

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday 12 December 2023

at

5.00pm Council Chambers, St Helens

John Brown, General Manager
Break O'Day Council
12 December 2023

Division 3 – Annual General Meeting

72B. Annual General Meeting

1. A Council must hold an Annual General Meeting on a date that –
 - a. Is not later than 15 December in each year; and
 - b. Is not before 14 days after the date of the first publication of a notice under subsection (2).
2. A Council must publish a notice on at least 2 separate occasions in a daily newspaper circulating in the municipal area or other prescribed newspaper specifying the date, time and place of the Annual General Meeting.
3. If a quorum of the Council is not present –
 - a. The Annual General Meeting is to be reconvened and held within 14 days; and
 - b. A notice is to be published in a daily newspaper circulating in the municipal area or other prescribed newspaper specifying the date, time and place of the Annual General Meeting.
4. Only electors in the municipal area are entitled to vote at an Annual General Meeting.
5. A motion at an Annual General Meeting is passed by a majority of votes taken by a show of hands or by any other means of ascertaining the vote the Council determines.
6. A motion passed at an Annual General Meeting is to be considered at the next meeting of the Council.
7. The General Manager is to keep minutes of the Annual General Meeting.

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AUDIO RECORDING OF MEETINGS OF COUNCIL

Due to upgrades and installation to Council's audio equipment unfortunately this Annual General Meeting will not be audio recorded.

OPENING

The Mayor welcomed Councillors, and staff and declared the meeting open at 5.08pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and live, the Palawa people of this land Tasmania, and recognise their continuing connection to the lands, skies and waters. We pay respects to the Elders Past, present and future.

AGM/23.1.0 ATTENDANCE

AGM/23.1.1 Present

Mayor Mick Tucker
Councillor Janet Drummond
Councillor Liz Johnstone
Councillor Barry LeFevre
Councillor Kylie Wright

AGM/23.1.2 Apologies

Deputy Mayor Kristi Chapple
Councillor Gary Barnes
Councillor Ian Carter
Councillor Vaughan Oldham

AGM/23.1.3 Leave of Absence

Nil

AGM/23.1.4 Staff in Attendance

General Manager, John Brown
Corporate Services Officer, Bec Wood
Corporate Services Coordinator, Angela Matthews
Manager Business Services, Raoul Harper
Manager Community Services, Chris Hughes
Executive Officer, Jayne Richardson
Manager Infrastructure and Development Services, David Jolly
Development Services Coordinator, Jake Ihnen
Governance Officer, Molli Brown

AGM/22.1.5 Community

There were no members of the Break O'Day community present at the meeting.

AGM/23.2.0 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION – MAYOR MICK TUCKER

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Break O'Day Council Annual General Meeting.

Welcome to the 2022-2023 Annual Report.

As always, it has been a busy year for staff and Councillors and we have been working hard for our community to deliver services and infrastructure important to them.

In October 2022, an election was held that saw four new Councillors elected to Council. We welcomed Cirs Ian Carter, Liz Johnstone, Gary Barnes and Vaughan Oldham into their new roles with Clr Kristi Chapple elected Deputy Mayor. Along with some new faces, unfortunately, it was time to say goodbye to some members of Council who decided not to re-stand this election. It was a pleasure to work with Deputy Mayor John McGiveron, Margaret Osbourne, Lesa Whitaker and Glenn McGuinness, thank you for your time and dedication as Council members.

To support our new Councillors, the Tasmanian Government has introduced the Local Government Learning and Development Framework to improve the learning and development opportunities for Councillors in Local Government. This aims to increase the knowledge and skills of Councillors. It is important that good training is available for the continual development and up-skilling of people in roles that advocate for community, this training is something that benefits everyone.

I was fortunate enough to be elected Mayor for the third consecutive term in our recent election. Over the last decade, I have had the honour and pleasure of serving and working alongside our community to achieve shared successes that have shaped our area and I will continue to do my best to be a strong voice for our municipality.

Earlier this year, with the support of my Councillors, I was nominated and successfully elected as President of the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT). Thank you to the community, my fellow colleagues, the staff at Break O'Day Council and my family. I am grateful for the ongoing support I receive which gives me opportunities to be able to continue advocating for Break O'Day and all Councils in Tasmania.

Community engagement is an important part of a Councillor's role. I commend our Councillors for making themselves accessible and promoting community consultation. We also had the opportunity to gain feedback from the community in regards to the Future of Local Government Review (FOLGR) and Council amalgamations. The information we received from Break O'Day helped us develop our submission to the FOLGR Board. We actively continue to seek updates on the progress of the review to ensure the best possible outcome for our municipality.

We have had the opportunity to work alongside Centrecare Evolve to create new homes in our community. Access to affordable housing is much needed in our area and because of its importance to our community, it is one of Council's main priorities.

Break O'Day Council continues to advocate for an alternative route to St Marys Pass which will not bypass the St Marys Township. St Marys Pass has needed consistent maintenance for decades and

by today's standards and considering the use of this main access route to the coast, it is not-fit-for purpose. Recently, we presented an alternative route at the Regional Collaborative Forum, a presentation opportunity that sees Councils work together to push for State and Federal Funding for projects around Tasmania. We have the full support of the State Government who has allocated funding within the state budget to conduct a feasibility study. Brian Mitchell MP has also confirmed Labour is supportive of our efforts.

This year marked the 50th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War. I was honoured to be asked by the St Helens Vietnam Veterans Association Sub Branch to be the guest speaker on this day. It was a great privilege to celebrate a day that reflects on the bravery, teamwork and endurance Australians displayed throughout the war. Paying homage to our Australian soldiers past and present is something very close to my heart and it is important to give the deserved recognition to those who serve our Country, the place we call home.

Our General Manager (GM) has been working hard behind the scenes of Council. His involvement with the Medea Park Board which has seen the success of the new extension to the residential home and his efforts and leadership with Break O'Day Employment Connect is highly commendable, something he dedicates his personal time to. I am proud of the initiative taken to go beyond his duties as GM and the dedication he has to our community.

Another financial year is concluded and it is nice to be able to reflect on all the hard work, positive outcomes and successes we have had moving forward as we continue to thrive as a community. Thank you to council staff, managers, inside/outside work crew and volunteers for the great work they do to keep the operations of Break O'Day running effortlessly. They are the foundation of Break O'Day Council.

Mick Tucker
Mayor

AGM/23.3.1 Moved Clr J Drummond/ Seconded Clr K Wright

That the Mayor's report be taken as read and received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

It is very challenging to try and summarise what we have achieved or what has happened over the last year in a few pages.

Every four years the Council elections roll around and during the latter part of 2022 the community chose its representatives for the next term. This time around we experienced a significant change with a shift to compulsory voting which was suddenly announced by the State Government and caught a lot of people by surprise. In previous elections our turnout had been quite high at over 70% with the 2022 election returning 86.49% so it wasn't a massive increase for us.

These elections saw a significant change in our councillors as our three longest serving Councillors, Marg Osborne, John McGiveron and Glenn McGuinness decided it was time to call it quits, and Lesa Whittaker, one of our newest Councillors decided not to restand. A very big thank you to them for their contribution to Council and the Break O'Day community was celebrated with a civic reception on 22 November.

Naturally this meant that four new Councillors joined us and we welcomed Liz Johnstone, Gary Barnes, Ian Carter and Vaughan Oldham to the Council table. No doubt their heads were spinning for a while as they settled in and went through a fairly intense induction process. They have all settled in well and are actively participating in developing the future of Break O'Day. Mayor Mick Tucker was elected to continue as Mayor and Kristi Chapple became our new Deputy Mayor.

Last year when I wrote this message, what our area might look like in the future was quite unclear. The Future of Local Government review process was grinding on and we hoped that by the end of June we might have had a clearer picture, unfortunately this is not the case.

During the year we continued to very actively argue what we thought the future of local government could look like through the submissions we made. A lot of internal resources are diverted from the day-to-day tasks for this process and we were one of very few Councils who have made a submission at every opportunity which actually surprised me given the importance of this review.

Following a lot of discussion, the Council reached a position of supporting an investigation into the creation of an East coast Council. The exact boundaries of this new council area were not identified because we felt that it was vital the homework be done so that an informed decision could be reached.

We are now waiting to see what the Local Government Board recommends and then, what the State Government will do. Given the fact we have a minority government they may just sit on it. If this ends up being the case and whoever is in power after the next State election decides to ignore the report it will be incredibly frustrating and a massive waste of resources all for nothing. Let us hope this is not the case.

The weather gods had their eye on us in the later part of 2022 and wanted to make sure we didn't dry out. Things came to a head in October 2022 when we had a lot of rainfall on already very soggy ground and lo-and-behold the St Marys Pass had a major failure. The Elephant Pass wasn't much better but at least we could still use it.

Finally after two months of frustrating disruption the Pass reopened just before Christmas. During this time we mounted a strong argument to the State Government that they needed to look for an alternative, and they agreed that an investigation should occur. Previous investigations had been fruitless as the alternatives were not seen as feasible, so perhaps the State Government thought it would all die down. Council officers weren't satisfied that they had looked hard enough and we put our minds to the task and were able to identify an alternative which is feasible. This was presented to the State Government and we are now pushing them to get on with the investigation.

There have been many other projects that we have focused on during the year that are important to the future of our community including:

Local Provisions Schedules for the Planning Scheme

New Police Station at St Helens

Affordable housing for our residents who need a roof to live under

Recreational Trails Strategy

Georges Bay Activation Strategy

St Marys Indoor Recreation and Community Building

Fingal Community Shed

Late in the year, Mayor Tucker was elected as President of the Local Government Association of Tasmania, our peak body. Having served as Vice-President for the last two years, Mick is well versed in the challenge he faces advocating for the sector, we all know how passionate he can be when arguing for a cause. Congratulations to the mayor on this achievement.

In closing once again I want to acknowledge all of the hard work of the BODC team, Councillors, employees and volunteers over the last 12 months. Another productive year with many achievements for the betterment of the wonderful place in which we are fortunate enough to live. We don't do this alone, there are also many members of our community either individually or through the various community groups we have that contribute invaluable to where we live.

John Brown

General Manager

- The General Manager noted a correction to his report, he had written that former Councillor Lesa Whittaker did not restand in 2022, however she did stand but was not elected. He also highlighted that the Future of Local Government Review was a focus throughout the year and this will continue into the new year.
- The General Manager thanked the entire Council team including Councillors, employees and volunteers for all their hard work throughout the year.

AGM/23.3.2

Moved Clr K Wright/ Seconded Clr B LeFevre

That the General Manager's report be taken as read and received.

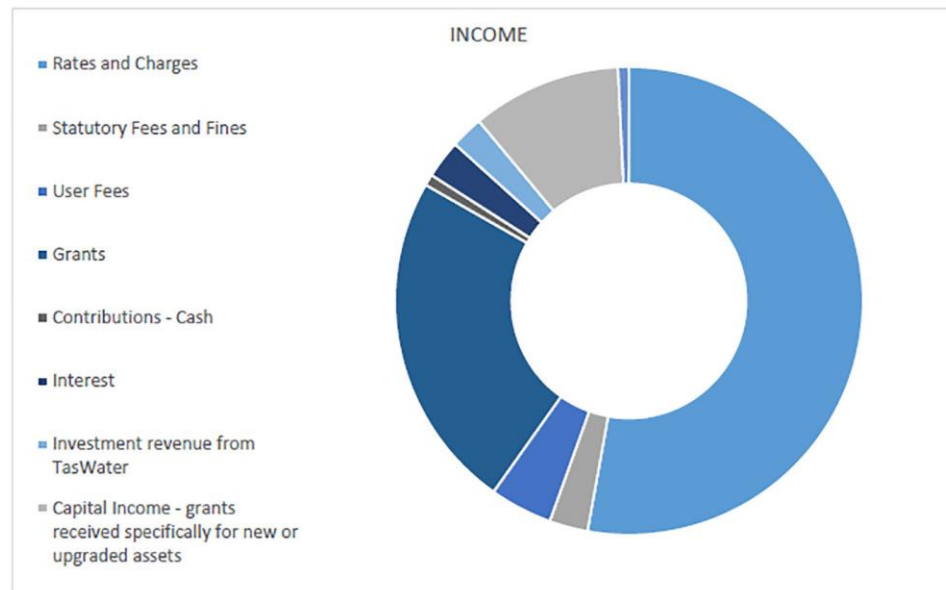
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



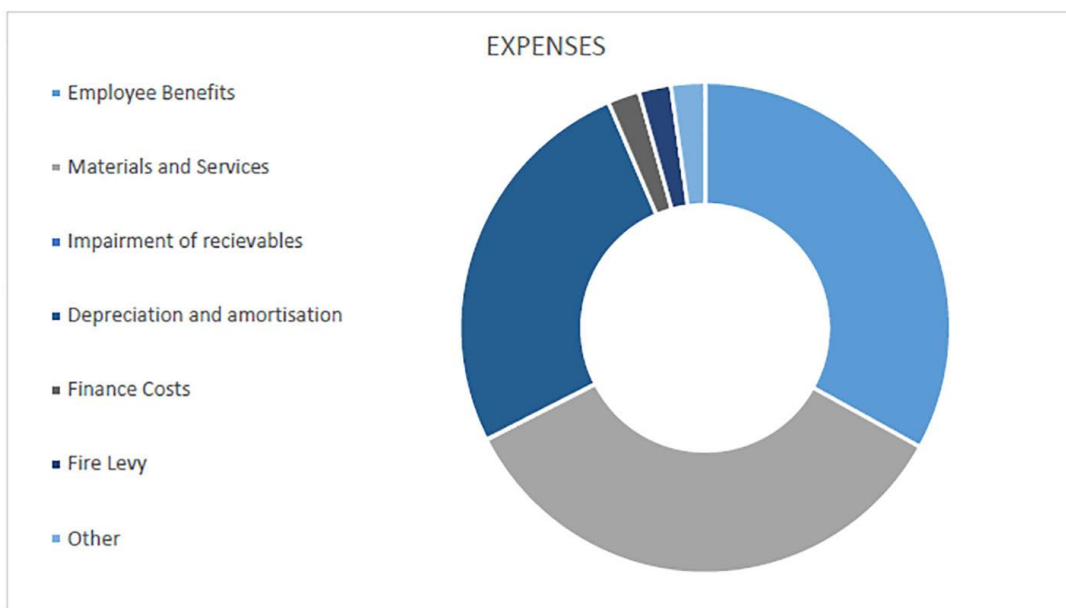
Financial Snapshots

The following financial snap-shots have been taken directly from the financial statements following.

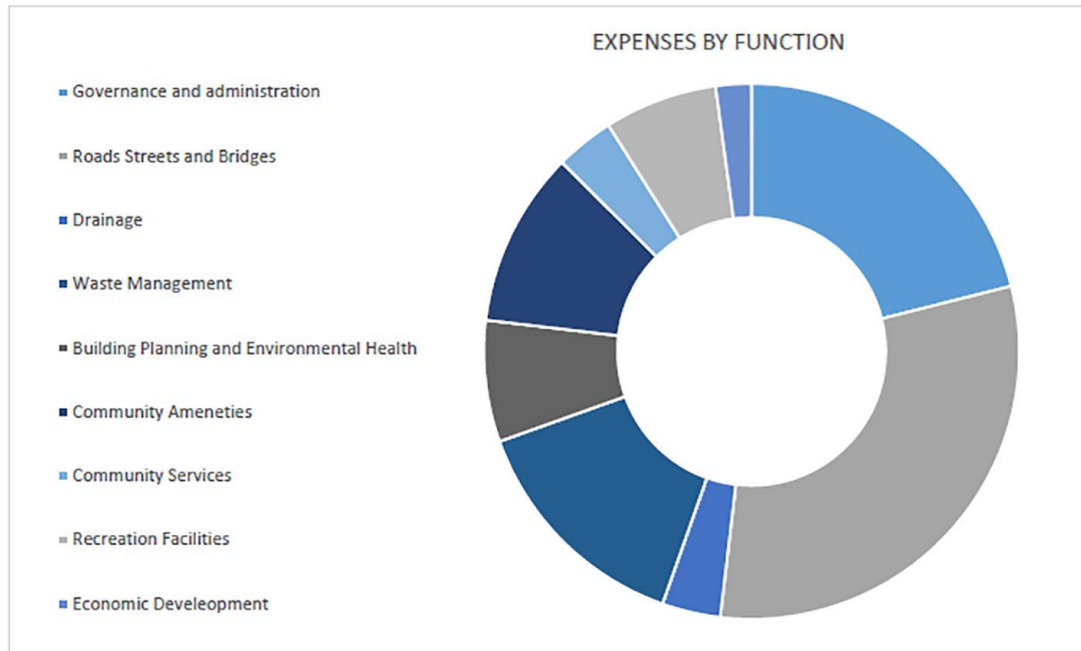
Income \$	
Rates and Charges	10,902,000
Statutory Fees and Fines	547,000
User Fees	893,000
Grants	4,837,000
Contributions - Cash	160,000
Interest	546,000
Investment revenue from TasWater	466,000
Capital Income -grants received specifically for new or upgraded assets	2,128,000
Other	154,000



Expenses \$	
Employee Benefits	5,810,000
Materials and Services	6,050,000
Impairment of receivables	2,000
Depreciation and amortisation	4,583,000
Finance Costs	366,000
Fire levy	373,000
Light and Power	126,000
Other expenses	392,000



Expenses by function \$	
Government Administration	3,626,000
Roads, Streets and bridges	5,297,000
Drainage	607,000
Waste Management	2,433,000
Environmental Health and Management, Building and Planning	1,261,000
Community Amenities	1,825,000
Community Services	610,000
Recreation facilities	1,174,000
Economic Development	370,000



AGM/23.3.3 Moved Clr B LeFevre/ Seconded Clr J Drummond

That the financial report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

AGM/23.3.4 **Annual Report Submissions**

The Annual Report was advertised on the 18 November 2023 notifying the availability of the Annual Report and inviting electors to lodge submissions on the report with Council by Friday 1 December 2023 for discussion at the Annual General Meeting.

The General Manager advises that no submissions were received.

AGM/23.4.0 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

AGM/23.5.0 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

AGM/23.6.0 MOTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil

AGM/23.7.0 MOTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

AGM/23.8.0 MEETING CLOSURE

Mayor Tucker advised that the minutes of this meeting will be received at the Council meeting to be held on Monday 15 January 2024.

Mayor Tucker thanked those in attendance for their contribution and declared the meeting closed at 5.13pm.

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MAYOR

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DATE