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REPORT & RESOLUTION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE4

PRESENT Clr I Gosper (in the Chair), Clrs G Dean, M Nash, S Wilcox, A Durkin, G Treavors, K Walker and I Davison.

Also present were the General Manager, Acting Director of Finance & Corporate Services, Director of Engineering & Technical Services, Director of Environmental Services, Acting Economic Development Manager and Administration Officer.

ITEMS FOR DETERMINATION

The Mayor noted that the President of Local Government NSW Clr Keith Rhoades would be in attendance of the meeting.

The Mayor congratulated Robert Cohen on his newly acquired position of Director of Engineering and Technical Services.

ITEM - 1 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Proceedings in Brief

The temporary absence of Clr Wilcox was noted.

MOTION (Durkin/Nash)

THAT it be noted there were nil applications for leave of absence.

17/08/01 Carried

ITEM - 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Proceedings in Brief

There were nil declarations of interest.

MOTION (Walker/Treavors)

THAT it be noted there were nil declarations of interest.

17/08/02 Carried

ITEM - 3 DECLARATIONS FOR POLITICAL DONATIONS

Proceedings in Brief

There were nil declarations of political donations.

MOTION (Treavors/Nash)

THAT it be noted, there were nil declarations of political donations.

17/08/03

Carried

ITEM - 4 ORANGE REGIONAL TOURISM LIMITED

MOTION (Dean/Davison)

THAT Council hereby resolve itself into Committee of the Whole to discuss the following item.

Carried

Proceedings in Brief

The Mayor noted that it was the last day before Council assumed a “caretaker” role before the upcoming 9 September 2017 election.

The Mayor stated that he felt the current Council should not encumber a new Council to make the decision on whether to grant funds to Orange Regional Tourism Limited as the current Council knew the background, where a new Council may not.

The Mayor read out the recommendation that he had put forward.

It was noted the time being 12:50pm Clr Wilcox joined the meeting.

Clr Nash stated that she was against the recommendation as from the Council meeting held 17 May 2017 a decision was made to give no funds until Ministerial approval had been given. She queried why there was now a rush to proceed.

Clr Nash stated that she did not feel the entity would benefit Cabonne, and that Council was already supporting a similar project that was being launched by Centroc. She noted that she felt that the staff at council were capable of promoting Cabonne events on their own.

Clr Durkin stated that he was for the recommendation, however felt that there needed to be greater involvement of Cabonne Staff to control where money from Orange Region Tourism Limited would go and there needed to be more accountability. He noted that he was hesitant to rush through allocating funds without Ministerial approval.

Clr Wilcox stated that she was against the recommendation as she was concerned that Ministerial approval had not been granted and queried why there was now a rush to proceed.

Clr Wilcox stated that she would prefer to support the proposal from Centroc.

Clr Davison stated that he was for the recommendation and that the project was about getting tourism dollars into the area. He stated that no one knew where Cabonne is but that people knew where Orange is. He noted that the Wine industry of the region employed 2,100 people and that for the area to become better known it was reliant on Orange.

Clr Davison noted that Council was only looking to commit to one year at this stage and that the State Government were only prepared to give funding if the funding was allocated to a region not individual councils.

Clr Dean queried who had decided on the titles and positions of the new entity, and the amount of money allocated.

Clr Davison responded that an interim board had approved the titles, positions and figures.

The Mayor confirmed that the resolution would be to only commit for one year with the new Council elected in September 2017 then be able to review and make decisions on whether to further commit. He also confirmed the resolution still was based on awaiting Ministerial Approval to form the new entity.

The Mayor stated that Cabonne will not get funding if it does not acknowledge that it is part of the region and that although he understood why councillors were against the recommendation, he felt that this is the right decision for Council for one year.

Clr Nash queried if the money allocated would be taken from local events.

The Mayor responded that this money would come out of reserve funds not tourism funds.

Clr Walker noted that the key word was "Regional" and a partnership with Orange and Blayney would benefit Cabonne down the track. He also noted that the Minister had shown interest in the Canowindra Balloon festival as well as other areas and events in Cabonne.

Clr Durkin queried if there was a way to put a measure on the return on the investment.

At the request of the Mayor the Acting Economic Development Manager stated that council staff would insist that the new body provide Council with measurable outcomes as previously when working with regional projects there had never been a way to measure the impact of events, using the example of Martin Place.

The Acting Economic Development Manager stated that Cabonne is in a region and are competing with other regions for people to come to the area. The responsibility for promoting Cabonne villages would still be with Cabonne Council and therefore he would be reluctant to see funds eating into the tourism budget, hence why the reserve funds were suggested.

Clr Davison agreed that there needs to be measurable outcomes and that the Committee formed underneath Orange Region Tourism Limited would have council's Tourism Officer and other officers decide where the money would be spent and that Cabonne could have an equal say with Orange and Blayney. He noted that 2 meetings already have taken place with success and that Cabonne had gone to events with Orange over the years and Cabonne may not have enough money to successfully promote events if they stand alone.

Clr Wilcox stated her concern about excessive costs involved and queried how much money would actually be spent on promotion. She noted from her previous personal work experience in regional tourism that there is the

possibility of “personalities” getting in the way and that the same ideas had be carried out before and why would this time be any different?

Clr Davison agreed that in previous entities personalities had gotten in the way, however felt that lessons could be learnt from history.

Clr Wilcox stated that she worried that the opinions of the public would not support this venture.

RECOMMENDATION (Gosper/Davison)

THAT if approval is received from the minister for Local Government for Cabonne to be able to become a member of Orange Regional Tourism Limited, that Cabonne Council commit \$64,141.60 from its Reserve Funds to join Orange and Blayney Councils to become a member of Orange Regional Tourism LTD for 2017/18 and that a review be undertaken before the end of that term to determine council’s commitment for years 2018/19 and 2019/20.

The Mayor called for a vote for the recommendation which resulted as follows:

For: Gosper, Dean, Durkin, Walker and Davison

Against: Nash, Wilcox and Treavors

1. Carried

It was noted the time being 1:16pm the Chair resumed the ordinary meeting.

REPORT & RESOLUTION OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

MOTION (Walker/Dean)

THAT the Report and Recommendations of the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on Tuesday 8 August, 2017 be adopted.

17/08/04 Carried

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 1:17pm.

CHAIRMAN.

Chairman of the Extraordinary Meeting of Cabonne Council held on the 22 August, 2017 at which meeting the listed minutes were confirmed and the signature hereon was subscribed.