



KATHERINE
TOWN COUNCIL

**AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE CIVIC CENTRE – KATHERINE
Thursday, 2 April 2020**

MINUTES

1 PRESENT

CHAIRPERSON : - Mr Ian Swan (Via Zoom)

MEMBERS : - Mayor Fay Miller
- Mr Lokesh Anand – Independent (Via Zoom)
- Deputy Mayor Jon Raynor
- Alderman John Zelle

OFFICERS - Mr Ian Bodill (CEO)
- Ms Claire Johansson (COO)
- Ms Donna Jones (Finance Manager)
- Mr Jherry Matahelumual (EA/Minutes Taker)

2 OPENED : The meeting was opened at 12.10 pm by the chair Mr Ian Swan

3 APOLOGIES : Nil

**4 DISCLOSURE
OF INTEREST** : Nil

**5 CONFIRMATION
OF MINUTES** : MOVED : Deputy Mayor Jon Raynor
SECONDED : Mr Lokesh Anand

THAT the minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on Tuesday 19 November 2019 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 5/0

**6 BUSINESS
ARISING** : Nil

**7 ITEMS FOR
DISCUSSION** : **7.1 2018/2019 AUDIT AND FINANCIAL POSITION**
- Mr Swan advised that 2018/2019 Audit and Financial Position had been discussed in November with Collin James and agreed.

7.2 RESERVES

- COO Johansson advised that the reserves were discussed in November 2019 Meeting and a report had been submitted to the Council.
- Mr Swan mentioned that following the briefing from Colin James, the committee recommended to the Council to nominated reserves for the unrestricted reserves fund of \$7,339,998..
- COO Johansson confirmed that the report including the allocation of restricted funds for the unrestricted reserves had been presented to the Council at a meeting on the 10 December 2019.



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**7.3 INTRODUCTION OF THE REVISED LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT
AND DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO THE REGULATIONS
(FINANCIAL CHANGES)**

- CEO Bodill mentioned that the Local Government Act 2019 and Regulations have been discussed by Local Government Association of the NT (LGANT). Majority Members have requested to postpone the commencement of Local Government Act due to the current situation of COVID-19 outbreak.
- COO Johansson mentioned that the Council will prepare the submission in relation to the changes of the regulation and send a draft to the chair.
- Mayor Miller informed that we have seen no major changes in respect of the financials.
- CEO Bodill added that another change that may come into place is a recommendation from the LGANT to conduct training which is a Compulsory Requirement for all Elected Members to attend.

**7.4 DRAFT SUBMISSION REGARDING THE DRAFT AMENDMENTS
TO THE REGULATIONS (FINANCIAL)**

- COO Johansson mentioned that a draft submission regarding the draft amendments to the regulations (financial) will be made available.
- Mayor Miller advised that Council will need to respond to mandatory training of the Elected Members and put the draft for public consultation.

7.5 AUDIT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAM

- Mayor Miller suggested that the draft budget will be discussed during the Ordinary Meeting of Council in April and will then be open for public consultation until the end of May.
- COO Johansson reminded that our budget will be included in the Municipal Plan so is planned to adopt the plan in June after the public consultation. Public Consultation is for 21 days.
- COO Johansson advised that the Annual Municipal Plan needed to be adopted before 30 June (according to the new regulations) and a copy to be with the Minister by 15 November.
- Mr Swan suggested some changes in the work program to fit with the Council's plans, meetings will now be amended to March, June and September for 2020 and 2021. The dates of the meetings in 2020 are 11 June, 10 September and 11 November.
- CEO Bodill informed that the Special Meeting with Council about the Municipal Plan can be scheduled for the 15 June 2020. A special meeting will also be conducted on 12th November 2020



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and the audited budget will be submitted to the Minister on the 15th November 2020.

- CEO Bodill requested the Work Program be edited into a better working document.
- Mr Swan requested Jherry to amend the draft of the work program.

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- 8 **MEETING** : Meeting was closed at 1.10 pm
CLOSED
- 9 **NEXT MEETING** : Next meeting is on the 11th June 2020