

**MINUTES OF YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE YARRABAH ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
ON MONDAY, 13 MAY 2024 AT 9.00AM**

PRESENT: Cr Daryl Sexton (Mayor), Cr Michael Sands (Deputy Mayor), Cr Amy Neal, Cr Brian Underwood, Cr Hezron Murgha

IN ATTENDANCE: Richard Wright (CEO) Executive Assistant Leona Worrell (Minute Taker),

1 MEETING OPEN

Mayor Sexton declared the meeting open at 9.25am.

The Mayor welcomed councillors and staff members present to the meeting.

One minute silence was observed to respect those who have passed away.

Councillor Amy Neal opened with a word of Prayer.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO COUNTRY

The Mayor acknowledged the traditional custodians the Gunggandji People whose country this meeting is being held today, acknowledgement to their elders, past present and emerging.

Acknowledgment also offered to the other Trustees of this land the Northern & Southern PBCs, the Stolen Generations and all Yarrabah people whose elders past present and emerging also call Yarrabah home and support progress in the Shire.

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

RESOLUTION 01:13/05/2024

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 April 2024 be adopted.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED 5/5

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

NIL

6 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST – COUNCIL / REGISTER UPDATES

The Mayor reminded the councillors of the need to declare their conflicts of interest as required for items in the meeting.

The Mayor reminded the Councillors of the requirement to declare their conflicts of interest to the CEO prior to the meeting and called on all councillors to re-declare them now.

No declarations made

7 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION**7.1 CEO OPERATIONAL REPORT****PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Monthly Council meeting report on the operational and strategic performance of council business for months of April / May 2024.

CEO read to the report.

Council inquired as to scheduling for strategic and budget workshops. CEO advised that calendars would be reviewed as to available times but it would be anticipated that these would commence late May / early June. Policy review workshop to also be scheduled with view of presentation at the June meeting, along with budget endorsement.

RESOLUTION 02:13/05/2024

That Council accept the CEO Operational Report for the period to 8 May 2024.

Moved: Cr Amy Neal

Seconded: Cr Michael Sands

CARRIED 5/5

At 9.49am meeting adjourned

At 10.00 am meeting reconvened

At 10.01am Director Corporate Services entered the meeting.

7.2 YASC MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

Provide council with monthly financial report. This report covers the financial period 30th April 2024.

Director Corporate Services read to the report.

Council noted the sharp increase in rental arrears for the month of April, especially the increase of tenants owing over \$20,000. Options to address this ongoing issue discussed with the CEO and Director to provide a report to Council with regards to options available.

RESOLUTION 03:13/05/2024

That Council accept the 30th April 2024 Finance Reports as tabled.

1. Operating results
2. Current Debtors:
 - Trade Debtors & Creditors,
 - Housing Debtors
3. Capital works
4. Balance sheet
5. Cash position
6. Status of Commercial leases
7. Areas of Interest Report
8. Grants Report

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

At 10.34am Director Corporate Services left the meeting.

At 10.35am meeting adjourned

At 10.45am meeting reconvened

At 10.46am Director People and Communities entered the meeting.

7.3 PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES - OPERATIONAL REPORT**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To provide Council an update on operational activities undertaken within the Department of People and Communities.

Director People and Communities read to the report.

Council requested information to be provided in relation to the number of Form 11 (Rental Arrears) and whether these related to repetitive actions by tenants. Director advised of process taken by Housing Team to discuss with tenants and arrange signing up for repayment plans. Council noted the impact this may be having on some Elders, where others were living with them but not contributing. Joint tenancy agreements a possible option but could only be entered by agreement of all parties.

Actions taken to address outstanding fees at Early Learning Centre noted and commended by Council.

CEO advised Council of workplace injury not mentioned in report. Relevant reporting completed and investigation underway.

RESOLUTION 04:13/05/2024

That Council accept the Director of People and Communities Operational Report, tabled as read.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Cr Daryl Sexton

CARRIED 5/5

At 11.32 am Director People and Communities left the meeting.

At 11.33 meeting adjourned.

At 11.52am meeting reconvened

At 11.53am Director Building Services entered the meeting.

7.4 BUILDING SERVICES - OPERATIONAL REPORT**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To report to Council the status/activities of Building Services areas for the months of April/ May 2024.

Director Building Services read to the report.

Council commended Director and his team on actions implemented to ensure greater accountability in delivery of programs, particularly with regards to communication with tenants. Council suggested that update be provided to community as to these initiatives.

RESOLUTION 05:13/05/2024

That Council accept the report of the Director - Building Services, tabled as read .

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Cr Daryl Sexton

CARRIED 5/5

At 1.10 pm Director Building Services left the meeting.

At 1.11pm meeting was adjourned.

At 2.09pm meeting reconvened.

At 2.10pm Director Infrastructure Services entered the meeting.

7.5 INFRASTRUCTURE - OPERATIONAL REPORT**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To report to Council the status/activities of Infrastructure Department areas for the month of April 2024 up to 08 May 2024.

Director Infrastructure read to the report.

Council inquired as to Buddabadoo landslip, noting a number of boulders still on slope. Director advised that current wet weather was hampering operation of machinery to address this but was in scope.

Council inquired about status of water treatment plant upgrade. Director advised that business case presently being prepared to seek additional funding to ensure ongoing water security for community and that will address current and future growth needs.

Council inquired as to status of sewerage treatment. Director advised that readings required by the regulator were within guidelines and funding now available through Guardian Reefs would ensure ongoing safety of network.

RESOLUTION 06:13/05/2024

That Council accept the report of the Director-Infrastructure, tabled as read.

Moved: Cr Brian Underwood

Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

At 3:06 pm, CEO left the meeting.

At 3:15 pm, CEO returned the meeting.

7.6 PROPOSAL FOR THE SCADA UPGRADE PROJECT**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To seek Council endorsement to award the SCADA upgrade to AUSTEK through the approved ICCIP funding.

- YASC 1.05 - Water mains and system upgrades - Update SCADA system for the water treatment system and install monitoring equipment to second reservoir.
- YASC 2.11 - SCADA system for the sewerage systems and install additional monitoring equipment.

Council requested clarification as to operation of SCADA system and associated benefits. Director provided briefing to Council.

Director Infrastructure read to the report.

RESOLUTION 07:13/05/2024

That Council resolve to award the SCADA upgrade to AUSTEK through the approved ICCIP funding.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

At 3.27pm Director Infrastructure Services left the meeting.

7.7 REEF GUARDIAN COUNCIL PROGRAM**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

For Council to consider and resolve its participation in the Reef Guardian Council program for 2024-28.

CEO read to the report.

Council acknowledged the associated benefits for the Yarrabah community in participation in the program. It was also noted that there were Reef Guardian Schools and arrangements to be made to brief the Yarrabah School accordingly.

Council also noted the invitation for a briefing by GBRMPA and requested the CEO to facilitate same.

Council called for nominations to join the CEO on the Executive Committee. Discussed and agreed that Cr Murgha would take up this role.

RESOLUTION 08:13/05/2024

1. That Council resolve to continue its participation in the Reef Guardian Council Program for 2024 - 2028.
2. That Council endorses the Memorandum of Understanding with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority.
3. That Council appoints Councillor Murgha and the CEO to the Executive Committee.
4. That Council appoints the Director of Infrastructure and the Director of People & Communities to the Working Group.
5. That Council authorises the CEO to action accordingly.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Cr Amy Neal

CARRIED 5/5

7.8 APPOINTMENT TO NORTH QUEENSLAND REGIONAL ROAD AND TRANSPORT GROUP (RRTG)**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

To inform Council of requirement for appointments for positions to be filled on the RRTG in the absence of the Mayor.

To seek appointment of alternative delegate to this position.

CEO read to the report.

Council called for nominations for alternate delegate in absence of Mayor. Discussed and agreed that Cr Underwood would take up this role.

RESOLUTION 09:13/05/2024

That Council resolve to appoint:-

1. Mayor Sexton to the position on Far North Queensland Regional Road and Transport Group, effective 13 May 2024.
2. In the absence of the Mayor, the alternate delegate will be Councillor Brian Underwood.
3. The CEO is appointed as Observer / Advisor.

Moved: Cr Michael Sands

Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED 5/5

At 3.54pm meeting adjourned

At 4.04pm meeting reconvened

8 CORRESPONDENCE**8.1 CORRESPONDENCE - LGAQ CEO****PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Tabling of correspondence from the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) dated 02 May 2024.

CEO read to the report.

Council debated candidates and advised CEO to action.

RESOLUTION 10:13/05/2024

That Council note the correspondence tabled, as read and authorise the CEO to action.

Moved: Cr Daryl Sexton

Seconded: Cr Brian Underwood

CARRIED 5/5

8.2 CORRESPONDENCE - BACK BEACH ROAD LOT PROPOSAL**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

Tabling of correspondence from Bernice Stafford.

CEO read to the report.

Council confirmed their “in principle” support for this, as it may lead to more land being available for housing needs in community. As this was first approach with regards to this type of request, Council instructed the CEO to ascertain any legal issues associated and if none, relevant processes involved.

RESOLUTION 11:13/05/2024

That Council note the correspondence tabled, as read and direct the CEO to investigate the legal requirements and necessary procedures.

Moved: Cr Amy Neal

Seconded: Cr Hezron Murgha

CARRIED 5/5

9 STRATEGIC PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Councillors to provide updates on Meetings and Trips and other information for the meeting.

10 OTHER / CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

11 CLOSE OF MEETING

Date for the next Council Ordinary Meeting is Wednesday 19 June 2024.

The Mayor thanked the councillors and staff for their participation and attendance at the meeting.

Meeting closed at 4.35 pm.



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MAYOR