



21 DECEMBER 2001

Meeting No 1346

MINUTES of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council of the City of Sydney held in the Finance Committee Room at the Sydney Town Hall, commencing at 3.25pm on 21 December 2001 pursuant to Notice 24/1346 dated 17 December 2001.

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PRESENT

The Right Hon The Lord Mayor Councillor Frank Sartor
(Chairman)

Councillors - Dixie Coulton, Nick Farr-Jones, Kathryn Greiner, Robert Ho, Fabian Marsden and Lucy Turnbull.

At the commencement of business at 3.25 pm those present were:-

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Coulton, Farr-Jones, Greiner, Ho, Marsden and Turnbull.

The Acting General Manager, Deputy General Manager, Director City Projects, Director Living City Services and Acting Director City Development were also present.

Adjournment

At 3.26 pm, it was moved by the Chairman (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Turnbull -

That the Extraordinary Meeting of Council be adjourned for a period of five minutes.

Carried.

Resumption

At the resumption of the Extraordinary Meeting of Council at 3.31 pm, those present were -

The Lord Mayor, Councillors Coulton, Farr-Jones, Greiner, Ho, Marsden and Turnbull.

The Acting General Manager, Deputy General Manager, Director City Projects, Director Living City Services and Acting Director City Development were also present.

ITEM 1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of Council meeting of 10 December 2001

Moved by the Chairman (the Lord Mayor) seconded by Councillor Turnbull -

That the minutes of the meeting of Council of 10 December 2001, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried.

Minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of Council of 17 December 2001

Moved by the Chairman (the Lord Mayor) seconded by Councillor Turnbull -

That the minutes of the Extraordinary meeting of Council of 17 December 2001, as circulated to Councillors, be confirmed.

Carried.

Note - The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 22 October 2001 will be submitted for confirmation to the meeting of Council on 11 February 2002.

At this stage of the meeting, the Chairman (the Lord Mayor) introduced a Minute by the Lord Mayor on Ultimo Aquatic Centre and Public Space Design Competition.

ITEM 4. ULTIMO AQUATIC CENTRE AND PUBLIC SPACE DESIGN COMPETITION

FILE NO: S017329

DATE: 21/12/01

MINUTE BY THE LORD MAYORTo Council:

The Jury for the Ultimo Aquatic Centre and Public Space Competition concluded their deliberations yesterday.

The competition saw entries from three invited Sydney architectural firms, Harry Seidler & Associates, Johnson Pilton Walker and Stutchbury & Pape and was judged by the Lord Mayor, Deputy Lord Mayor Lucy Turnbull, Professor of Landscape Architecture James Weirick, Sydney Architects Bill Tsakalos and Ed Lippmann and Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority Director of Development Garry Silk.

The Jury has decided to confirm Harry Seidler & Associates as the winner of the competition. The Jury's decision is based on Harry Seidler's team providing an extraordinary well resolved pool that addresses a range of critical issues.

The Jury determined that the Harry Seidler & Associates scheme was the most efficient from a functional point of view, it is the most buildable, the best in terms of recurring and maintenance costs, and finally, it was the proposal which best met the City's requirements for ESD and energy efficiency.

The Jury noted that the Seidler wave-like roof will create an exhilarating space in which the public can swim, exercise or relax. It is a bold form which affords expansive views of the city, and due to its transparency, great views from the street into the swimming hall.

The excellent spatial and functional arrangements achieved will maximise the centre's patronage and financial viability.

Facilities at the Aquatic Centre will include a 50m pool, leisure pool, hydrotherapy pool, steam room and spa, a fitness centre comprising a program area (for classes), a weight training room, sports medicine/health clinic and massage room.

The competition also included the design of the public space that is adjacent to the Bullecourt Place development by Australand, allowing a through-site link from Harris Street to Pymont Street and improving the connection between Ultimo and the city.

The Jury also commended the other two entrants on the high quality of their proposals.

Harry Seidler and Associates will now commence further design development to refine the project within a \$25M budget and address other functional refinements.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minute by the Lord Mayor entitled Ultimo Aquatic Centre and Public Space Competition confirming the outcome of the Jury be endorsed, and resolves that the project proceed to further design development and that the proposed land transfer from the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority to the City be expedited.

(SGD) COUNCILLOR FRANK SARTOR
Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chairman (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Coulton -

That arising from consideration of a Minute by the Lord Mayor to the Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 21 December 2001, on Ultimo Aquatic Centre and Public Space Competition, it be resolved that -

- (A) the subject Minute by the Lord Mayor, confirming the outcome of the Jury, be endorsed;
- (B) the project proceed to further design development; and
- (C) the proposed land transfer from the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority to the City be expedited.

Carried.

Order of Business

In accordance with Clause 12(2) of the Local Government (Meetings) Regulation 1999, the Council resolved that the order of business be altered such that Item 3 on the Business Paper be dealt with prior to Item 2.

Closed Meeting

At 3.45 pm, the Council resolved -

That, due notice of the intention to close the meeting having been given, the meeting be closed in accordance with the provisions of -

- Section 10A (2)(a) to discuss Item 2 on the agenda as this matter comprised discussion of personnel matters concerning particular individuals; and
- Section 10A (2)(d)(i) of the Local Government Act 1993 to discuss Item 3 on the agenda as this matter comprised discussion of commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed, prejudice the commercial position of the persons who supplied it.

and it was further resolved that the meeting be closed for these items on the basis that discussion of these matters in open session would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest, specifically, there is a need to preserve confidentiality having regard to the subject matters and the circumstances of communications.

Items 2 and 3 were then dealt with by the Extraordinary meeting of Council while the meeting was closed to the public.

ITEM 3. TENDER FOR INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICES (S018189)

Moved by Councillor Turnbull, seconded by Councillor Greiner -

That arising from consideration of a report by the Director Corporate and Legal Services to the Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 21 December 2001 on Tender for Internal Audit Services, it be resolved that:

- (A) Council reject all tenders received in respect of the Internal Audit Services tender;
- (B) Council not invite fresh tenders, due to the availability of providers from the Department of Public Works and Services contract panel which was formed in August 2001. (Contract 014/717);
- (C) Council negotiate as detailed in paragraph 9, of the report with a view to optimising the quality and standard of the service provider and minimising the cost in the provision of those services;
- (D) Authority be delegated to the General Manager to enter into a contract for the provision of internal audit services, with the concurrence of the Lord Mayor;
- (E) Authority be delegated to Council's attorney to execute all necessary documentation.

Carried.

ITEM 2. INDUSTRIAL ISSUES (S015146)

Moved by the Chairman (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Turnbull -

That arising from consideration of a Minute by the Lord Mayor to the Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 21 December 2001, on Industrial Issues, it be resolved that Council -

- (A) receive and note the result of the staff enterprise agreement ballot;
- (B) in consideration of the overwhelming majority of staff endorsing the enterprise agreement in the ballot, authorise the Lord Mayor to continue to do all things necessary to have the enterprise agreement registered in the New South Wales system or certified in the Federal system;
- (C) endorse all actions to date in opposing the Municipal Employees Union's (MEU) campaign to damage the City's business, including the termination of MEU payroll deductions.

Carried unanimously.

Note - The confidential Minute by the Lord Mayor, on Industrial Issues, was circulated to all Councillors.

At this stage of the meeting, the Chairman (the Lord Mayor) introduced a confidential Minute by the Lord Mayor on Appointment of General Manager and all staff left the Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

Closed Session continued

At 3.55 pm the Council resolved -

That the Extraordinary Meeting of Council remain closed to the public pursuant to Section 10(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1993 for discussion on Item 5, as this matter comprised discussion on personnel matters concerning a particular individual;

and it was further resolved that the meeting remain closed for this item on the basis that discussion of this matter in open session would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest, specifically, there is a need to preserve confidentiality having regard to the subject matter and the circumstances of communications.

Item 5 was then dealt with by the Extraordinary Meeting of Council while the meeting remained closed to the public.

ITEM 5. APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL MANAGER

FILE NO:

DATE: 21/12/01

MINUTE BY THE LORD MAYORTo Council:

On 20th July this year, Murray Douglas resigned as General Manager. John Kass subsequently was appointed Acting General Manager, and Robert Domm as Deputy General Manager, until such time as a new General Manager could be appointed.

Watermark International executive recruitment were engaged to assist with identifying candidates for the position. They advertised nationally and as a result eight candidates were interviewed by me and six of them by Councillors.

Robert Domm also was invited to submit an application, which has been assessed by Watermark and an interview has been conducted with the Councillors.

While Robert Domm does not have a traditional Local Government management background he has excelled in his role as Deputy General Manager and his tireless efforts have brought major improvements and reforms to the City's operations.

These include:

- Negotiating New Years Eve agreements with 9 state agencies
- Initiating and implementing the voluntary redundancy program which has resulted in staff reductions of 11.6% in the salaried staff area with ongoing savings of \$3.9 million
- Negotiating the transfer of Parking police operations to the City of Sydney on terms favourable to the City
- Establishing a task force on the City's parking meter technology and developing a strategy for new technology ultimately adopted by Council
- Leading the management response to the industrial campaign waged against the City during the enterprise agreement negotiations.

Robert has also assumed responsibility for Contracts and Asset Management and Employee Services. He is actively engaged in staff and facilities planning for the expansion of City boundaries.

Robert's career has seen him involved in innovative workplace reforms - particularly in the amalgamation of organisations. His legal and industrial relations skills base exceeds that of all other candidates interviewed for the position of General Manager.

He also is well regarded by senior State Government officials. A significant role for the General Manager is dealing with State Government stakeholders and in this regard Robert has a proven track record achieved in a very short space of time.

It is my firm conviction that Robert would bring to the position the right skills and experience at a time when the City will be undergoing significant reform and expansion of its responsibilities. He is the best of the available candidates and should be appointed to this position.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Robert Domm be appointed General Manager for a term not exceeding five years.

(SGD) COUNCILLOR FRANK SARTOR
Lord Mayor

Moved by the Chairman (the Lord Mayor), seconded by Councillor Turnbull -

That arising from consideration of a confidential Minute by the Lord Mayor to the Extraordinary Meeting of Council on 21 December 2001, on Appointment of General Manager, it be resolved that Robert Domm be appointed General Manager for a term not exceeding five years.

Amendment moved by Councillor Farr-Jones, seconded by Councillor Greiner -

That the matter be deferred for one month.

The amendment was lost on the following show of hands -

Ayes (2) - Councillors Farr-Jones and Greiner

Noes (5) - The Chairman (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Coulton, Ho, Marsden and Turnbull

The motion was carried on the following show of hands -

Ayes (5) - The Chairman (the Lord Mayor), Councillors Coulton, Ho, Marsden and Turnbull

Noes (2) - Councillors Farr-Jones and Greiner.

Motion carried.

At 4.40 pm the meeting concluded.

Chairman of a meeting of the Council of the City
of Sydney held on 11 February 2002 at which
meeting the signature herein was subscribed.