



# CITY OF MERRITT

## MINUTES

### REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING COUNCIL CHAMBER TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 08, 2011 AT 7:00 PM

1. PRESENT:

---

Mayor Susan Roline  
Councillor D. Baker  
Councillor N. Clarke  
Councillor M. Goetz  
Councillor A. Murdoch

**REGRETS**

Councillor H. Kroeker  
Councillor S. Sanders

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr. S. Boven, Public Works Manager  
Ms. C. Fraser, Deputy Clerk  
Mr. L. Plotnikoff, Leisure Services Manager  
Mr. D. Tomkinson, Fire Chief  
Ms. M. Worrin, Financial Services Manager

Merritt Herald  
Merritt News  
Q101.1  
Shaw Cable

12 Members of the Public

2. CALL TO ORDER

---

Mayor Roline called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

3. PUBLIC INPUT (10 Minutes)

---

Nil

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

---

ADOPTION OF  
MINUTES

017/11

- 4.1 Moved, seconded and **CARRIED**

**THAT the Minutes for the Regular Council Meeting held on Tuesday, January 25, 2011 be adopted**

5. GENERAL MATTERS - Delegations and Recognitions

---

RCMP

- 5.1 S/Sgt Scott Tod presentation to Council  
File: 7500

S/Sgt Scott Tod presented to Council the Merritt RCMP Detachment Comparative Crime Trends for the City 2009 v 2010. S/Sgt Tod provided a report comparing a number of selected offences in 2010 with that of 2009. While not exhaustive of available Offence Codes, this report identifies the more common person, property, disturbance, drug and driving offences investigated by the Merritt RCMP detachment.

Drugs and alcohol were identified as the direct root cause for the majority of the offences. The increase in persons offences is directly related to the high demand for drugs in our community. As a result of the high demand for drugs, our community has been identified as an attractive environment for Lower Mainland drug traffickers.

The decrease in break and enter offences is directly related to targeted enforcement of prolific offenders. The increase thefts, shoplifting and willful damage is directly related to the high incidence of drug and alcohol abuse in our community.

The vast majority of disturbance offences involve the abuse of alcohol. The increase in combined offences, disturbance and public intoxication is directly related to the implementation of the Downtown Crime Reduction position and increase enforcement in the downtown core. The increase in cocaine trafficking and impaired driving offences is directly related to increased enforcement in these areas. The high incidence of false alarms continues to place a strain on detachment resources.

Constable Kelly Bartch presented to Council the interconnection with the downtown crime reduction position and the general investigation unit.

**TOASTMASTERS** 5.2 Merritt Toastmasters presentation to Council; F. Lucchi, President, Merritt Toastmasters Letter  
File: 0250

Mr. Kevin Griffiths presented Council with a history of local Toastmasters and Toastmasters International

**THOMPSON RIVERS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION** 5.3 Thompson Rivers University Students' Union presentation to outline the province-wide campaign aiming to restore broad access to affordable, high-quality post-secondary education; Nathan Lane, Executive Director, Thompson Rivers University Students' Union, Local 15 Canadian Federation of Students January 04, 2011 Letter  
File: 0250

Mr. Jordan Harris and Ms. Crystal Smith presented to Council the Thompson Rivers University Student's Union campaign requesting an endorsement of the Drop Fees - Education Shouldn't be a Debt Sentence campaign.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

---

Nil

7. BYLAWS

---

Nil

8. NEW BUSINESS

---

**VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION TEA** 8.1 Notice of Motion; Councillor S. Sanders January 26, 2011 Memorandum  
018/11 File: 0330.1

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

**THAT up to one thousand (\$1,000) dollars be referred to the 2011 budget deliberations for the 2011 Volunteer Appreciation Tea to be held in April 2011 during National Volunteer Week**

**MEMORIAL/  
COMMUNITY  
ENHANCEMENT  
POLICY**

- 8.2 Community Enhancement/Memorial Recognition Policy (Revised Fees); Leisure Services Manager's January 25, 2011 Memorandum  
File: 0595

Moved, Seconded and DEFEATED

**THAT Council directs staff to amend the Memorial Recognition/Community Enhancement Program Policy by adding the installation fees of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars plus applicable taxes for the benches and three hundred (\$300.00) dollars plus applicable taxes for trees; and adjusting the fee schedule accordingly for the purchasing of the Alpha Design benches in the downtown core from sixteen hundred (\$1600.00) dollars plus applicable taxes to twenty three hundred (\$2300.00) dollars plus applicable taxes**

Voting Opposed: Councillors Baker, Goetz and Murdoch

*Council directed that staff put out a request for proposal for the design and costs of the benches and suggested that the cost of the benches be stable for either a number of years or a specific number of benches*

**AQUATIC CENTRE  
RATES**  
  
019/11

- 8.3 Nicola Valley Aquatic Centre - Family Swim Pass; Leisure Services Manager's February 01, 2011 Memorandum  
File: 3900.1858

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

**THAT Council direct staff to amend City of Merritt Aquatic Centre Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1858, 2003 to include Family Seasonal Swim Passes at the following rate schedule including applicable taxes:**

- **One (1) month pass - one hundred and forty (\$140.00) dollars**
- **Six (6) month pass - five hundred and seventy (\$570.00) dollars**
- **One (1) year pass - nine hundred (\$900.00) dollars;**

**AND THAT the definition of "family" for the purpose of the bylaw include "Up to five (5) members of an immediate family to include up to two (2) adults and three (3) children under the age of nineteen (19) years of age who are related through marriage, birth or legal status"**

Voting Opposed: Councillors Clarke and Murdoch

**SPIRIT SQUARE FACILITY**

020/11

- 8.4 Spirit Square Facility - Damage Deposit; Leisure Services Manager's January 31, 2011 Memorandum  
File: 5920.2 and 3900.2025

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

**THAT Council direct staff to amend City of Merritt Administrative Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 2025, 2008 to include all bookings for the Spirit Square facility require a two hundred and fifty (\$250.00) dollar damage deposit to be made at the time of the booking request**

**TRANSIT SYSTEM**

021/11

- 8.5 Merritt Transit System; Chief Administrative Officer's February 03, 2011 Memorandum  
File: 2240.63

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

**THAT Council gives 2011 pre budget approval in the amount of sixteen thousand three hundred and fifty (\$16,350.00) dollars to implant expansions to increase the length of service day (Monday to Friday) to include service during the lunch hour and Saturday service;**

**AND THAT the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute required documents to implement this expansion, subject to BC Transit providing its share of the funding and subject to the scheduling having the bus leave the North End on the hour**

Voting Opposed: Councillor Baker

022/11

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

**THAT Council gives approval in principle in the amount of nineteen thousand five hundred (\$19,500.00) dollars to implement an extended service day by three (3) hours per day with the last bus leaving downtown at 9:15 p.m.;**

**AND THAT the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer be authorized to execute required documents to implement this expansion, subject to BC Transit providing its share of the funding and subject to the scheduling having the bus leave the North End on the hour**

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

**THAT Council authorizes the Mayor and Chief Administrative Officer to enter into negotiations with BC Transit, the Coldwater Indian Band, and the Thompson Nicola Regional District with the objective of obtaining an agreement for the funding of transit service to the Coldwater Band and TNRD Area "N"**

*Councillor A. Murdoch desires to be a part of these negotiations and sit on the committee*

*Council also expressed that it was now up to BC Transit to show their commitment*

9. NOTICES OF MOTION

---

Nil

10. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL

---

Councillor D. Baker reported on his pleasure being a judge in the Iron Chef cook-off; advised that the wood burning stove symposium was well attended and that the inaugural meeting of the Outdoor Recreational Facility Usage Committee will be Thursday, March 09, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

Mayor Roline reminded everyone that the Cultural mapping open house is being held on Wednesday, February 09, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. at the Civic Centre and asked that the community vote to support Angels Rescue Centre in the Pepsi challenge for funding of a new centre.

11. INFORMATION ITEMS

---

**HERITAGE COMMISSION**

11.1 Minutes; Heritage Commission January 17, 2011 Meeting  
File: 0546

**MERRITT'S 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

11.2 Minutes; Merritt's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee January 19, 2011 Meeting  
File: 0372

**AIRPORT COMMITTEE**

11.3 Minutes; Airport Committee January 24, 2011 Meeting  
File: 0374

- |  |      |   |
|--|------|---|
| <b>MINISTRY OF ENERGY</b>                | 11.4 | Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister, Ministry of Energy<br>January 21, 2011 Letter<br>File: 0135                           |
| <b>WATER RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b> | 11.5 | Budget Requests for 2011; Ginny Prowal, Chair, Water Resource<br>Advisory Committee January 24, 2011 Letter<br>File: 1705 |
| <b>UBCM MEMBERSHIP</b>                   | 11.6 | UBCM Membership; Councillor Barbara Steele, President, UBCM<br>January 24, 2011 Letter<br>File: 0270                      |

12. **TERMINATION OF MEETING**

---

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9:00 p.m.

**Certified correct in accordance with Section 124(2) (c) of the  
Community Charter.**

**Original signed by  
Deputy Clerk**

**Confirmed on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Day of February, 2011**

**Original signed by  
Mayor**