

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE NELSON CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC HOUSE, TRAFALGAR STREET, NELSON ON THURSDAY 4 NOVEMBER 2010 COMMENCING AT 9.03AM

PRESENT: His Worship the Mayor A Miccio (Chairperson), Councillors I Barker, A Boswijk (Deputy Mayor), G Collingwood, R Copeland, E Davy, K Fulton, P Matheson, J Rackley, P Rainey, R Reese, D Shaw and M Ward

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (K Marshall) and Administration Adviser (A Rose)

1.0 OPENING PRAYER

The opening prayer was given by Councillor Davy.

2.0 PUBLIC FORUM

2.1 Freedom Camping

Mr James Griffith and Mr Anthony Lamb joined the meeting and Mr Griffith tabled and read a submission about how freedom camping could be controlled in the central Nelson City area.

Mr Griffith's submission was signed by a number of local owners and operators of camping grounds and owners and operators of backpacker hostels as well as other business rate payers within Nelson City.

Mr Griffith alleged that Council was undermining and competing against local business operators by designating two central city car parks for travellers who stay in camper vans. Mr Griffith also said that Council should review this decision because it will become a huge issue when the Rugby World Cup is staged next year.

In answer to a question Mr Griffith said that there were suitable sites available in outlying places like Hira but his submission primarily expressed concern at the making available of sites in or near the Nelson CBD area.

His Worship the Mayor thanked Mr Griffith and Mr Lamb for their submission.

2.2 Errol Miller, Greypower Local Body Spokesman

Mr Miller addressed the Councillors, welcoming the new Council and saying he was looking forward to working with the new Council on behalf of Greypower. He reminded Council that the city only had about 20,000 rate payers to finance its Annual Plan. He urged Council to focus its expenditure on core services. He requested that, in its draft Annual Plan, Council set any rate increase at under inflation or better still at 0%. He also requested Council provide a small list of 'nice to have' add-ons, to the Annual Plan along with their cost, and the effect on the rates those add-ons would have, so that residents could make an informed choice.

In answer to a question Mr Miller said he thought that the Council's Annual Plan Workshop should be held in public.

His Worship the Mayor thanked Mr Miller for his presentation.

2.3 Nelson Residents' Association

Ms Pam Frahm, Vice President and Mr Ken Meredith, Secretary of the Nelson Residents' Association addressed the Council. Ms Frahm congratulated all Councillors on their election and she said that the Nelson Residents' Association looked forward to working with Council over the months to come. She urged Council to keep any rates increase in line with the average wage increase. She also requested Council not to shower its rate payers with gifts and reminded Council that it was limited to funding what it can afford and it could not possibly satisfy all citizens' wishes but should focus on developing a safe, healthy city.

Following some questions on how the Association promotes itself, its membership and how it saw itself working with Council the Mayor thanked Ms Frahm and Mr Meredith for their presentation.

3.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Nelson City Council, held on Thursday 7 October 2010, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Shaw/Boswijk

Carried

4.0 MAYORS REPORT

His Worship the Mayor addressed the Council on the recent spate of three violent assaults within the City. He said this was a community issue and something Council should be concerned about. He said he had had discussions with the Chief Executive on how Council as a group can bring this issue forward. He said that Council already does a lot to make the city safer and it will continue to do more and seek more ways to involve itself.

During discussion it was agreed that Inspector Brian McGurk would be invited to a future Council meeting to address the Council on this issue.

Councillor Davy reminded all Councillors that there was an opportunity for them to travel with the regular police patrols from 11pm to 4am to experience for themselves what the problems were that occurred in the city in the early hours. His Worship the Mayor encouraged as many Councillors as possible to take up this offer of the police.

5.0 REPORTS POLICY

5.1 Remuneration System for Elected Members

Document number 985840, agenda pages 4-7 refer.

The Acting Manager Strategic Response, Mark Tregurtha, presented the report. The Council discussed the various options in the report. Option 1a found favour with a majority of Council although there was some discussion as to whether a resolution could be passed until Council had decided on whether it was going to pursue a committee structure format. There was also a suggestion that a request should be made to the Remuneration Authority to approve a communications allowance for Councillors of \$150 net per month.

During the discussion Councillors considered the Nelson City Council Expenses Policy 2010-2011 and there was support for an alteration to the Policy to allow the Mayor delegated power of approval for Councillors to attend conferences, seminars and training if this was needed between regular Council meetings.

Councillor Matheson proposed and Councillor Davy seconded the recommendation in the report amended to include the comments regarding the communications allowance and the delegated power for the Mayor to approve Councillors attending meetings.

Councillor Shaw and seconded Councillor Fulton moved that the recommendation lie on the table until Council has decided whether it is operating with Committees and what the workload on individual Councillors is likely to be. This procedural motion was put and lost.

The meeting returned to consider the original motion and it was resolved

THAT the remuneration system option 1a as set out in report 985840 apply until 30 June 2011 and be confirmed for referral to the Remuneration Authority for its approval;

AND THAT the Expenses Policy attached to report 985840 be confirmed to go to the Remuneration Authority for its approval with the following amendments:

An additional sentence added on to paragraph 3 stating, "that in the event of urgent issues arising that are unable to be considered at a Council Committee Meeting, the Mayor be delegated the power of approval with a requirement to report back at the following Council Meeting."

AND THAT the \$500 limit for the communications allowance be adopted in the interim as recommended by the Remuneration Authority.

AND THAT the Remuneration Authority be requested to approve a communications allowance of \$150 net per month to each Councillor.

Matheson/Davy

Carried

5.2 2010 Council Survey of Residents

Document number 997385, agenda pages 8-10 refer.

The Monitoring and Research Adviser, Jacqui Irwin, together with the Acting Manager Strategic Response, Mark Tregurtha, presented the report and made a powerpoint presentation on the results of the survey.

During the presentation a copy of the survey results was tabled.

Resolved

THAT report number 997385 and the 2010 Council Survey of Residents Report be received.

Ward/Shaw

Carried

6.0 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

6.1 Youth Council – 23 August and 22 September 2010

Resolved

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Nelson Youth Council held on 23 August and 22 September be received.

Davy/Rainey

Carried

6.2 Rugby World Cup Steering Group – 18 August 2010

Resolved

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Nelson Rugby World Cup 2011 Steering Group held on 18 August 2010 be received.

Boswijk/Ward

Carried

6.3 Founders Heritage Park Sub Committee – 25 August and 29 September 2010

Resolved

THAT the minutes of the meetings of the Founders Heritage Park Sub Committee, held on Wednesday 25 August and Wednesday 29 September 2010 be received.

Davy/Barker

Carried

6.4 No Charge for Residents of Tasman District Recommendation

The Manager Community Development, Kath Inwood, joined the meeting and spoke to the recommendation to Council from the Founders Heritage Park Committee regarding free entry for residents of Tasman District. She explained that currently Tasman Residents get in to the Park free of charge except when an event is being held and then everybody entering the park has to pay the event charge.

Resolved

THAT the residents of Tasman District are not charged the entry fee to Founders Heritage Park.

His Worship the Mayor/Fulton

Carried

7.0 PUBLIC FORUM

7.1 Freedom Campers

The Manager Parks and Facilities, Paul McArthur, joined the meeting and explained the Council's current position agreed in August 2010 regarding freedom campers within the CBD. After discussion it was agreed to monitor the situation over the summer and if necessary re-address the policy next year.

7.2 Errol Miller, Greypower Local Body Representative

The Council agreed to note Mr Miller's comments.

7.3 Nelson Residents' Association

The Council agreed to note the comments from the representatives from the Nelson Residents' Association.

8.0 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

8.1 Exclusion of the Public

Resolved

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting in accordance with section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 on the grounds that the public conduct of this part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists.

i) Opera in the Park 2011

Reasons:

To enable the Council to carry out negotiations or commercial activities without prejudice or disadvantage; or

To protect the privacy of natural persons.

ii) Proposed Extension of the Hira Reserve and the Relocation of the Hira Rural Fire Force Depot

Reasons:

To enable the Council to carry out negotiations or commercial activities without prejudice or disadvantage; or

To protect the privacy of natural persons.

iii) Rugby World Cup Steering Group minutes – 18 August 2010

Reason:

To enable the Council to carry out negotiations or commercial activities without prejudice or disadvantage.

iv) Founders Heritage Park Sub Committee minutes – 25 August and 29 September 2010

Reasons:

To enable the Council to carry out negotiations without prejudice or disadvantage; or

To protect the privacy of natural persons.

Fulton/Barker

Carried

The meeting went into public exclusion session at 11.55am and resumed in public session at 12.52pm.

8.2 Re-admittance of the public

Resolved

THAT the public be re-admitted to the meeting.

Boswijk/Shaw

Carried

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.52pm.

CONFIRMED AS A CORRECT RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

_____ CHAIRPERSON _____ DATE