

# Minutes

## Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 11 June 2024



Reports, recommendations and supporting documentation can be accessed via the City of Darwin Website at [www.darwin.nt.gov.au](http://www.darwin.nt.gov.au), or contact Customer Service on (08) 8930 0300.

**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS DARRANDIRRA, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY  
CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN  
ON TUESDAY, 11 JUNE 2024 AT 5:30PM**

**PRESENT:**

Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis (Chair)  
Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Pangquee  
Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris  
Councillor Kim Farrar  
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris  
Councillor Brian O'Gallagher  
Councillor Mick Palmer  
Councillor Morgan Rickard  
Councillor Vim Sharma  
Councillor Ed Smelt  
Councillor Amye Un  
Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe  
Councillor Sam Weston

**OFFICERS**

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders  
General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr  
Acting General Manager Corporate, Alex Vereker  
General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy

**GUESTS:**

Nil

**Order of Business**

<b>1</b>	<b>Acknowledgement of Country .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>The Lord's Prayer .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Meeting Declared Open .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Apologies and Leave of Absence .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Electronic Meeting Attendance.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Declaration of Interest of Members and Staff .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Confirmation of Previous Minutes.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Moving of Items .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Matters of Public Importance / Lord Mayoral Minute .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Public Question Time .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Petitions .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>12</b>	<b>Deputations and Briefings .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>Notices of Motion.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>Action Reports .....</b>	<b>7</b>
	14.1 Review of Accountable Forms Policy .....	7
	14.2 Review of Elected Members Expenses, Facilities and Support Policy .....	8
	14.3 Bundilla Beach Master Plan .....	8
	14.4 Strategic and Priority Projects Plan 2030 .....	8
<b>15</b>	<b>Receive &amp; Note Reports .....</b>	<b>9</b>
	15.1 Engagement Outcomes - Municipal Plan 2024/25.....	9
	15.2 Update on Code of Conduct Outcomes.....	9
<b>16</b>	<b>Correspondence .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>17</b>	<b>Reports of Representatives .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>Questions by Members .....</b>	<b>11</b>
	18.1 Eaton Park, Karama.....	11
	18.2 Street Sweeping in Karama and Malak .....	11
	18.3 Ranger Patrols at Bagot Park.....	12
	18.4 Bundilla Beach .....	12
	18.5 Northern Territory Election Campaign .....	13
	18.6 Abandoned Shopping Trolleys .....	13
	18.7 Robyn Lesley Park .....	14
	18.8 Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Monument .....	14
<b>19</b>	<b>General Business.....</b>	<b>15</b>
	19.1 Condolences .....	15
<b>20</b>	<b>Date, time and place of next Ordinary Council Meeting.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>Closure of Meeting to the Public .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>Adjournment of Meeting and Media Liaison .....</b>	<b>17</b>

## 1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We the members of City of Darwin acknowledge that we are meeting on Larrakia Country.

We recognise and pay our respects to all Larrakia people, Traditional Owners and Custodian Elders of the past and present.

We support emerging Larrakia leaders now and into the future.

We are committed to working together with all Larrakia to care for this land and sea for our shared future.

## 2 THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever.

Amen

*Councillor Mick Palmer was not present at the commencement of the meeting at 5:32 pm.*

*Due to technical issues, Councillor Amye Un was not able to hear the meeting via electronic means.*

## 3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

### RESOLUTION ORD210/24

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:32 pm.

**CARRIED 11/0**

## 4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 4.1 APOLOGIES

Nil

### 4.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

Nil

### 4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTED

Nil

## 5 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

### 5.1 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE GRANTED

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 95 (43) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the following Councillor(s) was granted permission for Electronic Meeting Attendance:

- Councillor Amye Un

### 5.2 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUESTED

Nil

## 6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

### 6.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

#### RESOLUTION ORD211/24

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 114 and 115 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the Lord Mayor declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 15.2 – Update on Code of Conduct Outcomes.
2. THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 114 and 115 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Councillor Amye Un declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 15.2 – Update on Code of Conduct Outcomes.

**CARRIED 11/0**

### 6.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF

#### RESOLUTION ORD212/24

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 179 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 15.2 – Update on Code of Conduct Outcomes.

**CARRIED 11/0**

**7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES****RESOLUTION ORD213/24**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 May 2024 be confirmed.

**CARRIED 11/0**

**8 MOVING OF ITEMS****8.1 MOVING OF OPEN ITEMS INTO CONFIDENTIAL**

Nil

**8.2 MOVING OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS INTO OPEN**

Nil

**8.3 MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO OPEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING****28.1 PROPERTY LEASE REQUEST FROM DARWIN CITY RETAILERS ASSOCIATION****RESOLUTION ORD233/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Morgan Rickard

1. THAT the report entitled Property Lease Request from Darwin City Retailers Association be received and noted.
2. THAT Council approve a peppercorn lease for Darwin City Retailers Association for Westlane Arcade Shop 16 until end of June 2025.
3. THAT this report and any attachments be deemed confidential documents and be treated as such in accordance with Section 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
4. THAT the documents remain confidential, and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**30.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE - NORTHERN TERRITORY CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL****RESOLUTION ORD234/24**

Moved: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

1. THAT the Incoming Correspondence - Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal be received and noted.
2. THAT this report and any attachments be deemed confidential documents and be treated as such in accordance with Section 293 (1) of the *Local Government Act 2019*.
3. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved to Open at the end of the meeting.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**9 MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE / LORD MAYORAL MINUTE**

Nil

**10 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

**11 PETITIONS**

Nil

**12 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS**

Nil

**13 NOTICES OF MOTION**

Nil

*Councillor Mick Palmer joined the meeting at 5:34 pm.*

**14 ACTION REPORTS****14.1 REVIEW OF ACCOUNTABLE FORMS POLICY****RESOLUTION ORD214/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Accountable Forms Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the Accountable Forms Policy at **Attachment 2**.

**CARRIED 12/0**

**14.2 REVIEW OF ELECTED MEMBERS EXPENSES, FACILITIES AND SUPPORT POLICY****RESOLUTION ORD215/24**

Moved: Councillor Kim Farrar

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Elected Members Expenses, Facilities and Support Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the Elected Members Expenses, Facilities and Support Policy at **Attachment 2**.

**CARRIED 12/0****14.3 BUNDILLA BEACH MASTER PLAN****RESOLUTION ORD216/24**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

1. THAT the report entitled Bundilla Beach Master Plan be received and noted.
2. THAT Council approve the finalised Bundilla Beach Master Plan at **Attachment 1** of the report entitled Bundilla Beach Masterplan.

**CARRIED 12/0***The meeting was suspended at 5:40 pm due to technical issues.**The meeting resumed at 5:48 pm.**Councillor Amye Un departed the meeting at 5:52 pm.***14.4 STRATEGIC AND PRIORITY PROJECTS PLAN 2030****RESOLUTION ORD217/24**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

1. THAT the report entitled Strategic and Priority Projects Plan 2030 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the Strategic and Priority Projects Plan 2030 at **Attachment 1**.

**CARRIED 12/0**



## 15 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS

### 15.1 ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL PLAN 2024/25

#### RESOLUTION ORD218/24

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the report entitled Engagement Outcomes - Municipal Plan 2024/25 be received and noted.

**CARRIED 12/0**

*The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis departed the meeting at 5:53 pm due to a declared conflict of interest.*

*The Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders departed the meeting at 5:53 pm due to a declared conflict of interest.*

### 15.2 UPDATE ON CODE OF CONDUCT OUTCOMES

#### RESOLUTION ORD219/24

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Morgan Rickard

THAT the report entitled Update on Code of Conduct Outcomes be received and noted.

**CARRIED 11/0**

*The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis re-joined the meeting at 5:56 pm.*

*The Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders re-joined the meeting at 5:56 pm.*

## 16 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

*Councillor Amye Un re-joined the meeting at 5:56 pm.*

## 17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### RESOLUTION ORD220/24

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

THAT the following Reports of Representatives be received and noted.

### 17.1

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris reported on volunteering at the Darwin GleNTi festival held over the weekend of June 8-9. The event was well attended, benefiting from favourable weather and exceptional organisation courtesy of the event organisers. Councillor Klonaris thanked the wider Darwin community for their support.

**17.2**

Councillor Brian O’Gallagher reported on their attendance at the Welcome Reception and Dinner hosted by the NT Government and City of Darwin on Friday 7 June 2024, for delegates of the Australia China Friendship Society (ACFS) National Conference. Councillor Brian O’Gallagher expressed the importance of these events in strengthening the bonds between the Northern Territory and China.

**17.3**

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris also provided a report on the Australia China Friendship Society National Conference Welcome Reception and Dinner, with praise going to City of Darwin staff for hosting a successful dinner.

**17.4**

The Lord Mayor reported on participating in the Welcome Reception held at Parliament House for the Australia China Friendship Society and the City of Darwin Welcome Dinner. Additionally, the Lord Mayor attended the 23rd Chinese Bridge Chinese Proficiency Competition, hosted by Charles Darwin University in collaboration with the Confucius Institute on Saturday, June 8, 2024. On Sunday, June 9, the Lord Mayor attended both the Irish Festival and the GlENti Festival.

**17.5**

Councillor Morgan Rickard reported on attending the 2024 Barunga Festival held over the long weekend from 7 to 9 June. Councillor Morgan Rickard expressed praise for the Darwin artists in attendance who garnered large crowds during their performance over the weekend.

**17.8**

Councillor Kim Farrar extended gratitude and congratulations to the City of Darwin Staff for their successful execution of the Welcome Dinner for the visiting delegations from the Australia China Friendship Society.

**17.9**

Councillor Amye Un reported on attending the program launch of the 2024 Darwin Festival on 28 May 2024. Councillor Amye Un also commended the organisation and turnout of the GlENti Festival over the long weekend.

**17.10**

Councillor Sam Weston reported on representing City of Darwin at City of Palmerston’s Citizenship Ceremony on Saturday 1 June 2024. During the event, Councillor Sam Weston had the opportunity to meet with City of Palmerston Elected Members and expressed enthusiasm for future meetings between City of Darwin and City of Palmerston Elected Members.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS****18.1 EATON PARK, KARAMA****RESOLUTION ORD221/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Kim Farrar requested information on the status and estimated completion date for the replacement of pine logs in Eaton Park, Karama, citing concerns over the current state of disintegration.

**Response**

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded and advised that City of Darwin has a pine log replacement program that operates throughout the year, with priority given to areas in most dire condition. In relation to Eaton Park specifically, the question was taken on notice.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.2 STREET SWEEPING IN KARAMA AND MALAK****RESOLUTION ORD222/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Kim Farrar requested confirmation on the frequency of street sweeping on footpaths and roads bordering green belts in Karama and Malak after confirming a substantial amount of glass in the area.

**Response**

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded and advised street sweepers only operate on vehicle roadways, while smaller pathsweepers operate on footpaths in green belt areas. All debris is collected and stored in the repository attached to the back of the machines. Street and path sweeps occurs fortnightly, with targeted spot cleaning undertaken as nessecary.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.3 RANGER PATROLS AT BAGOT PARK****RESOLUTION ORD223/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Kim Farrar requested an update on frequency of ranger patrols monitoring car parking at Bagot Park, Millner.

**Response**

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded and confirmed parking patrols are ongoing in the area, particularly aligning with the Football NT competition schedule on weekends and weekday patrols.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.4 BUNDILLA BEACH****RESOLUTION ORD224/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Amye Un requested clarification on the involvement of certain Members of the Legislative Assembly in the Bundilla Beach project.

**Response**

The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis responded and advised that the site of the proposed sculpture falls within council jurisdiction and City of Darwin is not required to obtain approval from the Northern Territory Government for the project. Councillor Peter Pangquee further noted that Chan Ward Elected Members had discussions with Brent Potter, Member for Fannie Bay, who indicated their support of the project and no negative feedback has been received from Members to date.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.5 NORTHERN TERRITORY ELECTION CAMPAIGN****RESOLUTION ORD225/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Amye Un requested clarification on any restrictions on Elected Members campaigning for the upcoming Northern Territory elections.

**Response**

The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis responded and advised that Elected Members are free to commence their campaigning within guidelines, and any further questions can be directed to Councillor Support via email.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.6 ABANDONED SHOPPING TROLLEYS****RESOLUTION ORD226/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested clarification on City of Darwin's role in removing abandoned shopping trolleys on Council land.

**Response**

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded and advised when trolleys are found, the regulatory services team liaise with Coles, Woolworths and IGA to collect. If not retrieved, City of Darwin is able to impound them at a further cost to supermarket operators. Members of the public are able to report abandoned trolleys directly to City of Darwin for action by the regulatory services team.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.7 ROBYN LESLEY PARK****RESOLUTION ORD227/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested an update on cleaning procedures and frequency of maintenance for playground facilities in the Darwin municipality, citing hygiene concerns in Robyn Lesley Park in Karama.

**Response**

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded and advised all play spaces and facilities undergo regular cleaning and maintenance and any additional cleans required in areas of concern can be sent to Councillor Support.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**18.8 CYCLONE TRACY COMMEMORATION MONUMENT****RESOLUTION ORD228/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

**Question**

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested clarification on the colour of the proposed Cyclone Tracy commemoration monument at Bundilla Beach, following feedback from members of the public.

**Response**

The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis responded and advised that images on social media and the website depict artist impressions only, with the final colour scheme to be determined by the artist as the project progresses.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**19 GENERAL BUSINESS****19.1 CONDOLENCES****RESOLUTION ORD229/24**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Brian O'Gallagher

The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis advised Elected Members on the passing of James 'Jim' Forscutt, former Lord Mayor of Katherine and former President of LGANT, over the weekend. The Lord Mayor proposed City of Darwin issue a formal letter to the Forscutt family expressing condolences on behalf of staff and Elected Members.

Councillor Brian O'Gallagher echoed condolences for Mr. Forscutt, sharing their experiences working together on the Alice Springs – Darwin rail link.

**CARRIED 13/0**

**20 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING****RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 25 June 2024, at 5:30pm (Open Section followed by the Confidential Section), Council Chambers Darrandirra, Level 1, Civic Centre, Harry Chan Avenue, Darwin.

**21 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC****RECOMMENDATIONS**

THAT pursuant to Section 99 (2) of the *Local Government Act 2019* and Regulation 8 of the Local Government Regulations the meeting be closed to the public to consider the Confidential Items of the Agenda.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 99(2) of the *Local Government Act 2019*:

**28.1 Property Lease Request from Darwin City Retailers Association**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i) and 51(e) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person and subject to subregulation 51(3) – information provided to the council on condition that it be kept confidential and would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to be contrary to the public interest.

**30.1 Incoming Correspondence - Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(b) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with information about the personal circumstances of a resident or ratepayer.



## **22      ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON**

### **RESOLUTION ORD230/24**

Moved:      Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Pangquee

THAT the open section of the meeting be adjourned at 6:18 pm.

**CARRIED 13/0**

THAT the open section of the meeting be resumed at 6:27 pm.

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 6:27 pm.

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 June 2024.**

.....  
**CHAIR**