Whangarei District Council Finance and Support Committee meeting – 28th August 2013

LINK to the appropriate Agenda

This month's Finance meeting started at 0900hrs with Cr Warwick Syers in the chair wishing all a good morning and welcoming everyone to the meeting.

Warwick advised there were no apologies. As the Mayor had 'leave of absence' no apology was required.

This next item, below, was showing in the agenda index, but was not mentioned in the meeting. *Perhaps at times, it's a little alien to this lot?*

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
Members are reminded to indicate any items in which they might have a conflict of interest.

Time at 0901hrs, Item No.1. Minutes of a Meeting of the Finance and Support Committee held 24 July 2013 (Page 1)
> Moved: Cr Aaron Edwards, Seconded Cr Shelley Deeming.
These were received with no discussion required.

With the time still at 0901hrs, Item No. 2. Financial Report for the Month Ending 31 July 2013 (Page 3)
Warwick asked Group Manager Support Services Alan Adcock to go through the report in the normal fashion and give a brief overview.
Alan Adcock explained it was the first month of the new financial year; it was slightly behind in the 1st month because of timing issues. Subsidies will change our payments with the 'Carry Forwards' to be discussed in the next meeting. He explained the new cash flow statement claiming the draft reports weren't set up for this. *Notice the Debt is $181.792million. I thought they had it capped. Has the cap fallen off?*
Cr Jeroen Jongejans asked if council clicks the process when they collect rates for the Northland Regional Council.
Alan Adcock advised 'Yes there is an annual fee'. He informed they were currently retendering the cash accounts working with Trading Banks on interest rates. He continued adding that the Capital Projects List is not in this report.
> Moved: Cr Brian McLachlan, Seconded: Cr John Williamson.
Cr Brian McLachlan commented that it was good seeing the cash flow accounts showing a picture.
Cr Sharon Morgan had a question asking if the interest rates through the LGNZ funding were an advantage.
Cr Merv Williams asked what was the term on the 4% rates.
Alan Adcock explained it was a cash flow facility.
Cr John Williamson asked if they had calculations on people who pay their rates in advance.

Alan Adcock advised it was 32% by volume and 24% by numbers. He added they had not done a full calculation yet.
There was no further discussion on this item.

Time was now at 0912hrs and on to Item No. 3. Support Services Group – Report on Recent Activity (Page 19)
        The recommendation was moved: Cr Aaron Edwards, Seconded: Cr Sharon Morgan. Alan Adcock was asked to high light the main points of the report. He advised that over 3000 people had requested rates rebates and about 2500 had been successful. They were now doing home visits for those with mobility issues. *Very pleasing to hear this is being carried out.* Retirement homes don't qualify if the people own their own properties there. Marion Heights and Cairnfield House however do get rebates. Alan advised this was a very busy time for the financial services department. He informed of the overhaul of the telephone and GIS mapping services.
Cr Sue Glen asked if it will still be a 'live' telephone system.
Alan Adcock assured them it will be.
Cr Shelley Deeming advised we get a lot of compliments about our phone service.
Cr Sharon Morgan had queries about council's attendance at the Home and Living Show and the Summer Show and did their lack of presence at the Summer Show have an effect.
Cr John Williamson had a question on the Pre Election Report.
        LINK to Pre Election Report - *for those who are unaware of it, or didn't know it existed.*
There was no further discussion on this item.

Cr Warwick Syers advises at 0920hrs that the meeting ends and, thanks all for attending.

Off for a stretch of the legs before the Council meeting at 1000hrs

All information in regards to this meeting's agenda and others are available on the Whangarei District Council website by clicking on this link.