

MINUTES OF THE CONFIDENTIAL **SPECIAL** MEETING OF THE THIRTEENTH COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY 21 JUNE 2021 IN ALICE SPRINGS

1. ATTENDANCE

1.1 Opening of the Meeting by the Mayor (Chair)

Mayor Ryan declared the meeting open at **5.32pm** and welcomed all present to the meeting.

Mayor Ryan acknowledged the Central Arrernte people who are the traditional owners and custodians of Alice Springs.

PRESENT

Mayor D. Ryan (Chair)

Deputy Mayor J. Price

Councillor G. Auricht

Councillor M. Banks

Councillor J. de Brenni

Councillor J. Cocking

Councillor E. Melky

Councillor M. Paterson

Councillor C. Satour

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr R. Jennings – Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Mr D. Nellikat – Acting Director Technical Services

Ms S. Taylor – Director Corporate Services and Acting Director Community Development

Ms B. Lang – Executive Assistant (Minutes)

2. APOLOGIES

Nil

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

2 -- CNCL 21/06/2021

Moved – Councillor Melky

Second – Councillor Paterson

That Alice Springs Town Council accept this agenda paper

CARRIED (21725)

Moved – Mayor Ryan

Second – Councillor Paterson

That standing orders be removed.

CARRIED (21726)

4. NOTICE OF MOTION

I, Councillor Eli Melky hereby give notice of my intention to move the following motion:

Moved – Councillor Eli Melky

Seconded – Councillor Catherine Satour

That the Alice Springs Town Council:

- 1. Defer spending on Depot P & E as proposed in the 2021 / 2022 budget, until such time as the underspend/surplus is known from the financial year 2020/2021.**

LOST

It was suggested that Council wait until the surplus has been established in October before spending the reserves. The CEO stated that by delaying spend on the Depot P&E will increase costs in maintenance. One of the key issues is the age of Council assets across the organisation which has been exacerbated by the significantly reduced spend on P&E assets in the current year during COVID. The logical decision is already in place – which is to top up reserves if a surplus does eventuate.

The Department has also advised that their expectation is that reserves be used as intended to provide services to the community.

By adopting the budget, Council have given authority to use the reserves.

3 -- CNCL 21/06/2021

Councillor Melky called for a division

FOR

Councillor Banks

Councillor Melky

Councillor Satour

AGAINST

Councillor Auricht

Councillor de Brenni

Councillor Cocking

Councillor Paterson

Deputy Mayor Price

Councillor Paterson left the Chamber at 6.08pm

Councillor Paterson returned to the Chamber at 6.09pm

Moved – Councillor Eli Melky

Seconded – Councillor Catherine Satour

2. Defer proposed capital infrastructure spend proposed from Reserves until the mid-year financial review in 2021/2022

LOST

It has been suggested that Council defer proposed capital infrastructure until the mid-year financial review in December. The CEO stated that much like the response for Item 1, any delays in expenditure will actually increase costs on maintenance before the new assets can be purchased. Given the timing of the reviews, some of the projects may not be completed or services not provided to community. The Exeloo as an example, has been closed for long periods of time as the parts are no longer being consistently manufactured meaning this service is not being provided to the community.

The CEO also mentioned that delaying all capital infrastructure to the end of the year, will create a large workload on the team and projects are at risk of not being completed in the allocated timeline.

Councillor Melky called for a division.

FOR

Councillor Banks

Councillor Melky

Councillor Satour

AGAINST

Councillor Auricht

Councillor de Brenni

Councillor Cocking

Councillor Paterson

Deputy Mayor Price

Deputy Mayor Price left the Chamber at 6.37pm

Deputy Mayor Price returned to the Chamber at 6.38pm

4 -- CNCL 21/06/2021

Councillor Cocking left the Chamber at 6.39pm

Councillor Cocking returned to the Chamber at 6.41pm

Moved – Councillor Eli Melky

Seconded – Councillor Catherine Satour

- 3. Cap / limit spending on Consultants and Legal to \$150,000.00 total and that any additional spending as required on either Consultants and or Legal to be authorised by way of council resolution**

LOST

The CEO stated that many of the legal fees are operational, time sensitive and human resources in nature and can not be easily shared with Council. They are often associated with highly urgent items. Other legal costs are related to Council resolutions such as the National Aboriginal Art Gallery and Alice Plaza. These costs have been factored into the 20-year plan. It was also stated that these figures are identified in the monthly finance reports.

Councillor Melky called for a division.

FOR

Councillor Banks

Councillor Melky

Councillor Satour

AGAINST

Councillor Auricht

Councillor de Brenni

Councillor Cocking

Councillor Paterson

Deputy Mayor Price

Moved – Councillor Eli Melky

Seconded – Councillor Marli Banks

- 4. Consider leasing options as alternative to lump sum cash payment when purchasing high end machinery or vehicles for operational use**

It was asked that Officers consider financing options rather than paying lump sums for high end machinery and vehicles.

The CEO stated that this matter was discussed at the six budget workshops and it was agreed that officers would put together a report that would allow a considered decision on this matter.

Under the Local Govt. Act 2019, this will fall under borrowing and will require approval from the Minister.

5 -- CNCL 21/06/2021

It was suggested that with this motion being lost the action that was previously allocated to Officers will be discontinued.

Councillor Melky called for a division.

FOR

Councillor Banks

Councillor Melky

Councillor Satour

Councillor Cocking

AGAINST

Councillor Auricht

Councillor de Brenni

Councillor Paterson

Deputy Mayor Price

Mayor Ryan

The Mayor exercised his casting vote.

Councillor Paterson left the Chamber at 7.01pm

Councillor Paterson returned to the Chamber at 7.03pm.

Moved – Councillor Eli Melky

Seconded – Councillor Marli Banks

- 5. Prioritise Depot Plant and Equipment spend as proposed in 2021/2022 budget from available surplus from 2020/2021 financial year**

LOST

Councillor Melky called for a division.

FOR

Councillor Banks

Councillor Melky

Councillor Satour

AGAINST

Councillor Auricht

Councillor de Brenni

Councillor Cocking

Councillor Paterson

Deputy Mayor Price

6 -- CNCL 21/06/2021

Moved – Councillor Eli Melky

Seconded – Councillor Marli Banks

- 6. Prioritise Capital infrastructure spend as proposed in 2021/2022 budget from available surplus identified from 2021/2022 mid -year financial review.**

LOST

Councillor Melky called for a division.

FOR

Councillor Banks

Councillor Melky

Councillor Satour

AGAINST

Councillor Auricht

Councillor de Brenni

Councillor Cocking

Councillor Paterson

Deputy Mayor Price

6. ADJOURNMENT OF SPECIAL MEETING

Mayor Ryan declared the meeting adjourned at **7.10pm**.

Moved – Mayor Ryan

Seconded – Councillor Auricht

That Council stands adjourned

CARRIED (21727)

Confirmed on _____

CHAIRPERSON _____

Date _____