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Report 01.422

14 June 2001

File: E/6/3/2

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**Record of the Meeting of the Special Policy and Finance Committee
held in the Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142-146
Wakefield Street, Wellington on Thursday, 14 June 2001 at 9.30am**

**Matters for Council Decision are shown in bold type and enclosed in a box.
*Matters for Information of Council are in italic type.***

Present

Councillors Macaskill (Chairperson), Allen, Bonner, Buchanan, Gibson, Laidlaw, Long, McDavitt, McQueen, Shaw, Thomas, Turver and Werry

Officers Present

Messrs Benham, Darroch, Dick, Laplanche, Maguire, Saywell, Schollum, Stone, and Wright and Drs Bradbury and Watson

Public Business

Procedural Items

P&F 361 **Apologies**

Resolved

(Chairperson/Cr Allen)

That the apology from Councillor Shields, absent on other Council business, be confirmed.

The Chairperson said Councillor Shields, Vice President of *Local Government New Zealand* was attending the Central Government – *Local Government of New Zealand* “Local Government Forum”.

Matters for Consideration

P&F 362 **Finalisation of Long-Term Financial Strategy 2001 Update and 2001/2002 Annual Plan**

(1) **Kapiti Coast Grey Power Association**

The Chairperson said Mrs B Van Gaalen, spokesperson for Local Body Affairs for Kapiti Coast Greypower, had been invited to make oral submissions at today's meeting as the Council had failed to notify her of hearing details at the Policy and Finance Subcommittee meetings earlier this month.

The Chairperson welcomed Mrs Van Gaalen as an ex Regional Councillor and invited her to speak.

Mrs Van Gaalen thanked the Chairperson for his warm welcome and said she had had a very worthwhile visit from Regional Council staff at her home in Waikanae and many issues had been clarified.

Mrs Van Gaalen said Council had acquired savings through the Crown spending more on Bovine Tb eradication and the postponement of the electrification of rail to Waikanae. Grey Power had many members who were finding it difficult to pay their rates and there were many young families in the community who were finding it difficult to make ends meet. Therefore the savings should be used to decrease rates.

Following questions the Chairperson said that *Local Government New Zealand* was in discussion with Government on ways to provide relief to those having difficulty paying rates. Council will carefully consider all representations from the community before striking the rate for the forthcoming financial year. The Chairperson concluded by thanking Mrs Van Gaalen for her representations.

Resolved

(Chairperson/Cr Thomas

That the oral submission from Mrs Van Gaalen on behalf of the Kapiti Coast Greypower Association be received.

(2) **Policy and Finance Subcommittee – 6 & 7 June 2001**

Report 01.400

File: E/6/1/3

The Committee noted that the items on which the General Manager would report to the Policy and Finance Committee were:

- Bulk Water Levy
- Kick Start Funding
- Additional Funding (\$5,000) to survey bus patronage in Stokes Valley

Resolved to Recommend (Chairperson/Cr Gibson)

That the report of the meeting of the Policy and Finance Subcommittee held on 6 June and June 7 2001, Items P&FS/C 355 to P&FS/C 360 inclusive, be adopted.

(3) Bulk Water Levy 2001/02 and End of Year Adjustment Levy 2000/01

Report 01.392

File: B/5/2/1 & G/4/1/1

Resolved to Recommend (Cr McQueen/Cr Shaw)

(1) That Council:

Pursuant to section 91 of the Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972, the Bulk Water contributions payable by constituent authorities for 2001/02 be as follows:

	2001/02 Levy GST Incl. (\$)
Hutt City Council	6,621,001
Porirua City Council	2,735,170
Upper Hutt City Council	2,607,107
Wellington City Council	<u>13,660,253</u>
Total	25,623,531

and the end of year adjustment levies for 2000/01 be as follows:

	2000/01 Adjustments GST Incl. (\$)	
Hutt City Council	(96,703)	Refund
Porirua City Council	97,330	To pay
Upper Hutt City Council	(27,339)	Refund
Wellington City Council	26,712	To pay

with settlement to take place on 20 July 2001.

(2) That the Council resolution be forwarded to each of the city councils under the common seal of the Wellington Regional Council.

(4) Additional Kick Start Funded Transport Projects

Report 01.391

File: T/2/11/10

Resolved to Recommend (Cr McDavitt/Cr Turver)

That none of the additional kick start funded transport projects be included in the 2001/02 Annual Plan.

Integrated Ticketing

It was agreed that the public did not have a clear understanding about Council's policy to introduce Integrated Ticketing and members requested that the policy be made more explicit to the community.

(5) Masterton Train Services

Report 01.405

File: E/6/1/4

Resolved to Recommend

(Cr McDavitt/Chairperson)

That the report of the meeting of the Passenger Transport Committee held on 3 May 2001, Item PT169, be adopted.

Introduction of Service

Following an explanation how the introduction of the extra Masterton train service was linked to the contract negotiations with Tranz Rail it was agreed a plain language version of the linkage be prepared for publication.

Morning tea: 10.55am
Resumption 11. 10am

(6) Chief Financial Officer's Report

Report 01.393

File: CFO/7/6/9

The Chairperson said recommendation (g) in Report 01.393, approving the level of rates, will be considered later in the meeting.

Resolved to Recommend

(Cr McDavitt/CrLaidlaw)

That Council:

- (a) receives the report and note its contents.**
- (b) approves the operating expenditure items listed within Attachment 2 of Report 01.393 (as amended by the Committee in Item 8(d)) to be rebudgeted within the Long Term Financial Strategy 2000-2010:2001 Update and 2001/02 Annual Plan.**
- (c) approves the capital expenditure items listed within Attachment 3 of**

Report 01.393 to be rebudgeted within the Long Term Financial Strategy 2000-2010:2001 Update and 2001/02 Annual Plan.

- (d) approves the new items of operating expenditure/(savings) and other adjustments within Attachment 4 of Report 01.393 (as amended by the Committee in Item 8(b) and (c)) for inclusion within the Long Term Financial Strategy 2000-2010:2001 Update and 2001/02 Annual Plan.**
- (e) approves the new items of capital expenditure and other adjustments listed within Attachment 5 of Report 01.393 for inclusion within the Long Term Financial Strategy 2000-2010:2001 Update and 2001/02 Annual Plan.**
- (f) notes that the impacts of the rebudgeting and budgeting of new items, as approved in recommendations (a) to (e) above, but excluding Items 8 (b), (c) and (d) below, are reflected within Table 1 and Attachment 1 of Report 01.393.**

(7) Possible Enhancement of the Key Native Ecosystems Programme

Report 01.387

File: Y/19.0/4

Resolved to Recommend

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Long)

That Council revokes the policy decision of 12 December 1996 and approves the use of KNE funds for expenditure on Regional Council owned land as well as private property and Territorial Authority land.

(8) Chairman's Recommendations

Report 01.398

File: CFO/7/6/9

Resolved to Recommend

(Chairperson/Cr Turver)

- (a) That Council receives the report and notes its contents**

Resolved to Recommend

(Cr Laidlaw/Cr Long)

- (b) That Council approves additional expenditure of \$110,000 per annum for implementation of the Regional Pest Management Strategy.**

Councillor Thomas dissented

(c) Moved

(Chairperson/Cr Allen)

That Council approves additional expenditure of \$60,000 per annum for additional KNE/Mainland Island work.

Amendment

(Cr Laidlaw/Cr McDavitt)

That Council approves additional expenditure of \$100,000 per annum for additional KNE/Mainland Island work.

The amendment was carried by 7 votes to 6 after a division as follows:

Ayes	Noes
Councillors Buchanan	Councillors Allen,
Laidlaw	Bonner
Long	Gibson
McDavitt	Macaskill
Shaw	McQueen
Turver	Thomas
Werry	

The motion as amended was then put and **CARRIED**

Resolved to Recommend

That Council approves additional expenditure of \$100,000 per annum for additional KNE/Mainland Island work.

(d) Resolved to Recommend (Chairperson/Cr Shaw)

That Council approves the expenditure rebudgeting of \$105,000 from 2000/01 to 2001/02 for building iwi administrative capacity, within the Long-Term Financial Strategy 2000-2010:2001 Update and 2001/02 Annual Plan.

Councillor Thomas dissented.

(6) (Continued) Chief Financial Officer's Report

Report 01.393

File: CFO/7/6/9

Resolved to Recommend

(Chairperson/Cr McDavitt)

(g) That Council after having considered the other reports on this order paper which could impact on the finalisation of the 2001/02 Annual Plan, approve the level of Regional rates, other rates and bulk water levies for the 2001/02 year (and the following eight years) as contained in Report 01.393 (as amended).

Councillors Gibson and Thomas dissented.

Report 01.359

File: CP/3/1/1

Resolved to Recommend	(Cr Long/Cr McDavitt)
That Council:	
(1) notes that a regional economic development agency is being established by the City Councils of Wellington, Hutt and Porirua; and that regional economic development initiatives are also being developed by the three Wairarapa Councils and the Kapiti Coast District Council in conjunction with the Horowhenua District Council.	
(2) notes that there is not wholehearted support from the territorial authorities in the region for a legislative change allowing the Regional Council to participate as an equal player in a regional economic development agency.	
(3) confirms its willingness to actively support the economic development of the region to the extent that it is permitted within existing legislative constraints.	
(4) requests officers to develop proposals, in the context of the LTFS and our current mandate, to utilise the allocated funding for economic development initiatives.	

P&F 364

Water Services Integration Proposal Reports:**(1) Report Back on Consultation**

Report 01.412

File: O/5/3/2/2

Resolved to Recommend	(Cr Shaw/Cr Laidlaw)
That the report be received and the contents noted.	

(2) Supplementary Report

Report 01.408

File: O/5/3/2/2

Resolved to Recommend	(Cr Shaw/Cr Laidlaw)
That the report be received and the contents noted.	

(1) Report from Councillors Shaw and Laidlaw

Report 01.330

File: O/5/3/2/2

Resolved to Recommend

(Cr Shaw/Cr Laidlaw)

That Council:

- (a) notes that the Wellington Regional Council (WRC) in conjunction with Hutt City Council (HCC) and the Wellington City Council (WCC) asked officers to develop a proposal to integrate the water businesses of WRC, HCC and WCC.
- (b) notes that the officers' proposal (which was to establish a Trust) was received by the three Councils and together they consulted with the public on that proposal
- (c) notes the high level of co-operation between the three Councils and the competence of the officers who produced the best possible proposal under the circumstances.
- (d) agrees that any Trust as proposed be no longer pursued because it is strongly opposed by the public and has significant deficiencies.
- (e) agrees that any further work on integration should involve all five Councils in the Wellington region.
- (f) agrees that the Chairperson write to the Minister of Local Government and Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ);
 - (i) providing a full account of efforts to integrate the Wellington water businesses; and
 - (ii) noting that a form of water integration acceptable to the community would likely require a change to governing legislation.

Councillor Thomas voted against (d).

P&F 365

Stadium Trust – Draft Business Plan 2001/02

Report 01.399

File: O/5/3/2/2

Resolved to Recommend

(Cr Long/Cr Allen)

That Council:

- (1) receives the report and notes the contents.
- (2) notes that the Chief Financial Officer intends to liaise with officers from the Wellington City Council and the Stadium Trust with a view to simplifying the reporting requirements contained within the Funding Deed.
- (3) notes that any changes to the Funding Deed as a result of the review referred to in (2) above will require prior Council approval.

P&F 366

Appointment of a General Manager from 1 January 2002 – Report of Public Part of Subcommittee meeting held on 7 June 2001

Report 01.395

File: Q/7/10/1

Resolved to Recommend

(Chairperson/Cr Shaw)

That the report of the public part of the meeting of the General Manager Selection Subcommittee held on 7 June 2001, Items GMA3 and GMA4, be received.

P&F 367

Exclusion of the Public

Report 01.402

File: E/5/4/2

Resolved

(Cr Allen/Cr Shaw)

That the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting namely:

- (1) Appointment of a General Manager from 1 January 2002*
- (2) Wellington Regional Stadium Trust – Appointment of Trustees*

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<i>General subject of each matter to be considered:</i>	<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each</i>	<i>Ground under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
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|---|--|---|
| <i>(1) Appointment of General Manager from 1 January 2002</i> | <i>Because of the need to protect the privacy of natural persons and to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between members or officers or employees of the Council</i> | <i>That the public conduct of the whole or 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 (because of the need to protect the privacy of natural persons and to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank</i> |
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expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of the Council)

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|---|--|---|
| (2) Wellington Regional Stadium Trust – Appointment of Trustees | <i>Because of the need to protect the privacy of natural persons</i> | <i>That the public conduct of the whole or 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 (ie to protect the privacy of natural persons).</i> |
|---|--|---|

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1) (a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act of section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Wellington Regional Council (1) and (2)

The open part of the meeting closed at 1.30pm.

Matters dealt with in public excluded business but subsequently made public.

Staff Members, other than the General Manager, left the meeting.

In reply to a question, Mr Stone affirmed that he had received and read a copy of the Report and draft Contract prior to the meeting and found both acceptable to him.

Mr Stone then left the meeting.

Councillor Bonner left the meeting at 1.35pm.

Resolved to Recommend

(Cr Laidlaw/Cr McDavitt)

That the Policy and Finance Committee recommend that Council:

- (a) Receive the Report of the Public Excluded Part of the meeting of the General Manager's Selection Subcommittee held on 7 June 2001.**
- (b) Approve re-appointment of Mr Stone as General Manager for an 18 month contract from 1 January 2002.**

- (c) Authorise the Chairman to sign the proposed contract on behalf of the Council.**
- (d) Authorise the Chairman to make an appropriate public statement.**
- (e) Note that any review of remuneration would be conducted within the scope of the annual remuneration and performance reviews.**

Staff then rejoined the meeting.

Cr S A MACASKILL
Chairperson

Date: