

Whangarei District Council Infrastructure and Services meeting - 14th December 2011

[LINK to appropriate Agenda](#)

Chair Cr Greg Martin called the meeting to order at 0900hrs and welcomed all.

There were no apologies, as Greg said 'It's a full muster'.

Time at 0900hrs and it was Item No.1. Minutes of a Meeting of the Infrastructure and Services Committee held 9 November 2011 (page 1) and these were duly passed with no discussion necessary.

Time still at 0900hrs. Item No. 2. Contracts Authorised Under Delegated Authority (Page 4)

Cr Merv Williams had a query regarding Tracks and Walkways Maintenance (page 14) and the process about how robust it was as there was a large difference in amounts. Group Manager Infrastructure and Services Simon Weston confirmed the process is used on many projects.

Cr Kahu Sutherland queried if they were self evaluated.

Simon Weston confirmed that council did the evaluations.

Cr Sharon Morgan had a question re 'attributes' in the items.

Simon Weston explained there were many attributes taken into account; methodology, track record and experience.

CEO Mark Simpson, *calling from the stalls (public gallery)* added 'personality and experience'.

Cr Sharon Morgan enquired if they relied on referees for out of town tenders, like the one from North Shore.

Simon Weston confirmed that was correct.

Cr Sharon Morgan questioned the difference between engineer's estimates and quotes.

Simon Weston gave some examples of why there may well be some large differences.

Item No.3. (0906hrs.) Contract 08007 – Traffic and Pedestrian Signal Maintenance (Page16) This was passed as quick as with no discussion necessary.

Item No. 4. (0907hrs.) Ruakaka South Sewer Extension (Page18)

Cr Phil Halse advised that the first open day on Saturday had been well attended with 75 residents in the room at one time and approximately up to 120 attending in total. Any concerns raised were answered by the staff that were present.

Cr Shelley Deeming said there were some concerns by some of the elderly with only homes but no money. Soakage fields produced some queries and these were duly discussed. Council needed good acceptance of the scheme.

Simon Weston added that the meeting was well attended by many asking all sorts of questions. A pump manufacturer was present with a sample pump on display. Another meeting is to be held on 7th January. *Middle of the holiday break but there must be a reason for that.*

Cr Jeroen Jongejans queried about the motel and motor camp that both had substantial contributions to make and how was that going.

Cr Shelley Deeming confirmed that the motel was very supportive. *That hasn't answered about the motor camp.*

Cr Sue Glen queried if 7th January was to catch the holiday people. This was an affirmative; many people own a bach there; *I knew there would be a good reason. Just one question; what about the many residents that go away?*

Cr Greg Martin emphasised this was part of the coastal cleanup and he wished to congratulate the staff for a good project.

It's now 0911hrs and Item No. 5. Yvonne Stewart Track. (Page30) and Greg Martin welcomed the people present from Hikurangi; "the law and the order".

Cr Crichton Christie believed it was a great way to recognise people as a part of the history; we don't do it very much.

Cr Aaron Edwards claimed it was a great outcome and would like to see more of it.

Cr Shelley Deeming supported what Crichton Christie had said. She had been on the committee when Yvonne Stewart had received a civic honour and was proud to have been and delighted to see this go through.

Cr Brian McLachlan confirmed she (*Yvonne Stewart*) was a great worker, but they also needed to thank the many other people. He queried whether the track was up to wheelchair standards. *Gee Brian I know it's tough in there; 'whose legs ya gonna break?'*

Cr Greg Martin confirmed that a lot of volunteers gave up time and energy and there was huge input from the community.

Chair Cr Greg Martin thanked all for attending and concluded the meeting at 0916hours.

To the library for a relaxing coffee and back before the next meeting at 1030hrs.