



Minutes

Statutory Council Meeting held at 6.00 PM on Monday 6 November 2023 in the Council Chamber, Pleasant Creek Historic Precinct, Stawell.

Present

Cr Lauren Dempsey

Cr Murray Emerson

Cr Kevin Erwin

Cr Trevor Gready

Cr Rob Haswell

Cr Karen Hyslop

Cr Eddy Ostarcevic PhD

Mr Brent McAllister, Chief Executive Officer

Confirmed at the meeting of Council on Monday 4 December 2023.

Table of Contents

1. Declare Open the Meeting	3
2. The Affirmation	3
3. Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absence	3
4. Mayoral Term	3
5. Office of Deputy Mayor	3
6. Election of Mayor	4
7. Close	6

1. Declare Open the Meeting

The Chief Executive Officer, Brent McAlister, declared the meeting open.

The Chief Executive Officer advised that for the first part of the meeting he would act as Chairperson while several formal procedures were completed.

2. The Affirmation

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, asked all present to rise to observe the Affirmation.

We recognise the traditional owners of the land.

We are inspired by the early pioneers and by those who gave their lives for our country.

We now ask God's blessing on our deliberations and on our commitment to build a better lifestyle and environment.

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, asked all present to resume their seats.

3. Apologies and Requests for Leave of Absence

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, called for advice of apologies or requests for leave of absence.

There were no apologies received.

The Chairperson advised the meeting that apologies from invited guests will be passed to Councillors.

4. Mayoral Term

Due to the next Council General Election being held on Saturday, 26 October 2024, the term of office for the Mayor can only be for one year.

RESOLUTION

That the Mayoral term runs until 26 October 2024.

Moved: Cr Kevin Erwin
Seconded: Cr Karen Hyslop

Carried

5. Office of Deputy Mayor

A Council may establish an office of Deputy Mayor. In the event that Council resolves to establish an office of Deputy Mayor, the incoming Mayor will facilitate the election of the Deputy Mayor in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Governance Rules*.

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, called for any motion.

RESOLUTION

That Council establishes an office of Deputy Mayor.

Moved: Cr Eddy Ostarcevic
Seconded: Cr Karen Hyslop

THE MOTION WAS PUT AND LOST

CR HYSLOP CALLED FOR A DIVISION

FOR THE MOTION – Crs Eddy Ostarcevic, Lauren Dempsey and Karen Hyslop
AGAINST THE MOTION – Crs Trevor Gready, Murray Emerson, Kevin Erwin and Rob Haswell

6. Election of Mayor

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, explained that according to Council's Governance Rules the Mayor must be elected by an absolute majority of the Councillors and that the election must be carried out by a show of hands.

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, called for nominations for the office of Mayor.

Council's Governance Rules excerpt:

(6) In determining the election of the Mayor, the following will apply:

- 6.7.1 the nomination of a candidate for office must be moved and seconded by a Councillor other than the nominee and accepted by the nominee;*
- 6.7.2 where only one Councillor is a candidate for Mayor the meeting must declare that Councillor to be duly elected as Mayor;*
- 6.7.3 where two or more nominations are received, a vote must be taken and the Councillor who receives the number of votes equal to or greater than half the councillors of the Council must be declared elected;*
- 6.7.4 where two candidates have been nominated and no candidate receives the number of votes equal to half the Councillors of the Council, a second vote will be conducted;*
- 6.7.5 where, after a second vote, two candidates have been nominated and no candidate receives the number of votes equal to half the Councillors of the Council the Chief Executive Officer will seek the meeting to resolve to conduct a new election at a meeting to be held at 6pm the following day;*
- 6.7.6 in the event that no candidate receives an absolute majority of the votes, and it is not resolved to conduct a new election at a later date and time, the candidate with the fewest number of votes must be declared to be a defeated candidate. The Councillors present at the meeting must then vote for one of the remaining candidates;*
- 6.7.7 if one of the remaining candidates receives an absolute majority of the votes, he or she is duly elected. If none of the remaining candidates receives an absolute majority of the votes, the process of declaring the candidates with the fewest number of votes a defeated candidate and voting for the remaining candidates must be repeated until one of the candidates receives an absolute majority of the votes. That candidate must then be declared to have been duly elected;*
- 6.7.8 If a lot is conducted, the Chief Executive Officer will have the conduct of the lot and the following provisions will apply:
 - (a) each candidate will draw one lot;*
 - (b) the order of drawing lots will be determined by the alphabetical order of the surnames of the Councillors who received an equal number of votes except that if two or more such Councillors' surnames are identical, the order will be determined by the alphabetical order of the Councillors' first names; and*
 - (c) as many identical pieces of paper as there are Councillors who received an equal number of votes must be placed in a receptacle. If the lot is being conducted to determine who is a defeated candidate, the word "Defeated" shall be written on one of the pieces of paper, and the Councillor who draws the paper with the word "Defeated" written on it must be declared the defeated candidate (in which event a further vote must be taken on the remaining candidates unless there is only one candidate remaining, in which case that candidate will be declared to have been duly elected).**

Cr Dempsey nominated Cr Hyslop for the position of Mayor for 2023/2024. Cr Ostarcevic seconded the nomination.

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, confirmed the acceptance of the nomination with Cr Hyslop.

Cr Emerson nominated Cr Haswell for the position of Mayor for 2023/2024. Cr Gready seconded the nomination.

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, confirmed the acceptance of the nomination with Cr Haswell.

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, put the nominations to the vote.

The Chairperson, Brent McAlister, declared Cr Haswell duly elected as Mayor of the Northern Grampians Shire Council for 2023/2024.

The Chairperson vacated the Chair and the Mayor assumed the Chair.

The Mayor called for a motion to suspend Standing Orders to allow for a number of formal presentations.

RESOLUTION

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow for a number of formal presentations.

Moved: Cr Emerson

Seconded: Cr Gready

Carried

Cr Erwin presented the Mayor with a new gavel and base and congratulated him on his appointment on behalf of the citizens of the shire.

The Mayor, Cr Haswell responded thanking all those that supported him.

Cr Haswell presented the former Mayor, Cr Erwin with the gavel and base presented to him at the start of his Mayoral term for 2022/2023 as a personal keepsake, as a token of the esteem and thanks and as a memento of his year in office. In addition to the gavel and base, a small token of gratitude for his service to the shire was also presented.

Cr Erwin responded briefly discussing the highlights of his term as Mayor and wished the newly appointed Mayor, Cr Haswell all the best in his new position.

Cr Ostarcevic presented the spouse of the former Mayor, with a gift to thank her for her support during the Mayor's term.

Cr Erwin responded thanking his wife, Julie Erwin for all her support to him whilst on Council for over 20 years, including his six terms as Mayor.

The Mayor called for a motion to resume Standing Orders.

RESOLUTION

That Standing Orders be resumed.

Moved: Cr Emerson

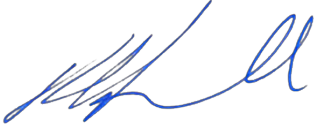
Seconded: Cr Gready

Carried

7. Close

The Mayor declared the meeting closed and invited those present to join Councillors for light refreshments.

Confirmed



CR ROB HASWELL
MAYOR

Date: 4 December 2023