

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON TUESDAY, 26 MARCH 2024 AT 1.00PM**

- PRESENT:** Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Karam Fletcher, Cr Sandra Greenslade, Cr Kylie Leonard (from 1.43pm), Cr Anna Park (until 2.48pm), Cr Christine Rankin, Cr Rachel Shepherd, Cr Kevin Taylor, Cr Kirsty Trueman (until 2.04pm), Cr Yvonne Westerman, Cr John Williamson
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive (J Gardyne), General Manager People and Community Partnerships (L O'Brien), General Manager Organisation Performance (S Matthews), General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Acting General Manager Operations and Delivery (T Hale), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Community Engagement and Development Manager (H Tattle), Environmental Services Manager (J Sparks), Property Manager (S Attenborough), Legal and Governance Manager (N McAdie), Finance Manager (J Paenga), Iwi and Co-Governance Manager (D Rameka), Project Management Office Manager (P Fletcher), Team Leader – Resource Management/Reserve Planning (E O'Callaghan), Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor (B Forlong), Communications Team Lead (D Beck), Executive Manager Mayor's Office (J Later), Asset Manager Water (T Swindells), Compliance and Regulatory Manager (R McDonald), Policy Advisor (H Wood), Funding and Partnerships Advisor (E Godwin), Senior Solicitor (K Hollman), Corporate Solicitor (F Bramwell), Environmental Impact Manager (B Aitken), Finance Business Partner (A Wichman), Project Manager Stakeholder Specialist (T Perry), Road Safety Co-ordinator (S Wraight), Governance Quality Manager (S James), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts)
- MEDIA AND PUBLIC:** Mr John Tilton (Trans Tasman Holiday Parks Limited), Mr Andrew Bateman and Mr Roger FitzGerald (Forsyth Barr), 2 members of the public

Notes:

- (i) Cr Kevin Taylor opened and closed the meeting with a karakia
- (ii) Items were considered in the following order: 1, 2, 3, 4.1, 5.1, 5.8, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.6, 5.7, 5.9, 5.10, 5.11, 6.1
- (iii) Cr Kylie Leonard entered the meeting at 1.43pm. She was not present for resolutions TDC202403/01-03.
- (iv) Cr Kirsty Trueman left the meeting at 2.04pm. She was not present for resolutions TDC202403/04-09, 11-15.
- (v) Cr Anna Park left the meeting at 2.48pm. She was not present for resolutions TDC202403/11-15.

1 KARAKIA

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

TDC202403/03 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Yvonne Westerman
Seconded: Cr Karam Fletcher

That the apologies received from Cr Danny Loughlin (for absence) and Cr Kylie Leonard (for lateness) be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/03 above.

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

4.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 27 FEBRUARY 2024

The minutes were amended in the following manner:

Cr Kevin Taylor had intended to join the meeting late via MS Teams but due to technological challenges he did not attend the meeting.

TDC202403/04 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 27 February 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record, as amended.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/04 above.

5 NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE ME NGĀ WHAKATAUNGA | POLICY AND DECISION MAKING

5.1 MOTUTERE HOLIDAY PARK LEASE

The Policy Manager summarised the report and highlighted that the reserve management plan review and the new lease were connected. At the recent Motutere Recreation Reserve Management Plan Committee (MRRMPC) workshop, members had discussed different parts of the campground being used differently. Safety for pedestrians could lead to technical terms being added. He noted that if members proceeded with the recommendation to begin negotiating the lease now, and then granted it following the final adoption of the reserve management review, separate public consultation would not be required. He added that the intention was to move as fast as possible on both processes, dealing with stakeholders for both processes. There were complexities due to it being public land and having lots of interested parties.

In answers to questions from members, the Policy Manager clarified the following:

- Legal advice from Buddle Findlay supported the reserve management plan review and lease negotiation happening in parallel provided that the new lease was not granted until the new reserve management plan had been adopted.
- Council officers were conscious that lease terms would take a number of months to negotiate given the transactional elements and that the lessee, plus campground users, wanted certainty as soon as possible.
- Some information would be shared between teams working on the reserve management plan review and the new lease negotiations. As an example, the reserve management plan could add restrictions that would need to be considered in the new lease.
- It was anticipated that the draft Reserve Management Plan would be brought to the MRRMPC meeting in May for approval to go out for public consultation. Provided it was approved by the MRRMPC, it would be consulted with the public over June and July followed by hearings and deliberations.
- Under the Reserves Act 1977, there was a presumption that the lease would be publicly consulted on before the administering body granted a lease.
- When the lessee Mr Tilton first requested that the lease be extended between 2017 and 2019, Ngāti Tūwharetoa was going through a Treaty Settlement process. It would have been inappropriate for Council to grant another 33 year lease when the Treaty Settlement was going through. That Treaty Settlement also brought to light to Council the cultural significance of the reserve site. Council now

- had clarity on who administered the land as it was not part of the final Treaty Settlement.
- Negotiations on any lease terms had not begun. It was difficult to determine the timeframe required to grant a new lease but it could take many months.

Members were concerned that by running the lease negotiations in parallel with the review of the reserve management plan, it could be considered to be a predetermined outcome. They expressed the importance of making it clear to all parties that this was without prejudice and that there could be changes to the lease depending on the final outcome of the reserve management plan review.

TDC202403/05 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Sandra Greenslade

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council directs officers to begin the negotiation process for a proposed new lease on a without prejudice basis, in parallel to the Motutere reserve management plan review, with any decision on granting a new lease to be made once the reserve management plan is adopted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting except for Crs Duncan Campbell, Karam Fletcher, Anna Park, Kirsty Trueman and Yvonne Westerman voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/05 above. Crs Duncan Campbell, Karam Fletcher, Anna Park, Kirsty Trueman and Yvonne Westerman voted against the resolution. Crs Kylie Leonard and Danny Loughlin were not present at the meeting.

5.2 ADOPTION OF DOG REGISTRATION AND FOOD LICENSING FEES FOR CONSULTATION

The Policy Advisor outlined the report and stressed the need for setting these fees ahead of the legislative deadline of the end of the financial year 2023/24.

In answer to a question from a member, he clarified that the domestic food levy was proposed by the Ministry for Primary Industries. It was targeted at those using their home kitchen to make goods to sell online or at a market stall, rather than a commercial kitchen.

Members were concerned that the percentage of the fees increases was higher for registration fees versus dog owners who did not comply such as for impound fees. Also, most dog owners and dogs never saw a compliance officer, especially those in rural areas and on farms and stations. The Policy Advisor confirmed that amendments could be made to the fees following consultation.

Cr Kirsty Trueman left the meeting at this point (2.04pm).

TDC202403/06 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park

Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council:

1. adopts the attached fees and charges proposal for dog registration/animal control and food licensing for consultation; and
2. resolves to address the inconsistency between the proposed dog registration/animal control charges and the revenue and financing policy when the policy is reviewed through the Long-term Plan.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting except for Cr Kylie Leonard voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/06 above. Cr Kylie Leonard voted against the resolution.

5.3 ADOPTION OF THE SOLID WASTE BYLAW PROPOSAL FOR CONSULTATION

The Policy Advisor summarised the report and explained that this proposed bylaw protected the current system.

Members thanked Council officers for looking more long-term into solid waste to allow time for new initiatives to be explored.

TDC202403/07 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kevin Taylor

Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council:

1. adopts the statement of proposal and draft Solid Waste Bylaw attached to the report in the agenda for consultation;
2. constitutes a Special [Ad Hoc] Committee of Council, as per the attached terms of reference, to hear and consider submissions on the proposed Solid Waste Bylaw (hearing date proposed for 28 May 2024); and
3. appoints Cr Karam Fletcher, Cr Yvonne Westerman and Cr Sandra Greenslade plus the Mayor ex-officio to the Special [Ad Hoc] Committee of Council.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/07 above.

5.4 BUDGET TRANSFER FOR TIROHANGA AND WHAREROA WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADES

The Asset Manager Water summarised the report and outlined how the funds would be transferred between the projects. He clarified that the Motuoapa project would be deferred to year one of the next Long-term Plan.

TDC202403/08 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That Council, to fast-track water treatment plant upgrade projects that will provide protozoa barriers which will meet the expectation set by the Water Regulator for New Zealand, Taumata Arowai:

1. approves budget transfer of one million, five hundred and fifty thousand dollars (\$1,550,000) from project W00696 Motuoapa DWSNZ Project to project W00148 Tirohanga Treatment Compliance Upgrade from within the 2023/24 Annual Plan; and
2. approves budget transfer of one million and fifty thousand dollars (\$1,050,000) from project W00696 Motuoapa DWSNZ Project to project W00358 Whareroa Treatment Compliance Upgrade from within the 2023/24 Annual Plan.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/08 above.

5.5 SCOOTER SAFETY PROGRAMME EXTERNAL FUNDING APPLICATION

The Road Safety Co-ordinator introduced the report and added that the scooter safety programme would make it safer for the kids. The funding sought would allow the fleet to be implemented and would make the

programme accessible to all kids. She confirmed that Ruben the Road Safety Bear still travelled to Taupō once per year and mainly targeted early childhood education facilities.

The Senior Funding and Partnerships Advisor clarified that this item needed to be supported by a Council resolution in order to meet the criteria.

TDC202403/09 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That Council resolves to apply for funding from The Lion Foundation for a total of \$6,272.00 (excluding GST) for scooters and helmets to deliver a new Scooter Safety Programme across Taupō District.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/09 above.

5.6 DELEGATION OF POWER OF MINISTERIAL CONSENT UNDER SECTION 48(1) OF THE RESERVES ACT 1977

The Senior Solicitor introduced the report and explained that it would create efficiencies. She clarified that reserves subject to the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe between the Ngāti Tūrangitukua Charitable Trust, the Ngāti Tūrangitukua Māori Committee and the Taupō District Council were an exception to this delegation.

TDC202403/10 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Williamson

Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council delegates to the Chief Executive the power to grant Ministerial consent under section 48(1) of the Reserves Act 1977 to easement grants affecting reserves vested in Council except those reserves subject to the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe Agreement between the Ngāti Tūrangitukua Charitable Trust, the Ngāti Tūrangitukua Māori Committee and the Taupō District Council.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/10 above.

5.7 HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING - QUARTERLY UPDATE

The Health, Safety and Well-Being Manager drew attention to the refreshed approach to Health and Safety, including the strategy which was focussed around engagement and policy.

Members thanked the team for their hard work on this refreshed data over a short space of time.

The Health, Safety and Well-Being Manager advised that the incident management traffic light system had been introduced to better monitor aggressive behaviours in terms of threats. Those that were pending or not started would be addressed through training and had already reduced significantly since the report had been written.

She reassured members that support systems would be provided to front-line staff should there be an increase in aggressive behaviours.

TDC202403/11 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Christine Rankin

Seconded: Cr Rachel Shepherd

That Council receives the Health, Safety and Wellbeing Report for 1 December 2023 to 29 February 2024.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/11 above.

5.8 ADOPTION OF STATEMENT OF INVESTMENT POLICIES AND OBJECTIVES (SIPO)

The General Manager Organisation Performance introduced the report and the representatives from Forsyth Barr, Mr Andrew Batemen and Mr Roger FitzGerald.

Mr Andrew Batemen from Forsyth Barr confirmed that the Statement of Investment Policies and Objectives had incorporated feedback from the workshops held previously.

Members expressed their appreciation for the time that Forsyth Barr had put into this, and valued the robust and quality discussions.

TDC202403/12 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council

1. Receives the report by Jeanette Paenga titled 'Adoption of Statement of Investment Policies and Objectives (SIPO);
2. Adopts the amendments to the Treasury Management Policy, removing references to the management of the Taupō Electricity Ltd Fund; and
3. Adopts the new Statement of Investment Policies & Objectives for the management of the Taupō Electricity Ltd fund.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/12 above.

5.9 TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL PERFORMANCE REPORT - FEBRUARY 2024

The Chief Executive advised that a key theme across all of the commentary provided by General Managers was related to the Long-term Plan 2024-34. She welcomed the Acting General Manager Operations and Delivery, Mr Tony Hale.

Members thanked the Finance Manager and her team for all of their work on the Long-term Plan and acknowledged that there was a lot of pressure on the team.

The Project Management Office Manager advised that the significant projects report would be refreshed to show the programme of works and how some of the smaller projects were interlinked. She explained that many of the red status projects were in relation to water projects. Due to some delays, they were under pressure to meet compliance. In answer to a question, the Acting General Manager Operations and Delivery advised that it was not likely that the standards imposed by Taumata Arowai, the New Zealand water services regulator, would change in terms of drinking water standards and compliance expectations. Council had a great relationship with Taumata Arowai and had shared the programme of works that was in place for drinking water standards. The Chief Executive reiterated that extensive testing of water was in place to manage any risk to public health.

In answer to questions, the Project Management Office Manager advised the following:

- funding from central government towards the Tūrangi Kerb and Channel project was due to be paid by the end of the calendar year. The Project Manager worked stringently within scope and managed the funds and the project carefully.
- phase two of the Mangakino Lakefront Upgrade project had a lot of scope which could include

power.

The Project Management Office Manager introduced the Project Manager Stakeholder Specialist who was leading the stakeholder engagement for the Taupō Wastewater Southern Trunk Main Upgrade project currently underway.

Cr Anna Park left the meeting at this point (2.48pm).

The Project Manager Stakeholder Specialist explained that this project would ensure a resilient wastewater network for the town. Feedback so far had been positive, residents understood that the work needed to happen. Construction would start on phase 1 after Easter and the project itself would be divided into 5 phases. The Project was expected to be completed by around November or December 2024. Letter drops had started which explained the wider implications of the project, and those affected would be notified of further information should they be affected by traffic management changes. An advisor from Waipahihi Marae was working with Council to assist with works surrounding the urupā.

TDC202403/11 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Sandra Greenslade

Seconded: Cr Yvonne Westerman

That Council notes the information contained in the Performance Report for the month of February 2024.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/11 above.

5.10 COUNCIL ENGAGEMENTS APRIL 2024, APPOINTMENTS, AND TRAINING AND CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITIES

The Senior Committee Advisor added the following engagements for April 2024:

- Long-term Plan workshop on 2 April from 10.30am – 2pm
- Accessibility and pedestrian improvements around the network workshop on 9 April from 10.30am-11.30am
- Extraordinary Council meeting on 16 April from 10.45am – 4pm
- Taupō / Taupō East Rural Community Grants Distribution Committee meeting on 30 April from 10.30am-12pm.

The Mayor thanked Cr Yvonne Westerman for her work with Waiora House and congratulated her on her new role as Chair of Waiora House.

TDC202403/12 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr John Williamson

Seconded: Cr Kevin Taylor

That Council:

1. Receives the information relating to engagements for April 2024.
2. Approves the attendance of Mayor David Trewavas at the Rural & Provincial meeting taking place in Wellington on 11 and 12 April 2024, with costs of travel and accommodation to be paid by Council.
3. Approves the appointment of Cr Rachel Shepherd as the councillor representative on Waiora House Community Trust to replace Cr Yvonne Westerman for the remainder of the triennium 2022-25.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/12 above.

5.11 MEMBERS' PORTFOLIO UPDATES

The following members' portfolio updates were received:

Cr Christine Rankin

- Had spent a lot of hours on Destination Great Lake Taupō business. DGLT were about to advertise for a new General Manager.
- Attended a superb strategic planning session for Amplify.

Cr Rachel Shepherd

- Attended the Super Rugby under 20s tournament at Owen Delany Park which was a particularly good event over two weekends and part of the week. It added additional numbers to the area for hospitality and she congratulated all that had been involved.

Cr Karam Fletcher

- Thanked Gina Pohe for her leadership and facilitation at Tūrangi Rangatahi Hub. A Taupō youth hub meeting had been held the previous day and they were also going well.
- Attended the Kura Taiao at Pākira Marae where there was a youth panel talking about the environment. The panel was very knowledgeable, he thanked Poipoia for organising this event.
- Attended the Te Maruata annual hui online which had a great turnout.
- It was a privilege to be part of the powhiri for Mr Andrew Moraes at Rotorua Lakes Council.

Cr John Williamson

- Attended an online Creative Taupō strategic meeting. The following week a meeting would be held with Creative Waikato, the groups were looking to collaborate for funding for the future. Cr Rachel Shepherd would join him at this meeting.
- Creative Taupō funding allocation would take place on 22 April 2024.

Cr Kevin Taylor

- The Waikato Regional Transport Committee hearings had been postponed to mid April 2024 because Waka Kotahi New Zealand Transport Agency had not confirmed funding streams.
- District Plan change deliberations had concluded the previous day so following approval of the final report, these would come before Council.

Cr Kylie Leonard

- It was great that Teh-han, Fonterra's Chief Executive of Greater China was visiting and would be travelling to Rotorua that night. Fonterra's annual results were up which was good.
- Acknowledged the sad passing of Mr Peter Williams who would be a great loss to the community.

Cr Yvonne Westerman

- Attended the Acacia Bay monthly meeting and Greening Taupō strategic meeting discussing the next 10 years.
- Attended the Waipahihi Botanical Gardens Society Annual General Meeting on 24 March 2024.
- Bayleys hosted Business After 5 where they received an update regarding the V8 Supercars upcoming event.

Cr Sandra Greenslade

- Attended the Tūrangi Co-Governance Committee workshop and meeting in March which was worthwhile.
- Attended a Destination Great Lake Taupō meeting regarding the new logo.
- On 20 March she attended the official opening of the aquaponics system at the Tongariro National Trout Centre.
- Attended the Amplify strategic planning workshop and expressed that the team was doing an amazing job for the district.

- Motutere Recreation Reserve Management Plan Committee hui were going well, she welcomed members of the public to attend.

Cr Duncan Campbell

- Submitted a complaint to the Ombudsman about the Council’s behaviour and culture. He did not feel that the culture was sufficiently transparent and open in terms of elected members receiving information.
- He suggested that Council started to conduct ratepayer surveys because his view was that assumptions were being made about what ratepayers wanted. This could be for customer satisfaction with Council decisions as an example.
- Mayor David was disappointed that Cr Campbell had taken this route of going to the Ombudsman. He would have preferred that the members worked together.

Mayor David Trewavas

- A lot of events had taken place, it was great that Ironman was successful.
- He had been a guest speaker at the Pāmu Farm manager’s meeting.
- Attended an event at Simple Cakes which was a great café in the industrial area of Taupō.
- Attended the Toi Ohomai Graduation Ceremony.
- Thanked the Special Projects Lead – Events for her update to the Business After 5 group regarding the V8 Supercars event.
- Attended the site blessing and groundbreaking ceremony of the Ngā Tamariki power station.
- Acknowledged Mr Peter Williams’ contribution to the community which would be a huge loss.
- Attended the Taupō pride picnic.

TDC202403/13 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd
 Seconded: Cr Yvonne Westerman

That Council receives the portfolio updates from members.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/13 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

TDC202403/14 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Kylie Leonard
 Seconded: Cr John Williamson

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

I move that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48[1] of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Agenda Item No: 6.1 Confirmation of Confidential Portion of Ordinary Council	Section 7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to	Section 48(1)(a)(i)- the public conduct of the relevant part of the

Minutes - 27 February 2024	enable [the Council] to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 7
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CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/14 above.

Note: The following resolution was made with the public excluded but was released after the meeting so can therefore appear in the public part of the minutes:

6.1 CONFIRMATION OF CONFIDENTIAL PORTION OF ORDINARY COUNCIL MINUTES - 27 FEBRUARY 2024

TDC202403/C15 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Rachel Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Christine Rankin

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 27 February 2024 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202403/C15 above.

The meeting closed at 3.12pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 April 2024.

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CHAIRPERSON