

Date: Tuesday 24 May 2022 at 3PM

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor N C Volzke, the Deputy Mayor A L Jamieson (Chair), Councillors G W Boyde, R W Coplestone, P S Dalziel, J M S Erwood, V R Jones, M McKay, W J Sandford and G M Webby.

Via audio visual link:
Councillor A K Harris

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director Corporate Services – Mrs T Radich, the Director Assets – Mrs V Araba and the Director Community Services – Ms K Whareaitu, the Administration & Communication Support Officer – Ms R Vanstone, the Communications Manager – Ms G Gibson, the Special Projects Manager – Mr N Cooper, the Environmental Health Manager – Ms R Otter, the Roading Asset Manager – Mr S Bowden, the Services Asset Manager – Mr J Cooper, the Property Officer – Ms S Flight, and one member of the media (Stratford Press).

Via audio visual link:
The Asset Management Coordinator – Ms L Campbell

1. Welcome

The opening karakia 'Kia Uruuru Mai' was led by Ms Vanstone.

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

The Deputy Mayor reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

2. Apologies

An apology was noted for the Director Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland.

3. Announcements

Mayor Volzke announced that this will be the last meeting attended by Ms Vanstone in the capacity of minute-taker as she moves to a new role with the post-settlement governance entity for Ngāruahine, Te Korowai o Ngāruahine. Ms Vanstone was acknowledged for her assistance to various council committees and to the Mayor as his EA when required.

4. Declarations of members interest

Elected members were asked to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda.

There were no declarations of interest relating to items on this agenda.

5. Attendance Schedule

Attendance schedule for Policy and Services Committee meetings, including Hearings.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Policy & Services Committee – 26 April 2022

D22/11489 Page 10

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 26 April 2022 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

SANDFORD/COPLESTONE
Carried
P&S/22/70

7. Matters Outstanding

D16/47 Page 20

Recommendation

THAT the Matters Outstanding be received.

DALZIEL/ERWOOD
Carried
P&S/22/71

The following points were noted:

- Councillor Coplestone sought to have the matter, SDC membership of the coalition C4LD, discussed in committee at the next available opportunity. Councillors Dalziel, Boyde, McKay and Sandford were satisfied that the matter be workshopped at the earliest possible opportunity. Mr Hanne noted that he has almost completed a report on the matter.

8. Decision Report – Review of Windsor Park and Thomson Arboretum Reserve Management Plan

D22/16819 Page 21

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

McKAY/BOYDE
Carried
P&S/22/72

2. THAT, as no further submissions have been received following the second round of public advertising, the draft reviewed reserve management plan for Windsor Park and the Thomson Arboretum with one minor amendment as noted, be approved and formally adopted in terms of Section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977.

DALZIEL/BOYDE
Carried
P&S/22/73

Recommended Reason

The draft reviewed management plan for Windsor Park and the Thomson Arboretum has been through two rounds of public consultation as required by the Reserves Act 1977, submissions

have been workshopped with Council and agreed amendments incorporated into this final draft presented for approval.

The Special Projects Manager noted the following points:

- This review has been through two mandatory rounds of community consultation. A couple of submissions received in the first round. No submissions were received to the draft plan.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Mayor Volzke noted a minor change required on page 4 of the plan which references the TRC Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki 2001. He recommends leaving the date off that plan as it is currently being reviewed.
- The Deputy Mayor is impressed with the development plans he has seen for the Percy Thomson Arboretum.

9. Information Report – Ordering of Candidate Names for Local Elections 2022

D22/16835 Page 60

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

McKAY/DALZIEL
Carried
P&S/22/74

2. THAT Council resolves to adopt either:

- (i) The alphabetical order of candidate names; or
- (ii) ~~The pseudo-random order of candidate names; or~~
- (iii) ~~The random order of candidate names;~~

to be displayed on the voting documents for the 2022 triennial election, as permitted under regulation 31 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001.

ERWOOD/JAMIESON
2 against
Carried
P&S/22/75

The Director Corporate Services noted the following points:

- The Candidate Handbook is being presented to elected members today before being uploaded to the website. Hardcopies will also be available for potential candidates.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Jones sought clarification on whether the handbook should include the process for resigning from office. The Mayor noted that the process is prescribed in the Electoral Act and did not need to be reiterated in the document. Where a resignation for whatever reason, falls outside of the normal election cycle a by-election is triggered. Councillor Erwood noted that costs relating to the by-election are borne by the council.
- Councillor Boyde noted there was no compelling evidence for those candidates listed first on the voting paper as receiving more votes. The Deputy Mayor considered alphabetical ordering to be a formula that people could follow. Councillor Erwood spoke in favour of retaining alphabetical ordering.
- The Mayor and Councillor Sandford opposed alphabetical ordering.

10. Monthly Reports

10.1 **Assets Report**
D22/15400 Page 137

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

McKAY/JONES
Carried
P&S/22/76

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted the council farms outstanding production season which surpassed even last years record. Drying off will commence shortly. Planting of 650 riparian plants is to start any day now.
- Elected members sought clarification on speed limit rules outside schools. Mr Bowden clarified that the Setting of Speed Limit Rules 2022 came into play last week. A consultation process will be embarked on soon.
- A decision report will come before members regarding a speed limit zone (30km/hour for urban schools and 60km/hr for rural) and subsequent speed sign design for St Josephs and Midhirst schools. The experience with the variable speed sign currently in use (outside Stratford Primary School) has been mixed. Waka Kotahi have advised that zoning on the predominant street outside of a school is required. For Midhirst School, there is activity on both Denmark and Erin Streets.
- Councillor Erwood noted that he would like consideration given to zoning on a second street for both schools.
- The Mayor asked whether electronic signs could be reprogrammed to a different speed. Mr Bowden confirmed this and clarified that a technician is being contracted to sort out the faults on the Stratford Primary School illuminated sign.
- Councillor Boyde congratulated management and Apollo for the outstanding work on the aquatic centre project to date – the communication and project progress being on time and on budget are worth noting.
- Councillor Jones noted that a 'CRM' which he had reported to council recently did not appear in the reporting. Mr Bowden clarified that the issue brought up by Councillor Jones was put straight into the forward works programme. Roading CRMs are generally for potholes or minor works. Mr Hanne clarified that data included in this report is for the month gone. Mr Bowden added that he could show month forward planning if there is appetite for this.

10.2 **Community Services Report**
D22/14439 Page 175

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

ERWOOD/WEBBY
Carried
P&S/22/77

The Director Community Services noted the following:

- The new Antenno app is in operation. Ms Whareaitu encourages elected members to download the new communications tool on their phones. Antenno can also be used to report faults and issues (CRMs) as well.
- A meeting will be held with Business and Economic Research Ltd (BERL) this week on community strategies including updated town centre plans to support the strategies.
- Puanga celebrations in Stratford are on from 23-25 June.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde agreed that Antenno is a great app – he had just received an update regarding Targa Rally road closures.

10.3 **Environmental Services Report**
D22/14832 Page 186

Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

McKAY/ERWOOD
Carried
P&S/22/78

The Environmental Health Manager noted the following points:

- The team are currently in the process of completing end of year processes for dog registrations and renewal notices are due to be sent out end of May. The team are also looking at ways to streamline on-line payments and investigating other registration initiatives by councils across the country.
- The building team continue to be busy with consents and in particular installation of fires.
- In addition to IANZ signing off on GNC requirements, we have now received official confirmation from IANZ of the BCA's continued accreditation.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde sought clarification on whether priority building in the desktop study identifying earthquake prone buildings in the district included verandas. Mr Hanne confirmed verandas in general were not considered priority buildings in the context of this study.

10.4 **Corporate Services Report**
D22/16811 Page 193

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

JAMIESON/VOLZKE
Carried
P&S/22/79

2. THAT the Committee acknowledges that the Investment with Counterparty limit breach has been authorised by the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, and the Chief Executive or Mayor, in accordance with the Treasury Management Policy.

BOYDE/DALZIEL
Carried
P&S/22/80

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Mayor Volzke noted, in referring to capital expenditure, that council had embarked on \$28.8 million worth of capital expenditure – a record spend – and that the prediction at this stage of \$24.6 million of that to be spent. He considered that an outstanding achievement particularly when he knew of some councils who were sitting as low as 50 per cent achieved. Very few councils have got anywhere near their targeted spend. Of course, this has been dominated by the pool – but nevertheless the money has been spent as planned.
- The Mayor noted the treasury management report. Council started off with \$32 million and taking into account other things, shows a net debt of \$15 million. Ten million of that will be transferred to the new three waters entity. Mrs Radich clarified that there will be a net debt of \$5 million after the three waters transfer.

- Councillor Dalziel, in referring to the counter party limit, noted that it requires approval each month. He asked if the policy could be changed to include a permanent dispensation to approve and/or to review the counter party limit each quarter or increase the counter party limit amount. Mrs Radich noted that it is good practice to have the action coming through some sort of governance entity.
- The Mayor agreed with Councillor Dalziel's comments, accepting that the approval process is good practice. He asked that the counter party limit in the treasury management policy be reviewed. This will be added to matters outstanding for the Audit and Risk Committee to consider.
- Councillor Dalziel raised the depreciation reserve increase and whether assets were being overvalued. Mrs Radich noted that assets were revalued as at 1 July 2021 and entered into systems in October/November of that year. There have been significant changes in costs relating to three waters and roading assets and one of the biggest increases is depreciation. Mrs Radich clarified that council's asset revaluation was completed by an external party and that the roading revaluation was peer reviewed by Audit NZ.

11. Questions

- Following a question from Councillor Dalziel regarding the length of the monthly reports, Mr Hanne asked elected members for their views. Councillor Coplestone noted that while he did not read all of the reports, he found them useful to cross reference some issues. The Deputy Mayor found material in the monthly reports helpful, particularly when he had to answer questions from the community but admitted that there is a lot of reading. Councillor Dalziel considered the reports too lengthy and detailed for a governance team. Councillor Boyde would like the length and detail of monthly reports to be reviewed. Mr Hanne said that he would give the matter some thought.
- Councillor Harris, referring to the candidate handbook (Local Elections 2022) asked when new legislation requiring the addresses of nominees to be published, would be enacted. Mrs Radich noted that the legislation would be enacted before the elections. Stratford along with the other three councils made the call to publish this information for the handbook.

12. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 212

The closing karakia 'Kia Uruuru Mai' was led by Ms Vanstone.

The meeting closed at 4pm.

A L Jamieson
Chairman

Confirmed this 28th day of June 2022.

N C Volzke
District Mayor