



murchisonshire

Ancient land under brilliant skies

Agenda for the Ordinary Meeting of the

Murchison Shire Council

To be held in the Council Chambers, Carnarvon Mullewa Road, Murchison,
on Thursday **27 July 2023**, commencing at 12 Noon.

Ancient land under brilliant skies

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ATTACHMENTS

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

Shire President declared the meeting open at

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Present

Councillors

Cr R Foulkes-Taylor
Cr A Whitmarsh
Cr Q Fowler
Cr E Foulkes-Taylor
Cr M Fowler
Cr G Mead

Staff

Bill Boehm – CEO
Travis Bate (RSM) – Financial Accountant

Apologies

William Herold – Works Manager

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

3.1 Ordinary Council Meeting – 22 June 2023

Background

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council have previously been circulated to all Councillors.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 22 June 2023 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

Voting Requirements:

Simple Majority

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

4 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

5 RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil

6 STANDING ORDERS

Matter for Consideration

It has been customary practice in the interests of a productive meeting in relation to the Conduct of Members during debates for the Council suspend Standing Orders 8.2 (Limitation on Number of speeches) and 8.3 (Duration of Speeches) under Local Law 2001. To facilitate this, the following recommended resolution is required.

Recommendation

That the following Local Law-Standing Orders 2001 be stood down:

- 8.2 Limitation on the number of speeches
- 8.3 Duration of speeches

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

8 NEXT MEETING

Thursday 24 August 2023

9 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

10 URGENT BUSINESS

11 NOTICE OF ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Item 17.1.1 Account Listings Paid since the last list was presented to Council

12 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

13 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS

Hon Peter Foster MLC Member for Mining & Pastoral is scheduled to attend

14 ANNOUNCEMENTS CONCERNING MEETINGS ATTENDED

14.1 Shire President

14.2 Councillors

15 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil

16 WORKS

16.1 Works Report

File: 12.42
Author: William Herold – Works Manager
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 27 July 2023
Attachments: Nil

Construction Crew

The construction crew are progressing steadily with reconstruction and widening works on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road south of the Twin-Peaks Wooleen Road . Due to the amount of spoil/fill they are having to move and maneuver it is taking a considerable amount of time and I suspect causing some frustration when they look back and see how few km's they have covered over the time they have been busy. They have also had a few minor breakdowns that have clearly added to their frustrations.

Maintenance Crew

The new look maintenance crew have progressed up the Beringarra-Pindar Rd. and by the time Council meets they should be around the Boolardy homestead. We have had another grader go down with what looks like a hydraulic pump issue.

SKAO Road Upgrade

Walladar are progressing well on their re-sheet works on the Wooleen-Mt Wittenoom Rd. and when Council meet they should have completed around 12 km as well as a considerable amount of work correcting drainage and water disbursement.

Squires Resources made a start on their portion of the upgrade works on 10 July starting just south of the Boolardy homestead on the Beringarra-Pindar Rd. and then moving onto the Boolardy-Wooleen Rd. This is also re-sheet work as well as a considerable amount of floodway repair and in some cases reconstruction of floodways.

Beringarra-Pindar Road

Rowe Contractors are well underway with their re-sheet and floodway stabilization works on the south end of the Beringarra-Pindar Rd. They will also be correcting drainage issues and putting in bunds as they progress north from Tallering.

Flood Damage

Them Earthmoving will have completed their works for flood 8 and 9 by the time Council meets. I will be doing the final hand over of works on Friday 21 July. Before they de-mobe they will complete some capital works for the Shire between the Curbur Lake and Tin Hut Creek.

Polocrosse

The reports I have received back have all been positive and the event seems to have been a success apart from one injury flown out by the RFDS. I would like to thank the crew and Mark and Lisa in particular for stepping up and seeing that things happened in my absence.

Caravan Park Ablutions Block

Tenders have been invited and advertised for the construction of an Ablutions Block at the Murchison Caravan Park. Tenders close on 11 August 2023. Subject to evaluation tenders will be considered at the August Meeting.

Survey Work

As foreshadowed survey work has been programmed for the Murchison Settlement and in the gravel length of the City of Greater Geraldton’s section on the Carnarvon- Mullewa Road. This later project is funded with remaining funds from the Royalty for Regions funded Business case for the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road which has been completed. HTD Surveyors from Geraldton have been engaged to undertake Survey and UAV Imagery and are expected to start the week of the Council Meeting. Most of the work within the Settlement will be undertaken by drone and cover the entire Shire lease area.

Main Roads WA Funding

Advice has been received from Main Roads WA the regions 2023/24 Road Project Grant Program is currently undersubscribed by a significant amount, totally \$861,827 and that all Mid-West local governments have the opportunity to consider nominating an additional project or extending a current project.

Following discussions with Main Roads WA it seems that there is some interest, and we are in the fortunate position operationally of being able to easily extend a few reconstruction and widening sections of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. An application will be lodged on a 2 for 1 funding basis with current funding criteria assisting scoring wise in the evaluation.

Advice has also been received calling for 2024/25 Road Project Grant submission(s) and an updated Three-Year Works Program. This year we will put forward 4 projects (the maximum) for reconstruction and widening sections of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road. Each project cost is \$450,000 with a \$300,000 grant.

As previously advised changes to scoring criteria means that there is a reduced traffic component associated with construction or widening of an existing of a road to a 7.2m seal with no scores for a 4.0m seal. The Technical Working Group has previously met regarding introduction of a floodway criteria and other changes including a revised scoring matrix and increases to the maximum project cost to \$600,000 with a \$400,000 grant. These aspects have been generally favorably received but additional deliberations and final recommendations have yet to be resolved.

LRCIP Project Funding

We have completed Phase 1 and Phase 2 Road projects under the Commonwealths Local Road Community Infrastructure Program with works on the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road and are in the final stages of completing Phase 3 Road projects in 2023/24 with some reconstruction and widening sections south of the Twin Peaks Woolen Road intersection. This work also aligns with Main Roads WA funded projects.

Phase 4 funding details and criteria have been released. As previously foreshadowed, there is an emphasis on Community Projects but also now a separate road component has been added. Summary details and projects are as follows.

- Part A Community Projects Component \$602,446. This has been allocated towards the Settlement Community Pool which is in conjunction with the associated splash pad which has separate Lottery West funding as part of the 2023/24 works program
- Part B Road Projects Component. \$347,504. This has been programmed to construct and seal Mulga Crescent with associated connections to the Shire Depot and Airfield in 2024/25

Recommendation

That the Works Report be noted.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

17 FINANCE

17.1 Accounts Paid since the last list was presented to Council

File: 4.37.1
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 22 July 2022
Attachments: 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for July 2023 (Elected Members Only)

Matter for Consideration

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 13* requires that if the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, then the CEO is to prepare a list of accounts paid by the CEO for each month and present this to the next ordinary meeting of the Council after the list has been prepared and have this list recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

A list of payments presented in accordance with *Regulation 13* of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* made since the last report to Council is attached.

Strategic Implications

None

Policy Implications

None

Budget/Financial Implications

Nil

Consultation

Nil

Recommendation

That Council

- 1 Receive and note attachment 17.1.1 EFT & Cheque Details for July 2023 pursuant to LGA s5.23(2)(b) & (e) items behind closed doors
- 2 That the accounts since the last report to Council, as provided to Councillors be recorded in the minutes as being presented to Council.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

1 Item to be Discussed behind closed doors

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried	For	Against

The meeting was moved to behind closed doors at

3 Motion to open the meeting to the public

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

The meeting was moved out of closed doors at

2 Decisions Disclosed from the Closed Section of Meeting associated with Attachment Item 17.1

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

17.2 Financial Activity Statements 31 July 2023

File: 2.6
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 24 July 2023
Attachments: 17.2.1 Monthly Management Financial Report July 2023

Matter for Consideration

The Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulation 34 requires that local government report monthly and prescribes what is required to be reported. Council is required to consider and receipt the Monthly Financial Statements.

Comment

These statements are being presented to meet a statutory obligation to have each month's end and report presented within the following two months.

Budget/Financial Implications:

Reports showing year to date financial performance allow monitoring of actual expenditure, revenue and overall results against budget targets.

Consultation

Moore Australia

Recommendation

That Council note the financial statements as presented for the period ending 31 July 2023 as attached.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

18 DEVELOPMENT

18.1 Ancient Lands Under Brilliant Skies Festival

File: 13.2
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 24 July 2023
Attachments: 18.1.1 Ancient Lands Under Brilliant Skies Festival Report

Matter for Consideration

Update of Ancient Lands Under Brilliant Skies Festival (ALUBSF)

Background

By now we all realise that inaugural Ancient Lands Under Brilliant Skies Festival (ALUBSF) undertaken on the weekend of 15-16 April 2023 has been and gone.

The Working Group and many others are to be congratulated for putting on a very successful festival event which from all accounts was extremely well received. Obviously, numbers were down due to the high river but nevertheless feedback has been extremely positive. Opportunities were also taken up to obtain video footage through Destination WA and to have the Festival professionally photographed. All of this work will become usable by the Shire moving forward and is opportune given we haven't much in place.

There will be a number of lessons learnt from the aftermath and in this regard the Working Group have met and provided a summary debrief report to be considered. A survey has also been instituted to assist in this deliberation. Councillors have also been requested to provide the own observation as community participants. Near final costs of the event have now been completed.

Update

An update report of the festival comprising all elements including overall comments has been compiled as attached.

Recommendation

That the Chief Executive Officers Ancient Lands Under Brilliant Skies Festival Report be noted.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

18.2 Growing Regions Funding Program

File: 13.2
Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer
Interest Declared: No interest to disclose
Date: 23 July 2023
Attachments:

Matter for Consideration

Briefing regarding the Commonwealth Government's Growing Regions Program

Briefing

After a review of the former Commonwealths Building Better Regions Economic Development Program its replacement Growing Regions Program has been finalised with Round 1 having recently been announced.

The program will be delivered through a two-stage selection process, with all applications processed through the Business.gov.au portal. An Expression of Interest must be submitted at Stage 1 and if successful, potential shortlist applicants will then be invited to submit a full application at Stage 2. Expressions of Interest close Tuesday 1 August 2023.

Since its launch I attended a Teams Presentation from KPMG and later followed up with the presenter and another WA Based Staff Member. Amongst other things a few points

- ~ Application will be assessed by a special panel.
- ~ Community and well as Economic Development focus is a key theme
- ~ Whilst Stage one is fairly benign contact wise you meet the criteria but must demonstrate that the project is shovel ready. ie plans, specifications etc are in play. If both are not in in place, then there is no chance of being invited.
- ~ There will be two rounds approx 12 months apart.
- ~ We are located in the very remote region and are eligible for 90% funding.

On this basis, having discussed with KPMG Projects within the Settlement cannot be advanced until we have detailed plans, specifications etc. We were recommended to look at round 2 when lessons learnt from the assessment decisions from Round 1.

With this in mind I have obtained an estimate to undertake this work with an allowance for inclusion in the 2023/24 budget so that we can potentially lodge for Round 2. The Business Case work we have already undertaken will greatly assist.

The other project we have that has a strong supporting business case is the construction and sealing for the 27km section of Carnarvon-Mullewa Road within the City of Greater Geraldton (CGG). The business case around the settlement projects also assists. We are also well advanced having commissioned the survey and have a desktop design. Detailed design could then follow with plans specifications and tender documentation relatively easy to manage. Potentially be virtually shovel ready, subject to heritage clearance, to meet Stage 1 criteria. Est Cost from Greenfields is \$4,682,193 to \$7,153,850.

I have discussed options with MWDC and getting the State involved is extremely unlikely especially given the short time frames. In any event our contribution is manageable at \$715k and if successful a 90% contribution is more than we could reasonably expect to get.

A significant issue is that the project is within the CGG and we must have a written letter of support. We would also have to accept spending our \$ (Grants Commission / Rates) but also acknowledge that the CGG have this road low on the priority list and have in the past expressed reluctance to add onto their asset base.

Following discussions with the Shire President approached the City's Acting Chief Executive Officer to determine whether they would support an application and advise in time to enable a report to Council to be prepared.

This advice has now been provided and as indicated the City *“regrets to advise that the City has not changed its position in regard to its appetite for the sealing its section of this road and is unable to provide the requested support on this occasion. However, from a long-term perspective, there may be appetite to explore a boundary adjustment and the City would be happy to continue discussions in this regard should the Shire be interested.”*

In the meantime, it may be worthwhile placing an expression of interest for Stage 1 for the potential chlorination of the Settlement Water Supply as this project can be made shovel ready and may stand a chance of meeting the Funding Criteria.

Comments

The City of Greater Geraldton's affirmation of their previous stance in relation to future upgrade of the Carnarvon-Mullewa Road is unsurprising. They have however indicated that from a long-term perspective, there may be appetite to explore a boundary adjustment and the City would be happy to continue discussions in this regard should the Shire be interested.

Whilst adjustments to Shire boundaries involve a significant amount of detail if two local governments potential agree approval from the Local Government Advisory Board is much easier to navigate. Given the City's openness to this potential, and obvious polar opposite views in relation to this road, there would seem to be merit in undertaking at least some investigatory work.

Recommendation

That the Chief Executive Officers Growing Regions Briefing Report be noted.

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

19 ADMINISTRATION

19.1 WALGA Local Government Convention 2023

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 23 July 2023

Attachments: 19.1.1 WALGA Local Government Convention 2023 Conference Program

Matter for Consideration

Request from Cr Greydon Mead who would like to accept the invitation to attend the WALGA Local Government Convention 2023 this year and with his partner if Council agrees

Comments

Cr Greydon Mead has advised that he would accept the invitation to attend the WALGA Local Government Convention 2023 year and with his partner if Council agrees. A copy of the Conference Program under the “Local Futures” theme is attached.

As per Council Policy 2.2, a formal motion is required to be put and carried supporting such a request hence this Agenda Item. Details associated with expenses are also addressed and will be covered in the 2023/24 Budget

Councillor Mead may also wish to add any other information pertinent to this request at the meeting.

Recommendation

That Council support the request from Cr Greydon Mead to attend and represent Council at the WALGA Local Government Convention 2023 .

Voting Requirement

Simple Majority

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

20 CEO ACTIVITY REPORT

File:

Author: Bill Boehm – Chief Executive Officer

Interest Declared: No interest to disclose

Date 24 July 2023

Attachments: Nil

General

The following update of activities is provided.

Date	Activity
21.06.22	TOIL. Admin Emails Budget LTFP Work
21.06.2023	Supplementary Agenda Work. LRCIP Phase 1 and 2 Annual Report Work
22.06.2023	Council Meeting Preparation and Attendance
23.06.2023 to 24.06.2023	Council Minutes and follow up actions
25.06.2023	Monologue Work
26.06.2023	Monologue Work. DFES Bushfire Arrangements Letter
27.06.2023	Monologue Work. Mining Rates Review & Documentation
28.06.2023	Mining Rates Review & Documentation. Ablutions Block Tender
29.06.2023	Mining Rates Review & Documentation. Monologue Work. Telephone discussions with Sara Page Main Roads WA, Emma and Julia (MAC)
30.06.2023	Mining Rates Review & Documentation. Monologue Work.
1.07.2023	Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Preliminary Opening Work. Budget LTFP Work
2.07.2023	Budget Snapshot Work
3.07.2023	Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Preliminary Opening Work. Budget LTFP Work. Budget Snapshot Work. Election Work. Fuel Reconciliation. Meeting updates with Lisa
4.07.2023	Carnarvon-Mullewa Road Preliminary Opening Work. Budget LTFP Work. Budget Snapshot Work. Remote Teams Meetings with Global PBC - Clean Drinking Water and KPMG regarding Growing Regions Program
5.07.2023	Budget LTFP Work
6.07.2023	Carn-Mull Rd Preliminary Opening Work. Budget LTFP Work. Follow up KPMG, MWDC regarding Growing Regions Program.
7.07.2023	Budget LTFP Work. Follow up with Shire President and later with Chris Lees (CGG) regarding Growing Regions Program. Vocus Remote Teams on AARNet - Boolardy-Cue link
8.07.2023 to 9.07.23	Budget LTFP Work.
10.07.2023	Budget LTFP Work. Telephone discussions with Cr A Whitmarsh and Travis Bate (RSM). Follow up Heritage clearance with Main Roads WA. ACH Act Work
11.07.2023 to 16.07.2023	Budget LTFP Work.
17.07.2023	Budget LTFP Work. Meeting briefing with Works Manager.
18.07.2023	Budget LTFP Work.
19.07.2023	Budget LTFP Work. Telephone briefing with Financial Accountant . Meeting with Works Manager
20.07.2023	Budget LTFP Work. Meeting with Works Manager and Senior Works Finance and Administration Officer.
21.07.2023	Budget LTFP Work. Telephone briefings with Shire President and Cr E Foulkes Taylor. Council Agenda Work. Roadhouse Meeting
22.07.2023	Council Agenda Work, Brief Meeting with Senior Works Finance and Administration Officer and Roadhouse Staff
23.07.2023 to 24.07.2023	Council Agenda Work

Recommendation

That Council note the CEO's Activity Report.

Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Council Decision		
Moved: Cr	Seconded: Cr	
Carried/Lost	For	Against

21 ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Nil

22 MEETING CLOSURE

The Shire President closed the meeting at.