

# MINUTES

## Ordinary

Date: 12 November 2024 at 3.30 PM

Venue: Council Chambers, 63 Miranda Street, Stratford

### Present

The District Mayor N C Volzke (the Chairperson), The Deputy Mayor M McKay, Councillors: S J Beck, J M S Erwood, V R Jones, A M C Dudley, A K Harris, E E Hall, W J Sandford and M J Watt.

### In attendance

The Chief Executive – Mr S Hanne, the Director – Assets – Mrs V Araba, the Director – Environmental Services – Mr B Sutherland, the Acting Director – Corporate Services – Mrs C Craig, the Acting Director – Community Services – Mrs E Bishop, the Committee Secretary – Ms E Coulton, the Roding Asset Manager – Mr S Bowden, the Planner – Environmental Services – Ms C Marnier, one member of the Media (Stratford Press) and 6 members of the public.

#### 1. Welcome

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

The opening karakia was read.

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

#### 2. Apologies

An apology was received from Councillor C M Tongaawhikau and an approved leave of absence for Councillor G W Boyde.

### Recommendation

THAT the apologies be received.

VOLZKE/HARRIS  
Carried  
CL/24/133

#### 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 conflicts of interests declared.

#### 5. Attendance Schedule

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

## 6. Confirmation of Minutes

### 6.1 Ordinary Meeting of Council – 8 October 2024

#### Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Tuesday 8 October 2024 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

ERWOOD/JONES  
Carried  
CL/24/134

The Committee Secretary undertook to make the following amendments:

- Councillor Jones is missing from the attendance list.

### 6.2 Executive Committee – 11 October 2024

As these minutes were public excluded, it was agreed to move into public excluded to discuss the minutes at the end of this meeting.

### 6.3 Policy and Services Committee – 22 October 2024

#### Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting held on Tuesday 22 October 2024 be received.

McKAY/HALL  
Carried  
CL/24/135

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Policy and Services Committee meeting, including those in the public excluded section, held on Tuesday 22 October 2024 be adopted.

SANDFORD/JONES  
Carried  
CL/24/136

### 6.4 Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Assessment Committee – 5 November 2024

#### Recommendations

1. THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Sport NZ Rural Travel Fund Committee meeting held on Tuesday 5 November 2024 be received.

HARRIS/ERWOOD  
Carried  
CL/24/137

2. THAT the recommendations in the minutes of the Sport New Zealand Rural Travel Fund Committee meeting held on Tuesday 5 November 2024 be adopted.

HARRIS/McKAY  
Carried  
CL/24/138

1 member of the public joined the meeting at 3.39 pm.

Councillor Harris noted the following:

- This round of applications has been quiet with only 2 applications coming forward for consideration.
- They have been allocated \$9,500 per year for the next 4 years and we should encourage our district to take advantage of the allocation.

#### **6.5 Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee – 22 August 2024**

##### **Recommendation**

THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Group Committee meeting held on Tuesday 22 August 2024 be received.

McKAY/ERWOOD  
Carried  
CL/24/139

- The District Mayor noted that only 2 members were present of the last meeting, he questioned if this is sufficient requirements to form a quorum. The Deputy Mayor noted that this meeting was the week of the LGNZ conference hence the lack of attendees, she also noted that upon reading the minutes she too had that thought as she was under the impression they had to have 3 members present to have a quorum. It was noted that the Deputy Mayor will address at the upcoming meeting on Thursday.

#### **6.6 Taranaki Emergency Management Group Joint Committee – 5 September 2024**

##### **Recommendation**

THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Emergency Management Group Joint Committee meeting held on Tuesday 5 September 2024 be received.

VOLZKE/HARRIS  
Carried  
CL/24/140

The District Mayor noted:

- There was nothing out of the ordinary discussed at this meeting and it was business as usual.

#### **6.7 Regional Transport Committee – Thursday 12 September 2024**

##### **Recommendation**

THAT the unconfirmed minutes of the Regional Transport Committee held on Thursday 12 September 2024 be received.

VOLZKE/HALL  
Carried  
CL/24/141

The District Mayor noted:

- The Speed Management Plan was discussed with proposed changes, he noted that elected members will hear more about this in due course at the next Policy and Services meeting.

## 7. District Mayor's Report

### Recommendation

THAT the report be received.

VOLZKE/SANDFORD  
Carried  
CL/24/142

The District Mayor noted the following:

- Te Korowai o Ngāruahine's development of the residential building on Juliet Street has begun. He noted that they intend to renovate the existing building and have up to 25 rooms for displaced members of the community and transitional housing. This project is self-funded and run by Ngāruahine.
- A letter was received from Living Streets Aotearoa giving the council positive reinforcement about the upgrade to the Broadway pedestrian crossing. He noted that it is great to get an outside perspective and that several similar positive letters have been received from various outside parties.

## 8. Decision Report – Proposed Road Closure for the 2024 Christmas Parade

### Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

McKAY/BECK  
Carried  
CL/24/143
2. THAT pursuant to Section 342(1) (b) in accordance with Schedule 10 clause 11(e) of the Local Government Act 1974, approval is hereby given that the Stratford District Council closes the following roads on Friday 6th December 2024, between the hours of 4.30pm and 7.30pm for the purpose of the 2024 annual Christmas Parade.
  - Miranda Street between Regan Street and Fenton Street
  - Fenton Street between Portia Street and Juliet Street
  - Broadway (State Highway 3) between Seyton Street and Page Street
3. THAT Council approves the use of Seyton Street, Juliet Street, Celia Street, Orlando Street and Hills Road as the alternative route for SH3 traffic for both northbound and southbound traffic, whilst the Christmas Parade is in progress.

ERWOOD/HALL  
Carried  
CL/24/144

### Recommended Reason

In order for the Stratford Business Association to hold its annual Christmas Parade, it is necessary to close the roads listed above. The proposed road closures require formal endorsement by a Council resolution.

## 9. Decision Report – Ordering of Candidate Names for Local Elections 2025

### Recommendations

1. THAT the report be received.

DUDLEY/HALL  
Carried  
CL/24/145

2. THAT Council resolves to adopt either:

- (i) The alphabetical order of candidate names; or
- ~~(ii) The pseudo-random order of candidate names; or~~
- ~~(iii) The random order of candidate names,~~

to be displayed on the voting documents for the 2025 triennial election, as permitted under regulation 31 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001.

McKAY/ERWOOD  
*8 for 2 against*  
Carried  
CL/24/146

The Chief Executive noted:

- This report is one of multiple reports set to be discussed in regards to the upcoming local election. This report discusses in what way do elected members see most appropriate to have candidates' names arranged on the ballots. The default way is alphabetical, however we have the option to also do Pseudo- Random which would create a random list to be printed on the ballot or True-Random which would create a different random list on each ballot – therefore making each ballot candidate ordering different.

Points noted in discussion:

- Councillor Beck noted that he does not see an issue with alphabetical ordering and should stay as is. The Deputy Mayor noted that she is also in support of leaving as is, she emphasised that voters typically utilise an alphabetical system to look at candidates and it is a typical system used.
- Councillor Jones questioned what system has been used in the past. The Chief Executive noted that typically SDC uses alphabetical. Councillor Jones questioned if there are any extra associated costs with the options. The Chief Executive noted that there is no additional costs associated with any options. Councillor Jones expressed that he is in favour of randomising.
- Councillor Sandford noted that he believes that the order of candidates' names does not matter as the best candidates get through regardless. He emphasised that alphabetical minimises voters confusion. Councillor Erwood agreed.
- The District Mayor noted that he has been a long time supporter of changing from alphabetical to random and would like to see a random approach taken.

## 10. Public Forum Response

- **Sport Taranaki**

Acknowledgement and thanks to the organisation for taking the time to provide us with updates.

- **Stratford Park**

Acknowledgement and thanks to the organisation for taking the time to provide us with updates. Councillor Sandford noted that we should encourage them to come on a more regular basis to keep the updates consistent.

## 11. Questions

- Councillor Sandford questioned if there is a policy or by-law that restricts the selling of fireworks by outside of Stratford retailers that park on the side of the street. The Director - Environmental Services noted that we do not have any way of restricting this currently and they are within their right to do so.

6 members of the public & the member of the media left the meeting at 4.04pm

## 12. Resolution to Exclude the Public

### Recommendation

THAT the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely: Agenda Item No: 6.2

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 to each matter	Grounds under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Confirmation of Minutes – Executive Committee (Purchase of land)	The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information and to enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist, under section 6 and section 7 of the Act - specifically Section 7(2)(b)(ii) and Section 7(2)(h). (Section 48(1)(a) Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

ERWOOD/HALL  
Carried  
CL/24/147

## 6.2 Executive Committee – 11 October 2024

### Recommendation

THAT the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on Tuesday 11 October 2024, including the public excluded section, be confirmed as a true and accurate record

VOLZKE/ERWOOD  
Carried  
CL/24/148

**Recommendation**

THAT the open meeting resume.

VOLZKE/SANDFORD

Carried

CL/24/149

13. Closing Karakia

The closing Karakia was read.

*The meeting closed at 4.27 pm.*

N C Volzke

**Chairman**

Confirmed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December 2024.

N C Volzke

**District Mayor**