STRATHFIELD COUNCIL

MINUTES

Extraordinary Council Meeting

24 November 2015

MINUTES

Minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting of Strathfield Municipal Council held on 24 November 2015, in the Council Chambers, 65 Homebush Road, Strathfield.

COMMENCING: 6.30pm

PRESENT:
Mayor Councillor S Ok (Chairman)
Councillor A Soulos
Councillor D Bott
Councillor S Kokkolis
Councillor H McLucas
Councillor G Vaccari

STAFF:
General Manager
Director Corporate Services
Director Technical Services
Group Manager Organisational Performance
Governance Coordinator
Personal Assistant to Director Corporate Services

1. OPENING: The prayer was read.

2. RECOGNITION OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS: The Recognition was read.

3. PECUNIARY INTEREST/CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. APOLOGIES

An apology was tendered on behalf of Councillor Datta for non attendance.

5. Quarterly Budget Review as at 30 September 2015

364/15

RESOLVED: (McLucas/Vaccari)

1. That the Budget Review Statement as at 30 September 2015 be received and adopted.

2. That a workshop be held in early December to discuss the carry forwards and unexpended grants from Council's current Quarterly Budget Review statement.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Bott, Kokkolis, McLucas, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Nil

6. Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy

365/15

RESOLVED: (McLucas/Kokkolis)

That Council adopt the Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Bott, Kokkolis, McLucas, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Nil

7. MOTIONS PURSUANT TO NOTICE

A. Notice of Motions signed by Councillor Bott

1. Playground Equipment

I MOVE:

That Council report on potential improvements and/or additions to playground equipment in all Strathfield Council suburbs.

366/15

RESOLVED: (Bott/Soulos)

That Council report on potential improvements and/or additions to playground equipment in all Strathfield Council suburbs.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Bott, Kokkolis, McLucas, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Nil

2. Anonymous Mail

I MOVE:

That Council condemns the person or persons who have distributed anonymous mail about current and former councillors. In its condemnations, Council makes no distinction between those who do this and those who enable others to do this.

367/15

RESOLVED: (Bott/Kokkolis)

That Council condemns the person or persons who have distributed anonymous mail about current and former councillors. In its condemnations, Council makes no distinction between those who do this and those who enable others to do this.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Bott, Kokkolis, McLucas, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Nil

B. Notice of Motions signed by Councillor Soulos

1. Local Government are not Cogs in a Machine

I MOVE:

1. That Council request the Save our Councils coalition take the lead in organising the commissioning of a television advertisement rebutting the hyperbole and misrepresentations in the television advertisement produced by the State Government promoting 'reform'.

2. That Council dedicate $5000 to the above television campaign.

3. That Council request likeminded councils and political parties give financial assistance in the above endeavour.

4. That all correspondence regarding this motion include parts 1 to 3 of this motion.

368/15

RESOLVED: (Soulos/Vaccari)

1. That Council request the Save our Councils coalition take the lead in organising the commissioning of a television advertisement rebutting the hyperbole and misrepresentations in the television advertisement produced by the State Government promoting 'reform'.

2. That Council dedicate $5000 to the above television campaign should it proceed.

3. That Council request likeminded councils and political parties give financial assistance in the above endeavour should it proceed.

4. That all correspondence regarding this motion include parts 1 to 3 of this motion.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Bott, Kokkolis, McLucas, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Nil

3. Dedication to an Undemocratic Process

Councillor McLucas declared a non –significant non-pecuniary interest during discussion on this matter as reference was made to the Australian Catholic University where she is employed.

I MOVE:

1. That Council dedicate a plaque outlining the results of the community surveys regarding current amalgamation/ 'reform' proposals.

2. That should amalgamation or boundary realignment be forced on Strathfield, the Office of Local Government's involvement as well as the date of any decree or other be engraved on this plaque.

3. That this plaque be dedicated in a prominent place within Strathfield.

369/15

RESOLVED: (Soulos/Vaccari)

1. That Council dedicate a plaque outlining the results and findings of the community surveys regarding current amalgamation/ 'reform' proposals.

2. That should amalgamation or boundary realignment be forced on Strathfield, the Office of Local Government's involvement as well as the date of any decree or other be engraved on this plaque.

3. That this plaque be dedicated in a prominent place within Strathfield.

4. That Council recognise the community leaders who spearheaded this fight.

5. That Council ensure community leaders who led this fight are part of the unveiling.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Bott, Kokkolis, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Councillor McLucas

4. Legal Battlefront in Fight for Democracy

I MOVE:

1. That Council seek legal advice regarding taking legal action against the NSW Government should it proceed to force amalgamation and/or boundary realignment upon Strathfield.

2. That should the legal advice be to proceed, Council seek to join other council(s) in this action.

370/15

RESOLVED: (Soulos/Kokkolis)

1. That Council seek legal advice regarding taking legal action against the NSW Government should it proceed to force amalgamation and/or boundary realignment upon Strathfield.

2. That the advice be advised to Councillors as soon as it is received.

3. That should the legal advice be to proceed, Council seek to join other council(s) in this action.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Bott, Kokkolis, McLucas, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Nil

C. Notice of Motions signed by Councillor Datta

371/15

RESOLVED: (Bott/Kokkolis)

That the following Notice of Motions submitted by Councillor Datta be Deferred to the 1 December 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting:

1. Private Members Bill

2. WestConnex Motorway
3. NSW Trustee and Guardian Funding
4. TAFE Funding
5. Local Parking Panels
6. Amalgamation
7. Fit for the Future

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Bott, Kokkolis, McLucas, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Nil

D. Notice of Motion signed by Councillor McLucas and Bott

1. Greater Sydney Commission

I MOVE:

That a report be provided outlining the role, responsibilities and powers of the Greater Sydney Commission particularly in relation to the consideration and determination of Development Applications and rezoning proposals.

372/15

RESOLVED: (McLucas/Kokkolis)

That a report be provided urgently outlining the role, responsibilities and powers of the Greater Sydney Commission particularly in relation to the consideration and determination of Development Applications and rezoning proposals.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Bott, Kokkolis, McLucas, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Nil

URGENT BUSINESS – URGENT CONSIDERATION OF MAYORAL MINUTE 43/15 – COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND TASKFORCES

373/15

RESOLVED: (Ok/Vaccari)

That Council as a matter of urgency consider Mayoral Minute 43/15 – Council Committees and Taskforces.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Kokkolis, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Councillors Bott and McLucas

The Mayor ruled that this was a matter of urgency.

Urgent Business - Mayoral Minute No 43/15 – Council Committees and Taskforces

I MOVE:

1. That the schedule of all Council meetings, committee meetings and Taskforce meeting be set 12 monthly in advance and advised to Councillors commencing immediately.

2. The agenda and minutes of previous meetings of all of the above be published at least 72 hours prior to the appropriate meeting.

3. That a notice board be introduced into the Mayor's office, in a location indicated by the Mayor, upon which a hard copy of each upcoming committee or taskforce meeting agenda, and minutes of the previous meetings, are displayed as per Item 2 above.

4. That the meeting schedules mentioned in item 1 above also be displayed on the notice board which will be installed into the Mayoral office.

374/15

RESOLVED: (Ok/Vaccari)

1. That the schedule of all Council meetings, committee meetings and Taskforce meeting be set 12 monthly in advance and advised to Councillors commencing immediately.

2. The agenda and minutes of previous meetings of all of the above be published at least 72 hours prior to the appropriate meeting.

3. That a notice board be introduced into the Mayor's office, in a location indicated by the Mayor, upon which a hard copy of each upcoming committee or taskforce meeting agenda, and minutes of the previous meetings, are displayed as per Item 2 above.

4. That the meeting schedules mentioned in item 1 above also be displayed on the notice board which will be installed into the Mayoral office.

For the Motion: Councillors Ok, Kokkolis, Soulos and Vaccari

Against the Motion: Councillors Bott and McLucas

The Mayor declared the Motion Carried.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING CLOSED AT 8.15PM.

The foregoing Minutes were confirmed at the meeting of the Council of the Municipality of Strathfield held on 1 December 2015.

Chairman_____ General Manager_____