



MINUTES

OF THE

ORDINARY MEETING

OF COUNCIL

HELD

THURSDAY 12 APRIL 2012

AT

6.00 pm

Council Chambers Civic Centre
Stuart Highway, Katherine

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE KATHERINE CIVIC CENTRE THURSDAY 12 APRIL 2012 AT 6.00 PM

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. PRESENT

Mayor Fay Miller
Alderman Lis Clark
Alderman Adrian Creighton
Alderman Kate Ganley
Alderman Steven Rose
Alderman Henry Higgins
Alderman Rob Phillips

IN ATTENDANCE Mr David Laughher – Chief Executive Officer
 Mr Warwick Jack – Works Manager
 Mrs Sophie Henderson – Administration Manager
 Mr Richard Hunt – Local Government Support Unit
 33 x Members of the Katherine Community
 1 x Media Representative from the Katherine Times

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Members Leave of Absence and Apologies

Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

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

MOVED: Clark / Rose

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 13 March 2012 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

5. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Member Disclosure of Interest and Declared Interest

Alderman Creighton advised with respect to Item 11.9 – Tender 12/01 – Various Rural Roads Shoulder Reconstruction – that he is related to an employee of the successful tenderer. It was noted that there was no potential for a perceived conflict of interest under the Act and therefore Alderman Creighton would not need to excuse himself from the meeting prior to consideration of this item.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Nil

7. MAYORAL BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Mayoral Business to be considered

The Mayor raised the following issues:

- Congratulated and thanked those who nominated for the recent Katherine Town Council Local Government Elections.
- Congratulated the new Elected Members of Katherine Town Council.
- Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) Elected Member Workshop in Darwin in early May 2012.

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE TABLED

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Correspondence and Documents Tabled

Nil

9. QUESTIONS

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Questions

9.1 With Notice

Nil

9.2 Without Notice

Nil

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

REPORT OF OFFICERS

11.1 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2012

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

MOVED: Clark / Higgins

That the report of the Chief Executive Officer for the months of February and March 2012 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

11.2 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE WORKS MANAGER FOR THE MONTHS OF FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2012

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Works Manager Reports

MOVED: Rose / Creighton

That the report of the Works Manager for the months of February and March 2012 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

11.3 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT – MARCH 2012

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Manager Reports

MOVED: Phillips / Clark

That the Finance Report for the month of March 2012 prepared by the Finance Manager as at 2 April 2012 be received and adopted.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

11.4 2012/13 DRAFT BUDGET

File: Local Governance / Compliance / Municipal Plan

MOVED:

That Council consider the 2012/13 Draft Budget for public exhibition.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) highlighted the key priorities in the draft budget:

- Change to the mowing of nature strips within the Municipality
- Change to the minimum rate to be charged to rate payers

The CEO noted that the draft budget would be for public exhibition and any changes could be made after the public exhibition.

Alderman Rose requested that this motion lay on the table until the next Ordinary Council Meeting.

Alderman Ganley noted that she had read and considered the draft budget and was happy to vote for the original motion at this time.

NEW MOTION

MOVED: Rose / Higgins

That the draft budget lay on the table until the next Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED: 4 / 3

11.5 MINUTES OF ART AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 15 MARCH 2012

File: Community Relations / Committees / Art and Cultural Committee / 2012

MOVED: Clark / Rose

That the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 15 March 2012 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

11.6 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

File: Local Governance / Elections / Deputy Mayor

MOVED: Higgins / Clark

That Alderman Rose is appointed as Deputy Mayor in accordance with Section 46(2) of the Local Government Act for the period 1 April 2012 to the 30 November 2012.

That Alderman Phillips is appointed as Deputy Mayor in accordance with Section 46(2) of the Local Government Act for the period 1 December 2012 to the 31 July 2013.

That Alderman Ganley is appointed as Deputy Mayor in accordance with Section 46(2) of the Local Government Act for the period 1 August 2013 to the 31 March 2014.

That Alderman Higgins is appointed as Deputy Mayor in accordance with Section 46(2) of the Local Government Act for the period 1 April 2014 to the 30 November 2014.

That Alderman Creighton is appointed as Deputy Mayor in accordance with Section 46(2) of the Local Government Act for the period 1 December 2014 to the 31 July 2015.

That Alderman Clark is appointed as Deputy Mayor in accordance with Section 46(2) of the Local Government Act for the period 1 August 2015 to the 31 March 2016.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

11.7 ALLOWANCES AND EXPENSES

File: Finance / Allowances / Elected Members Expenses and Allowances

MOVED:

1. That pursuant to Section 71 of the Local Government Act 2008 the following allowances be paid in arrears to Elected Members for 2012/13:

Mayor	\$57,877.76 p.a.
Deputy Mayor	\$18,447.30 p.a.
Alderman	\$11,386.65 p.a.
Acting Mayoral Allowance (not applicable to Deputy Mayor)	\$165 per day

Allowances to be paid by Electronic Fund Transfer or Cheque.

2. That pursuant to Section 72 of the Local Government Act 2008 conveyance and subsistence expenses for Members attending meetings/conferences/functions be paid as follows:
 - Travel within the Municipality as a consequence of attendance at a function or activity on the business of Council will be at the Elected Member's own expense.
 - Travel outside the Council area as a consequence of attendance at a function or activity on the business of Council will be met by Council but only if such attendances have been approved by Council resolution.
 - The conveyance component will be paid at the rate of 74 cents per kilometre if and when a Council vehicle or suitable commercial travel is unavailable. This is consistent with the Motor Vehicle Allowance detailed in Clause 15.2 of the Local Government Industry Award 2010.
 - Actual and necessary expenses incurred by Members in attending functions or activities on Council business outside the Municipality will be reimbursed. Examples of such expenses include registration fees, accommodation and taxi fares. Receipts for all expenses are to be obtained. Attendance to be approved by Council resolution.
 - That any Elected Member who is a representative on a committee will be reimbursed for attendance at committees only to the extent that their expenses are not covered by that committee. Council's purchase orders or credit cards are not to be issued for any reason except those directly relating to Council business. Representatives on committees shall seek the reimbursement of expenses directly from the committee involved and not via Council.

Alderman Rose requested that this motion lay on the table until the next Ordinary Council Meeting and that it be discussed in conjunction with the draft budget. Alderman Rose noted that the Katherine Town Council Elected Member Allowances and Expenses are below other Category 3 Council's and would like to see an increase in these allowances and expenses.

Alderman Higgins seconded Alderman Rose's comments.

Alderman Creighton noted that he would like to see the allowances and expenses remain as they are until the new Elected Members are more settled in their role.

NEW MOTION

MOVED: Rose / Higgins

That the allowances and expenses lay on the table until the next Ordinary Council Meeting.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

11.8 POLICY TO ALLOW THE CHAIR TO EXERCISE A CASTING VOTE

File: Local Governance / Policy / Council Meeting Policies

MOVED: Clark / Phillips

That Council:

1. Considers the adoption of a policy; and
2. Determines to provide a capacity for the Chair to exercise a second, or casting vote in circumstances where voting on a particular matter is tied.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

11.9 TENDER 12/01 – VARIOUS RURAL ROADS SHOULDER RECONSTRUCTION

File: Tenders / Works / Roads – Shoulder Reconstruction – Urban and Rural

MOVED: Higgins / Ganley

That Northern Machinery Sales be awarded Tender 12/01 *Various Rural Roads Shoulder Reconstruction* for the amount of \$10,363.63 per kilometre, covering the approximate length of 9.6 kilometres at a total cost of \$100,000.00.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

12. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

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

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

Nil

13. LATE AGENDA

13.1 ITEM 11.10 – NOMINATIONS TO FILL VACANCIES ON LGANT BOARD

File: Government Relations / Meetings / Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT)

MOVED: Rose / Ganley

That Council:

1. Determines if a nomination is to be made; and
2. Endorses any such nomination through a formal resolution

MOVED: Rose / Ganley

That Council nominates Mayor Fay Miller for the LGANT vacancies.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

13.2 ITEM 11.11 – PUBLIC ART PROJECT – REQUEST FOR APPROVAL

File: Community Relations / Project Development / Public Art in Katherine

MOVED: Clark / Phillips

That Council:

1. Considers the submission request; and
2. Approves:
 - a. Use of the council owned facility for erection of this public art;
 - b. A variation to the community grant to enable the two projects to be combined; and
 - c. Additional assistance from the Works Department to secure the mosaic pieces to the walls.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

Alderman Phillips requested that under section 2 (c) of the above motion that Council Works Department provide an itemised list of the assistance provided and the approximate costs associated.

13.3 ITEM 11.12 - DEVELOPMENT CONSENT AUTHORITY – COUNCIL NOMINATED POSITIONS

File: Community Relations / Committees / Development Consent Authority

MOVED: Rose / Phillips

That Council nominates two Elected Members as Members of the Development Consent Authority and one Elected Member as the alternate member.

MOVED: Rose / Phillips

That Council nominates Alderman Rose for a position on the Development Consent Authority.

That Council nominates Alderman Higgins for a position on the Development Consent Authority.

That Council nominates Mayor Fay Miller as the alternate position on the Development Consent Authority.

CARRIED: 7 / 0

14. GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

15. PETITIONS

Nil

16. COMMENTS/QUESTIONS FROM COMMUNITY MEMBERS PRESENT

File: Local Governance / Council Meeting / Questions from the Public

Ms Linda Blackwood requested that the Elected Members speak up during the meeting as it is difficult to hear them. The Mayor advised that Council will shortly be revamping the Chambers and this refurbishment will include microphones.

17. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

18. MEETING CLOSED

The meeting was closed at 6.52pm.

Fay Miller
MAYOR OF KATHERINE