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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Virtual Meeting held on Thursday 30 March 2023

Released to the public on 6 April 2023.

**LIVE STREAMING OF THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS MADE AVAILABLE ON
COUNCIL'S INTERNET SITE.**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Council pays respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.



English

These are the Minutes for the Council Meeting. For assistance with any of the items in the minutes, please telephone 8470 8888.

Arabic

هذه هي محاضر اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من البنود في المحاضر، يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف 8470 8888.

Chinese

这些是市议会会议纪要。如需协助了解任何纪要项目，请致电8470 8888。

Greek

Αυτά είναι τα Πρακτικά της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια με οποιαδήποτε θέματα στα πρακτικά, παρακαλείστε να καλέσετε το 8470 8888.

Hindi

ये काउंसिल की बैठक का सारांश है। सारांश के किसी भी आइटम में सहायता के लिए, कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

Italian

Questo è il verbale della riunione del Comune. Per assistenza con qualsiasi punto del verbale, si prega di chiamare il numero 8470 8888.

Macedonian

Ова е Записникот од состанокот на Општинскиот одбор. За помош во врска со која и да било точка од записникот, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

Nepali

यी परिषद्को बैठकका माइन्युटहरू हुन्। माइन्युटका कुनै पनि वस्तुसम्बन्धी सहायताका लागि कृपया 8470 8888 मा कल गर्नुहोस्।

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਕੌਂਸਲ ਦੀ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਹੈ। ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਆਈਟਮਾਂ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 8470 8888 ਨੂੰ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Somali

Kuwaani waa qodobadii lagaga wada hadlay Fadhiga Golaha. Caawimada mid kasta oo ka mid ah qodobada laga wada hadlay, fadlan la xiriiir 8470 8888.

Spanish

Estas son las Actas de la Reunión del Concejo. Para recibir ayuda acerca de algún tema de las actas, llame al teléfono 8470 8888.

Urdu

یہ کاؤنسل کی میٹنگ کی روداد کے نقاط ہیں۔ روداد کے کسی بھی حصے کے بارے میں مدد کے لیے براہ مہربانی 8470 8888 پر فون کریں۔

Vietnamese

Đây là những Biên bản Họp Hội đồng Thành phố. Muốn có người trợ giúp mình về bất kỳ mục nào trong biên bản họp, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 8470 8888.

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**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD VIRTUALLY ON THURSDAY
30 MARCH 2023**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 7.05pm

The Mayor advised that the meeting was being streamed live and that audio and video would be made available on Council's website.

1. OPENING OF MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP

Councillors

Cr. Julie Williams (Mayor) (Chairperson)
Cr. Susanne Newton (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. Emily Dimitriadis
Cr. Gaetano Greco
Cr. Tom Hannan
Cr. Tim Laurence
Cr. Trent McCarthy
Cr. Lina Messina
Cr. Susan Rennie

Council Officers

Peter Smith - Chief Executive Officer
Jodie Watson - General Manager Governance and Engagement
Jacinta Stevens - Manager Corporate Governance
Sadiq Mohammad – Chief Financial Officer
Yvette Fuller – Manager People and Culture

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The chairperson, Mayor Williams, opened the meeting with the following statement:

I would like to start by acknowledging the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people, the Traditional Owners of this land and pay my respects to Elders past and present, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and culture.

3. APOLOGIES

Nil

4. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Peter Smith, CEO, declared a conflict of interest in the Confidential Item 7.1 CEO Performance Agreement.

5. COUNCIL'S OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY RESPONSIBILITIES

Council has an occupational health and safety responsibility to ensure anyone attending tonight's meeting, in person or online, feels safe both physical and emotionally.

As the Mayor and Chairperson of this meeting, I understand that everyone has their own personal style when it comes to debating issues.

I want to remind everyone that there is a professional and respectful way in doing so, therefore it's important to maintain a civil tone and avoid raising one's voice.

6. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

6.1 QUARTER 2 FINANCIAL REPORT ENDING 31 JANUARY 2023 - FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND MID-YEAR FORECAST UPDATE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required by the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) to prepare a Council Plan containing the strategic objectives of Council, strategies for achieving those objectives, and indicators to monitor the achievements of those objectives.

The 2022-23 Quarter Two Financial Report provides an update of the Financial Report ending 31 January 2023 and mid-year annual forecast results.

To comply with the Act, the report includes the following comparisons for the seven months ended 31 January 2023:

- A comparison of actual and budgeted results to date (s.97(2)(a))
- An explanation of any material variations (s.97(2)(b))
- Any other matters prescribed by the regulations (s.97(2)(c))
- Based on the outcome of the mid-year budget review and report, the Chief Executive Officer, as required under Section 97(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* is of the opinion a revised budget process is not required.

For the seven months ended 31 January 2023, Council has recorded an operating surplus of \$61.65 million, which is \$1.49 million behind the year-to-date (YTD) budget. After eliminating capital and other items, the adjusted underlying surplus is \$60.98 million, which is \$1.71 million less than the full-year adopted budget. The forecast operating result for the year ending 30 June 2023 is an operating surplus of \$1.02 million, which is \$7.25 million less than budget. The forecast adjusted underlying deficit is \$0.10 million, which is \$7.62 million less than the budget surplus of \$7.52 million.

For the seven months ended 31 January 2023 Council's capital expenditures of \$31.3m is behind the YTD adopted budget of \$38.5m. Main drivers behind the YTD variance represents timing differences attributed to building, plant, machinery and equipment and roads. Q2 annual forecast capital expenditure of \$62.6m is \$3.6m less than the budgeted capital expenditure of \$66.2m.

For the seven months ended 31 January 2023 Council's cash (\$21.0M) and investment (\$14.2M) balance of \$35.2m is ahead of the YTD adopted budget of \$29.3m. YTD net current assets of \$79.0m is ahead of the YTD adopted budget of \$63.7m. Q2 annual forecast financial position shows a cash and investment position of \$48.9m and net current assets of \$22.5m.

After a thorough review by Finance, the mid-year budget (Q2 forecast) has been finalised. Results indicate a \$7.25 million net unfavourable outcome to Councils operating performance and \$3.51 million less than Council's adopted capital works budget.

Significant variances between forecast and the adopted budget include;

Revenue Items

- \$3.5M Financial Assistance Grant – 75% received previous FY – no indication from the State Government, thus far, same will occur this year.
- \$825k reduction in Right of Way proceeds relating to the sale of minor Council assets
- \$719k reduction in Bundoora Park Administration fees (human error in uploading the budget, causing the revenue budget to inflate)
- \$300k reduced income in building permits due to a slow-down in the construction industry
- \$200k reduced legal fee recoveries relating to outstanding rate collections.
- \$1.3m unbudgeted capital grant funding received (improvement).

Expenditure Items

- \$1.6m additional depreciation (non-cash) expense resulting from FY 2021-22 building revaluation
- \$480k increased IT license expenses attributed to increased license cost, Microsoft True Up and Oracle
- \$340k net additional expenses relating to Preston Market Standing Advisory Committee representation (planning panel) and advocacy project

Capital Works Program: Overall \$3.5m less than budget. Main drivers:

- \$3.7m improvement to Bill Lawry Oval Pavilion project due to a reduction in scope.
- \$500k net budget carry forwards from previous FY (unfavourable).

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 23-043

MOVED: Cr. T Hannan
SECONDED: Cr. T McCarthy

That Council:

- (1) Notes the Financial Report for the seven months ended 31 January 2023, incorporating Mid-year annual forecast performance at Appendix A; and
- (2) Notes the Chief Executive Officer, as required under Section 97(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* is of the opinion a revised budget is not required.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

Peter Smith, CEO declared a general conflict of interest, in relation to Item 7.1 "CEO Performance Agreement" and left the meeting at 7.23pm.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 23-044

MOVED: Cr. L Messina
SECONDED: Cr. T McCarthy

That in accordance with section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the meeting be closed to members of the public to consider the following items on the basis that these matters are confidential for the following reasons:

7.1 CEO Performance Agreement

This item is confidential because it is personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs, pursuant to Section 3(1) (f) of the Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Jodie Watson - General Manager Governance and Engagement and Sadiq Mohammad, Chief Financial Officer, left the meeting at 7.24pm.

The meeting was closed to the members of the public at 7.25pm.

The Council considered and resolved on Confidential Report Item 7.1 which had been circulated to Councillors separately.

8. CLOSE OF MEETING


The meeting closed at 7.34pm.

**CITY OF
DAREBIN**

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relayservice.gov.au

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 **Speak your language**
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