Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

Tuesday, 24 February 2026

Unconfirmed

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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, 24 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 5:30 PM

PRESENT:

Lord Mayor Peter Styles (Chair)

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Councillor Nicole Brown

Councillor Shani Carson

Councillor Kim Farrar

Councillor Julie Fraser

Councillor Edwin Joseph

Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

Councillor Mick Palmer

Councillor Peter Pangquee

Councillor Patrik Ralph

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:

Nil

GUESTS:

Chung Wah Society

Defence Housing Australia - Brendan O'Brien

Save Lee Point - David Percival

Save Lee Point - Ian Redmond

Save Lee Point - Graeme Sawyer

Save Lee Point - Lorraine Williams

Unconfirmed

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Unconfirmed

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Unconfirmed

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 5:37pm.

3 MEETING DECLARED OPEN

RESOLUTION ORD061/26

Moved: Councillor Patrik Ralph
Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

The Chair declared the meeting open at 5:37 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

Unconfirmed

5 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE

5.1 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE GRANTED

Nil

5.2 ELECTRONIC MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUESTED

Nil

6 DECLARATION OF INTEREST OF MEMBERS AND STAFF

6.1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

THAT Council note that pursuant to Section 114 and 115 of the *Local Government Act 2019*, during the Confidential Section of the Meeting, Councillor Sam Weston, declared a Conflict of Interest in Item 28.3 – Sponsorship Opportunity.

6.2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY STAFF

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLUTION ORD062/26

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 January 2026 be confirmed.

CARRIED 11/0

Administrative amendment - Item 18.10 - Questions By Members - the word '*Mayor'* removed from the title of the Seconder and replaced with, Councillor Ed Smelt.

Unconfirmed

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

28.2 RECONCILIATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE - APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

RESOLUTION ORD082/26

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee
Seconded: Councillor Mick Palmer

1. THAT the report entitled Reconciliation Advisory Committee - Appointment of Chair be received and noted.
2. THAT Council appoint David Kurnoth as the Chair of the Reconciliation Advisory Committee from 24 February 2026 until 29 February 2028.
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

29.1 ASSET SUSTAINABILITY

RESOLUTION ORD090/26

Moved: Councillor Shani Carson
Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

1. THAT the report entitled Asset Sustainability be received and noted.
2. THAT Council note City of Darwin's Asset Sustainability ratio is 36% for FY25 and that the 5-year average is 38%.
3. THAT Council note that decisions regarding the level and timing of asset renewal investment directly influence asset condition, service reliability and future financial pressures.
4. 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.*
5. THAT the documents remain confidential and that this decision be moved into Open at the end of the meeting.

CARRIED 11/0

Unconfirmed

9 MATTERS OF PUBLIC IMPORTANCE / LORD MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

10 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

11 PETITIONS

Nil

12 DEPUTATIONS AND BRIEFINGS

12.1 CHINESE NEW YEAR BLESSING

RESOLUTION ORD063/26

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the Chinese New Year Blessing, from the Chung Wah Society be received and noted.

CARRIED 11/0

12.2 LEE POINT DEVELOPMENT

RESOLUTION ORD064/26

Moved: Councillor Sam Weston
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the deputations from Save Lee Point and Defence Housing Australia, in relation to the Lee Point Development, be received and noted.

CARRIED 11/0

13 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

Unconfirmed

14 ACTION REPORTS

Councillor Nicole Brown departed the meeting at 6:28 pm.

14.1 REVIEW OF PRIVACY POLICY

RESOLUTION ORD065/26

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee
Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

1. THAT the report entitled Review of Privacy Policy be received and noted.
2. THAT Council adopt the Privacy Policy 2501.100.E.R presented as **Attachment 2.**

CARRIED 10/0

Councillor Mick Palmer joined the meeting at 6:29 pm.

14.2 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION - NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY MOTIONS 2026

RESOLUTION ORD066/26

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Seconded: Councillor Sylvia Klonaris

1. THAT the report entitled Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly Motions 2026 be received and noted.
2. THAT Council endorse the following motion to be put to the National General Assembly 2026:

   'This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to establish and fully fund a National Infrastructure Investment Program that provides sustained, needs-based Federal investment in stormwater and drainage systems across urban, regional and rural Australia to reduce localised and catchment-wide flood risk, and delivers targeted funding for key road infrastructure upgrades to strengthen the resilience of freight routes and critical supply chains, including bridges, culverts and flood-prone road corridors.'
3. THAT Council endorse the following motion to be put to the National General Assembly 2026:

   'This National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to annually fund and deliver the Community Energy Upgrades funding program to further support emissions reduction, improve energy performance and support the transition renewable electricity.'

CARRIED 11/0

Councillor Nicole Brown re-joined the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Unconfirmed

15 RECEIVE & NOTE REPORTS

15.1 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY 2026

RESOLUTION ORD067/26

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Seconded: Councillor Mick Palmer

THAT the report entitled Monthly Financial Report – January 2026 be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

15.2 ADVISORY COMMITTEE OPEN MEETING MINUTES

RESOLUTION ORD068/26

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer
Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

THAT the report entitled Advisory Committee Open Meeting Minutes be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

16 CORRESPONDENCE

16.1 INCOMING CORRESPONDENCE - LGANT - MINISTER FOR HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT - LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT BILL TO THE LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION ORD069/26

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

THAT the report entitled Incoming Correspondence - LGANT - Minister for Housing, Local Government and Community Development - Local Government Amendment Bill to the Legislative Scrutiny Committee be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

16.2 NORTHERN TERRITORY ELECTORAL COMMISSION - CITY OF DARWIN 2025 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTION REPORT AND EXPENSES

RESOLUTION ORD070/26

Moved: Councillor Mick Palmer
Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the report entitled Northern Territory Electoral Commission - City of Darwin 2025 Local Government Election Report and Expenses be received and noted.

CARRIED 12/0

Unconfirmed

17 REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

RESOLUTION ORD071/26

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Seconded: Councillor Shani Carson

THAT the following Reports of Representatives be received and noted.

17.1

Councillor Sam Weston reported on attending the 84th Anniversay of the Bombing of Darwin Commemorative Service. Further thanking City of Darwin officers for their efforts in ensuring the event offered an appropriate moment of reflection, and commended the attendance by Elected Members.

CARRIED 12/0

18 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

18.1 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST UPDATE

RESOLUTION ORD072/26

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

Question

Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris requested an update on the lease for the Lyons Community Centre and the Casuarina Aquatic and Leisure Centre.

Response

The General Manager Innovation, Alice Percy requested that these matters be raised in the confidential section of the meeting.

CARRIED 12/0

18.2 HENBURY AVENUE RESURFACING WORKS

RESOLUTION ORD073/26

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

Question

Councillor Shani Carson requested an update on the resurfacing works on Henbury Avenue.

Response

The General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson, advised the re-surfacing works are scheduled for completion by June 2026. This timeframe is reflective of the complexity of the works required, in addition to the recent wet weather.

CARRIED 12/0

Unconfirmed

18.3 ACCESSIBLE PARKING ON PEEL STREET

RESOLUTION ORD074/26

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

Question

Councillor Kim Farrar inquired when the accessible parking bays on Peel Street will be line marked, as part of the Smith Street Beautification Project.

Response

The General Manager Corporate, Natalie Williamson took the question on notice.

CARRIED 12/0

18.4 PARKING FEES

RESOLUTION ORD075/26

Moved: Councillor Peter Pangquee
Seconded: Councillor Kim Farrar

Question

Councillor Julie Fraser requested officers provide a report on the benefits and costs associated with rescinding parking fees, noting that Sunshine Coast Council has recently announced the removal of parking fees within the Caloundra CBD.

Response

The Chief Executive Officer, Simone Saunders advised Councillor Julie Fraser to bring a Notice of Motion to Council if requesting a formal report.

CARRIED 12/0

19 GENERAL BUSINESS

19.1 APPOINTMENT OF THE DEPUTY LORD MAYOR

RESOLUTION ORD076/26

Moved: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris
Seconded: Councillor Peter Pangquee

1. THAT Council appoint Councillor Mick Palmer as the Deputy Lord Mayor for the period 25 February 2026 to 29 May 2026.
2. THAT Council note that, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2019*, should Mr Ed Smelt be reinstated as a member, the member is reinstated as the Deputy Lord Mayor until 29 May 2026.

CARRIED 12/0

Unconfirmed

19.2 QUARTERLY COMMUNITY MEETINGS

RESOLUTION ORD077/26

Moved: Councillor Shani Carson
Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

Councillor Patrik Ralph requested feedback from Elected Members relating to correspondence on proposed meeting dates for the quarterly community meetings in each Ward.

Councillor Patrik Ralph noted the correspondence relates to the Notice of Motion passed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held in November 2025, in which Elected Members resolved to support quarterly community meetings, rotating between all four Wards. The proposed schedule being April for the Richardson Ward, June for Waters Ward, September for Chan Ward and November for Lyons Ward.

The Lord Mayor, Peter Styles advised all feedback on the proposed dates be provided via email response to Councillor Patrik Ralph.

CARRIED 12/0

20 DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the next Ordinary Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday, 31 March 2026, at 5:30 pm (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 the 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 Asset Replacement and Refurbishment Reserve Transfer

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.

Unconfirmed

28.2 Reconciliation Advisory Committee - Appointment of Chair

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 Sponsorship Opportunity

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 99(2) - 51(d) 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 subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

28.4 Waste and Resource Recovery

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

28.5 Proposed Telecommunications Facility

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.

29.1 Asset Sustainability

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.

30.1 Outgoing and Incoming Correspondence - Minister for Housing, Local Government and Community Development - Northcrest Housing Estate

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

Unconfirmed

22 ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING AND MEDIA LIAISON

RESOLUTION ORD078/26

Moved: Councillor Kim Farrar
Seconded: Councillor Jimmy Bouhoris

THAT the open section of the meeting be adjorned at 6:50pm.

CARRIED 12/0

THAT the open section of the meeting be resumed at 8:31 pm.

THAT the chair declared the meeting closed at 8:31 pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 31 March 2026.

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CHAIR

Unconfirmed