



# **SPECIAL MEETING**

## **MINUTES**

**28 MARCH 2022**

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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| ITEM | SUBJECT   | PAGE NO |
|------|---|---------|
| 1    | OPENING.....  | 1       |
| 2    | PRESENT .....   | 1       |
| 3    | APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE .....                    | 1       |
| 4    | DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA ..... | 1       |
| 5    | CLOSED SESSION .....                                    | 2       |
|      | 6.1 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE                     |         |
| 6    | CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS.....                               | 4       |
|      | 6.1 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE .....               | 4       |
| 7    | CLOSURE OF MEETING.....                                 | 5       |

**REPORT OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
HELD AT COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 232 BOLSOVER STREET, ROCKHAMPTON  
ON MONDAY, 28 MARCH 2022 COMMENCING AT 9:00AM**

## **1 OPENING**

- 1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

## **2 PRESENT**

Members Present:

The Mayor, Councillor A P Williams (Chairperson)  
Deputy Mayor, Councillor N K Fisher  
Councillor S Latcham  
Councillor G D Mathers  
Councillor C E Smith  
Councillor M D Wickerson  
Councillor D Kirkland

In Attendance:

Mr E Pardon – Chief Executive Officer  
Mr R Cheesman – Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Mr P Kofod – General Manager Regional Services  
Ms M Taylor – Chief Financial Officer  
Mr G Bowden – Executive Manager Advance Rockhampton  
Mr D Morrison – Manager Office of the Mayor  
Ms L Leeder – Senior Committee Support Officer

Via Video Link:

Mr A Russell – Manager Strategy and Planning

## **3 APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

### **3.1 REQUEST FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE - COUNCILLOR CHERIE RUTHERFORD**

**File No: 10072**

#### **COUNCIL RESOLUTION**

THAT Councillor Cherie Rutherford be granted leave of absence for today's Special Council meeting, 28 March 2022.

**Moved by: Mayor Williams**  
**Seconded by: Councillor Wickerson**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST IN MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

Nil

## 5 CLOSED SESSION

In accordance with the provisions of section 254J(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a local government may resolve to close a meeting to the public to discuss confidential items, such that its Councillors or members consider it necessary to close the meeting.

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

THAT the meeting be closed to the public to discuss the following items, which are considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, for the reasons indicated.

#### 6.1 Financial Sustainability Update

In accordance with section 254J(3)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* it is considered necessary to close the meeting to discuss the local government's budget.

**Moved by:** Councillor Wickerson

**Seconded by:** Councillor Smith

**MOTION CARRIED**

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**9:02AM**

THAT pursuant to s5.12 *Council Meeting Procedures* the meeting moves into Closed Session and be closed to the public.

**Moved by:** Councillor Mathers

**Seconded by:** Councillor Kirkland

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

9:51AM All Council Officers left the meeting room

10:32AM All Council Officers returned to the meeting room

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**10:32AM**

THAT pursuant to s5.12 *Council Meeting Procedures* the meeting moves out of Closed Session and be opened to the public.

**Moved by:** Mayor Williams

**Seconded by:** Councillor Fisher

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

**10:33AM**

THAT the meeting be adjourned for a 15 minute recess with the meeting to resume at 10:45am.

**Moved by:** Councillor Fisher

**Seconded by:** Councillor Mathers

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION****10:46AM**

THAT the meeting be resumed.

**Moved by: Councillor Fisher****Seconded by: Councillor Wickerson****MOTION CARRIED**

Members Present:

The Mayor, Councillor A P Williams (Chairperson)  
Deputy Mayor, Councillor N K Fisher  
Councillor S Latcham  
Councillor G D Mathers  
Councillor C E Smith  
Councillor M D Wickerson  
Councillor D Kirkland

In Attendance:

Mr E Pardon – Chief Executive Officer  
Mr R Cheesman – Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Mr P Kofod – General Manager Regional Services  
Ms M Taylor – Chief Financial Officer  
Mr G Bowden – Executive Manager Advance Rockhampton  
Ms L Leeder – Senior Committee Support Officer

Via Video Link:

Mr A Russell – Manager Strategy and Planning

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION****10:46AM**THAT pursuant to s5.12 *Council Meeting Procedures* the meeting moves into Closed Session and be closed to the public.**Moved by: Mayor Williams****Seconded by: Councillor Kirkland****MOTION CARRIED****COUNCIL RESOLUTION****12:01PM**THAT pursuant to s5.12 *Council Meeting Procedures* the meeting moves out of Closed Session and be opened to the public.**Moved by: Councillor Wickerson****Seconded by: Councillor Latcham****MOTION CARRIED**

## 6 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

### 6.1 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY UPDATE

**File No:** 8785  
**Authorising Officer:** Ross Cheesman - Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
**Author:** Marnie Taylor - Chief Financial Officer

In accordance with section 254J(3)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* it is considered necessary to close the meeting to discuss the local government's budget.

#### SUMMARY

*This report provides Council with options for the 2022/2023 Budget to consider in relation to ensuring long term financial sustainability.*

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Council resolves that:

1. While it continues to advocate for the reduction in lost revenue from the Financial Assistance Grant allocation which equates to a maximum annual loss of \$6.8 million over three years, the forecast total loss over three years is expected to be \$13.5 million.

As a result of the Financial Assistance Grant reduction, there will need to be rate rises over the next three financial years greater than what is currently forecast in Council's long term financial plan.

2. Council agree to achieve \$3.5 million in operational efficiencies over the same period.
3. In the 2022/2023 budget the savings of \$2.75 million as per below, together with an indicative 6% rate increase, be the basis for its compilation:
  - Reduction in consultancy fees \$250,000
  - Road Maintenance efficiency savings \$1,200,000
  - Fees & charges increases \$330,000
  - Insurance excess reductions \$50,000
  - Employee cost savings \$378,500
  - Electricity savings \$50,000
  - Community Grants reductions \$100,000
  - Other savings \$391,500

A further report will be presented to Council regarding the closure of the SmartHub once the consultation process has been completed.

4. Council receive the various levels of services presented through the service reviews. Furthermore the CEO will continue to monitor operational activity and report to Council periodically and when appropriate.
5. Council provide an alternative proposal to Livingstone Shire Council on the boundary review.

**Moved by:** Mayor Williams  
**Seconded by:** Councillor Fisher

#### MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Mathers recorded his vote against the motion

**7 CLOSURE OF MEETING**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12:03pm.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIRPERSON

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE