



CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT

MINUTES
INAUGURAL MEETING
OF MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
DECEMBER 5, 2011
7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

PRESENT:

Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Meagan Brame
Councillor E. David Hodgins
Councillor Lynda Hundleby
Councillor Robert McKie
Councillor Tim Morrison
Councillor David Schinbein

STAFF:

Laurie Hurst, Chief Administrative Officer
Karen Blakely, Director of Financial Services
Jeff Miller, Director of Engineering & Public Works
Barb Snyder, Director of Development Services
Scott Hartman, Director of Parks & Recreation
David Ward, Fire Chief
Keith Lindner, Acting Police Inspector
Pat Mulcahy, Manager of Human Resources
Anja Nurvo, Manager of Corporate Services
Ritchie Morrison, Communications Coordinator
Louise Payne, Recording Secretary

SPECIAL GUESTS:

Maureen Karagianis, MLA, Esquimalt-Royal Roads
Former Mayor Darwin Robinson
Former Councillor Donald Linge
Former Councillor Bruce McIldoon
Former Councillor Allison Gaul

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Chief Administrative Officer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. OATH OF OFFICE – MAYOR

The Corporate Officer was present to administer the Oath of Office to Mayor-Elect Barbara Desjardins.

III. INTRODUCTION OF COUNCILLORS

Mayor Desjardins acknowledged the following special guests present:

- Maureen Karagianis, MLA, Esquimalt-Royal Roads
- Former Mayor Darwin Robinson
- Former Councillor Donald Linge
- Former Councillor Bruce McIldoon
- Former Councillor Allison Gaul

Mayor Desjardins introduced each Councillor-Elect with a short biography outlining their civic contributions.

IV. OATH OF OFFICE – COUNCILLORS

The Corporate Officer administered the Oath of Office to Councillors-Elect Meagan Brame, E. Dave Hodgins, Lynda Hundleby, Robert McKie, Tim Morrison, and David Schinbein.

V. MAYOR'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Welcome to this 99th Inaugural meeting. I would like to acknowledge and respect that we are within the Coast Salish traditional territories.

Esquimalt is on the eve of being one hundred years young. There have been 46 previous councils and as of tonight, another new Council will be sworn in.

I am very proud and humbled by the support of the Esquimalt community allowing me to continue as your mayor for a second term, and through this next special year. I want to express my thanks to my husband and family for their support of me taking on this role for a second term.

The events of next year would not be possible without the previous councils who have stewarded Esquimalt to what it is today, the best place in the CRD to live, work and play.

I want to first acknowledge the members of the immediate past Council for their hard work and success in achieving much of their Strategic Plan set out three long years ago. That plan was ambitious. Council's Strategic Plan set goals for economic, social and environmental

changes for Esquimalt. There were other issues that arose to add to the challenges and to the successes.

Councillors McIlldoon, Gaul, Garrison and Linge, the community thanks you for your service these past three years and the sacrifices you made to be here on behalf of your community. I would like to make special acknowledgment to the 21 years that Councillor Donald Linge has given for Esquimalt. Don has the record of the longest consecutive serving Council member in the first 100 years of our Township. Congratulations, and you will be missed in the next term Don.

I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our Esquimalt staff under the leadership of Mrs. Laurie Hurst, our CAO, in helping Council reach its many goals.

Esquimalt is on the eve of its centennial celebration. A formidable history of Coast Salish Nation settlement, Hudson Bay farms and the Royal Navy has already occurred by 1912. Esquimalt village was a growing community with a major shipbuilding operation, hotels, stores and residential areas scattered around them. It was the desire to access services such as water and sewage disposal that lead the community to incorporation on September 1, 1912.

Esquimalt's birthday celebration will start with the Levee and continue throughout the year, with all community events having a centennial focus. There are events for every season and every month, too many to list, so please go to the Esquimalt website for more information! The grand event will be held on September 8th, at Esquimalt Gorge Park. It will be a feast for the senses with attractions for all ages as we recreate the activities and celebrations of old with today's flare. It will honour Esquimalt's rich history, celebrating who we are now, and what is yet to come for our community!

The Memorial Park Centennial Walkway of paving stones, with your names, memories, and thoughts, will be a legacy for all to participate in, especially this year but also for future generations. The Centennial Book will be a must for Esquimalt families for their home library.

These projects, like the 2000 Time Capsule which has only 88 years before being opened, will be legacies of Esquimalt today, for the understanding of tomorrow's community.

A third project, which I term "Project: Esquimalt Shines" (taken from the name of our Esquimalt centennial song), is a contest to show your pride of community through home and garden enhancement. We hope for participation from all sectors of the community and are working on ways to assist you to "dig Esquimalt" and make "Esquimalt Shine" through discounts at local stores.

Three years ago the Centennial Celebrations Select Committee was established. I want to acknowledge the members of this Committee

who have completed 3 of the 4 years of their mandate, the mandate to give Esquimalt a centennial year to be proud of. This group of people initially lead by Jennifer Parlee and carried on by Janet Jones and Bruce Devitt, are deserving of our thanks, and I know the community will be proud of its centennial year activities and legacies.

This past fall gave many decisions that will shape Esquimalt's future.

The announcement of the Seaspan National Shipbuilding Procurement Strategy is a major one for Esquimalt. This announcement and contract will ensure 30 years of consistent work for our dockyard. It gives 800-1000 new jobs, and the needed infrastructure investment of \$30 million. This is only one contract on which others will springboard because of the ability to train and keep a skilled work force and have the infrastructure for other jobs and shipbuilding.

Esquimalt is well positioned by its proximity to benefit from the spin off economic development that will occur as a result of this change at dockyard. The fact that four new businesses have opened in Esquimalt suggests that there is already a new optimism about doing business in Esquimalt.

This Council will be aggressive in working to secure these spin off bonuses for our business and industrial communities.

The referendum question of this past election gave clear indication that the community supports moving forward with the Village Core Project. This is an opportunity to turn liability into asset. It is my hope that we can see changes on this property within this term. It is unfortunate that only 2,300 residents chose to voice their thoughts on this question, however, eligible voters exercised their right, through their decision to vote or not to vote. We must try harder to get voters engaged but we cannot ignore the voters that did respond and make their preference known. It is my desire that Esquimalt follow UBCM in supporting online voting for the next election in 2014.

There has been an increase in interest for development in Esquimalt and we must continue to provide quality service, reduced red tape, and minimize processing times to encourage reputable developers to look to Esquimalt for their next projects.

We are changing the focus of our future Development Services Director position to include a strong economic development and tourism focus. This change will provide the leadership and knowledge for Esquimalt to take advantage and improve our competitive edge.

As part of this change in focus for Development Services, I have decided to restructure committees slightly. These changes will also assist Esquimalt in furthering our Sustainability Strategy. The Access Awareness Committee will no longer be a standing committee of Council; however there is an ongoing and increasing need for focus on

accessibility both for our community facilities, infrastructure, and for new development in Esquimalt. It is because of this that Council will be appointing two persons to participate at the Advisory Planning Commission (APC) meetings with an accessibility focus. I am also appointing one member of the Environmental Advisory Committee to participate at APC with the same attention toward environmental aspects of planning that comes forward. These special lenses toward access and environment will ensure greater interest from development to providing best practice and smart growth development. The appointment descriptions for both accessibility and environment appointments at APC will be developed over the next year. It is my hope that the current members of the Commission will take on and assist to develop these roles during 2012. I am also recommending that a former member of Access Awareness Committee be appointed to Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to ensure the accessibility lens is used there as well.

This Council will develop and implement tax policies which enhance the business climate of Esquimalt. These policies will help our business community to thrive and diversify, thus reducing the tax burden on residents of Esquimalt.

These policy changes have not moved as well as I would have liked during my first term, so I intend to be very focused with this goal in the next one.

It has been almost a decade of police amalgamation for Esquimalt. This marriage has been a challenge from the beginning but was necessary. It was initially thought that the promise of further amalgamation was imminent.

The Victoria Police Department Audit, which was completed in 2010, gave recommendations to assist us towards resolving our ongoing concerns regarding the funding model, governance, and service delivery of policing in Esquimalt.

The Esquimalt Police Advisory and Law Enforcement Panel, formed through an Order in Council of the Province, spent the past year and a half consulting our public, developing criteria for service, and an evaluation matrix, going out to service providers for options, and finally, providing Police Services with a report as to the findings and the preferred service provision for Esquimalt.

We are continuing to work with the Solicitor General's office in this process and awaiting the Solicitor General's response to our recommendation. Upon receiving this, a public process will be started to ensure understanding and continued confidence in the safety and police service provision for Esquimalt.

There have been concerns voiced about the *In Camera* meetings and lack of information. Council and the Advisory Panel are bound by the

Community Charter, Section 90(1) and (2) and by the Request for Proposal provision to proponents to hold this information *In Camera* until decisions have been made at the Solicitor General level. We have conducted a process of integrity and high quality, and will see it to completion.

I have heard from my new Council that there is a desire to move Council towards a less paper intensive medium for both Council meetings and for community access. I support this direction towards greater access and look forward to developing goals for this within Strategic Planning in January. Council meetings and agendas must move out of the past 100 years and toward the future, using tools of social media and Internet where possible.

Esquimalt Council will continue to provide strong policy direction for regional challenges such as transportation, waste management, treaty resolution, and the regional sustainability strategy development. It is my view that priority one as a region is the need to solve the issue of our transportation gridlock, quickly and cost effectively. We are losing productivity, and that turns into a loss of competitive edge for economic development.

Governments do not have large amounts of money to fund projects so priorities must be chosen and it is my view that transportation should be that priority. Roads, public transit, multimodal infrastructure are public domain; let's focus on getting these systems working for our region.

It is my view that Integrated Resource Management (IRM) has become a proven way forward for waste management. We cannot continue to landfill and look to secondary liquid waste treatment as the standards. There is a private sector ready and willing to take on IRM and provide benefit back to our communities. Let's continue to encourage these solutions while ensuring no risk or increased cost to taxpayers. Some IRM methods are proving to reduce costs to taxpayers; we need to encourage these strategies.

Three years ago climate change was still being significantly challenged, the economy was facing a downturn, and social issues such as homelessness were being measured for better understanding. The world is facing significant challenges. 2010 was named the year of natural disaster, homelessness is significant no matter where you are in the world, and countries, not banks, are now going bankrupt.

We cannot continue to do things the same old way at any level of government. Creative thinking will be required and we all must recognize there will be some uncomfortable changes required.

Opportunities are there as well; big opportunities for our municipality. We want to ensure that present and future children of Esquimalt can enjoy the benefits that the past 100 years' generations of Esquimalt families have had.

Esquimalt, your new Council will work hard to ensure our municipality is the preferred place for families, seniors, students, to live, work and play.

VI. COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

EXTERNAL BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS – APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Desjardins announced the following external appointments:

Capital Regional District:

Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Lynda Hundleby (Alternate)

Capital Regional District Arts Committee:

Councillor Lynda Hundleby
Councillor Tim Morrison (Alternate)

Capital Regional District Solid Waste Advisory Committee:

Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Meagan Brame (Alternate)

Capital Region Housing Trust Fund Commission:

Councillor Dave Hodgins

Capital Regional Emergency Services Telecommunication(C.R.E.S.T.):

Councillor Robert McKie
Mayor Barbara Desjardins (Alternate)

Capital Regional Water Supply Commission:

Councillor Dave Hodgins
Councillor Robert McKie (Alternate)

Esquimalt Chamber of Commerce:

Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Meagan Brame
Councillor Tim Morrison

Greater Victoria Harbour Authority

Mayor Barbara Desjardins

Greater Victoria Labour Relations Association

Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Lynda Hundleby (Alternate)

Greater Victoria Public Library Board:

Councillor David Schinbein

Local Government Treaty Committee (Te'Mexw Treaty Advisory Committee):

Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Meagan Brame (Alternate)

Provincial Capital Commission:

Councillor Lynda Hundleby

Victoria/Esquimalt Harbour Society:

Councillor Tim Morrison
Councillor Robert McKie (Alternate)

Municipal Insurance Association of British Columbia:

Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor David Schinbein (Alternate)

INTERNAL APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Desjardins appointed the following Council members to the following internal committees:

Advisory Planning Commission Liaison:

Councillor Robert McKie

Arts, Culture and Special Events Advisory Committee:

Councillor Dave Hodgins
Councillor Lynda Hundleby

Buccaneer Days Committee:

Councillor Robert McKie
Councillor Dave Hodgins

Celebration of Lights Committee:

Councillor Meagan Brame
Councillor David Schinbein

Centennial Celebrations Select Committee:

Mayor Barbara Desjardins
Councillor Lynda Hundleby
(and former Councillor Linge)

DND Liaison:

Mayor Barbara Desjardins

Environmental Advisory Committee:

Councillor Tim Morrison
Councillor Lynda Hundleby

ETAG:

Councillor David Schinbein

Heritage Advisory Committee:
Councillor David Schinbein
Councillor Dave Hodgins

Local Grant Committee:
Councillor Robert McKie
Councillor Meagan Brame
Councillor Tim Morrison

Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee:
Councillor Meagan Brame
Councillor Tim Morrison

ACTING MAYOR ROTATION

Mayor Desjardins appointed Council members to the position of Acting Mayor in her absence, as follows:

December, 2011 – January, 2012	Councillor Lynda Hundleby
February, 2012 – March, 2012	Councillor Meagan Brame
April, 2012 – May, 2012	Councillor David Schinbein
June, 2012 – July, 2012	Councillor Dave Hodgins
August, 2012 – September, 2012	Councillor Robert McKie
October, 2012 – November, 2012	Councillor Tim Morrison

VII. RECOGNITION OF PAST COUNCIL

Mayor Desjardins recognized the service of the previous Council – Councillors Donald Linge, Allison Gaul and Bruce McIlldoon - presenting them with gifts in appreciation of outstanding service and dedication to the community.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

Administration

(1) 2012 Committee Appointments, Staff Report No. ADM-11-056

MOTION: Moved by Councillor Hodgins/Councillor McKie:
That Council ratify the Council appointments to External and Internal Committees, Commissions and Boards as recommended by Mayor Barbara Desjardins; and

That Council extend the terms of all existing members of the community currently appointed to any of the Township's Internal Committees, the Advisory Planning Commission and Board of Variance to February 28th, 2012.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor Brame/Councillor Hundleby that the meeting be adjourned at 7:51p.m.

CARRIED.

MAYOR OF THE CORPORATION OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF ESQUIMALT
THIS 12th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2011

CERTIFIED CORRECT

ANJA NURVO,
CORPORATE OFFICER