



COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

(CORPORATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE)

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

COFF AND CASTLE STREETS, COFFS HARBOUR

19 APRIL 2007

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COFFS HARBOUR CITY COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING

(CORPORATE BUSINESS COMMITTEE)

19 APRIL 2007

Mayor and Councillors

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORTS

9 COUNCIL MEETING DATES - APRIL/ MAY 2007

Purpose:

To propose a change of meeting date for the first meeting in May 2007 and to call a Special Meeting to deal with a report on the progress for holding the Surf Life Saving National Championships 2010 – 2012.

Description of Item:

At its meeting held on 15 February 2007 Council adopted its meeting schedule for 2007 with regular meetings occurring on the first and third Thursday commencing at 5pm.

At the time of adopting its meeting schedule, Council had not been informed of the decision by the NSW Rugby League to transfer the NSW Country/ City of Origin rugby league feature to Coffs Harbour.

This is also the date of the first Council meeting scheduled for May and a change of date may be appropriate.

As a result of a public tender process conducted by Surf Life Saving Australia in 2003/04, Council was successful in being awarded the contract to host the National Surf Life Saving Titles for the three year period 2010 – 2012.

The original proposal provided for Park Beach, Coffs Harbour, to be the site of the event with alternate sites for transfer in the event of the weather conditions changing. Detailed investigations into the feasibility of Park Beach have indicated numerous barriers to the event at this venue. An alternate option of Boambee Beach has also been investigated.

9 Council Meeting Dates - April/ May 2007 ...(Cont'd)

The contract is conditional upon Council providing to Surf Life Saving appropriate assurances for the staging of the event by May 2007.

Considerable negotiation has occurred over the intervening period to meet the contracted deadline.

A special meeting prior to 30 April 2007 should be held to meet the deadline.

Sustainability Assessment:

The alteration of the Council meeting date and the calling of a Special Meeting should not have any environmental consequences.

Consultation:

The matter has been considered by the Executive Team.

Related Policy and / or Precedents:

Council policy is to meet on the first and third Thursday of the month with some exceptions.

Statutory Requirements:

S365 of the Local Government Act provides for Council to meet at least ten times each year.

Issues:

The rugby league feature is an important social event and brings with it significant economic benefits.

It is a major event for the City and will necessitate considerable effort by staff which may conflict with the council meeting on the night.

Councillors will also wish to attend the feature.

To facilitate the management of this situation it is proposed to reschedule the Council meeting to Thursday 10 May 2007.

With regard to Council's contractual arrangements with Surf Life Saving Australia, Council is to provide appropriate assurances for the staging of the event by May 2007.

There are many matters to be reported to Council and it is considered that a Special Meeting to deal with the report in a timely manner should be scheduled for Tuesday 24 April 2007.

9 Council Meeting Dates - April/ May 2007 ...(Cont'd)

Recommendation:

- 1. That the Ordinary meeting of Council including the Land Use, Health & Development and City Services Committees scheduled for Thursday 3 May 2007 be transferred to Thursday 10 May 2007 commencing at 5pm to allow attendance at and management of the NRL Country/ City of Origin match to be played on 3 May 2007 with gates opening at 4.30pm.**
- 2. That an Special Meeting of Council be held on Tuesday 24 April commencing at 5pm to deal with a report on Council's progress with its contractual arrangements to hold the National Surf Life Saving Championships 2010 – 2012.**

Stephen Sawtell
General Manager