

Date: Tuesday 8 August 2023 at 3.30 PM

Venue: Council Chambers, Stratford District Council, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

Present

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairman), Councillors: S J Beck, G W Boyde, A M C Dudley, J M S Erwood, A K Harris, E E Hall, W J Sandford, C M Tongaawhikau and M J Watt.

Via audio visual link: Councillor V R Jones.

In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Corporate Services – Mrs T Radich, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the acting Director – Community Services – Mr C Julie, the Committee Advisor and Executive Assistant – Mrs E Bishop, the Communications Advisor – Mrs S Clarkson, the Environmental Health Manager – Ms R Otter (*part meeting*), the Project Manager – Mr S Taylor, the Roading Engineer – Mrs D Taplin, two members of the public and one member of the media (Stratford Press)

1. Welcome

The District Mayor welcomed Elected Members, members of the public, staff and the media to the meeting.

1.1 Opening Karakia D21/40748 Page 9

The opening karakia was read.

Council, staff and members of the public stood and observed a minute silence to respect and acknowledge the passing of former Councillor Peter Dalziel.

1.2 Health and Safety Message D21/26210 Page 10

The District Mayor reiterated the health and safety message and emergency procedures.

2. Apologies

An approved leave of absence was noted for the Deputy Mayor – M McKay.

3. Announcements

There were no announcements.

4. Declarations of Members Interest

Elected members to declare any real or perceived conflicts of interest relating to items on this agenda. There were no declarations of interest.

5. Attendance Schedule

The attendance schedule for Ordinary and Extraordinary Council meetings was attached.

6. Confirmation of Minutes

6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 11 July 2023

D23/29729 Page 11

Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 11 July 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

HALL/DUDLEY
Carried
CL/23/69

6.2 Audit and Risk Committee – 18 July 2023

D23/31366 (open) D23/31043 (PE) Page 16

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting, including the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 18 July 2023 be received.
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting, including those in the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 18 July 2023 be adopted.

BECK/HARRIS
Carried
CL/23/670

VOLZKE/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/23/71

6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 25 July 2023 – Hearing

D23/32590 Page 27

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, to hear and consider submissions to the draft Class 4 Gambling Venues Policy and draft TAB Venue Policy, held on Tuesday 25 July 2023 be received.
2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, to hear and consider submissions to the draft Class 4 Gambling Venues Policy and draft TAB Venue Policy, held on Tuesday 25 July 2023 be adopted.

HARRIS/TONGAAWHIKAU
Carried
CL/23/72

BOYDE/WATT
Carried
CL/23/73

6.3.1 Amended Class 4 Gambling Venues Policy
D23/32216 Page 34

The amended policy was attached for council's information.

The Environmental Health Manager left the meeting at 3.39pm.

6.4 Policy and Services Committee – 25 July 2023
D23/32658 Page 38

Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 25 July 2023 be received.

VOLZKE/SANDFORD
Carried
CL/23/74

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 25 July 2023 be adopted.

ERWOOD/HALL
Carried
CL/23/75

6.4.1 Amended Stock Underpasses Policy
D23/6811 Page 48

The amended policy was attached for council's information.

6.4.2 Amended Charges for New Wastewater Network Connections
D23/24472 Page 50

The amended policy was attached for council's information.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Boyde reiterated his opposition to the costs of the road reinstatement, following the installation of a stock underpass, lying with the property owner.
- It was clarified that any on-going maintenance of the road surface would still be at council's expense.

7. District Mayor's Report
D23/33221 Page 51

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/BOYDE
Carried
CL/23/76

2. THAT the Stratford District Council formally notes its endorsement of the petition from the New Plymouth District Council seeking a Citizens Initiated Referendum to address funding of road maintenance of the state highway network.

BOYDE/TONGAAWHIKAU
Carried
CL/23/77

The District Mayor noted the following points:

- He and Councillor Harris had attended the LGNZ Conference this year. Councillor Harris noted it had been a brilliant conference and highlighted specific presentations. It was noted that Mayor Broughton was elected President with Mayor Campbell as his vice President.
- The District Mayor noted that New Plymouth District Council's petition will give rise to a Citizen Initiated Referendum if enough signatures are obtained. In accordance with the Petitions in Council Buildings Policy he has consulted with the Chief Executive for approval for the petition to be held here. Approval was given.
- There have been changes with the Mayors Taskforce for Jobs contract in terms of wage subsidies for employers which will make placements more difficult. These concerns have been raised with the leaders of the taskforce.
- The letter to the Office of the Auditor General has been sent, and a response was promptly received. A meeting is scheduled for next week to discuss.

8. Decision Report – Transport Choices Project – Permissions to Consult with Community for Works Associated with the Transport Choices Project

D23/32671 Page 58

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/DUDLEY
Carried
CL/23/78

2. THAT the Council approve for Officers to seek feedback from the community on the proposed removal of all day on-street parking on one side of the road on streets listed in **Table 1** of this report, for the delivery of the Transport Choices Project.
3. THAT the Council approve for Officers to seek feedback from the community on the proposal to construct bi-directional separated cycleways on road reserve, for the delivery of the Transport Choices project.

HALL/BODYE
Carried
CL/23/79

Recommended Reason

For on-road parking to be removed to make way for bi-directional separated on-road cycleways, Council is required to consult with the community. Council Officers are seeking feedback on how the proposed change to the road layout will impact on the how the community currently uses the road.

The Director – Assets noted the following points:

- Over the past year officers have spent a lot of time in consultation with Waka Kotahi and key stakeholders regarding the Transport Choices projects.
- This report requests approval to seek feedback on the removal of some parking, and how the changes may affect residents day to day lives.
- The key outcomes of these projects is to connect the town primary schools to each other, the only way to do this is to use road reserve.
- This is planning for the future, for our children and grandchildren, and to create a vibrant community for them.
- The survey from the schools resulted in overwhelming support for the creation of cycleways and safe crossings.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Hall noted this was an exciting project but acknowledged some challenges will arise including the proposed layouts affecting some people. She reiterated that council are working within restricted existing spaces and in order to make these changes there will be some things foregone. She acknowledged the work of officers to this point.

- Councillor Boyde supported the recommendation to allow the community to share their voice on this project. He noted it was important that everyone has the opportunity to give their feedback.
- Councillor Dudley noted she would like to see this go ahead to ensure it is safe enough for her child to bike to school.
- Councillor Erwood supported the recommendations as it is crucial to endeavour to get the community involved and to give their feedback.
- Councillor Tongaawhikau noted the importance of providing the opportunity to those people living on the affected streets to provide their views.

9. **Decision Report – Road Closure for a Car Club Event**
D23/33082 Page 65

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/ERWOOD
Carried
CL/23/80

2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, approval is hereby given that the Stratford District Council proposes to close the following roads on Sunday 13 August 2023 between the hours of 7.30am and 5.30pm for the purpose of the Westend Hire Stratford Street Sprint 2023

- Orlando Street from Warwick Road to Celia Street
- Romeo Street from Orlando Street to Cordelia Street
- Cordelia Street from Romeo Street to Warwick Road
- Warwick Road from Cordelia Street to Orlando Street

ERWOOD/TONGAAWHIKAU
Carried
CL/23/81

Recommended Reason

The South Taranaki Car Club have approached the Stratford District Council with the view of holding their annual Westend Hire Stratford Street Sprint Event on Sunday 13 August. This is their 33rd year of running the event. The proposed road closure requires formal endorsement by a Council resolution.

10. Decision Report – Taranaki Position Statement on Preferred Establishment Date for the Taranaki Water Services Entity

D23/33227 Page 75

Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/WATT
Carried
CL/23/82

2. THAT Council notes that the Government is proposing a staggered roll out of Water Services Entities across New Zealand with quarterly implementation dates between 1 July 2024 and 1 July 2026.

3. THAT Council notes that the leadership of both Taranaki's Councils and Iwi have agreed a preferred date of 1 April 2025 for the establishment of the Taranaki Water Services Entity.

4. THAT Council notes the Taranaki Position Statement is to be signed by Neil Volzke as the Chair of the Taranaki Mayoral Forum, and Jaimie Tuuta on behalf of Taranaki Iwi.

5. THAT Council endorses the Taranaki Position Statement.

HALL/HARRIS
Carried
CL/23/83

Recommended Reason

To communicate an aligned position of the Taranaki Region regarding a preferred date of 1 April 2025 for the transition of a range of activities currently managed by the three district councils to the new Taranaki Water Services Entity. The ultimate decision for this timing sits with DIA but they are looking for expressions of a preference from the regions. This report seeks endorsement of that date by Council.

The Chief Executive noted the following points:

- This report has now been through both New Plymouth and South Taranaki District councils. The purpose of it is to convey a joint preferred date for when water activities get handed from councils to the service entity. The final decision will ultimately be made by DIA.
- DIA have consulted with councils and iwi and asked which timeframe they would be most comfortable with. Councils are already seeing challenges in recruiting and retaining staff and as there is a strong impact on staff this date was proposed to give an end date. Iwi perspective was to support what councils felt.
- From a financial perspective an end of financial year would have been a preferred date, however this was not available.

The District Mayor noted the following points:

- The timeframes for establishing a water entity had been discussed by the Mayoral Forum and the final date of 2027 was too late, therefore the choice to go earlier within that timeframe was preferred.
- There were a number of reasons to go sooner including employment for staff and government funding for the change.
- Taranaki is clear cut with its boundaries and part of the collective view for going earlier was to ensure Taranaki can help design the future for its region and set its own destiny.

Questions/Points of Clarification:

- Councillor Boyde noted his support as Taranaki will absolutely be able to set its own destiny with the three councils so closely aligned.
- Councillor Tongaawhikau noted this date would be putting Taranaki ahead but also allowing Taranaki to map out what is right for its people which is a wonderful opportunity to move forward with.

- Councillor Hall was pleased to see a date set to provide certainty for council officers, particularly while council works through the Long Term Plan process. She noted a lot of due diligence had been done leading up to this and was happy to support the recommendation.
- Councillor Beck noted his support should this be forced on councils, however he asked if there was the ability to change should this all change or be thrown out? The District Mayor noted it was unlikely that this would not continue in one form or another, he clarified this report only endorsed a start date.
- It was clarified that the other two councils had given the chair of the Mayoral Forum authority to sign on behalf.

11. Questions

There were no questions.

12. Closing Karakia

D21/40748 Page 82

The closing karakia was read.

The meeting closed at 4.22pm

N C Volzke
Chairman

Confirmed this 12th day of September 2023.

N C Volzke
District Mayor