

# MINUTES

## ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, 27 January 2022

**Time:** 9.00 am

**Venue:** Council Chamber  
Rangitikei District Council  
46 High Street  
Marton

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**Present**

- HWTM, Andy Watson
- Cr Nigel Belsham
- Cr Brian Carter
- Cr Fi Dalgety [*via Zoom*]
- Cr Gill Duncan [*via Zoom*]
- Cr Angus Gordon
- Cr Richard Lambert
- Cr Tracey Hiroa [*via Zoom*]
- Cr Waru Panapa
- Cr Dave Wilson
- Cr Cath Ash [*via Zoom*]
- Cr Coral Raukawa

**In attendance**

- Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive
- Mr Arno Benadie, Chief Operating Officer
- Mrs Carol Gordon, Group Manager - Democracy and Planning
- Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager - Community Services
- Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager - Corporate Services
- Mrs Sharon Grant, Group Manager - People and Culture
- Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Strategic Planner
- Mrs Jess Mcilroy, Operations Manager [*via Zoom*]
- Ms Adina Foley, Senior Project Manager
- Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Advisor
- Mr Dave Foster, Independent Consultant

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## **1 Welcome / Prayer**

His Worship the Mayor opened the meeting at 9.03 am. Cr Belsham read the Council prayer.

## **2 Apologies**

Apology for lateness from Cr Hiroa.

## **3 Public Forum**

No public forum.

## **4 Conflict of Interest Declarations**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

## **5 Confirmation of Order of Business**

A late item was addressed (item 12.1 - Energy Contract Renewal).

## **6 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **6.1 Confirmation of Council Minutes**

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/001**

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 16 December 2021, as amended, be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting, and that the Mayor's electronic signature be added to the official minutes document as a formal record.

Amendment: Cr Gill Duncan attended the meeting in person, and Cr Cath Ash attended the meeting via Zoom.

Cr W Panapa/Cr B Carter. Carried

## 7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings

### 7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings

Cr Hiroa joined the meeting at 9.10 am (via Zoom).

Cr Gordon joined the meeting at 9.12 am.

Council discussed the proposed field trip to the Manawatu District Council's wastewater treatment plant in February. It was decided to postpone this trip indefinitely, due to the COVID-19 Omicron outbreak.

Cr Ash joined the meeting at 9.18 am (via Zoom).

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/002**

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Council Meetings' be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr D Wilson. Carried

## 8 Mayor's Report

### 8.1 Mayor's Report - January 2022

In response to a query, the Mayor advised that many of his planned meetings will either be postponed or cancelled due to the Omicron breakout. Mrs Grant advised that the priority for the Executive Leadership Team was to keep staff safe, maintain critical services and ensure that there is clear communication around these.

In response to a query about accessibility to Council Chamber, Mr Beggs advised that this will be reviewed on a daily basis, alongside the protocols for other council venues.

The Mayor advised that he had a meeting with a large number of councils and DHB's to discuss Omicron. There was a general feeling that it was a difficult environment to be consulting with the public on several key central government reforms. Local Government NZ will express this opinion to central government and request delays.

The Mayor acknowledged the tabled letter of support from Mokai Patea Services regarding any external fundraising efforts for the Taihape Grandstand. He also thanked Mokai Patea Services for their support during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/003**

That the Mayor's Report – January 2022 be received.

HWTM/Cr B Carter. Carried

## 9 Chief Executive's Report

### 9.1 Chief Executive's Report - January 2022

#### Emergency Management Regulatory Framework Review

Mrs Grant advised that the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) is engaging on whether councils should maintain a local approach to civil defence or move to a regional approach. They are also reviewing how civil defence may work with vulnerable populations, critical infrastructure and iwi and Māori representation. Mrs Grant also advised that NEMA are seeking feedback from both individuals and entities. The Mayor had received a request from NEMA for feedback and he will forward this on to elected members.

#### Health, Safety and Wellbeing Update

In response to a query, Mrs Grant confirmed that the incidents and near-misses have been investigated.

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/004**

That the Chief Executive's Report – January 2022 be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

#### **Recommendation**

That following the resignation of Cr Panapa, no further appointments be made to the Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti and Turakina Community Committee.

Cr Wilson/Cr Lambert. Lost

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/005**

That Councillor Gill Duncan be appointed to the Te Roopuu Ahi Kaa Komiti.

Cr N Belsham/Cr A Gordon. Carried

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/006**

That no further appointment be made to the Turakina Community Committee for the remainder of the triennium.

Cr N Belsham/Cr W Panapa. Carried

## 10 Reports for Decision

### 10.1 Process for 2022/23 Annual Plan

Mr Foster explained that there is nothing to suggest that a Long Term Plan amendment or consultation is required. Additionally, it does not appear that there are any anomalies in the relevant overhead figures. This is backup by the advice from Simpson Grierson.

In response to a query, staff advised that no further actions are required regarding the allocation of overheads. The overheads themselves will be reviewed as part of the Annual Plan, and the methodology will be considered during the next Long Term Plan.

Mr Foster further advised that he recommended that Council considers whether or not it retains overhead allocation during the next Long Term Plan, as there will be much more information about the transfer of assets to the new Three Waters entity at that point in time.

The Mayor asked whether it would be advantageous for Council to be able to identify its stranded overheads going into the Three Waters reform. Mr Foster advised that this issue should be addressed before the next Long Term Plan, but that Council did not have that much overhead and it was not a significant concern.

Council thanked Mr Foster for his advice and agreed that a Long Term plan amendment was not required.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/007**

That the Process for 2022/23 Annual Plan report be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr B Carter. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/008**

That having considered the significance of matters impacting the Annual Plan 2022/23, Council agrees that an Annual Plan for the 2022/23 year be produced, in accordance with statutory guidelines.

Cr G Duncan/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

## **10.2 Support for 2022 Ford Ranger Rural Games**

As the games are not proceeding there was no further discussion.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/009**

That the report 'Support for 2022 Ford Ranger Rural Games' be received.

Cr D Wilson/Cr A Gordon. Carried

## **11 Reports for Information**

### **11.1 Project Management Office Report - January 2022**

#### Marton to Bulls Wastewater Centralisation Project

Cr Lambert advised that the sign on Wellington Road blocks the view for traffic heading south. He is happy for the sign to be moved into his paddock if this is the preferred solution.

In response to a query, Mrs Mcilroy advised that staff do not have any further updates regarding the purchase of land. Mr Benadie advised that Lowe Environment Impact are going to overview the whole project as there are a lot of complex and moving parts. He further advised that it may be easier to purchase land once staff have a better idea of what the project looks like in its entirety. Mr Benadie explained that there are other interested parties, such as Horizons Regional Council and iwi – these groups are requesting updates and this will be easier to provide once Lowe Environment Impact have a good understanding of the present state of the whole project.

#### Bulls Bus Lane and Town Square

In response to a query, Mrs Mcilroy advised that the construction is expected to be completed by 4 March 2022 and staff are planning an opening ceremony for the bus lane component of the project, although this may be affected by COVID-19. A separate opening will be held for the town square at a later date, as the art work is not yet complete.

#### Taihape Memorial Park Upgrade

In response to a query, Ms Foley advised that staff are keeping a close eye on the increasing costs of construction materials. The construction company has pre-ordered the materials for these projects, although there are supply chain issues.

In response to a query about iwi involvement, Ms Foley advised that staff have had several meetings with them. They have indicated that they are not willing to be part of a blessing ceremony. In response to this, staff have left them with an open invitation for future involvement and will continue to communicate the progress of the projects to them.

Ms Foley advised that she has been in touch with the Taihape Tennis Club and will keep them updated on the projects and the fencing of the courts.

Cr Hiroa offered to liaise with staff around communicating with Ngāti Tama, which Ms Foley accepted.

#### Marton Rail Hub

In response to a query, Mrs Mcilroy advised that she will be organising a board meeting for some time in February.

#### Marton Water Strategy

In response to a query, Mr Benadie confirmed that Council is pumping water from the existing bore to the dams.

#### Regional Treatment Plan Consenting Programme

Mr Benadie advised that staff are taking a 'business as usual' approach to this programme and have partnered with WSP. WSP are keeping up to date with the changes around the Three Waters Reform as much as possible, and staff will rely on their advice around this.

#### Huntermville Town Hall

Cr Dalgety advised that this request came from the Huntermville Community Committee, not the Huntermville Sport and Recreation Trust. Staff will amend this for future PMO reports.

### Papakai Pump Station

Council queried the increase in cost. Mr Benadie advised that the original budget (\$1.5M) was for an 'off the shelf' pump station. Since that original budget estimation, Council faced legal action over a spill and the level of service subsequently increased. If Council wished to build a pump station with zero risk, the cost would be closer to \$5M. Staff will bring a more detailed report back to Council at a later date on different design and construction options.

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/010**

That the Project Management Office Report – January 2021 be **received**.

Cr A Gordon/Cr D Wilson. Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 11.15 am and re-convened at 11.26 am.

Cr Panapa left the meeting at 11.15 am.

### **11.2 Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond: Project Update**

Ms Gray advised that Cr Panapa has resigned from the advisory group, and she thanked him for his contribution.

Ms Gray will request approval to begin public consultation at the February Council meeting.

In response to a query, Ms Gray advised that the business land assessment was a technical assessment based on an economic model, and did not involve any input from businesses. Local businesses will be engaged in this project at a later point in time.

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/011**

That the report 'Pae Tawhiti Rangitikei Beyond: Project Update' be received.

Cr A Gordon/Cr N Belsham. Carried

## **12 Late Items**

### **12.1 Energy Contract Renewal**

Council was happy to support this.

#### **Resolved minute number 22/RDC/012**

That the late item "Energy Contract Renewal" be dealt with as part of the agenda for the Council meeting on 27 January 2022, the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting as the Chief Executive needs to be delegated to negotiate the renewal of Council's energy contracts and take advantage of competitive pricing offered by the suppliers that lapses before the next Council meeting. The reason the item is not on the agenda is that staff were only informed of the requirement to negotiation now, after the agenda had been sent out.



HWTM/Cr D Wilson. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/013**

That the report 'Energy Contract Renewal' be received.

Cr N Belsham/Cr D Wilson. Carried

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/014**

That the Chief Executive be authorised to review and enter into a contract/s for our electricity supplier, noting that this would be over the \$250,000 delegation.

Cr N Belsham/Cr D Wilson. Carried

## 13 Minutes from Committees

### 13.1 Minutes from Committees

Taken as read.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/015**

That the following minutes are received:

- Bulls Community Committee, 08 December 2021
- Erewhon Rural Water Supply Sub-Committee, 06 December 2021
- Finance/Performance, 16 December 2021
- Hunterville Rural Water Supply Sub-Committee, 13 December 2021
- Turakina Reserve Management Committee, 02 December 2021

Cr D Wilson/Cr T Hiroa. Carried

## 14 Recommendations from Committees

Nil

## 15 Public Excluded

### Resolution to Exclude the Public

The meeting went into public excluded session 11.38 am.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/016**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

1. Council Minutes (Public Excluded) – 16 Dec 21

2. Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings
3. Additional Costs for Landfill Remediation on Putorino Road
4. Minutes from Committees (Public Excluded)

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
<b>15.1 – Council Minutes (Public Excluded) – 16 Dec 21</b>	s7(2)(a) - privacy	s48(1)(a)(i)
<b>15.2 – Follow-up Action Items from Council (Public Excluded) Meetings</b>	s7(2)(a) - privacy s7(2)(b)(ii) - commercial position s7(2)(h) - commercial activities s7(2)(i) - negotiations	s48(1)(a)(i)
<b>15.3 - Additional Costs for Landfill Remediation on Putorino Road</b>	s7(2)(b)(ii) - commercial position	s48(1)(a)(i)
<b>15.4 - Minutes from Committees (Public Excluded)</b>	s7(2)(a) - privacy	s48(1)(a)(i)

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of the Act which would be prejudiced by the holding or the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as specified above.

Cr D Wilson/Cr F Dalgety. Carried

## 16 Open Meeting

The meeting went into open session 12.01 pm.

**Resolved minute number 22/RDC/017**

That the public excluded meeting move into an open meeting, and the following recommendations be confirmed in the open meeting:

22/RDC/017 - 22/RDC/023

HWTM/Cr R Lambert. Carried

**The meeting closed at 12.01 pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 24 February 2022.**

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**Chairperson**