

1993 DECEMBER 06

The Inaugural meeting of the City Council was held in the Burnaby Central High School Gymnasium, 4939 Canada Way, Burnaby, B.C. on Monday, 1993 December 06 at 7:30 p.m.

PRESENT: His Worship, Mayor W.J. Copeland  
Councillor D.R. Corrigan  
Councillor D.P. Drummond  
Councillor D.G. Evans  
Councillor D. Johnston  
Councillor D.A. Lawson  
Councillor L.A. Rankin  
Councillor C.M. Redman  
Councillor J. Young

STAFF: Mr. A.L. Parr, City Manager  
Mr. R.H. Moncur, Director Administrative and Community Services  
Mr. W.C. Sinclair, Director Engineering  
Mr. R. Earle, Director Finance  
Mr. D.G. Stenson, Director Planning and Building  
Mr. D. Gaunt, Director Recreation and Cultural Services  
Mr. W.D. Brassington, Fire Chief  
Superintendent B.A. Beaudreau, Officer-in-Charge, R.C.M.P.  
Mr. C.A. Turpin, City Clerk

CALL TO ORDER

His Worship, Mayor W.J. Copeland called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m.

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor Gordon McDonald opened the Inaugural Meeting with a prayer and blessing.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

His Honour, Judge David Stone performed the swearing-in of the newly elected Council members.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

His Worship, Mayor W.J. Copeland, then delivered his inaugural address. The following is the text of the Mayor's address:

"Honoured guests, Ladies & Gentlemen. I have the pleasure of welcoming everyone here to our 1994 Inaugural ceremony.

With me tonight is our newly-elected Council, who are all looking forward to providing good civic government for the citizens of Burnaby for the next three years.

In 1992, our centennial year, we had an exceptionally busy and often exciting time attending the various events and activities planned by our Centennial Committee under the Chairmanship of Don Brown. We want to take this opportunity to thank Don and his committee for giving many years of dedicated service to our community.

Thankfully 1993 was a less hectic year but in my opinion a year of good sound government and accomplishments.

I would suggest to you that our major accomplishment for 1993 was in managing and directing our city's economy.

When you see our senior levels of government accruing huge debts you will be pleased to know that Burnaby's finances are in very good shape, with substantial reserves.

As a consequence of good fiscal management, our residential and business property taxes are among the lowest in the lower mainland and the lowest if you only include like-size communities. We intend to continue our policy of sound fiscal management even if this includes fewer capital projects.

Capital projects are nice and do provide our community with good facilities, but the ongoing operating costs can lead to unacceptable increases in taxation and none of us need that in these uncertain times.

In a large urban centre like Burnaby, there is a need to plan our growth in such a way as to not only protect our invaluable land resources, but to provide the framework for growth that still allows Burnaby to be a great place to live and to work.

To achieve this we need to further concentrate on long-term planning that can guide our growth into the 21st century.

To help us guide our planning, we want to see increased emphasis on community input.

There is no more important opinion than that put forward through our community groups such as the Edmonds Advisory Committee. We intend to have other advisory committees throughout our city to review and give opinions on proposed changes to our community.

Of particular interest to Council is the creation at City Hall of a user-friendly process. When our citizens come to City Hall they need to feel comfortable and they expect to receive all of the help we can give them in a friendly and helpful manner. Our gradual move to our new quarters across Canada Way will allow us to redesign the work place to accomplish this objective.

Another major interest is the protection and enhancement of our environment. This is a priority for all of us. Our recently completed "State of the Environment" report provides us with a blueprint for the future.

Another area of change for us is in the provision of health care. All of us have a stake in ensuring that good health care is available for all of our citizens.

Burnaby continues to be involved in the Provincial "New Directions For a Healthy British Columbia". This new initiative allows our Health Department to plan, manage and deliver health care services "closer to home".

Community-based programs are an important new step in the evolution of health care in British Columbia and our Council will be providing all of the assistance it can to achieve these goals.

It is important that in a healthy community we provide parks and recreation facilities for citizens of all ages. 1993 has been a good year for new facilities here in Burnaby. The carousel building, officially opened in March, gave us an excellent example of our citizen and our business community working together to bring this project to completion. Thousands of hours of work by dedicated volunteers made this truly a people's project. Our thanks go to Don Wrigley and his team for their outstanding leadership in this fine new facility that children and adults can enjoy.

In addition to the carousel, Elworth house was renovated, the Eileen Dailly Pool was opened, and nine holes of the Riverway Golf Course and the Driving Range were opened to the public. The next nine holes are now under construction.

While there were many more facilities and playgrounds and trails built there was also a long-range tree planting program to add 8,000 trees to Burnaby's urban forest. Of course all of the new facilities and projects are presented to our planning group to review, comment on and either recommend or not recommend additions or deletions.

These can be difficult and time-consuming tasks considering the need for our community to develop in a safe and attractive way within the framework of our policies and regulations.

Council depends on our planning group to provide well-considered advice based on public consultation and work with citizens and official members of a variety of committees.

With all of the consulting and research that is needed to make a recommendation, we still must have a user-friendly outlook and treat everyone fairly.

During the past year we have had a number of situations arise that made the job of the Burnaby RCMP challenging and even difficult.

Where these situations involved juveniles the public expressed some degree of concern.

When we were given the opportunity to become involved in the planning and implementation of community policing, we were very pleased. I believe that the new community policing direction for Burnaby is going to help alleviate at least some of the stressful situations that have developed over the past year.

Our Burnaby RCMP under the direction of Superintendent Beaudreau are doing an excellent job and I have full confidence in their ability to continue to provide us with a safe community.

Also in the area of public protection and assistance, our Burnaby Fire Service is providing us with emergency service that our citizens can depend on. During the next year our Fire Service will strive to build partnerships based on education to help promote fire safety. A new Number 3 Fire Station with improved resources to give additional protection for the Metrotown area reflects the safer community concept of this Council.

As our community grows and develops we create the need to re-examine our infrastructure that is our roads, water, sewer and the other engineering services that we provide.

We are now looking at very expensive replacements for some of our old water and sewer lines. Our budgets are soon going to have to reflect this need. We now have to be more concerned with our needs consequently less money will be available for our wants.

We would like to be able to say that the traffic congestion problem in Burnaby is solved but this is not the case. We will continue to press the Provincial Government for rapid transit on the Lougheed Highway and cooperation in easing the gridlock that exists in the morning and evening rush hour.

There is no question about it we need to get people out of their cars and on to public transit. But to do this we need to develop the means and of course the will. This will require a coordinated effort between various levels of government.

People using public transit need to be able to drive from their homes to adequate and safe parking area adjacent to a transit station. Without this provision not too much will be achieved. It is not practical for drivers who would prefer to use public transit to have to search around residential area streets for a place to park where of course there are time constraints and limitations on parking.

To sum up our directions for the next three years we have three priority issues:

- 1) We want to make Burnaby the most liveable community in the country;
- 2) We want to make Burnaby a safer more secure city in which to live;
- 3) We want to make Burnaby a model community. We have a commitment to increase citizen participation in government and to create better, more compatible, more liveable, environmentally sound neighbourhoods.

The resources are in place to accomplish the above objectives: eg; a receptive Council and staff eager to work with Burnaby citizens in the planning process, to work towards creating the kind of city where both the citizens and business community of Burnaby can live in harmony with one another without impacting on the environment.

We also need to be an ethnically harmonious city. This can be achieved by working with and supporting organizations such as our Multi-Cultural Association where harmony and tolerance is not only taught, but it is also practiced. Burnaby City employment practices have encouraged diversity in its hiring policies, to encourage ethnic, gender and physical equality. Our current staff reflect this principle.

A safer city may be accomplished by our involvement in a pilot project in community policing and by establishing direct public input into our policing efforts.

We will promote greater citizenship participation at all levels until we achieve full participatory democracy in our community.

Our current environmental practices, including recycling, are beginning to achieve good results. We will continue to protect our environment in every way possible and yet maintain a satisfactory growth and development rate.

If we begin our new year with these objectives firmly in mind we can develop Burnaby into the most livable community in our Province, perhaps even in our entire country.

Thank You."

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR CORRIGAN:  
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DRUMMOND:

"THAT the Inaugural Address be received and the recommendations contained therein be adopted."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A P P O I N T M E N T S   T O   R E G I O N A L   O R G A N I Z A T I O N S

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR EVANS:  
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR JOHNSTON:

"THAT the following Council Members be appointed to the following Regional Organizations for a term of one year:

Greater Vancouver Regional District

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Directors           | - Councillor D.R. Corrigan<br>- Councillor D.P. Drummond  |
| Alternate Directors | - Councillor L.A. Rankin for<br>Councillor Drummond<br>- Councillor J. Young for<br>Councillor Corrigan |

Greater Vancouver Regional Labour Relations Bureau

Director - Councillor D.R. Corrigan  
Alternate Director - Councillor D.G. Evans"

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

R E P O R T

The City Manager presented Report No. 72, 1993 December 06 on the matter listed following as Item 1 either providing the information shown or recommending the courses of action indicated for the reasons given:

1. 1994 Provisional Operating Budget

The City Manager presented the 1994 Provincial Operating Budget to Council for approval.

The City Manager recommended:

- 1. THAT the 1994 Provisional Operating Budget be adopted.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR LAWSON:  
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR RANKIN:

"THAT the recommendation of the City Manager be adopted."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

A D J O U R N M E N T

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR REDMAN:  
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR YOUNG:

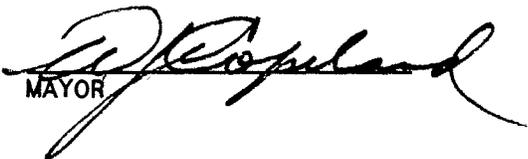
"THAT this Inaugural Council meeting do now adjourn."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Inaugural Council meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Confirmed:

Certified Correct:

  
MAYOR

  
CITY CLERK