

Minutes of a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee of the Waikato District Council held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaruawahia on **WEDNESDAY, 5 FEBRUARY 2020** commencing at **9.30am**.

Present:

Cr JM Gibb (Chairperson)
His Worship the Mayor, Mr AM Sanson
Cr AD Bech
Cr CA Eyre
Cr SD Lynch
Cr RC McGuire
Cr FM McNally
Cr EM Patterson
Cr JD Sedgwick
Cr NMD Smith
Cr LR Thomson
Cr CT Woolerton

Attending:

Mr D Whyte (Chair, Huntly Community Board)
Mr B MacLeod (Deputy Chair, Raglan Community Board)

Mr G Ion (Chief Executive)
Mr R MacCulloch (General Manager Service Delivery)
Mrs S O’Gorman (General Manager Customer Support)
Mr J Ebenhoh (Acting General Manager Community Growth)
Ms A Diaz (Chief Financial Officer)
Mr J Quinn (Communications, Engagement and Marketing Manager)
Mr C Bailey (Finance Manager)
Mrs LM Wainwright (Committee Secretary)

Ms E O’Dwyer (Waikato Times)

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (His Worship the Mayor/Cr Gibb)

THAT an apology be received from Councillor Church and Councillor Henderson.

CARRIED

S&F2002/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Crs Thomson/Bech)

THAT the agenda for a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee held on Wednesday, 5 February 2020 be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting with the exception of those items detailed at agenda item 7 which shall be considered with the public excluded;

AND THAT all reports be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the Mr Whyte, Chair of the Huntly Community Board be given speaking rights for the duration of the open section of this meeting;

AND FURTHER THAT the Mr MacLeod, Deputy Chair of the Raglan Community Board be given speaking rights for the duration of the open section of this meeting.

CARRIED

S&F2002/02

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolved: (Crs Patterson/Sedgwick)

THAT the minutes of a meeting of the Strategy & Finance Committee held on Monday, 2 December 2019 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.

CARRIED

S&F2002/03

REPORTS

Climate Response Planning Agenda Item 5.1

The report was received [*S&F2002/02 refers*]. The Acting General Manager Community Growth summarised the report, which the Committee then discussed.

Resolved: (Crs Bech/Sedgwick)

THAT the Strategy and Finance Committee direct staff to develop a Climate Action Plan (Option 2 in the staff report), including both mitigation and adaptation for both Council and the District, that advances Council's commitment to climate leadership on behalf of its communities, whilst simultaneously implementing operational initiatives.

CARRIED

S&F2002/04

Economic and Community Development Update Agenda Item 5.2

The report was received [*S&F2002/02 refers*]. In speaking to the report, the Economic and Community Development Manager highlighted the following points:

- Franklin Tourist Group had met with Ngaruawahia Tourism Group giving best practice guidance.
- Te Waka Business Growth in Huntly.

ACTION: The Economic and Community Development Manager to advise elected members the numbers of people in Huntly interested in going through Te Waka for business advice.

- School Based Growth – The Community Development Team were working with Huntly and Ngaruawahia Schools on engagement with Council, democracy and communities to create solutions for project-based learning to gain credits towards NCEA.
- Hampton Downs Cluster meeting had been held with over 40 participants. There was national and regional interest in what Hampton Downs would look like in the future.
- Corrections - Waikeria Prison would be employing approximately 800 new staff and would be looking at the Waikato region for housing opportunities.

Financial Performance Summary for the period ending 31 December 2019

Agenda Item 6.1

The report was received [S&F2002/02 refers]. In speaking to the report, the Chief Financial Officer and the Finance Manager highlighted the following points:

- Actual/Forecast Capital Expenditure - Council staff would be re-evaluating the capex for the balance of the current financial year.
- Disaster Recovery – The reserve would be replenished and increased under the LTP process.

Treasury Risk Management Policy – Compliance Report at 31 December 2019

Agenda Item 6.2

The report was received [S&F2002/02 refers]. In speaking to the report, the Chief Financial Officer highlighted the following points:

- Policy limit breaches – Council was working with PwC to remedy the variances.
- Borrowing of funds from Watercare had been explored through the Watercare contract negotiations.
- Concern had been raised on the forward start swaps and Council had sought advice.

Resolved: (Crs McNally/McGuire)

THAT the Committee note the two breaches against the Treasury Risk Management Policy for the December quarter regarding actual to budgeted borrowing costs and fixed to floating interest rate controls being exceeded.

CARRIED

S&F2002/05

Council Credit Rating

Agenda Item 6.3

The report was received [S&F2002/02 refers]. In speaking to the report, the Finance Manager highlighted the following:

- The aim was to achieve a formal credit rating of AAA-. Subject to confirming cashflow forecasts for the capex, it would be expected that the credit rating would be in place prior to 30 June 2020.

Civic Financial Services – Statement of Intent for 2020

Agenda Item 6.4

The report was received [S&F2002/02 refers] and the Chief Financial Officer summarised the report.

