

MINUTES



P O Box 747, Gisborne, Ph 867 2049 Fax 867 8076
Email service@gdc.govt.nz Web www.gdc.govt.nz

MEMBERSHIP: Her Worship the Mayor Rehette Stoltz (Chair), Josh Wharehinga (Deputy Chair), Meredith Akuhata-Brown, Bill Burdett, Andy Cranston, Shannon Dowsing, Sandra Faulkner, Larry Foster, Debbie Gregory, Isaac Hughes, Tony Robinson, Pat Seymour, Terry Sheldrake and Kerry Worsnop

MINUTES of the FINANCE & PERFORMANCE Committee

Held in Te Ruma Kaunihera (Council Chambers), Awarua, Fitzherbert Street, Gisborne on Thursday 27 May 2021 at 9:00AM.

PRESENT:

Her Worship the Mayor Rehette Stoltz, Deputy Mayor Josh Wharehinga, Meredith Akuhata-Brown, Bill Burdett, Andy Cranston, Sandra Faulkner, Larry Foster, Debbie Gregory, Isaac Hughes, Tony Robinson, Pat Seymour, Terry Sheldrake and Kerry Worsnop.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Nedine Thatcher Swann, Director Lifelines David Wilson, Director Internal Partnerships James Baty, Chief Financial Officer Pauline Foreman, Chief of Strategy & Science Joanna Noble, Revenue Team Leader Fiona Scragg, Democracy & Support Services Manager Heather Kohn and Committee Secretary Coral Dunn.

The meeting commenced with a prayer.

1. Apologies

MOVED by Cr Stoltz, seconded by Cr Akuhata-Brown

That the apologies from Cr Dowsing be sustained.

CARRIED

2. Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

3. Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes

3.1 Confirmation of non-confidential Minutes 17 February 2021

MOVED by Cr Seymour, seconded by Cr Wharehinga

That the Minutes of 17 February 2021 be accepted as amended.

CARRIED

3.2 Action Sheet

Item 4.1: Report on Waikanae to Waipaoa Cycle Trail work being done on behalf of Trust Tairāwhiti was on track for the due date.

Item 12.3: Update on exposed closed landfill at Tokomaru Bay was on track for the due date.

Matters arising from 17.2.21 Minutes:

- Cr Seymour noted that minutes regarding Log Retrieval from the Harbour (10.1.2, page 7, bullet point 4, line 4) varied to that stated by Andrew Gaddum during his Port Development Presentation on 18 February 2021 (Operations Meeting 6.2, page 7, bullet point 16).
- Monitoring of swimming pool fencing technical data (20.4.1, page 11, bullet point 8) yet to be provided to Council.

3.3 Governance Work Plan

4. Leave of Absence

There were no leaves of absence.

5. Acknowledgements and Tributes

There were no acknowledgements or tributes.

6. Public Input and Petitions

There were no public input or petitions

7. Extraordinary Business

There was no extraordinary business.

8. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

9. Adjourned Business

There was no adjourned business.

10. Reports of the Chief Executive and Staff

10.1 DECISION Reports Finance

10.1.1 21-104 Request to Bring FAR Reserves Forward into 2020/21 Financial Year

The Committee was advised it was important to use the funding this financial year in order to attract the 88 cents in the dollar from Waka Kotahi otherwise if not used the funding would drop back to 66 cents in the dollar after 30 June 2021.

In response to a question the Committee was advised this money was separate from the Emergency Works Budget as it was unallocated money that had been set aside.

MOVED by Cr Seymour, seconded by Cr Burdett

That the Finance & Performance Committee:

1. Approves bringing forward \$378,000 from the Funding Assisted Rate Reserves allocated to the 2021/22 financial year. This will enable Waka Kotahi funding to be utilised at 88% and allow the works associated with the June 2020 Flood event to be carried out this financial year.

CARRIED

10.1.2 21-115 2021-2031 Long Term Plan Summary Changes

Response to questions:

- \$1.8m funding had been confirmed for the 1000 Year Bridge as a reduced scope had been renegotiated with Lotteries.
- \$11m Water Reforms funding was Council money at this stage.
- The term carryovers should be amended to read carryovers/changes.
- The forestry multiplier was the forestry funds under pavement maintenance renewal.
- An update of confirmed grant funding would be provided.
- 99.9% of external funding was from national grants.
- \$500k budget was for the Ruatorea water supply exploratory work.

MOVED by Cr Foster, seconded by Cr Sheldrake

That the Finance & Performance Committee:

1. Approves the proposed changes listed in this report for inclusion in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

CARRIED

10.2 INFORMATION Reports Finance

10.2.1 21-102 Rates and Sundry Invoice Debt Management Report to 31 March 2021

Response to questions:

- Rate arrears had to be reviewed annually and banks were notified of outstanding rates.
- Council chose not to pursue mortgagee sales and used Baycorp Debt Collection instead.
- The amount of statute barred rate debt being written off each year was slightly more than \$773k because of interest accumulated on penalty interest.

- Council could use postponed rates as a tool to recover rates but after six years it was difficult to finding landowners. Wherever possible tried to ensure an arrangement was in place.
- Did not have a lot of rates postponements as tend to make payment arrangements which are cleared in a 1-2 year period.
- Anything postponed was still open for collection in that six-year period.
- 1.25% of our rateable income was written off. Tairāwhiti and the Far North had the highest percentage of write-offs.
- Would check and report back on the quantum of solid waste rates overdue.
- \$80k resource consent overdue 90 days related to one disputed consent.
- The Committee would be provided with information about the science around the 90 days.
- Council applied both regulations in relation to Maori owned land and the Remission Policy.
- Reporting back on unpaid rates and options would be put on bring-up.
- Rate remissions would be reviewed for unintended consequences and the development of undeveloped land would be discussed.
- Trusts on Maori land had to pay rates on money generated from the land. If no money was generated did not have to pay rates.
- Rates would be struck on 1 July 2021.

MOVED by Cr Akuhata-Brown, seconded by Cr Robinson

That the Finance & Performance Committee:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

CARRIED

10.2.2 21-119 Financial Report - 31 March 2021

Response to questions:

- Information reports this year were impacted by the Long Term Plan (LTP) and hearings.
- Hoped parking policy review would be sooner rather than later and date would be advised.
- Current drilling of bores on private land at Uawa to investigate the water resource had been completed:
 - Two bores had been turned into permanent ground water resource monitoring bores and the others had been capped as nothing had been found.
 - Awaiting resource consent to drill more bores as part of the investigation programme.
 - Would report back with information about commercialisation possibility.

- Early procurement of plant for the Wastewater Treatment Plan stage had occurred and was in transit in Australia. The Wastewater Committee would receive a contracting update.
- Waiting for swells to reduce for the revetment wall contract to be mobilised. Designs were completed and had been awaiting the contractor start date since March.
- While waiting for Paokahu Trust to advise meeting times had continued with monitoring and procuring the required contaminated site expertise.
- \$200k was approved for the new harbourmaster boat and final cost was \$117k.
- Peel Street toilets were in next year's LTP and the Committee would receive a report about the budget details etc.
- It was a good idea to do a 3-year LTP background so when going into next LTP can track that and also give the historical basis of things.
- Council's insurance policy did not cover vandalism of privately owned headstones. The vandalism budget was minimal and reparation, if any, came through the court process.
- Graffiti was an everyday issue and ratepayers had to pay what insurance did not cover.

MOVED by Cr Wharehinga, seconded by Cr Hughes

That the Finance & Performance Committee:

1. Notes the contents of this report.

CARRIED

10.3 DECISION Reports Performance - Nil

10.4 INFORMATION Reports Performance - Nil

11. Close of Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting concluded at 9.55am.

Rehette Stoltz

MAYOR