



CITY OF VINCENT

**SPECIAL
COUNCIL MEETING**

Minutes

19 February 2015

ENHANCING AND CELEBRATING OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITY

This document is available in other formats and languages.

3. (a) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME & RECEIVING OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

The following is a summary of questions and submissions received and responses provided at the meeting. This is not a verbatim record of comments made at the meeting.

1. Ian Ker of 92 Vincent Street, Mt Lawley – Item 7.1

- Today though I believe is the second most momentous day in the history of the City of Vincent. I congratulate all those from the Council and the community who have played a part in by any standards is an amazing achievement.
- It is important and I believe the resolution before Council tonight does this, to celebrate the achievement of the Vincent community, but we shouldn't make a mistake of thinking that we did it all by ourselves.
- Therefore would propose that there be an addition to part two of the recommendation.
- Mr Ker provided a hardcopy of his amendment and this is noted within the final Council Resolution.

2. Marie Slyth of 89 Carr Street, West Perth – Item 7.1

- Congratulations to our Mayor and the Councillors for all the work they have done and also our local community who put a lot of time and effort into keeping Vincent as one.

There being no further speakers, Public Question Time closed at approximately 6.09 pm.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER (WITHOUT DISCUSSION)

Nil.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

- 6.1 Acting Chief Executive Officer John Paton declared a Financial Interest in Item 7.1 Local Government Reform. The extent of his interest being that his contract of employment expires on 30 June 2016, which was to align to the potential merger of the City.

7. REPORTS

- 7.1 Local Government Reform
-

7.1 Local Government Reform

Ward:	All	Date:	18 February 2015
Precinct:		File Ref:	
Attachments:	Nil		
Tabled Items:	Nil		
Reporting Officer:	J Paton, A/Chief Executive Officer		
Responsible Officer:	J Paton, A/Chief Executive Officer		

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That Council:

1. **NOTES** the significant shift in the Local Government Reform process in the past month, with particular regards to:
 - 1.1 The three council amalgamations that were strongly rejected by referendums where the opportunity to vote for residents was permitted;
 - 1.2 The Western Australian Local Government Association withdrew its support for the reform process after being long term supporters; and
 - 1.3 The Western Australian Government announced any council merger would be voluntary;
 2. **RECOGNISES** and thanks the incredible efforts and participation of the local Vincent ratepayers, who volunteered their own time to organize the campaign to stop the splitting of Vincent and as a result of their work, gave immense political power and credibility to our position.
 3. **CONFIRMS** that the City of Vincent wants to remain as a stand-alone Council, on the basis of:
 - 3.1 Strong local community support for the City of Vincent to remain as a separate entity, with particular reference to the results of the 2013 plebiscite which demonstrated the community's first preference for the City to stay as is;
 - 3.2 Irreconcilable differences between the City of Perth and City of Vincent regarding a new city authority under the proposed City of Perth Act, in particular the City of Perth's support for vote weighting and a no ward structure;
 - 3.3 Recognition the City of Perth Act would not contain a provision for a referendum of City of Vincent ratepayers to have the final say on the new governance model and structure of a new city authority; and
 - 3.4 Recognition that small local government can be genuinely effective and innovative as leaders and facilitators of positive change in the community;
 4. **AUTHORISES** the Mayor and/or Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government to formally advise of the City of Vincent's position;
 5. **RE-AFFIRMS** a strong commitment to reform of the local government sector, including the need for higher standards of governance, accountability, transparency, training and innovation; and
 6. **RE-AFFIRMS** a strong agenda and focus on improving and reforming the City of Vincent, which began with the appointment of a new CEO to drive this process.
-

Moved Cr Harley, Seconded Cr Buckels

That the recommendation be adopted.

Debate ensued.

AMENDMENT

Moved Cr Harley, Seconded Cr Buckels

That Recommendation 2 be amended as follows:

2. **RECOGNISES** and thanks the incredible efforts and participation of: ~~the local Vincent ratepayers, who volunteered their own time to organize the campaign to stop the splitting of Vincent and as a result of their work, gave immense political power and credibility to our position;~~

2.1 the local Vincent ratepayers, who volunteered their own time to organise the campaign to stop the splitting of Vincent and as a result of their work, gave immense political power and credibility to our position; and

2.2 the individuals and community groups across the Perth Metropolitan Area who kept local government reform in the public eye and ensured the success of the polls in South Perth, Kwinana and East Fremantle on 7th February 2015.

AMENDMENT PUT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (9-0)

Debate ensued.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (9-0)

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM 7.1

That Council:

1. **NOTES** the significant shift in the Local Government Reform process in the past month, with particular regards to:
- 1.1 **The three council amalgamations that were strongly rejected by referendums where the opportunity to vote for residents was permitted;**
 - 1.2 **The Western Australian Local Government Association withdrew its support for the reform process after being long term supporters; and**
 - 1.3 **The Western Australian Government announced any council merger would be voluntary;**
2. **RECOGNISES** and thanks the incredible efforts and participation of:
- 2.1 **the local Vincent ratepayers, who volunteered their own time to organise the campaign to stop the splitting of Vincent and as a result of their work, gave immense political power and credibility to our position; and**
 - 2.2 **the individuals and community groups across the Perth Metropolitan Area who kept local government reform in the public eye and ensured the success of the polls in South Perth, Kwinana and East Fremantle on 7th February 2015;**
-

3. **CONFIRMS** that the City of Vincent wants to remain as a stand-alone Council, on the basis of:
 - 3.1 **Strong local community support for the City of Vincent to remain as a separate entity, with particular reference to the results of the 2013 plebiscite which demonstrated the community's first preference for the City to stay as is;**
 - 3.2 **Irreconcilable differences between the City of Perth and City of Vincent regarding a new city authority under the proposed City of Perth Act, in particular the City of Perth's support for vote weighting and a no ward structure;**
 - 3.3 **Recognition the City of Perth Act would not contain a provision for a referendum of City of Vincent ratepayers to have the final say on the new governance model and structure of a new city authority; and**
 - 3.4 **Recognition that small local government can be genuinely effective and innovative as leaders and facilitators of positive change in the community;**
 4. **AUTHORISES** the Mayor and/or Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Local Government to formally advise of the City of Vincent's position;
 5. **RE-AFFIRMS** a strong commitment to reform of the local government sector, including the need for higher standards of governance, accountability, transparency, training and innovation; and
 6. **RE-AFFIRMS** a strong agenda and focus on improving and reforming the City of Vincent, which began with the appointment of a new CEO to drive this process.
-

