MINUTES

OF THE

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

HELD

TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2013

AT

6.00 pm

Council Chambers Civic Centre
Stuart Highway, Katherine

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE KATHERINE CIVIC CENTRE TUESDAY 10 DECEMBER 2013 AT 6.05 PM

---

1. OPENING PRAYER

2. PRESENT

Mayor Fay Miller
Alderman Lis Clark
Alderman Steven Rose
Alderman Kate Ganley
Alderman Donald Higgins
Alderman Rob Phillips

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr David Laugher - Chief Executive Officer
Mrs Neroli Dickens – Director Works & Services/Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Mr James Rowe – Director Corporate and Community Services
Mrs Sophie Henderson – Community Services Executive Manager
Mr David Moore – Operations Manager

6 x members of the Katherine Community
2 x member of the media

Mrs Heather Kirk – Minute Taker

3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Members Leave of Absence and Apologies

MOVED:

That the apologies of Alderman Creighton be accepted and that leave be granted.

CARRIED:

4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Confirmation of Previous Minutes

MOVED: Clark/Phillips

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 26 November 2013 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED: 6 /0

5. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Member Disclosure of Interest and Declared Interest

- Alderman Rose declared a conflict of interest with item 11.4 – Ryan Park Christmas Markets.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Nil

7. MAYORAL BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Mayoral Business to be considered

- The Mayor advised that tonight we thanked Dennis Allen for his 29 years of employment with Katherine Town Council and wished him well on his retirement.

8. CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS TO BE TABLED

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Correspondence and Documents Tabled

Nil

9. QUESTIONS

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Questions

9.1 With Notice

Nil

9.2 Without Notice

Nil

10. NOTICE OF MOTION

10.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – ALDERMAN ROSE – CREDIT CARD STATEMENTS

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Manager Reports

MOVED: Rose/Phillips

Alderman Rose requested this item be withdrawn as he advised he had been informed of credit card policy.

That Council:

1. Consider the information contained in the report; and
2. Determine what information should be included in the monthly finance report

CARRIED: 6/0

11. REPORT OF OFFICERS

11.1 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2013

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Chief Executive Officer Reports

MOVED: Higgins/Phillips

That the report of the Chief Executive Officer for the month of November 2013 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6/0

11.2 MONTHLY WORKS AND SERVICES DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2013

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Works and Services Department Reports

MOVED: Ganley/Phillips

That the report of the Works and Services Department for the month of November 2013 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 6/0

- Alderman Ganley noted the search warrant executed for the dwelling with 6 dogs and congratulated the rangers on their diligent work.
- Alderman Rose complimented Council on how good the Town looks at present, especially given the recent rain.

11.3 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT – NOVEMBER 2013

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Finance Manager Reports

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

That the Financial Report for the month of November 2013 prepared by the Corporate Services Executive Manager be received and adopted.

CARRIED: 6/0

11.4 RYAN PARK CHRISTMAS MARKETS

File: Property Management / Hire / Ryan Park – Property Hire – Community Market

Alderman Rose left the room at 6.11pm.

MOVED: Higgins/Clark

That Council:

1. Determine whether to support (or not) a Christmas market hire for Ryan Park.

- Alderman Higgins would like to determine that the hire is not supported for the Christmas markets, but move elsewhere. He stated that the CEO has offered to move the market equipment there and back so there would be no logistical problems for the Market Committee. He was shocked by the comment that the Market Committee are afraid if they move once they will not be allowed to come back. He feels there is an underlying reason for this comment.
- Alderman Ganley stated that the agenda item makes her uncomfortable. Previously the Ryan Park Hire has raised the issue that it is not Council's business to tell other people how to run their business. She appreciates Council has overriding responsibility for the Park but by making this an agenda item it has come to the point whether we endorse Market business or not. She raised the issue of the death of a journalist in Melbourne and a march that occurred shortly thereafter where the journalist died. This was in order to show the community that the area would still be used. Alderman Ganley recommends that we continue to work with the Market Committee to make suitable arrangements for a Christmas market.
- Alderman Phillips agrees 100% with Alderman Higgins.
- Alderman Clark has found this a very hard issue and has talked to a number of people around the town. She has noted a lot of older people think it is a matter of respect not to hold the markets at Ryan Park however the younger people disagree. It is not an easy decision for Council to make as it is very emotive. She does not believe the Alderman should be put in the position to have to vote.
- The Mayor agreed it has been a difficult and emotive time. She agreed that it would be very difficult to ask someone to attend a place where their spouse has died in order to have a Christmas celebration. She also agreed it would not be pleasant for emergency personnel, who may have attended the incident. The Mayor feels it is too early to have a celebration/activity in the Park. The Mayor finds it offensive that the Market Committee feels Town Council is moving them, and not allowing them to return. The Mayor is happy to support a market in a safe area and for Town Council to help the market move to an alternative venue.

MOVED: Higgins/Phillips

MOTION:

Council does not support the Christmas Markets in Ryan Park and that Council will offer support to relocate to whatever venue chosen.

CARRIED: 4/1

Alderman Rose rejoined the meeting.

12. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

File: Community Relations / Committees / Elected Member Representatives on Committees

The following meetings/activities were attended by the Elected Members:

Alderman Kate Ganley
Elected Member Workshops
Council Meeting
All Day Strategic Planning Meeting with Katherine Regional Arts. Helped to identify what the values of KRA are. Are awaiting written report which will be broken down into attainable goals.

Alderman Steven Rose
Elected Member Workshops
Council Meeting
Chamber of Commerce
NT Weeds Advisory Committee Meeting
Remembrance Day
Development Consent Authority Meeting
Tourism Top End Christmas

Alderman Rob Phillips
Council Meeting
Elected Member Workshop
CDU Presentations for Student Achievements
Presented Grand Final Trophy for NT AFL

Alderman Donald Higgins
Elected Member Workshops
Council Meeting
Chief Minister's Reception
Development Consent Authority Meeting

Alderman Lis Clark
Elected Member Workshops
Council Meeting
YMCA AGM - a new chairperson was appointed
St Joseph's Anzac Remembrance
High School Art Exhibition
Art and Cultural Meeting

13. LATE AGENDA

Nil

14. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Alderman Ganley congratulated everyone involved in the Carols by Candlelight.
- Alderman Ganley asked to phone in for the meeting in January as she would not be here. The Mayor agreed this would be possible.
- The Mayor wishes everyone a very merry Christmas and happy New Year, and a safe one.
- Alderman Phillips asked for leave from 28 December 2013 – 12 January 2014.

15. PETITIONS

Nil

16. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

MOVED:

That standing orders be suspended to allow Council to consider a confidential matter in Committee.

Meeting closed to the public. All members of the public left the Chambers.

16.1 CEO ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

MOVED: Mayor/Higgins

That Council:

1. Notes the completion of the CEO's annual performance appraisal.
2. Adopts this 2013 annual performance appraisal report of the CEO.
3. Endorses the agreed actions for the CEO and Council to address over the next period.
4. Endorses the remuneration changes backdated to the anniversary of the CEO's employment commencement date.
5. Schedules the next annual performance appraisal meeting to be held at the end of the next 12 month period.

CARRIED: 6/0

MOVED: Ganley/Phillips

That Council resume the meeting.

CARRIED: 6/0

The Mayor thanked Alderman Phillips and Rose for participation in the review.

17. MEETING CLOSED

The meeting was closed at 6.35pm.

Fay Miller
MAYOR OF KATHERINE