



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies

Minutes for the Ordinary Meeting of the
Murchison Shire Council

Held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
on Thursday **23 July 2020**, commencing at 12 Noon.

Note: meeting was conducted in accordance with COVID-19 restrictions.

Ancient land under brilliant skies

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ATTACHMENTS

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Shire President declared the meeting open at 12.15pm.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present

Councillors

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor – President
Cr E Foulkes-Taylor
Cr Q Fowler
Cr P Squires
Cr G Mead

Staff

Bill Boehm – CEO
Tatjana Erak – Acting DCEO
William Herold – Works Supervisor

Apologies

Cr A Whitmarsh – Deputy President

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 24 June 2020

Background

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council have previously been circulated to all Councillors.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 June 2020 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Voting Requirements:

Simple majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr Q Fowler

Seconded: Cr R Foulkes-Taylor

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 24 June 2020 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Carried

For 5

Against 0

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Nil

5 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

6 STANDING ORDERS

Matter for Consideration

It has been customary practice in the interests of a productive meeting in relation to the Conduct of Members during debates for the Council suspend Standing Orders 8.2 (Limitation on Number of speeches) and 8.3 (Duration of Speeches) under Local Law 2001. To facilitate this, the following recommended resolution is required.

Recommendation

That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down:

- 8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches
- 8.3 Duration of speeches

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr P Squires

Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down:

- 8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches
- 8.3 Duration of speeches

Carried

For

5

Against

0

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

8 NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 26 August 2020

9 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

10 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

11 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

12 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Nil

13 ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

13.1 Shire President

Informal meeting at Yuin Station on 17 July 2020 with Cr E Foulkes-Taylor and CEO.

13.2 Councillors

Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor

Report of Murchison GeoRegion Inaugural Working Group Meeting Mt Magnet

3 July 2020

The purpose of the meeting was essentially to work out the next steps in order to progress the project. It was attended by reps from 6 of the 7 shires (not Yalgoo), the Mid West Development Commission) (MWDC), and Ross and Wendy Dowling (Ideology) and some industry organisation representatives.

Each shire to nominate someone to the project working group by end of July with the aim of the group meeting in early August and draft a plan of actions/priorities for consideration at MEG on August 24.

Items for the Project Working Group (PWG) to consider include budget, co-ordinator, governance, merchandise, launch etc

A GeoRegion 'pitch document' to be developed by MWDC for presentation at Cue Parliament. Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor to advise re approaching Zone.

Booklets have been printed and ready for collection/delivery by each shire. An app has been developed and is almost ready for launch. I have a draft on my phone if anyone wishes to see it.

Launch date proposed is 18 Sept 2020- prior to COVID this date was set for Mt Magnet's Astro Rocks event. Cr. Karen Morrissey (Mt Magnet) is co-ordinating this.

Full copy of notes from the meeting is available on request from myself or the CEO.

Chief Executive Officers Comments & Recommendation

The Murchison GeoRegion operation and that of the Project Working Group comes under the auspices of the Murchison Economic Group (MEG). The Working Groups recommendation for each Shire to nominate a representative has been accepted by MEG CEO's.

Council has already appointed Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor as our representative on the Murchison GEO Region and I note that Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor has been an active and driving force behind this important project

Notes:

- 1. It is considered essential that Council take up the Project Working Group's request and appoint a representative and hence move an appropriate motion to this effect.*
- 2. At the meeting nominations for a Council Representative on the Murchison GeoRegion Working Group were sought with Cr E Foulkes-Taylor being identified and accepting of the nomination*

Recommendation

That Council appoints Cr E Foulkes-Taylor as the council representative on the Murchison GeoRegion Working Group.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

| | | | |
|---|------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Council Decision | | | |
| Moved: Cr | P Squires | Seconded: Cr | Q Fowler |
| That council appoints Cr E Foulkes-Taylor as the council representative on the Murchison GeoRegion Working Group. | | | |
| Carried | For | 5 | Against 0 |

14 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

15 WORKS

15.1 Works Report

File:

Author: William Herold – Works Supervisor

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 15 July 2020

Attachments: 15.1.1 Monthly Plant Report
15.1.2 Technical Officers Update Report

Monthly Plant Report

As Attached

Technical Officers Update Report

As attached

Construction Crew

The Construction crew have spent the last 3 weeks cleaning out grids on the Beringarra-Pindar Rd and signage repair around the Shire concentrating mainly on the Beringarra-Pindar Road and the Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd. On Thursday 16th a start was made with the re-sheet on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Rd starting at the South Boundary grid and working back to Bullardoo.

Maintenance Crew

The Maintenance crew finished their stint of grid cleaning in the Beringarra- Pindar Rd on 29th June. They have since resumed maintenance grading. They headed north from the McNabb Intersection, completed the Mt Wittenoom Rd and will continue north on the Beringarra-Pindar Rd. Let's hope for some rain to improve the grading conditions.

Flood 6

Both packages are well underway. The first handover for the West package (THEM Earthmoving) was done on 7th July. The East package (Squires Resources) got underway at about the same time as the handover.

Flood 7

This has been approved and by the time of July's Council meeting THEM Earthmoving would have made a start on their portion of the package.

Thurkle's Dozing

Aiden Thurkle started stockpiling material at Bullardoo for the Construction crew on Monday 13th July.

Plant

The result of the Auction of surplus-redundant machinery and vehicles is as follows:

| Plant No | Plant Item | Sale Price (incl gst) |
|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| P001 | John Deere Grader (JD770) | \$90,000 |
| P007 | Nissan UD Prime Mover | \$14,300 |
| P009 | Iveco Prime Mover | \$5,300 |
| P027 | Volvo Loader | \$71,500 |
| P055 | Toyota Prado | \$19,900 |

Recommendation

That the Works Supervisors Report be received and accepted.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

| | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Council Decision | | | |
| Moved: Cr | E Foulkes-Taylor | Seconded: Cr | G Mead |
| That the Works Supervisors Report be received and accepted. | | | |
| Carried | For | 5 | Against 0 |

16 DEVELOPMENT

16.1 COVID-19 Coronavirus Update

| | |
|--------------------|--|
| File: | 4.77 |
| Author: | Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer Tatjana Erak – Acting Deputy Chief Executive Officer |
| Interest Declared: | No interest to disclose |
| Date | 17 July 2020 |
| Attachments: | 16.1.1 Previous COVID-19 Update Reports 16.1.2 Public Sector Commission – Local Governments Role Advice 16.1.3 2020-21 Budget Final Draft – Net Current Assets 16.1.4 WATC - COVID-19 Cash Flow Forecast Model (<i>provided at the meeting</i>) |

Matter for Consideration

As we are aware the current declared COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic continues is to be the most significant national events in our history that affecting us all. This item formally updates Council on some of those matters that pertain to our operation over the past month and preceding periods.

Brief Update

On an hourly basis emails and information arrives continues to arrive from all sorts of sources that further clarifies, and sometimes confuses the situation. WALGA continues to positively represent the local government sector with regular updates.

During the past month additional new activity has declined with most emphasis locally associated with incorporating actions and responses into the forthcoming 2020/21 (2021) Budget. This is as a direct result of actions and work. Those reports undertaken previously are attached to provide the context of the current responses that will be considered through next year's budget and will be relevant over the next few years.

Previous COVID-19 Update Reports and the letter from the Public Sector Commission concerning Local Governments Role as attached further reinforces a very large array of stimulus initiatives that all local governments are expected to formally consider as part of their 2021 Budget deliberations

In this regard we have been actively working over the past three months to address many of the State Governments requests. Importantly, whilst the Annual Budget is nearing finalisation, an initial three year outline will also be separately identified and included so that the full impact of stimulus activities can be seen.

COVID-19 Short Term Lending Facility (STLF)

As part of this approach, and as previously advised, it is considered essential that Council apply to the West Australian Treasury Corporation (WATC) for the COVID-19 Short Term Lending Facility.

The following requirements to be completed a cash flow forecast model and provide this to WATC with the following

- A letter from the CEO to WATC which should address / note:
 - ~ the need to access funding from the STLF
 - ~ type of STLF the City is seeking – debt deferral, cash flow support or both.
 - ~ make reference to the council resolution supporting the cash flow forecast and the date of meeting.
 - ~ the request being made by the City is compliant with the Local Government Act and Regulations
- The Council Resolution supporting access to the STLF will need to address
 - ~ council approval for the 12 month cash flow forecast which the City is be submitting to WATC.
 - ~ type of facility the City is applying for – debt deferral, cash flow support or both.

The COVID-19 Short Term Lending Facility will work similar to an overdraft facility. Key points are as follows:

- There is no cost or fee to apply for the COVID-19 Short Term Lending Facility.
- Interest on funds drawn down through the STLF will be calculated daily and charged monthly
- The interest rate on funds drawn down through the STLF will be WATC's cost of funding (approx. 0.50%)
- The interest rate on the STLF is a variable rate and will move in line with market movements. It is not a fixed rate.
- WATC will charge an Administration Margin on funds drawn down through the STLF, as it does with existing loans to local governments.
- The Loan Guarantee Fee will not be charged on funds drawn from the STLF.
- The option to pay or capitalise the monthly interest amount is available.

Work has been undertaken to prepare the required Cash Flow information as per the attached 2020-21 Budget Final Draft - Net Current Assets which shows the summary requirements over a Three Year Period plus the WATC - COVID-19 Cash Flow Forecast Model which is required to be completed.

Statutory Environment

Local Government Act 1995

Sustainability Implications

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Environmental | There are no known significant environmental considerations |
| Economic | There are no known significant economic considerations |
| Social | There are no known significant social considerations |

Strategic Implications

Shire of Murchison Council Community Strategic Plan

Response to the COVID-19 Coronavirus Pandemic will encompass many strategies contained within all four Objectives of our Community Plan ie Economic, Environmental, Social and Civic Leadership as articulated in our Vision Statement ***“Working together to preserve the unique character of the Shire, supporting diverse and sustainable lifestyle and economic opportunities.”***

Policy Implications

Adaptation and potentially new polices may be required.

Principle Implications

March 2020 Meeting

In responding to the COVID-19 Coronavirus that Council act in accordance with the following principles and rationale associated with health and economic activity

- (a) Our overriding responsibility is to act to protect our citizens and community to prevent, control or abate the serious public health risk presented by COVID-19 by limiting the spread of COVID-19.
- (b) Council will act to ensure that we can function and deliver the required works and services to support and stimulate the local economy.

Financial Implications

The financial impacts associated with these works have been and will be included in the 2020/21 budget and included in the WATC -COVID-19 12-month cash flow forecast.

Recommendations

That Council resolves as follows:

1. The Chief Executive Officer and Acting Deputy Chief Executive Officer's Report relating COVID-19 Coronavirus Update Report be received and noted.
2. Council supports access to Western Australia Treasury Corporation's (WATC) COVID-19 Short Term Lending Facility.
3. Council approves of the 12-month cash flow forecast which the Shire is be submitting to WATC.
4. Council supports the type of facility that the shire is applying for namely debt deferral and cash flow support.

Note:

Before the motion was read out, it was brought to Council's attention that the Shire is only applying for cash flow support and therefore the words "debt deferral and" were removed.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision

Moved: Cr E Foulkes-Taylor

Seconded: Cr Q Fowler

That Council resolves as follows:

1. The Chief Executive Officer and Acting Deputy Chief Executive Officer's Report relating COVID-19 Coronavirus Update Report be received and noted.
2. Council supports access to Western Australia Treasury Corporation's (WATC) COVID-19 Short Term Lending Facility.
3. Council approves of the 12-month cash flow forecast which the Shire is be submitting to WATC.
4. Council supports the type of facility that the shire is applying for namely cash flow support.

Carried

For

5

Against

0

17 ADMINISTRATION

Nil

18 CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date: 20 July 2020

Attachments: Nil

General

The activities below show the extent of activity undertaken with initial and continuing emphasis on short and medium term financial planning and budgeting through extensive preparation, design and update and review of the budget via a Budget Review Model. This includes update of sealed roads and plant replacement programs with some preliminary work on potential settlement projects all of which are operationally as well as strategically important.

I am very appreciative of the support received through time off associated with family support issues.

| Date | Activity |
|----------------------------|---|
| 21.06.2020 | Budget Review Model |
| 22.06.2020 | Work on Beringarra-Pindar Roadworks. Murchison Settlement Projects |
| 23.06.2020 | Murchison Settlement Projects. Meeting with Josh Kirk (Greenfields) and Works Supervisor. |
| 24.06.2020 | Council Budget Workshop, Meeting & tour of Settlement |
| 25.06.2020 & 26.06.2020 | TOIL |
| 29.06.2020 | Attend Works Toolbox Meeting. Meeting with Works Supervisor. Finalise Council Minutes & complete follow up actions. |
| 30.06.2020 | Meeting with Works Supervisor and DCEO. Budget Review Work |
| 1.07.2020 | SKA Stakeholder Meeting via Zoom. Budget Review Work. Meeting with Works Supervisor. Cemetery site inspection |
| 2.07.2020 | Meeting with Cr Andrew Whitmarsh. Inspect Cemetery Wall location and concept. Attend NAIDOC celebrations at PIA. SKA Meeting Briefing Email. |
| 3.07.2020 | Onsite discussions / briefing with Shire President. Budget Review Work. Touch base with Meekatharra and Wiluna (Acting) CEO. Cemetery Wall follow up work with Natalie Broad. Initiate various preliminary actions with respect to Settlement Projects. |
| 6.07.2020 | TOIL. Touch base with Shire President and Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor. Attend Emails |
| 7.07.2020 | Telephone meeting with Aaron Hodges & Steve Dart (Hybrid Systems Australia) over progress with respect to planning for potential microgrid for the Murchison Settlement. Meeting with John Hearn and Nigel Barr of Quality Builders. Meetings with Works Supervisor and DCEO. Follow approach wrt potential Settlement works. Review and update Building Works Program. |
| 8.07.2020 | Site inspection of several houses with Quality Builders. |
| 9.07.2020 | Catch up with Quality Builders over potential renovation work. Finalise hand over for new houses Meetings with Works Supervisor & DCEO. Start Regional Roads Group Submissions |
| 10.07.2020 & 13.07.2020 | TOIL |
| 14.07.2020 | After hours dispensement of medication for a Settlement resident. Catchup Emails. Agenda Preparation and Budget Review Work. |
| 15.07.2020 | Meeting Bernie Miller and Kim Ingle (Main Roads WA) with Works Supervisor. Agenda Preparation and Budget Review Work plus update of reseal and plant programs. |
| 16.07.2020 | Catch up with Works Supervisor. Agenda Preparation and Budget Review Work. |
| 17.07.2020 | Travel & catchup with Shire President and Cr Emma Foulkes-Taylor at Yuin Station. TOIL |
| 20.07.2020 | Agenda Finalisation. Budget Review Work |

Recommendation

That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

| Council Decision | | | |
|---|------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Moved: Cr | G Mead | Seconded: Cr | P Squires |
| That the CEO's Activity Report be accepted. | | | |
| Carried | For | 5 | Against 0 |

19 URGENT BUSINESS

Nil

20 ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

21 MEETING CLOSURE

The Shire President closed the meeting at 12.30pm.

Minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on 26 August 2020.

Signed..... Presiding Officer