



# **Special Council Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday 4 June 2019**

**6.00 pm**

Council Chambers, Civic Centre,  
Stuart Highway, Katherine

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL HELD  
AT THE KATHERINE CIVIC CENTRE TUESDAY, 4 June @ 6.00 pm**

**1. Present:**

Mayor Fay Miller  
Deputy Mayor Lis Clark  
Alderman Peter Gazey  
Alderman Toni Tapp Coutts  
Alderman Matthew Hurley  
Alderman John Zellely  
Alderman Jon Raynor

Robert Jennings - Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

**Minute Taker:** Sue Crammond – Executive Assistant, CEO Office (EA)

**2. Apologies and Leave of Absence:**

Mayor Fay Miller  
Claire Johansson – Chief Operations Officer (COO)  
Peter Reeve – Executive Manager Infrastructure and Environment (XIE)  
Rosemary Jennings – Executive Officer Corporate and Community Development (CCD)

**3. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest**

NIL

**4. Reports of Officers**

**4.1 Resubmit – Draft Municipal Plan 2019-20**

MOVED: Tapp Coutts / Zellely

CEO – As the report to Council states, Officers wish to resubmit the 2019-20 Municipal Plan due to a number of changes required to the Long Term Financial Plan (LFTP) and minor spelling and grammar corrections. Officers felt it best to ensure that the most accurate account of the Plan should be presented to the public.

COO – The major change is in relation to cash flow for Scenario 1 Appendix 5 pg 88. In 2022-23 we projected a cash deficit. This simply is not possible and needed to be corrected. The positive cash projection was achieved by reducing the level of asset renewals in years 2, 3, 4 to 50%. However, when considering the Sportsgrounds, Showgrounds and CBD will all be revitalised during that time, (utilising \$13 M in grant money), Council will not be required to perform much maintenance in these areas. The impact of the grant funding has had a significant, positive impact on our asset renew capacity.

Alderman Gazey –What is impact to the rates if we did want to renew at 100% over the 3 year period?

COO – I have not done a projection, but I can do so.

CEO – We are roughly at \$100K for 1% of rates. The other way is to keep working with NTG on WMF etc. Or look at a contractor to take our waste from Katherine until we have sufficient funds to replace the WMF. However, in 30 years time, will we still be digging holes in the ground for waste disposal? There are alternatives and we may be able to partner with others on them.

COO – Officers have sourced advice on costing, planning and developing a business case for what a waste transfer station could look like.

CEO – We are now well ahead of the curve, with the showgrounds and sportsgrounds upgrades. We can focus more on the renewal or other options for the WMF.

Alderman Tapp–Coutts – The Aquatic centre as well as Katherine East development will add to Council maintenance issues. We need a good plan for when that comes on line.

COO – The revitalisation grant funding has provided renewals that would take us twenty (20) years to achieve normally.

CEO – Across the four (4) year period we will still be averaging on renewals quite well.

COO – We haven't anticipated future rate increases. We need to wait and see how the grants will actually impact.

Alderman Clark/Hurley/Zelley/ – We will need to digest the document before commenting further.

Alderman Tapp Coutts – The Fees & Charges document has a few inaccuracies. Some fees seem expensive. I ask all the elected members to have a look at the fees.

COO – We can have a look at the revenue generated from each item - it might be a worthwhile exercise.

CEO – In some items we are trying not to undercut local businesses who provide similar services.

Mayor Miller – We can have a talk about the fees and charges in a separate meeting with XCCD.

COO – On another note, interest earnings are at 2.25%. The Reserve Bank of Australia reduced interest rates at today's meeting. We will need to keep abreast of what happens as a result. There may be a need to reassess.

COO – Given the interest situation and costings for WMF, we would expect to come to Council quarterly to report any significant changes to the costings as we develop plans going forward. Quarterly reviews will give Council what it needs to know when/if things change.

**Recommendation:**

**That it be recommended to Council:**

That Council approve the Draft Municipal Plan 2019-2020 for public exhibition.

**CARRIED:** 7 / 0 .

**7. Meeting Close**

The meeting closed at 6:37 pm

Fay Miller  
**MAYOR OF KATHERINE**