



MINUTES

OF THE

ORDINARY MEETING

OF COUNCIL

HELD

TUESDAY 30 JULY 2013

AT

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 30 JULY 2013 AT 6.10 PM

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. PRESENT

Mayor Fay Miller
Alderman Lis Clark
Alderman Steven Rose
Alderman Adrian Creighton
Alderman Rob Phillips
Alderman Kate Ganley

IN ATTENDANCE Mr David Laugher - Chief Executive Officer
Mrs Alice Anastacio – Finance Manager
Mrs Heather Kirk – Administration and Executive Support Officer
Mr James Rowe – Economic Development Manager
Mr Warwick Jack - Works Manager
3 x Members of the Katherine Community

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Members Leave of Absence and Apologies

That the apologies of Alderman Higgins, Sophie Henderson and Neroli Dickens be accepted and that leave be granted.

4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

MOVED: Phillips/Clark

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 25 June 2013 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED: 6/0

5. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

- Alderman Ganley declared her involvement in organising an event in the Katherine Festival which is auspiced through Katherine Regional Arts.

6. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- Alderman Ganley noted the motion to record comments and questions raised in the Minutes was being actioned, however Council was to investigate the cost of recording meetings which is not included in tonight's agenda. The CEO advised that meetings with a supplier will take place later in the week to investigate costs.
- Alderman Creighton noted that the NT Government had something which sat in the middle of the table which he thought was not expensive, and picked up all communications.
- Alderman Rose stated a meeting he attends only uses a Dictaphone.

7. **MAYORAL BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED**

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

- The Katherine Regional Development Committee – a new group appointed by the Minister for Regional Development and Women's Policy – had its first meeting recently. Ten people are on the committee and the first meeting explained the framework of the committee, the process of recommendations and the line of communications. The election and appointment of a Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson will take place at the first strategic meeting. The group will work on developing strategic plans and priorities for the region and will have departmental support.
- Referendum for Recognition of Local Government is going ahead at the upcoming federal election. As Elected Members you need to be very proactive in educating the community to support the YES vote. This is not a political referendum. It is about your local services and local infrastructure. Councils will still be answerable and accountable to State and Territory Governments. The Mayor asked all elected members to make themselves available on the day of the election and to make the CEO aware of their availability.

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

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Correspondence and Documents Tabled

Nil

9. **QUESTIONS**

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Questions

9.1 **With Notice**

Nil

9.2 **Without Notice**

Nil

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

11. REPORT OF OFFICERS

11.1 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2013

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

MOVED: Clark/Phillips

That the report of the Chief Executive Officer for the month of June 2013 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6/0

- Alderman Clark noted an increase in visitor numbers but not in sales for the Visitor Information Centre (VIC). The Mayor commented that the economic impact is hitting tourists and some operators have found that people are making enquiries but not spending any money. Numbers are skewed due to facilities being used for the toilets, the GHAN passengers who do not spend any money and possibly the tourist buses who drop off people at the VIC.
- Alderman Phillips asked if there are any ways we can increase income. The Mayor advised that this would have to be taken into serious consideration by the CEO and Economic Development Manager. We have money coming in through the lease of office space at the VIC.
- Alderman Clark queried if the toilet situation has been alleviated with the Lindsay St Complex being open. Alderman Ganley advised that she has noticed there was between 15-20 people in a 3 hour period going to use the toilet facility only, and not for a coffee.
- Alderman Phillips queried the 2 dog attacks listed. He would like to see some publicity that Council is addressing these problems and would like to know what they are – are dogs being put down?

11.2 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE WORKS MANAGER FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2013

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Works Manager Reports

MOVED: Creighton/Rose

That the report of the Works Manager for the month of June 2013 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6/0

11.3 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT – JUNE 2013

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Manager Reports

MOVED: Ganley/Clark

That the Finance Report for the month of June 2013 prepared by the Finance Manager be received and adopted.

CARRIED: 6/0

- The Mayor raised the reimbursement of the Mayoral Dinner

11.4 MINUTES OF THE ART AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 20 JUNE 2013

File: Community Relations / Committees / Art and Cultural Committee / 2013

MOVED: Clark/Creighton

That the Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20 June 2013 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6/0

- Alderman Clark advised that the brochures are out and everything is in hand.

11.5 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL'S CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2013/2014

File: Local Governance / Media Relations / Administration

MOVED: Rose/Phillips

That it be recommended to Council:

1. It is proposed that the meeting cycle for December 2013 and January 2014 be as follows:

December 2013

Workshop	Monday 9 th December 2013
Ordinary Council Meeting	Tuesday 10 th December 2013

January 2014

Workshop	Monday 20 th January 2014
Ordinary Council Meeting	Tuesday 21 st January 2014

2. That the Council offices be closed as follows:

Civic Centre	25 th December 2013 until the 1 January 2014 inclusive
Library	25 th December 2013 until the 1 January 2014 inclusive
Depot & Inspectorate	25 th and 26 th December 2013 and 1 st January 2014
Visitor Information Centre	25 th and 26 th December 2013 and 1 st January 2014 27 th December 2013 until 31 December 2013 inclusive – opening hours 10.00am till 2.00pm
Waste Management Station	25 th December 2013

CARRIED: 6/0

11.6 FACILITY HIRE CHARGES – KATHERINE FESTIVAL

File: Community Relations / Events / Katherine Festival / Festival 2013

MOVED: Ganley/Clark

That Council

1. Resolves to immediately cease further debate on changes to the Fees and Charges Structure (and Policy) for 2013; and
2. Determines to direct the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate options for transfer of the Katherine Festival to the Godinymayin Yijard Arts and Cultural Centre with effect from 2014.

CARRIED:

The Mayor queried if Alderman Ganley could speak on this point. Alderman Ganley's understanding is there is no conflict of interest as the organisation is not-for-profit. Alderman Ganley is the event organiser but the grant money is being auspiced by Katherine Regional Arts. She referred everyone to page 48 of the Municipal Plan which states as part of Council support for these events, facility and hire charges will not apply. The CEO stated that there is a conflict between 2 decisions Council has made. A decision will need to be made by Council on which decision has precedence in this particular case. Alderman Ganley does not see this as a contradiction but a ledger input. A discussion took place over in-kind support.

MOVED: Ganley/Creighton

AMENDMENT:

Council supports the approved Katherine Festival community events in accordance with page 48 of the Katherine Town Council Municipal Plan.

CARRIED: 6/0

Resolution for Option One lapsed.

- The Mayor added that this would not affect any other events such as the Teddy Bear's Picnic, but would mean there would be more funding for a major attraction.
- Alderman Clark advised that Council has not discussed option 2.
- Alderman Ganley believed in terms of delegating the Festival to another body that consultation should first occur at the Arts and Cultural Committee, this group has not been consulted to date.
- Alderman Phillips asked of the benefit to Council of Option 2.
- The CEO advised the Resolution 2 was from ongoing discussion for the capacity of Council to operate as an events coordinator and to continue to run these sort of events. Experience has found that it has not been well done and Council has struggled to attract participants. The idea was to transfer the Katherine Festival to a facility which was built for the purpose and has the expertise to do it, and are able to attract major names to Katherine.

- Alderman Creighton asked that the CEO would not be making a decision on his own and the decision would come back to Council. The Mayor agreed this was correct.
- Alderman Rose requested if an Alderman would sit on organising committee with GYRACC. The Mayor asked to look at the options and come back to Council with options. The CEO is not aware of an organising committee – this would have to be confirmed with GYRACC if they wished an external party to sit on their committee.
- Alderman Clark would like more discussion on this particular matter.
- The Mayor advised that this resolution was only for the CEO to negotiate options and bring them back to Council.

CARRIED: 6/0

11.7 **BUDGET VARIATION – MUNICIPAL PLAN SUBMISSIONS**

File: Local Governance / Compliance / Municipal Plan

MOVED: Creighton/Rose

That Council:

1. Endorse a budget variation giving effect to the transfer of \$20,900 from the projected Operating Surplus for 2013/2014 to the recommended 2013 – 2018 Katherine Town Council Municipal Plan submissions:
 - a. The routine mowing of O'Shea Terrace (from the boat ramp entry side), at cost of \$2,900 exclusive of GST.
 - b. The routine mowing of Giles Street (along the bike path) from Katherine River Lodge to the Cemetery, at cost of \$12,000 exclusive of GST.
 - c. Construct a piece of connecting footpath along Martin Terrace, directly opposite Needham Terrace, at cost of \$6,000 exclusive of GST.
2. In endorsing the variation, acknowledge the revised projected Operating Surplus of the Katherine Town Council Budget 2013/2014 as being \$595,204.

CARRIED: 6/0

- Alderman Ganley asked about the CEO resolution on the last agenda item that debate cease as we are not able to change the Municipal Plan – she is confused about process. The Mayor advised that these were the revised submissions. This was subject to suggestions which had come from Elected Members after they had been costed.
- Alderman Phillips and Alderman Clark were not aware that these projects would be carried forward after the Municipal Plan had been finalised.
- Discussion took place on the items included above and the original prices which were submitted which were deemed to be too high.

11.8 MUNICIPAL PLAN – QUARTERLY REVIEW

File: Governance / Compliance / Municipal Plan

MOVED: Rose/Ganley

That Council:

That Council notes the status of the quarterly review of the Municipal Plan for 2012/2013 as at the 30 June 2013.

CARRIED: 6/0

- Alderman Rose asked if there was any news on the lease at the Civil Airport. The CEO advised that they had formally written to the Department of Defence indicating Council would extend the lease option. Ongoing discussions are still occurring re potential sub leases and building of other facilities. Discussions will look at what the future may hold and Council may consider the possibility of a 30-50 year lease which is necessary to provide security for an operator to invest.

11.9 FEDERALLY FUNDED HEAVY VEHICLE BYPASS

File: Roads Civil and Traffic Works / Planning / Town Planning – Heavy Vehicle Bypass

MOVED: Clark/Rose

That Council:

1. Endorse the route identified as Option 2 as its formal position on the allocation of the Federal Government's \$10M for the Heavy Vehicle Bypass for Katherine.

CARRIED: /0

- Alderman Phillips asked why Zimin Drive was not included – he feels it is by far the best access and the most cost effective route. He asked for this to be included as Option 3.
- The Mayor advised that at the last consultation Council was asked not to go near Zimin Drive, by community members.

MOVED: Phillips/Creighton

AMENDMENT:

Put forward to the Department for the proposed heavy vehicle route Option 2 and Option 3 which would include the Zimin Drive Corridor.

CARRIED: 6/0

11.10 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA FUND GRANT APPLICATIONS

File: Finance / Grant Funding / Regional Development Australia Fund

MOVED: Clark/Creighton

That Council:

1. Endorse the funding application for Round Five of the Regional Development Australia Fund grant programme for infrastructure and renewable energy projects.

CARRIED: 6/0

- Alderman Ganley noted the report stated money would be reallocated to the Lindsay Street Complex and queried the ownership of the stage. The Mayor confirmed the stage was owned by the KCMM and they are relocating it to the Katherine Sports and Recreation Club. KTC will be required to build a new permanent stage, and this cost will come from reserves.
- Alderman Ganley queried how many events utilise the stage throughout the year. The Mayor listed several events which had recently/will be using the stage.
- Alderman Rose asked if the stage could be a temporary one which could be moved. The CEO advised that the challenge of building a removable stage is that it is subject to damage and higher costs when moving it. The cheaper option is a permanent stage.
- Alderman Clark advised that the current stage was heavy and dangerous to move.

11.11 REVIEW OF SIGNAGE CODE

File: Regulatory Services / Legislation / Signs Code

MOVED: Phillips/Creighton

That Council:

1. Considers the application of a variation to the signs code to make provision for visible sponsorship signage for community groups as outlined in the body of the report; and
2. Adopts a financial control for minimum sponsorship arrangements to gain signage rights.
3. Agrees to engage with the Chamber of Commerce as a representative agency to determine any possible changes to the Code in respect to commercial signage; and
4. Directs that any recommendations from this work be brought back to Council for further consideration.

CARRIED: 6/0

- Alderman Ganley asked if there is something specific which has brought on the review and secondly she noted “the class of applicant could be further restricted by excluding those entities with access to alternative fundraising via poker machines.” Anticipates this is directly associated with gaming clubs which are not Council owned. She asked why this was the case. The Mayor advised the code was not written around Council facilities. The CEO advised that the class of potential users of this policy is aimed at not-for-profit organisations. This adheres to the same strategy when adopting the rates for not-for-profit clubs such as the Pony Club.
- Alderman Phillips stated that he had been approached by some organisations concerning signage who were keen to progress this code.

11.12 GENERAL UPDATE – STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT REPORT

File: Local Governance / Compliance / Municipal Plan / Municipal Plan 2013 - 2018

MOVED: Phillips/Ganley

That Council:

Receive and note the report.

CARRIED: 6/0

11.13 ACQUITTAL – 2013 LIBRARY OPERATIONAL FUNDING

File: Finance / Grant Funding / NT Library

MOVED: Clark/Phillips

That it be recommended to Council:

That the acquittal for the 2012/2013 Library Operation Funding be received and noted and the acquittal be forwarded to the Northern Territory Library, Department of Housing, Local Government and Regional Services.

CARRIED: 6/0

- The Mayor advised that Council was receiving the same amount of funding for 2013/2014 as last year, as advised today.

12. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

File: Community Relations / Committees / Elected Member Representatives on Committees

The following meetings/activities were attended by the Elected Members:

Alderman Kate Ganley

Elected Members Workshops
Council Meeting
Special Meeting of Council
Katherine Regional Arts Meeting

Alderman Steven Rose

Elected Members Workshops
Council Meeting
Greens Committee Meeting
Development Consent Authority Meeting
Chamber of Commerce Meeting
Katherine Land Use Consultation Plan
Alderman Stall – Saturday Markets
Special Meeting of Council
Clean Up - Debutante Ball

Alderman Adrian Creighton

Council Meeting
Elected Members Workshops
Clean Up - Debutante Ball
Met with Narelle – School Student - Representing NT at Canberra
Special Meeting of Council
Meeting with James Tindal
Katherine Museum Meeting

Alderman Rob Phillips

Council Meeting
Elected Members Workshops
Special Meeting of Council
Open Forum
Clean up - Debutante Ball
Alderman Stall – Saturday Markets

Alderman Lis Clark

Elected Member Workshops
Council Meeting
Special Meeting of Council
Open Forum
2 x YMCA Meetings
Clean Up - Debutante Ball
Art and Cultural Committee Meeting
Grants Submission Meeting

- Alderman Ganley asked for an overview of the YMCA Strategic Plan. Alderman Clark asked to defer this item to the next meeting as the YMCA are still putting together the Strategic Plan. She confirmed meetings had been attended with various persons re the Plan.

13. LATE AGENDA

Nil

14. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Alderman Rose commented on the broken glass around Katherine, which seems to be increasing. Alderman Ganley feels a container deposit is necessary - a deposit is required to buy a bottle and is returned when the bottle is returned. The Mayor advised Krag met last week and feels the liquor accord is not effective. The CEO advised the challenges with a container deposit process is that it is still reliant on the consumer group to comply and there are only a group of people collecting with the majority throwing out bottles. Costs of sweeping mechanisms are being investigated. The CEO has had discussions with the President and Vice President of NLC who indicated they will be inviting the CEO to address a meeting about anti-social behaviour by Indigenous groups in Katherine. They have expressed a desire to work with Council to find a solution.
- Alderman Clark commented that the water point being moved from the Museum has made a huge difference to the traffic jams, and also is very pleased to have had comments from people that the Museum is one of the best in Australia.
- Alderman Phillips queried how the VIC was coping with the influx of tourists since the water tap was installed. No reports have been received.
- Alderman Creighton thanked everyone as this is his last month as Deputy Mayor, particularly Alderman Phillips for stepping aside.
- The Mayor thanked Alderman Creighton for his term as Deputy Mayor and welcomed Alderman Phillips to the role.

15. PETITIONS

Nil

16. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

17. MEETING CLOSED

The meeting was closed at 7.44pm.

Fay Miller
MAYOR OF KATHERINE