



Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 7 April 2021 commencing at 1.00pm.

1. Present

Her Worship the Mayor - Mrs T H Collis, Crs E L Peeti-Webber (Deputy Mayor), S A Hull, C J Isaacson, P A Johns, K A Sutherland, R A Treder and S M Wards.

In Attendance

Mr B Nicholson	- Chief Executive
Mr R Taylor	- Manager - Democracy Services
Mr R Suppiah	- Group Manager - Corporate
Mr C Chapman	- Group Manager - Infrastructure
Ms T Love	- Group Manager - Operations
Mr D Watson	- Manager - Special Projects
Mr M Thomas	- Strategy and Policy Adviser
Mrs S Walshe	- Senior Financial Accountant
Ms D Petera	- Audit Director Audit New Zealand

2. Apologies

- 2.1 *That an apology be sustained from Cr Alison Franklin for non-attendance at the meeting.*

Crs Wards/Isaacson

Carried

3. Reports

3.1 Audit and Risk Committee

- 3.1.1 *That the report of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 29 March 2021 (as circulated) be received.*

Crs Sutherland/Peeti-Webber

Carried

3.2 Adoption of Supporting Information for the Consultation Document 2021/2031

- 3.2.1 Audit Director Audit New Zealand Debbie Perera presented the independent auditor's report on Council's Consultation Document for its proposed 2021/2031 Long Term Plan.

- 3.2.2 In this report an unmodified opinion is expressed that:
- The Consultation Document provides an effective basis for public participation in the Council's decisions about the proposed content of its 2021/2031 Long Term Plan.
 - The information and assumptions underlying the information in the Consultation Document are reasonable.
- 3.2.3 As part of the opinion it includes reference to uncertainty over the three waters reforms as a disclosure without modifying the audit opinion.
- 3.2.4 Group Manager - Corporate Raj Suppiah tabled details of changes made to the Consultation Document arising from the audit, including reference to the following matters:
- Mayor's message relating to the proposed rates increases over the coming years.
 - Right debate relating to community development concerning the financial and rates impact.
 - Right debate relating to debt repayment concerning the rates impact over the ten year period.
 - Right debate relating to road financial reserves concerning the rates impact over the ten year period.
 - Financial strategy relating to the rates cap, rates by sector incidence and level of the uniform annual general charge.
 - Financial strategy relating to Council's debt position graph without the debt repayment strategy.
 - Changes to key projects budgets for Dannevirke inverted syphon replacement and Eketāhuna wastewater treatment plant upgrade.
 - Table of overall rates increases over the ten year period.
- 3.2.5 Group Manager - Corporate Raj Suppiah spoke on the focus of the Long Term Plan during a period of growth for the district, and acknowledged the contribution of all those involved in preparing the Long Term Plan recommended for adoption to consult with the community.
- 3.2.6 The Mayor, Councillors and Chief Executive acknowledged the significant workload and many hours committed to the development of the Long Term Plan, noting this occurred during a period of Covid-19 and uncertainty arising from government reforms impacting on local government.

3.2.7 ***That the report from the Group Manager - Corporate dated 30 March 2021 concerning the adoption of supporting information for the Consultation Document 2021/2031 (as circulated) be received, and***

That this matter be recognised as significant in terms of Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002 and Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and

That the Council:

a) adopt the policies, strategies and documents detailed in paragraph 13 of this report as information defined as supporting information for the Draft Long Term Plan 2021/2031, and

b) in accordance with Section 100 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Council confirm the Draft Long Term Plan 2021/2031 budgets have been prepared based on reasonable judgement and assumptions, and it considers the projected financial results, including the projected operating deficit over the ten year period to be financially prudent given its financial position, the cumulative surplus projected over the ten year period and its financial management policies, and

That the Chief Executive is authorised to approve any final edits required to the supporting information to finalise the documents for distribution.

Crs Johns/Wards

Carried

3.3 Adoption of the Long Term Plan Consultation Document 2021/2031

3.3.1 ***That the report from the Group Manager - Corporate dated 30 March 2021 concerning the adoption of the Long Term Plan Consultation Document 2021/2031 (as circulated) be received, and***

That this matter or decision be recognised as significant in terms of Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002 and Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and

That the Council adopt the Consultation Document 2021/2031 for consultation with the community, and

That the Chief Executive is authorised to approve any final edits required to the Consultation Document in order to finalise the document for printing and distribution.

Crs Hull/Treder

Carried

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 2.00pm.

Mayor