



## ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

held on

Wednesday, 29 July 2015

at

3:30pm

at

Walcha Council Chambers

**PRESENT:** Clr JM Archdale (Chairman) Mayor together with Councillors KW Ferrier, WJ Heazlett, L Levingston, CM Lyon, SJ Schmutter, RS Thomson and MJ Woods.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mr JG O'Hara, General Manager, Mr MG Fanning, Director – Engineering Services and Mrs LJ Latham Environmental Services Manager.

### **1. APOLOGIES:**

Nil.

MINUTES



**2. CONFIRMATION OF THE ORDINARY MEETING MINUTES HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE 2015:**

1 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Levingston and Heazlett that the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 24 June 2015, copies of which have been distributed to all members, be taken as read and confirmed a **TRUE** record with the following **AMENDMENT**:

**10.1 Minutes of the Walcha Council Tourism Advisory Committee Meeting held on 9 June 2015**

Councillor Ferrier tendered his resignation from the Tourism Advisory Committee.

**3. BUSINESS ARISING**

Nil.

**4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Item: 2.2 Staff Committee Minutes

The General Manager declared an interest in this matter, being the subject of the Report.

**5. MAYORAL MINUTE**

Nil.

**6. SENIOR OFFICERS REPORT**

2 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Schmutter and Heazlett that the Senior Officers' Reports be **RECEIVED** for further consideration.

3 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Levingston that the Order of Business be altered and that LATE REPORT No.:2 Rate Incentive Scheme be considered first.

**Late Report 2: Additional Rates Incentive Scheme Draw for 2015/2016**

**WO/2015/01429**

4 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Woods that Council conduct an additional Rate Incentive Scheme Competition for the sign up to emailed delivery of rates and sign up to direct debit payments for the 2015/2016 rating year and provide the prize of \$500 in local shopping vouchers.

**Afternoon Tea**

Afternoon tea commenced at 3:33pm and resumed at 4:00pm.



**6.1 Annual Review of Investment Policy WO/2015/01289**

5 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Schmutter and Ferrier that Council note that a review of the Investment Policy has been carried out and **ADOPT** the Investment Policy as presented.

**6.2 Community Recycling Centre Update WO/2015/01380**

The Report was **NOTED** by Council.

**6.3 Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Annual Review 2015 WO/2015/01277**

It was **MOVED** Councillor Schmutter **Seconded** Councillor Levingston that there be no change in the Councillor Fee or Mayoral Fee, that being Councillor Fee is \$10,000 and the Mayoral Fee \$19,000.

An **AMENDMENT** was **Moved** Councillor Heazlett **Seconded** Ferrier that the Mayoral Fee be increased to \$20,000 and the Councillor Fee remain at \$10,000.

The Amendment on being put to the **VOTE** was **LOST**.

6 Subsequently the Original Motion became the Substantive Motion and was put to the **VOTE** and **CARRIED**.

**6.4 Sewer Treatment Plant Update WO/2015/01376**

The Report was **NOTED** by Council.

**6.5 Annual Review of Publication Guide WO/2015/01396**

7 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Schmutter and Levingston that Council **ADOPT** the Draft Publication Guide 2015/2016.

**6.6 Town Water Supply Update WO/2015/01372**

The Report was **NOTED** by Council.

**6.7 Review of Councillor Expenses and Facilities Policy WO/2015/01384**

8 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Thomson that Council place the "Payment of Expenses and the Provision of Facilities for Mayors, Councillors & Staff" Policy on public exhibition inviting public submissions for a period of 28 days as per the Local Government Act 1993 Section 253(1).



**6.8 Entering & Sealing of Rate Book – 2014/2015 Year WO/2015/01199**

9 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Lyon that the Common Seal be affixed to the 2014/2015 Rate Book Reconciliation and be attested to by the Mayor and the General Manager.

**6.9 Initial Reconciliation of Valuations to Rates Levied 2015/2016  
WO/2015/01199**

10 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Woods and Lyon that the Common Seal be affixed to the Initial Reconciliation of Valuations to Rates Levied as at 1 July 2015 and be attested to by the Mayor and the General Manager.

**6.10 Referral to Committee of the Whole – Risk & Audit Committee  
Membership & Staff Committee Minutes WO/2015/01400**

11 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Levingston that, in accordance with the provisions of Section 10 of the Local Government Act 1993, the matters of “Risk & Audit Committee Membership” AND “Staff Committee Minutes” be referred to be discussed in Committee of the Whole for the reason that these reports relate to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

12 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Levingston and Ferrier that Council resolve into Committee of the Whole and that the press and public be excluded from the entire proceedings of the Meeting of the Committee of the Whole for the reason that these reports relate to personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than Councillors).

13 The Meeting resumed in **OPEN** Council on the Motion of Councillors Ferrier and Heazlett.

The Mayor reported whilst in Committee of the Whole the following matters were discussed.

**PRESENT:** Present and IN Attendance were the same as listed in the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting with the exception of the press and the public.



**2.1 Audit & Risk Committee Independent Representatives Membership**  
**WINT/2015/01757**

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Heazlett that Council offer the third Independent Representative position on Walcha Council's Audit & Risk Committee to David Andrew Locke.

The General Manager left the Chambers.

**2.2 Staff Committee Minutes**

The Committee **RECOMMENDED** on the Motion of Woods and Levingston that the General Manager's performance demonstrated professional proficiency and obtained above average results and a formal vote of thanks for the General Manager's Performance during the past twelve months.

The General Manager returned to the Chambers and was informed of the recommendation.

**ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

14 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Heazlett and Lyon that the Report and Recommendations of the Meeting of the Walcha Council Committee of the Whole held on Wednesday 29 July 2015 be **ADOPTED** by Council.

The Chairman publicly declared the recommendations passed by the Committee whilst in Committee of the Whole.

**LATE REPORTS**

**1. Financial Assistance Grants for 2015/2016** **WO/2015/01426**

The Report was **NOTED** by Council.

**7. MATTERS OF URGENCY**

**1. Investment Opportunities**

Councillor Lyon requested this matter to be discussed as a matter of urgency.

15 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Heazlett that the matter of Investment Opportunities be considered as a matter of urgency.

16 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Heazlett that the General Manager prepare a report on Council's investment options with the report to include the costs of Council houses and the return on the investments.



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**8. NOTICE OF MOTIONS**

Nil.

**9. MANAGEMENT REVIEW REPORTS** **WO/2015/01385**

17 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Schmutter and Lyon that the Walcha Brochure be **ENDORSED** by Council.

The Mayor then called for nominations to replace Councillor Ferrier as the Chairperson of the Committee. Councillor Lyon was elected unopposed.

18 **RESOLVED** on the Motion of Councillors Lyon and Thomson that items included in the Management Review Report, numbered 1 to 12 inclusive, be **NOTED** by Council.

**10. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Nil.

**11. DELEGATE REPORTS**

11.1 Minutes of the New England Group of Councils (NEGOC) Meeting held at Uralla Shire Council on Wednesday, 1 July 2015. **WI/2015/04439**

11.2 Minutes of the Namoi Councils Joint Organisation Meeting held on Thursday, 2 July 2015 held at Liverpool Plains Shire Council. **WI/2015/04136**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECLARED THE MEETING CLOSED AT 4:40PM.**