

**MINUTES OF WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL, CORONATION SQUARE, WAIROA  
ON TUESDAY, 24 JUNE 2025 AT 1:30 PM**

**PRESENT:** His Worship the Mayor Craig Little, Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare, Cr Jeremy Harker, Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke, Cr Benita Cairns, Cr Roslyn Thomas

**IN ATTENDANCE:** **Malcolm Alexander** (Interim Chief Executive), **Gary Borg** (Tumu Whakarae Tuarua | Deputy Chief Executive & Pouwhakarae – Pūtea/Tautāwhi Rangapū | Group Manager - Finance and Corporate Support), **Hinetaakoha Viriaere** (Pouwhakarae Whakamahere me te Waeture | Group Manager Planning and Regulatory), **Langley Cavers** (Pouwhakarae – Hua Pūmau | Acting Group Manager - Assets and Infrastructure), **Juanita Savage** (Chief of Operations) **Te Aroha Cook** (Kaiarataki Whakaoranga | Recovery Manager & Group Manager - Community Services and Development), **Hinemoa Hubbard** (Kaiurungi Mana Ārahi | Governance Officer), **David Doole** (Senior Rates Officer), **Kate Standing** (Executive Principal), **Matthew Lawson** (Incoming Chief Executive)

**1 KARAKIA**

A karakia was held before the meeting.

**2 APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE**

**APOLOGY**

**RESOLUTION 2025/42**

Moved: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

Seconded: Cr Benita Cairns

That the apology received from Cr Kaimoana be accepted and leave of absence granted.

**CARRIED**

**3 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Nil.

**4 CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Chair welcomed incoming Chief Executive Matthew Lawson and thanked Interim Chief Executive Malcolm Alexander for his leadership and the foundation he has laid. Councillors echoed their appreciation, particularly for his contributions to Local Water Done Well.

The Chair also acknowledged the recent bull sale at Tahaenui, noting it achieved a national record with a bull sold for \$156,000.

**5 LATE ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS****LATE ITEMS****RESOLUTION 2025/43**

Moved: His Worship the Mayor Craig Little

Seconded: Cr Jeremy Harker

That the following reports be received as late items:

- Item 8.2 – *Resolution to set rates for the year commencing 1 July 2025*
- Item 8.3 – *Dog Pound*
- Item 10.2 – *QRS Board Director – Reappointment*

**CARRIED**

**6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Nil.

**7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING****RESOLUTION 2025/44**

Moved: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

Seconded: Cr Jeremy Harker

That the minutes and confidential minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27 May 2025 be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

**8 GENERAL ITEMS****8.1 REALLOCATION OF BETTER OFF FUNDING****RESOLUTION 2025/45**

Moved: Cr Jeremy Harker

Seconded: Cr Roslyn Thomas

That Council reallocate Better Off Funding to meet some of the costs of the Local Waters Done Well programme and adopt Option B, \$310,000 will be allocated to Local Waters Done Well.

**CARRIED**

The Interim Chief Executive introduced the report:

- Outlining the background of the Better Off funding. This funding originated under the previous government but was discontinued by the new government, with the exception that councils could retain it for use on Local Waters Done Well (LWDW), infrastructure, or

existing projects.

- Council has incurred legal and modelling costs related to LWDW.
- The report outlines eligible uses of the funding. Additional costs are expected for preparing and certifying the Water Services Delivery Plan, including any further requirements from the Crown.

The Acting Group Manager of Assets & Infrastructure clarified that the total in the second column from the right in the table should \$1.676 million, not \$2.405 million.

Council supported eventually progressing the Tuai Recreational Facilities project, sought clarity on existing allocations in the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan, and discussed reinvesting part of a Tuai iwi contribution to the Mayoral Relief Fund into the project.

## 8.2 RESOLUTION TO SET RATES FOR THE YEAR COMMENCING 1 JULY 2025

### RESOLUTION 2025/46

Moved: Cr Benita Cairns

Seconded: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

That Council set the rates under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 for the financial year commencing 1st July 2025 in accordance with the resolution attached as **Appendix 1**

**CARRIED**

The Group Manager of Finance and Corporate Support introduced the report and noted a typographical error at section 4.1C, which should read 2025 instead of 2024.

Council queried how the rates increase compared to other councils nationally. The Group Manager of Finance and Corporate Support advised it was one of the lowest in the country.

## 8.3 DOG POUND

### RESOLUTION 2025/47

Moved: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

Seconded: Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke

That Council:

- (i) Approve the construction of a new dog pound facility as outlined in the LTP 2024-2027
- (ii) That a proposed budget be brought back to Council prior to tender
- (iii) That Council be provided with regular updates of the project against the budget once initiated.

**CARRIED**

The Group Manager of Community Services and Development introduced the report and noted the following:

- Costs for roading and car parks around the building have been accounted for in the cost

estimate.

- In discussions with the Roding Manager, it was advised that the airport access road would be covered by the existing maintenance budget, and the recommendation was to retain a metal surface for now, with sealing considered when budgets allow.
- If Council prefers the primary access to the the pound via Railway road, this cost has not been budgeted for. The Roding Manager advised that there are alternative options exist which could result in significantly lower costs.
- If we have to build at the location off Paeroa Stock Road, the maintenance of Paeroa Stock road would be covered under the existing roading maintenance budget. The Roding Manager recommends metal over sealing the road. Costs for building an access road to the pound from Paeroa Stock Road have not been included in the cost estimate, but alternative lower-cost options could be explored.
- In relation to governance oversight, if Council wishes this to be managed internally, Assets and Infrastructure would appoint a project manager to oversee the project and provide regular updates to Council.

Council discussed the risks associated with inaction, including potential health and safety issues for staff, legislative non-compliance, and the need to relocate animals. The importance of having a clear schedule of costs was also noted.

**9 RECEIPT OF MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES/ACTION SHEETS**

Nil

**10 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS**

**RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

**RESOLUTION 2025/48**

Moved: His Worship the Mayor Craig Little

Seconded: Cr Roslyn Thomas

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting at 2:17pm.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution
<b>10.1 - Statute Barred Rate Arrears Write-off 2017-18</b>	s7(2)(b)(ii) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for

	unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
<b>10.2 - QRS Board Director - Reappointment</b>	s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

**CARRIED**

**RESOLUTION 2025/49**

Moved: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare  
 Seconded: Cr Chaans Tumataroa-Clarke

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council at 2:37pm.

**CARRIED**

The Meeting closed with a closing karakia by His Worship the Mayor at 2:38pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 22 July 2025.

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 CHAIRPERSON