

**TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 107 TE HEUHEU STREET, TAUPŌ
ON THURSDAY, 23 MAY 2024 AT 10.00AM**

PRESENT: Mayor David Trewavas (in the Chair), Cr Duncan Campbell, Cr Karam Fletcher, Cr Anna Park, Cr Rachel Shepherd, Cr Kevin Taylor, Cr Yvonne Westerman, Cr John Williamson

IN ATTENDANCE: General Manager Strategy and Environment (W Zander), Policy Manager (N Carroll), Environmental Services Manager (J Sparks), Compliance and Regulatory Manager (R McDonald), Executive Manager - Mayors Office (J Later), Governance Quality Manager (S James) Compliance Team Leader (C Tait), Policy Advisor (A Wilson), Senior Committee Advisor (K Watts), Team Lead - Environmental Health (B Brett), Committee Advisor (N Turnbull)

MEDIA AND PUBLIC: 3 members of the public

Note: Mayor David Trewavas left the meeting at 10:42am and Deputy Mayor Cr Kevin Taylor took over as Chairperson. Mayor David Trewavas was not present for resolution TDC202405/08.

1 KARAKIA

Cr Karam Fletcher opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 WHAKAPĀHA | APOLOGIES

TDC202405/07 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Yvonne Westerman

Seconded: Cr Anna Park

That the apology received from Cr Kylie Leonard, Cr Danny Loughlin, Cr Kirsty Trueman, and Cr Christine Rankin, be accepted.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202405/07 above.

3 NGĀ WHAKAPĀNGA TUKITUKI | CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

4 WHAKAMANATANGA O NGĀ MENETI | CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

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

5.1 HEARINGS, DELIBERATIONS, AND ADOPTION OF ANIMAL CONTROL, DOG REGISTRATION AND FOOD LICENSING FEES

The Policy Advisor introduced himself and explained that three submitters were present in the meeting who wished to speak to the Council about their submissions. He outlined the process of the bylaw review including the pre-consultation and the special consultative procedure that was undertaken from 27 March 2024 to 3 May 2024. 139 submissions had been received in total, with 130 providing responses to

consultation on Animal Control and Dog Registration fees and 57 providing responses to the proposed Food Licensing Fees.

The following submitters spoke to their submissions and answered questions, with key points as noted below:

#67 Mr Rob Elvin

Mr Elvin summarised his submission and encouraged the Council to consider decreasing certain Animal Control and Dog Registration fees for responsible owners with small companion dogs. He explained that small companion dogs who lived on secured properties and were microchipped should not be penalised in comparison to larger dogs with less responsible owners.

In answer to a member's question, Mr Elvin suggested that the rating system was too broad and should have allowed discounts for responsible dog owners that met certain criteria such as small companion dogs that posed less of a risk to the community.

#103 Ms Alexandra Walters

Ms Walters summarised her submission. She explained to the Council how the proposed Food Licensing Fees were disproportionate and needed to be raised fairly in line with other fees.

Ms Walters discussed the potential for a lower and consistent level of increase in Dog Registration fees with a higher increase in penalties for irresponsible dog owners, rather than penalising all dog owners broadly.

#140 Mr Gary Houghton

Mr Houghton expanded on his submission by explaining to the Council that dogs within the region who achieved the CGC (Canine Good Citizen) qualification should be eligible for a discount on certain fees as they were proven to be well behaved and owned by responsible dog owners.

Mayor David Trewavas left the meeting at this point (10.42am)

The Council discussed the various types of situations that could have had good reason for a reduction in fees such as non-working rural dogs, therapy dogs, and gold card holders with companion dogs. The Policy Advisor explained that while it was an option to reduce fees in those situations, there was possibly a large number of dog owners that fell under those categories which could have caused a significant impact on revenue.

The Council discussed the potential impact that increasing the impounding fee could have caused on all dog owners, as it would make it more difficult for owners to collect their dogs. In answer to that discussion, the Policy Advisor explained how the fees needed to incentivise owners to collect their impounded dogs, as the fees were currently lower than putting a dog in a holiday kennel park.

TDC202405/08 RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Anna Park

Seconded: Cr John Williamson

That Council:

1. Hears and deliberates on the submissions received regarding the three matters of:

- Dog Registration/Control Fees
- Animal Control Fees
- Food Licensing Fees

2. Adopts the fees and charges attached to the agenda for the three matters of: Animal Control, Dog Registration/Control, and Food Licensing, subject to the following changes:

- In Dog Registration/Control Fees, for the "Pet therapy dog" classification, addition of the words "following confirmation of compliance with the legislation)" after the words (as approved by Council officers".
- Dog Impounding Fees, for "Sustenance (per dog per day in Pound)", increase the fee to \$30.

CARRIED

Note: All members present at the Council meeting voted in favour of resolution TDC202405/08 above.

6 NGĀ KŌRERO TŪMATAITI | CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS

Nil

The meeting closed at 11:34am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 June 2024.

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CHAIRPERSON