



Town of Port Hedland

MINUTES

OF THE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

HELD ON

WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2014

COMMENCING AT 7:30PM

**IN THE CIVIC CENTRE,
McGREGOR STREET, PORT HEDLAND**

***“A nationally significant, friendly city, where people want
to live and are proud to call home”***

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M.J. (Mal) Osborne
Chief Executive Officer

OUR COMMITMENT

To enhance social, environmental and economic well-being through leadership and working in partnership with the Community.

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ITEM 1 OPENING

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 7:35pm and acknowledged the traditional owners, the Kariyarra people.

ITEM 2 RECORDING OF ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

2.1 Attendance

Mayor Kelly Howlett
Councillor George Daccache
Councillor Jan Gillingham
Councillor David Hooper
Councillor Julie Hunt
Councillor Penny Taylor
Councillor Lorraine Butson
Councillor Troy Melville

Officers

Mal Osborne	Chief Executive Officer
Clare Phelan	Director Corporate Services
Gordon MacMile	Director Community Development
Eber Butron	Director Planning and Development
Russell Dyer	Director Engineering Services
Josephine Bianchi	Minute Taker/Governance Coordinator

Electors

Stan Martin
Ron Morley
Lorna O'Hagan

1 member of the press

2.2 Apologies

Councillor Gloria Jacob
Councillor David Van Vugt

2.3 Approved Leave of Absence

Nil

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

3.1 Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Electors held on Wednesday 24 April 2013

Officer's Recommendation/Decision

Moved: Cr Hunt

Seconded: Cr Daccache

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on Wednesday 24 April 2013 be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3.2 Response for Previous Question – Taken On Notice

Nil.

ITEM 4 ANNUAL REPORT

4.1 Mayor's Report

Officer's Recommendation/Decision

Moved: Cr Daccache

Seconded: Cr Hooper

That the Town of Port Hedland Mayor's Report for the 2012/13 Financial Year be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.2 Chief Executive Officer's Report

Officer's Recommendation/Decision

Moved: Mr Morley

Seconded: Cr Daccache

That the Town of Port Hedland Chief Executive Officer's Report for the 2012/13 Financial Year be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4.3 Annual Report

Officer's Recommendation/Decision

Moved: Cr Daccache

Seconded: Cr Hunt

That the Town of Port Hedland Annual Report for the 2012/13 Financial Year be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ITEM 5 GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Mr Ron Morley

At last year's AGM of Electors I raised the issue of the tree roots pulling up the tree guards at Marapikurrinya Park and representing a hazard for pedestrians. I have recently checked this location again and noticed that nothing has been done about it. What is the Town doing about this?

Mayor advised that Town officers will check the status of the tree rings at Marapikurrinya Park.

I previously advised the Town that I was attacked by a dog the day after a cyclone; has anything been done about this?

Director Planning and Development advised that the Manager Environmental Health Services' team is currently investigating this matter.

The Mayor suggested that the Coordinator Rangers visit Mr Morley about this matter but Mr Morley advised that he would prefer to receive written advice from the Town.

Why did the Town close part of Wedge Street on Monday when the cruise ship came to town? None of the businesses on Wedge Street a part from the Courthouse Gallery and the Visitors Center get a benefit from this arrangement. Why wasn't this arrangement made known to the community?

Mayor advised that this is now a standard practice the Town has adopted to facilitate bus travel on cruise ship day, as there are 12 buses for cruise ship passengers doing the same circuit throughout the day and this is considered to be the most appropriate safe traffic measure. This practice has now been taking place for the past four vessels, the system now works very well and all stakeholders prefer this arrangement. On the day boards were on the streets and brochures were handed out to advertise businesses down the far end of Wedge Street such as the Harbour café and the Seafarers centre.

The Mayor also confirmed that it was widely communicated to the community that part of Wedge Street would be closed.

5.2 Mr Stan Martin

With regard to the Pilbara Underground Power Project (PUPP), can the Chief Executive Officer categorically state that the fees that have been charged to South Hedland and Wedgefield properties that had already been connected to underground power for many years are legal under the Local Government Act 1995?

The Chief Executive Officer informed Mr Martin that the Town received legal advice on this matter which clearly shows that the Town has charged fees in accordance with legislation. This legal advice has already been provided to residents that have raised similar queries to Mr Martin and the Town will ensure it is also provided to Mr Martin.

The Chief Executive Officer also advised that other local governments have had these same fees challenged through the State Administrative Tribunal (SAT) and the ruling of the SAT has favoured the local governments approach which is the same as the one followed by the Town of Port Hedland.

Mr Martin queried the current status of the proposed Marina due to the recent announcements from the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA). What is the Town's position on the marina? Has the Town given up on the Marina or is the Town fighting for it?

The Mayor advised that the Town is committed to this project going ahead and that its \$40M pledge to deliver a high quality marina precinct for the community still stands. The Town is doing all it can at the moment to ensure this project progresses and attends numerous meetings with Landcorp and various other stakeholders. Whilst from the outside it looks like the EPA announcement seems to be delaying the project hopefully it will not and the project will go ahead nevertheless. Landcorp is in fact progressing their work, the Town is progressing with the business plan and it is going out to the community with a placemaking workshop on 18 March.

The Chief Executive Officer also clarified that the EPA announcement regarded the proposed scheme amendment to allow the permanent residential component. Under the current Town Planning Scheme (TPS) a marina could be developed straight away; it is only the residential component that requires amendment to the TPS. The Town is aware of the community's desire for this precinct but is also very conscious not to see government funding being pulled away from this project as it has been seen with other maritime projects across the state.

5.3 Ms Lorna O'Hagan

Why didn't the buses for cruise passengers offer trips to South Hedland? When I asked the person who was giving direction to the tourists how I could get to South I was told I should get a taxi.

Mayor advised that the cruise ship buses did not go to South Hedland as the cruise ship deemed this would take too long. The timing for a single bus trip was 12 minutes which was to be covered by a total of 12 buses for 2000 people. Town ambassadors should have also been promoting the use of public buses as well as local businesses such as Jerry who runs a shuttle bus service from the airport and was offering \$15 trips to Cemetery beach, Pretty Pool and South Hedland if passengers wished to go there.

ITEM 6 CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 7:53pm.