PRESENT: Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair), Cr John Boddy, Cr Barry Hickling, Cr Tangonui Kingi, Cr Anna Park, Cr Maggie Stewart, Cr Kirsty Trueman (from 10.18am), Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive, Head of Finance & Strategy, Head of Operations, Head of Communications & Customer Relations, Head of Regulatory & Risk, Head of Community, Culture & Heritage, Head of Economic Development & Business Transformation, Head of Democracy, Governance & Venues, Senior Policy Advisor, Manager Legal & Compliance, Consents & Regulatory Manager, Business & Operations Manager, Finance Manager, Democratic Services Officer

Mr Te Takinga New, Chairperson of the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: Nil

1 APOLOGIES

TDC201905/01 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park
Seconded: Cr John Boddy

That the apologies received from Crs Rosie Harvey, Rosanne Jollands and Christine Rankin (for absence) and Cr Kirsty Trueman (for lateness) be accepted.

CARRIED

2 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

4 POLICY AND DECISION MAKING

4.1 TO RECEIVE, HEAR AND DELIBERATE ON SUBMISSIONS MADE ON THE DRAFT FEES AND CHARGES 2019/20

TDC201905/02 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Barry Hickling
Seconded: Cr Tangonui Kingi


2. That Council accepts a late submission from the following submitter:

   • Submitter 4 – Turangi-Tongariro Community Board.

CARRIED
Members had before them the Statement of Proposal and draft Fees and Charges 2019/20 (A2475933).
The following submitter spoke to their submission and answered questions, with additional points as noted.

4 – Mr Te Takinga New, Chairperson of the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board
- Rebates or waivers for community volunteer type groups; not-for-profit organisations; and financially vulnerable traders would reduce the risk of such groups ‘going underground’ and therefore operating unregulated by Council.
- This approach would assist small start-up businesses to become established.
- ‘Financially vulnerable’ referred to businesses struggling financially in the first year or two of starting up.

Members went through each submission in turn and staff answered questions of clarification. The following points were noted:
- There had been a remarkable increase in the numbers of local children aged five and under visiting the district’s pools since free entry had been introduced.
- Central government funded free wifi in the district’s two libraries.
- Trade waste fees were set by legislation, but were rarely collected in Taupō district.
- Proposed pensioner housing increases were within 5%.
- Proposed changes to AC Baths and fitness studio rates were designed to bring all fees into line.

Cr Kirsty Trueman entered the meeting at this point (10.18am)
- The climbing wall was occasionally closed. Signage, Facebook, emails to members were some of the communication tools used to inform the public of closures.
- Building service fees covered Council’s costs to check buildings were safe. Rebates or waivers would have to apply across the district and Council would need to define “financially vulnerable” if it wished to take the approach sought by the Turangi/Tongariro Community Board.
- In relation to environmental health fees, there were examples of successful, cheap to run ‘cottage industry’ businesses operating in the district.
- Travel time and costs were not recovered for inspections carried out in Turangi and Mangakino.
- Vulnerable businesses already cost Council more than established businesses due to repeat visits. To allow rebates or waivers for vulnerable businesses would create inconsistency in terms of cost recovery and Council’s ability to meet financial targets.

4.2 ADOPTION OF FEES AND CHARGES 2019/20

Members agreed to adopt the Fees and Charges 2019/20 with no changes. They asked to see draft responses to submitters prior to final letters being sent out.

TDC201905/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Boddy
Seconded: Cr Anna Park
That Council adopts the Fees and Charges 2019/20.

CARRIED

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 10.29am.
The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the ordinary Council meeting held on 25 June 2019.

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CHAIRPERSON