

# Minutes

## Special Council Meeting

Tuesday, 8 July 2025



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  
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS DARRANDIRRA, LEVEL 1, CIVIC CENTRE, HARRY  
CHAN AVENUE, DARWIN  
ON TUESDAY, 8 JULY 2025 AT 5:30PM**

**PRESENT:**

Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis (Chair)  
Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris  
Councillor Kim Farrar  
Councillor Mirella Fejo  
Councillor Sylvia Klonaris  
Councillor Mick Palmer  
Councillor Amye Un  
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:**

Deputy Lord Mayor Morgan Rickard  
Councillor Peter Pangquee  
Councillor Vim Sharma  
Councillor Ed Smelt  
Councillor Rebecca Want de Rowe

**GUESTS:**

Nil

**Order of Business**

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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

## 3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

### RESOLUTION SPE325/25

Moved: Councillor Mirella Fejo

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:35 pm.

**CARRIED 8/0**

## 4 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### 4.1 APOLOGIES

### RESOLUTION SPE326/25

Moved: Councillor Mirella Fejo

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

THAT the apology from Deputy Lord Mayor Morgan Rickard, Councillors Peter Pangquee, Vim Sharma, Ed Smelt, and Rebecca Want de Rowe, be received.

**CARRIED 8/0**

### 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 SPE327/25**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

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:

- Amye Un
- Kim Farrar

**CARRIED 8/0**

**5.2 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUESTED**

Nil

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

Nil

**6.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF**

Nil

**7 MOVING OF ITEMS****7.1 MOVING OF OPEN ITEMS INTO CONFIDENTIAL**

Nil

**7.2 MOVING OF CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS INTO OPEN**

Nil

**7.3 MOVING CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS TO OPEN AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING****18.1 WASTE PROPOSAL****RESOLUTION SPE334/25**

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer

Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

1. THAT the report entitled Waste Proposal 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 8/0****19.1 INCOMING AND OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE - HERITAGE COUNCIL  
NORTHERN TERRITORY - PROPOSED HERITAGE SITE****RESOLUTION SPE335/25**

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

1. THAT the report entitled Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence - Heritage Council Northern Territory - Proposed Heritage Site 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 8/0****8 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS**

Nil

**9 ACTION REPORTS****9.1 REVIEW OF CARETAKER POLICY****RESOLUTION SPE328/25**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Sam Weston

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

**CARRIED 8/0**

## 10 CORRESPONDENCE

### 10.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE - LGANT - BOARD MEETING COMMUNIQUE

**RESOLUTION SPE329/25**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

THAT the report entitled Incoming Correspondence - LGANT - Board Meeting Communique be received and noted.

**CARRIED 8/0**

### 10.2 OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE - MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2019

**RESOLUTION SPE330/25**

Moved: Lord Mayor Kon Vatskalis

Seconded: Councillor Mirella Fejo

THAT the report entitled Outgoing Correspondence - Minister for Local Government and Community Development - Legislative Amendments to the Local Government Act 2019 be received and noted.

**CARRIED 8/0**

## 11 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Nil

## 12 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

### 12.1 VERGE MAINTENANCE

**RESOLUTION SPE331/25**

Moved: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

**Question:**

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris requested clarification on City of Darwin's responsibility for maintaining trees on Council verges, and asked if officers could inspect a tree at the Wulagi supermarket causing possible structural damage.

**Response:**

General Manager Community, Matt Grassmayr clarified City of Darwin is responsible for trees on council land, and when requests come through, officers can inspect and recommend removal if necessary. Further advising Councillor Sylvia Klonaris, to submit her request via email to Councillor Support.

**CARRIED 8/0**

**13 GENERAL BUSINESS**

Nil

**14 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*:

**18.1 Waste Proposal**

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.

**19.1 Incoming and Outgoing Correspondence - Heritage Council Northern Territory - Proposed Heritage Site**

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.



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

### **RESOLUTION SPE332/25**

Moved:      Councillor Mirella Fejo

Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the open section of the meeting be adjourned at 5:47 pm.

**CARRIED 8/0**

THAT the open section of the meeting be resumed at 6:08 pm.

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 6:08 pm.

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Darwin held on 29 July 2025.**

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**CHAIR**