



Ordinary Meeting of Council Minutes

**Wednesday 13 December 2017
Ordinary Meeting 6:00 PM**

Council Chambers, Civic Centre,
Stuart Highway, Katherine

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL HELD
AT THE KATHERINE CIVIC CENTRE WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2017**

1. WELCOME TO COUNTRY

I am honoured to be on the ancestral lands of Katherine's Aboriginal peoples. I acknowledge the First Australians as the traditional custodians of the continent, whose cultures are among the oldest living cultures in human history. I pay respect to the Elders of the community and extend my recognition to their descendants who are present.

2. OPENING PRAYER

Grant O God to this Council wisdom, understanding and sincerity of purpose in the Governance of this Municipality. Amen

3. PRESENT

Mayor Fay Miller
Alderman Jon Raynor
Alderman John Zelle
Alderman Matt Hurley

In attendance

Mr Robert Jennings – Chief Executive Officer
Mrs Claire Johansson – Director Corporate & Community
Services & A/Director of Works and Services
Ms Sue Crammond – Executive Assistant to CEO
(Minute Taker)

8 x members of the Katherine Community
1 x member of the Media

4. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey - 7 December to 29 December 2017
Alderman Lis Clark – 11 December 2017 to 4 January 2018
Alderman Toni Tapp Coutts – 30 November to 22 December 2017
Andrew Wilson – A/Operations Manager

5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Confirmation of Previous
Minutes

MOVED: Hurley / Zelle

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 28 November
2017 be confirmed as true and accurate.

CARRIED 4 /0

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

The Report on Occupation Licence Over Randazzo Car Park, Lot 3023, was lain on the table at the November Ordinary Meeting of Council, to be presented at the December meeting. However, further work is required by Council Officers in conjunction with the Dept. of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics to provide a more thorough picture of the site's condition, prior to it being accepted by Council. Council is hoping to have a finalised report presented to the January 2018 Ordinary Meeting of Council.

7. DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Elected Member Disclosure of Interest and Declared Interest

NIL

8. MAYORAL BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Mayoral Business to be considered.

LGANT (Local Government Association of the NT) General Meeting & AGM, Alice Springs

Meeting with Scott Lovett Executive Director Dept of Business, Trade & Innovation , Alice Springs

HMAS Darwin Freedom of Entry Parade, Darwin

Teleconference with Terri Hart

Meeting with Senator Malarndirri McCarthy

ABC Interview x 6

Meeting with community member x 4

Brolga Awards Presentation – Alice Springs

Laying of Wreath - ANZAC Hill, Alice Springs

Elected Members Information Session x 3

Katherine Accommodation Action Group meeting

Katherine Emergency Committee meeting

Katherine PFAS Community Consultation Group – Meeting #2

Launch of Tom Curtains CD

Ministerial Advisory Council for Senior Territorians, Parliament House

ALGWA AGM (Australian Local Government Women's Association), Darwin City Council

Meeting with CEO and Member for Katherine Sandra Nelson

Joint Kimberley & NT Government Forum, Darwin

Meeting with Department of Chief Minister (Karen Vohland & Kim Wheatley) – with CEO Robert Jennings

Meeting with Leader of the Opposition Gary Higgins

Meeting with AANT – George Economou

Meeting with Commander Matt Hollamby

ANZ Christmas Party

White Ribbon March

Australian Tourism Awards judging – portal x 50 hours

Katherine Community Radio Interview

Katherine Toy Run
Water Wise video – interview
Meetings with CEO Robert Jennings
Meeting with Geoff Booth – re Caltex
Ordinary Council Meeting – November & December
Epilepsy Action Australia's E-Tea – morning tea
Visited Anglicare
ABC Grassroots interview
LGANT Special Executive Meeting – teleconference
MotoScouts Presentation & Morning Tea
Meeting with Patrick Moran – Advisor to Leader of the Opposition Gary Higgins
Katherine Museum Craft Fair
DLPE monthly meeting
Mimi Arts Christmas function
Katherine Town Council Christmas function
DLPE Community Meeting re Emungalan Road Bridge
Meeting with DEFENCE – update on Tindal activities
DEFENCE Community Walk-in session at Knotts Crossing re PFAS
Canberra trip with CEO Robert Jennings and Anthony Bartlett – meeting with Minister Greg Hunt, Senator Malarndirri McCarthy, Warren Snowden, Senator Nigel Scullion and Minister Marise Payne.
Channel 9 Interview
ABC TV Interview
Australian Tourism Awards Judging – Perth
Katherine Carols by Candlelight
Department of Chief Minister's office meeting with PFAS Community Group
SKAL Christmas Dinner Networking, Darwin – with VIC Manager Maria Helou
Edith Mackie's funeral service

It has been a very busy few weeks working with our community, the Northern Territory Government and the Federal Government addressing the PFAS contamination of our water supply.

The CEO Robert Jennings, local resident Anthony Bartlett and myself travelled to Canberra to meet with Health Minister Greg Hunt, Senator Malarndirri McCarthy, Warren Snowden, Senator Nigel Scullion and Minister for Defence, Marise Payne to discuss the future of Katherine's economy and the health of our residents.

Our meetings were productive with the most important outcome being improved lines of communication at all levels ensuring transparency.

This evening I am also seeking leave from Saturday 16th December 2017 to Monday 15th January inclusive to spend with family in South Australia.

In the absence of the Mayor Miller and Deputy Mayor Peter Gazey the elected members decided it was appropriate to appoint an Acting Deputy Mayor, for the period 16 December 2017 to 29 December 2017.

MOVED: Hurley / Zelle

Mayor Miller nominated Alderman Raynor as Deputy Mayor for the period 16 December 2017 - 29 December, 2017. The nomination was seconded by Aldermen Hurly and Alderman Zellely.

Alderman Raynor accepted the nomination.

CARRIED: 4/0

9. Correspondence and Documents to be Tabled

NIL

10. Petitions

NIL

11. Questions

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Questions

11.1 WITH NOTICE

NIL

11.2 WITHOUT NOTICE

NIL

12. Notice of Motion

NIL

13. Report of Officers

13.1 MONTHLY REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER - NOVEMBER 2017

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Chief Executive Officer Report

MOVED: Zellely / Hurley

Alderman Raynor – Page 4 – What is the state of apron works at the airport?
DCCS - The December commencement date has been delayed.
Council are working on a project plan which will be finalised tomorrow and we anticipate completion of works will be post wet season, May 2018.

Alderman Raynor – I note Council has installed NBN at the VIC and Library.
Is there any plan to put NBN in at the airport?

CEO – This is not in current plan, however we can look at that in future planning.

That it be recommended to Council:

1. That the Chief Executive Officer Report for the month of November 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 4 / 0

13.2 MONTHLY CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION REPORT FOR THE MONTHS OF OCTOBER 2017

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Corporate and Community Services Reports

MOVED: Zelley / Hurley

Mayor Miller congratulated the Visitor Information Centre staff on receiving 4 super deed nominations. Also, it is pleasing to see that although visitor numbers are down sales figures are still on the increase.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the report of the Corporate and Community Services Division for the months of November 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 4 / 0

13.3 MONTHLY WORKS AND SERVICES DIVISION REPORT FOR THE MONTHS OF NOVEMBER 2017

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Works and Services Division Reports

MOVED: Raynor / Zelley

Alderman Raynor – Noted that sprinklers repairs are “zero” for the month of December, which is good news.

CEO – The wet season months usually record less damage. What we are noticing though is an increase in the amount of broken glass being found around town. This might be a reflection of what is happening with the reduction in Police presence at bottle shops.

Alderman Raynor – Did we not have liquor being sold in plastic bottles in previous years?

Mayor Miller – I have also had members of the public commenting on the increase in glass bottles and casks etc. lying around. Plastic bottles were previously sold in the town. I will find out why we have reverted to glass bottles over plastic bottles.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the report of the Works and Services Division Report for the month of November 2017 be received and noted.

CARRIED: 4 / 0

13.4 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2017

File: Local Governance / Council Meetings / Financial Report

MOVED: Hurley / Zelle

Mayor Miller – The Toll payment of \$9K? Is this for delivery of the new piece of equipment?

CEO – Unsure. Will take on notice.

Mayor Miller – Did the contract for spraying grass at the Hot Springs go to tender. I refer to the invoice to Spray Grass NT of \$10K?

CEO – Unsure. Will take on notice.

Alderman Raynor – Page 31 - Repairs to Track loader. Is this the old one? Is this going to be an ongoing situation where we are constantly repairing this machine? Is this economical?

CEO – We had the old vehicle assessed at the time of purchasing the new track loader and we were advised it was worth keeping and maintaining. We can review that decision if we find we are spending excessive amounts in maintenance.

Mayor Miller – I believe this matter was discussed previously and the commitment to keep it as a spare was made.

CEO – That is correct. There were three main reasons behind this decision:

1. It provided the opportunity for Council to lease the machine to other councils.
2. KT Council had a spare for when the new machine was being serviced/ repaired etc.
3. Two machines provided flexibility during the decommissioning of the old WFM and commissioning of the new WFM.

Alderman Raynor – Infringement numbers appear to be are down. Is there a known reason for this?

DCCS – This would be purely due to a lack of staff at the present time.

That it be recommended to Council:

That Council endorse the Financial Report for the month of November 2017.

CARRIED: 4 / 0

13.5 KATHERINE TOWN COUNCIL – PETTY CASH POLICY

File: Local Governance / Policy / Policy Decisions to be Actioned / Policy Manual Updates

MOVED: Hurley / Zelle

CEO – The only change made is to give the Depot Supervisor the ability to operate in the petty cash process. The change increases operational efficiencies for Depot staff.

That it be recommended to Council:

That the attached draft policy be received, noted and adopted.

CARRIED: 4 / 0

13.6 HYDRAULIC FRACTURING INQUIRY SUBMISSION – LETTER TO JUSTICE PEPPER, 27 APRIL 2017

File: Community Relations / Resource Sector

MOVED: Raynor / Zelle

Alderman Raynor suggested a change be made to the recommendation to include forwarding the letter to relevant NTG Officers and Departments, as well as directly to Chief Minister Gunner.

MOVED: Raynor / Zelle

CARRIED: 4 / 0

That it be recommended to Council:

1. The 2017 to 2021 Elected Members approve the resending of the Hydraulic Fracturing Inquiry submission to Justice Pepper, the relevant NTG officers and Departments, as well as directly to Chief Minister Gunner, stating they are in support of the position outlined in the submission dated 27 April, 2017.

CARRIED: 4 / 0

14. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON COMMITTEES

Deputy Mayor Gazey

Ordinary Meeting of Council

EMIS x 2

Open Forum

Photo Session for Aldermen

Remembrance Day

Alderman Clark

Audit Meeting

Remembrance Day

EMIS x 2

Rise Meeting

Impact Youth Hub – Rise Building opening

Open Forum

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Photo session for Aldermen

Alderman Raynor

Ordinary Meeting of Council

EMIS x 3

Open Forum

Remembrance Day

Meeting with CEO

Community Advisory Board

Community Walk-In Session – PFAS

Photo Session for Aldermen

Alderman Tapp Coutts
Ordinary Meeting of Council
EMIS x 2
Open Forum
Photo Session for Aldermen
Remembrance Day

Alderman Zelle
Ordinary Meeting of Council
EMIS x 3
Open Forum
Remembrance Day
Sports Grounds Advisory Committee
Photo Session for Aldermen

Alderman Matthew Hurley
Ordinary Meeting of Council
EMIS x 2
Open Forum
Photo Session for Aldermen

15. LATE AGENDA ITEM

File: Local Governance / Agenda / Agenda 2017

MOVED: Hurley/Zelle

That it be recommended to Council to:

Accept the late agenda items 15.1 and 15.2 into the Ordinary Meeting of Council.

CARRIED: 4 / 0

15.1 WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY CLOSURE PLANNING UPDATE

File: Tenders / Works / KWMF GHD CLOSURE PLANNING

MOVED: Hurley / Zelle

CEO – GHD are a consultancy firm. As such, consultancy services agreements do not need to go to tender. As it was a large amount of money, Officers brought it to the elected member's attention. NT legislation states that consultants engaged must be registered in NSW in order to work in the NT, which discounted a lot of NT businesses. Council are in the process of approving Stage 1, at a cost of approx. \$26K. Stages 2-4 will be presented to Council for consideration prior to going forward.

Alderman Raynor – What is the timeframe for completion of Stage 1?

CEO – Unsure and will take on notice. An estimate of 2 months was given.

That it be recommended to Council that:

The report be received, noted and endorsed.

CARRIED: 4 / 0

15.2 EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI) PROPOSAL – KATHERINE TIP SHOP

File: Tenders / Works / Tip Shop EOI

MOVED: Zelle / Hurley

CEO – The purpose of this report is to inform the community that Council are supportive of a Tip Shop at the WMF and the intent to advertise for EOIs.

Mayor Miller– The Tip Shop offers a great opportunity to the community and community groups to run a business.

Alderman Raynor – Will the EOI be offered separately to the WMF tender as well?

CEO – That idea will be presented to Council. There is merit in having the EOI for the Tip Shop as a separate item to the WMF tender.

That it be recommended to Council that it:

1. Support the seeking of EOIs for Tip Shop operators
2. The Tip Shop EOI to be advertised in conjunction with the tender for waste collection services.

CARRIED: 4 / 0

16. GENERAL BUSINESS

Anti-Social Behaviour in Katherine

Unfortunately it would appear that the Banned Drinkers Register is not achieving the outcome that it was intended to do – and that is to take problem drinkers off the streets. It is becoming quite evident during these past few weeks that antisocial behaviour, assaults, broken glass and litter of empty casks and bottles has increased significantly. This is totally unacceptable to me. Interestingly, it is 3 years ago this month that the Temporary Beat Locations (TBLs) were introduced to Katherine and changed the environment of our town in a matter of a few weeks. We enjoyed the results of Police presence at the bottle shops which resulted in our town becoming a great place for everyone to appreciate and enjoy – with a CBD area that could be enjoyed safely by locals and tourists alike.

If something is working it doesn't need fixing. Temporary Beat Locations WORK IN KATHERINE. Over time they were rebranded as POSI's – Point of Sale Intervention. I'm not fussed as to what they are called – I want the results we achieved in our town from POSI's to remain.

Apart from me noticing the deterioration of behaviour in our town, I have been approached by several community members who have emphasised quite strongly how they feel about what they are witnessing – and don't appreciate it. I totally support their angst.

I encourage any community member to make written contact – either by letter or email – to support what Katherine Town Council are doing to lobby the Northern Territory Government and NT Police to reinstate the POSI's in Katherine during all trading hours. We cannot and must not continue this backward slide into the bad old days of out of control antisocial behaviour in Katherine.

This morning St Paul's Anglican Church was packed with family and friends who paid their respects to Edith Mackie who passed away last Friday 8th December. Edith and her husband Bob and family are well known in and around Katherine. It was interesting listening to her daughter Audrey read the Eulogy this morning and to learn of the interesting places they have lived, the jobs that Edith had during her life, and the many voluntary positions that Edith held during her life time. Edith has been ill for the best part of this year and spent many weeks in hospital. Rest in Peace Edith. Your contribution to our community over your lifetime is very much respected and appreciated.

As this is our last Council meeting for 2017 I would like to take this opportunity to THANK all the staff at Katherine Town Council for their commitment during this past year. We have had some changes of personnel during that time including at the Katherine Visitor Centre, the Library, Waste Management Facility and the Depot. Tonight I also want to say farewell to Sophie Henderson who has been with Katherine Town Council for 12 years. Sophie we are sure going to miss your smiling face and calm demeanor in our admin area. Thank you so much for your loyalty and for your support to our community. I am sure I speak on behalf of all elected members Sophie by wishing you all the very best in the next part of your life's journey, which is obviously going to be centered very much in the United States of America.

This year we also said "Goodbye" to Henry Higgins and Stephen Rose at the Local Government elections, and welcomed back Alderman Peter Gazey, Alderman Lis Clark and Alderman Toni Tapp Coutts. The newly elected members are Alderman Jon Raynor, Alderman John Zelle and Alderman Matt Hurley. I wish all elected members a very happy, relaxing and safe Christmas with family and friends wherever you may be.

Katherine Town Council has had an extremely busy and productive year. I particularly want to THANK our CEO Robert Jennings for the outstanding work that he has continued to deliver which has benefitted Katherine so well. His strategic planning and direction have put our town in good stead for ongoing future development for which I am very grateful. I wish Robert, Anisa and Arye a well-deserved break over Christmas and the New Year and look forward to continuing our positive partnerships in 2018.

I wish all of you a Very Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year.

Alderman Zelle – We held the Motoscouts Graduation Ceremony at the Council on 29 November and we thank the Mayor for taking part in those presentations; it was most appreciated. Also, I am pleased to report that one of our students, Nicholas, won his category in the Motoscouts event held last week in Darwin. Motoscouts has proven to be a very successful program and I am happy to announce it will commence operations again in February 2018.

Alderman Raynor – Would like to send my best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all and remember; "Over 0.05? Don't drive!"

17. Confidential Items

NIL

18. Next Ordinary Meeting of Council

The first Ordinary Meeting of Council for 2018 will be held on Tuesday 23 January 2018.

19. Meeting Closed

The meeting closed at 6.40 pm.



Fay Miller
MAYOR OF KATHERINE