



Ordinary Council

MAYORAL MINUTES

Business Paper

date of meeting: Wednesday 21 October 2015

location: Laurieton School of Arts Hall
Corner Bold and Laurie Streets
Laurieton

time: 5.30pm

Note: Council is distributing this agenda on the strict understanding that the publication and/or announcement of any material from the Paper before the meeting not be such as to presume the outcome of consideration of the matters thereon.



**PORT MACQUARIE
HASTINGS**

Council's Vision

A sustainable high quality of life for all.

Council's Mission

To provide regional leadership and meet the community's needs in an equitable and inclusive way that enhances the area's environmental, social and economic qualities.

Council's Corporate Values

- ★ Sustainability
- ★ Excellence in Service Delivery
- ★ Consultation and Communication
- ★ Openness and Accountability
- ★ Community Advocacy

Council's Guiding Principles

- ★ Ensuring good governance
- ★ Looking after our people
- ★ Helping our community prosper
- ★ Looking after our environment
- ★ Planning & providing our infrastructure



**PORT MACQUARIE
HASTINGS**

How Members of the Public Can Have Their Say at Council Meetings

Council has a commitment to providing members of the public with an input into Council's decision making. The Council's Code of Meeting Practice provides two (2) avenues for members of the public to address Council on issues of interest or concern at the Ordinary Council Meeting. These are:

Addressing Council on an Agenda Item:

If the matter **is** listed in the Council Business Paper, you can request to address Council by:

- Completing the *Request to Speak on an Agenda Item at a Council Meeting*, which can be obtained from Council's Offices at Laurieton, Port Macquarie and Wauchope or by downloading it from Council's website.
- On-line at <http://www.pmhc.nsw.gov.au/About-Us/How-Council-Works/Council-Committee-Meetings/Request-to-speak-on-an-Agenda-Item>

Your request to address Council must be received by Council no later than 4:30pm on the day prior to the Council Meeting.

Council's Code of Meeting Practice sets out the following guidelines for addressing Council:

- Addresses will be limited to 5 minutes.
- If you wish any written information, drawings or photos to be distributed to the Council to support the address, two (2) copies should be provided to the Group Manager Governance & Executive Services prior to the commencement of the meeting.
- Where speakers wish to make an audio visual presentation, a copy is to be provided to the Group Manager Governance & Executive Services by 4.30pm on the day prior to the Council Meeting.
- Council will permit only two (2) speakers "Supporting" and two (2) speakers "Opposing" the *Recommendation* contained in the Business Paper. If there are more than two speakers supporting and opposing, the Mayor will request the speakers to determine who will address Council.

Addressing Council in the Public Forum:

If the matter **is not** listed in the Council Business Paper, you can request to address Council by:

- Completing the *Request to Speak in the Public Forum at Ordinary Council Meeting*, which can be obtained from Council's Offices at Laurieton, Port Macquarie and Wauchope or by downloading it from Council's website.
- On-line at <http://www.pmhc.nsw.gov.au/About-Us/How-Council-Works/Council-Committee-Meetings/Request-to-speak-in-a-Public-Forum>

Your request to address Council must be received by Council no later than 4:30pm on the day prior to the Council Meeting.

A maximum of eight (8) speakers will be heard in the Public Forum. Each speaker will be limited to 5 minutes. Council may ask questions of speakers but speakers **cannot** ask questions of Council.

Council will not determine matters raised in the Public Forum session, however may resolve to call for a further report, when appropriate.

Speakers will be allowed to address Council in the Public Forum on the same issue no more than three (3) times in each calendar year. (Representatives of incorporated community groups may be exempted from this restriction).



**PORT MACQUARIE
HASTINGS**

Ordinary Council Meeting

Wednesday, 21 October 2015

MAYORAL MINUTES

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**PORT MACQUARIE
HASTINGS**

Item: 06.02

Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE - FIT FOR THE FUTURE LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Mayor, Peter Besseling

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note that the Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) have assessed Port Macquarie-Hastings Council as Fit, in line with the requirements of the Fit for the Future local government reforms.

Discussion

The Fit for the Future (FFF) local government reform process required the majority of Councils in NSW to undertake a self assessment against four overarching criteria as follows:

- Scale and capacity;
- Sustainability;
- Infrastructure and service management and
- Efficiency.

Addressing the above criteria formed the basis of Councils FFF submission and action plan to IPART in late June 2015.

On Friday 16 October 2015, IPART handed the NSW Government their assessment of all Councils FFF submissions. Following receipt of the assessment report, the NSW Government released the full IPART report publicly on Tuesday 20 October 2015.

The IPART assessment found that Port Macquarie-Hastings Council (PMHC) was deemed fit under the FFF assessment criteria. This means that Council was assessed as overall satisfying the requirements of the above-mentioned criteria. Following is the information that was included in the IPART report regarding the PMHC assessment.

Of interest is that whilst Council did not meet the specific requirements of the Infrastructure and Service Management criteria, however Council did satisfy the financial criteria overall.

This means that Council will now be required to give consideration to implementing the action plan that was included in the FFF submission.

Importantly, the fact that Council has been deemed fit as a standalone Council, means that there is no requirement for Council to merge / amalgamate with any neighbouring Councils.

Attachments

Nil

Item: 06.03

**Subject: MAYORAL MINUTE - AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION
PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION OBJECTION**

Mayor, Peter Besseling

RECOMMENDATION

That the General Manager provide a submission to the Australian Electoral Commission expressing Council's concern at the proposed bifurcation of the Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Government Area into different electorates.

Discussion

On December 1, 2014 and pursuant to subsection 59(1) of the Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918, the Australian Electoral Commission directed that a redistribution of the State of New South Wales into 47 electoral divisions commence.

Following the determination of a subsequent Enrolment Quota and appointment of a Redistribution Committee, the proposed new federal electoral boundaries for NSW were released on October 16, 2015.

The following comments relating to the Port Macquarie-Hastings Local Government Area are contained in the report:

The Committee proposes that the Division of Cowper gain 37 024 electors from the Division of Lyne in the southern part of Kempsey LGA and that part of Port Macquarie-Hastings LGA including Telegraph Point and Port Macquarie.

As a result, there are less than optimal outcomes in terms of communities of interest. The proposed Division of Cowper contains the major centres of Coffs Harbour and Port Macquarie and therefore splits the two respective LGAs. The locality of Wauchope is also split from Port Macquarie.

The Committee proposes that the Division of Lyne gain 44 724 electors from the Division of Paterson including the entire Dungog and the Great Lakes LGAs and part of the Maitland and the Port Stephens LGAs

The Committee proposes that the Division of Lyne transfer 37 024 electors to the proposed Division of Cowper in the southern part of Kempsey LGA and part of Port Macquarie-Hastings LGA including Telegraph Point and Port Macquarie.

The proposed redistribution effectively separates the Port Macquarie-Hastings LGA into two disconnected electorates and removes the consistent representation of our local communities of interest in the Federal Parliament.

It is appropriate that Port Macquarie-Hastings Council provide an objection to the proposed changes prior to 6pm on November 13, 2015. These views are consistent with the Federal Member for Lyne.

Attachments

Nil