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MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

21 November 2023

Order Of Business

1	Opening Meeting	4
2	Acknowledgement of Country	4
3	Councillors Declaration and/or Prayer	4
4	Apologies	4
5	Applications for a Leave of Absence by Councillors	4
	Nil	
6	Attendance by Audio Visual Link	4
7	Late Items / Urgent Business	4
8	Disclosure of Interests	5
9	Presentations	5
	Nil	
10	Public Forum	5
11	Confirmation of Minutes	5
	11.1 Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 17 October 2023	5
12	Matters Arising	5
	Nil	
13	Mayoral Minute(s)	6
	13.1 Mayoral Minute - Bipartisan Support of Parliamentary Inquiry into Crime, Law and Order in Regional NSW	6
14	Notice of Motion(s)	6
	Nil	
15	Notice of Rescission(s)	6
	Nil	
16	Reports to Council for Determination	7
	16.1 Special Rate Variation Community Consultation	7
	16.2 Corporate & Community Services Policy Review	8
	16.3 Monthly Financial Report.....	9
	16.4 Statement of Investments & Bank Balances.....	9
	16.5 Minutes of the Ray Harvey Sports Foundation Committee Meeting held on 30 October 2023	9
	16.6 Council's Operational Update - October 2023	9
17	Closed Session	10
	There were no closed session reports for determination.	
18	Conclusion of the Meeting	10

**MINUTES OF GOULBURN MULWAREE COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CIVIC CENTRE, 184 - 194 BOURKE STREET,
GOULBURN
ON TUESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2023 AT 6PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Peter Walker, Deputy Mayor Cr Steven Ruddell, Cr Andrew Banfield, Cr Carol James OAM, Cr Bob Kirk, Cr Michael Prevedello, Cr Daniel Strickland, Cr Jason Shepherd & Cr Andy Wood (Via Zoom)

IN ATTENDANCE: Aaron Johansson (Chief Executive Officer), Ben Todkill (Acting Director Corporate and Community Services), Scott Martin (Director Planning and Environment), Mat Jones (Acting Director Utilities), George Angelis (Director Operations), Amy Croker (Office Manager to Mayor and Chief Executive Officer)

1 OPENING MEETING

Mayor Peter Walker opened the meeting 6pm. The Mayor advised that the meeting would be webcast live.

2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mayor Peter Walker made the following acknowledgement.

“I would like to Acknowledge and pay our respects to the Aboriginal elders both past and present as well as emerging leaders, and Acknowledge the traditional custodians of the Land on which we meet today.”

3 COUNCILLORS DECLARATION AND/OR PRAYER

The opening prayer was read by Cr Daniel Strickland.

4 APOLOGIES

Nil

5 APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

Nil

6 ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK

RESOLUTION 2023/260

Moved: Cr Steven Ruddell
Seconded: Cr Michael Prevedello

That Cr Andy Wood attend the Council meeting virtually due to work commitments outside of the region.

CARRIED

7 LATE ITEMS / URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

8 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

CR ANDREW BANFIELD MADE A STATEMENT IN RELATION TO THE BUSINESS PAPER. HE HAS ASSESSED THE BUSINESS PAPER AND DOES NOT PERCEIVE ANY DECLARATION OF INTEREST IS REQUIRED TO BE DECLARED IN RELATION TO HIS EMPLOYMENT WITH DENRITH GROUP OF COMPANIES.

9 PRESENTATIONS

Nil

10 PUBLIC FORUM

Nina Dillon addressed Council in reference to Item 16.1 Special Rate Variation Community Consultation.

Sue Arcus addressed Council in reference to Item 16.1 Special Rate Variation Community Consultation.

Leanne Armstrong addressed Council in reference to Item 16.1 Special Rate Variation Community Consultation.

Chloe Hurley addressed Council in reference to Item 16.1 Special Rate Variation Community Consultation.

Kim Gann addressed Council in reference to Item 16.1 Special Rate Variation Community Consultation.

Barry McDonald addressed Council in reference to Item 16.1 Special Rate Variation Community Consultation.

11 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

11.1 MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 17 OCTOBER 2023

RESOLUTION 2023/261

Moved: Cr Jason Shepherd

Seconded: Cr Carol James OAM

That the Council minutes from Tuesday 17 October 2023 and contained in Minutes Pages No 1 to 17 inclusive and in Minute Nos 2023/234 to 2023/259 inclusive be confirmed.

CARRIED

12 MATTERS ARISING

Nil

13 MAYORAL MINUTE(S)**13.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - BIPARTISAN SUPPORT OF PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY INTO CRIME, LAW AND ORDER IN REGIONAL NSW****RESOLUTION 2023/262**

Moved: Cr Peter Walker

That Council endorse the following recommendations listed in the Country Mayors Association of NSW report into Crime, Law and Order and call on Mrs Wendy Tuckerman MP, Member for Goulburn to support the establishment of a Parliamentary Inquiry with the suggested terms of reference in the document.

That:

- 1. Goulburn Mulwaree Council call on all members of the NSW Parliament to commit to bipartisan support to establish a Parliamentary Inquiry into and report on the rate of crime in all categories reported on by the Bureau of Crime Statistical and Research (BOCSAR) in Regional, Rural and Remote New South Wales, specifically focussing on the inequity between Metro and Regional Local Government areas.**
- 2. Goulburn Mulwaree Council calls on all members of the NSW Parliament to commit to bipartisan support to increase spending on the NSW police force to increase front line policing numbers in Regional, Rural and Remote regions most at need.**
- 3. Goulburn Mulwaree Council call on the NSW Government to commit to the minimum staffing agreements (known in the NSW Police Force as First Response Agreements) for non-24 hour police stations, all of which are located in Regional, Rural and Remote Local Government areas.**
- 4. Goulburn Mulwaree Council calls on the NSW Government to review the current formula used to assess staffing levels including the universally agreed outdated current model for those Local Government areas that do have a First Response Agreement in place.**

CARRIED

14 NOTICE OF MOTION(S)

Nil

15 NOTICE OF RESCISSION(S)

Nil

16 REPORTS TO COUNCIL FOR DETERMINATION

16.1 SPECIAL RATE VARIATION COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

RESOLUTION 2023/263

Moved: Cr Andrew Banfield

Seconded: Cr Jason Shepherd

That Council Move into Committee of the Whole.

Council moved into Committee of the whole at 7:11pm.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2023/264

Moved: Cr Daniel Strickland

Seconded: Cr Carol James OAM

That Council move back into Open Council.

Council moved back into Open Council at 7:54 pm.

CARRIED

At 7:57 pm, Cr Jason Shepherd left the meeting.

At 7:58 pm, Cr Jason Shepherd returned to the meeting.

RESOLUTION 2023/265

Moved: Cr Peter Walker

Seconded: Cr Steven Ruddell

That

- 1. The report on the Special Rate Variation (SRV) Community Consultation be noted.**
- 2. Council notes the feedback received through submissions received during the community engagement process relating to the updated Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) and the proposed SRV.**
- 3. The revised Delivery Plan 2022-2026 be adopted.**
- 4. Having considered the issues raised in the community engagement process, Council make application(s) to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART):**
 - (i) Under section 508A of the Local Government Act 1993 for increases to the ordinary rate income of 22.50% in 2024/25 (including the rate peg), 16.0% in 2025/26 (including the rate peg), 6.4% in 2026/27 (rate peg not applicable) representing a total cumulative increase of 51.2% over the three-year period, with that increase to be a permanent increase retained within the rate base.**
 - (ii) Minimum ordinary rate for business categories to be set as follows:**
 - 2024/25 \$722.00 an increase of 22.5% (including the rate peg)**
 - 2025/26 \$837.00 an increase of 16.0% (including the rate peg)**
 - 2026/27 \$890.00 an increase of 6.4% (rate peg not applicable)**
- 5. The submissions received during the community engagement process relating to the proposed SRV referred to in Item 2 above be included as part of the application(s) to IPART referred to in Item 4 above.**
- 6. That a final revised version of the LTFP incorporating the SRV option 4, detailed in the report below, recommendation 4 above, and the final audited results for 2023/23 be**

endorsed and submitted to the December 2023 Council Meeting for adoption.

CARRIED

In Favour: Crs Andrew Banfield, Carol James OAM, Steven Ruddell, Daniel Strickland, Peter Walker and Andy Wood

Against: Crs Bob Kirk, Michael Prevedello and Jason Shepherd

FORSHADOWED MOTION

Moved: Cr Bob Kirk

That

1. Consideration of an application for a special rate variation be deferred to the 2025/26 year.
2. Council investigate additional options to achieve our long term sustainability.
3. All options be included in further considerations for consultation with the community.

RESOLUTION 2023/266

Moved: Cr Michael Prevedello

Seconded: Cr Andrew Banfield

That Council take a short recess.

CARRIED

The meeting took a recess at 8.40pm.

The Council return to open Council at 8.47pm

16.2 CORPORATE & COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY REVIEW

RESOLUTION 2023/267

Moved: Cr Bob Kirk

Seconded: Cr Steven Ruddell

That

1. The report from the Business Manager Governance on the Corporate & Community Services Policy Review be received.
2. Council places the following revised policies on public exhibition until 12 January 2024 and, if no submissions are received, they be adopted as Council's policies:
 - (i) Pensioner Rebate Policy
 - (ii) Hardship Policy
3. Any submissions received are to be considered and reported to Council prior to final adoption of the policy(s).

CARRIED

RESOLUTION 2023/268

**Moved: Cr Andrew Banfield
Seconded: Cr Daniel Strickland**

That items 16.3 to 16.5 be resolved in totum.

CARRIED

16.3 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

RESOLUTION 2023/269

**Moved: Cr Andrew Banfield
Seconded: Cr Daniel Strickland**

That the report by the Director Corporate & Community Services on the Monthly Financial Report be received.

16.4 STATEMENT OF INVESTMENTS & BANK BALANCES

RESOLUTION 2023/270

**Moved: Cr Andrew Banfield
Seconded: Cr Daniel Strickland**

That the report on the Statement of Investments and Bank Balances be noted.

16.5 MINUTES OF THE RAY HARVEY SPORTS FOUNDATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 2023

RESOLUTION 2023/271

**Moved: Cr Andrew Banfield
Seconded: Cr Daniel Strickland**

That the report from the Director Operations in regards to the Ray Harvey Sports Foundation Committee minutes from Monday 30 October 2023 be received.

16.6 COUNCIL'S OPERATIONAL UPDATE - OCTOBER 2023

RESOLUTION 2023/272

**Moved: Cr Jason Shepherd
Seconded: Cr Andy Wood**

That the report from the Chief Executive Officer on the Council's Operational Update for October 2023 be received and noted.

CARRIED

17 CLOSED SESSION

Council must resolve to move into Closed Session to deal with any items under s10 *Local Government Act 1993*.

There were no closed session reports for determination.

18 CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

The Meeting closed at 8.57pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 19 December 2023.

.....
Cr Peter Walker
Mayor

.....
Aaron Johansson
Chief Executive Officer