



Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Tararua District Council held in the Council Chamber, 26 Gordon Street, Dannevirke on Wednesday 10 April 2024 commencing at 9:30am.

1. Present

Her Worship the Mayor - Mrs T H Collis, Crs E L Peeti-Webber (Deputy Mayor), A K Franklin, S M Gilmore, P A Johns, K A Sutherland, S A Wallace and S M Wards

In Attendance

Mr P Jones	- Chairperson, Audit and Risk Committee (via Teams)
Mr B Nicholson	- Chief Executive
Mr R Suppiah	- Group Manager – Corporate and Regulatory
Mr H Featonby	- Group Manager - Infrastructure
Ms G Nock	- Strategy and Corporate Planning Manager
Mrs S Walshe	- Finance Manager
Ms E Roberts	- Revenue Manager
Ms A Rule	- Policy and Planning Advisor
Mrs A Dunn	- Manager – Democracy Services (via Teams)
Ms S Ellis	- Democracy Support Officer

2. Apologies

That the apologies from Councillor N Chase and Councillor M Long be accepted and leave of absence granted for the meeting.

Crs Sutherland/Peeti-Webber

Carried

3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Meeting's Items of Business

Nil

4. Reports

4.1 Extension of Timeline for Long-term Plan

The Tararua District Council considered the report of the Chief Executive dated 3 April 2024 that sought adoption of an amended timeline for the 2024-34 Long-term Plan, including rescission of the resolution made 27 March 2024.

Councillor S A Wallace joined the meeting at 9:33am

The Group Manager – Corporate and Regulatory advised that since Council's decision of 27 March 2024 to adopt an unaudited consultation document to allow for adoption of the Long-term Plan by 30 June 2024, the auditor availability meant that additional time was required to enable the Long-term Plan to be adopted to come into effect starting with the 2024-25 financial year. By selecting the option allowed for under temporary legislation to extend the legal timeframe to 30 September 2024, but adopt by 31 July, would enable the Council to strike rates using the rates resolution for Year 1 of the Long-term Plan.

In discussion, concerns were raised surrounding the risks in adopting the proposed extension, namely the potential invocation of Section 50 of the Ratings Act requiring rates to be set utilising data from the previous year, and the risks of auditing an Long-term Plan with significant uncertainties still as yet to be wholly accounted for; notwithstanding concerns regarding an audit timeframe and auditor availability.

With regard to the third option available under temporary legislation, to defer the Long-term Plan and move forward with an enhanced annual plan in its place, it was noted that the date for finalisation of this option was 30 April.

That the report from the Chief Executive dated 03 April 2024 concerning the Extension of Timeline for Long-term Plan be received.

That the Tararua District Council rescinds the following motion made 27 March 2024:

"That the Council adopts the option to release an unaudited 2024-2034 Long-term Plan consultation document for consultation to enable Council to meet the 30 June 2024 adoption deadline."

That the Tararua District Council makes the following motion in its place:

"That the Council adopts the option for extending the statutory deadline by which the 2024-2034 Long-term Plan must be adopted by three months to 30 September 2024, noting its intention to adopt the Long-term Plan on 31 July 2024."

Crs Collis/Johns

Carried

The motion was declared carried on the casting vote of Her Worship the Mayor

Crs A K Franklin, S M Gilmore, S A Wallace and S M Wards recorded their votes against the motion.

There being no further business the Mayor thanked those present for their attendance and contributions, and declared the meeting closed at 10:29am.

Mayor