

**MINUTES OF INVERELL SHIRE COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATIVE CENTRE, 144 OTHO STREET,  
INVERELL  
ON WEDNESDAY, 27 JULY 2022 AT 3.05PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Paul Harmon (Mayor), Cr Jo Williams, Cr Di Baker, Cr Stewart Berryman, Cr Kate Dight, Cr Paul King OAM, Cr Jacko Ross, Cr Wendy Wilks, Cr Nicky Lavender

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Paul Henry (General Manager), Brett McInnes (Director Civil and Environmental Services) and Paul Pay (Director Corporate and Economic Services).

**1 APOLOGIES**

Nil

**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION 2022/98**

Moved: Cr Kate Dight

Seconded: Cr Jo Williams

*That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 22 June, 2022, as circulated to members, be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting.*

**CARRIED**

**3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS / PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Nil

**4 PUBLIC FORUM**

At this juncture, the time being 3.06pm, the Mayor welcomed the members of the public and opened the Public Forum Session by inviting members of the public to speak.

**Mr Larry Cameron, Public Art**

Mr Cameron congratulated Council and Council staff on the manner in which the CBD is cleaned every morning.

Mr Cameron spoke about the artwork to be displayed in the new roundabout at the end of the Tingha bridge. Mr Cameron noted that this roundabout will be the first major facility seen by visitors to Inverell travelling from the east or south and as such Mr Cameron believes that this artwork should represent the true identity of Inverell.

Mr Cameron advised that our community contributes approximately \$1B annually to the regional economy with the majority of that revenue being generated through agricultural related services and businesses. Mr Cameron asked Council to consider agriculture to be the main theme of any artwork in the Tingha Bridge roundabout as he believes it represents the true identity of Inverell because agriculture has played a significant role in the birth and current economy of Inverell.

**5 MAYORAL MINUTE****5.1 MAYORAL MINUTE - ACCOUNTING TREATMENT OF RURAL FIRE SERVICE ('RED FLEET') ASSETS S14.18.6/15****RESOLUTION 2022/99**

Moved: Cr Paul Harmon

Seconded: Cr Di Baker

*That:*

1. *Council writes to the local State Member(s), the Hon Adam Marshall MP, the Treasurer, the Hon Matt Kean MP, Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience, the Hon Stephanie Cook MP and the Minister for Local Government Wendy Tuckerman MP:*
  - a. *Expressing Council's objection to the NSW Government's determination on ownership of Rural Fire Service assets;*
  - b. *Advising of the impact of the Government's position on Council finances of this accounting treatment;*
  - c. *Calling on the NSW Government to take immediate action to permanently clear up inequities and inconsistencies around the accounting treatment of Rural Fire Service (RFS) assets by acknowledging that rural firefighting equipment is vested in, under the control of and the property of the RFS; and*
  - d. *Amending s119 of the Rural Fires Act 1997 so that the effect is to make it clear that RFS assets are not the property of councils.*
2. *Council writes to the Shadow Treasurer Daniel Mookhey MLC, the Shadow Minister for Emergency Services Jihad Dib MP, the Shadow Minister for Local Government Greg Warren MP, the Greens Spokesperson for Local Government Jamie Parker MP and the leaders of the Shooters, Fishers and Farmers, Animal Justice and One Nation parties Robert Borsak MLC, Emma Hurst MLC and Mark Latham MLC:*
  - a. *Advising Members of Inverell Shire Council's position, including providing copies of correspondence to NSW Government Ministers; and*
  - b. *Seeking Members' commitments to support NSW Councils' call to amend the Rural Fires Act 1997 as set out in correspondence.*
3. *Council promotes these messages via its digital and social media channels and via its networks.*
4. *Council re-affirms its complete support of and commitment to local RFS brigades noting that Council's action is entirely directed towards the NSW Government's nonsensical position that rather than being owned and controlled by local brigades, RFS assets are somehow controlled by councils, which councils consider to be a cynical financial sleight of hand abdicating the NSW Government's responsibilities at the cost of local communities.*
5. *That Council affirms its support to Local Government NSW (LGNSW) and requests LGNSW continue advocating on Council's behalf to get clarification finally from the State Government about the accounting treatment of RFS assets.*

**CARRIED**

**6 ADVOCACY REPORTS****6.1 ALGWA NSW CONFERENCE REPORT S4.3.1****RESOLUTION 2022/100**

Moved: Cr Di Baker

Seconded: Cr Wendy Wilks

*That the report on ALGWA NSW AGM and Conference be received and noted.*

**CARRIED****7 NOTICES OF BUSINESS**

Nil

**8 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE**

Nil

**9 COMMITTEE REPORTS****9.1 AUDIT RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES - 7 JUNE 2022  
S4.11.21****RESOLUTION 2022/101**

Moved: Cr Nicky Lavender

Seconded: Cr Paul King OAM

*That the minutes from the Audit Risk and Improvement Committee meeting held on Tuesday, 7 June, 2022 be received and noted.*

**CARRIED****9.2 CIVIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES - 13 JULY 2022****RESOLUTION 2022/102**

Moved: Cr Stewart Berryman

Seconded: Cr Di Baker

- i. That the Minutes of the Civil and Environmental Services Committee held on Wednesday, 13 July, 2022, be received and noted; and*
- ii. The following recommendations of the Civil and Environmental Services Committee be adopted by Council.*

**CARRIED**

**9.2.1 Smoke-free Outdoor Public Places Policy****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That a supplementary report on this matter be received.*

**9.2.2 Smoke-free Outdoor Public Places Policy****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i) That the draft Smoke-Free Outdoor Public Places Policy be adopted as presented;*
- ii) The policy commence upon erection of required signage and community notification; and*
- iii) A further report evaluating the effectiveness of the policy be provided at the completion of 12 months from the date of commencement.*

**9.2.3 Bitumen Resurfacing Program 2022/2023****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- the 2022-2023 Bitumen Resurfacing Program be adopted as presented; and*
- the adopted Bitumen Resurfacing Program be placed on Council's website for the information of the community.*

**9.2.4 Briefing - Planning Matter****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the information be noted.*

**9.2.5 Information Reports****RECOMMENDATION**

*That the information reports be received and noted.*

**9.3 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MINUTES - 13 JULY 2022****RESOLUTION 2022/103**

Moved: Cr Paul King OAM

Seconded: Cr Kate Dight

- i. That the Minutes of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee held on Wednesday, 13 July, 2022, be received and noted; and*
- ii. The following recommendations of the Economic and Community Sustainability Committee be adopted by Council.*

**CARRIED**

**9.3.1 Homes for the Aged - Resealing Internal Roads****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i. Council acknowledge there is sufficient benevolent merit for this request from the Homes for the Aged; and*
- ii. that Council donate \$11,666.67 towards the total cost of sealing the internal roads.*

**9.3.2 Request for Donation - Down-To-Earth Inverell Garden Group****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i. Council provide a donation to Down-To-Earth Inverell Garden Group of \$405 for the hire of portable toilets; and*
- ii. the request for advertising sponsorship be referred to the Sapphire City Festival Committee for their consideration and a report be presented to Council on their decision.*

**9.3.3 Request for a Reduction in a Water Usage Account****RECOMMENDATION:**

- i. That the report be received; and*
- ii. Council issue an amended account for the property known as 77 Darbys Road, Tingha for \$28.08, which is based on the average consumption prior to the leak and write off \$1,793.39.*

**9.3.4 Rifle Range Road Subdivision - Expressions to Purchase****RECOMMENDATION:**

*That:*

- i. Council advise Inverell Fabrication that Council is prepared to negotiate a purchase price for the required land;
- ii. That Inverell Fabrication be requested to ascertain from Essential Energy the cost of upgrading the electricity supply to the proposed building, and provide this cost to Council;
- iii. That a further report be prepared for Council on these issues when the required information has been received; and
- iv. That ATJ's Bobcat n Tipper be offered lot 10 for purchase subject to an incentivised purchase price negotiated by the General Manager, within the parameters agreed by the Committee with a further report to be presented on this matter for confirmation.

### 9.3.5 Information Reports

#### RECOMMENDATION

*That the information reports be received and noted.*

## 10 DESTINATION REPORTS

Nil

## 11 INFORMATION REPORTS

#### RESOLUTION 2022/104

Moved: Cr Kate Dight

Seconded: Cr Jacko Ross

*That the following information reports be received and noted.*

**CARRIED**

### 11.1 ORDINANCE ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR JUNE 2022 S18.10.1

### 11.2 SUMMARY OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS, CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATES AND COMPLYING DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES DURING JUNE 2022 S18.10.2/15

### 11.3 STRATEGIC TASKS - 'SIGN OFF' - MAY AND JUNE 2022 S4.13.2

### 11.4 SPONSORSHIP REQUESTS REFERRED TO SAPPHIRE CITY FESTIVAL COMMITTEE S12.22.1/15

## 12 GOVERNANCE REPORTS

Nil

**13 CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS (COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE)**

Nil

**The Meeting closed at 3.20pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 August 2022.**

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**CHAIRPERSON**