DRAFT MINUTES

Ordinary Council meeting

Tuesday, 21 July 2026

Order of Business

MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
L1, 90 DEVONPORT ROAD, TAURANGA
ON TUESDAY, 21 JULY 2026 AT 9:30 AM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Mahé Drysdale (Chair), 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), Gareth Green (Manager of the Mayoral Office), Craig Rice (COFO), Reneke van Soest (General Manager: Operations & Infrastructure), Jane Small (Major Projects Director), Graeme Frith (Portfolio Manager: Civic and Support Services), Amanda Davies (Manager: Spaces and Places), Christopher Barton (Portfolio Manager: Infrastructure), Josh Logan (Team Leader: Policy & Corporate Planning), Tracey Hughes (Manager: Organisational Financial Performance and Corporate), Caroline Lim (CCO Specialist), Sharon Herbst (Policy Analyst), Keren Paekau (Acting Head of Strategic Māori Engagement), Monique Etherington (Senior Advisor: Elected Members and Operations), Mike Seabourne (Head of Transport), Sarah Holmes (Team Leader: Governance & CCO Support Services), Anahera Dinsdale (Governance Advisor), Caroline Irvin (Governance Advisor).

Timestamps are included at the start of each item and signal where the agenda item can be found in the recording of the Council meeting held on 21 July 2026 at Council's YouTube Channel - Part 1 and Council's YouTube channel - Part 2.

1 OPENING KARAKIA

Cr Hēmi Rolleston opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Nil

3 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

The Chair advised that item 9.1 would be taken as the next item of business.

Timestamp: 5 minutes and 20 seconds

9.1 Petition: Jan Iles - Request for the demolition of the Memorial Pool to be delayed.

Ms Jan Iles spoke to her petition:

- This was an issue to do with democracy, transparency, and compliance with the Local Government Act 2002.
- There were concerns about the information provided to the public, including uncertainty around funding from TECT.
- Council had not responded to an invitation to review the condition of the Memorial Pool. It was felt the public had been misinformed.
- The proposed scheme would have had a significant impact on Memorial Park, including loss of green space and sunlight. The previous consultation on a different site could not be relied on.
- The timing and adequacy of consultation was criticised, and decisions appeared to have already been made.
- Ms Iles provided Council with more signatures to the same petition opposing the proposal and seeking proper consultation, with more than 1,900 online signatures and around 600 hand-signed signatures, with total support exceeding 2,500 people.
- Elected Members were asked to support the formation of a working group that would include community representatives.

Mr Barry Scott spoke to the petition:

- Council's consultation on the future of the pools had fallen short. Demolishing the existing pools before the community had clearly expressed its views would create a significant problem for future councils and ratepayers.
- Elected Members' Facebook comments suggested a decision to demolish had already been made, potentially committing ratepayers to nearly $100 million without proper consultation or consideration of less costly options.
- Council was asked whether it planned to demolish the pools, whether a decision had already been made, and whether refurbishment of the existing pools had been properly considered.

In response to a question

- Mr Scott advised he did not dismiss the value of the Annual Plan or Long-Term Plan consultation, but considered it too superficial for a project of this scale. A $100 million decision required a more deliberative democratic process, involving community representatives, council representatives and affected parties who could consider evidence, hear different viewpoints, compare options, receive expert advice and deliberate together.

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/1

Moved: Cr Glen Crowther
Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Council:

(a) Receives the Petition: Jan Iles - Request for the demolition of the Memorial Pool to be delayed.

CARRIED

4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN

Nil

6 CHANGE TO THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Mayor Mahé Drysdale acknowledges the following people who have recently passed away:

Ms Irene Walker and Nanny Mihi Gardner

- Both Ms Walker and Ms Gardener were recognised for their long-standing services to the Tauranga community and Tauranga City Council.

Mr Les Mills

- Mr Mills was recognised for his significant public service and sporting achievements.

These people had provided important leadership within their communities. This was acknowledged with a moment of silence.

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Timestamp: 21 minutes and 51 seconds

7.1 Minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 June 2026

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/2

Moved: Cr Rod Taylor
Seconded: Cr Kevin Schuler

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 June 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

7.2 Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 June 2026

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/3

Moved: Cr Hēmi Rolleston
Seconded: Cr Kevin Schuler

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 June 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

8 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

9 DEPUTATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS

Item 9.1 was taken after item 3.

10 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Nil

11 BUSINESS

Timestamp: 24 minutes and 25 seconds

11.1 Strand Waterfront Projects

Staff Graeme Frith, Portfolio Manager: Civic and Support Services
Amanda Davies, Manager: Spaces and Places
Christopher Barton, Portfolio Manager: Infrastructure
Jane Small, Major Projects Director

Elected members requested more information before being able to make a decision on the recommendations. The report was left to lie on the table until staff provided them with this information.

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/4

Moved: Mayor Mahé Drysdale
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

That the Council:

(a) Lets the report lie on the table until additional information from staff is received.

CARRIED

At 11.27am the meeting adjourned.

At 11.42am the meeting resumed in open.

Timestamp: 2 hours and 14 minutes

11.2 LTP 2027 - 2037 Matters: Significant Forecasting Assumptions and a Zero-Based Budgeting Approach

Staff Josh Logan, Team Leader: Policy & Corporate Planning
Craig Rice

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/5

Moved: Cr Glen Crowther
Seconded: Cr Steve Morris

That Council:

(a) Receives the report "LTP 2027 - 2037 Matters: Significant Forecasting Assumptions and a Zero-Based Budgeting Approach ".

(b) Adopts the Draft Significant Forecasting Assumptions **(Attachment 1)** as the basis of preparing the Long-term Plan 2027-2037.

(c) Notes that some assumptions are dynamic and will continue to change over the next six months and therefore the assumptions will continue to be refined and updated as more information becomes available.

(d) Endorses a zero-based budgeting approach to preparing the operational budgets for the LTP.

CARRIED

Timestamp: 2 hours and 24.33 minutes

11.3 Te Manawataki o Te Papa Limited Board - Director Recruitment

Staff Caroline Lim, CCO Specialist

Actions Requested:
That staff:

- Follow up on tangata whenua involvement on the Te Manawataki o Te Papa Limited Board.
- Organise a briefing workshop with the Te Manawataki o Te Papa Limited Board to clarify accountability for each of the major projects that have been assigned to the organisation.
- Subject to diary availability, Mayor Mahé Drysdale was requested to be involved in the recruitment of the new Board Director.

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/6

Moved: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular
Seconded: Cr Rod Taylor

That the Council:

(a) Receives the report "Te Manawataki o Te Papa Limited – Director Recruitment".

(b) Approves staff to initiate the recruitment of a new director to the Board of Te Manawataki o Te Papa Limited, with transport projects and commercial contracts governance experience for an appointment term ending 30 June 2030.

(c) Notes (in accordance with section 80 of the Local Government Act 2002) that, while the appointment term of three years and eight months for this proposed position is inconsistent with the Council's Appointment of Directors to Council Organisations Policy (which provides that the appointment will normally be for a three year period), the circumstances of the expanded portfolio of this council-controlled organisation where the four major transport projects are to be worked on over the next few years, the proactive succession planning programme of the board and the onboarding programme of new board members over the next two to three years, provide sufficient rationale for this inconsistency. There is no intention to amend the Appointment Policy to accommodate this decision.

CARRIED

Timestamp: 2 hours and 44 minutes

11.4 Review of the Grants for Development Contributions on Papakāinga Housing Policy

Staff Sharon Herbst, Policy Analyst
Christine Jones, General Manager Strategy, Partnerships & Growth

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/7

Moved: Cr Hēmi Rolleston
Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Council:

(a) Receives the report "Review of the Grants for Development Contributions on Papakāinga Housing Policy".

(b) Approves the transfer of a maximum of $1 million from the Papakāinga Grant Fund for development contributions to the Papakāinga Housing Fund on an as-needed basis, while maintaining sufficient funding to meet the purpose of the Development Contribution Grant.

(c) Adopt changes to the grants for development contributions on papakāinga housing policy (attachment 1) to:

(i) reduce the proportion of development contribution costs covered at the build stage for individual applications to 75%

(ii) apply a transition period to 31 December 2026, maintaining up to 100%

Development Contribution grant support for applications, and then moving to 75% grant support from 1 January 2027

(iii) require an annual staff-led review, which is reported to Council, of outcomes and processes to support continuous improvement

(d) Delegates to the General Manager: Strategy, Partnerships & Growth to make any necessary minor drafting or operational changes to implement the approved approach.

CARRIED

Timestamp: 3 hours and 8 minutes

11.5 Remits to Local Government New Zealand 2026

Staff Monique Etherington, Senior Advisor: Elected Members and Operations
Gareth Green, Head of Office – Manager of the Mayoral Office

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/8

Moved: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular
Seconded: Cr Kevin Schuler

That the Council:

(a) Receives the report "Remits to Local Government New Zealand 2026".

Voting

(b) Provides the following direction to Council's representatives at the Local Government New Zealand annual general meeting on whether the remits to that meeting should be supported or not supported.

Remit	Topic	Support/not support
1	Priorities for Dog Control Act reform	Support
2	Improved regulation of vape retailers	Support
3	Financial support for government reform implementation costs	Support
4	Removal of Representation Review requirements during Simplifying Local Government reform	Support
6	Enhanced role for government in supporting subnational diplomacy	Support
7	Bulk funding of transport activities	Support
8	Improving LTP audit requirements	Support
9	A fairer approach to uneconomic transport infrastructure funding	Support

CARRIED

Remits 1,2,3,4,6,7,8, and 9

CARRIED

Remit 5: Devolution of place-naming authority to Territorial Authorities

For: Cr Hautapu Baker

Against: Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler, Cr Rod Taylor and Cr Hēmi Rolleston.

LOST 1/9

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/9

Moved: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular
Seconded: Cr Kevin Schuler

That the Council:

Priorities

(c) Provides the following direction to those representatives regarding the relative priority of successful remits:

	Priority (A to I)
Remit 1 (if successful)	A
Remit 2 (if successful)	C
Remit 3 (if successful)	B
Remit 4 (if successful)	F
Remit 6 (if successful)	H
Remit 7 (if successful)	D
Remit 8 (if successful)	E
Remit 9 (if successful)	G

CARRIED

At 12.50pm the meeting adjourned.

At 1.31pm the meeting resumed in open.

Timestamp: 4 hours and 3 minutes

11.6 Council-Controlled Organisations - Final Statements of Intent 2026/2027-2028/2029

Staff Caroline Lim, CCO Specialist

External Sonya Korohina, Toi Tauranga Art Gallery Director
Chad Hooker, Chief Executive - Bay Venues Limited.

- The Committee noted that CCO annual and, in particular half-year reports, could be shorter and more succinct in their presentation and wording.

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/10

Moved: Cr Rod Taylor
Seconded: Cr Steve Morris

That the Council:

(a) Receives the report "Council-Controlled Organisations - Final Statements of Intent 2026/2027-2028/2029".

(b) Receives the **Final Statement of Intent FY27-29** (**Attachments One to Six**) for Bay Venues Limited, Tauranga Art Gallery Trust, Tourism Bay of Plenty, Te Manawataki o Te Papa Limited, Te Manawataki o Te Papa Charitable Trust and Bay of Plenty Local Authority Shared Services Limited.

(c) Notes that as joint shareholder of Tourism Bay of Plenty, Western Bay of Plenty District Council has received Tourism Bay of Plenty's updated draft Statement of Intent FY27-29 at their 28 May 2026 council meeting.

CARRIED

Timestamp: 4 hours and 20 minutes

11.7 Water Organisation Joint Committee - Tangata Whenua Remuneration

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

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/11

Moved: Cr Hautapu Baker
Seconded: Cr Steve Morris

That the Council:

(a) Receives the report "Water Organisation Joint Committee - Tangata Whenua Remuneration".

(b) That Council approves a **revised** remuneration rate for the Tangata Whenua representatives on the Water Organisation Joint Committee at $967 per full day and $484 per half day of meeting hours, effective from 2 June 2026.

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

Against: Cr Hautapu Baker

CARRIED 9/1

12 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

13 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Resolution to exclude the public at 2pm.

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/12

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

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
13.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Council meeting held on 23 June 2026	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 s7(2)(d) - The withholding of the information is necessary to avoid prejudice to measures protecting the health or safety of members of the public s7(2)(g) - The withholding of the information is necessary to maintain legal professional privilege s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities s7(2)(i) - The withholding of the	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

	information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	
13.2 - LWDW - Digital Programme: Phase Two	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
13.3 - 134 Durham Street Laneway Project Options	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	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
13.4 - Applications for grants to fund Development Contributions related to city centre developments	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
13.5 - Formal Request for Consideration of Grievances and Financial Assistance - The Phoenix	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

CARRIED

At 4.25pm the meeting resumed in open.

EXTENSION OF MEETING TIME

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/13

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom
Seconded: Cr Kevin Schuler

That the Council meeting extends over 6 hours at 4.25pm.

CARRIED

CONTINUATION OF ITEM 11.1

Timestamp: 5 seconds (part 2)

Strand Waterfront Projects - Continued

Elected Members considered the additional information provided to them by staff.

The substantive motion was put in parts as follows:

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/14

Moved: Mayor Mahé Drysdale
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

That the Council:

(a) Receives the report "Strand Waterfront Projects".

(b) Notes the previous resolutions of Council in relation to the Tauranga Moana Waterfront Projects as outlined in Table 1 of this report:

Wharewaka:

(c) Approves the delivery of the Tauranga Wharewaka Pavillion at a total project cost of $2.4m, including a $400,000 funding contribution from TECT administered through the Ōtamataha Trust.

(d) Requests that staff report back with a reconciliation of Wharewaka total project cost between April 2026 and final costing to Council as at June 2026, including TECT funding.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/15

Moved: Mayor Mahé Drysdale
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

That the Council:

Seawall South:

(e) Approves the delivery of the Seawall South within its current budget allocation of $4.4m; and

(f) Approves bringing forward $1m of the Seawall South replacement budget from the 2028 FY to the 2027 FY.

(g) Notes that this will be offset by staff reallocating the Annual Plan capital budget.

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

Against: Cr Glen Crowther

CARRIED 9/1

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/16

Moved: Mayor Mahé Drysdale
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

That the Council:

Railway Crossings:

(h) Approves the delivery of Tauranga Waterfront Railway Crossing Safety Upgrade Programme at a total project cost of $7.18m, noting that $2.56m is funded through NZTA co-funding; and

(i) Approves the direct appointment of KiwiRail to undertake the track and signal works for the four railway crossing safety upgrade projects, noting that works undertaken within the rail corridor are required to be undertaken by KiwiRail and are subject to KiwiRail's operational, safety and technical requirements; and

(j) Approves a closed competition procurement process for the ancillary and supporting works, noting that as corridor owner, KiwiRail requires these works to be undertaken either directly by KiwiRail or by contractors approved by KiwiRail.

(k) Notes that construction would need to take place outside of events in Tauranga.

CARRIED

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/17

Moved: Mayor Mahé Drysdale
Seconded: Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular

That the Council:

Central Plaza:

(l) Approves restarting the Waterfront Central Plaza project, including redefining project scope and objectives to deliver a lower cost solution, and investigating alternative delivery methods together with the Strand South; and

(m) Delegates authority to the Chief Executive to approve and execute contracts associated with resolutions (c) to (l) as applicable, provided the contract price remains within the budget and subject to endorsement by the Te Manawataki o Te Papa Board.

(n) Notes the current budget allocation of $10.15 million for Strand Reserve – Park South and endorses staff facilitating an elected member workshop to consider project outcomes, scope, level of service and budget prior to commencement of detailed design and procurement activities.

For: Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Rick Curach and Cr Marten Rozeboom

Against: Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Kevin Schuler, Cr Rod Taylor and Cr Hēmi Rolleston

EQUAL

The Mayor exercised his casting vote and voted **for** the recommendation. The recommendation was **carried**.

CARRIED

13 Resolution to Exclude the Public

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/18

Moved: Cr Hautapu Baker
Seconded: Cr Marten Rozeboom

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting at 5.59pm.

CARRIED

At 7.20pm the meeting resumed in open.

14 CLOSING KARAKIA

Cr Hēmi Rolleston closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 2 September 2026.