



MINUTES

Annual General Meeting of Electors Wednesday, 9 February 2022

Date: Wednesday, 9 February 2022

Time: 5:30pm

Location: Civic Centre
McGregor St
Port Hedland

Distribution Date: 23 February 2022

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Item 1 Opening of Meeting

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 5:30pm.

Item 2 Acknowledgement of Traditional Owners and Dignitaries

The Presiding Member acknowledged the Kariyarra people as the Traditional Custodians of the land that we met on and recognised their strength and resilience and paid his respects to elders past, present and emerging.

The Presiding Member acknowledged the Town of Port Hedland's Freeman Mr Arnold Carter.

Item 3 Recording of Attendance

3.1 Attendance

Scheduled Present: Mayor Peter Carter
Cr Ash Christensen
Cr David Eckhart
Cr Jan Gillingham (Arrived at 5:31pm)
Cr Elmar Zielke (Arrived at 5:33pm)

Scheduled for Attendance: Carl Askew (Chief Executive Officer)
Karren MacClure (Director Corporate Services)
Josephine Bianchi (Director Community Services)
Craig Watts (Director Regulatory Services)
Lee Furness (Director Infrastructure Services)
Joyce Routledge (Acting Manager Governance)
Jenna Brown (Governance Officer)
Naomi Murcott (Corporate Support Officer/Minute Taker)

Staff: 3

Public: 8

Media: 0

3.2 Attendance by Telephone / Instantaneous Communications

Nil.

3.3 Apologies

Deputy Mayor Tim Turner
Cr Flo Bennett
Cr Renae Coles

3.4 Approved Leave of Absence

Nil.

3.5 Disclosure of Interests

Nil.

Item 4 Response to Previous Questions

4.1 Response to Questions taken on notice from Annual General Meeting of Electors held on 29 April 2021.

4.1.1 MR ARNOLD CARTER

A written response was provided to Mr Carter on 29 June 2021, detailing the below:

- First of all, I would like to express my great concern regarding the lateness in which you made the audit report available. I think it is quite ludicrous that the Audit Report in April which was for last June, so almost 12 months ago, was not available for the public until last Friday. If you think I am going through that document in a week, then there is no chance. There is so much information and the audit report completely varies from the budget and it is not right. I also might mention Councillors that this Audit Report cost you \$75,000 and if you can pay that much for a report, then it should be made available earlier to the rate payers for comment. That was the most important thing and it delayed me in doing the analysis.*

The Director Corporate Services provided the following response:

The audit report is not available to the public until the Office of the Auditor General has signed off the accounts. This was signed off in March 2021 and subsequently put through the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee meeting before going to Council for endorsement. The Office of the Auditor General dictate when the report is signed off on and also the fee you mention above which is paid to them.

- Once again, following on from comments from the Minutes of the last meeting, I am still going to ask for information regarding the swimming pools. Can I please have details on the recreation expenditure of \$21,000,000 against a budget of \$17,000,000 for both swimming pools. I would like a breakdown of those two expenses, well not the \$17,000,000, but the other expenditure of \$4,000,000, I would like to have a look at that.*

The Director Community Services provided the following response:

The 'Recreation and Culture' programme is an operational programme which at the time of the 19/20 budget preparation, included operational expenses associated with all of the following business categories:

- Public Halls and Civic Centres
- Youth Services
- J D Hardie Centre
- Swimming Areas and Beaches
- Gratwick Olympic Pool
- South Hedland Aquatic Centre
- Other Recreation and Sport
- Port Hedland Sportsgrounds - Recreation
- South Hedland Sportsgrounds - Recreation
- Port & South Sportsgrounds - Parks & Gardens
- Parks & Gardens
- Colin Matheson Oval
- Heritage
- Libraries
- Other Culture
- Television/Radio Broadcasting
- North West Games
- Native Title
- Wanangkura Stadium
- Marquee Park

The difference between the \$17M budget and the \$21M actual spend can be attributed to allocations, or internal adjustments that were done after the main budget was prepared, however these did not impact the budget's bottom line.

In relation to swimming pools, the only FY19/20 CAPEX spend was associated with the Gratwick Aquatic Centre, where \$251,058.35 was spent on works undertaken in relation to the dive pool decommissioning.

3. *I can find no trace of income received or expenditure for cyclone expenditure and then in the reserves, we have \$80,000. I know that there are quite a lot of areas up in Pretty Pool that were damaged by cyclone Veronica and have still not been repaired and so I can't*

understand how you can have \$80,000 in reserves and still have cyclone damage. What worries me most of all is I construct these expenses all of the time as I do go through the expenses and all of this time they haven't finished this project. Surely somewhere in this Audit Report that has been passed, identification of cyclone money received and the expenditure of it, there is none. I have looked through it and it does not exist in the Audit Report. I would like to have a breakdown of those please.

The Director Corporate Services provided the following response:

Cyclone expenditure does not go through reserves and it is not required to be reported on as an individual file note. It is processed through the Government Agency DRAFWA essentially as a reimbursement of what has been spent.

Further response provided by Manager Infrastructure Projects and Assets:

The table below summarises the 19/20 expenditure and income received, from DFES, relating to cyclone recovery work performed under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA (DRFAWA):

	Cyclone Veronica	Cyclone Damien	Total
Expenditure	\$ 2,897,318.65	\$ 3,826,643.19	\$ 6,723,961.84
Revenue	\$ 1,179,253.06	\$ 660,293.00	\$ 1,839,546.06

4. *Rate Revenue was most interesting. Gross Payable Revenue in your Audit Report, \$85,884,000 including \$67,149,000 from mining companies, which according to the Audit Report, incurred an amount of \$34,278,000 of all debt. I would like to know what that means? And the nett income of \$53,700,000. The amount of money and there was a list of all the people that received gratias rates amounted to over \$35,000,000, but I could not find anywhere in the report where that figure came from. It was just in the Ordinary report where it stated the amount of money and deferred payments [...inaudible].*

The Director Corporate Services provided the following response:

The amount of \$34,278,000 refers to rate waivers as per CM201920/145 within the Ordinary Council Meeting Minutes from the meeting held on 5 February 2020, where the Town resolved to impose 25% of the retrospective rates relating to the period FY2014-15 to FY20178-18 and waiver the balance. The detail is on page 53 of the financials under "rating information".

5. *Going through your Tenders, I noticed that a couple of times during the year that there was a lot of tenders that were over expenditure. One of them was cleaning and one was \$100,000,000 over 3 years. Why is it that when you are doing your summaries of the assessments of the tenders, why isn't the price taken into consideration? It is not in your component, I have checked it. Surely the price must come in there somewhere and when making recommendation to Council, it does not include it and I don't know why it isn't?*

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

The Town of Port Hedland's Purchasing processes are based on value for money. Value for money is achieved through the critical assessment of criteria including, but not limited to, factors such as: price, whole of contract life costs, safety & risk, timeliness, environmental, social, economic and qualitative factors. These qualitative factors can include efficiency, availability, demonstrated understanding, relevant experience and technical knowledge. This assessment determines the most advantageous supply outcome that contributes to the Town achieving its strategic and operational objectives. Whilst it is necessary to ensure purchasing is conducted within budget, the Town acknowledges that lowest price does not necessarily present the best value for money.

In terms of your reference to the contract for the cleaning over three years, the actual contract price is \$770,200 (excluding GST) for a two year period. The total contract value including extension options (two years extension), is \$1,532,400 (excluding GST), as per Council Decision CM201920/131, within 19 December 2019 Ordinary Council Minutes. Details of all tenders are available in the Town's Tender Register, which is available for inspection.

6. *Why and who decided to remove the Bougainvilleas in the centre of Anderson Street outside of the Police Station?*

The Director Infrastructure Services provided to following response:

Landscape Architects as part of the West End beautification works, sought feedback from the Town before determining to remove the landscape treatment based upon factors such as traffic control when undertaking operational maintenance within the road reserve / median island. Replacement landscaping will be provided in this area.

7. *Was a tender called for the grass planting to the West End and what was the tender price? I am in full view of trying to make the West End look a bit better but some of the damage to the trees, the shrubs, the greenery have all been ripped up and I have not seen the finished project yet... [inaudible].*

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

Yes a tender process was followed and run by RFF on behalf of BHP and the price has not been disclosed.

8. *My next question is who is going to pay for the water? If you remember 10 years ago, BHP and the whole of the West End, the trees, the shrubs, it was beautiful, until someone forgot to turn the water on and within three to four months they were all dead..... So let's hope to save them. The grass looks great but they're sick and they're desperate.*

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

The Town of Port Hedland will be responsible for the ongoing operational maintenance and utility costs.

9. *Could I please have the details of the tender documents, the value, not necessarily the detail but the value of tenders let during the last financial year? What worries me is who passes and verifies the value of progressive payments and who authorises these? Does your Finance Manager do it, do you have engineering do it? Some of those progressive payments are very steep and I don't know where a proportion of that comes from and that is why I want to know the value of the contracts you let during the year.*

The Director Corporate Services provided the following response:

The total value of tenders awarded by the Town in 2019/20 was \$43,521,419.92. Details of all tenders are available in the Town's Tender Register, which is available for inspection. Progressive payments are approved by the department responsible for the management of the contract. Payments are approved by staff with the relevant delegation and where the payment is above staff delegation of \$250,000, the payment is approved by the CEO. All approved payments are made by the Town's finance team, and periodically audited by the Town's procurement team.

10. *The architectural design that you recently put out in the paper. The maps of expenditure for the five hubs. I would like to know what your architectural design costs were for those five things?*

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

The tables below detail architectural design costs for each stage of the Masterplan for the JD Hardie, Port Hedland Sports & Community Hub and South Hedland Integrated Sports Hub.

JD Hardie:

Stage	To Date	Remaining	Total
Stage 1 - Roof & HVAC Replacement and Refurbishment	\$434,461.50	\$37,921.50	\$472,383.00
Stage 2 - Outdoor Courts & Shade Structures	\$189,000.00	\$58,750.00	\$247,750.00
Stage 3 - BMX Pump Track and Landscaping	\$ -	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00
Stage 4 - Library	\$ -	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00
Stage 5 - Child Care	\$ -	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00
TOTAL	\$623,461.50	\$1,296,671.50	\$1,920,133.00

Port Hedland Sports & Community Hub:

Stage	To Date	Remaining	Total
Stage 1	\$294,442.00	\$304,796.00	\$599,238.00
Stage 2	\$ -	\$450,000.00	\$450,000.00
Stage 3	\$ -	\$400,000.00	\$400,000.00
Stage 4	\$ -	\$175,000.00	\$175,000.00
TOTAL	\$294,442.00	\$1,329,796.00	\$1,624,238.00

South Hedland Integrated Sports Hub:

Stage	To Date	Remaining	Total
Stage 1	\$350,265.00	\$500,990.00	\$851,255.00
Stage 2	\$67,530.00	\$631,190.00	\$698,720.00
Stage 3	\$62,800.00	\$391,925.00	\$454,725.00
Stage 4	\$ -	\$300,000.00	\$300,000.00
TOTAL	\$480,595.00	\$1,824,105.00	\$2,304,700.00

11. *What is the future of Mia Mia? I have seen in the audit report that it is operated [inaudible] from the waste out there and also the sewerage. What do you propose to do with Mia Mia now?*

The Director Regulatory Services provided the following response:

The Town has received correspondence from the private sector indicating an intent to operate a camp from the Mia Mia site. The Town has responded, requesting further detail from the proponent in order to provide technical planning advice. The Port Hedland International Airport has recently completed construction of a high capacity waste water treatment plant which Mia Mia could connect to.

12. *I know it was addressed very briefly this morning, but what are you going to do with Stevens Street? I heard the report this morning that you are not going to do anything with it for three and half years, is that correct? If it is correct, why are we not putting something in to State Government? Because the land would go back to the State Government. Surely that responsibility is theirs and not yours?*

The Director Regulatory Services provided the following response:

At its 28 April 2021 meeting, Council determined that it would not consider any reconstruction of seniors housing at the Stevens Street site, based on advice from the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. Future decisions in the Government's land use planning response to the issue of air quality will be informed by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation's (DWER) review of the short-term objectives of its Port Hedland Dust Program, nominally expected during 2024.

The site could be used for another purpose, subject to a change in the Management Order issued to the Town, however no other purpose has been determined. The Town could request that the Management Order be rescinded, with the land being returned to the State. As the future development of the site has not been determined, there is no current intention to return the land to the State.

Item 5 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- 5.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on 29 April 2021.

RECOMMENDATION / DECISION

MOVED: CR ZIELKE

SECONDED: CR GILLINGHAM

That the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Electors held on 29 April 2021 are a true and correct record.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Item 6 Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION / DECISION

MOVED: CR CHRISTENSEN

SECONDED: CR ZIELKE

That the Town of Port Hedland Annual General Meeting of Electors, pursuant to section 5.27 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and regulation 15 of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996*, receive and note the contents of the Town of Port Hedland Annual Report for the 2020/21 Financial Year, including the Mayor's report, the Chief Executive Officer's Report and the Audited Financial Report for the period ended 30 June 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Item 7 General Business

7.1	MR ARNOLD CARTER
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The Chief Executive Officer advised the following questions had been received by Mr Arnold Carter:

Financial Queries from the Budget Audit Report dated 30 June 2021:

1. *Materials and Contracts (\$000)*

Budget \$43.690

Expenditure \$13.978

Balance \$29.712

You have indicated a credit balance of \$26,868, thereby reducing the actual balance to (1911) which I note is a revaluation balance. Is this posting correct?

2. *Revenue and Expenses*

Recreation Culture

Budgeted income: \$4.75M Actual: \$3M.

Why is there such a large discrepancy?

Changes to Airport projects income of \$3903 Budget: \$0. What were these changes?

Interest of \$2454 from reserve funds, where were these funds allocated?

Sundry Expenses \$3190. Can you provide details on where these funds were spent?

3. *Reserves*

Spoil Bank Reserve balance of \$3635 7. Is this figure correct?

4. *Infrastructure*

Depot indicates nil expenditure:

Balance 30 June 2020: \$1,306

Balance 30 June 2021: \$1,251

My understanding is that quite a considerable amount has been spent on this building. I note that the net valuation was in 2018. When do you plan to have a new valuation?

Rental Income:

Where did the amount of \$924,160 as indicated received for rent come from? Does this include \$41,304 paid for the Airport rental of \$40,380?

Could you please advise what expenditure was incurred at Gratwick Swimming Pool during the financial year 2021 and why is the Pool closed during the Summer months?

Borrowings:

You indicate repayments on loans for housing and depot amounting to \$1,378. There is no indication of notice that you have received these loans. Expenditure has been incurred on these projects. What funds were utilised; I imagine Reserves?

Capital Commitment

What are the projects that incurred this expenditure of \$4,521?

Your response would be appreciated.

The Chief Executive Officer thanked Mr Carter for his questions and, given the detailed nature of the questions, agreed to take them on notice.

Mr Carter also made the following statement:

As a ratepayer and a Freeman of the Town of Port Hedland I am most concerned regarding the future of the Town and the direction we are taking.

Firstly, I will express the lack of communications with the Ratepayers and the lack of knowledge and input into the promotion and futuristic planning of the future.

It was recently announced that Council will budget for a \$70 million capital expenditure, plus unknown monies carried forward from the previous budget. With the approach of the 2022/23 budget estimates, surely it would be progressive to include the community and Ratepayers of Port Hedland in discussions in financial matters.

There was a planned program in the past to have regular discussions prior to the adoption of budget by the Council. It may assist in the avoidance of the debacle incurred recently by the skate park, new depot, and swimming pool programs. If we are to improve our population let's get involved in projects that would attract the same, mainly housing, including affordable housing, day care facilities, education and youth requirements and aged people facilities. It will be a long time for the availability of a chalet at Athol St.

We have the highest export of Iron Ore in the world, let's have the most attractive Town.

7.2 MS MORAG LOWE

I am a ratepayer and resident and business owner in Town, and I would just like to make the point that whenever you sit in the audience at Council Meetings it is always difficult to hear what is being said behind the desk. It has been quite an expenditure on audio equipment which does not work particularly well.

I am going to start by asking for an update and progress report on the construction of the Sutherland Street pathway and request a breakdown of costs to date. Is the project completed? If it has, I must have missed that announcement. In view of the weather we have just had and the damage that it has suffered what the plan is going forward?

The Chief Executive Officer provided the following response:

My understanding is that stage one is complete but not stage 2. In regard to the damage, the Director Infrastructure Services may make some comments.

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

There is no damage to the path, however there has been some scouring at Darlot Street where there was informal access previously, which is where the dune had been damaged. The Town has seeded that dune in the last week. We had always said that we would expect some damage, especially in the lower part, which we have been monitoring with the drone, and we will go back and do some remedial works.

Early in 2020 I noticed a sum of \$40,000 being allocated to UWA, and I recall asking the Mayor at the time if he was aware of what this was for, to which he informed me it was the Town's contribution to a survey being undertaken. I believe he said the survey was on the status of FIFO workers in Town and the requirements thereof going forward. We are nearly coming up to a year, and it was the Town's contribution to quite a significant figure being contributed by other Pilbara Council's as well. I am just wondering where that research is at because it would be very useful to have access to it now.

The Chief Executive Officer took the question on notice.

Are there any plans on recruitment of an experienced building inspector on staff in view of the budgeted expenditure of big-ticket items going forward whilst noting that a significant number of projects to date are still over time and over budget. I think this is a critical position that has been missing in the executive of the Town for a number of years.

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

We are in the process of advertising for a Building Construction Supervisor, however for all of the buildings that have been done, we contract that out. We have supervision and support from consultancies in Perth and there are Project Managers on site at the bigger jobs every day. There has not been an issue with quality of those projects.

As a continuation of the last answer; I think a budget item that is missing is the amount that the Town actually spends on external consultants. I wonder if that figure is available?

The Chief Executive Officer took this question on notice.

Ms Lowe also made the following statement:

I think you will find that the ratepayers don't want to fund the expenditure for highly paid employees if they do not have the capacity to deliver in their departments, leaving the work to external consultants. We need one or the other, not both.

7.3 MR DESMOND MOLONEY

I am concerned that in the West End drainage pumps are regularly not working, which has caused major flooding. If you look in front of the police station you can see how high the water was.

I would also like to bring up that we have spent a massive amount of money on the gardens in Town, which have all died in the past month. This is just repetition, every time we get the funding to create nice lawns they all die. I just wanted to make you all aware.

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

There was an issue with the Gilbert Street pumps yesterday, and we sent staff out there to investigate. One was not working and one had an undetected blockage, which caused the issue. This is now being seen to.

In terms of the wider flooding issue around the West End, we have put money into a study with BHP and Mainroads to redesign all of the drainage from Wilson Street back into the West End as there are significant issues with the capacity there. That will be done this year and will inform our works program moving forward.

7.4	MR BRAD YOUNG
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The Capital works for Wedgefield; the road infrastructure and drainage. We have heard many times that works will commence and nothing is happening, and it is creating a lot of dust issues as well.

We have the biggest trucks coming into Town, and we have upgraded Murrambine Street and had experts come up here and say it is not suitable for dual carriage. If you drive around Wedgefield, you can see the hazards we have happening with the trucks and light vehicles, and coming on the ring road. The road system is just a disaster waiting for something to happen. Moving forward I would just like to see where this is going. This is infrastructure that generates a lot of income for the state, and we seem to be in a filthy area where the air quality is poor. I just want to know if there is a vision moving forward?

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

We have completed a study on what needs to happen in Wedgefield. It suffers from a number of issues; drainage – a lot of the drains have been filled in for people to get extra parking and so the drainage system doesn't work. It was never designed for 60 metre long RAV10's, however it is a RAV10 area, so there needs to be significant work on intersections and how you turn and manoeuvre in Wedgefield. We will start working our way through that.

I believe there has been around \$2M spent on upgrades and we will be using regional road funding to continue improvements. We can see that further works need to be undertaken however we need to complete some better designs and there also needs to be quite a lot of public consultation as it will affect the way people get around Wedgefield, so we need to approach that quite carefully.

I can see that, but we have one intersection in all of Wedgefield for all those trucks to come down. We can see what's happening, but we don't plan for it. We should be putting something in place sooner rather than later. These studies have been going on for quite a long time, which is why I have come here tonight to reiterate the point. The roads have been there for twenty odd years, and you can see the verges are falling apart, you can see the intersections aren't adequate and they are an easy fix. It's only going to get worse, and we need to address it.

7.5 MS LYNNE TAYLOR

I would like to know why am I paying \$14,000 a year on rates? Look outside the dome, what you have been doing out there over and over again. You take perfectly good grass out and put perfectly good grass back in, and now it is all dying. I would like to know why the footpath stops either side of my place and nothing has been done? Am I invisible around there?

The Mayor took this question on notice.

I don't understand why I am paying rates at all. I do not use the bins, I have never received any form of a recycling bin, I pay for my own to be taken away. It's time things change. You have riddled that area of the West End, allowing people to pollute far over the legal limit daily and leaving the drains mosquito ridden daily. They used to flow out to the sea and now they sit there with water in them that continues to be there every day of the year. It's about time someone had to live out there in the West End and see what it's like.

I'm not eligible for the buyback scheme, but it has a residential house on it and I am a voter. I think it's about time you guys look at what's happening up there.

7.6 MRS GLORIA JACOB

I've got a question in relation to, and acknowledging, Brad Young's comments around transport and logistics. You did say [Director Infrastructure Services] that there is a plan in place. Is there a transport and logistic plan that is currently being reviewed or drafted?

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

There is not an overall transport and logistic plan for the Town. There is a road program, on which we have had studies done on resealing residential areas, a study being done on Wedgefield, and there is a joint survey being done with Mainroads on road and drainage infrastructure for the West End.

My question relates in particular to Wedgefield and the industrial area. Are we to assume there is no transport plan in existence, and there is not currently a review other than what you have just stated?

The Director Infrastructure Services provided the following response:

We have a draft which needs to be finalised [Wedgefield Road Traffic and Drainage Masterplan]. We are looking at between \$30-\$35M needed to be spent in Wedgefield. We need to have a look at what we have got, which is more than a matter of just sealing roads, it is a matter for some re-configuration of Wedgefield. We will be presenting to Council once finalised.

As a former resident and business operator in Wedgefield I think the Town has to pay serious consideration to a road haulage transport and logistic plan. What you have currently is a light industrial area where people have created business premises with caretaker residents. What has occurred over the decades is that the mining industry is supported heavily by logistic services. In fact, the logistic services compound quite a large part of the contractor businesses in the Town, and yet the Town has not provided them, or facilitated, a defined transport and logistic plan providing them with space. You can't have a Jamieson's in Leehey Street, but you do. You can't have Campbell Transport around the corner, but you do. What we originally had

was Centurion transport and Toll. All of those transports put together are largely used for taking in and out commodities that are useful for this port. I find it very unusual that we as a Town have not actually provided guidance to companies like that. It is unsafe. We talk about risk mitigation on so many levels and yet we allow businesses like that to operate, and it's okay because they do not have an alternative. I implore the Town to have a look and consider these issues.

I would ask if you, Mr Mayor, would like to re-write your report as there are a few things in the Mayors message that have not eventuated. To read your report as an uninformed person you would be quite happy with what is there, but in essence out of all the things you have mentioned there is probably a handful that haven't eventuated.

In relation to financial reports in the annual report, can you explain in regards to the statement of comprehensive earnings where you have shown expenses relating to materials and contracts? The first page of the report says that you have budgeted \$43.69M for materials and contracts and we have spent \$13.978M. Can you explain the variance?

The Director Corporate Services provided the following response:

Because of the required Accounting treatment, the \$24M that we were to pay for the Marina Project last year is included even though the funds are sitting in our reserves, it needs to be shown through the materials and contracts expense line. That explains the variance, because we have to have it budgeted we should have paid it last financial year before the 30 June 2021, and we didn't. We are hoping to pay it this financial year. You will see that budgeted figure again in the current financial year.

I assume the remaining \$6M is unfinished projects relating to the JD Hardie, youth zone and Skatepark?

The Director Corporate Services took this question on notice, and provided the following response on the 23 February 2022:

The remaining budget is not for the unfinished projects. The budgets for those projects appear in the Capital Works Budget. The remaining budget was less than expected as the impact of Covid 19 affected many areas including the inability to secure contractors and materials, thus reducing spending in the area of materials and contracts.

Relating to the Marina project reportedly going into, reportedly, an extra \$87M or \$97M – will there be any exposure to the Town with regards to the overrun of the State Government?

The Mayor advised there would not be.

In relation to the audited financial report, showing housing as an income revenue, can you explain how this occurs? Is that rental paid by staff?

The Director Corporate Services indicated that this revenue was not from rental paid by staff, and took this question on notice providing the following response on 23 February 2022:

The revenue was received from LGIS (Local Government Insurer) for damage to fire pumps. The insurance payout was incorrectly coded to housing instead of recreation and culture

On the expense side of the same cost centre of housing there was a budget of \$3.127M, expended \$1.051M, can you explain what that budget relates to given that it was double the budget of the previous year?

The Director Corporate Services took this question on notice, and provided the following response on the 23 February 2022:

The budget for housing was increased for interest on borrowings (that did not occur), and an expected increase in costs due to new housing being built and secured. The onset of Covid 19 impacted the ability to complete these projects in the expected timeline resulting in an underspend to the anticipated budget.

My last question relates to economic services, this I am assuming could be consultancy? – Budgeted for \$1.15M with expenditure being \$2.9M. This is more than double the budgeted item. Is there an explanation for this?

The Director Corporate Services took this question on notice, and provided the following response on the 23 February 2022:

An increase in sales of the Kingsford Smith Business Park land resulted in a higher than expected cost of sales for the land.

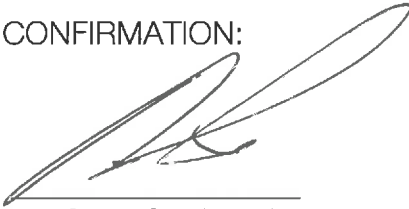
Item 8 Closure

There being no further business, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 6:12pm.

DECLARATION OF CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

I certify that these Minutes were confirmed by the Council at its Annual General Meeting of Electors on 08 February 2023.

CONFIRMATION:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a horizontal line.

PRESIDING MEMBER

13/2/2023
DATED