
Council

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Council held in the Council Chambers, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin, on Wednesday 29 May 2019 at 10.00 am.

PRESENT

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| Mayor | Mr M Feyen |
| Deputy Mayor | Mr W E R Bishop |
| Councillors | Mr R H Campbell |
| | Mr N G Gimblett |
| | Mr B F Judd |
| | Mrs V M Kaye-Simmons |
| | Mrs J F G Mason |
| | Mrs C B Mitchell |
| | Ms P Tukapua |
| | Mr B P Wanden |

IN ATTENDANCE

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Reporting Officer | Mr D M Clapperton | (Chief Executive) |
| | Mr D Law | (Chief Financial Officer) |
| | Mr M Lester | (Group Manager – Corporate Services) |
| | Mr D McCorkindale | (Group Manager – Strategy & Development) |
| | Mr I McLachlan | (Group Manager – Customer & Regulatory Services) |
| | Mrs N Brady | (Group Manager – H2040 & Partnership Development) |
| | Mr R Green | (Acting Group Manager – Infrastructure Services) |
| | Mrs V Miller | (Compliance Manager) |
| | Mrs L Winiata | (Community Engagement Manager) |
| | Mrs T Gower | (Strategic Planner) |
| | Ms K Gray | (Strategic Planner) |
| | Mrs A Huria | (Projects Coordinator – Strategy & Development) |
| | Mrs S Hori Te Pa | (Governance & Executive Team Leader) |
| | Ms A Parker | (Executive Assistant to the Mayor) |
| | Mrs K J Corkill | (Meeting Secretary) |

MEDIA IN ATTENDANCE

| | |
|----------|-----------------------|
| Ms A Loo | (“Manawatū Standard”) |
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PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were two members of the public in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.

1 Apologies

An apology was recorded for Cr Brannigan.

MOVED by Cr Judd, seconded Cr Wanden:

THAT the apology from Cr Brannigan be accepted.

CARRIED

2 Public Participation

7.1 Animal Control Fees and Charges 2019/20

Mr Michael Lepper raised the following:

- he queried why the Animal Control Officer Hourly Rate had been increased from \$150.00 to \$155.00, making it equivalent to the Resource Consenting hourly rate recently adopted. While he did not want to undervalue the worth of Animal Control Officers to the organisation, it was a role that did not require a qualification, whereas the Resource Consenting role required a degree qualification, as did the Environmental Health Officer role which was to be charged out at \$150.00. Whilst it was not possible to change the Food Act Premises and Resource Consenting (Planning) Fees and Charges as they had been consulted on, it was possible to reduce the Animal Control hourly rate to be in line (\$150.00) with the EHO qualification-type role.
- looking at the Dog and Stock After-hours Impounding Fees, he suggested charging an hourly rather than a fixed rate in addition to the Impounding Fee, as while some incidents took an hour, some took much longer.

Having further considered the report, Mr Lepper asked Council in its deliberations to seriously consider Option 3 – to make no changes from the previous year. His reasoning was based on the issue he had raised about the charge-out rate and keeping fees and charges at the current level would not affect the AC funding requirements. There was also a rate rise proposed and any rise in fees could have a deleterious effect on some dog owners as an additional \$4.00 was a lot for some people.

Responding to a query about an increase in Impounding Fees affecting Council's ability to collect what was owed, Mr Lepper said that whilst that was one argument, for some it did not matter on the size of the fee as many dogs in the Pound currently remained unclaimed. Whilst it could put some people off, it may make others more responsible. He also noted that it was about 8 years since Council had analysed the Animal Control activity and the Funding Policy. It was a difficult activity to budget for because it included other activities as well as dogs.

3 Late Items

There were no late items.

4 Declaration of Interest

None recorded

5 Confirmation of Minutes

MOVED by Cr Campbell, seconded Cr Kaye-Simmons:

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 11 July 2018, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

MOVED by Cr Campbell, seconded Cr Kaye-Simmons:

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday, 8 May 2019, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6 Announcements

With the main focus of today's meeting being on the 2019/2020 Annual Plan, Mr Clapperton gave a PowerPoint presentation on what was proposed between today's deliberations and adoption of the Plan on 26 June 2019, being:

- 31 May – CEO Briefing Paper: Capital Expenditure Works Programme
Growth Related Expenditure
General Rates Increases
- 5 June – Council Briefing/Workshop: Annual Plan
- 12 June – Council Meeting
- 26 June – Adoption of 2019/20 Annual Plan.

Cr Kaye-Simmons reminded everyone of the rubbish clean-up that was to take place at the Horowhenua Lake Domain (Muaūpoko Park) on Saturday, 3 June 2019: 10.00am-12 noon.

7 Customer and Regulatory Services

7.1 Animal Control Fees and Charges 2019/20

Purpose

To propose a schedule of fees and charges for Animal Control purposes, including Dog Registration fees to apply for the Horowhenua District for 2019/20 year being 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.

MOVED by Mayor Feyen, seconded Cr Wanden:

THAT Report 19/186 Animal Control Fees and Charges 2019/20 be received.

THAT this decision is recognised as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.

CARRIED

Requesting that the report be taken as read and acknowledging Mr Lepper's comments, Council's Compliance Manager, Mrs Miller, and Group Manager – Customer & Regulatory Services, Mr McLachlan reiterated the main points in the report which had seen an investigation of options following the 10 April 2019 Council meeting. It was noted that some changes had been made, including the removal of the differentiation of rural and urban dogs and a change in the fee charged for dangerous dogs to bring that into line with the Dog Control Act.

When looking at the degree of skill required and what was a reasonable charge in terms of the hourly rate for Animal Control Officers, Mr McLachlan said that the level of professionalism of Council's ACOs was exemplary.

Following further discussion and with a show of hands supporting an hourly rate of \$155.00, it was:

MOVED by Cr Campbell, seconded Cr Mitchell:

THAT Council adopts the following Amended Schedule of Animal Control Fees and Charges, as the Animal Control Fees and Charges to apply in the Horowhenua

District from 1 July 2019 for the 2019/20 year:

Animal Control – Registration Fees

| Dog Registration | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Disability Assist Dog | Free |
| Selected Owner Status* | \$60.00 |
| NZKC Registered Status* | \$60.00 |
| Racing Greyhound Registered Status* | \$60.00 |
| De-sexed Pet Urban | \$72.00 |
| Entire Pet Urban | \$120.00 |
| Working Dog | \$58.00 |
| Stock (Farm) Dog | \$58.00 |
| Rural Dog De-sexed | \$72.00 |
| Rural Entire | \$120.00 |
| Puppy | \$50.00 |
| NZ Super Owner | \$72.00 |
| Dangerous Dog De-sexed | 150% of fee |
| Dangerous Dog Entire | 150% of fee |
| Late Fee if Paid after 31 July | Plus 50% |

Other fees

| Animal Control Officer Hourly Rate | |
|--|------------|
| Hourly Rate | \$155.00 |
| Registration Discs | |
| Transfer from Another Local Authority | Free |
| Replacement Disc | \$5.00 |
| Dog Impounding | |
| First Impound, fee per dog | \$80.00 |
| Second Impound, fee per dog | \$130.00 |
| Third and subsequent impound, fee per dog | \$180.00 |
| Daily Fee Cost, Per Dog | \$10.00 |
| After-Hours Cost in addition to impound fee (per animal) | \$155.00 |
| Dog Surrender Fee | \$45.00 |
| Micro-chipping fee (following impoundment) | \$25.00 |
| Stock Impounding (any four-legged, hoofed animal) | |
| First impound fee | \$80.00 |
| Second impound fee | \$130.00 |
| Third and subsequent impound fee | \$180.00 |
| After-Hours Call Out, whether animal(s) impounded or not | \$95.00 |
| Daily Fee Costs, Per Head | \$7.00 |
| Associated Costs (Transportation, Hay and the Like) | Cost + 20% |
| Animal Control Officer hourly rate | \$155.00 |
| Feline | |
| Cage Deposit (50% Refundable) | \$24.00 |
| Feral Cat Euthanasia | \$20.00 |
| Other | |
| NZKC/Greyhound - First Time Application | \$30.00 |
| Additional Dog Licence Application | \$30.00 |

THAT on adoption, Council gives public notice of its fees and charges as required by s37(6) of the Dog Control Act 1996.

CARRIED

8 Strategy and Development

8.1 Deliberation of Submissions for the 2019/2020 Annual Plan

Purpose

To present to Council for deliberation, the submissions received on the 2019/2020 Draft Annual Plan, as well as the officer summary, analysis and recommendations/actions of these submissions.

MOVED by Cr Campbell, seconded Deputy Mayor Bishop:

THAT Report 19/185 on Deliberation of Submissions for the 2019/2020 Annual Plan be received.

THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.

CARRIED

Mr Clapperton explained the process proposed to address the report, which was to work through each subject, topic by topic (with the relevant Officers joining the table to address any queries), to get guidance from Elected Members as to any further recommendations or actions that may be required prior to addressing the recommendations on page 17.

Finance – Mr Law and Mr Clapperton responding to queries/comments.

- Topic 1 - Rural ratepayer concerns over their rate increase, cost increases and debt
A major concern was raised at the proposed year 1 increase of 16.9% in the General Rate, particularly the huge impact it would have on rural ratepayers. What could be done to reduce this rate increase was raised, with a further resolution proposed to be addressed as Recommendation 2.9.
- Topic 2 - Rates increases, sustainability of debt, cost increases
- Topic 3 - Rating system and method of consultation
- Topic 4 - Source of debt funding
- Topic 5 - Funding of the Foxton East drainage scheme improvements
- Topic 6 - Farmers rate increases and fairness of these, poor budget control
- Topic 7 - Cost of Council Employees

Infrastructure

1. Land Transport - Mr Green and Mr Peel responding to queries/comments.

- Topic 1 - Council Support for Bikes in Schools Programme
- Topic 2 - Walking and Cycling
- Topic 3 - Queen Street Roundabout
- Topic 4 - Rural Roadside Planting and Fence Encroachments
- Topic 5 - Speed Limited Around Tokomaru Village
- Topic 6 - Tokomaru Footpaths
- Topic 7 - Whirokino Trestle & Bridge
- Topic 8 - Lighting in Shannon

2. Three Waters – Mr Green responding to queries/comments

- Topic 1 - Wastewater – Foxton Wastewater Treatment Plant
- Topic 2 - Increased Water Demand from Growth and Compliance with Drinking Water Standards
- Topic 3 - Stormwater
- Topic 4 - Water and Wastewater Feasibility Studies – Ōhau and Waitarere Beach
- Topic 5 - Tokomaru Wastewater Treatment Plant

3. Solid Waste – Mr Green and Mr Hughes responding to queries/comments

- Topic 1 - Kerbside Recycling Changes
- Topic 2 - Kerbside Organics Collection
- Topic 3 - Landfill Leachate
- Topic 4 - Waste Education
- Topic 5 - Tokomaru Recycling Station
- Topic 6 - Waste Management and Minimisation
- Topic 7 - Enviroschools

The meeting adjourned briefly (12.00-12.07 pm)

4. Parks and Property – Mr Green and Mr Hester responding to queries/comments

- Topic 1 - Donnelly Park
- Topic 2 - Horseriding opportunities in the Horowhenua
- Topic 3 - Plant more trees
- Topic 4 - Development of Horseshoe Bend and Tokomaru Domain
- Topic 5 - Ōhau Walkway and Domain
- Topic 6 - Freedom camping, Foxton Beach Coastal Reserve Management Plan, Holben Reserve development
- Topic 7 - Manawatū Estuary and Ramsar
- Topic 8 - Holmwood Park and Waitarere Rise
- Topic 9 - Foxton Beach Surf Lifesaving Club
- Topic 10 - Wildlife Foxton Trust
- Topic 11 - Lighting Foxton Cenotaph and 24/7 toilet in Foxton
- Topic 12 - Public Toilets in Shannon
- Topic 13 - Shannon Waterwheel

The meeting broke for lunch at 12.26 pm and resumed at 1.00 pm.

All Other Activities – Mrs Brady and Mrs Winiata responding to queries/comments.

1. Community Engagement

- Topic 1 - Sugar Sweetened Beverages Policy
- Topic 2 - Support for Community Groups
- Topic 3 - Increased funding for Source to Sea
- Topic 4 - Funding Save Our River Trust
- Topic 5 - Ōhau Underpass mural
- Topic 6 - Signage for Foxton Beach
- Topic 7 - Police Presence in Shannon

2. Strategy and Development – Mr McCorkindale responding to queries/comments.

- Topic 1 - Calculation of 5,377 additional houses
- Topic 2 - Transport Planning
- Topic 3 - Advocacy for the Otaki to North Levin Expressway project (O2NL)
- Topic 4 - Levin Town Centre Development
- Topic 5 - Community Plans
- Topic 6 - Master Plans
- Topic 7 - Subdivision Development in Foxton Beach
- Topic 8 - Relaxation of Subdivision Requirements (Waikawa Beach)
- Topic 9 - Coastal Settlement
- Topic 10 - Climate Change
- Topic 11 - Flood Control
- Topic 12 - Regional Council: Relationship and Work Programme
- Topic 13 - Breadth of Projects and Activities
- Topic 14 - What is Council doing for the rural ratepayer

3. Representation and Leadership

Topic 1 - Heating for Foxton Beach School from Foxton Beach Freeholding Account

Topic 2 - Foxton Beach Freeholding Account Policy/Strategy

Topic 3 - Governance at Horowhenua District Council

Topic 4 - Lake Horowhenua

4. Community Facilities – Mr McLachlan and Mr Harvey responding to queries/comments

Topic 1 - Development of a Community Hub in Tokomaru

Topic 2 - Shannon Community Hall

5. Regulatory Services

Topic 1 - Local Alcohol Policy

Following consideration and discussion in relation to the Deliberations Reports, the substantive resolutions were addressed.

Infrastructure – Three Waters

MOVED by Cr Campbell, seconded Deputy Mayor Bishop:

THAT the work the 'Water Working Party' is undertaking in 2019/2020 is identified as a key project in the 2019/2020 Annual Plan.

CARRIED

MOVED by Cr Campbell, seconded Cr Mitchell:

THAT the 2019/2020 Annual Plan is amended to confirm there has been no suspension of the Tokomaru Wastewater Treatment Plant project.

CARRIED

Infrastructure – Parks and Property

MOVED by Cr Gimblett, seconded Mayor Feyen:

THAT the initial improvements to Holben Reserve is identified under 'key projects for 2019/2020' in the 2019/2020 Annual Plan.

CARRIED

Representation and Leadership

MOVED by Cr Gimblett, seconded Mayor Feyen:

THAT Council approves \$13,400 from the Foxton Beach Freeholding Account to fund the air conditioning (heat pumps) in the Foxton Beach School Hall, subject to approval by the Foxton Community Board, in accordance with the Foxton Beach Freeholding Account Policy/Strategy.

CARRIED

MOVED by Cr Campbell, seconded Mayor Feyen:

THAT the review of the Foxton Beach Freeholding Account Policy/Strategy be listed as a specific project in the 'Key Projects for 2019/2020' section of the final 2019/2020 Annual Plan.

CARRIED

MOVED by Cr Wanden, seconded Deputy Mayor Bishop:

THAT the attached Officer Summary and Analysis of Submissions be approved for use as a written response to submitters.

CARRIED

As he did not agree with the Officer Analysis with regard to the Shannon Waterwheel, Cr Campbell recorded his vote AGAINST approval of that particular item.

The further resolution signaled in relation to exploring ways to lessen the General Rate increase was put:

MOVED by Mayor Feyen, seconded Cr Mitchell:

*THAT Officers explore ways to lessen the General Rate increase of 16.9%
AND FURTHER
THAT these options are brought to a Council briefing on 5 June 2019.*

CARRIED

1.47 pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....