



MINUTES

**Ordinary Meeting of Council
Held on Tuesday 27 August 2024**

Civic Centre, Council Chambers
24 Stuart Highway, Katherine NT 0850



1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We would like to acknowledge that this meeting is being held on the traditional lands of the first nations people of the Katherine township and surrounding council communities. We recognise the first nations culture as one of the longest surviving cultures in the world and we pay our respects to Elders both past, present and future.

2 OPENING PRAYER

Grant O God to this Council wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose in the Governance of this Municipality. Amen

3 OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mayor Clark declared the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 27 August 2024 open at 12:01 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

- Mayor Elisabeth Clark (Chair)
- Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn
- Councillor Maddy Bower (via video conference)
- Councillor Peter McDougall
- Councillor Kerrie Mott
- Councillor Jeremy Trembath

OFFICERS

- Amanda Haigh - Manager Governance and Risk (Acting CEO)
- Nikola Faberova - Executive Assistant Governance (Minute taker)
- Matthew Cooper – Manager Community Relations
- Desiree Rodgers - Manager Finance
- Irene McCreevy - Manager People and Culture
- Brett Kimpton - Manager Environment and Municipal Services
- Casey Anderson - Manager Corporate Administration
- Matthew Arnott - Manager Projects Portfolio
- Kimberley Worrigal - Contracts Coordinator
- Staff 3

PUBLIC - 5

4.2 APOLOGIES

Councillor Kingdon provided an apology for the meeting.

4.3 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil



5 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Chair reminded members of their responsibility to declare any conflicts of interest.

Nil conflicts declared.

6 PRESENTATIONS FROM EXTERNAL AGENCIES

7 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL 23 JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-155

Moved: Councillor Trembath; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

That Council confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 23 July 2024 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 5|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Councillor Kingdon requested the following to be noted in her absence:

14.1 LGANT Representative Committee Nominations - Not all elected members congratulated Councillor Mott on her nomination as mentioned in the previous minutes.

Wording 'all elected members' which appears in previous minutes to not be used as sometimes it is not the case. It is according to vote of resolution.

16.1 Elected Member Activities - Councillor Bower's conduct and line of questioning was discourteous to Councillor Kingdon and that Councillor Bower did not seek information from Mayor as to substantiation of her allegations that she voiced.

Councillor Kingdon also provides a notice that she will not be submitting her Elected Member Activities on a monthly basis until further notice.

7.2 MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL 26 JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-156

Moved: Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

That Council confirm the minutes of the Special Meeting of Council held on 26 July 2024 as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil



8 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

8.1 ACTION REPORT JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-157

Moved: Councillor Trembath; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council receive and note the Action update.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

UNCONFIRMED



9 MAYORAL BUSINESS

9.1 MAYOR ACTIVITIES JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-158

Moved: Deputy Mayor Coburn; **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That Council receive and note the Mayoral activities for July 2024.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Meeting with Katherine Police topics included - Police providing extra cover during the Katherine Show and Rodeo long weekend as there were concerns raised about the influx of people during those days.

Meeting with Senator Price and Jo Hersey was about the upcoming elections and relationship building. Mayor to provide the elected member with further details of the meeting. Taken on notice.

Councillor McDougall attended the meeting with the Senator and Jo Hersey and will add this event for the next month reporting purposes.

Mayor was invited to attend the group, Justice Rejuvenation Meeting, who have just received the funding, and are in the process of identifying programs for the youth. The group are from all different sections of Indigenous population.

10 CORRESPONDENCE AND DOCUMENTS

10.1 CORRESPONDENCE INCOMING JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-159

Moved: Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Trembath

That Council receive and note the Incoming Correspondence:

Attachments: 1. Letter - Department of The Attorney General and Justice - Fines Recovery - 9 August 2024 - D196247 [10.1.1 - 5 pages]

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

This letter is for noting and doesn't affect any infringements or action for the recovery of their penalties.



11 PETITIONS

12 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (MATTERS REFERRED TO THE AGENDA)

There were no Questions from the Gallery at the Ordinary Meeting of Council - 27 August 2024

13 NOTICE OF MOTION

14 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

14.1 RATES CONCESSION POLICY REVISION

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-160

Moved: Deputy Mayor Coburn; **Seconded:** Councillor Trembath

That Council endorse and adopt the revised Rates Concession Policy to enact the following changes.

- a) Ratepayers may apply for a Rates Concession at any time during the rating period, rather than being restricted to the first instalment date of September 30. The concession will only apply to the period for which it is granted.
- b) No interest will accrue on deferred rates.
- c) The correction of records is now including a reviewable decision option. Ratepayers have the right to request a review of such decisions by the CEO, and if adversely affected, may apply to NTCAT to review the Council's final decision.
- d) The policy now approves concessions for separate parts or units within an allotment.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Noted the revised recommendations as they will serve community well.

14.2 FEES AND CHARGES 2024-25 - NEW IMPOSED AND AMENDED CHANGES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-161

Moved: Deputy Mayor Coburn; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council approve and adopt the amendment and newly imposed fees and charges and to the current structure 2024/25:

- a) Graffiti Kits – Available for purchase at the Civic Centre for \$40.00 per kit.
- b) Katherine and Big Rivers Community, Sport and Recreation Venue (KBRCSR) – Office spaces



available for hire at \$1,300 for six months or \$2,600 for twelve months.

- c) Plan Printing – A1 prints at \$3.90 each and A0 prints at \$5.50 each.
- d) Shopping Trolley Release Fee (left in public place) \$135.00 per trolley.
- e) Current Fees and Charges values rounded to the nearest five cents.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Shopping trolley release fees will be paid by shopping trolley providers with the intent of action being taken to prevent trolleys being left on the streets and public spaces. The process will ensure trolleys are expected to be picked up promptly. This has been an ongoing issue and used the concept of City of Darwin that has been reported successful.

Acknowledgment of good work in regard to graffiti fees and it was noted through experience the kits work effectively.

Fees and Charges are required to be approved by Council.

14.3 SHOWGROUNDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-162

Moved: Councillor Bower; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

1. That Council receive and note the report on membership resignations and nomination applications received for the Showgrounds Advisory Committee.
2. That Council rescind membership of the following representatives from various clubs on the Showgrounds Advisory Committee:
 - a) AFLNT – Shannon Jackson
 - b) Katherine Rope and Barrel Club Inc – Melinda Whelan
 - c) Blue Eagle Training Fitness – David Flood
3. That Council accepts the nominations of representatives from the following clubs to the Showgrounds Advisory Committee:
 - a) AFLNT – Leanne Bugg
 - b) Katherine Rope and Barrel Club Inc – Annabelle Keith

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion



Contact was made with all current user groups and members and we were advised that Blue Eagle Training Fitness are no longer utilising their membership.

User groups are required to have a hire agreement in place.

14.4 SPORTSGROUND ADVISORY COMMITTEE - MEMBER NOMINATIONS

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-163

Moved: Councillor Trembath; **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

1. That Council receives and notes the report nominations and changes received for the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee.
2. That Council accept the withdrawal of member, Shayla Rice formerly of the Katherine Rugby League Club.
3. That Council accept the nominations of representatives from the following Clubs and Associations to the Sportsgrounds Advisory Committee:
 - a) Katherine Rugby League – Karisa Morrison
 - b) Katherine Touch Association – Nat Dillon.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Suggestion for YMCA being included on the list of membership. Taken on notice.

14.5 FINANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-164

Moved: Deputy Mayor Coburn; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council endorses the Finance Report for the Month of July 2024.

CARRIED 5|1

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Councillor Mott

Discussion

Noted the 'Untied Funds' on page 63 and \$3, 000, 000 difference in reserves. This table reflects the funding we have already received for this financial year. \$3, 000, 000 has been received for Aquatic Centre upgrade.

14.6 2023-2024 ACQUITTAL - LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT - BINJARI



COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-165

Moved: Deputy Mayor Coburn; **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That the acquittal for 2023 – 2024 Local Government Grant – Provision of Local Government services to Binjari Community be received and noted, and that the acquittal be forwarded to the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet, NT Government.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Concerns raised about the deficit sum. Council requests a review of the contract terms to include CPI increase once the current agreement expires.

Rates represent around \$64,000 for the last financial year and are not included in these calculations.

14.7 COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-166

Moved: Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

That Council receive and note the Community Relations Department report for the Month of July 2024.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Acknowledgment of the successful engagement at the Katherine Show booth.

Acknowledgment to the staff of the Visitor Centre receiving positive google reviews for their services.

14.8 CORPORATE ADMINISTRATION MONTHLY REPORT - JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-167

Moved: Councillor Trembath; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council receive and note the Corporate Administration Report for the month of July 2024.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil



Discussion

Reference to erosion requests. Taken on notice.

14.9 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-168

Moved: Deputy Mayor Coburn; **Seconded:** Councillor Bower

That Council receive and note the report of the Environmental Services Department for July 2024.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

The purpose of drone mapping of the waste facility is to have an overview of where the waste is going. Exciting to hear of the new Avdata recording machine installation at the Civil airport.

14.10 INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROJECTS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-169

Moved: Councillor Trembath; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

That Council receive and note the report of the Infrastructure Services Department for July 2024.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

The Aquatic Centre upgrade is on track and completion is scheduled for July 2025 as originally planned. Demolition stage should commence soon.

Temporary fencing on the corner of the Stuart Highway and Chambers Drive is to provide a security barrier whilst the new fence is being installed and limit access to the construction site.

15 REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

15.1 MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

15.1.1 Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee Minutes 16 July 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-170



Moved: Councillor McDougall; **Seconded:** Councillor Trembath

That Council receive and note the minutes of the Centenary of Katherine 2026 Advisory Committee meeting held on 16 July 2024.

CARRIED 6|0

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor Bower, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Nil

Discussion

Events scheduled for the Centenary of Katherine are not complete as these only represent the main Council events. Other events will be considered as planning progresses to incorporate into the celebrations for the Centenary of Katherine including Indigenous events.

It was noted that the importance for Council to start recognising our first nations people at the beginning not after showing the importance for the Reconciliation Plan (RAP) to be developed. We need to change our thinking, not looking from the angle which has always been when doing events.

16 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES

16.1 ELECTED MEMBER ACTIVITIES JULY 2024

COUNCIL RESOLUTION OMC-2024-171

Moved: Deputy Mayor Coburn; **Seconded:** Councillor McDougall

That Council receive and note the Elected Member activities for July 2024.

CARRIED 5|1

FOR: Mayor Clark, Deputy Mayor Coburn, Councillor McDougall, Councillor Mott and Councillor Trembath
AGAINST: Councillor Bower

Discussion

Deputy Mayor gave apologies for not providing his monthly activities.

Councillor Mott will also provide to the appropriate officer to be included in the next month.

Feedback provided to Councillor Kingdon's meeting on 10 July 2024 that elected members are not stopped from being an observer at advisory committee meetings.

The meeting with DIPL and Louise McCormick reflects how important a strong relationship and communication between the Council and DIPL is.

Noted the meeting with Jo Hersey and Senator Price was for all elected members to join.

17 LATE AGENDA

17.1 LATE AGENDA - NIL

18 GENERAL BUSINESS



Community grants applications close on 30 August.

Council will be again organising the Great Spring Clean on 22 September. The event focuses on cleaning up the river corridor before the wet season. More information will be released soon.

Deputy Mayor congratulated Jo Hersey on the election results and wished her well. He would like to cooperate and work together to get things done for Katherine.

Deputy Mayor also attended Legacy Golf Day, AFL Grands Final game and Katherine Races that were all great events for the Katherine community.

Deputy Mayor and Mayor spent 12 hours counting heavy vehicles passing through Katherine resulting in 484 heavy vehicles on Monday between 6am and 6 pm. This was an increase from last year 401 count. This shows the importance of the need for the diversion and second bridge requirements.

Councillor Mott also congratulated Jo Hersey on the election and all three candidates of the election.

Councillor Mott expressed her condolences and appreciation of the hard work of Luke Bowen and Errol Lawson, who both recently passed away.

19 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO PUBLIC

The open meeting was declared closed to the public at 1:03pm.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Mayor Clark; **Seconded:** Deputy Mayor Coburn

Members, pursuant with Section 99(2) and 293(1) of the *Local Government Act 2019* gives power to the council to close a meeting to the public to discuss the following confidential items, in relation to matters referred to in regulations 51 of the *Local Government (General) Regulations 2021*. This means that all members of the public are now asked to leave the Council Chambers.

I now move a motion to close the meeting to public.

Your Worship, I wish to second that the meeting be closed to public.

20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

20.1 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES 23 JULY 2024

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(d) information subject to an obligation of confidentiality at law, or in equity.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(f) subject to subregulation (2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.



20.2 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES 26 JULY 2024

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(f) subject to subregulation (2) – information in relation to a complaint of a contravention of the code of conduct.

20.3 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (i) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: cause commercial prejudice to, or confer an unfair commercial advantage on, any person.

Section Under the Act	The grounds on which part of the Council or Committee may be closed to the public are listed in Section 99(2) of the <i>Local Government Act 2019</i> .
Sub-clause and Reason:	(c) (iv) information that would, if publicly disclosed, be likely to: Subject to subregulation (3) – prejudice the interests of the council or some other person.

21 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

The open meeting resumed at 01:30pm.

22 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Ordinary Meeting of Council - 27 August 2024 was declared closed at 01:31pm.

The next Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on 24 September 2024.