

# MINUTES

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## COUNCIL MEETING

**Friday 17 June 2022**  
**7:00 pm**

**City Hall**  
**57 Little Malop Street, Geelong 3220**

**LIVE STREAMED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE:**

**[www.geelongaustralia.com.au/meetings](http://www.geelongaustralia.com.au/meetings)**

**COUNCIL:**

Cr S Asher (Bellarine Ward) - Mayor  
Cr T Sullivan (Bellarine Ward) - Deputy Mayor  
Cr J Mason (Bellarine Ward)  
Cr E Kontelj (Brownbill Ward)  
Cr S Mansfield (Brownbill Ward)  
Cr P Murrihy (Brownbill Ward)  
Cr B Harwood (Kardinia Ward)  
Cr B Moloney (Kardinia Ward)  
Cr R Nelson (Kardinia Ward)  
Cr A Aitken (Windermere Ward)  
Cr K Grzybek (Windermere Ward)

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**Present:** Crs A Aitken, S Asher, K Grzybek, B Harwood, E Kontelj, S Mansfield, J Mason, B Moloney, P Murrhy, R Nelson, T Sullivan

**Also Present:** M Cutter (Chief Executive Officer), S McKew (Manager Governance)

**Opening:** The Chief Executive Officer declared the meeting open at 7.00pm.

## **1. PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

### **1.1. Acknowledgement of Country**

Council acknowledges the Wadawurrung People as the Traditional Owners of the Land, Waterways and Skies. We pay our respects to their Elders, past and present. We acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are part of our Greater Geelong community today.

### **1.2. Apologies**

Nil.

### **1.3. Declarations of Conflicts of Interest**

Nil.

## 2. REPORTS

### 2.1. Election of Mayor

**Source:** Office of the Chief Executive  
**Chief Executive Officer:** Martin Cutter

#### Purpose

1. To elect a Mayor of the Greater Geelong City Council as a result of a vacancy.

#### Background

2. Mayor Asher advised the Chief Executive Officer of her intention to step down as Mayor effective 15 June 2022.
3. Section 26(8) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) provides that a Councillor be elected to fill a vacancy in the office of Mayor.
4. In accordance with Section 25(1) of the Act Councillors must elect a Councillor to be Mayor at a Council meeting open to the public.

#### Key Matters

5. Section 26 of the Act and Section 2.1.4 of the Governance Rules provides that if the office of the Mayor becomes vacant, a new Mayor of the Greater Geelong City Council must be elected within one month of the vacancy and is for the remaining term of the previous Mayor's term being November 2022.
6. The election of the Mayor must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Governance Rules. As such, the election of the Mayor will be chaired by the Chief Executive Officer.
7. Subject to the provisions of the Act, the Mayor must be elected by an absolute majority of the Councillors.

#### RESOLUTION - Item 2.1

**Cr Sullivan moved, Cr Harwood seconded -**

**That Council elect Cr Peter Murrhy as the Mayor of Greater Geelong City Council for the remainder of the term being November 2022.**

**Carried**

*Cr Peter Murrhy was elected Mayor of the Greater Geelong City Council.*

*Cr Murrhy assumed the Chair and briefly addressed the meeting.*

***Financial Sustainability***

8. Funds are allocated annually for the office of Mayor.

***Community Engagement***

9. The Act provides that the Councillors must elect a Councillor to be Mayor of the Council, therefore community engagement is not appropriate.

***Social Equity and Sustainability***

10. Section 25(2) of the Act provides that subject to section 167, Determinations by a Councillor Conduct Panel, any Councillor is eligible for election to the office of Mayor.

***Relevant Law/Policy/Legal Implications***

11. The election of Mayor is to be conducted in accordance with section 25 of the Act and the Governance Rules.

***Alignment to Community Plan and Vision***

12. This report aligns with Our Community Plan 2021-2025 strategic priority: High-performing council and organisation.

***Conflict of Interest***

13. No officer involved in the preparation of this report declared a general or material conflict of interest.

***Risk Assessment***

14. In accordance with section 25(5) of the Act, if an absolute majority of the Councillors cannot be obtained at the meeting to elect a Mayor, the Council may resolve to conduct a new election at a later specified time and date.

***Environmental Sustainability***

15. There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

**Attachments**

Nil

**CLOSE OF MEETING**

**As there was no further business the meeting closed at 7.12pm on Tuesday 17 June 2022.**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cr Peter Murrhy (Mayor)**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_