



City of
Belmont



Annual Electors' Meeting

Minutes

Monday 5 February 2024

CITY OF BELMONT

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Alternative Formats

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Minutes from the Annual Electors' Meeting held in the Function Room, City of Belmont Civic Centre, 215 Wright Street, Cloverdale on Monday 5 February 2024 commencing at 6.30pm.

Minutes

Present

Mayor R Rossi, JP (Presiding Member)	Mayor
Cr D Sessions (Deputy Mayor)	West Ward
Cr B Ryan	East Ward
Cr P Marks	East Ward
Cr C Kulczycki	West Ward

In attendance

Mr S Downing	Acting Chief Executive Officer
Mr W Loh	Director Development and Communities
Mr M Murphy	Director Infrastructure Services
Ms G Carter-Nguyen	Acting Director Corporate and Governance
Ms D Dabala	Manager Governance and Legal
Mrs J Cherry-Murphy	Senior Governance Officer
Ms M Phillips	Governance Officer

Electors

Ms F Faqiri
Ms S Forsyth
Ms J Gee
Mrs G Godfrey
Ms H Hawke
Ms S Hoddinott
Ms S Lee
Ms D Ransome
Ms E Ransome
Mr L Rosolin
Mr E Spini
Mr T Teasdale

Members of the Public (Non-Elector)

Ms L Hollands

1 Welcome

6.30pm The Presiding Member welcomed all those in attendance and declared the meeting open.

The Presiding Member read aloud the Acknowledgement of Country.

Acknowledgement of Country

Before I begin, I would like to acknowledge the Whadjuk Noongar people as the Traditional Owners of this land and pay my respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

I further acknowledge their cultural heritage, beliefs, connection and relationship with this land which continues today.

6.34pm In accordance with Section 17.2 of the City of Belmont *Standing Orders Local Law 2017*, the Presiding Member informed the meeting, that should any person in attendance wish to participate in the discussions, who is not an elector or a ratepayer, an elector can move a motion in order for this to occur.

Ms Hollands indicated that she would like the opportunity to participate in the discussion.

Ms J Gee moved, Ms S Lee seconded

That in accordance with Section 17.2 of the Standing Orders Local Law 2017 Ms Hollands, who is not an elector or ratepayer, be permitted to participate in the discussion.

Carried 9 votes to 0

2 Apologies and leave of absence

Cr G Sekulla (apology)	Central Ward
Cr Vijay (apology)	Central Ward
Cr N Carter (apology)	South Ward
Cr J Davis (apology)	South Ward
Mr J Christie (apology)	Chief Executive Officer

3 Report of the Mayor

The Report of the Mayor is contained in the 2022-2023 Annual Report. The Mayor asked if there were any questions on the report. There were no questions.

4 Report of the Chief Executive Officer

The report of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is contained in the 2022-2023 Annual Report. The Mayor asked if there were any questions regarding the content of the report.

Ms L Hollands asked the following question:

1. How many of the 43,000 people living in the City of Belmont participated in the Community Perception Scorecard?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the question would be taken on notice.

5 Receiving the Annual Report

Ms L Hollands asked the following question:

1. How much did it cost the City to purchase 100% green electricity at seven of the City's highest consuming sites?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the question would be taken on notice.

Mr L Rosolin asked the following questions:

1. Do Councillors receive a bonus for attending Council and Committee meetings?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that they do not.

2. What do they receive?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal which are an independent body set all the sitting fees for Local Governments within Western Australia. This is based on the size of the Local Government. The City of Belmont is a tier one Council and the Mayor and Councillors are paid in accordance with that. They receive a flat fee per year, no matter how many meetings there are. There is no bonus for additional meetings.

3. Is it fair that all Councillors are paid equal when Cr Sekulla only attended a couple of meetings, should the City not be encouraging attendance?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the City has to follow the regulations. The State Government is currently looking at remuneration for Elected Members.

Mrs G Godfrey asked the following question:

1. How many performances within the last 12 months has the Belmont District Band Reserve performed on behalf of the City of Belmont?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the question would be taken on notice.

Ms J Gee asked the following question:

1. What Did Cr Sekulla spend \$12,000 on for professional development?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the question would be taken on notice.

Officer Recommendation

Mrs G Godfrey moved, Ms J Gee seconded

That the City of Belmont [Annual Report 2022-2023](#) be received.

4 votes to 0

6 General business

6.1 Notice of Motion 1

Ms J Gee moved, Ms E Ransome seconded

That Council supports the addition of payment of the rates fortnightly or monthly by direct debit, at no extra cost for implementation in the 2024-2025 Council rates.

Carried 9 votes to 2

6.2 Notice of Motion 2

Ms J Gee moved, Ms S Forsyth seconded

That Council vote on all motions raised at this electors' meeting individually in order to show just respect to the people that elected them.

Carried 9 votes to 1

6.3 Notice of Motion 3

Ms J Gee moved, Mr L Rosolin seconded

Until such time that the Federal Government changes the date of Australia Day from January 26 each year, that the City of Belmont holds a Citizenship Ceremony and promote and holds an event to celebrate the day.

Carried 8 votes to 2

6.4 Notice of Motion 4

Ms J Gee moved, Mr L Rosolin seconded

That the Chief Executive Officer, Complaints Officer, Manager of Governance and Councillors all undertake training on the complaint processes relating to both Code of Conduct and Regulation breaches.

Carried 11 votes to 0

6.5 Notice of Motion 5

Ms J Gee moved, Ms S Forsyth seconded

Council instructs the Chief Executive Officer to provide a review of the Access and Inclusion Plan specifically in respect of both our seniors and those with disability so that it complies in all aspects with the Equal Opportunity Act 1984.

With the fast moving electronic age ensure that all internal processes and policies are kept up to date to accommodate those who are unable to be included in this high technology society and where necessary provide access via more manual means and promote that the City is doing this.

Carried 12 votes to 0

6.6 Mrs G Godfrey, Redcliffe

Mrs Godfrey made a statement requesting a standalone Bowling Club within the City of Belmont.

6.7 Ms J Gee, Cloverdale

Ms Gee made a statement against the proposed five storey development at 362 Abernethy Road, Cloverdale.

6.8 Ms L Hollands, Redcliffe

1. How much did the new Chambers doors cost?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated the cost for replacement of the four doors was \$9,000.

2. Why was there never a staff member in the foyer to see what residents are doing?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated he did not have an answer.

3. How many times were security cameras looked at?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that he takes that as a rhetorical question and stated that he does not have an answer.

4. Did you check the cameras?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that he did not personally check the cameras.

5. Rule 7 in the Complaints Policy states that any conflict of interest needs to be managed if a Councillor is in the room voting on a matter, how is this managed?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that under the *Local Government Act 1995*, where there is a disclosure of interest, if it is not a financial interest, the Elected Member is permitted to remain in the Chamber. If an Elected Member remains in the Chamber they are required to vote.

6. Even if they have disclosed a conflict of interest, they are entitled to stay in the chamber?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that they must disclose a conflict of interest and if they remain in the Chamber they must vote.

7. How many weeks of annual leave and personal leave does the Chief Executive Officer get?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated he is not able to comment on staff matters. Leave is a financial matter and he is not aware of what the Chief Executive Officer receives.

8. Is this information available under Freedom of Information?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the question would be taken on notice.

9. Has any Councillor or the City approached the Perth Airport about moving Qantas to Terminal 2?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the question would be taken on notice.

10. In part two of the Infrastructure Plan, the City will review current and future needs for co-location of senior services. Will these facilities be shared or standalone facilities?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the question would be taken on notice.

11. Are shared facilities going to filter through all clubs in Belmont or just clubs that involve seniors?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the question would be taken on notice.

12. Why is the City of Belmont changing Ascot independent living to aged care living. What other facilities are facing such changes?

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that the question would be taken on notice.

7 Closure

There being no further business, the Presiding Member thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 7.43pm.