

Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 13 August 2024



Reports, recommendations and supporting documentation can be accessed via the City of Darwin Website at 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, 13 AUGUST 2024 AT 5:30PM**

PRESENT:

Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis (Chair)
Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Pangquee
Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris
Councillor Mick Palmer
Councillor Morgan Rickard
Councillor Vim Sharma
Councillor Ed Smelt
Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe
Councillor Sam Weston

OFFICERS

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders
General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr
General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson
General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy

APOLOGY:

Councillor Kim Farrar

GUESTS:

Nil

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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 Vim Sharma was not present at the commencement of the meeting at 5:32pm.

3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

RESOLUTION ORD321/24

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

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

CARRIED 9/0

4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4.1 APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION ORD322/24

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Morgan Rickard

THAT the apology from Councillor Kim Farrar, be received.

CARRIED 9/0

4.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

Nil

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTED

Nil

5 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE**5.1 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE GRANTED****RESOLUTION ORD323/24**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

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 Vim Sharma

CARRIED 9/0

5.2 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUESTED

Nil

6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF**6.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**

Nil

6.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**RESOLUTION ORD324/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 July 2024 be confirmed.

CARRIED 9/0

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

Nil

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

13.1 NOTICE OF MOTION - REVENUE REPORT

I, Councillor Ed Smelt, give notice that at the next Ordinary Council Meeting on 13 August 2024, I will move the following motion:-

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT Council requests the presentation of a Revenue Report that assesses and recommends options for expanding existing or developing new income sources to fund City of Darwin services and capital works that reduces reliance on municipal rates.
2. THAT the Report outlines the potential funds that could be raised, ease of implementation and social impact for potential expanded or new income sources, drawing on previous investigations and reports.
3. THAT community engagement is conducted as part of the development of the report with a proposed budget of \$100k.
4. THAT funding for the Revenue Report is referred to the 2025-26 budget process.

AMENDMENT

1. THAT Council requests the presentation of a Revenue Report that assesses and recommends options for expanding existing or developing new income sources to fund City of Darwin services and capital works that reduces reliance on municipal rates.
2. THAT the Report outlines the potential funds that could be raised, ease of implementation and social impact for potential expanded or new income sources, drawing on previous investigations and reports.
3. THAT community engagement may be conducted as part of the development of the report with a proposed budget of \$100k.
4. THAT funding for the Revenue Report is referred to the 2025-26 budget process.

The Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Pangquee proposed an amendment and with the consent of the mover, the amendment was accepted.

RESOLUTION ORD325/24

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT Council requests the presentation of a Revenue Report that assesses and recommends options for expanding existing or developing new income sources to fund City of Darwin services and capital works that reduces reliance on municipal rates.
2. THAT the Report outlines the potential funds that could be raised, ease of implementation and social impact for potential expanded or new income sources, drawing on previous investigations and reports.
3. THAT community engagement may be conducted as part of the development of the report with a proposed budget of \$100k.
4. THAT funding for the Revenue Report is referred to the 2025-26 budget process.

CARRIED 9/0

14 ACTION REPORTS

14.1 DEVELOPING A STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS PLANNING POLICY - NT PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLUTION ORD326/24

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Developing a Strategic Directions Planning Policy - NT Planning Commission be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse City of Darwin's draft response letter to the NT Planning Commission, at **Attachment 1** to this report, entitled Strategic Directions Planning Policy - Northern Territory Planning Commission.

CARRIED 9/0

14.2 CAT CONTAINMENT BY-LAWS

RESOLUTION ORD327/24

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

1. THAT the report entitled Cat Containment By-laws be received and noted.
2. THAT Council declares the area for the proposed new Darwin suburbs Muirhead North and Lee Point, to be developed along Lee Point Road to be a special cat control area to protect biodiversity or wildlife vulnerable to predation by cats.

CARRIED 9/0

14.3 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION AND BUSINESS POLICY

RESOLUTION ORD328/24

Moved: Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Confidential Information and Business Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the Confidential Information and Business Policy at **Attachment 2**.

CARRIED 9/0

14.4 REVIEW OF EXECUTIVE AND ADVISORY COMMITTEES TERMS OF REFERENCE**RESOLUTION ORD329/24**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Ed Smelt

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Executive and Advisory Committees Terms of Reference be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the revised Terms of Reference for the Executive and Advisory Committees.
 - (a) Executive Committees
 - (i) Administrative Review Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 2**.
 - (ii) Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 4**.
 - (b) Advisory Committees
 - (i) Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 6**.
 - (ii) Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 8**.
 - (iii) Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 10**.
 - (iv) Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 12**.
 - (v) East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 14**.
 - (vi) International Relations Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 16**.
 - (vii) Reconciliation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 18**.
 - (viii) Sister City Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 20**.
 - (ix) Tree Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 22**.
 - (x) Youth Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 24**.
3. THAT Council approve a rotating chair position for the Youth Advisory Committee.

CARRIED 9/0

AMENDMENT**RESOLUTION ORD330/24**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Morgan Rickard

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Executive and Advisory Committees Terms of Reference be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the revised Terms of Reference for the Executive and Advisory Committees.
 - (a) Executive Committees
 - (i) Administrative Review Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 2**.
 - (ii) Chief Executive Officer Performance Appraisal Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 4**.

(b) Advisory Committees

- (i) Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 6.**
- (ii) Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 8.**
- (iii) Cyclone Tracy Commemoration Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 10.**
- (iv) Darwin Military and Civilian History Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 12.**
- (v) East Point Reserve Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 14.**
- (vi) International Relations Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 16.**
- (vii) Reconciliation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 18.**
- (viii) Sister City Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 20.**
- (ix) Tree Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 22.**
- (x) Youth Advisory Committee Terms of Reference at **Attachment 24.**

3. THAT Council approve a rotating chair position for the Youth Advisory Committee.

4. THAT the membership term of an Elected Member will be for two years.

LOST 2/7

RESOLUTION ORD331/24

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Morgan Rickard

THAT in accordance with Meeting Policy No.0043.100.E.R Section 3.12.1 that the motion be put.

CARRIED 9/0

15 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS

Nil

16 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**RESOLUTION ORD332/24**

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

THAT the following Reports of Representatives be received and noted.

17.1

Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Panquee reported on attending the LGANT Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) Committee meeting. The meeting focused on the RAP's impact within LGANT, which will impact City of Darwin. While progress on the RAP discussions is positive, some recommendations may need to be reviewed due to recent staffing changes within LGANT.

17.2

Councillor Ed Smelt reported on attending several community events. On Friday 9 August, attending the launch event of the Active Paths and Open Streets Initiative at Nightcliff Primary School, commending City of Darwin officers and Bicycle Network NT team on organising the event and thanked the Nightcliff community for their support in promoting active transport to and from school. On Saturday 10 August, Councillor Ed Smelt attended the Native Plant giveaway at the Jingili Watergardens and also had the opportunity to present a review of Country Town, one of the shortlisted titles for the Children's Book Council of Australia 2024 Book of the Year Awards, at the Darwin City Library.

17.3

Councillor Morgan Rickard reported on attending the Native Plant giveaway at the Jingili Watergardens on Saturday 10 August. Councillor Morgan Rickard noted the large turnout, with lines extending to the entrance and praised officers on their excellent management of the attendees and overall organisation of the giveaway.

17.4

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris attended the MAINSTREAM Asset Management Reimagined summit in Melbourne from 7 to 8 August. Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris recommended to the Chief Executive Officer and General Managers that the insights and topics from this event be considered for future professional development. This recommendation aligns with the implementation of the asset management plan as outlined in the City of Darwin Strategic Plan.

17.5

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris reported on attending Georgia Politis' Darwin Diver City Series photography exhibition launch, held at the Darwin Galleria on Friday 9 August. Councillor Sylvia Klonaris encouraged Elected Members to attend the free exhibition, which features portraits of various Territorians along with their intriguing personal stories.

17.6

The Lord Mayor, Kon Vatskalis, informed Elected Members about the LGANT press conference held on Monday 12 August. During the conference, the Lord Mayor, as President of LGANT urged both major political parties to engage in open discussions with LGANT regarding funding for Local Government in the Northern Territory. Also emphasising the importance of an open dialogue about the future of regional local government. The press release received significant media attention, and while some challenging questions were posed, it was generally well received by media.

17.7

Councillor Mick Palmer acknowledged the installation of handrails on the steps at Civic Park, located in front of the Civic Centre building.

17.8

Councillor Sam Weston reported on attending a cocktail function, hosted by Carlo Randazzo, the Vice Consul of Italy for the Northern Territory. The event was held on behalf of the Italian Airforce Contingent that visited Darwin for the biennial Exercise Pitch Black.

CARRIED 9/0

18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS**18.1 PRE-CYCLONE CLEAN-UP****RESOLUTION ORD333/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested clarification on how residents will be notified about pre-cyclone cleanup collection dates, outside of social media and whether residents will receive the notification through other methods, such as a letter drop.

Response

The General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy responded and confirmed that a media release has been approved and Elected Members will be sent an email with the dates and times.

CARRIED 9/0

18.2 GOYDER ROAD VEGETATION**RESOLUTION ORD334/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Pangquee inquired as to why the native vegetation planted in the median strip along Goyder Road, Parap was removed and whether there are plans to replant the trees.

Response

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr took the question on notice.

CARRIED 9/0

Councillor Mick Palmer departed the meeting at 6:14 pm.

18.3 PROGRESS DRIVE VERGE MAINTENANCE**RESOLUTION ORD335/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Pangquee queried what maintenance the City of Darwin will be undertaking on the verge vegetation along Progress Drive, Nightcliff following a recent fire that damaged several trees and plants.

Response

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded and advised maintenance in the area is carried out quarterly based on necessity. Previous large-scale replanting efforts have been met with vandalism including uprooting and destruction of the new plants.

CARRIED 8/0

18.4 LEE POINT ROAD AND VANDERLIN DRIVE UPGRADE WORKS**RESOLUTION ORD336/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris inquired whether council officers were aware of the current status of the Northern Territory Government's planned upgrades for the roundabout at the intersection of Lee Point Road and Vanderlin Drive.

Response

The General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy took the question on notice.

CARRIED 8/0

Councillor Vim Sharma joined the meeting at 6:16 pm.

Councillor Mick Palmer re-joined the meeting at 6:16 pm.

18.5 ASSERTIVE OUTREACH TEAM**RESOLUTION ORD337/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris inquired whether City of Darwin's Assertive Outreach team has noticed any increase in anti-social behaviour throughout the CBD, particularly around Tamarind Park, given that the contract with Territory Protective Services (TPS) has ended.

Response

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded and advised that the contract with TPS is set to expire at the end of 2024, and City of Darwin is still providing funding until then. After, the Northern Territory Government will take over the contract. Additionally, there have been no noticeable increases in anti-social behaviour at Tamarind Park, according to officer reports and CCTV footage. This is consistent with the broader CBD during the current dry season.

CARRIED 10/0

18.6 BAGOT PARK CHANGE ROOMS**RESOLUTION ORD338/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Morgan Rickard requested an update on the progress of the change rooms at Bagot Park, Millner.

Response

The General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr responded and advised that the final design of the change rooms is still under review by Football NT. The completion timeline will be confirmed with Elected Members once the design is approved.

CARRIED 10/0

18.7 ROAD SAFETY CONCERNS WULAGI**RESOLUTION ORD339/24**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris inquired whether City of Darwin would consider installing a fence or barrier where the green belt connecting Lee Point Road and Brolga Street in Wulagi, intersects with Brolga Street, across from the Wulagi Primary School.

Response

The General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy confirmed that this could be considered part of the local area traffic management and pedestrian facilities project. However, the area is currently not a priority. Councillor Sylvia Klonaris was advised to bring a motion to Council to have the issue reviewed for prioritisation.

CARRIED 10/0

19 GENERAL BUSINESS**19.1 NIGHTCLIFF JETTY CAR PARK BOLLARDS****RESOLUTION ORD340/24**

Moved: Councillor Morgan Rickard

Seconded: Councillor Ed Smelt

The Lord Mayor, Kon Vatskalis briefed Elected Members on community concerns regarding a recent car theft at the Nightcliff Jetty car park, where plastic bollards were damaged. The Lord Mayor requested Chan Ward Elected Members, to put forward a notice of motion to install permanent concrete bollards and CCTV around the car park.

CARRIED 10/0

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

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 27 August 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 Road Reserve - Smith Street, Darwin

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i) 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.

22 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

RESOLUTION ORD341/24

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the open section of the meeting be adjourned at 6:20 pm.

CARRIED 10/0

THAT the open section of the meeting be resumed at 6:43 pm.

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 6:43 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 August 2024.

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CHAIR