



WELLINGTON
SHIRE COUNCIL

The Heart of Gippsland

RESOLUTIONS IN BRIEF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 18 November 2024, commencing at 5:00 PM

COUNCILLORS PRESENT

Cr Scott Rossetti (Mayor)
Cr Cindy Madeley (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Catherine Bannerman
Cr Liz Foat
Cr Edward Lowe
Cr Garry Stephens
Cr Carmel Ripper
Cr John Tatterson
Cr Geoff Wells

OFFICERS PRESENT

David Morcom, Chief Executive Officer
Arthur Skipitaris, General Manager Corporate Services
Andrew Pomeroy, General Manager Development
Chris Hastie, General Manager Built and Natural Environment
Kim Salleh, Manager Communications & Media
Catie Thomson, Governance Officer

**ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

0.1. TABLE OF CONTENTS2

1. APOLOGIES3

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST.....3

3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER.....3

 3.1. COUNCILLORS TO TAKE THE OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE..... 3

 3.2. SETTING THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE MAYOR AND TO ESTABLISH THE
 OFFICE OF DEPUTY MAYOR..... 4

 3.3. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR 4

 3.4. ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR 6

4. CLOSURE OF MEETING7

1. APOLOGIES

NIL

2. DECLARATION OF CONFLICT/S OF INTEREST

NIL

3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

3.1. COUNCILLORS TO TAKE THE OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF OFFICE

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PURPOSE

In order to undertake the role of a Councillor, all persons elected as councillors must take the oath or affirmation of office.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with section 30 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, a person elected to be a councillor is not capable of acting as a councillor until the person has taken the oath or affirmation of office in the manner prescribed by regulation 5 of the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*.

In taking the oath or affirmation of office, councillors-elect must have read the Model Councillor Code of Conduct and make a declaration stating that they will abide by the Councillor Code of Conduct and uphold the standards set out in the Councillor Code of Conduct.

The following councillors-elect took the oath of office, administered by the Chief Executive Officer:

- Carmel Ripper
- Catherine Bannerman
- Edward Lowe
- Garry Stephens

The following councillors-elect took the affirmation of office, administered by the Chief Executive Officer:

- John Tatterson
- Liz Foat
- Scott Rossetti
- Cindy Madeley
- Geoff Wells

3.2. SETTING THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR THE MAYOR AND TO ESTABLISH THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY MAYOR

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PURPOSE

To establish an office of Deputy Mayor and determine the Mayoral term of office in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. *Resolve to establish an office of Deputy Mayor.*
2. *Determine that the term of office of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be from 18 November 2024 to as close to the end of a _____ year term as is reasonably practicable.*

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI / COUNCILLOR RIPPER

That Council:

1. *Resolve to establish an office of Deputy Mayor.*
2. *Determine that the term of office of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be from 18 November 2024 to as close to the end of a one-year term as is reasonably practicable.*

CARRIED

3.3. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PURPOSE

For Council to elect a Councillor to be Mayor at a meeting that is open to the public in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

The Chair called for nominations for Mayor.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON was nominated by Councillor Ripper.
COUNCILLOR TATTERSON accepted the nomination.

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI was nominated by Councillor Stephens.
COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

The Chair called for a show of hands for the nominated candidates:

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON – Councillor Ripper – 1 vote.

COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI – Councillors Tatterson, Foat, Rossetti, Madeley, Wells, Bannerman, Lowe and Stephens – 8 votes.

The Chair announced an absolute majority vote in support of Councillor Rossetti for the role of Mayor.

RECOMMENDATION

That Councillor _____ be elected as Mayor from 18 November 2024 to as close to the end of the _____ year term as is reasonably practicable.

COUNCILLOR STEPHENS / COUNCILLOR BANNERMAN

That Councillor Rossetti be elected as Mayor from 18 November 2024 to as close to the end of the one-year term as is reasonably practicable.

CARRIED

The Chair formally declared COUNCILLOR ROSSETTI as Mayor of Wellington Shire Council and congratulated Councillor Rossetti on his election.

Councillor Rossetti assumed the role of Mayor and Chair.

Councillor Rossetti extended a thank you to his fellow councillors for supporting his nomination and thanked Councillor Tatterson for putting his hand up as well.

Councillor Rossetti acknowledged the former Council and acknowledged the work they have done as well as the preceding Councils as 'we do stand on their shoulders'. The work done before makes the current Council's job a little easier to achieve outcomes for the community. Councillor Rossetti spoke of how fortunate the Wellington Shire has been with a number of very stable councils in a very long row which cannot be said of many councils around the state. The coming together of a diverse group is exciting. Councillor Rossetti commented that this is one of the best Councils the shire has had with a group of people with many different views who come from many different angles and represent many different demographics and different ideas.

Councillor Rossetti has already observed the work that has been done through the election process and through the workshops today and everyone works well together. No doubt there will be different perspectives which is very healthy. There will be a lot of fresh ideas with the corporate knowledge to be able to support the basics underneath.

Councillor Rossetti expressed that he is looking forward to the next four years and the next year as Mayor and appreciates the support he has been given.

3.4. ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR

ACTION OFFICER: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

PURPOSE

For Council to elect a Councillor to be Deputy Mayor at a meeting that is open to the public in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE GALLERY

NIL

Councillor Rossetti called for nominations for Deputy Mayor.

COUNCILLOR MADELEY was nominated by Councillor Wells.
COUNCILLOR MADELEY accepted the nomination.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON was nominated by Councillor Ripper.
COUNCILLOR TATTERSON accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

The Chair called for a show of hands for the nominated candidates:

COUNCILLOR MADELEY – Councillors Foat, Rossetti, Madeley, Wells and Stephens – 5 votes.

COUNCILLOR TATTERSON – Councillors Ripper, Tatterson, Bannerman and Lowe – 4 votes.

The Chair announced an absolute majority vote in support of Councillor Madeley for the role of Deputy Mayor.

RECOMMENDATION

That Councillor _____ be elected as Deputy Mayor from 18 November 2024 to as close to the end of the _____ year term as is reasonably practicable.

COUNCILLOR FOAT / COUNCILLOR WELLS

That Councillor Madeley be elected as Deputy Mayor from 18 November 2024 to as close to the end of the one- year term as is reasonably practicable.

CARRIED

Councillor Rossetti formally declared COUNCILLOR MADELEY as Deputy Mayor of Wellington Shire Council and congratulated Councillor Madeley on her election.

Councillor Madeley thanked her fellow councillors on her nomination. She appreciates that this Council contains a good mix of the 'old and the new' and to see this reflected in the role of Mayor and Deputy Mayor is a positive step. Councillor Madeley is looking forward to working with the community and continuing the work she did during her election campaign and learning from a fantastic Mayor and mentor. She looks forward to the year ahead.

4. CLOSURE OF MEETING

Meeting declared closed at 5.21pm

The live streaming of this Council meeting will now come to a close.