



Ordinary Meeting of Council Minutes

**Tuesday 22 January 2019
Ordinary Meeting 6.00 PM**

Council Chambers, Civic Centre,
Stuart Highway, Katherine

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL HELD
AT THE KATHERINE CIVIC CENTRE TUESDAY 22 January 2019**

1. WELCOME TO COUNTRY

I am honoured to be on the ancestral lands of Katherine's Aboriginal peoples. I acknowledge the First Australians as the traditional custodians of the continent, whose cultures are among the oldest living cultures in human history. I pay respect to the Elders of the community and extend my recognition to their descendants who are present.

2. OPENING PRAYER

Grant O God to this Council wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose in the Governance of this Municipality. Amen

3. PRESENT

Mayor Miller Fay Miller
Alderman Peter Gazey
Alderman Matt Hurley
Alderman Jon Raynor
Alderman Lis Clark
Alderman John Zellely

In attendance

Mr Robert Jennings – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Mrs Claire Johansson - Chief Operating Officer (COO)
Mr Peter Reeve – Executive Manager Infrastructure &
Environment

Ms Sue Crammond (EA) – Minute Taker

6 x members of the Katherine Community
1 x member of the Media

4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Apologies:

Alderman Toni Tapp Coutts
Ms Rosemary Jennings – Executive Manager Corporate &
Community Development (XCCD)

Leave of Absence: Alderman Toni Tapp Coutts – 18 January to 2 February 2019

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Confirmation of Previous Minutes

MOVED: Hurley / Clark

5.1 That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on the
11 December 2018 be confirmed as true and accurate.

CARRIED 6 / 0

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

NIL

7. **DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Member Disclosure of Interest and Declared Interest

NIL

8. **MAYORAL BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Mayoral Business to be considered.

LGANT Executive teleconference
Meeting with residents x 7
Public Art Project meeting
ABC Radio interview x 3
Meeting with Executive Director of Plant Industries/Katherine Research Station
Funeral x 1
PUMA Opening
Meeting with Territory Families CEO & Deputy CEO
Meeting with SADFO Tim Ferrell – Commanding Officer No 17 Squadron
Teleconference with Tick Everett
Savannah Way Board meeting – teleconference
Elected Member Information Session
Ordinary Council Meeting – January

November, December and thus far in January has proved to be a challenging one for businesses and some private residences in Katherine who have experienced high levels of criminal behaviour – breaking and entry, car stealing and the list goes on. The cost to businesses is immense and the inconvenience is unfair. There is no accountability for the perpetrators and our residents are left to pick up the pieces so to speak – especially the financial burden. For some reason this year appears to be the worst that I can recall for many years.

It is my intent to introduce the discussion of this unacceptable behaviour to the local government representatives from right across the Northern Territory who will be attending the LGANT general meeting in Katherine in April. Each town and region in the NT is unfortunately having similar experiences. We all have a responsibility to work together with the NTG, our Police and wider community towards a more positive outcome to ensure that we can all continue to enjoy the lifestyle we are well known for. Everyone deserves to live and do business in a SAFE community.

Thank Toni Tapp Coutts as Deputy Mayor. Great assistance. 1st Feb Alderman Lis Clark to role of Deputy Mayor. Welcome.

9. **CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE TABLED**

NIL

10. PETITIONS

NIL

11. QUESTIONS

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Questions

11.1 With Notice

NIL

11.2 Without Notice

NIL

12. NOTICE OF MOTION

NIL

13. REPORT OF OFFICERS

13.1 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – DECEMBER 2018

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Chief Executive Officer Report

MOVED: Gazey / Clark

Alderman Clark – Big Rivers Waste Management – what types of metals are being collected?

CEO – Car bodies are the target item. Further types of scrap metal may be looked at into the future, but there is still a lot of scrap cars to collect.

Alderman Gazey – Is 300 car bodies the number the project was aiming for?

CEO – The program has successfully collected approximately 300 car bodies last year, from one community site. Another 300 will also be removed from that site this year. There are approximately twenty (20) more locations identified, where many more car bodies will be removed. The aim is that the majority should be collected by the end of 2019.

Mayor Miller – Good to see the sewer issue at airport could be solved by partnering with Defence.

Alderman Raynor – A comment on the CEO Highlights table. Electricity consumption item listed in June. Can this item be closed off?

CEO - Will look into that particular item, with a view to closure.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the Chief Executive Officer Report for the month of December 2018 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

13.2 MONTHLY REPORT FOR CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – DECEMBER 2018

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Corporate and Community Services Reports

MOVED: Zelley / Clark

Alderman Clark – VIC sales are down but still good for this time of year and indicates people are still spending. Whilst on a WA trip I visited a VIC that was self-funded. They charge 3% on bookings, which funds the centre. Very interesting model.

Mayor Miller – Do they get the site rent free?

Alderman Clark – Not sure. It is a very small town and site.

CEO – There are a number of models to run VICs. Offering memberships is one way, but that model is disappearing as the internet and websites influence the market. But we could continue to explore different models.

Mayor Miller – Is there a brief update/report on current School Holiday Program?

CEO – There are some very good and encouraging participation numbers, with the free movies and swimming pool activities being most popular. Feedback from the community that this is a very a strong event. Great participation has been received from Kalano and other community groups in providing activities for youth engagement. The overall program is proving very successful for Katherine.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the report of the Corporate and Community Development Report for the month of December 2018 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

13.3 MONTHLY REPORT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT SERVICES - DECEMBER 2018

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Works and Services Division Reports

MOVED: Hurley / Clark

Alderman Clark – Vandalised sprinklers – great to see a decrease in the dollar figure for replacement/repairs.

Alderman Clark – Litter collection figures are still high. I assume this is due to alcohol containers etc. being left around the town.

Mayor Miller – Vandalism which occurred last year at the Cemetery was very upsetting and disheartening. We need to keep an eye on that. So far, this year there has been no incidents. I would like to see the development of guidelines for memorial items relatives and friends leave on headstones and plinths. Light weight vases etc. are not suitable as they easily fall over or get blown off and break etc.

CEO – We can look at developing something.

Alderman Clark – There is a high number of illegal dumping incidences for the period. Why is it so high and where is the dumping occurring?

CEO – It is usual for dumping to increase at this time of year. It appears to be related to the Christmas season, however, and could correlate to the few days the WMF is closed.

Alderman Clark – The bins that were outside the WMF have been removed?

CEO – Yes.

Alderman Gazey – Is there any data on what type of goods are being dumped? That would be interesting to know if this can be related back to new fees structure, i.e. whitegoods charges.

CEO – Will see what data we can find and provide that to EMs.

Alderman Raynor – What are "goods stored" in the Public Spaces graph?

COO – Often it is Woolworth trollies with items stored in them.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the report of the Infrastructure and Environment Services Report for the month of December 2018 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

13.4 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT - DECEMBER 2018

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Reports

MOVED: Clark / Zelle

Alderman Clark – Weighbridge fees, Over 120 days. Are those people excluded from dumping at the WMF?

COO – Yes. This denial of use commences in at the Over 60 days mark.

Alderman Clark – pg 28 – Line item listed as "Mrs Ganley – Ald/Mayor allowances (\$520). Incorrect – This was a reimbursement of expenses to Mrs Ganley.

Alderman Clark – Electricity charges are going down, this is a welcome improvement.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

13.5 CHANGE OF DATE FOR ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 2019

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Ordinary Meeting of Council

MOVED: Clark / Zelle

Aldermen Gazey – Will bringing forward the date of the meeting, give the Finance Team time to prepare the financials.

Mayor Miller – Yes, it should.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the date of 19 February be noted as the new date for the February 2019 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

13.6 **KATHERINE SPORTSGROUNDS OVALS 1 & 2**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Sportsgrounds

MOVED: Hurley / Zelle

CEO – It is important to note, the \$300K transfer has received in principle approval from the NTG. However, we are yet to receive a signed document. Alderman Clark – Quite amazing to see how many people use that oval. No wonder it is under stress.

Mayor Miller – It highlights how many sporting teams there are in Katherine all using the facilities. Very encouraging to see such an active community. The upgrade will be very much welcomed by all.

Alderman Gazey – Are we thinking far enough into the future with this upgrade? Would the money be better used to build a 3rd oval, rather than refurbish the existing?

Mayor Miller – A 3rd oval is a good idea, but we need to get the existing facility optimised first.

Alderman Gazey – Whilst Oval 2 is under construction we can't use it. If we build a 3rd Oval, we will have 2 ½ good ovals in town.

Mayor Miller – Oval 2 is hardly useable now, we do need to fix it up.

CEO – The Community may have something to say on this. A consultant is being engaged to speak to community. The Masterplan indicates a 3rd Oval is a possible option. The consultant will look at the Masterplan as part of the consultation process. But I believe there is a good convenience achieved by having two ovals collocated, as is currently the case.

Alderman Gazey – Construction of a new oval would also involve additional costs i.e. lighting and other infrastructure. However, I would like to know that other options will be explored.

Mayor Miller – The long-term strategic plan for the area will consider the provision of further sporting facilities.

Alderman Raynor – I am supportive of the upgrade. However, I do have some concerns on the size of field (is it big enough). The position of lighting towers seem a bit close to the playing surface. Pads can be added on the towers but bolts holding the towers could be problematic.

CEO – We will engage a consultant who knows correct Codes to apply for building of ovals, including lighting and safety etc. to ensure we get it right.

Mayor Miller – There is a good body of work to be done out there.

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That Council proceed with the full reconstruction of Katherine Sportsgrounds Oval 2 at the estimated cost of \$506,000.
2. That these works be funded as follows:
 - a) \$300,000 from the NT Government grant
 - b) \$206,000 budget variation from reserves into the 2018/19 budget
3. That the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee/User Groups be advised of the decision and Council liaises with User Groups to facilitate the timing of these works.
4. That tenders be advertised for these works after discussion with the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee/User Groups.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

13.7 **KATHERINE CIVIL AIRPORT RAAF TINDAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Airport

MOVED: Raynor / Clark

Alderman Raynor – The development of this committee has been a long time coming. I believe it has been two (2) years since there was a meeting of this type. Happy to see this progress and I would like to put my hand up to be a part of it.

Alderman Gazey – Will RAAF Tindal be invited to become a member?

Mayor Miller – We mentioned this to the incoming RAAF SADFO just last week. He is keen for the RAAF to participate.

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That Council form a Katherine Civil Airport RAAF Tindal Advisory Committee.
2. That Council advertise for interested persons to join this Advisory Committee.
3. That Council Officers prepare a Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

14. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES**

Deputy Mayor Tapp Coutts
Ordinary Meeting of Council
Open Forum
Elected Member Information Sessions x 2

Alderman Gazey
Ordinary Meeting of Council
Open Forum
Elected Members Information Session x 2

Alderman Clark
Ordinary Meeting of Council
Open Forums
Elected Members Information Session x 2

Alderman Raynor
Ordinary Meeting of Council
Open Forum
Elected Members Information Session x 1

Alderman Zelley
Ordinary Meeting of Council
Open Forum
Elected Members Information Session x 1

15. LATE AGENDA ITEMS

To accept the late agenda item to the meeting.

MOVED: Clark / Hurley

CARRIED: 6 / 0

**15.1 TENDER T18/10 – FLORINA ROAD CULVERT GUARDRAIL
UPGRADE**

File: Tenders / Tenders 2018 / T18-10 – Florina Road Culvert Guardrail
Upgrade

MOVED: Hurley / Gazey

Alderman Gazey – This has taken awhile to happen but will provide an upgrade to current Standards for guardrails, rather than just a replacement. This is why it has taken time to develop and also costing a bit more money.

I would also note, the Tender Weighting used is from the old scheme, as the tender was distributed prior to new weightings being approved at the December Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Alderman Clark – I would like to iterate that Council are not obliged to accept the lowest tender. As a note: Sections of the public highway at Kununurra doesn't have guardrails. Not sure why road rules are different. Culverts have guide posts and a striped one in the middle.

Mayor Miller – Good to know Katherine are ahead of the game then.

Alderman Raynor - I am glad to see this culvert brought up to Standard.

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That Tender 18/10 – Florina Road Culvert Guardrail Upgrade, be awarded to Territory Construction Services at their submitted schedule of rates price of \$371,219 (GST inclusive).

CARRIED: 6 / 0

16. GENERAL BUSINESS

Alderman Zelle – Is there a general update on the streetlights?

CEO – Some work has been done on this, but the XIE can provide a proper response at our next Council meeting.

Alderman Clark – Sad to see we have bars on Civic Centre, which were installed in response to breaks in at the Centre. I am saddened to see the increases in break ins, not only here, but across the whole of the Northern Territory. NTG need to come up with something to curb these activities and not just talk about it. In saying that, I acknowledge it is a very complex problem and there is not a "one single solution" to it.

Alderman Gazey – Community should be aware of the consultation activities being undertaken for the Bicentennial Road / Stuart Highway intersection and the Lindsay Street / Stuart Highway intersection. I encourage Community members to make submissions, as these intersections will affect how traffic flows around town. The Lindsay Street intersection in particular, will also have an impact on Council roads.

Mayor Miller – The CEO and I will be following up with Cmdr Hebb on crime in town. It is a challenge for everyone.

17. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

NIL

18. NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

The second Ordinary Meeting of Council for 2019 will be held on Tuesday 19 February 2019.

19. Meeting Closed

The meeting closed at 6:40 pm.

Fay Miller

MAYOR MILLER OF KATHERINE

Officer Title Abbreviations

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
COO	Chief Operating Officer
XCCD	Executive Manager Corporate and Community Development
XIE	Executive Manager Infrastructure and Environment
MCERS	Manager Compliance Environment & Regulatory Services
MIE	Manager Infrastructure & Environment
MCFAS	Manager Customer Finance Administration Services
MVIC	Manager Visitor Information Centre
CO	Communications Officer
EA	Executive Assistant
CLO	Community Liaison Officer
SO	Sustainability Officer
GO	Governance Officer