

MINUTES



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MEMBERSHIP: Graeme Thomson (Chair), Deputy Mayor Nona Aston, Bill Burdett, Roger Haisman, Allan Hall, Gary Hope, Atareta Poananga, Brian Wilson and His Worship the Mayor (ex officio)

MINUTES of the OPERATIONS Committee

Held in the Committee Room, 15 Fitzherbert Street on Thursday 16 July 2009 at 1.30pm

PRESENT:

Councillors Graeme Thomson (Chair), Deputy Mayor Nona Aston, Bill Burdett, Roger Haisman, Allan Hall, Gary Hope, and Brian Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Lindsay McKenzie, Corporate Affairs Manager Douglas Birt, Engineering & Works Manager Peter Higgs, Land Transport Manager Dave Hadfield, Project Manager Peter McConnell, Utilities Asset Manager Kevin Strongman, Trade Waste Engineer Roger Long, Stormwater Engineer Joss Ruifrok and Committee Secretary Eileen Marshall.

APOLOGIES:

None

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Public forum, petitions, deputations and representation from tangata whenua

There were no attendees.

3. Confirmation of Minutes

Operations Committee – 11 June 2009

MOVED by Cr Burdett, seconded Cr Wilson

That the minutes of 11 June 2009 be accepted

CARRIED

Action Sheet

Noted.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Notification of late items, questions and general business

Nil

6. Mayor's and Councillors' reports

Nil

7.0 Staff Reports

For Decision

7.3 09/331 – Proposal for Enlarged Rural Fire District

The Chief Executive said the purpose of this report was to obtain agreement in principle from the Council acting in its role as a rural fire authority, to form an enlarged rural fire district with the Eastland Rural Fire Authority, the Department of Conservation and potentially with Wairoa District Council.

This report would normally have been submitted to the Environment and Policy Committee which is not meeting this month. It is important that Council has a preferred position, if only in principle, so that it can become involved.

The biggest issue is the fact that an enlarged Rural Fire District should include two territorial authorities and with Gisborne being a unitary authority, this may need to be amended.

At this stage there will be a draft proposal only.

Cr Hope asked if this would involve more staff and more costs.

The Chief Executive advised that costs will be set out the report. Our costs are around \$240,000 for the district. The Eastland Rural Fire Authority has concerns about the 1 km margin around forests. The margin extends into Te Puia which is a NZ Fire Service location so there are issues to be resolved.

Cr Poananga requested that the people in Hicks Bay be consulted on the matter.

The Chief Executive advised that the approach is that while Rural Fire is separate to NZ Fire Services role, the latter has a role in an enlarged rural fire district. An integrated approach with them would provide benefits.

The Chief Executive said that the government has funds to promote enlarged rural fire districts and this is ongoing.

MOVED by Cr Burdett, seconded Cr Hope

That the Committee

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. receives the report2. Recommends that Council<ol style="list-style-type: none">(a) agrees in principle to form an expanded rural fire district and requests that staff report back when a draft proposal has been developed. |
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CARRIED

7.1 09/308 – Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) – Registrations of Interest for Main Contracts

MOVED by Cr Thomson, seconded Cr Hope

That

the report lie on the table.

CARRIED

7.2 09/309 – Roothing Contracts Review

Land Transport Manager Dave Hadfield outlined the review process and outcomes and the different options as to how Council packages its contracts.

Manager Engineering and Works Peter Higgs advised that there would be reduced costs for one contract compared to additional costs for three different contracts.

Cr Wilson supports the idea of one contract as it would be saving money to the ratepayers.

Cr Poananga also supported the package.

Land Transport Manager Dave Hadfield advised he could show what roads are involved at the next meeting. He advised that local contractors do not usually tender for large contracts.

Cr Burdett advised that we have had adverse weather which affects the contracts.

Cr Haisman and Cr Hall support the recommendation.

MOVED by Cr Wilson, seconded Cr Poananga

That the Committee

1. receives the report

CARRIED

MOVED by Cr Wilson, seconded Cr Poananga

That the Committee

2. agrees to consider that the 2009/10 road rehabilitation tender documents are advertised as a single package to a value of \$3.1M

CARRIED

Cr Aston and Cr Hope voted against the motion.

MOVED by Cr Hope, seconded Cr Burdett

That the Committee

3. agrees that the 2009/10 road rehabilitation tender documents are advertised simultaneously with the NZ Transport Agency (State Highway) tender documents

CARRIED

MOVED by Cr Hope, seconded Cr Burdett

That the Committee

4. continues tendering out its capital roading projects

CARRIED

MOVED by Cr Poananga, seconded Cr Wilson

That the Committee

5. agrees that the maintenance of the rural roading networks (Northern and Western) continue to be tendered out for contract as at present

CARRIED

MOVED by Cr Wilson, seconded Cr Hall

That the Committee

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| 6. agrees that maintenance of the Gisborne city network should be investigated as to whether it should be tendered out for contract or carried out by in-house forces |
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CARRIED

MOVED by Cr Burdett, seconded Cr Thomson

That the Committee

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| 7. agrees that Council initiates formal discussions with the NZ Transport Agency as to whether it is viable to merge the State Highway and Northern Maintenance roading contracts |
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CARRIED

Cr Hope requested his vote against the motion be recorded.

MOVED by Cr Poananga, seconded Cr Burdett

That the Committee

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| 8. agrees that the three chemical spraying contracts be combined as a single area wide contract. |
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CARRIED

Cr Hope requested his vote against the motion be recorded.

For Noting

7.4 09/315 – Trade Waste Activity Report to 31 May 2009

Trade Waste Engineer Roger Long advised that monitoring of controlled premises continues with scheduled sampling of wastewater discharges. Wastewater fees charged to industry are to be increased from 1.1¢ to 30¢ in a staged process.

MOVED by Cr Thomson, seconded Cr Hope

That the Committee

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| 1. receives the report. |
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CARRIED

7.5 09/320 – Stormwater Activity

Stormwater Engineer Joss Ruifrok said this report covered the period from 1 May 2009 until 3 July 2009.

Fifteen stormwater grates have been stolen from the Huxley Road area.

Capital works currently underway include the upgrading of the Wainui Beach Access Reserve along Wairere Road and the piping of the Wainui Soccer Reserve Drain. Some work has been hampered by the wet weather.

MOVED by Cr Hope, seconded Cr Burdett

That the Committee

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| 1. receives the report. |
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CARRIED

7.6 09/310 – Road Safety Action Plan

Land Transport Manager Dave Hadfield spoke to this report on behalf of Lenora McDonald.

Crs Aston and Cr Burdett congratulated the Road Safety Co-ordinator Lenora McDonald, who was not present at the meeting, on the considerable amount of work she had done on road safety.

MOVED by Cr Burdett, seconded Cr Hope

That the Committee

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| 1. receives the report. |
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CARRIED

7.7 09/311 – HB Williams Memorial Library: Financial Results for the Period Ended 31 March 2009

In relation to the financials presented, the Corporate Affairs Manager, Douglas Birt referred to the \$70,000 capital on page 3 of 7, for air conditioning. He referred to the prioritisation of projects exercise, at which it was decided to defer the air conditioning work until the Library Extension Project in 2014. Because the air conditioning units were now obsolete and unable to be repaired, some part of the \$70,000 might be required in the interim period if one of the existing units failed in the meantime. The library is a public space and does require air conditioning.

The \$40,000 for the self issue system was part of the same project as the security tags RFID for \$90,000 and these two projects were joined together on the revised report 09/311.

The largest over expenditure on the operational financial report was the Depreciation, at \$137,252 against a budget of \$25,600. This was because books had to be re-stated under International Financial Reporting standards as capital items, which now had to be depreciated. Books are now purchased directly out of the depreciation reserve account, and in themselves are not an item that is rated for.

The largest discrepancy in revenue was book trust grants, which were at \$5,556 against a nominal budget of \$20,000. The chairperson of the book trust had advised the District Librarian that any further donation this year was unlikely because the book trust desired to fund the history of the area being written by Sheridan Gundry.

Cr Hall was concerned that there may be no money available in the book trust to fund the shortfall created by the Ten Year Plan cut of \$30,000 in the book purchase capital budget.

MOVED by Cr Wilson, seconded Cr Aston

That the Committee

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| 1. receives the report. |
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CARRIED

8. Late Item

Nil

9. Questions

There were no written questions.

10. General Business

There were no items of general business.

11. Public Excluded Business

There were no public excluded items.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 2.45pm.

Graeme Thomson
Chairperson