



MINUTES

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Tuesday 24 March 2020
At 6.00 PM

*Council Chambers, Civic Centre,
Stuart Highway, Katherine*

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING
KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AT CIVIC CENTRE, STUART HIGHWAY, KATHERINE
ON TUESDAY, 24 MARCH 2020 AT 6:00PM**

PRESENT

- ELECTED MEMBERS** : - Mayor Fay Miller
- Deputy Mayor Jon Raynor
- Alderman Elisabeth Clark
- Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts
- Alderman Peter Gazey
- Alderman John Zelle
(Via Zoom Video Conference)
- Alderman Matthew Hurley
- OFFICERS** : - Mr Ian Bodill – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
- Mrs Claire Johansson –Chief Operations Officer (COO)
- Ms Rosemary Jennings – Executive Manager Community Services (XCS)
- Mr Jherry Matahelumual – Executive Assistant (Minutes Taker)
- VISITORS** : - Mr Tom Danks – Reporter of Katherine Times
- Public Forum is closed due to COVID-19 Outbreak
- APOLOGY** : - NIL

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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 past present and emerging.

2 OPENING PRAYER

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

3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN AT 6.20 PM

4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

- 4.1 Apologies
- 4.2 Leave of Absence

5 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

File	: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Confirmation of Previous Minutes
Moved	: Alderman Clark
Seconded	: Alderman Tapp-Coutts

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday, 25 February 2020 be confirmed as true and accurate.

CARRIED 7 / 0

6 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Alderman Raynor: Requested more information in relation to a meeting regarding the road signs in parking bays of the shopping centre.

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.

Mayoral Business: Mayor had engaged many events of the period from 26th February 2020 to 24th March 2020 and mentioned the following businesses below:

- Meeting with Claire Brown from DIPL
- Big Rivers Region Economic Development Committee
- ABC TV Interview – Shine Lawyers
- Associated Press interview – Shine Lawyers
- Channel 9 interview – Shine Lawyers
- NT News Interview – Shine Lawyers
- ABC 24 Skype interview – Shine Lawyers
- Save the Children Teddy Bear’s Picnic
- Meeting with resident x 2
- Up, Up & Away – GYRACC
- Meeting for CBD revitalization x 2
- EMIS x 2
- LGANT Executive meeting – teleconference
- Katherine Times interview – closing the borders
- ABC Radio interview – coronavirus
- Big Rivers Region Economic Development Committee – out of session planning
- Meeting with Jake Quinlivan – Department of the Chief Minister
- Nitmiluk Tours Board meeting – Via Zoom
- Telephone call from the Administrator of the NT
- Numerous telephone calls in the past 4 weeks about coronavirus
- Citizenship Ceremony
- March Ordinary Council meeting
- Pat Wendt Funeral

Notes from Mayor Miller:

- That Katherine Town Council and our broader community are experiencing some challenging times due to the Coronavirus which is now officially a pandemic.
- That There is no doubt that the coming months are going to be challenging for everyone – economically and mentally trying to handle the dramatic changes that have been forced on the world due to the Coronavirus. We have absolutely no idea what journey people are going through. Coronavirus is highly contagious – also highly contagious is Kindness, Patience, Love, Enthusiasm, and a Positive Attitude.
- That all elected members and staff at Katherine Town Council be the “Carrier” of those qualities as we continue to provide the essential services to our residents during this trying time.

9 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS TABLED

9.1 An e-mail from Mr Bruce Francais regarding the concerns to the CBD Town Square Project

File	:	Local Governance / Council Meetings / Correspondence and Documents Tabled
Moved	:	Alderman Gazey
Seconded	:	Alderman Clark

That the Incoming correspondence from Mr Bruce Francais dated on Tuesday, 24 March 2020 regarding Town Square Plans be received and noted.

CARRIED 7 / 0

10 PETITIONS

NIL

11 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 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – FEBRUARY 2020

13.1.1 TURTLE SHADE SELECTION

Purpose	:	To decide on the options offered by Ashgrove Architects for the shade required for the Stage 3 Hot Springs project, The Turtle.
File	:	Local Governance / Ordinary Meeting of Council / CEO
Moved	:	Alderman Clark
Seconded	:	Alderman Tapp-Coutts

THAT Council selects option 2 as the shade structure for the Turtle Project and that council authorises a reallocation of funds to be affected in a budget review to be included in next month's ordinary meeting of council.

CARRIED 6 / 1

(Deputy Mayor Raynor voted against)

13.2 MONTHLY REPORT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES – FEBRUARY 2020

Purpose	:	To present the Report for Community Services for the month of February 2020
File	:	Local Governance / Council Meetings / Community Services
Moved	:	Alderman Gazey
Seconded	:	Alderman Hurley

THAT the Community Services report for the month of February 2020 be received and noted.

CARRIED 7 / 0

13.3 MONTHLY REPORT OF INFRASTRUCUTRE AND ENVIRONMENT SERVICES REPORT – FEBRUARY 2020

Purpose	:	To inform Elected Members of tasks, activities and projects undertaken by the Infrastructure & Environment Services, during the month of February 2020
File	:	Local Governance / Council Meetings / Infrastructure & Environment Reports
Moved	:	Alderman Zelley
Seconded	:	Alderman Tapp-Coutts

THAT the report of the Infrastructure and Environment Services for the month of March 2020 be received and noted.

CARRIED 7 / 0

13.4 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT – FEBRUARY 2020

Purpose	:	To receive and note the monthly financial report prepared by the Corporate Services Team
File	:	Local Governance/Council Meetings/Financial Report
Moved	:	Alderman Hurley
Seconded	:	Alderman Clark

THAT Council endorses the Financial Report for the month of February 2020

CARRIED 7 / 0

13.5 2019-2020 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AUTHORITY ANNUAL REPORT

Purpose	:	To endorse the 2019-20 Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) Annual Report
File	:	Local Governance / Council Meeting / Agenda
Moved	:	Alderman Gazey
Seconded	:	Alderman Raynor

THAT Council endorses the Mayor and CEO to apply the common seal to and sign the EPA report subject to provide complete report to all Elected Members by 25 March 2020.

Note:

As alternate pages of the report were missing, the CEO was instructed to provide full copies of report to members the following day to support the resolution of Council.

CARRIED 7 / 0

14. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVE COMMITTEES

14.1 Deputy Mayor Jon Raynor's Activities

File : Local Government / Council Meetings / Elected Members Representatives on Committees

Activities : Deputy Mayor Raynor had engaged in activities in the month of March 2020 including:

- RAAF Tindal Brief
- Ordinary Meeting of Council
- Elected Member Information System (Twice)

14.2 Alderman Elisabeth Clark's Activities

File : Local Government / Council Meetings / Elected Members Representatives on Committees

Activities : Alderman Elisabeth Clark Had engaged in activities in the month of March 2020 including:

- Elected Member Information System (twice)
- Special Meeting
- Show Advisory Meeting
- Meeting with CEO Ian Bodill, COO Claire Johansson and Shawn Collins
- Travelling Film Festival
- Funeral Pat Wendt
- Ordinary Meeting of Council
- RAAF Redevelopment Plan

14.3 Alderman Peter Gazey's Activities

File : Local Government / Council Meetings / Elected Members Representatives on Committees

Activities : Alderman Peter Gazey had engaged in activities in the month of March 2020 including:

- Elected Members Information Session
- Ordinary Meeting of Council

14.4 Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts' Activities

File :
Activities : Alderman Toni Tapp-Coutts had engaged in activities in the month of March 2020 including:

- Elected Member Information Session (twice)
- NT Heritage Council in Darwin
- Katherine Region of Writers – Katherine Town Council Library
- GYRACC Meet and Greet with Stakeholders – Godinymayin
- GYRACC Strategic Planning Meetings (twice)
- International Women's Day – Stolen Generation and KWILS
- International Women's Day – Women Connect Mabuhay Hall
- Business at Sunset – Chamber of Commerce
- DIPL Presentation – Flood Mitigation Update
- Presentation Local Government Regulations and Guidelines
- Meet with Katherine Town Council CEO
- Ordinary Council Meeting and Citizenship Ceremony
- Katherine Region Health Advisory – Phone link update COVID

14.5 Alderman John Zelle's Activities

File : Local Government / Council Meetings / Elected Members Representatives on Committees

Activities : Alderman Peter Gazey had engaged in activities in the month of March 2020 including:

- Elected Members Information Session
- Ordinary Meeting of Council

14.6 Alderman Matthew Hurley's Activities

File : Local Government / Council Meetings / Elected Members Representatives on Committees

Activities : Alderman Alderman Hurley had engaged in activities in the month of March 2020 including:

- Elected Members Information Session
- Ordinary Meeting of Council

15. LATE AGENDA ITEMS

NIL

16 GENERAL BUSINESS

- Alderman Gazey: Requested to reinstate the flow of item raised and outcome.
- Alderman Clark: Requested Katherine Town Council to expand its publication to broader community considering there are residents who are not using facebook. Alderman Clark asked, is there a way we can put the publication on notice board?
- XCS Jennings: Advised that most publications are on website however if there are urgent information, social media would be a quick tool to reach out many people. However, Katherine Town Council will look forward at different options to provide more opportunity to wider community to access information.
- Alderman Zelle: Suggested that Ordinary Meeting of Council should also be broadcasting through Katherine FM.
- Alderman Tapp-Coutts: Queried when is something going to be done about moving the train? Acting of the National Trust has requested update on current development.
- Mentioned that the 'Friends of the North Australian Railway' have the money for the moving of the train and have had to ask for extensions as there has been no progress with KTC.
- Requested consideration for the revamp/clean up of 'The Pioneer Statue' be completed ASAP.
- Alderman Tapp–Coutts requested the re-activation of monthly newsletter.
- Queried that a number of times to have the 'ban of single use plastics' as a priority – The draft guidelines were moved at the June 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting and there has been no further progress on the community consultation and the implementation of this policy
- Requested better Sound system in the chamber.
- Sabu Sing monument to be cleaned and properly lit.
- Deputy Mayor Raynor: Queried that light at Katherine sign is not working, can we fix it?
- Mayor Miller: Advised that the Shine Lawyers made announcement that an agreement has been reached for Oakey, Katherine and Williamtown which is good news, but we would like to know more on the details. Mayor Miller proposed that:

-
1. Council send a letter to managing partner of Shine Lawyers and request that the Council to be provided with a copy of Shine Lawyer's retaining agreement
 2. Council provides a copy of the written advice provided by the council to Shine Lawyers in relation to liability
 3. Council provides a copy of instruction to Shine Lawyers from the Katherine Town Council.

It is a disappointment that about \$72,000,000 will be used as "expenses" and only about \$22,000,000 coming to Katherine and it is seriously an embarrassment. Mayor Miller wanted to know how the settlement process will be dispersed especially to the people who are entitled and if Shine Lawyers has the \$72,000,000 in cost, they must have the responsibility to answer all queries and concerns from the Katherine Community.

Alderman Clark

Thanks to Claire and Rosemary for the extra work they are putting in given the absence of key staff and other circumstances. They have provided a solid backup during hard times.

Mayor Miller

Over the past a few months, the Katherine Town Council faced challenges due to vacant position in the executive level, but now we have a team to operate for a better 2020.

Alderman Tapp-Coutts

Appreciated the works for the Hot Springs Project and its facilities.

MEETING CLOSURE FOR PUBLIC – 7.30 PM

MOTION

A motion was raised to close the Ordinary Meeting of Council as per Section 8 (c) (iv) of the Local Government (administration) Regulations – 'information that would, if publicly disclose, like to: prejudice the interest of the Council or some other persons' and Section 8 (e) of the Local Government (administration) Regulations – 'information provided to the Council on condition that it be kept confidential' (item 17.1)

Moved : Mayor Miller
Seconded : Deputy Mayor Raynor

CARRIED 7 / 0

17 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Motion

A motion was raised to re-open the Ordinary Meeting of Council to the General Public

Moved : Deputy Mayor Raynor
Seconded : Alderman Gazey

CARRIED 7 / 0

Motion

A motion was raised to move the resolution from the confidential item into the public section of the meeting minutes

Moved : Alderman Clark
Seconded : Alderman Zellej

THAT the matter lay on the table, pending further investigation

CARRIED 7 / 0

18 NEXT ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

That the next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on Tuesday 28 April 2020

19 MEETING CLOSE

That meeting closed at 7.50pm



Fay Miller
MAYOR OF KATHERINE

OFFICER TITLE ABBREVIATIONS

CEO	:	Chief Executive Officer
A/CEO	:	Acting Chief Executive Officer
COO	:	Chief Operating Officer
XCS	:	Executive Manager Community Services
XIE	:	Executive Manager Infrastructure and Environment
MCERS	:	Manager Compliance Environment & Regulatory Services
MIE	:	Manager Infrastructure & Environment
PM	:	Project Manager
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
