

MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Date: Tuesday 8 March 2022 at 3.30 PM
Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairman), the Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson, Councillors G W Boyde, A K Harris and W J Sandford

Via Audio Visual Link: Councillors P S Dalziel, J M S Erwood, R W Coplestone, V R Jones, M McKay and G M Webby.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Roding Asset Manager – Mr S Bowden, one member of the media (Stratford Press).

Via Audio Visual Link: , the Director Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Director Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director Corporate Services – Mrs T Radich, and the Corporate Accountant – Mrs C Craig.

1. Welcome

The District Mayor welcomed the Chief Executive, Councillors, staff, and the media.

1.1 Opening Karakia D21/40748 Page 7

The opening karakia was read.

1.2 Health and Safety Message D21/26210 Page 8

The Chairman noted the amendments to the health and safety message and emergency procedures particularly the addition of Council's pandemic setting guidelines.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies.

3. Announcements

The District Mayor noted the incorrect minutes had been included in the agenda for item 6.1. The minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of Council – 8 February 2022 had been circulated and would be tabled for confirmation.

He reminded Councillors that a meeting with the Future of Local Government Panel was scheduled for Thursday 17 March 2022.

4. Declarations of Members' Interest

The District Mayor requested Councillors to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

The declaration of members' interest was circulated for updating.

5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance Schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings was attached.

6. Confirmation of minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 8 February 2022 D22/5144 Page 8

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 8 February 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
CL/22/9

6.2 Policy & Services Committee – 22 February 2022 D22/6793 (PE) D22/7058(Open) Page 17

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy & Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 22 February 2022 be received.
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy & Services Committee meeting, including those in the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 22 February 2022 be adopted

HARRIS/BOYDE
Carried
CL/22/10

DALZIEL/WEBBY
Carried
CL/22/11

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/SANDFORD
Carried
CL/22/12

2. THAT council extend the appointment of Sven Hanne as interim Chief Executive by a maximum of 3 months as of 10 March 2022 or until a Chief Executive is appointed and takes up their position, whichever is earlier.

BOYDE/SANDFORD
Carried
CL/22/13

3. THAT Darleena Christie and Raeleen Hancock be appointed to the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Committee until the end of this triennium (October 2022).

BOYDE/JAMIESON
Carried
CL/22/14

The District Mayor noted the following points:

- Work on the Kahouri Stream bridge project is progressing well and is ahead of the anticipated start date.
- The Civil Defence reforms are well and truly underway. He noted he had recently sat in on discussions with the Minister and there will be legislation on these changes introduced later this year.
- The District Mayor and Chief Executive had been invited to be updated on the Egmont National Park arrangements and the deed of settlement is nearly ready to be signed. This will see elements of the park handed to a new organisation.
- The Forestry Green Paper was submitted and Councillors were sent a copy of this. A link to the webinar can be circulated for those that were unable to attend this.
- The Chief Executive's fixed term agreement finishes tomorrow. Council is required by law to have a Chief Executive appointed at all times so in order to facilitate that requirement a resolution is required to extend the current fixed term by a maximum of three (3) months or until a new Chief Executive is appointed (whichever comes first).
- Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund currently has two vacancies and it is his recommendation that Darleena Christie and Raeleen Hancock be appointed to that committee until the end of the triennium.

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/22/15
2. THAT the following draft information be approved to be released for public consultation:
 - Annual Plan 2022/23
 - Fees and Charges 2022/23
 - Revenue and Financing Policy
3. THAT the Consultation Document be released as a summary of the Annual Plan 2022/23 for the consultation process.

JAMIESON/BOYDE
Carried
CL/22/16

Recommended Reason

To get formal feedback from the community prior to adopting the Annual Plan 2022/23 and supporting information. Any late changes made to the documents will be tabled at the meeting for adoption.

The Director – Corporate Services noted the following points:

- This report seeks Council approval to release the Draft Annual Plan 2022/23 and the updated Revenue and Financing Policy for public consultation for four weeks.
- She noted the rates increase was 6.1% which was less than Year 2 of the Long Term Plan which was 6.21%.
- The Draft Consultation Document covers some of the key issues in the Annual Plan such as the Forestry differential rate, changes such as the Solid Waste and Swimming Pool fees and charges, the change to the funding of depreciation of infrastructure assets to 95% and the use of the roading, waste water and farm reserves for rate mitigation.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Dalziel acknowledged the Director – Corporate Services and staff for the work that goes into this process. He questioned if the use of the farm reserve should have been presented to the Farm and Aerodrome Committee? It was clarified it would have been appropriate to have sought the committee's endorsement, however timing requirements meant this was not able to be done.
- It was requested that the financial terminology be standardised. A glossary would be included.
- It was requested that the funding overview pie graphs clarify that these are operational. The subtitles would be updated to "Where do your rates go" and "Where does the funding come from".
- It was clarified that the surplus in the budget represents funding received for capital projects. Rates collection aim for a zero balance for operational expenses.
- It was noted that the debt limit to annual operating revenue for council is 130% and is a self-imposed limit. The LGFA limit is 175%.
- It was requested that the Consultation Document highlight that it is council's intent to use the Revenue and Financing Policy amendment this year.
- It was requested that it be noted for transparency that council intends on using its reserves to keep the rates lower this year.
- It was requested that in the Revenue and Financing Policy change that the sentence "*fixing damage to roads*" be amended to "*repairing damage to roads*".
- It was requested that the 2 hockey fields be removed from the Parks, Reserves and Cemeteries list as the turf is not owned by council and the other space was now being used to build the new pool complex.

- It was requested that it be clarified in the performance measures for Dog Registrations and Solid Waste be clarified that they were not achieved due to the target being higher in the previous reporting year.
- It was requested that the spreadsheets be updated to remove rounding errors to ensure the balances are correct.

9. Questions

There were no questions.

10. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 209

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.10pm

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 12th day of April 2022.

N C Volzke
District Mayor