

Northland Regional Council Minutes

Meeting held in the Council Chamber
36 Water Street, Whangārei
on Tuesday 28 May 2024, commencing at 10.15am

Tuhinga/Present:

Chairperson, Geoff Crawford

Councillors:

John Blackwell

Joe Carr

Jack Crow

Peter-Lucas Jones

Amy Macdonald

Marty Robinson

Tui Shortland

Rick Stolwerk

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Full Meeting

Independent Risk Advisor

Independent Tangata Whenua Advisor (*Via audio-visual link*)

Legal Counsel (*Via audio-visual link*)

TTMAC Member (*Via audio-visual link*)

Tāhūhū Rangapū - Chief Executive Officer

Pou Taumatua - GM Corporate Services

Pou Manawhakahaere - GM Governance and Engagement

Pou Whakaritenga - GM Regulatory Services

Group Manager - Community Resilience

Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer (*Via audio-visual link*)

Executive Assistant to the Chair (*Via audio-visual link*)

Finance Manager

Communications Manager (*Via audio-visual link*)

Kaiārahi Kaupapa Māori – Senior Māori Technical Advisor (*Via audio-visual link*)

Māori Cultural Advisor

Kaiawhina Kaupapa Māori Relationships (*x3. Via audio-visual link*)

Translator (*Via audio-visual link*)

Governance Specialist

Part Meeting

Independent Tangata Whenua Advisor

Manager Māori Relationships (*Via audio-visual link*)

Strategic Projects and Facilities Manager

Corporate Strategy Manager

Corporate Planning Specialist (*Via audio-visual link*)

Kaitatari Kaupapa Wai Māori Planning and Policy Officer (*Via audio-visual link*)

Secretarial Note: The Chair declared the meeting open at 10.15am and proceedings commenced with a karakia by Councillor Shortland.

Procedural Motion (Item 1.0)

Moved (Robinson/Craw)

That Item 5.2 'Requisition to remove and replace the Chairperson of council' not be proceeded with and that this motion be put to the vote without further debate.

Carried

(Later in proceedings, during business with the public excluded, Councillor Shortland requested that her abstention from voting be formally recorded)

Secretarial Note: In accordance with the discretion provided to the Chairperson under Standing Order 25.7 'Other types of procedural motions', the Chair advised that based on the information that the requisition was no longer supported [by the majority of the total membership of the regional council] that it was reasonable to accept an effective closure motion.

Ngā whakapāha/Apologies (Item 1.0)

There were no apologies.

Nga whakapuakanga/Declarations of Conflicts of Interest (Item 2.0)

It was advised that councillors should make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progressed.

Confirmation of Council Minutes - 23 April 2024 (Item 5.1)

Report from Meloney Tupou, Māori Governance and Engagement Support Admin

Moved (Stolwerk/Blackwell)

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 April 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record and that these be duly authenticated with the Chair's electronic signature.

Carried

Requisition to remove and replace the Chairperson of council (Item 5.2)

Secretarial Note: Refer to the previous procedural motion not to proceed with this item.

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 5.3)

Report from Chris Taylor, Governance Specialist

Moved (Carr/Macdonald)

That the action sheet be received.

Carried

Financial Report to April 2024 (Item 6.1)

Report from Taka Skipwith, Financial Accountant

Moved (Craw/Blackwell)

That the report 'Financial Report to April 2024' by Taka Skipwith, Financial Accountant and dated 14 May 2024, be received.

Carried

Secretarial Note:

- *A verbal update was provided on the performance of council's managed funds during the month of April. These funds had incurred losses of \$233,000 which resulted in the total fund gains from managed funds being \$4.584m and the total variance being \$1.696m.*
- *The latest projected financial position for the end of the financial year was approximately an \$800k year-end surplus (not including gains).*
- *Concern was raised that council was required to confirm its rates increase through the Long Term Plan process prior to understanding the year end position. In response it was reminded that surpluses were 'one off' and could not fund ongoing programmes.*

Regional Rates Collection - update to 31 March 2024 (Item 6.2)

Report from Simon Crabb, Finance Manager

Moved (Blackwell/Macdonald)

That the report 'Regional Rates Collection - update to 31 March 2024' by Simon Crabb, Finance Manager and dated 6 May 2024, be received.

Carried

Secretarial Note: Assurance was provided that the regional rates collection was 'overall in line with last year'. WDC and KDC's collection rates were currently better than the previous year while FNDC was targeting rates arrears.

Fast Track Approval Bill submission retrospective approval (Item 7.1)

Report from Leon Keefer, Policy Specialist - Freshwater

Moved (Jones/Craw)

1. That the report 'Fast Track Approval Bill submission retrospective approval' by Leon Keefer, Policy Specialist - Freshwater and dated 30 April 2024, be received.
2. That council retrospectively approve the submission on the Fast Track Approval Bill (included as Attachment 1 pertaining to Item 7.1 of the 28 May 2024 council meeting agenda).

Carried

(Councillor Carr voted against the motion)

Retrospective council approval of submissions to Auckland Council, Whangārei District Council, Far North District Council and Kaipara District Council Long Term Plans 2024-2034 (Item 7.2)

Report from Samuel van Hout, Corporate Policy Analyst

Moved (Stolwerk/Carr)

1. That the report 'Retrospective council approval of submissions to Auckland Council, Whangārei District Council, Far North District Council and Kaipara District Council Long Term Plans 2024-2034' by Samuel van Hout, Corporate Policy Analyst and dated 3 April 2024, be received.
2. That council retrospectively approve the submission to Auckland Council Long Term Plan 2024-2034, lodged on 28 March 2024 under delegated authority in accordance with council's delegation's manual miscellaneous delegations.
3. That council retrospectively approve the submission to Whangarei District Council Long Term Plan 2024-2034, lodged on 24 April 2024 under delegated authority in accordance with council's delegation's manual miscellaneous delegations.
4. That council retrospectively approve the submission to Far North District Council Long Term Plan 2024-2034, lodged on 24 April 2024 under delegated authority in accordance with council's delegation's manual miscellaneous delegations.
5. That council retrospectively approve the submission to Kaipara District Council Long Term Plan 2024-2034, lodged 24 April 2024 under delegated authority in accordance with council's delegation's manual miscellaneous delegations.

Carried

Secretarial Note: Appreciation was extended to all involved drafting the submissions as well as those that attended hearings to speak on behalf of council.

Disposal Of Assets Delegation (Item 7.3)

Report from Bruce Howse, Pou Taumatua – Group Manager Corporate Services

Moved (Stolwerk/Craw)

1. That the report 'Disposal Of Assets Delegation' by Bruce Howse, Pou Taumatua – Group Manager Corporate Services and dated 7 May 2024, be received.
2. That council authorises an update to the delegation's manual to record that '*The Chief Executive Officer is authorised to dispose of council assets¹ in accordance with the Long Term Plan*'.

Carried

¹ Note this delegation does not apply to the disposal of strategic assets, property or forestry, as council's Treasury management Policy specifies that the disposal of these assets is subject to approval by council.

Chief Executive's Report to Council (Item 8.1)

Report from Jonathan Gibbard, Tāhūhū Rangapū - Chief Executive Officer

Moved (Carr/Robinson)

That the report 'Chief Executive's Report to Council' by Jonathan Gibbard, Tāhūhū Rangapū - Chief Executive Officer and dated 6 May 2024, be received.

Carried

Secretarial Note:

- Assurance was provided that the Kawakawa Deflection Bank was almost complete.
- Elected members to be provided an update on the status of the Hornwort outbreak in the Far North and also the finding of Southern Cut Grass in Mangakahia.
- Staff to confirm when the new Supercritical Ultra Violet (SCUV) unit would be operational at the Ahipara waste water treatment plant.
- Appreciation was extended to all involved in organising the event to honour the signing of a Mana Whakahono ā Rohe agreement with Te Parawhau ki Tai Hapū.
- Appreciation was extended to all staff involved in the leading edge Caulerpa removal operations.

Reporting on Long Term Plan 2021-2031 Performance Measures for Quarter Three of the 2023/24 Year (Item 8.2)

Report from Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist

Moved (Macdonald/Blackwell)

That the report 'Reporting on Long Term Plan 2021-2031 Performance Measures for Quarter Three of the 2023/24 Year' by Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist and dated 8 May 2024, be received.

Carried

Secretarial Note: It was advised that the reporting on the Long Term Plan performance measures was under review to ensure the information was meaningful to elected members.

Receipt of Committee Minutes (Item 9.1)

Report from Meloney Tupou, Māori Governance and Engagement Support Admin

Moved (Jones/Macdonald)

That the unconfirmed minutes of the:

- Te Oneroa-A-Tōhe Board - 10 April 2024
 - Extraordinary Joint Regional Economic Development Committee - 18 April 2024
 - Kaipara Moana Remediation Joint Committee - 6 May 2024 and
 - Extraordinary Audit Risk and Finance Committee - 8 May 2024
- be received.

Carried

Kaupapa ā Roto/Business with Public Excluded (Item 10.0)

Moved (Carr/Blackwell)

1. That the public be excluded from the proceedings of this meeting to consider confidential matters.
2. That the general subject of the matters to be considered whilst the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to this matter, and the specific grounds under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution, are as follows:

Item No.	Item Issue	Reasons/Grounds
10.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes - 23 April 2024	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, as stated in the open section of the meeting -.
10.2	Responsible Investment Report and Recommendation to Introduce Two New Fund Managers into the Long Term Fund.	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage s7(2)(j).
10.3	Options for Delivery of Transportation Services for Northland	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons s7(2)(a) and the withholding of which is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the protection of council members, officers, employees, and persons from improper pressure or harassment s7(2)(f)(ii).

3. That the Independent Advisors be permitted to stay during business with the public excluded.

Carried

Secretarial Note: The meeting adjourned at 11.09am and reconvened at 11.14am to address business with the public excluded.

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 11.21am with a karakia by Councillor Jones.

Confirmed as a true and correct record 25 June 2024



Chair Geoff Crawford