



MINUTES

**Special Meeting of Council
Held on Friday 1 November 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 Special Meeting of Council - 1 November 2024 open at 12:34 pm.

4 ATTENDANCE

4.1 PRESENT

ELECTED MEMBERS

- Mayor Elisabeth Clark (Chair)
- Deputy Mayor Denis Coburn
- Councillor Amanda Kingdon (via video call)
- Councillor Peter McDougall
- Councillor Jeremy Trembath (via telephone)

OFFICERS

- Ms Ingrid Stonhill – Chief Executive Officer
- Nikola Faberova - Executive Assistant Governance (minute taker)
- Casey Anderson - Manager Corporate Administration
- Brett Kimpton - Manager Environment and Municipal
- Desiree Rodgers - Manager Finance

PUBLIC

Carolyn Eagle - Independent Chair of Audit and Risk Management Committee
Matthew Ward - KPMG Partner

4.2 APOLOGIES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

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

That Council accepts the apology of Councillor Bower, Councillor Mott.

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 REPORTS OF OFFICERS

6.1 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL 2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

COUNCIL RESOLUTION SMC-2024-8

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

1. That Council approve the Katherine Town Council 2023/2024 Annual Report Draft incorporating the Audited Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024.
2. That Council note that in accordance with Section 290 (1) of the Local Government Act 2019, the approved Katherine Town Council 2023/2024 Annual Report incorporating the Audited Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 will be provided to the Minister for Local Government on or before 15 November 2024.
3. That Council note that in accordance with Section 290 (2), the endorsed Katherine Town Council Annual Report 2023/2024 incorporating the Audited Financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 will be published on the Council's website and provide a copy to the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet, after the report has been delivered to the Minister, and publish a notice in a newspaper as soon as practicable.

CARRIED 4|1

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

Discussion

The typo in the Binjari services section to be rectified.

The hard work of council staff and external parties involved whilst developing the Annual report was noted.

Sections of the Draft Annual Report are still being edited.

The highest possible audit ranking received from the external auditors is a big achievement for the Council's staff and the CEO.

Concerns regarding the risks of Aquatic Centre project cost blowout and honoring of contracts raised. Elected members were re-assured that the Council mitigates and manages existing risks which was also confirmed by the independent Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee - Carolyn Eagle, who was present at the meeting.

Auditors do not assess at this stage the unavoidable costs of the Aquatic centre project.

Elected members wish to deliver this project as promised to the public.

7 CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

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.

8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

9 RESUMPTION OF OPEN MEETING

10 CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The Special Meeting of Council - 1 November 2024 was declared closed at 12:55 pm.