

MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Thursday, 16 May 2024

Time: 9.30am

Venue: Council Chamber
Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street
Marton

Present

HWTM Andy Watson
Cr Dave Wilson
Cr Gill Duncan
Cr Richard Lambert
Cr Piki Te Ora Hiroa
Cr Coral Raukawa
Cr Jeff Wong
Cr Simon Loudon
Cr Greg Maughan
Cr Fi Dalgety
Cr Paul Sharland

In attendance

Mr Kevin Ross, Chief Executive
Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager- Planning and Democracy
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager- Corporate Services
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager- Community
Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer (Zoom)
Mr Johan Cullis, Group Manager Regulatory Services (Zoom)
Ms Sharon Grant, Group Manager- People and Performance
Ms Katrina Gray, Manager Strategy and Development
Mr Jarrod Calkin, Economic Wellbeing Lead
Ms Janna Isles, Corporate Planner
Ms Sheryl Srhoj, Manager- Community Property
Ms Kezia Spence, Governance Advisor

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1 Welcome / Prayer

His Worship the Mayor opened the meeting at 9.30am and Cr Dalgety read the council prayer.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/092

Apologies received from Cr Carter.

Cr G Duncan/Cr R Lambert. Carried

3 Public Forum

There was no public forum.

4 Conflict of Interest Declarations

Cr Sharland declared a conflict of interest with two submissions, his own submission #291 and submission #382 from the Bulls Historical Society.

Cr Hiroa declared a conflict of interest with submission #421 from Mōkai Pātea Services and submission #402 Mōkai Pātea Services.

Cr Duncan declared a conflict of interest relating to submission #369 from her husband.

Cr Wong declared a conflict of interest with submissions relating to the Taihape Health Trust.

Cr Loudon declared a conflict of interest with submissions from IROMAR.

5 Confirmation of Order of Business

There was no change to the order of business.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/093

That the minutes of Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 April 2024 **without amendment** be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the electronic signature of the Chair of this Committee be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Cr D Wilson/Cr Hiroa. Carried

7 Reports for Decision

7.1 Deliberations Report - 2024-2034 Long Term Plan

His Worship the Mayor thanked staff for the work on the Long-Term Plan and he spoke to councillors about the process for the day.

Ms Isles introduced this report and noted that there were over 450 submissions.

Mr Tombs gave a brief update on a way to possibly decrease rates and what this would mean. His Worship the Mayor requested that this discussion sit further in the agenda.

Key Choice 1- Marton Pool

Ms Prince responded to questions of attendance at the pool and that there has been a drop over this reporting period, this is due to staff leaving causing a decrease in swim lessons. In the past number have dropped off in April.

Ms Prince responded to questions that schools have indicated to use the off season months for the pool.

Mr Benadie was able to answer questions on the suitability of the pool and that there are a couple of issues with the structural areas of the pool.

It was noted that the pool is run by a contractor, and they report to council annually.

Staff responded to questions that the admission fees are paid to the contractor and that the contractor pays for ongoing costs such as electricity.

Ms Prince noted concerns with trialling as there would still need to be investment into the pool such as to keep the water at a good heat during the winter season and that there is some old equipment which council will need to invest in. The 1.2% budgeted is only for operating costs and does not include upgrades to the asset.

Councillors noted that it would be beneficial to have further information on this item in the future.

Key Choice 2- Kerbside Collection

Staff clarified that this is a targeted rate, but the funding of the containers will be a debt position which is a liability for all ratepayers.

Mr Benadie responded to questions that Council is looking at the economies of scale and this is the reason why Mangaweka and Hunterville are included.

Councillors noted the reason for this item is direction from central government and that this will be a significant change if this was taken out of Long-Term Plan. The staggering gives an option to discuss with contractors before investing in bins that may not be required.

It was noted from councillors that Ratana should be reengaged with about inclusion for collection as noted in submissions #146, #335, #339, #340, #344.

The meeting adjourned at 11.02am and the meeting returned at 11.15am.

Key Choice 3- Marton Main Street

His Worship the Mayor ruled that Cr Loudon does not have a conflict of interest for this item.

Councillors noted that there were issues with the confusion of the Better Off Funding and this project. These are two separate projects.

Councillors discussed the process of a plan going out for consultation and whether this would be a benefit to receive feedback from the community and councillors. It was noted that this would delay the project and there would be a preference for staff to begin working on this project.

It was noted that there has been concern for business owners and the interruptions that can happen during this as seen in other places.

The meeting adjourned at 12.00pm and returned at 12.30pm.

Financial Matters

Ms Isles noted that there are no recommendations associated with this item.

It was raised that the UAGC be considered to decrease the rates burden on rural properties as noted from submissions #425 and #429.

Staff responded that this would be a large amount of work to undertake and would have significant implications and will result in reengagement with the community. This would also need to be considered with a specific activity to justify this change.

Mr Tombs responded about comparisons for UAGC to other councils and that this is different for all councils and would need to look at specific activities that those types of councils provide.

This was raised as part of the Long-Term Plan and therefore advice on this item from staff should come back before adoption of the Long-Term Plan.

Mr Tombs spoke about the possibility to reduce depreciation which can in turn reduce the 2024/25 rates increase. This would still have impact on rates in future years. The meeting adjourned to confirm the wording of the resolution.

The meeting adjourned at 1.19pm and returned at 1.34pm.

Councillors supported the decrease in the rating for year one to decrease the rating burden. The amendment to the resolution was taken for adjournment so that staff were able to update the impacts of this.

That meeting was adjourned at 1.39pm and returned at 1.42pm.

Parks and Reserves

The funding for the Tutaenui Reserve would be in place for three years. Councillors were supportive of this request.

Community

Taihape Netball Courts- Submission #400

Councillors noted the officer comment to submitter #400 and that this should go to Assets and Infrastructure committee.

Bulls Commemorative Centre #382

Cr Sharland declared a conflict of interest with the Bulls Historical Society Submission #382.

It was acknowledged that this building is owned by Council and that under the lease council is responsible for structural components.

Taihape Wellness Project

Cr Hiroa declared a conflict of interest with this item.

Councillors were supportive of this item and would like to see Council support in some way.

The meeting adjourned at 2.55pm and returned at 3.12pm.

Miscellaneous*Long- Term Plan Process and Engagement*

Councillors noted feedback through the submissions about the process. Ms Gray responded to concerns that in the future the word limit in the surveys would be looked at, the reason there was a word limit was a default setting in the survey.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/094

That the report 'Deliberations Report - 2024-2034 Long Term Plan' be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/095

That Council receive all submissions made to the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 including the late submissions received prior to this report being published.

Cr R Lambert/Cr D Wilson. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/096

That Council acknowledges all submissions made to the draft Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 and thank all submitters for their participation.

Cr D Wilson/Cr Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/097

With regard to officer comments made in response to submissions as listed in in the attachment Officer Analysis of Submissions, Council has considered the Officer comments and accepts them with amendments, noting they will be Council's response to submitters.

Cr D Wilson/Cr Hiroa. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/098

That Council maintains the removal of \$222,000 from year 1 onwards in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan associated with Key Choice 1, Option 1 - The Marton pool would remain only open on a seasonal basis.

Cr D Wilson/Cr R Lambert. Carried Casting Vote.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/099

That Council approves the rates increase and impact on debt outlined in Option 2 to be included in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan to implement Key Choice 2, Option 2 - stagger the provision of a recycling bin (issued in January 2027) and an organic waste bin (issued in January 2030)

. Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried Against Cr Maughan.

Recommendation

That Council include Ratana in the provision of a recycling bin (issued in January 2027) and an organic waste bin (issued in January 2030) relating to submissions #146, #335, #339, #340, #344.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr G Duncan. Lost.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/100

That Council engage with the Ratana Community about whether the provision of a recycling bin (issued in January 2027) and an organic waste bin (issued in January 2030) is wanted by the Ratana Community relating to submissions #146, #335, #339, #340, #344.

Cr Hiroa/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/101

That Council removes the budget of \$2.1 million in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan associated with Key Choice 3 and does not implement the streetscape revitalisation project for Marton.

Cr S Loudon/Cr C Raukawa. Lost.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/102

That Council approves the budget of \$2.1 million in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan to implement Key Choice 3, Option 1 – Streetscape revitalisation for Marton.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

An Amendment was moved by His Worship the Mayor and seconded by Cr Wong and when put was LOST:

That Council approves the budget of \$2.1 million in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan to implement Key Choice 3, Option 1 – Streetscape revitalisation for Marton with the approval and adoption of the plan including funding becoming part of the 2025/26 Annual Plan process.

HWTM/Cr J F Wong. Lost

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/103

That Council consider the level of the UAGC as part of the Long-Term Plan.

Cr G Duncan/Cr G Maughan. Carried

Recommendation

That Council reduce the 2024/25 rates increase to 10.7% to reflect the reduction in depreciation, whilst amending future years' proposed rate increases to ensure compliance with Council's Debt Limits and Rates Increases Limits that were part of the Finance Strategy that formed part of the Long-Term Plan consultation.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr G Duncan.

An Amendment was moved by Cr Wong and seconded by Cr Hiroa and when put was CARRIED.

That Council reduce the 2024/25 rates increase to 11.5% to reflect the reduction in depreciation, whilst amending future years' proposed rate increases to ensure compliance with Council's Debt

Limits and Rates Increases Limits that were part of the Finance Strategy that formed part of the Long-Term Plan consultation.

Cr J F Wong/Cr Hiroa. Carried

As the amendment was **CARRIED** it became the substantive motion:

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/104

That Council reduce the 2024/25 rates increase to 11.5% to reflect the reduction in depreciation, whilst amending future years' proposed rate increases to ensure compliance with Council's Debt Limits and Rates Increases Limits that were part of the Finance Strategy that formed part of the Long-Term Plan consultation.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/105

That Council continues funding \$10,000 per annum to the Tūtaenui Stream Restoration Society to maintain the Marton B & C Dams, also known as the Tūtaenui Reserve, through the life of the Long-Term Plan 2024-34.

Cr D Wilson/Cr Hiroa. Carried Unanimous.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/106

That Council does purchase materials to the amount \$21,152.09, on the condition that the work is completed by the Bulls and Districts Historical Society, to replace the roof of the Bulls Commemorative Centre.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr S Loudon. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/107

That Council does not contribute up to \$50,000, building alterations to the pool area of the building if required, and a waiver of building consent fees to cover the courtyard between the pool offices and the Rangitīkei Active Gym.

Cr D Wilson/Cr G Maughan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/108

That Council does consider toilet amenities at Walker Park, Bulls.

Cr D Wilson/Cr Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/109

That Council look at creating capacity to maintain the Taihape Wellness Project facility grounds by the Parks and Reserves team from year 2 of the Long-Term Plan.

Cr G Duncan/HWTM Carried

7.2 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Development Contributions Policy

Ms Gray gave a brief overview on the simultaneous documents draft document.

Definition of a developer- bigger development align with an individual property someone owns a property with a tennis court not a developer. Large property subdividing.

Mr Benadie any subdivisions from one to three lots, will not cause a problem, the larger developments biggest factors considered 20 or more properties, the infrastructure and planning activities is more than your normal subdivision. Clearly define those parameters.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/110

That the report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Development Contributions Policy' be received.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr G Duncan. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/111

That Council reconsiders the need for a full development contributions policy in 2026 as part of the development of the 2027-37 Long Term Plan.

AND

That the Development Contributions Policy be adopted.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

7.3 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Significance and Engagement Policy

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/112

That the report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Significance and Engagement Policy' be received.

Cr G Maughan/Cr R Lambert. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/113

That the Significance and Engagement Policy is adopted without amendment.

Cr G Maughan/Cr G Duncan. Carried

7.4 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Rates Remission Policy

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/114

That report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Rates Remission Policy' be received.

Cr C Raukawa/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/115

That the Rates Remission Policy be adopted.

Cr J F Wong/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

7.5 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Revenue and Financing Policy

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/116

That the report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Revenue and Financing Policy' be received.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr R Lambert. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/117

That the Revenue and Financing Policy be adopted.

Cr F Dalgety/Cr G Duncan. Carried

7.6 Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/118

That the report 'Analysis of submissions and adoption of the Proposed Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25' be received.

Cr Hiroa/Cr Sharland. Carried

Resolved minute number 24/RDC/119

That the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2024/25 be adopted.

Cr J F Wong/Cr S Loudon. Carried

The meeting closed at 3.50pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on .

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Chairperson