.

450/02

Moved by Councillor Gage THAT the City of Merritt not respond to the District of Wells request for support of their resolution at this time but listen to the debate at the Union of British Columbia Municipalities' Convention.

OPPOSED: Councillor Cavaliere

CARRIED

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- ii) Rename Fairley Park; Tami Finnigan, Chairperson, Fairley Park Committee letter dated August 15, 2002.
- 451/02 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere THAT Fairley Park be renamed George Fairley Memorial Park.
OPPOSED: Councillors Barr, Gage, Reimer and Sherwood
DEFEATED
- iii) Christmas Bureau; Linda Monkman, President, Nicola Valley and District Food Bank letter dated August 14, 2002.
- 452/02 Moved by Councillor Barr THAT Council direct staff to contact Linda Monkman, President, Nicola Valley and District Food Bank for clarification of their request.
CARRIED
- iv) Alcan Power Sales; Richard W. Wozney, Mayor of Kitimat letter dated August 07, 2002.
- 453/02 Moved by Councillor Reimer THAT WHEREAS Alcan has been given exclusive and perpetual access to Valuable water resources owned by the people of British Columbia for the purpose of aluminum production;
AND WHEREAS the use of all electricity generated by this public resource, as indicated in the 1949 Industrial Development Act and the 1950 Agreement, is to be used exclusively for aluminum production and for the promotion and development of the district and of other industries in the vicinity of the works;
AND WHEREAS the Company is now positioning its business activities with the intent of power sales of electricity away from the vicinity of the works;
AND WHEREAS sale of electricity to the BC Hydro grid and for export inevitably results in less industrial activity in Kitimat, and henceforth less jobs, wealth and prosperity for Kitimat, the North and all of British Columbia;
NOW THEREFORE the City of Merritt supports the District of Kitimat's position that all electricity generated from Kemano is to be used for aluminum production in Kitimat or other industrial activity in the vicinity of the works, in accordance with the letter and intent of the 1949 Industrial Development Act and the 1950 Agreement.
CARRIED
- v) Merritt Pride Week; Carol Hicketts, Treasurer and Economic Development Co-Chair, Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce letter dated August 16, 2002.
- 454/02 Moved by Councillor Sherwood THAT the City of Merritt proclaim the week of October 21 to October 26, 2002 as Merritt Pride Week.
CARRIED

B. Receive for Information:

- i) Thank you letter; K.B. Miller, Chief Executive Officer, Land Reserve Commission letter dated August 16, 2002.
 - ii) Mosquito Control Progress Report; Curtis Fediuk, BSc., RPBio, Operations Manager, D.G. Regan and Associated letter dated August 12, 2002.
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The above two items were received as information only.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

Councillor Cavaliere commented on input he has received from the community regarding the partnering of the City and University College of the Caribou for the Leisure Services Guide with the concern that Nicola Valley Institute of Technology was not contacted to partner with the City in regards to the Leisure Services Guide. The Administrator advised that future communication can be increased.

Councillor Barr commented on the Street Mall organized by the Merritt and District Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Committee and requested participation from City Senior Staff and Council to staff the City booth August 30 and August 31.

12. MEDIA QUESTION PERIOD:

Radio NL requested clarification on the Fairley Park motion and was advised the motion was defeated and that the name of the park remains named Fairley Park.

13. ADJOURNMENT:

Adjournment to In-Camera:

455/02 Moved by Councillor Cavaliere 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, August 13, 2002;
- B) Litigation or Potential Litigation affecting the municipality; (1 item) and
- C) Disposition of Land (1 item);

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT: 9:05 P.M.

(In-Camera Portion of Minutes kept separately)

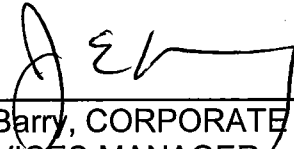
14. TERMINATION OF MEETING:

MEETING TERMINATED AT: 9:35 P.M.

CERTIFIED CORRECT:



Robert H. Baird, MAYOR



J.E. Barry, CORPORATE
SERVICES MANAGER