



# City of Whitehorse

## MINUTES

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### Special Council (Statutory) Meeting Election of the Mayor

Held in the  
Council Chamber  
Nunawading Civic Centre

379 Whitehorse Road Nunawading

on

**Monday 30 October 2017**

at 7.00pm

**Members:** Cr Blair Barker, Cr Bill Bennett, Cr Raylene Carr, Cr Prue Cutts,  
Cr Andrew Davenport, Cr Sharon Ellis, Cr Tina Liu,  
Cr Andrew Munroe, Cr Denise Massoud, Cr Ben Stennett

**Ms Noelene Duff**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Audio Recording of Meeting and Disclaimer**

Councillors and members of the public please note that in order to provide greater access to Council debate and decision making and encouraging openness and transparency:

- Formal Public Committee and Council meetings are audio recorded and the recordings (except for Confidential meetings) are uploaded and available on Council's website.
- Opinions expressed or statements made by individual persons during a meeting are not the opinions or statements of Whitehorse City Council and therefore Council accepts no liability.

Meeting opened at 7.00pm

Present: Cr Barker, Cr Bennett, Cr Carr, Cr Cutts, Cr Davenport,  
Cr Ellis, Cr Liu, Cr Massoud, Cr Munroe, Cr Stennett

### **CHAIRPERSON (PRO TEMPORE)**

In accordance with Council's Meeting Procedures and Common Seal Local Law 2013, the Chief Executive Officer took up the Chair up until the end of Item 7 when the election of Mayor took place.

## **1 PRAYER**

(Read by Chief Executive Officer)

### **1a Prayer for Council**

*We give thanks, O God, for the Men and Women of the past whose generous devotion to the common good has been the making of our City.*

*Grant that our own generation may build worthily on the foundations they have laid.*

*Direct our minds that all we plan and determine, is for the wellbeing of our City.*

***Amen.***

### **1b Aboriginal Reconciliation Statement**

*"In the spirit of reconciliation, Whitehorse City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land we are meeting on. We pay our respects to their Elders past and present."*

## **2 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

The Chief Executive Officer introduced Councillors and members of staff and welcomed members of the public in attendance.

### 3 APOLOGIES

Nil

### 4 ADDRESS BY AND CONGRATULATIONS TO IMMEDIATE PAST MAYOR

- 4.1 Immediate Past Mayor Councillor Denise Massoud addressed the meeting on her achievements during the Mayoral year.
- 4.2 Councillors extended their congratulations and appreciation to the immediate past Mayor Councillor Denise Massoud on her Mayoral year.

### 5 MAYOR AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES

*(Note: For information only – No Council Resolution required.)*

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held 20 March 2017, Council in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989*, resolved to set the Mayoral and Councillor allowances for the period 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2021.

The Mayoral and Councillor allowances (subject to State Government adjustments) are set at \$94,641 per annum plus the equivalent of the superannuation guarantee contribution (currently 9.5%) for the Mayoral allowance and \$29,630 per annum plus the equivalent of the superannuation guarantee contribution (currently 9.5%) for the Councillor allowance. The Mayor also receives a fully maintained motor vehicle.

### 6 TERM OF THE MAYOR

- 6.1 Before the appointment of the Mayor took place, Council must resolved the duration of the Mayoral term.

*Section 71 (2) of the Local Government Act 1989 allows Council to elect a Mayor for a term of two years.*

*Section 71 (3) of the Local Government Act 1989 states that the Mayor is to be elected after the fourth Saturday in October but not later than 30 November in each year.*

#### COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved by Cr Munroe, Seconded by Cr Ellis

***The Mayor to be elected at this meeting will hold the position of Mayor for a term of one year, i.e term will be 30 October 2017 to 29 October 2018.***

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## 7 ELECTION OF MAYOR

7.1 The appointment of the Mayor took place in accordance with Section 90 of the *Local Government Act 1989* which requires voting at a meeting that is open to the public to be conducted openly by show of hands.

7.2 The Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer Ms Noelene Duff outlined the Role of Mayor and Council and Community expectations of the Mayor.

### ***The Role of the Mayor***

*The Local Government Act 1989 defines the functions of Mayor.*

*The functions of the Mayor of a Council include:*

- *Providing guidance to Councillors about what is expected of a Councillor;*
- *Acting as a principal spokesperson for the Council;*
- *Supporting good working relations between Councillors;*
- *Carrying out the civic and ceremonial duties of the office of Mayor.*

*The role of Mayor as Chair of Council and community leader is crucial to effective relationships with the administration and to good governance. The Mayor should ensure good governance within Council, providing the base for sound strategy for the City.*

7.3 The Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer Ms Noelene Duff called for nominations for the position of Mayor, for the Mayoral term as previously resolved by Council in Item 6.1.

There were five nominations for the position of Mayor.

**Cr Bennett nominated himself**, seconded by Cr Davenport.

**Cr Barker nominated Cr Davenport**, seconded by Cr Bennett.  
(Cr Davenport accepted the nomination)

**Cr Ellis nominated herself**, seconded by Cr Stennett.

**Cr Carr nominated herself**, seconded by Cr Cutts.

**Cr Massoud nominated herself**, seconded by Cr Munroe.

7.4 Each candidate for Mayor was given up to three minutes to address Councillors.

The Councillors spoke in order of their nomination

- 7.5 The Chief Executive Officer acting as the Returning Officer and in accordance with Council's Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law 2013, then conducted a vote for the election of the Mayor for the 2017-2018 Mayoral term.

Following the vote no candidate had received an absolute majority of votes and two candidates, Councillor Bennett and Councillor Massoud were tied on the lowest number of votes.

The Chief Executive Officer then conducted a draw by lot to exclude one candidate.

Following the conduct of the lot Councillor Bennett was excluded from the vote.

The Chief Executive Officer then conducted a vote for the remaining four candidates Councillor Davenport, Councillor Ellis, Councillor Carr and Councillor Massoud in the order of nomination.

Following the vote no candidate had received an absolute majority of votes and Councillor Massoud having received the lowest number of votes was excluded from the vote.

The Chief Executive Officer then conducted a vote for the remaining three candidates Councillor Davenport, Councillor Ellis and Councillor Carr in the order of nomination.

Following the conduct of the vote no candidates had received an absolute majority of votes and two candidates Councillor Ellis and Councillor Carr were tied on the lowest number of votes.

The Chief Executive Officer then conducted a draw by lot to exclude one candidate from the vote.

Following the conduct of the lot Councillor Ellis was excluded from the vote.

The Chief Executive Officer then conducted a vote for the remaining two candidates Councillor Davenport and Councillor Carr in the order of nomination.

Following the vote Councillor Davenport having received an absolute majority of votes was declared the Mayor.

- 7.6 The Chief Executive Officer congratulated Councillor Davenport on his Election as Mayor and escorted the Mayor to the Chair.

**The Mayor took the Chair.**

**8 ADDRESS BY INCOMING MAYOR AND EXPRESSIONS OF CONGRATULATIONS BY COUNCILLORS TO THE NEW MAYOR**

8.1 Address and expression of appreciation by incoming Mayor.

The Mayor thanked the Chief Executive Officer for running the meeting and thanked the Councillors for their support and for putting their faith in him to fulfil the role and duties of Mayor. The Mayor said he will work with everyone to bring the team together for the year ahead and looked forward to a cooperative working relationship with the Chief Executive Officer and the Executive Team to continue to further the high standards in the city and the good reputation Whitehorse has achieved in the sector.

The Mayor said whilst he works full time he has the support of his employer and immediate family to fulfil the role to the best of his ability and looks forward to working with everyone over the next 12 months.

8.2 The Councillors congratulated Councillor Davenport on his election as Mayor.

**9. CLOSE MEETING OF MEETING AND INVITATION TO SUPPER**

Meeting closed at 8.05pm

**Confirmed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 2017**

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**CHAIRPERSON**