



# **MINUTES**

**Ordinary Council meeting  
Tuesday, 24 March 2026**

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL  
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, L1, 90 DEVONPORT ROAD,  
TAURANGA  
ON TUESDAY, 24 MARCH 2026 AT 9:30 AM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler, Cr Rod Taylor, Cr Hēmi Rolleston

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Marty Grenfell (Chief Executive), Christine Jones (General Manager: Strategy, Partnerships & Growth), Craig Rice (Chief Operating & Financial Officer), Sarah Omundsen (General Manager: Regulatory & Community), Reneke van Soest (General Manager: Operations & Infrastructure), Charles Lane (Team Leader: Commercial Legal), Tyler Buckley (Commercial Solicitor), Stephen Burton (Transformation Lead – Water Services), Frazer Smith (Manager: Strategic Finance & Growth), Cathy Davidson (Water Organisation Establishment Lead), Jeremy Boase (Head of Strategy, Governance & Climate Resilience), Kathryn Sharplin (Head of Finance), Tracey Hughes (Manager: Organisational Financial Performance & Corporate Planning), Gareth Wallis (Head of Community Hubs, Arts, Heritage & Events), Andrew Mead (Head of City Planning & Growth), Mike Seabourne (Head of Transport), Shawn Geard (Manager: Transport System), Caroline Lim (CCO Specialist), Clare Sullivan (Senior Governance Advisor), Anahera Dinsdale (Governance Advisor), Caroline Irvin (Governance Advisor)

Timestamps are included beside each of the items and relate to the recording of the meeting held on 24 March 2026 on the [Council's YouTube channel](#) - [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#)

## **1 OPENING KARAKIA**

Cr Hēmi Rolleston opened the meeting with a karakia.

## **2 APOLOGIES**

Nil

Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular arrived at 9.35 am.

## **3 PUBLIC FORUM**

### **3.1 Matt Cowley - Tauranga Business Awards**

- Mr Cowley, Chief Executive of the Tauranga Chamber of Commerce, addressed the Council regarding the Tauranga Business Awards 2026.
- He noted that the awards had been the largest awards held in over 10 years. More than half of the applicants were non-members of the Chamber. An independent panel of judges

was used.

- Mr Cowley highlighted the exceptionally high standard of finalists and acknowledged several award winners: JNP Aviation Limited who supply ground crew support to 10 airports in New Zealand, based in Tauranga; Archishade, based in Pāpāmoa, who design and manufacture outdoor shade solutions and the overall winner of Business of the Year , SYOS Aerospace, which specialised in air, land and sea drones. Its head research and development operations were based in Tauranga and it was set to open a large manufacturing plant in Mount Maunganui later this year.
- Mr Cowley noted there is limited support for start-up businesses and encouraged elected members and council staff, when next reviewing the economic development portfolio, to continue strengthening relationships within the sector to maximise the return from Council's investment.

### **3.3 Shad Rolleston on behalf of the Tangata Whenua Working Group Members**

- Shad Rolleston and Hakopa Tapiata spoke on behalf of the tangata whenua working group members on Local Waters Done Well.
- Mr Rolleston noted that it was a privilege being part of the working group. He acknowledged that one of the objectives was to deliver water services efficiently while taking environmental demands into account. He emphasised that from a te ao Māori perspective, water was valued in an integrated way, and held mana reflecting on the intrinsic relationship between people and the environment.
- Delivering healthy water that supported community wellbeing aligned with these values and was central to the outcomes. Water was an integral part of Māori identity, and there was legislative responsibility for local government to recognise and provide for Māori participation in decision-making.
- Mr Rolleston highlighted that rohe boundaries overlapped both Tauranga City Council and Western Bay of Plenty District Council. Māori governance structures were place-based and operated across both councils.
- Mr Tapiata emphasised the importance of tangata whenua governance and participation, moving beyond consultation to having a clear and meaningful role in decision-making processes. He noted the joint working group had achieved this, describing it as a positive, enabling and empowering process. He expressed a desire for this approach to serve as a model for best practice – moving beyond consultation toward genuine partnership.
- It was noted that iwi would continue to participate as long as they saw value and felt their voices were heard, respected and listened to.

### **3.3 Sam Allen**

- Mr Allen, an artist, expressed his view by reading a poem. He considered that there was a lot of pain and worry in the community.

## **4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS**

Nil

## **5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN**

Nil

## 6 CHANGE TO THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

THE AGENDA WAS TAKEN IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER.

## 7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

### 7.1 Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 February 2026

#### RESOLUTION CO/26/4/1

Moved: Cr Hēmi Rolleston

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 February 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record subject to clarifying the vote of Cr Crowther on Item 11.1 (part 3).

**CARRIED**

Recording checked and minutes of 10 February are a correct record of the vote.
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## 8 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

## 9 DEPUTATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS

Nil

## 10 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Nil

## 11 BUSINESS

Timestamp: 52 minutes (Part 1)

### 11.1 Local Water Done Well - Project Update

**Staff** Christine Jones, General Manager: Strategy, Partnerships & Growth

#### RESOLUTION CO/26/4/2

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Local Water Done Well - Project Update".
- (b) Notes that future project updates will be provided via the quarterly reporting against the Water Services Delivery Plan (beginning April 2026) to the Department of Internal

Affairs.

- (c) Adopts the principle of maintaining Tangata Whenua participation, engagement and arrangements, with existing commitments and practices either retained or bettered during, and following, the transition to a Water Organisation. Notes that involvement by tangata whenua in this process will require a new terms of reference and a review of remuneration.
- (d) Notes the future key milestones in this report, and the list of topics scheduled for consideration and further work post-April 2026 as provided by Attachment 3.
- (e) **Attachment 1** can be transferred into the open following negotiations with affected staff and IAWAI

**CARRIED**

Timestamp: 1 hour and 21 minutes (Part 1)

## 11.2 Local Water Done Well - Commercial Terms

**Staff** Christine Jones, General Manager: Strategy, Partnerships & Growth  
Charles Lane, Team Leader: Commercial Legal  
Tyler Buckley, Commercial Solicitor

### Actions Requested:

That staff:

- Look at options around transparency regarding publicly available agendas
- Note as part of recruitment process that the Chief Executive is advised of the preferred request for transparency

The motion was taken in parts.

### RESOLUTION CO/26/4/3

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom

Seconded: Cr Kevin Schuler

### Part 1

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Local Water Done Well - Commercial Terms" and Attachment 1.

**CARRIED**

### MOTION

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom

Seconded: Cr Kevin Schuler

That the Council:

- (b) Approves and endorses the Commercial Term Sheet at Attachment 1:
  - (i) With no exceptions;

**For:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler and Cr Rod Taylor

**Against:** Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris and Cr Hēmi Rolleston

**LOST 4/6**

## Part 2

That the Council:

- (c) Subject to a decision by both Tauranga City Council and Western Bay Of Plenty District Council to approve the Local Water Done Well due diligence (proposed for 24 March 2026), and a decision by both Tauranga City Council and Western Bay Of Plenty District Council to establish the Water Organisation (proposed for 2 April 2026):
- (i) Tauranga City Council and Western Bay Of Plenty District Council shall work together in good faith to resolve any outstanding commercial terms not yet approved by both Tauranga City Council and Western Bay Of Plenty District Council.
- (ii) Notes that staff will prepare the Water Organisation's Shareholders' Agreement and Company Constitution:
- (1) In a manner that is consistent with the approved Commercial Term Sheet and any additional commercial terms subsequently agreed by Tauranga City Council and Western Bay Of Plenty District Council; and
- (2) To enable incorporation of the Water Organisation by 1 July 2026, with operations commencing on 1 July 2027.

**CARRIED**

- (d) In relation to whether Tangata Whenua may hold Class A (voting) shares in the Water Organisation, confirms that Class A (voting) shares in the Water Organisation may:
- (ii) be held only by shareholding councils.

**For:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Marten Rozeboom and Cr Kevin Schuler

**Against:** Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Hēmi Rolleston and Cr Rod Taylor

**CARRIED 7/3**

## Part 3

That the Council:

- (e) Notes all parties on the Joint Working Group have reached a consensus on all terms within the Commercial Term Sheet at Attachment 1, with the exception of whether Tangata Whenua should hold Class A (voting) shares in the Water Organisation.

**For:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Hēmi Rolleston Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler and Cr Rod Taylor

**Against:** Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther,

**CARRIED 8/2**

## Part 4

That the Council:

- (f) Notes staff will report back to Tauranga City Council and Western Bay Of Plenty District Council in relation to the draft Shareholders' Agreement and Company Constitution for the Water Organisation for endorsement and approval prior to execution by the Mayor and Chief Executive.

- (g) Notes that the Joint Committee's role is recommendatory only, and that final decision-making authority rests with Class A Shareholders.
- (h) That Council's position is that the Water Organisation's draft Statement of Expectations will incorporate transparency provisions governing how the organisation conducts its business.

**CARRIED**

At 12.40pm the meeting adjourned.

At 1.30pm the meeting resumed in open.

#### **RESOLUTION CO/26/4/4**

Moved: Cr Glen Crowther

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

#### **Part 5**

That the Council:

- (b) Approves and endorses the Commercial Term Sheet at Attachment 1:
  - (ii) With the exception of commercial term:
    - (1) 17, Joint committee membership. Members representing Tauranga City Council must be elected members.

**For:** Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, and Cr Hēmi Rolleston

**Against:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler and Cr Rod Taylor

**CARRIED 6/4**

#### **Part 6**

That the Council:

- (b) Approves and endorses the Commercial Term Sheet at Attachment 1:
  - (ii) With the exception of commercial term:
    - (2) 44, Selection of Chair of Board of Directors - Option B Councils select and appoint the Chair

**For:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Hēmi Rolleston and Cr Rod Taylor

**Against:** Cr Marten Rozeboom and Cr Kevin Schuler

**CARRIED 8/2**

Timestamp: 4 hours and 27 minutes (Part 1)

### **11.3 Local Water Done Well - Due Diligence**

**Staff** Christine Jones, General Manager: Strategy, Partnerships & Growth

#### **RESOLUTION CO/26/4/5**

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Local Water Done Well - Due Diligence".
- (b) Notes the contents of the due diligence reports for legal, people and workforce and AMOS (asset management, operations and stormwater).
- (c) Accepts that no issues or risks were identified which jeopardise the feasibility of proceeding to establish a joint Water Organisation with Western Bay of Plenty District Council. Notes that cross boundary issues are being addressed through a separate paper.
- (d) Notes that implementation actions recommended by the due diligence reports will be incorporated into the forward work programme, if Council decides to proceed with establishing of a joint Water Organisation with Western Bay of Plenty District Council.
- (e) **Attachment 1** will not be transferred to public as it is legally privileged, a redacted version is available as Attachment 2 to this Council report.
- (f) **Attachment 3** can be transferred into the open once workforce negotiations are completed.

**CARRIED**

Timestamp 4 hours and 35 minutes (Part 1)

#### **11.4 Local Water Done Well - Financial Implications**

**Staff** Christine Jones, General Manager Strategy, Partnerships & Growth  
Craig Rice, Chief Operating & Financial Officer  
Kathryn Sharplin, Head of Finance  
Frazer Smith, Manager: Strategic Finance and Growth

#### **Action Requested:**

- That as part of the LTP development, the CEO brings a paper to Council prior to Dec 2026 with a proposal to fund and mitigate the stranded overheads estimated at \$9-\$10m recognising that rates capping is on its way.

#### **MOTION**

**Moved:** Cr Marten Rozeboom

**Seconded:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Local Water Done Well - Financial Implications".
- (b) Notes that updated financial modelling has delivered results consistent with the previous results reported to Council, and that a multi-council Water Organisation remains the most cost-effective option for the community.

#### Financial Due Diligence Report

- (c) Accepts, noting (g) to (j) below, that the financial due diligence report identified no issues which would jeopardise the successful establishment and operation of the proposed Water Organisation
- (d) Notes that implementation of next steps recommended by the financial due diligence

report will be incorporated into the forward work programme if Council decides to proceed with establishing a joint Water Organisation with Western Bay of Plenty District Council.

#### Cost Impacts of Establishing a Water Entity

- (e) Notes there are likely to be an estimated \$9m to \$10m pa of costs remaining in Council, which were previously allocated as overheads to the water services activity, which will need to be managed downwards as part of the transition to a Water Organisation and right sizing of Council.
- (f) Approves the following principles to guide the exit of water services from Council and the right sizing of the remaining corporate functions at Council.
  - (i) Set the Water Organisation up for success.
  - (ii) De-risk the transfer of functions.
  - (iii) Ensure the costs of set-up for the organisation and reset for the remaining Councils are minimised.
  - (iv) Follow a process that is fair to staff affected by the change.
  - (v) Have a medium-term view that the water organisation will be an efficient standalone Organisation.

#### Cross-boundary

- (g) Approves progressing good faith negotiations with Western Bay of Plenty District Council to agree two separate growth-related comprehensive funding agreements by 31 March 2027 for future and current (to be specifically defined) infrastructure, one agreement for each of:
  - (i) Waters infrastructure and services
  - (ii) Non-water infrastructure and services
- (h) Agrees to the good faith negotiations being guided by the principles of:
  - (i) Growth pays for growth
  - (ii) everyone pays their fair share
  - (iii) Water organisation foundation documents only deal with water growth issues (not other infrastructure issues)
  - (iv) Water organisation set up for success
- (i) Agrees to the good faith negotiations process steps to include the following:
  - (i) Problem statement definition developed and agreed
  - (ii) Perspectives of each Council shared, listened to, and develop pathway options together
  - (iii) Define the principles, process and arrangements that will be applied going forward.
- (j) Commits to best endeavours negotiation to reach agreement with Western Bay of Plenty District Council, and in the event that a resolution is unable to be reached by 31 March 2027, Tauranga City council will consider options to preserve its financial interests and ensure a fair and equitable position.
- (k) **Attachment 5** can be reviewed for potential transfer into public after 12 months.

**AN AMENDMENT WAS PROPOSED:**

Moved: Cr Hēmi Rolleston

Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

That the Council:

Amends the dates in recommendation (g) and (j) to 31 May 2026

**For:** Deputy Mayor Scoular, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris and Cr Hēmi Rolleston**Against:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler and Cr Rod Taylor**Tied 5 all**The Mayor decided not to use his casting vote. **LOST****The motion was taken in parts.****RESOLUTION CO/26/4/6**

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom

Seconded: Mayor Mahé Drysdale

**Part 1**

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Local Water Done Well - Financial Implications".
- (b) Notes that updated financial modelling has delivered results consistent with the previous results reported to Council, and that a multi-council Water Organisation remains the most cost-effective option for the community.

Financial Due Diligence Report

- (c) Accepts, noting (g) to (j) below, that the financial due diligence report identified no issues which would jeopardise the successful establishment and operation of the proposed Water Organisation
- (d) Notes that implementation of next steps recommended by the financial due diligence report will be incorporated into the forward work programme if Council decides to proceed with establishing a joint Water Organisation with Western Bay of Plenty District Council.

Cost Impacts of Establishing a Water Entity

- (e) Notes there are likely to be an estimated \$9m to \$10m pa of costs remaining in Council, which were previously allocated as overheads to the water services activity, which will need to be managed downwards as part of the transition to a Water Organisation and right sizing of Council.
- (f) Approves the following principles to guide the exit of water services from Council and the right sizing of the remaining corporate functions at Council.
  - (i) Set the Water Organisation up for success.
  - (ii) De-risk the transfer of functions.
  - (iii) Ensure the costs of set-up for the organisation and reset for the remaining Councils are minimised.
  - (iv) Follow a process that is fair to staff affected by the change.

- (v) Have a medium-term view that the water organisation will be an efficient standalone Organisation.

**CARRIED**

## Part 2

That the Council:

### Cross-boundary

- (g) Approves progressing good faith negotiations with Western Bay of Plenty District Council to agree two separate growth-related comprehensive funding agreements by 31 March 2027 for future and current (to be specifically defined) infrastructure, one agreement for each of:
  - (i) Waters infrastructure and services
  - (ii) Non-water infrastructure and services
- (h) Agrees to the good faith negotiations being guided by the principles of:
  - (i) Growth pays for growth
  - (ii) everyone pays their fair share
  - (iii) Water organisation foundation documents only deal with water growth issues (not other infrastructure issues)
  - (iv) Water organisation set up for success
- (i) Agrees to the good faith negotiations process steps to include the following:
  - (i) Problem statement definition developed and agreed
  - (ii) Perspectives of each Council shared, listened to, and develop pathway options together
  - (iii) Define the principles, process and arrangements that will be applied going forward.
- (j) Commits to best endeavours negotiation to reach agreement with Western Bay of Plenty District Council, and in the event that a resolution is unable to be reached by 31 March 2027, Tauranga City council will consider options to preserve its financial interests and ensure a fair and equitable position.
- (k) **Attachment 5** can be reviewed for potential transfer into public after 12 months.

**For:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler and Cr Rod Taylor

**Against:** Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Glen Crowther and Cr Hēmi Rolleston

**CARRIED 7/3**

## Attachments

1 LWDW Finance Presentation

At 3.38pm the meeting adjourned.

At 4.02pm the meeting resumed in open.

## EXTENSION OF MEETING TIME

### RESOLUTION CO/26/4/7

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom  
Seconded: Cr Glen Crowther

That the Council meeting of 24 March extends past six hours.

**CARRIED**

Timestamp: 6 hours and 32 minutes (Part 1)

### 11.5 Annual Plan 2026-27 Update

**Staff** Craig Rice, Chief Operating & Financial Officer  
Kathryn Sharplin, Head of Finance  
Tracey Hughes, Manager: Organisational Financial Performance & Corporate Planning

Discussion commenced on this item but was adjourned until later in the meeting.

Timestamp: 7 hours and 7 minutes (Part 1)

### 11.6 Annual Plan 2026/27 - Levels of Service Options - part 1

**Staff** Jeremy Boase, Head of Strategy, Governance and Climate Resilience  
Gareth Wallis, Head of Community Hubs, Arts, Heritage & Events

The motion was taken in parts.

### RESOLUTION CO/26/4/8

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom  
Seconded: Cr Rick Curach

#### Part 1

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Annual Plan 2026/27 - Levels of Service Options - part 1".
- (b) Approves the following option for 2026/27 for each of the levels of service identified in this paper:

#### **Climate engagement, education & public awareness (Attachment 1)**

- (i) Option 2 – Reduce budget to \$100,000 and allocates 0.1 FTE Communications support

#### **Climate-related grants and funding (Attachment 2)**

- (ii) Option 2 – Reduce each of the three external grant funds to 50% of the 2025/26 value (being an additional saving of \$85,000 above the \$50,000 saving previously made), leaving a total remaining budget of \$135,000.

**CARRIED**

**Part 2**

That the Council:

**Event funding (Attachment 3)**

- (iii) Option 3 – Reduce the amount of rates funding needed in 2026/27 by \$500,000 and top up the available funds with \$300,000 from the Event Reserve.

**For:** Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Hēmi Rolleston and Cr Rod Taylor

**Against:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular and Cr Kevin Schuler

**CARRIED 7/3**

**12 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION**

**Resolution to exclude the public at 5.02 pm**

**RESOLUTION CO/26/4/9**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

Seconded: Cr Rod Taylor

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

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
<p><b>13.2 - Annual Plan 2026/27 - Levels of Service Options - part 2</b></p>	<p>s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p> <p>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)</p>	<p>s48(1)(a) - 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</p>
<p><b>13.4 - Council-Controlled Organisations - Tourism Bay of Plenty</b></p>	<p>s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p>	<p>s48(1)(a) - 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</p>
<p><b>13.5 - Regulatory Hearings Panel Appointments and</b></p>	<p>s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural</p>	<p>s48(1)(a) - 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</p>

<b>Terms of Reference</b>	persons	reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
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**CARRIED**

At 6.32pm the meeting resumed in open.

At 6.32pm the meeting adjourned.

At 7.15pm the meeting resumed in open.

### 13 BUSINESS CONTINUED

Timestamp 1 minute (Part 2)

#### 11.5 Annual Plan 2026-27 Update Continued

**Staff** Craig Rice, Chief Operating & Financial Officer  
 Kathryn Sharplin, Head of Finance  
 Tracey Hughes, Manager, Organisational Financial Performance & Corporate Planning

#### MOTION

Moved: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

Seconded: Mayor Mahé Drysdale

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Annual Plan 2026-27 Update ".
- (b) Confirms the capital budget of \$400m for projects in 2026/27 and the list of deferred projects to be reprioritised through the LTP per **Attachment 1**. A further \$50m of carry forwards from 2025/26 is anticipated.
- (c) Agrees to the annual plan budgets for waters as set out in **Attachment 2** with a rates requirement of \$96m excluding water by meter charges. This is an increase after growth of 7.5%. The water by meter charge has increased by 7.5% from \$3.87 per cubic metre to \$4.16 per cubic metre, including GST.
- (d) Notes that based on decisions from 10 February 2026 and, including recommendations (b) and (g) in this report, the rates requirement for 2026/27 excluding waters would be \$260m, which is a rates increase of 9.7% after growth if no placeholder budget for the Māori ward is included or 9.9% if it is.
- (e) Notes that currently no budget for Māori ward consultation is included in the draft financials in this report.
- (f) Agrees regarding a Māori ward referendum budget to
  - (i) include \$500,000 as a placeholder expenditure budget for a referendum on the Te Awanui Māori ward if future Council decision-making leads to a need for such a referendum which would have a rates impact of \$350k.
- (g) Agrees that additional budgets are included in the 2026/27 Annual Plan for the January 2026 weather event recovery and review of \$2.6m to be funded from the risk reserve, which has a net impact on debt for the year of \$2.6m with only the cost of borrowing

impacting rates (up to \$100k).

- (h) Notes the risk reserve has a balance at 30 June 2025 of \$5m, with a further \$1m per annum budgeted to be contributed to the reserve in 2025/26 and in 2026/27 and that the balance would be reduced by costs arising in 2025/26 that are funded from the reserve.
- (i) Notes that for capital expenditure the placeholder budget currently included for the January weather event is \$6m.
- (j) Notes that the above weather event expenditure of \$2.6m for opex funded from the risk reserve, and \$6m capex funded from loans is currently included in the draft financials in this report.
- (k) Notes that the remaining challenge to meet 7.5% rates increase is a rate-funded amount of \$5.6m.
- (l) Agrees to request the CE to consider further savings and options to achieve 7.5 percent plus any Council approved costs for Mauao and/or cost increases due to the global situation.
- (m) Notes that the financial prudence balanced budget measure is currently 97.8% which will need to be disclosed to LGFA as our lender under the terms of the bespoke covenant.

#### AN AMENDMENT WAS PROPOSED

Moved: Cr Steve Morris

Seconded: Cr Hēmi Rolleston

That the Council amends (l) to read:

Requests the Chief Executive to consider further savings and options to achieve 7.5 percent plus any Council approved costs for Mauao.

**For:** Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Steve Morris and Cr Hēmi Rolleston

**Against:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler and Cr Rod Taylor

**LOST 4/6**

#### RESOLUTION CO/26/4/10

Moved: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

Seconded: Mayor Mahé Drysdale

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Annual Plan 2026-27 Update".
- (b) Confirms the capital budget of \$400m for projects in 2026/27 and the list of deferred projects to be reprioritised through the LTP per **Attachment 1**. A further \$50m of carry forwards from 2025/26 is anticipated.
- (c) Agrees to the annual plan budgets for waters as set out in **Attachment 2** with a rates requirement of \$96m excluding water by meter charges. This is an increase after growth of 7.5%. The water by meter charge has increased by 7.5% from \$3.87 per cubic metre to \$4.16 per cubic metre, including GST.
- (d) Notes that based on decisions from 10 February 2026 and, including recommendations (b) and (g) in this report, the rates requirement for 2026/27 excluding waters would be \$260m, which is a rates increase of 9.7% after growth if no placeholder budget for the

Māori ward is included or 9.9% if it is.

- (e) Notes that currently no budget for Māori ward consultation is included in the draft financials in this report.
- (f) Agrees regarding a Māori ward referendum budget to
  - (i) include \$500,000 as a placeholder expenditure budget for a referendum on the Te Awanui Māori ward if future Council decision-making leads to a need for such a referendum which would have a rates impact of \$350k.
- (g) Agrees that additional budgets are included in the 2026/27 Annual Plan for the January 2026 weather event recovery and review of \$2.6m to be funded from the risk reserve, which has a net impact on debt for the year of \$2.6m with only the cost of borrowing impacting rates (up to \$100k).
- (h) Notes the risk reserve has a balance at 30 June 2025 of \$5m, with a further \$1m per annum budgeted to be contributed to the reserve in 2025/26 and in 2026/27 and that the balance would be reduced by costs arising in 2025/26 that are funded from the reserve.
- (i) Notes that for capital expenditure the placeholder budget currently included for the January weather event is \$6m.
- (j) Notes that the above weather event expenditure of \$2.6m for opex funded from the risk reserve, and \$6m capex funded from loans is currently included in the draft financials in this report.
- (k) Notes that the remaining challenge to meet 7.5% rates increase is a rate-funded amount of \$5.6m.
- (l) Agrees to request the CE to consider further savings and options to achieve 7.5 percent plus any Council approved costs for Mauao and/or cost increases due to the global situation.
- (m) Notes that the financial prudence balanced budget measure is currently 97.8% which will need to be disclosed to LGFA as our lender under the terms of the bespoke covenant.

**For:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Hēmi Rolleston, Cr Kevin Schuler and Cr Rod Taylor

**Against:** Cr Glen Crowther and Cr Marten Rozeboom,

**CARRIED 8/2**

## Attachments

1 Annual Plan presentation

Timestamp: 44 minutes (Part 2)

## 11.7 January 2026 Weather Event and Subsequent Expenditure

**Staff** Craig Rice: Chief Operating & Financial Officer  
Kathryn Sharplin, Head of Finance

**RESOLUTION CO/26/4/11**

Moved: Cr Rod Taylor  
Seconded: Mayor Mahé Drysdale

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "January 2026 Weather Event and Subsequent Expenditure".
- (b) Agrees retrospectively to the expenditure that has been incurred to date of \$2m committed primarily through the emergency response stage, but also at the commencement of recovery and review including the mayoral fund expenditure.
- (c) Notes that in addition to these costs internal productivity costs arising from staff redirected to the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) was \$150k.
- (d) Agrees to delegate to the chief executive the financial authority to undertake further expenditure up to \$2.425m this financial year consistent with Table 1 in this report.
- (e) Notes the forecast full year deficit for the Beachside Holiday Park of \$689k for which loss of profit compensation is being sought from our insurers.
- (f) Agrees to fund the expenditure in 2025/26 from the risk reserve.
- (g) Notes that costs will continue into 2026/27 and this expenditure is incorporated in additional budget requested in the "Annual Plan 2026-27 Update" report to this meeting.

**CARRIED**

Timestamp: 53 minutes (Part 2)

### **11.8 Draft User Fees and Charges Schedule 2026/27**

**Staff** Craig Rice: Chief Operating & Financial Officer  
Jeremy Boase: Head of Strategy, Governance & Climate Resilience  
Alison Law: Head of Spaces & Places

The motion was taken in parts.

#### **RESOLUTION CO/26/4/12**

Moved: Cr Glen Crowther  
Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

#### **Part 1**

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Draft User Fees and Charges Schedule 2026/27".
- (c) Adopts the draft User Fees and Charges 2026/27 and Statement of Proposal as set out in Attachments 1 and 2, as a draft for public consultation, incorporating any amendments directed by Council at this meeting subject to the changes tabled at the meeting related to Baycourt and burials under Cemeteries.
- (d) Delegates the Chief Operating and Financial Officer to approve the final wording of amendments (as per Council direction) prior to public consultation.

**CARRIED**

#### **Part 2**

That the Council:

- (b) Approves Option 1, which adjusts the cost of cremations to cost including inflation and would increase the cost of burials and chapel fees by a total of 6 % (3% increase and 3% inflation) to be included in the draft User Fees and Charges 2026/27 for consultation.

**For:** Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Hēmi Rolleston, Cr Kevin Schuler

**Seconded:** Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Marten Rozeboom and Cr Rod Taylor

**CARRIED 6/4**

Timestamp: 1 hour and 19 minutes (Part 2)

### **11.9 Approval of Draft Development Contributions Policy 2026/27**

**Staff** Christine Jones: General Manager Strategy, Partnerships & Growth

#### **RESOLUTION CO/26/4/13**

Moved: Cr Glen Crowther

Seconded: Mayor Mahé Drysdale

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Approval of Draft Development Contributions Policy 2026/27".
- (b) Agrees to incorporate the proposed updates to local and citywide development contributions in the draft Development Contributions Policy 2026/27.
- (c) Approves the draft Development Contributions Policy 2026/27 including:
  - (i) Revision of the definition of "bedroom" for the purpose of assessing the citywide development contribution to clarify that second living rooms including multi-purpose rooms like media rooms or rumpus rooms which are capable of functioning as a bedroom will be treated as a bedroom;
  - (ii) A drafting note to clarify that local development contributions are generally payable for minor dwellings developed in residential zones; and
  - (iii) Further detail of the calculation methodology used for the Tauriko West, Tauriko Business Estate Stage 4 and Upper Ohauti catchments.
- (d) Adopts the Statement of Proposal and draft Development Contributions Policy 2026/27 for the purposes of public consultation.
- (e) Delegates authority to the General Manager: Strategy, Partnerships & Growth to make amendments to the draft Development Contributions Policy 2026/27 to correct minor errors in wording or financial information as required.

Cr Baker abstained from voting on this item.

**CARRIED**

Timestamp: 1 hour and 25 minutes (Part 2)

## 11.11 Submission to Bay of Plenty Regional Council's Long Term Plan Amendment

### RESOLUTION CO/26/4/14

Moved: Mayor Mahé Drysdale  
Seconded: Cr Marten Rozeboom

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Submission to Bay of Plenty Regional Council's Long-term Plan Amendment".
- (b) Approves the draft submission "Tauranga City Council Submission to Bay of Plenty Regional Council's Long Term Plan Amendment 2024-34" included as Attachment 1 to this report, for lodging with the Bay of Plenty Regional Council.
- (c) Delegates authority to the Mayor to approve any minor drafting, typographical or presentation amendments as required prior to lodging the submission ahead of the 2 April 2026 deadline.

**CARRIED**

Timestamp: 1 hour and 31 minutes (Part 2)

## 11.12 Transport Resolutions Report No.60

**Staff** Reneke van Soest: General Manager Operations & Infrastructure

### RESOLUTION CO/26/4/15

Moved: Cr Steve Morris  
Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Transport Resolutions Report No.60".
- (b) Resolves to implement the proposed traffic and parking controls for general safety, operational, or amenity purposes as detailed in Attachment A - including Attachments 2, 7.1, 7.2, 7.4, 7.7, 7.8, 7.9, 7.16, 7.19.
- (c) Approves these changes taking effect on or after 25 March 2026, subject to the installation of appropriate signs and road markings where necessary.

**CARRIED**

Items 11.10 Long Term Plan 2027-2037 – Project Plan and 11.13 Ōmanawa Falls Reserve Name Change were not dealt with at this meeting.

## 14 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

**Resolution to exclude the public at 8.49 pm**

**RESOLUTION CO/26/4/16**

Moved: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

Seconded: Cr Steve Morris

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

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:

<b>General subject of each matter to be considered</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution</b>
<b>13.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Council meeting held on 10 February 2026</b>	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons	s48(1)(a) - 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
<b>13.3 - Application for development contributions waiver at Tauriko West</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) - 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
<b>13.6 - Public Art Framework</b>	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons  s7(2)(b)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	s48(1)(a) - 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
<b>Confidential Attachment 1 - 11.1 - Local Water Done Well - Project Update</b>	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons  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) 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

<p><b>Confidential Attachment 1 - 11.3 - Local Water Done Well - Due Diligence</b></p>	<p>s7(2)(g) - The withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege</p>	<p>s48(1)(a) 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</p>
<p><b>Confidential Attachment 3 - 11.3 - Local Water Done Well - Due Diligence</b></p>	<p>s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p>	<p>s48(1)(a) 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</p>
<p><b>Confidential Attachment 5 - 11.4 - Local Water Done Well - Financial Implications</b></p>	<p>s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons</p>	<p>s48(1)(a) 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</p>

**CARRIED**

At 1.30pm on Thursday 26 March the meeting resumed in open.

**15 CLOSING KARAKIA**

Cr Hautapu Baker closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 1.30 pm on Thursday 26 March.

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 21 April 2026.**