



Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes

**Wednesday 26 April 2017
Ordinary Meeting 6:22PM**

Council Chambers, Civic Centre,
Stuart Highway, Katherine

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 APRIL 2017

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE KATHERINE CIVIC CENTRE WEDNESDAY 26 April 2017

1. Welcome to Country

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 Fay Miller
Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey
Alderman Lis Clark
Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts
Alderman Steven Rose
Alderman Donald (Henry) Higgins

In attendance

Mr Robert Jennings – Chief Executive Officer
Mrs Sophie Henderson – A/Director of Corporate & Community Services
Mr David Moore – A/Director Works & Services
Mrs Naomi Hunter - Communications Officer

4 x members of the Katherine Community
1 x members of the Media

Ms Rosemary Jennings – Community Support Officer
(Minute Taker)

4. Apologies and Leave of Absence

Nil

5. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

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

MOVED: Clark / Tapp-Coutts

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 28 March 2017 be confirmed as true and accurate.

CARRIED 6 / 0

CEO noted a number of corrections to be made to the previous minutes.

In General Business:

Change sentence to read 'Yvonne was a nurse...'

Correction of name to 'Mike Reed.'

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 APRIL 2017

MOVED: Higgins / Gazey

That the Confidential Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 28 March 2017 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

Mayor's Calendar of Events for March 2017

Meeting with community member x 6
Tourism Top End/Katherine meeting
Australian Hotels Association (NT) Dinner meeting
Katherine South Primary School Assembly/Leadership badges
Funeral x 2
Clean Up Australia
Meeting with Jane Runyu x 2
Elected Members Information Session x 2
Cicada Lodge dinner
Casuarina Street Primary School – Welcome Nano the Robot
NT Economic Summit – Katherine
Welcome morning tea for new VIC Manager
CEO Performance Review
Leukaemia Foundation Colour for a Cure
Savannah Way Board Meeting – teleconference
Meeting with Senator Malarndirri McCarthy/Darwin
KREDC meeting
ABC Radio interview x 2
NT Cancer Council/Nadine x 2
March Ordinary Council meeting and Open Forum
NT Regional Development Summit – Darwin Convention Centre
Farewell for Tiffany Brown
96th Birthday – Australian Air Force Reception at Tindal

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 APRIL 2017

9. Correspondence and Documents to be Tabled

- Letter – From Katherine Town Council – To Hydraulic Fracturing Taskforce

MOVED: Tapp-Coutts / Clark

Alderman Tapp-Coutts moves that Katherine Town Council endorse the letter to the Hydraulic Fracturing Taskforce.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

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 FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2017

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

MOVED: Clark / Gazey

That it be recommended to Council:

That the Chief Executive Officer Report for the month of March 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

CEO noted the Year To Date figures were missing (pg. 5) of the report but have since been rectified.

CEO also noted front cover of Agenda noted Tuesday, not Wednesday.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 APRIL 2017

Deputy Mayor Gazey – Pg 3. Queried why the service requests received versus completed is quite out of line.

Deferred to A/DWS – noted staffing shortages. Will be caught up and reflected in next month's report.

13.2 MONTHLY CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2017

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

MOVED: Higgins / Clark

That it be recommended to Council:

That the report of the Corporate and Community Services Division for the months March 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

Mayor Miller commented on the work the Library does for the 0-5 years age group. Discuss options to extend programs into December.

13.3 MONTHLY WORKS AND SERVICES DIVISION REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 2017

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

MOVED: Tapp-Coutts / Clark

That it be recommended to Council:

That the report of the Works & Services Division for the month of March 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

Alderman Rose noted that it will be great to see the Hot Springs work up and running soon.

DM Gazey queried the location of the new 240l bin location outside of Dollars and Sense and how this might look for businesses.

Deferred to A/DCCS – Noted the bins are looking to be decorated and informational, not standard 240l bins.

Alderman Higgins noted that no sprinklers have been replaced this month compared to \$15,000 Year To Date. Damaged attributed to vandals and vehicles being driven through the parks.

13.4 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – FEBRUARY 2017

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Manager Reports

MOVED: Higgins / Gazey

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 APRIL 2017

That it be recommended to Council:

That Council endorse the Financial Report for the month of March 2017.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

Alderman Clark queried the cost of Flick Washrooms services (6 x facilities in March).

Deferred to A/DCCS – Will take under advisement and a response provided.

Alderman Tapp-Coutts noted the amount owed in parking and animal infringements and queried how this could be recovered. A/DCCS will provide details on these outstanding infringements.

CEO noted pg. 24 noted the duration of some of those infringements as well as the process for detailing with outstanding debts.

Mayor Miller queried the reduction in parking infringements and if this is a staffing shortage.

A/DWS noted that this is still being addressed through the current Ranger.

Alderman Clark queried the cost of aluminium garden fence panel and spray grass.

A/DWS noted the fence was for the aquatic centre under recommendation from Worksafe NT. Spray grass has been used in various locations, most recently at Leight Creek to stop erosion.

Deputy Mayor Gazey noted that the report should note 'LOW' aromatic fuel. Also noted the high cost of tek screw and if this included other items. A/DWS has taken on notice.

13.5 2017 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION – CANDIDATE INFORMATION SESSIONS

File:

MOVED: Clark / Rose

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That Council nominate the 23 May 2017 as well as a suitable time, for the information session, to coincide with the Ordinary Council Meeting on the 23 May 2017; and
2. That Council promotes the sessions throughout the community to ensure all residents are given a chance to attend in order to find out more about the role of an Elected Member.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

Alderman Rose noted it is good that it will be scheduled in conjunction with a Council Meeting.

Mayor Miller queried if this session will occur directly prior to the meeting.

CEO advised the time is still to be determined and consideration will be made for those who work and may wish to attend.

Mayor Miller noted the information is readily available on line as well at the Civic Centre. Mayor Miller is also working with the Communications Officer and posting frequently asked questions on Facebook.

Alderman Tapp-Coutts suggested that Council put together banners and take the information to the markets to answer community member's questions.

CEO noted that the A frame was utilised at the previous markets for promotional purposes.

Deputy Mayor Gazey noted the information sessions held prior to the By-Election were very beneficial.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 APRIL 2017

13.6 AMENDMENTS TO THE KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL BY-LAWS

File:

MOVED: Higgins / Rose

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That Council resolves to approve the attached drafting instructions; and
2. That Council approves to have the By-Laws drafted.

CARRIED: 6/ 0

Alderman Rose noted By-Law 87 – adopting this recommendation will assist with the sprinkler damage issue.

Alderman Clark noted By-Law 100 – Is it a good idea to have the names listed with changes in government. Mayor Miller noted that the update is due to the government change.

Alderman Clark also queried if we should list non-native animals. Mayor Miller has taken question on notice.

13.7 SOCIAL MEDIA – POLICY DOCUMENTS

File:

MOVED: Clark / Tapp-Coutts

That it be recommended to Council:

That the attached amended policy be received, noted and adopted.

CARRIED: 6/ 0

13.8 CAPITAL FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR HOT SPRINGS REVITALISATION PROJECT

File:

MOVED: Tapp-Coutts / Gazey

That it be recommended to Council:

That the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be authorised to affix the Common Seal on the Capital Funding Agreement between the Department of Transport and Katherine Town Council.

CARRIED: 6/ 0

Alderman Higgins noted that it would have been nice to view the document, particularly in relation to wording and Councils obligations and requirements.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 APRIL 2017

CEO noted the comment. In the future documents will be included and this particular document will be circulated to Elected Members.

13.9 MUNICIPAL PLAN QUARTERLY REVIEW

File:

MOVED: Clark / Tapp-Coutts

That it be recommended to Council:

That Council notes the status of the quarterly review of the Municipal Plan for 2016/2017 as at the 31 March 2017.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

Alderman Clark noted on pg. 56 regarding the matter of Territory Housing. Is there a progress report on this? Mayor Miller noted the only feedback is the media release in regards to housing Territory wide which refers to Binjari. CEO has taken question on notice.
CEO noted some refurbishments have occurred in Katherine East.

Alderman Coutts noted in regards to the POSi that Trish Angus will be a part of the inquiry into the impact of alcohol sales in the Northern Territory. Alderman Tapp-Coutts believes Council needs to provide a submission to this inquiry.

Alderman Gazey queried if Council is still on track to complete the Hot Springs project. CEO has noted that due to some design work this may be delayed. Updates will be provided when available.

Alderman Tapp-Coutts noted this is a good document and a credit to the Council and its staff.

14. **Reports from Representatives on Committees**

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

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

Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey

Development Consent Authority Meeting
Meeting with Department of Defence re – PFAS
NTES Introduction of new Director
Elected Members Information Session x 2
Ordinary Meeting of Council
RAAF 96th Birthday

Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts

International Women's Day – Seniors Morning Tea
International Womens Day – Guest speaker at Pine Creek dinner
The Bombing of Katherine
Elected Members Information Session x 2
Ordinary Meeting of Council

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 APRIL 2017

Alderman Steven Rose

Chamber of Commerce
Fracking Inquiry
Economic Summit
CEO Appraisal
CEO Remuneration
Elected Members Information Session
The Bombing of Katherine
Katherine Water Advisory Committee
Ordinary Meeting of Council

Alderman Lis Clark

Elected Members Information Session x 3
Showgrounds & Multisports Complex Advisory Committee Meeting
International Women's Day
Visitor Information Centre Meet & Greet New Manager
CEO Appraisal
The Bombing of Katherine
Ordinary Meeting of Council
Open Forum
Suicide Prevention Workshop
RAAF 96th Birthday

15. Late Agenda

Nil

16. General Business

- 16.1** Alderman Tapp-Coutts would like to congratulate the Katherine Museum on the 75th Bombing of Katherine Commemorations as well as the Katherine RSL Sub-Branch on the ANZAC Services.

Alderman Clark noted the problem of traffic still incorrectly using the one-way road at Hot Springs and that Council may need to look at this to avoid any incidents.

CEO noted that the DIPL is doing some works in regards to this issue. Police are also called when required.

Alderman Tapp-Coutts noted a large, clear sign may be necessary.

A/DWS is aware of the overabundance of signs. Road writing is being delayed to avoid damage from construction trucks while works are conducted at the Hot Springs.

Deputy Mayor Gazey recommended something that slows traffic and deters incorrect vehicle movement.

CEO to discuss with DIPL.

17. Confidential Items

Mayor Miller moved a motion for the meeting to be closed to the public.

Members, Council has resolved to use Section 65 (2) of the *Local Government Act* to discuss and resolve confidential issues which come before it. Section 65 (2) states that Council is able to close a meeting, which means that all members of the public and press will be asked to leave the Council Chambers, to discuss specific issues in relation to matters referred to in regulations 8 of the Local Government (Administration) regulations.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 26 APRIL 2017

Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey - Your Worship, I wish to second that the meeting be closed to the public to discuss issues relating to matters as stipulated in regulations 13 of the Local Government (Administration) regulations.

Meeting closed at 6.54pm.

17.1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCOUNTING) REGULATIONS EXEMPTION REQUEST – COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF GARBAGE CONTRACT

File:

MOVED: Clark / Rose

That it be recommended to Council:

That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to execute a Local Government (Accounting) Regulations Exemption Request for the extension to the current contract for the collection and disposal of garbage within the Katherine Municipality to expire on the 30 June 2018.

CARRIED: 6 / 0

Mayor Miller called for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey - Your Worship, I move the motion that the meeting be open to the public.

Meeting opened at 7.00pm.

18. **Next Ordinary Council Meeting**

The fifth Ordinary Council Meeting for 2017 will be held on Tuesday the 23 May 2017.

19. **Meeting Closed**

The meeting was closed at 7.02pm.



Fay Miller
MAYOR OF KATHERINE