



MCKINLAY SHIRE COUNCIL

CONFIRMED MINUTES

OF THE

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

HELD AT THE

BOARD ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE
JULIA CREEK

18th August 2015

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4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

5. ENGINEERING SERVICE REPORT

5.1 Engineering Works Report

Moved Cr. P Curr

Seconded Cr. N Walker

That Council receive the Engineering Services Works Report

CARRIED 4/0

Resolution No.32/1516

Attendance – Director of Engineering Brian Wood left the meeting at 9:40am

Attendance – Director of Environment and Regulatory Services Geoff Rintoul entered the meeting at 9:42am

6. ENVIRONMENT AND REGULATORY SERVICES REPORT

6.1 Environment and Regulatory Works Report – July 2015

This report outlines the general activities, revenue and expenditure for the department for the period July 2015 and generally up to date of writing this report.

Moved Cr. N walker

Seconded Cr. E Hick

That Council receive the July 2015 Environment and Regulatory Services Works Report

CARRIED 4/0

Resolution No.33/1516

6.2 Provision of Factory Baits to Rural Property Owners

This report makes recommendation to Council for the provision of Sodium fluoroacetate (1080) factory baits free of charge, with limitations to rural property owners.

The provision of baits is based on property owners who have been levied for the Feral Pest Animal charge as part of their rates and who do not participate in the aerial baiting program.

Council commenced the levying of rural property owners in the 2015/16 financial year to assist in the funding of the ongoing management of the feral pest management program, specifically for the management of Wild Dog and Feral Pigs. The levy is applied to rural property owners with lots of 1000 Ha or greater and based on a rate per Ha. The levy is expected to achieve revenue of about \$40K this financial year. Council also contributes a similar value of general revenue and also seeks funding from grants and the like as the opportunity arises.

Council should note that the application of the levy is not to specifically fund the aerial baiting program but feral pest animal management program in general.

Council has also received a request to provide the factory baits at a reduced cost or free of charge to all rural land owners.

Council provides a service to rural land owners for the provision of various factory baits at cost; these include both Wild Dog and Feral Pig baits. The supply of these baits is regulated by state legislation. This includes specific requirements relating to strict controls of use regarding ownership of the lands, uses of baits to

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specific properties. Council should note that Local Authorities are the only agencies authorised to sell Sodium fluoroacetate (1080) factory baits. Further, these baits are only to be used in the McKinlay Shire and not outside the shire boundaries.

From 2008, Council has provided various types of Sodium fluoroacetate (1080) factory baits. The total baits sold have ranged from 2000 and up to 4000 plus per annum. For the past 2 years the product has been sold at cost.

Options:

The following options have been considered by Council, being:

1. The subsidising of factory baits at a rate between 25 and 50% to all rural property owners. Noting that this is expected to equate to a cost of up to \$5 k per annum based on past trends ; and
2. The provision of factory baits free of charge to those property owners who do not participate in the aerial program. With the limit of subsidy being to the total value of their respective levy. It is difficult to provide an estimated cost to Council for this option but would expect that it to be at a minimum, a similar cost of the about and up to say \$10k. Noting that those who participate in the aerial baiting will not be eligible for the subsidised factory bait.

Following discussions with Council the preferred option was established as the provision of factory baits free of charge to those property owners who do not participate in the aerial baiting.

Moved Cr. P Curr

Seconded Cr. E Hick

That Council provides Sodium fluoroacetate (1080) factory baits to rural property owners based on the following;

1. The Factory Bait is provided free of charge up to the value levied in their particular assessment (property); and
2. The property owners must not participate in aerial baiting for the financial year; and
3. The property owner must sign a declaration that they will not participate in aerial baiting;

CARRIED 4/0

Resolution No.34/1516

6.3 Renewal of Term Lease 212583 Lot 14 EN 156

This report makes recommendation to Council to provide comments to the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) for the application, Renewal of Term Lease 212583 Lot 14 EN 156 located in the Parish of Nelia.

Council has received a request from the Department to provide comment or provide any conditions that they may require for the proposed conversion.

Lot 14 EN 156 is located on the Flinders Highway approximately 36 Km east of Julia Creek at the intersection of the Flinders Highway and Great Northern Rail line. The lot is about 400 Sq. Meters in area and is part of the telecommunications infrastructure.

The land is zoned rural under the shire planning scheme and there are no council services connected or charged to the property.

Moved Cr. N Walker

Seconded Cr. E Hick

That Council advises the Department of Natural Resources and Mines that;

1. Council has no specific requirements for the proposed conversion; and
2. All costs related to the application are borne by the applicant.

CARRIED 4/0

Resolution No.35/1516

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With the results of some 70 phone calls completed from the Councillors, which is still ongoing, Council discussed the current MOU agreement and lease payments at the August briefing session and a unanimous decision was made to have a report tabled at the next Ordinary Meeting with a recommendation to enter into discussions with regards to the current MOU and to reduce the lease payment from \$6,700 pa to \$2000 pa.

Moved Cr. N Walker

Seconded Cr. P Curr

That Council :

1. Reduces the lease payment to \$2000 per annum
2. that Council enter into discussions with the Dirt and Dust Committee with regards to renegotiating the current MOU.
3. And that Council accept payment for the outstanding lease payments as proposed by the Dirt and Dust Committee.

CARRIED 4/0

Resolution No.41/1516

10. WORK PLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY

Interviews have been conducted for a permanent Workplace Health and Safety Officer

11. MEMBERS BUSINESS

Cr. Murphy. Qld Cup potential – suggested letter of support for CSA

Richmond Shire Council Drought liaison officer proposal . Discussion over preliminary proposal from Councillor June Kuhl. Council interested pending more information on the proposal.

NBN – Phone call from 7:30 Report. Cr. Murphy to contact Jo Sheening.

Update on the Julia Creek Abattoir from Consultants.

Weekly Meeting updates and content.

12. CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Chair of the meeting, Cr. Belinda Murphy declared the meeting closed 2:15pm

Cr Belinda Murphy
Mayor