



CITY OF MERRITT

MINUTES

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

COUNCIL CHAMBER

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 04, 2013

AT 5:00 PM

1. PRESENT:

Mayor Susan Roline
Councillor D. Baker
Councillor K. Christopherson
Councillor M. Goetz
Councillor H. Kroeker
Councillor C. Norgaard

REGRETS

Councillor A. Murdoch

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. M. Noble, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. D. Finnigan, Public Works Superintendent
Ms. C. Fraser, Deputy Clerk/Human Resources Manager
Mr. S. McKeown, Fire Prevention Officer/Emergency Services
Mr. L. Plotnikoff, Leisure Services Manager
Ms. P. Sibilleau, Financial Services Manager
Mr. D. Tomkinson, Fire Chief
Mr. J. Umpherson, Business & Economic Development Manager

Merritt Herald

1Members of the Public

2. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Roline called the meeting to order at 5:03p.m.

3. REPORTS

SILGA RESOLUTIONS

3.1 Resolutions Council wishes to forward to the SILGA Conference
File: 0276

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

**THAT the following resolution be forwarded to the 2013
SILGA Conference**

WHEREAS the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is governed by the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and is responsible to preserve agricultural land and to encourage local governments, First Nations, the government and its agents to enable and accommodate farm use of agricultural land and uses compatible with agriculture in their plans, bylaws and policies; an objective would appear to be to maintain a permanent farm land reserve and some of that land has been arbitrarily earmarked as ALR (Agricultural Land Reserve) and some of that land is within municipal boundaries or adjacent to municipalities;

AND WHEREAS some of this land deemed not to be suitable to be designated as agricultural land or is of marginal production capability;

AND WHEREAS the determination of ALR within the confines of some municipalities results in even more marginalization of capability and also results in extreme costs for municipalities to develop non-contiguous services for municipal infrastructure:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UBCM encourage the Provincial Government to review the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and the Agricultural Land Reserve Regulations with a view to establish a process to recognize that these costs to municipalities outweigh the potential benefit to British Columbia of retaining land deemed not to be suitable as reserve and the Agricultural Land Commission be requested to change the regulations pertaining to such lands

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the following resolution be forwarded to the 2013 SILGA Conference

WHEREAS the Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) is governed by the *Agricultural Land Commission Act* and is responsible to preserve agricultural land and to encourage local governments, First Nations, the government and its agents to enable and accommodate farm use of agricultural land and uses compatible with agriculture in their plans, bylaws and policies; an objective would appear to be to maintain a permanent farm land reserve and some of that land has been arbitrarily earmarked as ALR (Agricultural Land Reserve) and some of that land is within municipal boundaries or adjacent to municipalities;

AND WHEREAS communities often endure long waiting periods for approvals of lands removed from the Agricultural Land Commission:

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a process to simplify the procedure and reducing time lines for processing such application on behalf of municipalities be developed and implemented by the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission

Moved, Seconded and CARRIED

THAT the following resolution be forwarded to the 2013 SILGA Conference

THAT Council prepare a resolution for SILGA that a mediator and arbitrator handling a case not be allowed to be the same individual on the same case

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

3.2 Clarification of Conflict of Interest Rules; Mayor Roline's Verbal Report
File: 0590

Mayor Roline provided an update regarding conflict of interest including the Young Anderson client bulletin, Stewart McDonald Stuart client bulletin and relevant legal principles. Council discussed case laws and seeks further clarification i.e. a Councillor volunteering for an organization

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m. to reconvene at 7:00 p.m.

**LETTERS OF
SUPPORT**

3.3 Letters of Support for Grant Applications
File: 0250

Request for Support for Nicola Valley Community Arts Council Grant Application for Kite Flying Event; Leisure Services Manager`s February 01, 2013 Memorandum

Councillor Christopherson declared a conflict of interest being a member of the Nicola Valley Community Arts Council and left the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Councillor Norgaard declared a conflict of interest being a sponsor of the Nicola Valley Community Arts Council and left the meeting at 7:04 p.m.

Moved, Seconded and **CARRIED**

THAT Council provide a letter of support for the Nicola Valley Community Arts Council grant application for kite flying event contingent on funding approval and the Leisure Services Department approve the event logistics;

AND THAT funding for this event be funded through the City Initiatives budget

Councillors Christopherson and Norgaard returned to the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

4. **TERMINATION OF MEETING**

The Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7:08 p.m.

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

**Original signed by
Deputy Clerk**

Confirmed on the 12th Day of February, 2013

**Original signed by
Mayor**