## MINUTES OF NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 46-48 MAITLAND STREET, NARRABRI ON TUESDAY, 30 APRIL 2024 AT 1:00 PM

- **PRESENT:** Cr Darrell Tiemens, Cr Rohan Boehm, Cr Ron Campbell, Cr John Clements, Cr Brett Dickinson, Cr Greg Lamont, Cr Lisa Richardson
- **IN ATTENDANCE:** Rob Williams (General Manager), Donna Ausling (Director Planning and Sustainability), Eloise Chaplain (Director Infrastructure Delivery), Ted Harrington (Director Financial and Commercial Services), Jason Townsend (Manager Governance and Risk), Samara Woolley(Minute Clerk)

The Council held a Public Forum prior to the meeting of which the following persons attended:

• Shane Hatton to speak on Item 13.3.

Proceedings of the meeting commenced at 1:08 pm.

#### **1** OPENING PRAYER

Members and officers were upstanding for the opening prayer by Reverend Bernard Gabbbot of Narrabri Anglican Church, in association with the Narrabri Ministers Fraternal.

#### 2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Mayor acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which the Council met, the Kamilaroi people, and the Council paid its respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

#### 3 RECOGNITION OF SERVICE MEN & WOMEN

Council acknowledged the sacrifice made by Australian service men and women, in particular those who gave their lives in defence of the freedom we enjoy today.

#### 4 ATTENDANCE BY AUDIO VISUAL LINK

Nil reports.

#### **ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

#### 5 APOLOGIES/GRANTING OF LEAVE OF ABSENCES

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUEST

MINUTE 056/2024					
Moved: C	r Rohan Boehm	Seconded:	Cr John Clements		
1. That a leave of absence from Cr Catherine Redding and Cr Robert Browning be received and accepted. The reason for both absences is for work commitments.					
<u>In Favour:</u>			, Robert Browning, Ron Campbell, John Clements, erine Redding and Lisa Richardson		
<u>Against:</u>	Nil				
Not Present:	Crs Robert Browning	g and Catherine	Redding		
			CARRIED 7/0		

#### 6 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY AND NON- PECUNIARY INTERESTS

Councillors are reminded of their obligation to declare their interest in any matters listed before them. In considering your interest, you are reminded to include pecuniary, significant nonpecuniary and on-significant non-pecuniary conflicts of interest as well as any other interest you perceive or may be perceived of you. Councillors may declare an interest at the commencement of the meeting, or alternatively at any time during the meeting should any issue progress or arise that would warrant a declaration. Councillors must state their reasons in declaring any type of interest.

COUNCILLOR	ITEM	PECUNIARY/	REASON	
	NUMBER	NON-PECUNIARY		
Cr Darrell Tiemens	14.2	Non-Pecuniary / Non-Significant	Member of Rotary	
Cr John Clements	13.9	Non-Pecuniary / Non-Significant	Works for local member who is chair of part of the committies	

#### 7 ITEMS TO BE CONSIDERED IN THE CONFIDENTIAL (PUBLIC EXCLUDED) MEETING

The following matters will be considered in the Closed (Public Excluded) Meeting:

- 7.1 Business Paper and Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee
- 7.2 National Volunteer 2024 Volunteer Of The Year Nomination

#### 8 PRESENTATIONS

Nil Reports.

#### 9 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

# MINUTE 057/2024

Moved: Cr John Clements Seconded: Cr Lisa Richardson

- 1. That the minutes of Ordinary Meeting of the Narrabri Shire Council held on 26 March 2024 as circularised be confirmed and signed as a correct record by the Mayor.
- In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding

CARRIED 7/0

#### 10 MATTERS OF GREAT URGENCY

Nil reports.

#### 11 QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

Nil reports.

#### 12 MAYORAL MINUTE

#### 12.1 MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS FOR THE PERIOD 18 MARCH TO 19 APRIL 2024

#### MINUTE 058/2024

Moved: Cr Darrell Tiemens

#### 1. That Council note the Mayoral appointments for the period 18 March to 19 April 2024.

<u>In Favour:</u> Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson

<u>Against:</u> Nil

Not Present: Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding

CARRIED 7/0

#### 13 OUR CIVIC LEADERSHIP

#### 13.1 INVESTMENT REPORT - MARCH 2024

MINUTE 059/2024					
Moved:	Cr Rohan Boehm	Seconded:	Cr John Clements		
1. That C	Council receive the Inv	estment Repoi	rt for March 2024.		
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens Greg Lamont and Li		n, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,		
<u>Against:</u>	Nil				
Not Present	: Crs Robert Brownin	g and Catherin	e Redding		
			CARRIED 7/0		

#### 13.2 2022/2023 DRAFT ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

MIN	UTE 0	60/2024			
Mov	ed:	Cr Ron Campbell	Seconded:	Cr Rohan Boehm	
1.		Council formally adopt 2023 as presented, for		ual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 it.	
2.	The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, General Manager and Responsible Accounting Officer be authorised to sign the Statements by Councillors and Management on the preparation of the General Purpose and Special Purpose Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023.				
3.	3. The General Manager be delegated the authority to issue the audited Annual Financial Statements upon receipt of the auditors' reports, subject to there being no material audit changes or audit issues.				
4.	That Council present the audited Annual Financial Statements and Auditors Reports to the public at a meeting to be held in conjunction with its next available Ordinary Council meeting.				
5.	5. That the statement read by the Director of Financial and Commercial Services on this item be annexed to the minutes of this meeting.				
<u>In Fa</u>	<u>vour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens Greg Lamont and Lis		n, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,	
Agaiı	gainst: Nil				
Not I	Presen	:: Crs Robert Browning	g and Catherine	Redding	
				CARRIED 7/0	
Atta	chmen	ts			
1 '	2022/2	022 Einancial Statemo	nte Summany e	of Procent Situation - April 2024 (available from	

1 2022/2023 Financial Statements Summary of Present Situation - April 2024 (available from page 18 of the Minutes)

#### 13.3 INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY STATUS REPORT - MARCH 2024

MINUTE 061	MINUTE 061/2024				
Moved: C	r John Clements	Seconded:	Cr Greg Lamont		
1. That Co	ouncil receive and no	ote the Infrastru	cture Delivery Status Report for March 2024.		
change	2. That a report be provided into the matters raised by Mr Hatton with specific focus on changes in land form and drainage and any result in the increase in water inundation impacts on his property.				
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemen Greg Lamont and L		n, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,		
<u>Against:</u>	Nil				
Not Present:	Crs Robert Brownir	ng and Catherine	e Redding		
			CARRIED 7/0		

At 2:07 pm, Cr Brett Dickinson left the meeting.

At 2:09 pm, Cr Brett Dickinson returned to the meeting.

At 2.11pm, Cr Clements left the meeting after declaring a pecuniary interest in relation to Item Item 13.4, due to a pecuniary interest due to the Councillors work with the NSW Government and was not present at or in sight of the meeting during the consideration of the item.

#### 13.4 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT - MARCH 2024

MINUTE 062/2024					
Moved:	Cr Brett Dickinson	Seconded:	Cr Ron Campbell		
1. That C	Council receive the Plar	nning and Deve	lopment Report for March 2024.		
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens and Lisa Richardson	, Rohan Boehr	n, Ron Campbell, Brett Dickinson,	Greg Lamont	
<u>Against:</u>	Nil				
Not Present	: Crs Robert Browning	g, John Clement	s and Catherine Redding		
				CARRIED 6/0	

At 2:15 pm, Cr John Clements returned to the meeting.

## 13.5 RESOLUTIONS REGISTER - MARCH TO APRIL 2024

MINUTE 063/2024					
Moved: C	r Ron Campbell	Seconded:	Cr John Clements		
1. That Co	ouncil receive and not	e the outstand	ing Resolutions Register as at 22 April 2024.		
2. That Co	ouncil receive and not	e the complete	ed Resolutions Register as at 22 April 2024.		
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens, Greg Lamont and Lis		, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,		
<u>Against:</u>	Nil				
Not Present:	Crs Robert Browning	g and Catherine	Redding		
			CARRIED 7/0		

# 13.6 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2024

MINUTE 064	/2024			
Moved: C	r John Clements	Seconded:	Cr Ron Campbell	
1. That Council amend the meeting schedule as established at the September 2023 Ordinary Council Meeting to remove the Ordinary Council Meeting that was originally scheduled for 24 September 2024, due to the Local Government Election period.				
2. That Council will schedule an Extraordinary Council Meeting in October 2024, following the declaration of results from the 2024 Local Government Election.				
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens, Greg Lamont and Lis		, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,	
<u>Against:</u>	Nil			
Not Present:	Crs Robert Browning	g and Catherine	Redding	
			CARRIED 7/0	

#### 13.7 DRAFT INTERNAL AUDIT CHARTER

MINUTE 06	MINUTE 065/2024					
Moved: C	r Lisa Richardson	Seconded:	Cr Brett Dickinson			
1. That Co	ouncil adopt the Draft	: Internal Audit	Charter.			
<u>In Favour:</u>	Greg Lamont and Lis		n, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,			
<u>Against:</u>	Nil					
Not Present:	Crs Robert Browning	g and Catherine	Redding			
			CARRIED 7/0			

#### 13.8 REVIEW OF AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

MINUTE 066	/2024					
Moved: Cr	<sup>-</sup> John Clements	Seconded:	Cr Greg Lamont			
Refere	ence that have been	updated to ada	Risk and Improvement Committee Terms of apt to the model terms of reference as required ad Internal Audit for Local Government in NSW.			
Risk a Refere the m a.	<ol> <li>That Council adopt the addition of reimbursement of reasonable travel costs for Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee Members (Chairperson included) into the Terms of Reference due to the significant rise of traveling and to encourage more attendance at the meetings by the Committee Members in the future as detailed below:         <ul> <li>Use of private vehicle – reimbursement at the rate per kilometre as determined in the Local Government (State) Award; and</li> <li>One (1) night accommodation per meeting - reimbursement of actual expense.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>					
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens, Greg Lamont and Lis		, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,			
<u>Against:</u>	Nil					
Not Present:	Crs Robert Browning	and Catherine	Redding			
			CARRIED 7/0			
At 2:30 pm. Cr John Clements left the meeting						

At 2:30 pm, Cr John Clements left the meeting.

At 2:31 pm, Cr John Clements returned to the meeting.

Γ

Γ

#### 13.9 CURRENT COMMUNITY ADVOCACY OPPORTUNITIES - APRIL 2024

MINUTE 067/2024				
Moved: Cr	r Lisa Richardson Seconded: Cr Brett Dickinson			
1. That C opportu	Council receive and note the Report on April 2024 community advocacy unities.			
	ouncil endorse the draft organisational submission on the NSW Reconstruction ity – Review of the NSW Reconstruction Authority Act 2022.			
3. That Council endorse the draft organisational submission on the Inquiry into the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Amendment (Virtual Stock Fencing Bill) 2024.				
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson			
<u>Against:</u>	Nil			
Not Present:	Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding			
	CARRIED 7/0			

#### 13.10 ACCEPTANCE OF TENDERS UNDER DELEGATION - APRIL 2023

MINUTE 068/2024					
Moved: 0	Cr Rohan Boehm	Seconded:	Cr Lisa Richardson		
<ol> <li>That Council note the determination of tenders under delegation for the period to March 2024.</li> </ol>					
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson				
<u>Against:</u>	Nil				
Not Present:	Crs Robert Browning	g and Catherine	e Redding		
			CARRIED 7/0		

#### 13.11 ADOPTION OF THE NARRABRI SHIRE COUNCIL DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PLAN

MINUTE 069/2024				
Moved: C	r Lisa Richardson	Seconded:	Cr Greg Lamont	
1. That Co this rep	•	rabri Shire Co	uncil Drought Management Plan, as attached in	
In Favour:	Crs Darrell Tiemens,	, Brett Dickinso	n and Lisa Richardson	
<u>Against:</u>	Crs Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements and Greg Lamont			
Not Present:	Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding			
			LOST 3/4	

#### 13.12 MINUTES OF THE NARRABRI AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 SEPTEMBER 2023

MINUTE 070/2024				
Moved: C	r Brett Dickinson	Seconded:	Cr John Clements	
1. That the Minutes of the Narrabri Airport Advisory Committee Meeting held on 19 September 2023 be received and the proposed actions therein be adopted.				
In Favour:	Crs Darrell Tiemens Greg Lamont and Li		n, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,	
<u>Against:</u>	Nil			
Not Present:	Crs Robert Brownin	g and Catherine	e Redding	
			CARRIED 7/0	
At 2:52 pm, Cr John Clements left the meeting.				

At 2:56 pm, Cr John Clements returned to the meeting.

# 13.13 DELEGATE REPORT - COUNTRY MAYORS ASSOCIATION REGIONAL HOUSING CONFERENCE IN FORBES - 8-9 APRIL 2024

MINUTE 071/2024				
Moved: 0	Cr John Clements	Seconded:	Cr Lisa Richardson	
1. That Council note the Delegate Report on the Country Mayors Association Regional Housing Conference held in Forbes on 8-9 April 2024.				
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens Greg Lamont and Li	•	n, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,	
<u>Against:</u>	Nil			
Not Present	Crs Robert Brownin	g and Catherine	e Redding	
			CARRIED 7/0	

## 13.14 DELEGATE REPORT - MINUTES OF THE LEARD FOREST PRECINCT ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST INC MEETING - 14 MARCH 2024

MINUTE 072/2024				
Moved:	Cr John Clements	Seconded:	Cr Ron Campbell	
	-	•	the draft minutes of the Leard Forest Precinct eting held on 14 March 2024.	
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens, Greg Lamont and Lis		, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,	
<u>Against:</u>	Nil			
Not Present	: Crs Robert Browning	g and Catherine	Redding	
			CARRIED 7/0	

#### 13.15 DELEGATE REPORT - MINUTES OF THE NARRABRI MINE COMMUNITY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING - 13 MARCH 2024

MINUTE 073	MINUTE 073/2024				
Moved: C	r Ron Campbell	Seconded:	Cr John Clements		
			on the draft minutes of the Narrabri Mineing held on 13 March 2024.		
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens Greg Lamont and Li		n, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,		
<u>Against:</u>	Nil				
Not Present:	Crs Robert Browning	g and Catherine	Redding		
			CARRIED 7/0		

# 14 OUR SOCIETY

## 14.1 WEE WAA NAB BUILDING CBD MEMORIAL GROVE AND DANGAR PARK MASTERPLANS

# **MINUTE 074/2024** Moved: Cr John Clements Seconded: Cr Brett Dickinson 1. That Council endorse the draft Wee Waa CBD and Surrounds Masterplan to be placed on public exhibition for a period of at least 28 days, and during the exhibition period call for and accept submissions from the public on the Masterplan. 2. That a report be returned to Council following the conclusion of the Public Exhibition Period to the next available Ordinary Council Meeting detailing the results of the public exhibition. Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, In Favour: Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson Nil Against: Not Present: Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding CARRIED 7/0

#### 14.2 NAMING OF A PUBLIC ASSET - PARK BENCH IN HONOUR OF DR. ROBERT ANDERSON

MIN	UTE 07	5/2024		
Mov	ed: C	r Ron Campbell	Seconded:	Cr Brett Dickinson
1.			•	n the naming of a park bench to be installed in t 1 Section 6 DP 939800.
2.	That C	ouncil name the park l	pench in honou	ır of Dr. Robert (Bob) Anderson.
3.	. That Council note that Rotary of Narrabri will be responsible for the costs associated with the supply of the proposed park bench and concrete slab in accordance with Council's specifications.			-
4.	That C	ouncil undertake the i	nstallation wo	ks at the expense of the Narrabri Rotary Club.
5.	Upon o	completion Council ret	ain ownership	of the asset.
<u>In Fa</u>	Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinsor Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson			
<u>Agai</u>	gainst: Nil			
Not I	Present:	Crs Robert Browning	and Catherine	Redding
				CARRIED 7/0

#### 14.3 **CRIME PREVENTION PLAN**

MINUTE 076	MINUTE 076/2024				
Moved: C	r Lisa Richardson	Seconded:	Cr Brett Dickinson		
1. That th	e Narrabri Shire Crim	e Prevention P	Plan 2024/2028 be endorsed.		
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens Greg Lamont and Li		n, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson,		
<u>Against:</u>	Nil				
Not Present:	Crs Robert Brownin	g and Catherine	e Redding		
			CARRIED 7/0		
At 3:19 pm. (	Cr Greg Lamont left th	e meeting.			

At 3:19 pm, Cr Greg Lamont left the meeting.

At 3:21 pm, Cr Greg Lamont returned to the meeting.

#### 15 **OUR ENVIRONMENT**

Nil reports.

#### 16 OUR ECONOMY

#### 16.1 MINUTES OF THE SALEYARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 27 MAY 2019

#### MINUTE 077/2024

Moved: Cr Rohan Boehm Seconded: Cr Ron Campbell

- 1. That the Minutes of the Saleyards Advisory Committee Meeting held on 27 May 2019 be received.
- <u>In Favour:</u> Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson

<u>Against:</u> Nil

Not Present: Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding

CARRIED 7/0

#### SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

MINUTE 078/2024				
Cr Ron Campbell	Seconded:	Cr Brett Dickinson		
1. That Council suspend standing orders for a break.				
			CARRIED	
	Cr Ron Campbell	Cr Ron Campbell Seconded:	Cr Ron Campbell Seconded: Cr Brett Dickinson	

The Council suspended standing orders for a break, the time being 3:24pm.

#### **RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS**

MINUTE 079/2024				
Moved:	Cr Brett Dickinson	Seconded:	Cr Ron Campbell	
1. That Council resume standing orders.				
				CARRIED

The Council resumed standing orders, the time being 3:31pm.

#### 17 CONFIDENTIAL (CLOSED COUNCIL) MEETING

#### MINUTE 080/2024

Moved: Cr Brett Dickinson Seconded: Cr John Clements

That Council move into Closed (Public Excluded) Meeting of Council and that the press and members of the public be asked to leave the room whilst Council considers the following items:

## 17.1 Business Paper and Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (f) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with details of systems and/or arrangements that have been implemented to protect council, councillors, staff and Council property.

#### 17.2 National Volunteer 2024 - Volunteer Of The Year Nomination

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 10A(2) - (a) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with personnel matters concerning particular individuals (other than councillors).

In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson

Against: Nil

Not Present: Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding

CARRIED 7/0

# 17.1 BUSINESS PAPER AND UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

<ul> <li>Moved: Cr Ron Campbell Seconded: Cr John Clements</li> <li>1. That council note the business papers and unconfirmed minutes of the audit, risk and improvement committee meeting held on Monday, 18 March 2024.</li> <li>2. That council endorse for the audit, risk and improvement committee business paper to be made available to councillors and accessed within council's information system due to the large amount of pages contained in the files.</li> <li>In Favour: Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson</li> <li>Against: Nil</li> <li>Not Present: Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding</li> </ul>	MINUTE 081	MINUTE 081/2024					
improvement committee meeting held on Monday, 18 March 2024.2. That council endorse for the audit, risk and improvement committee business paper to be made available to councillors and accessed within council's information system due to the large amount of pages contained in the files.In Favour:Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa RichardsonAgainst:NilNot Present:Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding	Moved: C	r Ron Campbell	Seconded:	Cr John Clements			
be made available to councillors and accessed within council's information system due to the large amount of pages contained in the files.In Favour:Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa RichardsonAgainst:NilNot Present:Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding	•••						
Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson         Against:       Nil         Not Present:       Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding	be made available to councillors and accessed within council's information system due to						
Not Present: Crs Robert Browning and Catherine Redding	<u>In Favour:</u>						
	<u>Against:</u>	Nil					
CARRIED 7/0	<u>Not Present:</u>	Crs Robert Browning	g and Catherine	Redding			
				CARRIED 7/0			

#### 17.2 NATIONAL VOLUNTEER 2024 - VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

#### MINUTE 082/2024

Moved: Cr Greg Lamont Seconded: Cr Ron Campbell

- **1.** That council determine nominee 3 as the recipient of the Narrabri shire volunteer of the year 2024.
- 2. That council keep the outcome confidential until the winner is announced at the Narrabri volunteer morning tea to be held on Friday 24 May 2024 at the Narrabri RSL.

CARRIED

MINUTE 083/2024				
Moved: 0	Cr John Clements	Seconded:	Cr Rohan Boehm	
1. That Council move out of Closed (Public Excluded) Meeting and that the resolutions from the Closed (Public Excluded) Meeting be read out to those present by the Chair of the Meeting or their nominee.				
<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Darrell Tiemens, Rohan Boehm, Ron Campbell, John Clements, Brett Dickinson, Greg Lamont and Lisa Richardson			
<u>Against:</u>	Nil			
Not Present	Crs Robert Brownin	g and Catherine	Redding	
			CARRIED 7/0	

#### 18 MEETING CLOSED

The Meeting closed at 3:49

The minutes of this meeting are scheduled to be confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held on 28 May 2024.

.....

CHAIRPERSON

#### **The Unaudited Financial Statements**

The Draft 2022/2023 financial statements show a \$4.647m deficit after capital income. This deficit has largely been brought about by the requirement to account for \$7.995m loss on disposal of assets, namely the Transport asset network of approximately \$7m. This is a result of major flood events over the last 3yrs and the backlog in capitalisation of Capital WIP. The backlog of capital works was identified through the excessive WIP balance of \$46m as reported in 2021/2022. As a result of capitalisations and expensing of operational works, the WIP balance has been reduced to \$18m which at the end of 2022/2023 Council believes is an accurate representation.

#### The Original Budget for FY2022/2023

The original budget for FY2022/2023 was projected to be in deficit by \$5.9 million. Through prudent management whilst at the same time recognising the required adjustments the budget projection was bettered by financial year end.

#### The huge amount of work put in this year

There was an enormous backlog of asset-related work to be achieved in the EOFY 2022/2023 financial statements, which we set about getting done as soon as the 2021/2022 audit was complete.

External consultants and contractors were pulled in to assist in the processes of determining what information we had, needed, and what was critical for success (our measure of success was to clear the Disclaimer of Opinion as soon as possible).

Discussions with these consultants, contractors and the various audit staff determined that there was a chance of clearing the Disclaimer in 2022/2023 if revaluations of assets, impairment of roads and certain disclosures and identification of prior year errors (accounting speak for items that were recorded incorrectly in the past - usually by virtue of further information that has come to light) were recorded in the 2022/2023 financial statements.

When we set about to achieve this, the mountain of work we encountered was far in excess of what we imagined initially, but we persevered for the good of the Council and the Community, to show that 2021/2022 was a blip on the radar, and that we could achieve good things with the staff we had, and the assistance we had garnered.

#### The Disclaimer should be removed this year

The end result is what Councillors see here in the form of the draft financial statements presented to the April 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting - we don't expect the statements to be exactly the same when we sign them, but we also don't expect wholesale changes after Audit has finalised their checks and balances, and reviewed the disclosures and passed the information through their Technical Committee.

) am confident, that the audit for 2022/2023 will be clear of the Disclaimer Audit Opinion, and a significant positive achievement for the community moving forward.

#### **Ted Harrington**

**Director Financial and Commercial Services**