



MINUTES

CITY OF MERRITT

REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, November 26, 2019
7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL
2185 Voght Street
Merritt, B.C

PRESENT:

Mayor L. Brown
Councillor M. Bhangu
Councillor K. Christopherson
Councillor A. Etchart
Councillor T. Fehr
Councillor T. Luck
Councillor M. White

Mr. S. Hildebrand, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. S. Smith, Director of Corporate Services
Ms. S. Thiessen, Director of Finance & IT
**Mr. W. George, Tourism & Economic Development
Manager**
Andrea Clayards

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Call to Order

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

2. LATE ITEMS

2.1 Nicola Valley Pro Rodeo Association

Presentation by Jacqueline Whitecross

Recommendation:

272/19

THAT Council add to the agenda as item 6.2, a presentation from the Nicola Valley Pro Rodeo Association

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

3. PUBLIC INPUT

Megan Pacquette, who owns Akasa Yoga studio, spoke to Council in favour of item 8.2. She discussed increasing rents at her current location, and some of the advantages of operating out of a new location in the M1 zone.

Ginny Prowal spoke to Council regarding the decrease in meetings, noting that Council may want to consider a reduction in salary.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

4.1 Regular Council Meeting Minutes - November 12, 2019

273/19

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting held on November 12, 2019 be adopted

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

5. PUBLIC HEARING

6. GENERAL MATTERS - Delegations and Recognitions

6.1 Chamber of Commerce - Request for City Support

Presentation by Kim McLean, Ryan Wuthe and Melonie Ivanic

Kim presented a proposal to the City, expressing the need for more City funding and support. The Chamber is looking to review the current partnership structure, and would like to request \$25,000. The thought is that the Chamber would be the primary voice, advocate, and champion for businesses in the City of Merritt.

Mayor Brown requested that this item be brought forward for debate at the December 17, 2019 meeting.

6.2 Nicola Valley Pro Rodeo Association

Presentation by Jacqueline Whitecross

The Nicola Valley Pro Rodeo Association presented to Council with a list of projects and costs that the NVPRA is facing in 2020, noting that this year the association made some profit.

Jacqueline expressed that the NVPRA would greatly appreciate any funds that the City could spare to support these projects.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1 Committee of the Whole Recommendation - Tourism

Councillor White declared a conflict of interest in relation to this item, citing her role as Director of the Society, and left the meeting at 7:42pm

Councillor White returned to the meeting at 7:43pm

At the November 5th, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting, the Committee made the following recommendation to Council:

274/19

THAT Council direct staff to work with Merritt & Nicola Valley Destination Marketing Society (MNVDMS) towards re-establishing the MRDT in the City of Merritt;

AND THAT Council direct staff to explore the option of MNVDMS being designated as the 'eligible entity' to receive program funds under the terms of the Provincial Sales Tax Act (i.e. as per the program terms of the Municipal and Regional District Tax (MRDT) program).

Absent (1): Melvina White

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

7.2 Committee of the Whole Recommendations - Airport and Event Coordinator

At the November 19th, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting, the Committee made the following two recommendations to Council:

Recommendation:

275/19

THAT Council direct staff to budget for an annual Merritt Airport Celebration event.

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

Recommendation:

276/19

THAT Council direct staff to explore grant funding possibilities for hiring an event coordinator.

Against (2): Tony Luck, and Melvina White

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

8. BYLAWS

8.1 Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2275 - 1330 Pine Street

The City of Merritt has sent off and received Ministry of Transportation Approval, allowing this Bylaw to proceed to final adoption.

Recommendation:

277/19

THAT Council give final adoption to Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2275, 2019 (1330 Pine Street).

Against (2): Mike Bhangu, and Adam Etchart

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

8.2 Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Indoor Recreation in Light Industrial (M1) Zone

Recommendation:

278/19

THAT Council direct staff to bring forward a Zoning Amendment Bylaw, accompanied by further staff research, that would add the “Participant Recreation Services, Indoor” use to the Light Industrial (M1) and potentially the Service Commercial (C3) zones.

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

9.1 **Airport Select Committee Establishment**

Recommendation:

279/19

THAT Council appoint an Airport Select Committee, the sole purpose of which will be to make recommendations to Council regarding the establishment of Terms of Reference for a City of Merritt Airport Advisory Committee;

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

Recommendation:

280/19

THAT Council appoint Geoffrey Scholtens and Rae Robinson to sit on the Airport Select Committee, AND THAT Council authorize Mayor Brown to make further appointments to this Committee, depending on interest;

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

Recommendation:

281/19

THAT Council appoint Kurt Christopherson to sit on the Airport Select Committee.

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

9.2 **Council Calendar and Acting Mayor Schedule**

Recommendation:

282/19

THAT Council approve the proposed schedule of Regular Council Meetings for 2020, as presented on Schedule "A";

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

Recommendation:

283/19

THAT Council direct staff to prepare an amendment to the City of Merritt Council Procedure Bylaw to reduce the number of meetings in July, August, September and December to one.

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

9.3 LNIB Recycling Agreement

Recommendation:

284/19

THAT Council authorize the Mayor and Corporate Officer to sign the attached Residential Recycling Services Agreement (the "Agreement"), between the Lower Nicola Indian Band ("LNIB") and the City of Merritt

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

9.4 City of Merritt Logo and Rebranding

Recommendation:

285/19

That Council adopts the proposed 2019 City of Merritt logo as per the presentation and implement the logo on all City of Merritt material effective immediately.

Against (1): Melvina White

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

9.5 CAO Update

Scott announced the postponement of the MOU signing ceremony scheduled for November 29, 2019, Scott also announced the Country Christmas parade, the official re-opening of the Rotary Park playground, the City's participation in North America's largest ever Indigenous Tourism

Conference, the City's need for additional volunteers for the Snow Angel program.

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillor Fehr made the following notice of Motion:

That Council elevate a long term crime reduction strategy as a top priority in Council's strategic plan.

11. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL

Councillor Christopherson reported on the Christmas Tree light up, thanking the public for their attendance and donations.

12. INFORMATION ITEMS

12.1 Merritt Dance Society - Letter

12.2 Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations - Letter

12.3 Strategic Planning Priorities

13. TERMINATION OF MEETING

The Mayor declared the meeting ended at 8:46pm

Corporate Officer

Sean Smith

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

Confirmed on the ____ day of ____, 20____

Mayor

Linda Brown