COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WINNIPEG
Tuesday, November 2, 2010

The Council met at 8:03 p.m.

Mr. Speaker: Ladies and gentlemen, please rise.

(Bag pipes playing)

'O Canada sung by Winnipeg Children's Choir

Mayor Katz: I would like to thank everyone and welcome you to the Inaugural Meeting of the 13th Council of the City of Winnipeg. And you've just heard the Winnipeg Children's Choir under the direction of Judy Urbonis, and they will be performing for us again later in the program. Thank you so much choir, it's much appreciated. (applause) Also with us tonight is Pastor Bruce Martin. Thank you very much for joining us today. And as I said, it's my pleasure to introduce our Council Pages this evening. We have Madison Fedyck who attends Glenlawn Collegiate and resides in the North Kildonan Ward. There you are. (applause)

City Clerk: Mayor Katz, would you please subscribe to your Declaration of Office. Mayor Katz please repeat after me.

Mayor Katz: I Sam Katz do solemnly promise and declare that I will truly, faithfully and impartially to the best of my knowledge and ability execute the Office to which I have been elected and that I have not received and will not receive any payment or reward or the promise of payment or reward for the exercise of partiality, corruption or other improper Execution of the Office. And I make this Solemn Declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under Oath by Virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Thank you very much Richard.

City Clerk: Thank you Sir.

Mayor Katz: Members of Council, would you please stand and Subscribe to your Declaration of Office.

City Clerk: Councillors, please repeat after me.

Councillors Browaty, Eadie, Fielding, Gerbasi, Havixbeck, Nordman, Orlikow, Pagtakhan, Sharma, Smith, Steen, Steeves, Swandel, Vandal, Wyatt:

I do solemnly promise and declare that I will truly, and faithfully and impartially to the best of my knowledge and ability execute the Office to which I have been elected and that I have not received and will not receive any payment or award or the promise of payment or award for the exercise of partiality, corruption or other improper execution of the Office. And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing it to be true and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath by Virtue of the Canada Evidence Act.

Mayor Katz: Members of Council, please be seated. Mr. Clerk, Roll Call please.

Roll Call

Clerk: His Worship Mayor Katz, Councillors Browaty, Eadie, Fielding, Gerbasi, Havixbeck, Nordman, Orlikow, Pagtakhan, Sharma, Smith, Steen, Steeves, Swandel, Vandal and Wyatt.

Mayor Katz: it is now my pleasure to ask for Pastor Bruce Martin to lead us in prayer. Members of Council and visitors in the Gallery, would you please rise.

Pastor Bruce Martin: Your Worship Sam Katz, Councillors, City Staff and engaged citizens. Let us pray together. Dear God, we come to you with grateful hearts on behalf of our City of Winnipeg. We thank you Lord, for our rich history and the Judeo-Christian roots that give us the basis for a wonderful life. We do not take our democratic privileges for granted and it is truly an honour to be able to welcome people from all over the world to make Winnipeg their home. We take this opportunity tonight to pray for those in our City who are experiencing difficult times, those who have been recently impacted by violence and loss, comfort the bereaved ones and their families. We would be quick to pray for the marginalized in our City, those through the vice of addictions and often mental Illness, are marginalized. We pray for them tonight. We do not take our health and strength for granted. And now Lord, we pray for our new City Council and our Mayor Sam Katz. Give them the grace to work together, in the spirit of co-operation. Bless their work in these Council Chambers. Keep our City workers safe. Our police, our firefighters, our ambulance drivers, and all of the City workers. Bless each one of their families, and so tonight, Lord, we pray that as we invoke your blessing upon this new

Council and our Mayor, we pray this in the name of our God, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and for many in our Chambers tonight, our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, Amen.

Mayor Katz: Please be seated. I would now like to call upon each Member of Council to come forward as the City Clerk calls your name to receive your Certificate of Election.

Clerk: Councillor Jeff Browaty. Councillor Ross Eadie. Councillor Scott Fielding. Councillor Jenny Gerbasi. (laughter) Councillor Paula Havixbeck. Councillor Grant Nordman. Councillor John Orlikow. Councillor Mike Pagtakhan. Councillor Devi Sharma. Councillor Harvey Smith. Councillor Thomas Steen. Councillor Gord Steeves. Councillor Justin Swandel. Councillor Daniel Vandal. Councillor Russ Wyatt. (laughter).

Mayor Katz: Ladies and Gentlemen, please join me in welcoming the newly elected 13th Council to the City of Winnipeg. (applause).

It's an absolute pleasure to welcome all of you here this evening on a very special night. You know looking in the Gallery, I see many familiar faces, and I'm sure many of the Councillors see familiar faces, both friends and family. Those who worked so hard to get us all here today, and from a personal point of view, there are many who were there who certainly were instrumental in making sure that I was here. Those who stood with me at 7:00 a.m. on street corners and as well as noon, as well as five o'clock, as well as knocking on doors, and through high winds and sleet, you're always there for me and I can't tell you how thankful I am and how blessed I was to have you with me. So I know I'm sure the Councillors feel the exact same way of many of those who helped them get elected as well. So thank you from all of us. I also want to acknowledge City Clerk, Richard Kachur, as well as the Deputy City Clerk, Marc Lemoine, and the entire City Clerk's Department, for ensuring democracy through the election process. Many of you may not be aware of the time, energy and hours that go into running an election. These people and the staff know very much what's involved, and it ran smoothly and you did a fantastic job and we thank you. (applause).

Ladies and Gentlemen, this was a hard fought victory for yours truly and many members on the floor of Council. We basically told everybody what we believed in, what we thought was the right direction, and I can assure you that I am very pleased that the citizens decided that our City is moving in the right direction, and wanted yours truly back as Mayor. As well as every City Councillor was returned as well, and the four new faces. Congratulations to each and every one of you. And also, to those who ran and were not successful, congratulations and thank you to all of you for participating in democracy, and that's what it's all about. You know, it's obvious when you're out during an election and your knocking on doors, you find out very quickly what the public has to say and share with you. And I can assure you that they are not shy. They spoke very clearly and basically, they have concerns. There are wonderful things that are happening in our City right now and we need to capitalize, and I want to let everybody know that tomorrow, the Deputy Mayor will be heading to Toronto to basically accept an Award on behalf of the City of Winnipeg for the best City in the country to invest in right now and that's exactly what we want to keep going and that's what it's all about, making sure that Winnipeg is truly a City of Opportunity. For 6 years now, we've been working on the challenges, the challenges we all know what they are, infrastructure. We know that safety is in the top of the minds of everybody. We also know we need to make sure that our children have a place to go and where there is programming and we have to continue what we've been doing when it comes to recreational facilities. I'm very happy to see -- I guess I call them DC but I can say David Chartrand and the Grand Chief, and we have to continue to work with the Aboriginal Community as well as the Métis population to make sure that this City grows and prospers and those are two of our most valuable assets. I can also tell you, we have the tools to do what has to be done. We have the opportunity to work with the senior levels of Government, and I have no doubt in my mind that in this City, if we all pull in one direction, there is absolutely nothing that we cannot accomplish. And what I'm hoping, I pray as well as hoping, that we all can work together and make sure that what we do is what's best for the City. And truly make sure that we capitalize on the opportunities that we have, and as a Mayor and Council, we work together, listening to each other, respecting each other, and most of all, always remembering who the boss is. (laughter). Okay. The boss is not the mayor! The boss is not Bruce Springsteen. And the boss is not Tony Soprano. And the boss is not Leah either at this stage of the game. The boss, quite simply ladies and gentlemen, are the citizens, are the taxpayers. Those are the people who put us here. Those are the people that we represent. And those are the people that we have to do everything within our power, that we know will make Winnipeg grow and prosper and continue to receive the kind of Awards that we're going to be getting tomorrow. So Ladies and Gentlemen, all I can say is we have lots of work to do. So, after tonight, tomorrow, let's get to work, work together, and make Winnipeg the greatest City in Canada. Thank you all, so very, very much. (applause)

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR AND STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Mayor Katz: At this particular point in time it's my pleasure to introduce the members of my new Executive Policy Committee.

Chairperson, Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development

Councillor Jeff Browaty, North Kildonan Ward

Chairperson, Standing Policy Committee on Finance and Chair, Alternate Service Delivery

Councillor Scott Fielding, St. James-Brooklands Ward

Acting Deputy Mayor
Councillor Responsible for Assiniboine Park Governance
Councillor Responsible for Corporate Sponsorship

Councillor Paula Havixbeck, Charleswood-Tuxedo Ward

Chairperson, Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services
Councillor Responsible for the Kansas City Economic Partnership

Councillor Gord Steeves, St. Vital Ward

Deputy Mayor
Chairperson, Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development

Councillor Justin Swandel, St. Norbert Ward

Chairperson, Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works

Councillor Daniel Vandal, St. Boniface Ward

Chairperson, Seniors Advisory Committee

Councillor Grant Nordman, St. Charles Ward

Chairperson, Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee
and Youth Ambassador

Councillor Mike Pagtakhan, Point Douglas Ward

Chairperson, Mayor's Environmental Advisory Committee

Councillor Russ Wyatt, Transcona Ward

Secretary of Urban Aboriginal Opportunities

Mayor Katz: And I will be remaining as Secretary of Urban Aboriginal Opportunities.

The next order of Council business is the election of the Presiding Officer and the Deputy Presiding Officer, what we call the Speaker and Deputy Speaker. I call now for nominations for the election of Presiding Officer.

ELECTION OF PRESIDING OFFICER (SPEAKER) AND DEPUTY PRESIDING OFFICER (DEPUTY SPEAKER)

Mayor Katz: Councillor Steeves.

Councillor Steeves: Thank you, Your Worship. Am I allowed to make a speech? (laughter)

Mayor Katz: And today will be the exception to that rule.

Councillor Steeves: it is my pleasure Your Worship to nominate on behalf of Council our good friend and the Councillor from the St. Charles Ward, Councillor Grant Nordman for Speaker.

Mayor Katz: Thank you. Are there any other nominations? No? Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: Hearing no other Nominations, Mr. Mayor, I will move that nominations be closed.

Mayor Katz: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. I declare Councillor Grant Nordman elected Presiding Officer. Congratulations. (applause). I now call for nominations for the election of Deputy Presiding Officer. Councillor Fielding.

Councillor Fielding: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I'd like to move that the Deputy Presiding Officer be Councillor Mike Pagtakhan.

Mayor Katz: Thank you. Are there any other nominations? Councillor Swandel.

Councillor Swandel: Hearing no other nominations I'll move that nominations be closed.

Mayor Katz: Thank you. All in favour? Contrary? Carried. I declare Councillor Pagtakhan elected Deputy Presiding Officer. (applause). Congratulations to all and it's now my pleasure to call on the Winnipeg Children's Choir to perform our closing selection.

Singing by Winnipeg Children's Choir

Mayor Katz: Roll Call and Adjournment. Councillor Swandel I'll give you the honour.

Councillor Swandel: I was going to move that we hear Councillor Steeves give a speech but I see the clock isn't working tonight so in the interest of saving everybody from the pain and suffering of one of those long-winded speeches, I will move Adjournment, Mr. Mayor .(laughter)

Mayor Katz: All in favour? Contrary? Carried. Mr. Clerk, Roll Call please.

Roll Call

Deputy City Clerk: Councillors Browaty, Eadie, Fielding, Gerbasi, Havixbeck, Nordman, Orlikow, Pagtakhan, Sharma, Smith, Steen, Steeves, Swandel, Vandal, Wyatt and His Worship Mayor Katz.

Mayor Katz: The meeting is now Adjourned; at this time I would like to invite all of you to please join us for a reception on the second floor foyer. Thank you all very much for being here. (applause)

Council adjourned at 8:34 p.m.