

Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 29 July 2025



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**MINUTES OF CITY OF DARWIN
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS DARRANDIRRA, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY
CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN
ON TUESDAY, 29 JULY 2025 AT 5:30PM**

PRESENT:

Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis (Chair)
Deputy Lord Mayor Morgan Rickard
Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Councillor Kim Farrar
Councillor Mirella Fejo
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris
Councillor Mick Palmer
Councillor Peter Pangquee
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
General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson
General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy

NOT PRESENT:

Councillor Vim Sharma

APOLOGY:

Nil

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

Deputy Lord Mayor Morgan Rickard was not present at the commencement of the meeting at 5:40 pm.

Councillor Mick Palmer was not present at the commencement of the meeting at 5:40 pm.

3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

RESOLUTION ORD351/25

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:40 pm.

CARRIED 10/0

Councillor Mick Palmer joined the meeting at 5:40 pm.

4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

4.1 APOLOGIES

Nil

4.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED

Nil

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTED

Nil

4.4 ABSENCE WITHOUT PERMISSION**RESOLUTION ORD352/25**

Moved: Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT in accordance with Section 47(1)(o) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, Councillor Vim Sharma is absent from the meeting without permission.

CARRIED 11/0

5 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE**5.1 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE GRANTED****RESOLUTION ORD353/25**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 95 (3) of the *Local Government Act 2019*, the following Councillor(s) was granted permission for Electronic Meeting Attendance:

- Amye Un

CARRIED 11/0

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 ORD354/25

Moved: Councillor Kim Farrar
Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 June 2025, the Ordinary Special Council Meeting held on 8 July 2025 and the Ordinary Special Council Meeting held on 22 July 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED 11/0

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 June 2025 be confirmed subject to administrative amendments requested by Councillor Sylvia Klonaris on items 18.3, 18.5 and 18.6. Noting 18.4 did not require change.

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 YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

RESOLUTION ORD385/25

Moved: Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe
Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

1. THAT the report entitled Youth Advisory Committee Appointment of Members be received and noted.
2. THAT Council appoint Samritha Bharanidharan, Sarvesh Ramamoorthi and Sean Hagan to the Youth Advisory Committee for a two-year term from 1 August 2025 to 31 July 2027.
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 12/0

28.2 ACCESS AND INCLUSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS
RESOLUTION ORD386/25 Moved: Councillor Mirella Fejo Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston 1. THAT the report entitled Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Appointment of Community Members be received and noted. 2. THAT Council appoint Bryony Crowe and Ella Marie McGugan Wevill to the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee for a two-year term from 6 November 2025 to 5 November 2027. 3. THAT this report and any attachments be deemed confidential documents and be treated as such in accordance with Section 293 (1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i>. 4. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting. CARRIED 12/0
28.3 2025/26 OUT OF ROUND SPONSORSHIP APPLICATION
RESOLUTION ORD387/25 Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston 1. THAT the report entitled 2025/26 Out of Round Sponsorship Application be received and noted. 2. THAT Council approve out of round sponsorship of \$10,000 cash and \$2,000 in-kind support to be provided to the Darwin Basketball Association Incorporated (DBA) for 2025/26 and for 2026/27. 3. THAT Council approve out of round sponsorship of \$10,000 cash to be provided to Hospitality NT for 2025/26. 4. THAT this report and any attachments be deemed confidential documents and be treated as such in accordance with Section 293 (1) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i>. 5. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting. CARRIED 12/0
28.6 REVIEW OF CONFIDENTIAL DECISIONS – ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETINGS AND COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS
RESOLUTION ORD391/25 Moved: Councillor Mirella Fejo Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston 1. THAT the report entitled Review of Confidential Decisions – Ordinary Council Meetings and Council Committee Meetings be received and noted. 2. THAT Council approve to move certain decisions at Attachment 1, made between 1 July 2021 to 31 December 2024 from Confidential to Open. 3. THAT Council approve to move certain decisions at Attachment 2, made between 1 January

2025 to 30 June 2025 from Confidential to Open.

4. THAT Council approve to move certain decisions at **Attachment 3** for the Executive and Advisory Committees, made between 1 October 2021 to 31 December 2024 from Confidential to Open.
5. THAT Council approve to move certain decisions at **Attachment 4** for Executive and Advisory Committees, made between 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025 from Confidential to Open.
6. 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*.
7. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 12/0

29.1 CODE OF CONDUCT PANEL SUMMARY OF DECISION

RESOLUTION ORD392/25

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

1. THAT the report entitled Code of Conduct Panel Summary of Decision be received and noted.
2. THAT this report and any attachments are not deemed confidential documents in accordance with Regulation 51(2)(b) of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*.
3. THAT the decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 12/0

29.2 CIVIC CENTRE PROJECT UPDATE

RESOLUTION ORD393/25

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

1. THAT the report entitled Civic Centre Project Update 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 into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 12/0

29.3 UPDATE ON EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

RESOLUTION ORD394/25

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

1. THAT the report entitled Update on Expression of Interest 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 into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 12/0

29.4 CORPORATE SERVICES QUARTERLY REPORT - APRIL TO JUNE 2025

RESOLUTION ORD395/25

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

1. THAT the report entitled Corporate Services Quarterly Report - April to June 2025 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 into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 12/0

29.5 ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY STEERING COMMITTEE AND RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE CONFIDENTIAL MEETING MINUTES

RESOLUTION ORD396/25

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

1. THAT the report entitled Advisory Committee and Information Communication Technology Steering Committee and Risk Management and Audit Committee Confidential Meeting Minutes 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 into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 12/0

9 MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE / LORD MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

10 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

11 PETITIONS

11.1 TEMPORARY 24-HOUR CLOSURE OF WALKWAY 199

RESOLUTION ORD355/25

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris will present the Petition.

1. THAT the Petition, in relation to the Temporary 24-hour Closure of Walkway 199, be received and noted.
2. THAT in accordance with By-Law 12, the Petition regarding the Temporary 24-hour Closure of Walkway 199 be referred to the Community Hub for consideration and a report to return to Council.

CARRIED 11/0

11.2 INSTALLATION OF SHADE COVER IN GREBE PARK

RESOLUTION ORD356/25

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris will present the Petition.

3. THAT the Petition, in relation to the Installation of Shade Cover in Grebe Park, be received and noted.
4. THAT in accordance with By-Law 12, the Petition regarding the Installation of Shade Cover in Grebe Park be referred to the Corporate Hub for consideration and a report to return to Council.

CARRIED 11/0

11.3 MIRAWOOD ESTATE - PARK UPGRADE

RESOLUTION ORD357/25

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris will present the Petition.

1. THAT the Petition, in relation to Mirawood Estate Park Upgrade, be received and noted.
2. THAT in accordance with By-Law 12, the Petition regarding Mirawood Estate Park Upgrade be referred to the Corporate Hub for consideration and a report to return to Council.

CARRIED 11/0

12 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS

Nil

13 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

14 ACTION REPORTS

Deputy Lord Mayor Morgan Rickard joined the meeting at 5:50 pm.

14.1 ACCESS STRATEGY 2025-2030**RESOLUTION ORD358/25**

Moved: Councillor Kim Farrar

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Access Strategy 2025-2030 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the Access Strategy 2025-2030 at **Attachment 1**.

CARRIED 12/0

14.2 UPDATE FUNDING GUIDELINES**RESOLUTION ORD359/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

1. THAT the report entitled Update Funding Guidelines be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the recommendation from the Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee for Council funding guidelines and agreements be updated to include clear reference to peak body standards and requirements when employing creatives.
3. THAT Council endorse the recommendation from the Arts and Cultural Development Advisory Committee for funding guidelines and agreements to include guidance on when it is appropriate to engage volunteers.
4. THAT Council note that the proposed changes in Item 2 and 3 will be returned to Council for consideration and endorsement within redrafted funding guidelines.

CARRIED 12/0

14.3 REVIEW OF DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY**RESOLUTION ORD360/25**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Developer Contributions Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopts the revised Developer Contributions Policy 0040.100.E.R provided at **Attachment 2**.

CARRIED 12/0

14.4 REVIEW OF FILLING CASUAL VACANCIES POLICY**RESOLUTION ORD361/25**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Filling Casual Vacancies Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the Filling Casual Vacancies Policy at **Attachment 2**.

CARRIED 12/0

15 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS**15.1 INTERIM MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - JUNE 2025****RESOLUTION ORD362/25**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Ed Smelt

THAT the report entitled Interim Monthly Financial Report – June 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

15.2 QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT - APRIL TO JUNE 2025 (Q4)**RESOLUTION ORD363/25**

Moved: Councillor Mirella Fejo

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

THAT the report entitled Quarterly Performance Report – April to June 2025 (Q4) be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

15.3 TIER 2 BI-ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT - JANUARY TO JUNE 2025**RESOLUTION ORD364/25**

Moved: Councillor Ed Smelt

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the report entitled Tier 2 Bi-Annual Performance Report – January to June 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

15.4 UPDATE ON CODE OF CONDUCT OUTCOMES**RESOLUTION ORD365/25**

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

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

CARRIED 12/0

15.5 ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND INFORMATION COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY STEERING COMMITTEE AND RISK MANAGEMENT AND AUDIT COMMITTEE OPEN MEETING MINUTES**RESOLUTION ORD366/25**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the report entitled Advisory Committee and Information Communications Technology Steering Committee and Risk Management and Audit Committee Open Meeting Minutes be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

16 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES**RESOLUTION ORD367/25**

Moved: Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

THAT the following Reports of Representatives be received and noted.

17.1

Councillor Ed Smelt attended the Jingili Community Gardens Open Day and the Fannie Bay Community Day, hosted by Laurie Zio, Member for Fannie Bay, and the Fannie Bay Equestrian Club. Councillor Ed Smelt thanked the organisers and expressed appreciation for Darwin's beautiful open spaces and the strong community turnout.

17.2

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris attended the Royal Darwin Show, stopping by City of Darwin marquee and thanked officers for their efforts in engaging the community. Councillor Sylvia Klonaris also met with Australian Ambassador to Greece, Ms. Alison Duncan, to discuss international relations and trade opportunities between Greece and Darwin.

17.3

The Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis attended the Royal Darwin Show and praised City of Darwin's well-organised community engagement marquee. The marquee drew strong public interest and was awarded third place for Best Government Stall Holder.

The Lord Mayor also met with Australian Ambassador to Greece, Ms. Alison Duncan, and the Lord Mayor of Palmerston, Athena Pascoe-Bell. During their discussion, it was noted that Ms. Duncan had recently met with the Mayor of Athens, who expressed interest in City of Darwin's climate strategy. The Tree Planting Program was highly commended. There was also strong interest in building closer collaboration with City of Darwin to address rising global temperatures.

17.4

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris helped coordinate the visit of the Australian Ambassador to Greece, alongside the Hellenic Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HACCI) and the Greek Orthodox Community of Northern Australia (GOCNA). Key discussions included HACCI's proposal to establish partnerships in Kalymnos and Athens, which will create direct links between Darwin, Adelaide, Athens, and Kalymnos. There was also interest in expanding relationships with other Australian sister cities.

CARRIED 12/0**18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS****18.1 PARKING ON ELECTION DAY****RESOLUTION ORD368/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris asked whether City of Darwin could waive parking fees on the Local Government Election Day, Saturday 23 August, particularly around the Darwin Entertainment Centre polling location, allowing our community to attend and not be charged to vote.

Response

Lord Mayor, Kon Vatskalis advised waiving fees was not possible, as parking laws are mandated by legislation and cannot be suspended for a single day. Doing so could also prompt an ICAC investigation.

CARRIED 12/0**18.2 PUBLIC HEALTH WARNING PROCEDURE****RESOLUTION ORD369/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris enquired whether City of Darwin receive any notifications on activities that may cause pollution in the community, particularly during dry season burn-offs, to help

address public concerns.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders advised that such warnings are generally issued by the Northern Territory Department of Health, and City of Darwin does not have jurisdiction to issue them independently. Further noting City of Darwin is informed of majority of alert warnings.

CARRIED 12/0

18.3 CITY OF DARWIN VERGES POLICY**RESOLUTION ORD370/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested clarification on City of Darwin's Verges Policy, which states that full verge restoration is not guaranteed following council works that disturb or damage the verge. Councillor Sylvia Klonaris questioned whether this is applicable in cases where council activity results in uneven ground that may present accessibility issues or safety hazards. This question was raised with reference to 2 Caledonia Street, Anula.

Response

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

CARRIED 12/0

18.4 NDIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS**RESOLUTION ORD371/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris asked whether City of Darwin is aware of the number of NDIS-supported housing developments currently underway or recently approved within the municipality. Councillor Sylvia Klonaris inquired whether City of Darwin is formally notified of these developments and if officers are aware of concerns regarding anti-social behaviour and illegal verge parking associated with these residences.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders clarified that City of Darwin is not involved in any planning approvals within the municipality, and any concerns regarding such developments should be directed to the Northern Territory Government. However, issues related to verge parking can be reported to City of Darwin by appropriate channels, and rangers will attend accordingly.

CARRIED 12/0

18.5 SMITH STREET STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS**RESOLUTION ORD372/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Kim Farrar requested an update on the estimated completion date of the Smith Street Streetscape Improvements. Specifically, concerns regarding Shadforth Lane, where members of the public have reportedly received fines for parking in spaces designated for workers involved in the upgrades, stating that signage in the area was misleading.

Response

Executive Manager Infrastructure, Nik Kleine responded and advised that the Smith Street Streetscape Improvement project is expected to be completed by mid-September 2025, confirming that the affected parking areas will return to regular public use upon completion.

CARRIED 12/0

18.6 WATERS WARD MULTIGENERATIONAL RECREATION SPACE**RESOLUTION ORD373/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Kim Farrar requested an update on the estimated start date for Stage 1 of the Multigenerational Recreation Space in Malak, with particular interest for the start of the car park upgrades and civil works.

Response

Executive Manager Infrastructure, Nik Kleine advised that City of Darwin is still in the procurement phase and cannot confirm a start date until that process is completed.

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders added that Stage 1 construction is linked to the additional \$500,000 in promised funding from Mr. Brian O’Gallagher, Member for Karama, as part of their pre-election commitment.

City of Darwin has allocated a \$1.5 million budget for this project and is actively engaging with the Northern Territory Government to secure the remaining funds and confirm a timeline.

CARRIED 12/0

18.7 CASUARINA AQUATIC AND LEISURE CENTRE POOL HEATING TRIAL**RESOLUTION ORD374/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris requested an update on the progress of the heating trial for the 50-meter pool at the Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre.

Response

General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr advised that the trial is progressing well, with no further complaints received.

CARRIED 12/0

18.8 CASUARINA AQUATIC AND LEISURE CENTRE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST**RESOLUTION ORD375/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris requested an update on the progress of the Expression of Interest for the Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders advised that a report addressing this question will be presented in the confidential section of the meeting.

CARRIED 12/0

18.9 ELECTION CAMPAIGN CORFLUTES**RESOLUTION ORD376/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Amye Un enquired why City of Darwin rangers removed election campaign corflutes, and where can they be collected.

Response

General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr explained rangers have removed corflutes placed illegally, such as on median strips, and any defaced with offensive language or images.

Removed corflutes are being stored at the Civic Centre, and councillors can arrange collection by

contacting Councillor Support.

CARRIED 12/0

18.10 CODE OF CONDUCT PANEL RECOMENDATIONS

RESOLUTION ORD377/25

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Amye Un enquired whether all panel recommendations from their Code of Conduct hearings, could be re-sent.

Response

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders advised the Acting Manager of the Office of the Lord Mayor and Chief Executive Officer, Jane Bland, will send through copies of the Letters she has already received on the Code of Conduct outcomes that were determined by the panel. This re-send will include both the panel's recommendations and a copy of the final panel determinations.

CARRIED 12/0

18.11 2021 CARETAKER PERIOD FUNDING ALLOCATION

RESOLUTION ORD378/25

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

Question

Councillor Amye Un enquired whether, any ratepayer funds were directed toward supporting the incumbent Lord Mayor's re-election campaign during the Council caretaker period for the 2021 election. Councillor Amye Un referred to an unsubstantiated claim suggesting the Chief Executive Officer at the time Scott Waters, had re-allocated \$100,000 from the My Darwin voucher scheme to fund Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis's re-election campaign.

Response

Lord Mayor, Kon Vatskalis stated that Council funds cannot be used for election campaigns and are subject to strict oversight. Lord Mayor, Kon Vatskalis explained that \$200,000 in emergent funding was allocated to support economic recovery in Darwin following the COVID-19 lockdowns of 2021.

This decision was made by the Twenty-Second City of Darwin Council at a special meeting held on Tuesday, 3 August 2021, with meeting minutes available on the City of Darwin website. The timing of the decision was coincidental and unrelated to any election activity.

CARRIED 12/0

19 GENERAL BUSINESS**19.1 ELECTED MEMBER ADDRESS****RESOLUTION ORD379/25**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

All twelve Elected Members of the Twenty-Third City of Darwin Council who were present at the meeting, rose individually to express their gratitude to fellow Councillors, officers, and their personal support networks for the assistance and encouragement they received throughout their term on Council. The Elected Members wished luck to all contenders running for the Twenty-Fourth City of Darwin Council.

Elected Members also acknowledged the contributions of outgoing members, Deputy Lord Mayor Morgan Rickard representing the Chan Ward and Councillor Vim Sharma representing the Richardson Ward, both of whom will not seek re-election.

Special recognition and heartfelt appreciation were extended to outgoing Councillor for Richardson Ward, Rebecca Want de Rowe, who has served as an Elected Member for 13 years. Members conveyed their well wishes and sincere thanks to Councillor Want de Rowe for their unwavering dedication and contributions during their time on council.

CARRIED 12/0

Councillor Mick Palmer departed the meeting at 6:55 pm.

19.13 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OPERATIONAL UPDATE**RESOLUTION ORD380/25**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders advised Elected Members the General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy, was chosen as the the Local Government Association of the Northern Territory (LGANT) representative for the NT Subdivision Development Guidelines Management Committee.

Additionally, the Northern Territory Government has approved a two-year funding agreement for the continuation of the LAUNCH night series from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2027 with an annual allocation of \$50,000.

CARRIED 11/0

19.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ADDRESS TO ELECTED MEMBERS**RESOLUTION ORD381/25**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

On behalf of all City of Darwin officers, the Chief Executive Officer Simone Saunders extended sincere thanks to all Elected Members for their time on Council. The past four years under the Twenty-Third City of Darwin Council have marked a period of significant progress, driven by the development of key strategies and the successful delivery of various projects, programs, and events.

Congratulations to all, best wishes for the upcoming election, and farewell to the outgoing members.

CARRIED 11/0

20 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 30 September 2025, 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 Youth Advisory Committee Appointment of Members

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(iv) 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 subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

28.2 Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee Appointment of Community Members

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(iv) 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 subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

28.3 2025/26 Out of Round Sponsorship Application

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(iv) 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 subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

28.4 Christmas Pageant 2025

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.

28.5 Fannie Bay North Traffic Management

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.

28.6 Review of Confidential Decisions – Ordinary Council Meetings and Council Committee Meetings

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(i), 51(c)(ii) and 51(c)(iii) 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, information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the maintenance or administration of the law and information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to prejudice the security of the council, its members or staff.

29.1 Code of Conduct Panel Summary of Decision

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(f) 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 subject to subregulation 51(2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.

29.2 Civic Centre Project Update

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(c)(iv) 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 subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

29.3 Update on Expression of Interest

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.

29.4 Corporate Services Quarterly Report - April to June 2025

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(a) and 51(c)(iv) 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 employment of a particular individual as a member of the staff or possible member of the staff of the council that could, if publicly disclosed, cause prejudice to the individual and information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to subject to subregulation 51(3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

29.5 Advisory Committee and Information Communication Technology Steering Committee and Risk Management and Audit Committee Confidential Meeting Minutes

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

Councillor Mick Palmer re-joined the meeting at 6:58 pm.

RESOLUTION ORD382/25

Moved: Councillor Mirella Fejo

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the open section of the meeting be adjourned at 6:58 pm.

CARRIED 12/0

THAT the open section of the meeting be resumed at 8:24 pm.

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 8:24 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 September 2025.

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CHAIR