



ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Open Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday 30 October 2025

Time: 5.00pm – 5.45pm (*Pōhiri*)
6.00pm – 6.50pm (*Inaugural meeting*)

Venue Natusch Ballroom
War Memorial Centre
Marine Parade
Napier

Livestreamed via Council's Facebook page

Present **Chair:** Mayor McGrath
Members: Councillors Brownlie Chrystal, Crown, Isaac-Sharland,
Lawrence, Mawson, Morley, Price, Raihania, Simpson and Taylor

In Attendance Chief Executive (Louise Miller)
Acting Executive Director Urban & Strategy Development (Stephanie Murphy)
Executive Director Water Services (Russell Bond)
Executive Director Community Services (Thunes Cloete)
Head of Regulatory Delivery (Simon Bradshaw),
Communications & Engagement Team Leader (Jess Soutar-Barron)
Bay Skate Manager (Kyle Hamilton)
Māori Partnership Manager - Te Kaiwhakahaere Hononga Māori (Hilary Prentice)
Governance Manager (Anna Eady)
Council's Kaumātua Matiu Eru and Kuia Beverley Kemp-Harmer

Also in Attendance Family and friends of elected members, dignitaries, Council staff and members of the public were present in the gallery

Administration Governance Advisors (Carolyn Hunt)

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Pōhiri

A pōhiri to welcome the incoming Mayor and Councillors was held in the Natusch Ballroom prior to the official swearing in ceremony of the elected members.

After the pōhiri, in keeping with the Māori tradition of hospitality (manaakitanga), refreshments (kai) were provided concluding the formal process of the pōhiri, prior to the commencement of the formal business meeting.

Chief Executive's Welcome

The Chief Executive declared the meeting open and welcomed the Mayor, Councillors, invited guests and the public to the first meeting of the 2025-2028 triennium of the Napier City Council.

Ms Miller gave an opening speech outlining the process for the meeting, commencing with the swearing in of the Mayor and Councillors.

Declaration of the Mayor Elect

The Chief Executive, Ms Miller, as required by the Local Government Act 2002 schedule 7 (14) and (21)(5)(a), received and witnessed the oral declaration of His Worship the Mayor.

Ms Miller then invested Mayor Richard Mark McGrath with the insignia chains of office.

Mayor McGrath assumed the role of Chair at 6.15pm

Declarations of the Councillors Elect

Mayor McGrath, as required, by the Local Government Act 2002 schedule 7 (14) and (21)(5)(a), received and witnessed the oral declarations in English or Te Reo of each member of the Napier City Council:

Ahuriri Ward

- Roger Brownlie, Sally Anita Hine-I-Pakia Crown and Keith Douglas Price

Napier Central Ward

- Te Kira Lawrence, Gregory John Mawson and Craig Morley

Taradale Ward

- Ronda Susan Chrystal, Ralph Nigel Simpson and Graeme Keith Taylor

Te Whanga Ward

- Whare Isaac-Sharland and Shyann Raihania

Each Councillor was presented with the insignia medallion of office, in preparation for the inaugural business of Council.

Attachments

- 1 Signed Declarations of Elected Members (Doc Id 1883015)
- 2 Programme for Inaugural Council meeting 30 October 2025 (Doc Id 1883016)

Mayor's Opening Speech

Mayor McGrath welcomed councillors, staff, family and friends to the meeting. He acknowledged and thanked the outgoing mayor (Kirsten Wise) and councillors (Maxine Boag Annette Brosnan, Hayley Browne, Juliet Greig and Chad Tareha) who had put in the hard yards and served the community and made some tough decisions. He felt that while there were debates and not always agreement, they had all ultimately worked well as a team and learned from each other during their tenure.

Mayor McGrath congratulated all returning Councillors, and welcomed the new Councillors.

Mayor McGrath said he wanted to reset the Council and get back to what the community needs. To not put focus into "nice to haves" but get back to basics. To keep things steady and move forward on the right path for Napier.

The meeting then moved into the items of business prescribed under the Local Government Act 2002.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Type of Report:	Legal and Operational
Legal Reference:	Local Government Act 2002
Document ID:	1822807
Reporting Officer/s & Unit:	Anna Eady, Governance Manager

1.1 Purpose of Report

To advise Council of the appointment of the Deputy Mayor and to provide Council with background information on the powers under section 41A of the Local Government Act 2002 for the mayor to appoint the deputy mayor.

At the meeting

The Governance Manager, Ms Eady presented the report noting that Mayor McGrath had chosen to use his power in the appointment of Councillor Crown as Deputy Mayor.

Deputy Mayor Crown addressed the meeting thanking whanau, friends and past loved ones in her development as a person and how she contributes to the community.

Deputy Mayor Crown acknowledged and thanked Kirsten Wise, former mayor who had provided many opportunities to her during the last six years to develop skills, expertise and leadership qualities.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Mayor McGrath / Councillor Mawson

That Council:

- a) **Note** that under section 41A of the Local Government Act 2002 the Mayor has the power to appoint the Deputy Mayor.
- b) **Note** that the Mayor has chosen to use their power to appoint the Deputy Mayor.
- c) **Note** that the Mayor has appointed Councillor Sally Crown as Deputy Mayor for the 2025-2028 Triennium in accordance with section 41A (3)(a) of the Local Government Act 2002.

Carried

2. LEGISLATION AFFECTING ELECTED MEMBERS - GENERAL EXPLANATION

Type of Report: Legal

Legal Reference: Local Government Act 2002

Document ID: 1822803

Reporting Officer/s & Unit: Anna Eady, Governance Manager

2.1 Purpose of Report

To provide elected members with a general explanation of laws affecting members as per the Local Government Act 2002, Schedule 7(21).

At the meeting

The Governance Manager, Ms Eady presented the report providing a brief summary on some of the Acts that affect elected members. There were no questions.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Deputy Mayor Crown / Councillor Chrystal

That Council:

- a) **Particularly** note the provisions and requirements outlined by the:
 - i. Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987
 - ii. Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968
 - iii. Crimes Act 1961 sections 99, 105 and 105a

iv. Secret Commissions Act 1910

v. Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013

As per Schedule 7(21) of the Local Government Act 2002

- b) **Note** the obligations of the Privacy Act 2020, Local Government (Pecuniary Interests Register) Amendment Act 2022, and the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015.
- c) **Note** the further national and local legislation affecting the activities of Napier City Council, a list of which is provided to members so they may familiarise themselves as required (Doc ID: 1879058).

Carried

3. SETTING OF THE FIRST COUNCIL MEETING

Type of Report: Legal and Operational

Legal Reference: Local Government Act 2002

Document ID: 1822802

Reporting Officer/s & Unit: Anna Eady, Governance Manager

3.1 Purpose of Report

To set the date and time of the first meeting of Council in accordance with Schedule 7, Clause 21(d) of the Local Government Act 2002 and confirm the meeting schedule for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year.

At the meeting

The Governance Manager, Ms Eady presented the report outlining the requirement under the Local Government Act 2002 to set a date for the first Council meeting. Ms Eady advised that the Council and Committee meeting schedule for 2026 would be available following the finalisation of the Governance Structure.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Councillors Price / Lawrence

That Council:

- a) **Sets** the first ordinary meeting of Council to be held on Thursday 6 November 2025 at 9.30am.
- b) **Confirms** the meeting schedule for the remainder of the 2025 calendar year as below:
- 4 December 2025 – Risk and Assurance Committee
 - 11 December 2025 - Council

Carried

At the conclusion of the formal business Mayor McGrath invited everyone present to join the elected members for celebratory refreshments in recognition of the occasion.

Kaumātua Matiu Eru closed with a karakia at 6.50pm

Approved and adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Chairperson

Date of approval