

MINUTES of the first statutory meeting of the MUNICIPAL COUNCIL of The Corporation of the District of Oak Bay, held in the Council Chambers, Oak Bay Municipal Hall, 2167 Oak Bay Avenue, Oak Bay, B.C., on Monday, December 8, 2014, following swearing in before The Honourable Mr. Justice Geoffrey Gaul of Nils Jensen as Mayor, and Hazel Braithwaite, Tom Croft, Michelle Kirby, Kevin Murdoch, Tara Ney and Eric Zhelka as Councillors at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor N. Jensen, Chair
Councillor H. Braithwaite
Councillor T. Croft
Councillor M. Kirby
Councillor K. Murdoch
Councillor T. Ney
Councillor E. W. Zhelka

STAFF: Chief Administrative Officer, H. Koning
Municipal Clerk, L. Hilton
Deputy Municipal Clerk, M. Jones
Director of Building and Planning, R. Thomassen
Municipal Treasurer, P. A. Walker
Director of Engineering Services, D. Marshall
Chief Constable, A. Brinton
Fire Chief, D. Cockle
Acting Superintendent of Public Works, J. Brooks
Director of Parks & Recreation, R. Herman

Following the swearing in of Council members, Mayor Jensen called the inaugural meeting to order.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS:

Mayor Jensen welcomed everyone to the inaugural meeting of Oak Bay's 107th Municipal Council, and thanked The Honourable Mr. Justice Geoffrey Gaul for swearing in the newly elected Council.

Mayor Jensen congratulated and thanked everyone who was involved with and who ran in the election and expressed his appreciation for the value of a democratic society and process.

Mayor Jensen said that he is honoured to once again serve as the Mayor of Oak Bay, saying he will accept the responsibilities of the position with humility.

With respect to outgoing members of Council, Mayor Jensen took a moment to recognize John Herbert, Pam Copley and Cairine Green, noting that between them they have served Oak Bay for 27 years. Their legacy, he stated, included many successes, such as the new Official Community Plan, improvements in community engagement and transparency, and enhancing recognition for Oak Bay's many municipal volunteers through initiatives such as the Honour of the Oak Leaf. The Mayor expressed thanks on behalf of the incoming Council and Oak Bay to the outgoing members of Council on their excellent work.

Mayor Jensen also recognized the rich history of Oak Bay by acknowledging that it is on the traditional lands of the Coast Salish First Nations people, and expressed appreciation for the Reeves, mayors and councillors who contributed to the evolution of Oak Bay since its establishment in 1906, commenting that the Municipality has become a progressive municipality that has successfully preserved the uniqueness of its neighbourhoods. He noted the challenge facing Council of contributing to a growing and evolving municipality while ensuring that the unique character and ambiance of the community is protected.

In facing the challenges ahead, Mayor Jensen noted that Council would be assisted by great staff and dedicated volunteers and offered his thanks in advance for their hard work.

The Mayor highlighted various arts and culture initiatives in the community, including the opening of the community theatre at Oak Bay High School, the public art organized by Arts Laureate Barb Adams and the filming of the television series Gracepoint. He proposed that, in keeping with what he described as the renewed interest and importance of the arts, that Council widen the mandate of the Parks and Recreation Commission to become the Parks, Recreation and Culture Commission.

Turning to the issues of public engagement and transparency, the Mayor commented that he proposes to make the Municipal Hall more accessible by webcasting Council meetings and enhancing the electronic information available to residents on the website. He also proposed that a review be undertaken to make Oak Bay's advisory committees more effective.

Mayor Jensen commented that municipal resources should be directed to encourage healthy habits such as biking and walking in order to help build a healthy community.

With respect to enhancing relationships with regional partners and First Nations, Mayor Jensen noted the importance of meeting our sewage treatment obligations in a timely and environmentally responsible fashion, commenting that meetings were already underway with Saanich and Victoria regarding a potential solution. Opportunities should be considered, he said, to work with regional partners for economic development and efficient integration of services and he joined Victoria's Mayor Helps in committing to region-wide cooperation and collaboration.

As set out in the community plan, he said, Oak Bay will continue to work with the First Nations to forge a strong and meaningful relationship, and that Council has and will continue to support the First Nations Pole Project at the new Oak Bay High School in recognition of the long history of First Nations in Oak Bay.

The Mayor commented on the imminent hiring of Oak Bay's first in-house planner and the work that will be undertaken in regards to implementing the Official Community Plan, including building consensus on a housing strategy and housing guidelines. He proposed that Council determine the best use for the municipality-owned property at 1531 Hampshire Road and stated that he would continue to work with Island Health in regards to finding a public health use for the Oak Bay Lodge property.

Mayor Jensen then emphasized the importance of the core tasks of running the municipality; including ensuring that water flows, that waste and recycling are collected and that facilities and infrastructure are maintained. He also noted that he personally has experienced a significant increase in the use of communication technology, seeing an increase in emails received and use of Twitter. In regards to communication, he noted that he plans to continue the tradition of the 'Mayor's Personal Welcome' to newcomers to build community and friendships one household at a time.

In considering the many great ideas for projects that were proposed and debated during the election, the Mayor emphasized the key challenge of fiscal management and the importance of maintaining this responsibility in keeping with long-standing Oak Bay tradition.

Mayor Jensen thanked the many volunteers who donate their time, energy and talents to the municipality's sports, scouts and guides, service clubs, the Monterey Centre, Oak Bay volunteer agency, etc., adding that their generous contributions of time and spirit help make Oak Bay the most livable community in Canada. The Mayor noted that although Oak Bay's beautiful natural setting and wonderful amenities are well known, it is the people who live here that make the community so special.

Members of staff were introduced and thanked for their contributions and dedication to the management of the Municipality.

In closing, Mayor Jensen thanked everyone for attending and noted that Council looked forward to the privilege of serving this community. On behalf Council and their families, he wished everyone the very best of the holiday season and a happy New Year.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. 2015 Provisional Budget
Report – Municipal Treasurer, December 3, 2014

MOVED by Councillor Ney

Seconded by Councillor Braithwaite, That the report of the Municipal Treasurer on the 2015 Provisional Budget, dated December 3, 2014, be received.

The Municipal Treasurer responded to questions from Council with respect to the Financial Plan process and on potential tax increases for 2015, as noted in her report.

The question on the motion was then called.

CARRIED

2. 2014 Local Government Election Results
Report – Chief Election Officer, November 18, 2014

MOVED by Councillor Kirby

Seconded by Councillor Murdoch, That the report of the Chief Election Officer on the 2014 Local Government Election Results, dated November 18, 2014, be received.

CARRIED

RESOLUTIONS:

Confirmation of Appointments

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite

Seconded by Councillor Ney, That the following appointments be confirmed for the 2015 Council year in accordance with the respective enactments or agreements governing them:

Acting Mayor & Chair of the Committee of the Whole

January, February, March Councillor Kirby
April, May, June..... Councillor Ney
July, August, September Councillor Murdoch
October, November, December..... Councillor Braithwaite

Appointments

Police Board.....Mayor (ex-officio)
Capital Regional District Mayor Jensen (Alternate: Councillor Murdoch)
Capital Regional Hospital District Mayor Jensen (Alternate: Councillor Murdoch)
Capital Regional District Liquid Waste Committee..... Mayor Jensen (Alt: Councillor Murdoch)
CREST Corporation.....Mayor Jensen (Alternate: Councillor Zhelka)
Capital Regional District Arts Committee Councillor Ney
Royal and McPherson Theatres Society..... Councillor Ney
Greater Victoria Labour Relations AssocCouncillor Kirby (Alternate: Councillor Zhelka)
Greater Victoria Public Library Board..... Councillor Murdoch

Oak Bay Emergency Planning Program Liaison.....	Councillor Zhelka
Oak Bay Business Liaison	Councillor Croft (Alternate: Councillor Braithwaite)
Oak Bay Tourism Committee Liaison	Councillor Croft (Alternate: Councillor Braithwaite)
Oak Bay Parks & Recreation Commission	Councillor Braithwaite (Alt: Councillor Zhelka)
Oak Bay Wall of Fame Committee	Mayor Jensen and Councillor Braithwaite
Provincial Court—Family Court Committee	Councillor Kirby (Alternate: Bill Warburton)
Reg. Housing Trust Fund Commission	Councillor Ney (Alternate: Councillor Murdoch)
Active Transportation Advisory Committee Liaison	Councillor Croft
Environmental Advisory Committee Liaison	Councillor Kirby
Oak Bay Heritage Foundation Liaison.....	Councillor Murdoch
Oak Bay Heritage Commission Liaison.....	Councillor Murdoch
Oak Bay Community Archives Liaison	Councillor Croft
Allan Cassidy Recognition of Renovation & Building Achievement Awards Panel	Councillor Croft
Parcel Tax Roll Review Panel.....	Mayor Jensen, Councillors Zhelka and Braithwaite
YES (Young Exceptional Star) Awards Liaison.....	Councillors Kirby and Braithwaite
School District 61 Liaison.....	Councillor Kirby
University of Victoria Liaison	Councillor Croft
Camosun College Liaison	Councillor Ney
Receptions	Mayor Jensen and Councillor Braithwaite

In response to Councillor Zhelka’s question, it was noted that there are currently members of various unions and management teams that sit as representatives on the board of the Greater Victoria Labour Association and that these members excuse themselves from discussion on and voting in relation to items that would be in a conflict of interest as appropriate. Municipal staff, Councillor Zhelka was advised, would be available to assist should he have any further questions.

The question on the motion was then called.

CARRIED

Regional Water Supply Commission Appointments

Mayor Jensen noted that the legislation which governs the Regional Water Supply Commission requires that a municipal Council must provide an opportunity for the public to advise Council as to which member should be appointed as the Municipality’s representative to the Commission. He asked if anyone in attendance wished to address Council on the matter. No members of the public rose to speak.

MOVED by Councillor Murdoch

Seconded by Councilor Braithwaite, That Councillor Zhelka be appointed as the District of Oak Bay’s representative on the Regional Water Supply Commission, and further, that Councillor Kirby be appointed as the alternate District of Oak Bay representative on the Commission.

CARRIED

BYLAWS:

For First, Second and Third Reading

MOVED by Councillor Murdoch

Seconded by Councillor Ney, That Bylaw No. 4632, *Financial Plan Bylaw, 2014, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2014*, be introduced and read a first time.

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Murdoch
Seconded by Councillor Ney, That Bylaw No. 4632, *Financial Plan Bylaw, 2014, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2014*, be read a second time.

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Murdoch
Seconded by Councillor Ney, That Bylaw No. 4632, *Financial Plan Bylaw, 2014, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2014*, be read a third time.

CARRIED

For First, Second and Third Reading

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite
Seconded by Councillor Ney, That Bylaw No. 4633, *Water Rate Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*, be introduced and read a first time.

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite
Seconded by Councillor Ney, That Bylaw No. 4633, *Water Rate Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*, be read a second time.

CARRIED

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite
Seconded by Councillor Ney, That Bylaw No. 4633, *Water Rate Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*, be read a third time.

CARRIED

For First, Second and Third Reading

MOVED by Councillor Kirby
Seconded by Councillor Croft, Bylaw No. 4634, *Sewer User Charge Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*, be introduced and read a first time.

CARRIED

Councillors Braithwaite and Murdoch against the motion

MOVED by Councillor Kirby
Seconded by Councillor Murdoch, Bylaw No. 4634, *Sewer User Charge Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*, be read a second time.

In response to questions from Council, the Municipal Treasurer elaborated on the information provided in the Bylaw Memorandum from the Municipal Clerk, dated December 3, 2014 and reviewed the calculation of costs for sewer user charges. Ms. Walker also described the process which has been undertaken to address potential shortfalls and noted that the policy with respect to this calculation has been in place since 2006.

A discussion ensued with some members of Council indicating opposition to the percentage of sewer costs recovered through a sewer user charge based on water consumption versus that collected through taxes. Other members of Council spoke in support of the bylaw, noting that the intention of the policy as it stands is to encourage water conservation.

The question on the motion was then called.

CARRIED
Councillors Braithwaite, Murdoch and Zhelka against the motion

MOVED by Councillor Kirby
Seconded by Councillor Ney, Bylaw No. 4634, *Sewer User Charge Bylaw Amendment Bylaw, 2015*, be read a third time.

CARRIED
Councillors Braithwaite, Murdoch and Zhelka against the motion

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Councillor Braithwaite
Seconded by Councillor Murdoch, That the inaugural meeting of Council be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Certified Correct

Municipal Clerk

Mayor