

Date: 11 August 2026 at 3.30 PM

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor Neil Volzke (the Chairperson), the Deputy Mayor Amanda Harris, Councillors: Steve Beck, Jaimie Bertie, Josh Best, Annette Dudley, Jono Erwood, Ellen Hall, Katherine Sextus and Mathew Watt.

In attendance

The Chief Executive –Sven Hanne, the Director – Corporate Services – Raelene Johnson, the Director – Assets – Victoria Araba, the Governance Advisor & Executive Assistance – Gareth Hancock.

1. Welcome

The opening karakia was read and the H&S message was read. The mayor welcomed members, senior staff to the meeting and members of the public.

2. Apologies

Noted Councillor Boyde's approved leave of absence.

Recommendation

THAT Councillor Grant Boyde's apology be received.

BECK/BEST
Carried
CL/26/74

3. Announcements

The Chief Executive advised that the Head Start proposal was submitted to MCERT on Friday. Confirmation of receipt has been received, and any follow-up questions are now awaited. The Chief Executive also noted that a meeting with all four councils is scheduled for 4.15pm today to discuss the Head Start process.

The District Mayor advised that he, the CE and Director of Environmental Services met with Contact Energy yesterday to discuss the data centre. A presentation to councillors has been scheduled to give them an outline of the proposed project. The District Mayor noted that he is happy to speak with councillors outside of this meeting if they have any questions.

4. Declarations of Members Interest

Elected members were asked to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. None were noted.

5. Attendance Schedule

The Attendance schedule for Ordinary Council Meetings was attached and noted. None.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 14 July 2026 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

VOLZKE/HARRIS
Carried
CL/26/75

6.1.1 Public Forum Notes
D26/25832 Page 13

6.2 **Audit and Risk Committee – 14 July 2026** D26/25834 Page 16

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on Tuesday 14 July 2026 be received.

ERWOOD/DUDLEY
Carried
CL/26/76

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on Tuesday 14 July 2026 be adopted.

BERTIE/WATT
Carried
CL/26/77

The District Mayor noted that the Percy Thomson letter of expectations has been sent.

6.3 **Extraordinary Meeting of Council – 21 July 2026** D26/27307 Page 23

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 21 July 2026 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

BEST/HARRIS
Carried
CL/26/78

Councillor Best noted his name is missing from present for the meeting. This would be amended by the Governance Advisor.

6.4 **Policy and Services Committee – 21 July 2026** D26/27310 Page 27

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2026 be received.

DUDLEY/BERTIE
Carried
CL/26/79

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2026 be adopted.

HALL/BEST
Carried
CL/26/80

Councillor Hall noted on page 30 the word should be crude. This would be amended by the Governance Advisor.

7. Decision Report - Road Closure for a Car Club Event

D26/27671

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Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

CHADWICK/VOLZKE
Carried
CL/26/81

2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, approval is hereby given that the Stratford District Council closes the following roads on Sunday 16 August 2026 between the hours of 7.30am and 5.30pm for the purpose of the annual Stratford Street Sprint 2026

- Orlando Street from Warwick Road to Celia Street
- Romeo Street from Orlando Street to Cordelia Street
- Cordelia Street from Romeo Street to Warwick Road
- Warwick Road from Cordelia Street to Orlando Street

HARRIS/WATT
Carried
CL/26/82

Recommended Reason

The South Taranaki Car Club have approached the Stratford District Council with the view of holding their annual Stratford Street Sprint Event on Sunday 16 August. This is their 36th year of running the event. The proposed road closure requires formal endorsement by a Council resolution.

8. District Mayor's Report

D26/30554

Page 49

Recommendations

- THAT the report be received.

VOLKZE/BECK
Carried
CL/26/83

The District Mayor noted the following:

- It was a relatively light report, with discussion including local government reform. The Mayor advised that the LGNZ AGM was held online and noted that the Council's remit was successful. He further noted the ranking of the remits and commented that the result was significant.
- The MTFJ report was noted as correspondence.

Questions/points of clarification:

- Councillor Beck sought further information on the remit submitted to LGNZ. The Mayor explained that its success elevates the issue on LGNZ's priority list, enabling LGNZ to advocate for it and allocate resources accordingly.
- Councillor Hall asked how many remits were considered. It was noted that there were nine.
- Councillor Dudley noted that there had been three fire call-outs to the War Memorial Hall and sought an explanation. An explanation was provided.

9. Public Forum Response

Speaker Michael Carr
Topic Sport Taranaki

A letter to convey thanks to Sport Taranaki, encouraging them to keep up the good work.

10. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Recommendation

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Agenda Item No: 11

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution to each matter	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Chief Executive Annual Performance Appraisal	The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist, under section 6 and section 7 of the Act - specifically Section 7(2)(a) Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

ERWOOD/CHADWICK
Carried
CL/26/84

11. Public Excluded Item

Recommendation

THAT the open meeting resume.

VOLZKE/SEXTUS
Carried
CL/26/87

12. Questions

- None.

13. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 74

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.07 pm.

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 8th day of September 2026.

N C Volzke
District Mayor