



MINUTES

CITY OF MERRITT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, November 17, 2020
12:00 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**

IN ATTENDANCE:

- Mr. S. Smith, Chief Administrative Officer**
- Mr. G. Lowis, Director of Corporate Services**
- Mr. W. George, Economic Development, Communications & Tourism Manager**
- Mr. W. Anderson, Director of Finance and IT**

1. CALL TO ORDER

1.1 Call to Order

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 12:01pm

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

2.1 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes - October 20th, 2020

THAT the Minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on October 20th, 2020 be adopted.

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

3. **GENERAL MATTERS - Delegations and Recognitions**

4. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

5.1 BC Provincial Nomination Program

Discussion of the issues raised by Mr. Olguin at the October 13th, 2020 Council meeting and the broader program operated by Merritt

Mr. Olguin spoke to the item, and explained his recommendations as he had come to Council previously, requesting that the Merritt participation in the BC PNP rural pilot require business plans rather than business concepts, that applications be pre-screened, and that Community Futures be named as the main contact for the Province.

Members discussed these at length, questioning him for the benefits and issues that this would bring, and asked staff for clarifications where required. Staff noted that all of these proposals were reasonable, and that whether or not Council wished to adopt any or all of them was a matter for them. Members also discussed the current status of the pilot project, and the potential for it to no longer exist or be changed in early 2021.

THAT the Committee recommend to Council that Community Futures Nicola Valley be named the lead contact for the BC PNP program, effective immediately

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

5.2 Nicola Valley Theatre Society

Cllr Christopherson declared a conflict as a director of the Theatre society and left the room at 1.16pm.

Rich Hodson, Margaret Carlson, Richard Jackson Jr and David Brown attended, and apologized that Gordon Prest & Amanda Adams couldn't come.

They explained the current situation of the Theatre Society, and what they were aiming for in Merritt at the Railyards mall site. They talked about their involvement with First Nations communities and other communities organizations, and how they unclear exactly what they were looking for

with the City, but some form of partnership would help the project to move forwards.

THAT the Committee direct staff to work on potential partnership arrangements with the Nicola Valley Theatre Society, to come back to a future meeting of Council

Absent (1): Kurt Christopherson

Moved, Seconded, CARRIED

6. TERMINATION OF MEETING

The Mayor declared the meeting ended at 1.47pm

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