

## CITY OF NEWCASTLE

**Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor City Hall, 290 King Street, Newcastle on Tuesday 24 March 2020 at 6.04pm.**

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### **PRESENT**

The Lord Mayor (Councillor N Nelmes), Councillors M Byrne, J Church, D Clausen, C Duncan, J Dunn, K Elliott, B Luke, J Mackenzie, A Rufo, E White and P Winney-Baartz.

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

J Bath (Chief Executive Officer), D Clarke (Director Governance), K Liddell (Director Infrastructure and Property), F Leatham (Director People and Culture), A Jones (Interim Director City Wide Services), E Kolatchew (Manager Legal), S Moore (Acting Chief Financial Officer), M Bisson (Manager Regulatory, Planning and Assessment), A Abbott (Manager Corporate and Community Planning), S Massey (Economic Development Facilitator), K Sullivan (Council Services/Minutes/Webcasting) and A Knowles (Council Services).

### **MESSAGE OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Lord Mayor read the message of acknowledgement to the Awabakal and Worimi peoples.

### **PRAYER**

The Lord Mayor read a prayer and a period of silence was observed in memory of those who served and died so that Council might meet in peace.

### **PROCEEDINGS IN BRIEF**

The Lord Mayor stated that advice from the Emergency Response Team in respect to COVID-19, was to comply with NSW Health guidelines that the meeting should be no longer than two hours duration.

### **APOLOGIES**

#### **MOTION**

Moved by Cr Rufo, seconded by Cr Luke

The apology submitted on behalf of Councillor Robinson be received and accepted and leave of absence granted.

**Carried**

### **DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

Nil.

## CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

**MINUTES - EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 11 FEBRUARY 2020**

**MINUTES - PUBLIC VOICE MEETING 18 FEBRUARY 2020**

**MINUTES - ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 FEBRUARY 2020**

### **MOTION**

Moved by Cr Mackenzie, seconded by Cr Winney-Baartz

The draft minutes as circulated be taken as read and confirmed.

**Carried  
unanimously**

## LORD MAYORAL MINUTE

**ITEM-4                      LMM 24/03/20 - CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) COMMUNITY AND  
ECONOMIC RESILIENCE RESPONSE**

### **MOTION**

Moved by Cr Nelmes, Lord Mayor, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That City of Newcastle:

- 1     Receives a briefing from the City of Newcastle COVID-19 Planning Team, that meets daily, on the activation of our Emergency Management Action Plan (EMAP) aligned with state and national emergency plans, at this Ordinary Council meeting of 24 March 2020;
  
- 2     **Part A:**
  - 1     Commends our local doctors, nurses and health care workers for their immense efforts to stop the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), particularly workers at John Hunter Hospital and our all our health facilities, for their incredible efforts to keep Novocastrians as safe and healthy as possible during this difficult time of global uncertainty;
  
  - 2     Recognises that COVID-19 will have a significant impact on our community wellbeing and the local economy of Newcastle, with many people potentially isolated for periods of time, small businesses facing supply chain issues and substantially reduced economic activity, with the unemployment rate likely to rise;
  
  - 3     Develops a Community and Economic Resilience package, to assist Novocastrians through this period of unprecedented disruption;
  
  - 4     Recognises that the health, safety and wellbeing of our workforce is paramount;

- 5 Thanks NSW Police Local Area Commanders, Superintendent Brett Greentree, Newcastle Local Area Command and Superintendent Danny Sullivan, Lake Macquarie Local Area Command, for their collaboration on the City's emergency response, through the Local Emergency Management Committee;
- 6 Notes that we are working in collaboration with government partners, including NSW Health, who are the lead agency responding to COVID-19;
- 7 Notes that we are working within the Local Emergency Management Committee - with NSW Police, NSW Fire Brigade, SES, Health, and Transport for NSW to ensure that our city is adequately equipped and prepared;
- 8 Notes that we continue to liaise with partners including the Office of Local Government, neighbouring councils, the University of Newcastle, Port of Newcastle and the Newcastle Airport to ensure consistent information is shared with our community;

### 3. **Part B**

Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:

- 1 Recognises the significant first phase of stimulus measures and boosted income support measures that have been announced by the NSW and Federal Governments, aimed at supporting individuals, families, businesses and not-for-profit organisations;
- 2 Calls on the Federal Government to suspend mutual obligations requirements for accessing income support, including JobSeeker Payment (Newstart), Work for the Dole, Community Development Program (CDP) and ParentsNext, while noting that waiting periods to access income support payments have been waived.
- 3 Calls on the NSW Government to immediately increase the NSW Mandatory Pensioner Rebates on Council Rates, currently fixed at only \$250, which has not been increased by the NSW Government for 27 years, since it was introduced in 1993;
- 4 Calls on the Federal Government to follow the lead of the United Kingdom, by guaranteeing to pay at least 80 per cent of the wages of those who have lost their jobs because of COVID-19, up to \$5000 per month;
- 5 Calls on the Federal Government to investigate the implementation of a Universal Basic Income - a system where everyone receives a standard amount of money regardless of their current work status - to ensure that all Australian's have access to basic necessities, during, and after the COVID-19 global pandemic;

- 6 Calls on the NSW and Federal Governments to initiate a temporary eviction moratorium, including directions to NSW Police and court officers to not carry out or allow any evictions and the immediate cessation of public and community housing providers eviction proceedings against their tenants;
- 7 Asks both the NSW and Federal Governments to consider the nationalisation, or renationalisation, of key industries and organisations, including but not limited to, manufacturing of essential medical equipment such as respirators and face masks, private hospital emergency departments, aviation, shipping, public transport, energy and utilities, telecommunications and high-speed internet infrastructure, banking, vocational education and training, basic and essential food production and cleaning services for government buildings;
8. Calls on Minister for Local Government to amend clause 5.2 of the model meeting code of practice to allow Councillors to participate in a meeting of council by electronic means during a pandemic where public health considerations make this appropriate including where a Councillor is required to be in isolation.

#### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

The Lord Mayoral Minute Parts 1, 2 (Part A) and 3 (Part B) be dealt with in seriatim.

**Carried**

#### **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That City of Newcastle:

- 1 Receives a briefing from the City of Newcastle COVID-19 Planning Team, that meets daily, on the activation of our Emergency Management Action Plan (EMAP) aligned with state and national emergency plans, at this Ordinary Council meeting of 24 March 2020;

**Carried  
unanimously**

Council received a briefing on the COVID-19 Community and Economic Resilience Package from Ashlee Abbott, Manager Corporate and Community Planning, Scott Moore, Acting Chief Financial Officer and Simon Massey, Economic Development Facilitator.

## **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### **PART A**

- 1 Commends our local doctors, nurses and health care workers for their immense efforts to stop the spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19), particularly workers at John Hunter Hospital and our all our health facilities, for their incredible efforts to keep Novocastrians as safe and healthy as possible during this difficult time of global uncertainty;
- 2 Recognises that COVID-19 will have a significant impact on our community wellbeing and the local economy of Newcastle, with many people potentially isolated for periods of time, small businesses facing supply chain issues and substantially reduced economic activity, with the unemployment rate likely to rise;
- 3 Adopts the COVID-19 Community and Economic Resilience Package (**Attachment A**) with the Phase 1 and Phase 2 budget changes to be forecast and included in the March Quarterly Budget Review and 2020/21 Our Budget;
- 4 Recognises that the health, safety and wellbeing of our workforce is paramount;
- 5 Thanks NSW Police Local Area Commanders, Superintendent Brett Greentree, Newcastle Local Area Command and Superintendent Danny Sullivan, Lake Macquarie Local Area Command, for their collaboration on the City's emergency response, through the Local Emergency Management Committee;
- 6 Notes that we are working in collaboration with government partners, including NSW Health, who are the lead agency responding to COVID-19;
- 7 Notes that we are working within the Local Emergency Management Committee - with NSW Police, NSW Fire Brigade, SES, Health, and Transport for NSW to ensure that our city is adequately equipped and prepared;
- 8 Notes that we continue to liaise with partners including the Office of Local Government, neighbouring councils, the University of Newcastle, Port of Newcastle and the Newcastle Airport to ensure consistent information is shared with our community;

**Carried  
unanimously**

## **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### **PART B**

Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:

- 1 Recognises the significant first phase of stimulus measures and boosted income support measures that have been announced by the NSW and Federal Governments, aimed at supporting individuals, families, businesses and not-for-profit organisations;
- 2 Calls on the Federal Government to suspend mutual obligations requirements for accessing income support, including JobSeeker Payment (Newstart), Work for the Dole, Community Development Program (CDP) and ParentsNext, while noting that waiting periods to access income support payments have been waived.
- 3 Calls on the NSW Government to immediately increase the NSW Mandatory Pensioner Rebates on Council Rates, currently fixed at only \$250, which has not been increased by the NSW Government for 27 years, since it was introduced in 1993;
- 4 Calls on the Federal Government to follow the lead of the United Kingdom, by guaranteeing to pay at least 80 per cent of the wages of those who have lost their jobs because of COVID-19, up to \$5000 per month;
- 5 Calls on the Federal Government to investigate the implementation of a Universal Basic Income - a system where everyone receives a standard amount of money regardless of their current work status - to ensure that all Australian's have access to basic necessities, during, and after the COVID-19 global pandemic;
- 6 Calls on the NSW and Federal Governments to initiate a temporary eviction moratorium, including directions to NSW Police and court officers to not carry out or allow any evictions and the immediate cessation of public and community housing providers eviction proceedings against their tenants;
- 7 Asks both the NSW and Federal Governments to consider the nationalisation, or renationalisation, of key industries and organisations, including but not limited to, manufacturing of essential medical equipment such as respirators and face masks, private hospital emergency departments, aviation, shipping, public transport, energy and utilities, telecommunications and high-speed internet infrastructure, banking, vocational education and training, basic and essential food production and cleaning services for government buildings;
8. Calls on Minister for Local Government to amend clause 5.2 of the model meeting code of practice to allow Councillors to participate in a meeting of council by electronic means during a pandemic where public health considerations make this appropriate including where a Councillor is required to be in isolation.

## **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved by Cr Church, seconded by Cr Luke

Part B be dealt with seriatim.

**Carried**

Councillor Mackenzie pointed out that part 8 was redundant with the Office of Local Government proposing changes to the *Local Government Act 1993* that would allow councils to meet and make decisions via electronic means.

Councillor Elliott proposed that the words 'and commend' be added to part 1 of the motion so that it read as follows:

*Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:*

- 1 Recognises and commend the significant first phase of stimulus measures and boosted income support measures that have been announced by the NSW and Federal Governments, aimed at supporting individuals, families, businesses and not-for-profit organisations;*

The Lord Mayor accepted the above-mentioned changes.

Councillor Clausen gave notice of a Part C to the motion in respect to part 8 of Part B.

## **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### PART B

Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:

- 1 Recognises and commend the significant first phase of stimulus measures and boosted income support measures that have been announced by the NSW and Federal Governments, aimed at supporting individuals, families, businesses and not-for-profit organisations;

**Carried  
unanimously**

## **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### **PART B**

Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:

- 2 Calls on the Federal Government to suspend mutual obligations requirements for accessing income support, including JobSeeker Payment (Newstart), Work for the Dole, Community Development Program (CDP) and ParentsNext, while noting that waiting periods to access income support payments have been waived.

**Carried**

## **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### **PART B**

Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:

- 3 Calls on the NSW Government to immediately increase the NSW Mandatory Pensioner Rebates on Council Rates, currently fixed at only \$250, which has not been increased by the NSW Government for 27 years, since it was introduced in 1993;

**Carried  
unanimously**

## **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### **PART B**

Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:

- 4 Calls on the Federal Government to follow the lead of the United Kingdom, by guaranteeing to pay at least 80 per cent of the wages of those who have lost their jobs because of COVID-19, up to \$5000 per month;

**Carried**



## **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### PART B

Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:

- 5 Calls on the Federal Government to investigate the implementation of a Universal Basic Income - a system where everyone receives a standard amount of money regardless of their current work status - to ensure that all Australian's have access to basic necessities, during, and after the COVID-19 global pandemic;

**Carried**

## **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### PART B

Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:

- 6 Calls on the NSW and Federal Governments to initiate a temporary eviction moratorium, including directions to NSW Police and court officers to not carry out or allow any evictions and the immediate cessation of public and community housing providers eviction proceedings against their tenants;

**Carried**

## **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### PART B

Following a number of State, National and International measures being announced, that City of Newcastle:

- 7 Asks both the NSW and Federal Governments to consider the nationalisation, or renationalisation, of key industries and organisations, including but not limited to, manufacturing of essential medical equipment such as respirators and face masks, private hospital emergency departments, aviation, shipping, public transport, energy and utilities, telecommunications and high-speed internet infrastructure, banking, vocational education and training, basic and essential food production and cleaning services for government buildings;

**Carried**

## **MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

### **PART C**

That:

- 1 On the basis of current public health advice, Council immediately varies its adopted Meeting Schedule by:
  - a Cancelling or postponing all non-essential in-person Advisory Committee meetings until public health orders are lifted;
  - b Cancelling in-person Public Voice meetings, and consider alternative electronic means of facilitating Public Voice until public health orders are lifted;
  - c To reduce unnecessary meetings, scheduling Development Application Committee (DAC) meetings to be held on the same night as scheduled Ordinary Council Meetings; and
  - d Proceeds with scheduled Ordinary Council Meetings in April and May 2020, with agendas limited as far as practicable to urgent matters requiring the elected Council's approval.
- 2 Notes that, today, Council has received advice from the Office of Local Government regarding proposed changes to the *Local Government Act 1993* that would allow it to meet and make decisions via electronic means rather than face-to-face. Legislative amendments are presently before the NSW Parliament.
- 3 Pending the passage of this legislation through the Parliament, Royal Assent, and implementation by the Minister for Local Government / OLG, that Council takes all necessary steps to enable upcoming scheduled Ordinary Council Meetings to occur in an audio-visual electronic form allowed by the change in legislation.
4. In the event that there are further changes to public health advice, or an order by legislation or government authority, that prevent Council from being able to meet (in person or in an electronic form), Council enters into a 'Recess Period' until the public health advice or order is lifted, and that:
  - a Council decisions be exercised in consultation with the Council in accordance with the Section 6 of the adopted Instrument of Delegation to the Lord Mayor;

and

- b The Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer be amended to allow for the CEO to vary existing Council service that would have overall negative implications for Council in terms of cost or service in order to comply with any public health advice, legislation or government orders, after consultation with the Lord Mayor and Council where reasonably possible.

#### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved by Cr Church, seconded by Cr Luke

Part C be dealt with seriatim.

**Defeated**

The motion moved by Councillor Clausen and seconded by Councillor Mackenzie, relating to Part C, was put to the meeting.

**Carried**

#### **DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY/NON-PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

##### **Councillor Luke**

Councillor Luke declared a less than significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest in Item 17 – Executive Monthly Performance Report as the item included the re-investment of Surplus Funds Report which mentions multiple financial institutions that he had dealings with in his business. The declaration is less than significant as he noted he was not involved in determining where funds are invested and was just receiving a report.

#### **RE-ORDER OF COUNCIL REPORTS BY COUNCIL STAFF**

##### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Luke

Due to the restricted time limitation proposed to deal with reports by staff, they be dealt with in order of priority.

**Carried**

#### **REPORTS BY COUNCIL OFFICERS**

**ITEM-15**                      **CCL 24/03/20 - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF DRAFT OUR BUDGET 2020/21 (DELIVERY PROGRAM 2018 - 2022 AND OPERATIONAL PLAN 2020/21) AND DRAFT FEES AND CHARGES 2020/21**

##### **MOTION**

Moved by Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, seconded by Cr Clausen

That Council:

- 1 Resolves to place the draft 2020/21 Our Budget (2018-2022 Delivery Program and 2020/21 Operational Plan) as at **Attachment A** and the draft 2020/21 Fees and Charges Register as at **Attachment B** on public exhibition for at least 28 days prior to final consideration by Council.

### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved by Cr Church, seconded by Cr Luke

The matter lay on the table for a month. That City of Newcastle put before the public a much more detailed and closer examination of where the budget forecasts in terms of expenditure might be in light of decisions that have already been made tonight.

**Defeated**

The motion moved by Lord Mayor, Councillor Nelmes and seconded by Councillor Clausen was put to the meeting.

#### **For the Motion:**

Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes, Councillors Byrne, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Luke, Mackenzie, Rufo, White and Winney-Baartz.

#### **Against the Motion:**

Councillors Church and Elliott.

**Carried**

## **REPORTS BY COUNCIL OFFICERS**

When moving the procedural motion, Councillors Clausen and Mackenzie confirmed they were moving the alternate recommendation in relation to Item 13 as outlined in a memo circulated to all Councillors dated 24 March 2020.

### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

The following reports by Council Officers be moved as a block:

- Item 16 - Proposed Road Closures - 35 Robert Street and 22 Annie Street, Wickham
- Item 14 - Adoption of Fern Bay and North Stockton Strategy
- Item 17 - Executive Monthly Performance Report
- Item 13 - Appointment of Voting Delegate for the 2020 National General Assembly of Local Government and Endorsement of Motions

**Carried**

**ITEM-16**

**CCL 24/03/20 - PROPOSED ROAD CLOSURES - 35 ROBERT STREET AND 22 ANNIE STREET, WICKHAM**

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Duncan

That Council:

- 1 Endorse the closure of two sections of the John Street road reserve adjacent to Lot 100 DP 808303, subject to receiving approval from the Crown - NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.
- 2 Approve the sale of the 157m<sup>2</sup> parcel of land (**Attachment A**) to the adjoining owners of Lot 101 DP808303 for \$85,000 (plus GST). The proposed purchase price is based on an independent valuation of the land following the road closure and has been agreed upon by all parties.
- 3 Approve the sale of the 139m<sup>2</sup> parcel of land (**Attachment B**) to the adjoining owner of Lot 100 DP 808303 for \$80,000 (plus GST). The proposed purchase price is based on an independent valuation of the land following the road closure and has been agreed upon by all parties.
- 4 Grant authority to the Chief Executive Officer or his delegate to execute all relevant documentation to effect the transactions.
- 5 Endorse the sale revenue be transferred to City of Newcastle's 'Works Program: Specific Projects' internal reserve.

**For the Motion:**

Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Church, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Elliott, Luke, Mackenzie, Rufo, White and Winney-Baartz.

**Against the Motion:**

Nil.

**Carried**

**ITEM-14**

**CCL 24/03/20 - ADOPTION OF FERN BAY AND NORTH STOCKTON STRATEGY**

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Duncan

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the Fern Bay and North Stockton Strategy (**Attachment A**), and Implementation Plan (**Attachment B**).

**For the Motion:**

Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Church, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Elliott, Luke, Mackenzie, Rufo, White and Winney-Baartz.

**Against the Motion:**

Nil.

**Carried**

**ITEM-17**                      **CCL 24/03/20 - EXECUTIVE MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT**

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Duncan

That Council:

- 1 Receives the Executive Monthly Performance Report for February 2020.

**For the Motion:**                      Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Church, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Elliott, Luke, Mackenzie, A Rufo, White and Winney-Baartz.

**Against the Motion:**                      Nil.

**Carried**

**ITEM-13**                      **CCL 24/03/20 - APPOINTMENT OF VOTING DELEGATE FOR THE 2020 NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ENDORSEMENT OF MOTIONS**

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Duncan

That Council:

- 1 Endorse the motions for submission to the 2020 Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly as set out at **Attachment B**.

**For the Motion:**                      Lord Mayor, Cr Nelmes and Councillors Byrne, Church, Clausen, Duncan, Dunn, Elliott, Luke, Mackenzie, A Rufo, White and Winney-Baartz.

**Against the Motion:**                      Nil.

**Carried**

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

When moving the procedural motion, Councillors Clausen and Mackenzie confirmed they were moving the Officer's recommendation for items 6 and 7 as outlined in the Business Papers.

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

The following Notices of Motion be moved as a block:

- Item 4 - Submission to Review Disability Inclusion Act 2014
- Item 5 - The Future for Waste
- Item 6 - Support for Wildlife Carers
- Item 7 - Social Infrastructure: The Community Pantry

**Carried**

**ITEM-4                                    NOM 24/03/20 - SUBMISSION TO REVIEW DISABILITY INCLUSION ACT 2014**

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That City of Newcastle:

- 1       Prepares a submission to the NSW Government's Review of the Disability Inclusion Act.
- 2       That the submission includes but not be limited to:
  - a)      Support for ongoing funding to Newcastle based disability advocacy organisations (including Disability Advocacy NSW and Community Disability Alliance Hunter);
  - b)      Concern regarding the lack of NSW Government funding to implement the mandated Disability Inclusion Action Plans, that are required under the Act;
  - c)      The impacts of the changing demographic profile of Newcastle, including its ageing population, which increases pressure on local government to provide accessible services without any additional Government funding;
  - d)      Any relevant feedback from stakeholders, including from CN's Access Inclusion Advisory Committee.

**Carried  
unanimously**

**ITEM-5                                    NOM 24/03/20 - THE FUTURE FOR WASTE**

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That City of Newcastle:

- 1       Notes the long-awaited release of two Issues Papers (Cleaning Up Our Act – The Future for Waste and Resource Recovery in NSW & Redirecting the Future of Plastic in NSW) by the NSW Government on 8 March 2020 (Attached)
- 2       Notes that City of Newcastle paid \$32.7 million in the s88 waste levy in the last financial year, and received \$176,290 in NSW Waste Less, Recycle More grants (equal to just 0.6% of waste levy paid).
- 3       That Council makes a submission to both Issues Papers, consistent with its previously adopted positions, encouraging:
  - a.      State funding to support waste avoidance and recovery, including grants to support councils with major capital investments (including by reinvesting the \$800 million S88 Waste Levy into recycling);
  - b.      The development of a local circular economy, and support for local manufacturing using recycled product;

- c. Deliver consistent education campaigns to promote waste avoidance and recycling;
- d. Introduce producer responsibility schemes for problematic materials.

**Carried  
unanimously**

**ITEM-6**

**NOM 24/03/20 - SUPPORT FOR WILDLIFE CARERS**

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That City of Newcastle

- 1 Commends the NSW Government on the creation of The Wildlife Heroes Bushfire Emergency Fund 2019 grant program, funded through its Environmental Trust and managed by the Foundation for National Parks & Wildlife, noting its explicit aims to support wildlife volunteers to respond to emergencies (financially, organisationally, psychologically) and to improve wildlife group emergency response capacity long-term.
- 2 Notes the important work undertaken by volunteer wildlife carers to rehabilitate wildlife and writes to wildlife carers in order to establish how CN employees can utilise a maximum of two days (or four half days) from their Personal Leave balance per year to support this program and attend a genuine volunteer opportunity.
- 3 Notes the important work undertaken by CN's own Blackbutt Reserve volunteers who focus on animal care, education activities, maintenance around and the operation of the Blackbutt Kiosk in conjunction with the Blackbutt Plan of Management.
- 4 Works with Softys Clubhouse to assist with the identification of the relevant insurance for volunteers participating in a Caring for Carers program. Further that it works with Softys Clubhouse on the identification of a suitable CN administered grants program that could provide financial support towards the relevant volunteer insurance.
- 5 Work with Softys Clubhouse to assist them in seeking an exemption from waste fees at Summerhill Waste Management Centre, consistent with the requirements for the NSW Community Service Exemption (CSE) from the NSW waste levy for eligible waste collected or received through community services or activities.

**Carried  
unanimously**





## **MOTION**

Moved by Cr Duncan, seconded by Cr Mackenzie

That Council:

- 1 Acquires Lot 8 DP1251435 at 280 Hunter Street, Newcastle on the commercial terms outlined in this report.
- 2 Delegates to the Chief Executive Officer authority to execute all relevant documentation to affect the transaction.
- 3 Publicly notifies the proposal to classify the acquired land as Operational Land in accordance with Section 34 of the Local Government Act 1993.
- 4 If no public submissions are received objecting to the classification proposal then the property is classified as Operational.
- 5 This confidential report relating to the matters specified in s10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993 be treated as confidential and remain confidential until the Chief Executive Officer determines otherwise.

**Carried  
unanimously**

## **LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

### **ITEM-8**

### **NOM 24/03/2020 - LATE ITEM - COVID-19**

The Lord Mayor stated that she had been informed by the Chief Executive Officer that a late item of business had been submitted by Councillors Church, Elliott, Robinson and Rufo

The Notice of Motion was noted as being a matter of urgency due to the subject matter relating to COVID-19.

The Lord Mayor ruled that the business proposed was of great urgency on the grounds that it was required to go before Council prior to the next scheduled meeting.

The Chief Executive Officer tabled a report on the late item, COVID-19.

## **MOTION**

Moved by Cr Church, seconded by Cr Elliott

That City of Newcastle

- 1 Defer for three months the payment of the fourth-rate notice in this financial year for residents and businesses to provide people with immediate relief.
- 2 Provide pensioners with an additional \$100 rebate, to be deducted from their last rate notice for the 19/20 financial year.

- 3 Provide free green waste drop off at the Summerhill waste management centre for the remainder of the 19/20 financial year
- 4 Re-introduce the discount on parking through the Easy Park app until the end of this financial year.

Councillor Clausen raised a point of order stating that point one, defer rates, was unlawful, consistent with advice provided in the report from the Chief Executive Officer that Council should not consider a motion that could not be implemented based on advice from the Office of Local Government.

The Lord Mayor upheld the point of order and removed point one.

Councillor Clausen gave notice of a foreshadowed motion.

The Lord Mayor confirmed the motion before the Chair as follows:

*That City of Newcastle*

- 1 *Provide pensioners with an additional \$100 rebate, to be deducted from their last rate notice for the 19/20 financial year.*
- 2 *Provide free green waste drop off at the Summerhill waste management centre for the remainder of the 19/20 financial year.*
- 3 *Re-introduce the discount on parking through the Easy Park app until the end of this financial year.*

The motion moved by Councillor Church and seconded by Councillor Elliott, as amended, was put to the meeting.

**Defeated**

**MOTION**

Moved by Cr Clausen, seconded by Cr Duncan

The City of Newcastle proposes to freeze the current hourly parking rate at \$4.00 which was proposed to increase by \$1.00 in the 2020/21 budget. This equates to a \$1.4m saving to anyone using paid parking, both app and non-app users.

**Carried  
unanimously**

Councillors Luke and Rufo left the meeting at 8.11pm.

**The meeting concluded at 8.12pm.**