MINUTES

EXTRAORDINARY NORTHERN BEACHES COUNCIL MEETING

held at the Civic Centre, Dee Why on

TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2025

Minutes of the Extraordinary Northern Beaches Council Meeting held on Tuesday 28 January 2025 at the Civic Centre, Dee Why Commencing at 6:00pm

ATTENDANCE:

Councillors

Sue Heins (Mayor)
Ruth Robins (Deputy Mayor)
Jody Williams
Ethan Hrnjak
Joeline Hackman
Nicholas Beaugeard
Kristyn Glanville
Bonnie Harvey - *remote*
Sarah Grattan
Candy Bingham
Bob Giltinan OAM JP
Vincent De Luca OAM
Mandeep Singh JP
Rowie Dillon
Miranda Korzy

Officers

Scott Phillips	Chief Executive Officer
Kelly Loveridge	Chief Operating Officer
David Kerr	Director Community & Recreation
Todd Dickinson	Director Environment & Open Space
Louise Kerr	Director Planning & Place
Campbell Pfeiffer	Director Transport & Assets
Caroline Foley	Chief Financial Officer
Eskil Julliard	General Counsel
Kath McKenzie	Executive Manager Community Engagement & Communications
Sarah Dunstan	Executive Manager Governance & Risk
Lesley Milbourne	Manager Governance
Lauren Reti	Senior Advisor - Governance
Rorie Brooks	Service Desk Analyst
Max Alexander	Service Delivery Analyst

Notes

The meeting commenced at 6.00pm adjourned at 8.12pm, resumed at 8.27pm, adjourned at 9.26pm, resumed at 9.34pm, adjourned at 9.38pm, resumed at 9.48pm and concluded at 9:55pm.

004/25 **RESOLVED - MOTION**

Cr Beaugeard / Cr Grattan

That Council:

1. Note the community engagement activities undertaken from 18 November 2024 to 12 January 2025 in relation to the revised Long-Term Financial Plan 2024-2034, Addendum to the Delivery Program 2024-28 and Operational Plan 2024/25 and special variation to rates options as required by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART).

2. Note the community responses in respect of the community engagement undertaken in relation to the revised Long-Term Financial Plan 2024-2034, Addendum to the Delivery Program 2024-28 and Operational Plan 2024/25 and special variation options.

3. Note the opportunities for service reductions, property rationalisation and/or fee increase initiatives as outlined in this report are not of size and scale to reduce the need for a special variation to rates to maintain Council's long term financial sustainability.

4. Note the memo from the independent members of the Audit, Risk and Improvement Committee in consideration of a special variation to rates for Northern Beaches Council and their acknowledgement that a special variation is a sound financial initiative to maintain Council's long term financial sustainability.

5. Note the NSW Parliament's Standing Committee on State Development '*Inquiry into the ability of local government to fund infrastructure and services 2024*' recommended changes to the local government rating system to address some of the cost pressures local governments face in delivering community services and assets and infrastructure.

6. Note that the special variation to rates application to IPART is consistent with Council's responsibility under the *Local Government Act 1993* to continue existing services, maintain and improve community infrastructure, support environmental and natural risk reduction programs and strengthen financial sustainability.

7. Adopt Option 3 of the Addendum to the Delivery Program 2024-28 and Operational Plan 2024/25 included within Attachment 2.

8. Adopt the revised Long-Term Financial Plan 2024-2034 at Attachment 3.

9. Apply to IPART for a permanent increase in rates income for the period from 2025/26 to 2027/28 (inclusive) of 39.6% (Option 3 'Improve Services') under section 508A of the *Local Government Act 1993*, consisting of annual increases as set out below:

    a. Year 2025/26 – 12.1% increase (8.3% + rate peg of 3.8%)

    b. Year 2026/27 – 11.7% increase (8.3% + assumed rate peg of 3.4%)

    c. Year 2027/28 – 11.5% increase (8.4% + assumed rate peg of 3.1%)

10. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to lodge the application for a special variation to rates to IPART, including IPART's Special Variation Application Forms Part A and Part B and all other necessary documentation such as the Addendum to the Delivery Program 2024-28 and Operational Plan 2024/25 for the adopted option at Attachment 2, Long-Term Financial Plan 2024-2034 at Attachment 3, Productivity Journey and Improvement Plan 2024 at Attachment 4 and Capacity to Pay Report at Attachment 5.

VOTING

FOR: Cr Robins, Cr Williams, Cr Beaugeard, Cr Grattan, Cr Bingham, Cr Dillon, Cr Korzy and Cr Heins

AGAINST: Cr Hrnjak, Cr Hackman, Cr Glanville, Cr Harvey, Cr Giltinan, Cr De Luca and Cr Singh

CARRIED