



SNOWY MONARO
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes

Ordinary Council Meeting

10 October 2024

**ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 81 COMMISSIONER STREET, COOMA NSW 2630
ON THURSDAY 10 OCTOBER 2024**

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**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 81 COMMISSIONER STREET, COOMA NSW 2630**

**ON THURSDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2024
COMMENCING AT 1:00 PM**

PRESENT: Councillor Narelle Davis
Councillor Nick Elliott
Councillor Christopher Hanna
Councillor Tanya Higgins
Councillor Tricia Hopkins
Councillor John Rooney
Councillor Reuben Rose
Councillor Bob Stewart
Councillor Lynda Summers
Councillor Andrew Thaler
Councillor Luke Williamson

APOLOGIES: Nil

Staff: David Rawlings, Chief Executive Officer
Simon Rennie, Chief Financial Officer
John Gargett, Acting Chief Infrastructure & Projects Officer
Tony Murray, Chief Community Services Officer
Luke O'Sullivan, Coordinator of Governance
Grace Mackay, Secretary Council and Committees

1. OPENING MEETING

The meeting was opened by the Chair at 1:06 PM.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Procedural Motion

MOTION

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

234/24

That Council nominate Cr Stewart as chair for the meeting.

Moved Councillor Davis

Seconded Councillor Hanna

CARRIED

Record of Voting

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Councillor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Councillor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Stewart and Councillor Summers.

Councillors Against: Councillor Rose, Councillor Williamson and Councillor Thaler.

3. COUNCILLOR REQUEST FOR ATTENDANCE VIA AUDIO-VISUAL

Nil

4. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS

Nil

5. DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

6. MATTERS DEALT WITH BY EXCEPTION

Nil

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION MATTERS

Nil

9. OTHER REPORTS TO COUNCIL

9.1 OPERATIONS

Nil

9.2 FINANCE

Nil

9.3 STRATEGY

MOTION

MOTION

That Council delay the election of Mayor until the nominees are known and each of those nominees presents their arguments as to why they have the best qualifications to meet the requirements outlined in 226 of the Local Government Act.

Moved Councillor Rose

Seconded Councillor Thaler

LOST

Record of Voting

Councillors For: Councillor Elliott, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor Williamson and Councillor Thaler.

Councillors Against: Councillor Davis, Councillor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Councillor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, and Councillor Summers.

9.3.1 ELECTION OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR

Record No: 124/485

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

235/24

That Council;

- A. Elect a mayor
- B. Elect a deputy mayor for a 12 month period;
- C. In the event of there being more than one candidate nominated for either the position of mayor or deputy mayor, an election be held with the method of voting being by ordinary ballot.

Moved Councillor Hanna

Seconded Councillor Hopkins

CARRIED

Record of Voting

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Councillor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Councillor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor Summers, Councillor Williamson and Councillor Thaler.

Councillors Against: Nil.

Note 1: Nominations for Mayor

The Returning Officer (Acting Chief Executive Officer) called for nominations for Mayor and advised that he had received 4 from the following Councillors; Cr Hanna, Cr Stewart, Cr Williamson and Cr Thaler. Following confirmation that the nominations were valid, the Returning Officer asked if there were any further nominations. No further nominations were received. The Returning Officer advised the order in which the names will appear on the ballot paper will be determined by a draw out of the box and advised the order:

1. Cr Andrew Thaler
2. Cr Chris Hanna
3. Cr Bob Stewart
4. Cr Luke Williamson

Note 2: Ordinary Ballot One

The Returning Officer advised the meeting the results of the vote were: - Cr Chris Hanna six (6) votes, Cr Bob Stewart three (3) votes, Cr Luke Williamson one (1) vote and Cr Andrew Thaler one (1) vote. There being two Councillors with one vote, Cr Williamson was excluded. The Returning Officer advised the order for ballot number 2 for election of Mayor would be:

1. Cr Bob Stewart
2. Cr Chris Hanna
3. Cr Andrew Thaler

Note 3: Ordinary Ballot 2

The Returning Officer advised the meeting the results of the vote were: - Cr Chris Hanna six (6) votes, Cr Bob Stewart four (4) votes and Cr Andrew Thaler one (1) vote. Cr Taler having the lowest number of votes was excluded. The Returning Officer advised the order for ballot number 3 for election of Mayor would be:

1. Cr Bob Stewart
2. Cr Chris Hanna

Note 4: Declaration of Mayor

The Returning Officer advised the meeting the results of the vote were: - Cr Bob Stewart five (5) votes and Cr Chris Hanna six (6) votes, and declared Chris Hanna elected Mayor.

Note 5: Nominations for Deputy Mayor

The Returning Officer (Acting Chief Executive Officer) called for nominations for Deputy Mayor and advised that he had received 4 from the following Councillors; Cr Reuben Rose, Cr Andrew Thaler, Cr Luke Williamson and Cr Tricia Hopkins. Cr Reuben Rose withdrew his nomination. Following confirmation that the remaining nominations were valid, the Returning Officer asked if there were any further nominations. No further nominations were received. The Returning Officer advised the order in which the names will appear on the ballot paper will be determined by a draw out of the box and advised the order:

1. Cr Andrew Thaler
2. Cr Tricia Hopkins
3. Luke Williamson

Note 6: Ordinary Ballot 2

The Returning Officer advised the meeting the results of the vote were: - Cr Tricia Hopkins six (6) votes, Cr Luke Williamson three (3) votes and Cr Andrew Thaler two (2) votes. Cr Taler having the lowest number of votes was excluded. Cr Luke Williamson stated that there was no need for another ballot and withdrew his nomination.

Note 5: Declaration of Deputy Mayor

The Returning Officer advised the meeting the meeting Cr Tricia Hopkins was elected Deputy Mayor.

9.3.2 MEETING DATES AND TIMES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Record No: I24/517

MOTION

Defer this motion until the November Ordinary Council meeting.

Moved Councillor Thaler

Seconded Councillor Williamson

LOST

Record of Voting

Councillors For: Councillor Thaler.

Councillors Against: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Stewart, Councillor Summers and Councillor Williamson.

MOTION

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

236/24

That following the currently set council meetings for November and December 2024:

- A. Council meet on the third Thursday of each month, commencing from 1:00pm.
- B. Meetings will be held in Cooma in the even months and on the odd months rotate between Jindabyne and Bombala.
- C. Extraordinary meetings will be held in Cooma unless the Mayor, in consultation with the CEO, determines that the matters being discussed would mean that the meeting should, and logistically can, be held in a different location.
- D. No scheduled meeting be held in January.

Moved Councillor Hopkins

Seconded Councillor Summers

CARRIED

Record of Voting

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Stewart and Councillor Summers.

Councillors Against: Councillor Rose, Councillor Williamson and Councillor Thaler

At 02:32 pm Councillor Stewart left the meeting.

9.3.3 CASUAL VACANCIES IN CIVIC OFFICE - COUNTBACK OPTION

Record No: I24/516

MOTION

That pursuant to section 291A(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 1993 Snowy Monaro Regional Council declares that casual vacancies occurring in the office of a councillor within 18 months after the last ordinary election of councillors for the Council on 14 September 2024, are to be filled by a countback of votes cast at that election for the office in accordance with section 291A of the Act and directs the CEO to notify the NSW Electoral Commissioner of Council's decision within 7 days of the decision.

Moved Councillor Summers

Seconded Councillor Williamson

LOST

Record of Voting

Councillors For: Councillor Rose.

Councillors Against: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Summers, Councillor Williamson and Councillor Thaler.

9.3.4 APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES TO COMMITTEES

Record No: I24/508

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

237/24

That Council defer nominations of a councillor representative to the existing committees to the November 2024 Ordinary Council meeting.

Moved Councillor Davis

Seconded Councillor Summers

CARRIED

Record of Voting

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose, Councillor Summers, Councillor Williamson and Councillor Thaler.

Councillors Against: Nil.

9.4 COMMUNICATIONS

Nil

9.5 EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Procedural Motion

INTO COMMITTEE

MOTION		
That Council move into committee.		
Moved Councillor Williamson	Seconded Councillor Thaler	LOST
Record of Voting		
<i>Councillors For:</i>	<i>Councillor Elliott, Councillor Williamson and Councillor Thaler.</i>	
<i>Councillors Against:</i>	<i>Councillor Davis, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney, Councillor Rose and Councillor Summers.</i>	

Procedural Motion

PUT MOTION

COUNCIL RESOLUTION		238/24
That the motion/amendment be put without further debate.		
Moved Councillor Davis	Seconded Councillor Summers	CARRIED
Record of Voting		
<i>Councillors For:</i>	<i>Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney and Councillor Summers.</i>	
<i>Councillors Against:</i>	<i>Councillor Rose, Councillor Williamson and Councillor Thaler.</i>	

9.5.1 RECRUITMENT OF INTERIM CEO – MAYORAL MINUTE

Record No: I24/565

COUNCIL RESOLUTION		239/24
That Council:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Note the resignation of the CEO B. Immediately recruit an interim CEO for an initial period of 6 months C. Continue with and utilise the current contract with McArthur Recruitment to commence the recruitment of a permanent CEO 		
Moved Councillor Hanna	CARRIED	

Record of Voting

Councillors For: Councillor Davis, Councillor Elliott, Mayor Hanna, Councillor Higgins, Deputy Mayor Hopkins, Councillor Rooney and Councillor Summers.

Councillors Against: Councillor Rose, Councillor Williamson and Councillor Thaler.

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 3:17 PM.

CHAIRPERSON

The above minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of Snowy Monaro Regional Council held on 10 October 2024 were confirmed by Council at a duly convened meeting on 14 November 2024 at which meeting the signature hereon was subscribed.