



MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE MILIKAPITI OFFICE ON TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 2009 AT 10:00AM

1 Welcome & Apologies

1.1 Welcome

The meeting opened at 10.00 AM.
The Mayor welcomed councillors and guests.

1.2 Present

Mayor: Lynette De Santis
Councillors: Henry Dunn, Raelene Mungatopi, Maralampuwi Kurrupuwu, Teresita Puruntatameri, Kathy Tipungwuti, David Boyd,
Officers: Mark Goode, Lawrence Costa, David Bond, Maurice Rioli

1.3 Apologies

Emmanuel Rioli, Walter Kerinauia, Barry Puruntatameri, Marius Puruntatameri, Richard Tungutalum

1.4 Leave of Absence

NIL

1.5 Confirmation of Previous Minutes

N/A

2 CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

3 GENERAL BUSINESS

CEO Mark Goode explained the report and why there is no longer funding for some shire employee salaries in 2009-10.

In short, it is because:

- There has not been an increase in ongoing salary funding to pay for staff transitioned from CDEP in 2008-09
- TISC has had a reduction in real income due to the Local Government reform. TILG used to collect \$1.5m in rent and service fees. Under the Shires legislation, this income had reduced to \$350k of rates only.
- Incidentally these rates have not yet been paid due to delays in sending the rates out and ratepayers refusing to pay on the non-standard notices sent out. Non standard notices were sent out because the finance system's rates module was not yet being fully functional.

A long discussion took place about the report and the consequences of dismissing recently appointed shire employees. Council was very concerned and disappointed, saying that they were once again being set up to fail by NT and Commonwealth Government.

CEO Mark Goode explained that he has ongoing liaison with many Departments including DLGH over the past 12 months. He explained that unfortunately these conversations had not yet resulted in positive changes to the areas that would allow tangible improvements in service delivery to the community. The key areas of concern include:

- There has been a net reduction in funds available to TISC in 2009-10 compared to discretionary funding available to TILG in 2007-08
- There have been significantly increased costs due to Local Government reform, particularly in new staff costs and new IT costs. There has been no new funding to address these new costs
- There was and still is insufficient funding to deliver Core Services
- There has been no increase in ongoing salary funding to pay for new staff transitioned from CDEP in 2008-09
- There has been no change to the ability to pool grant funding to gain operational efficiencies
- There has been no reduction in the *Red Tape* in grant administration imposes significant administration costs to comply with.

3.1 SPECIAL MEETING

Council held a special meeting to discuss:

- 2009-10 budget shortfalls

41 RESOLUTION

Moved: Henry Dunn

Seconded: Francis Xavier Kurrupuwu

- (a) **That CEO Mark Goode continue to lobby for increased funding from the Government.**
- (b) **That Council take whatever steps are necessary to prevent Tiwi staff being made redundant, including approaching members of parliament or the media**

CARRIED

4 REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

Nil

5 REPORTS FOR DECISION

5.1 SEEK PUBLIC COMMENTS ON THE 2009-10 BUSINESS PLAN, BUDGET AND RATES

To seek public comments on the 2009-10 Business Plan, Budget and Rates

42 RESOLUTION

Moved: Lynette DeSantis

Seconded: Henry Dunn

- (a) **That Council approve the advertising of the 2009-10 Business Plan, Budget and rates, in order to receive public feedback prior to adoption at its July 2009 meeting.**

CARRIED

ACTION: Craig Rutherford to advertise and receive public comment, and then

6 Next Meeting

N/A

7 Closure

The meeting closed at 12.30 pm.