
LATE ITEM

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING, WELLINGTON, 13 MARCH 2014

1. Purpose of Report

This report provides information on the Local Government New Zealand Special General Meeting to be held in Wellington on 13 March 2014, and to seek approval for a presiding delegate to exercise the votes on behalf of Wellington City Council.

2. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Council:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve the attendance of Mayor as its presiding delegate, with the authority to exercise Wellington City Council's six votes at the Local Government New Zealand Special General Meeting to be held in Wellington on 13 March 2014.*
3. *Note that Wellington City Council can appoint up to four delegates to attend the Local Government New Zealand Special General Meeting on Thursday 13 March 2014.*
4. *Delegate to the Mayor the authority to appoint:*
 - (a) *An alternate presiding delegate (in the event that the Mayor is absent from the floor of the meeting at any time), who shall be a Councillor*
 - (b) *Up to two other delegates, who shall be Councillors.*
5. *Delegate to the Mayor the authority to appoint a Councillor as a presiding delegate to vote on behalf of Wellington City Council, in the event that the Mayor is unable to attend.*
6. *Delegate to the Mayor the authority to appoint a proxy to vote on behalf of Wellington City Council, in the event that the Mayor and any Councillor nominated by her is unable to attend.*

3. Discussion

Council received a request from Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) to advise of the attendees at the Special General meeting on 20 February 2014. This was followed by the notice of the meeting which was received on 25 February 2014. This matter was also discussed at the LGNZ Metropolitan Sector Group Meeting on 25 February 2014 attended by the Mayor.

The purpose of the Special General meeting is to amend the Rules of LGNZ (the Rules). The amendments include:

- Updating the terminology in the Rules e.g.
 - LGNZ instead of Local Government New Zealand
 - CEO instead of Principal Administrative Officer
 - Local Government Act 2002 instead of Local Government Act 1974
- Shortening some of the notice periods for meetings.
- Amending the provisions for associate members, replacing references to local authorities with references to organisations and individuals and making it clear the associate members cannot be granted voting rights.
- Making it clear that CCOs and Council Organisations can become associate members and that in this instance this can include energy companies and port companies.
- Allowing Senior Managers to sit on LGNZ National Council and clarifying the rules around this, replacing the current provision which refers to CEOs only.
- Scrapping the term limits for the LGNZ president.
- Clarifying some of the internal electoral rules, including provision for a tied election to be determined by the drawing of lots.
- Simplifying the appointment of a proxy to vote on a member's behalf at a general meeting.

It is recommended that authority be given to the presiding delegate to vote on the proposed changes as he/she sees fit.

3.1 Considerations

LGNZ and has indicated that Mayor should attend and vote. However the Rules clearly indicate that it is Council that is the member of LGNZ. There is no delegation given by Council for the purposes of voting at LGNZ general meetings. For the LGNZ Annual General Meeting a report is presented to Council for the appointment of the presiding delegate and other delegates. It is recommended that the Mayor be appointed presiding delegate with the option of delegating this if she is unable to attend.

4. Conclusion

The Council is required to appoint its presiding and alternate presiding delegate and up to two other attending delegates for the Local Government New Zealand Special General Meeting on Thursday 13 March 2014.

Contact Officer: *Charlie Inggs, Electoral Officer and Special Projects – Democratic Services*

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1) Strategic fit / Strategic outcome

This project supports long-term outcome 7.2.2 – “Wellington will operate an open and honest decision-making process that generates confidence and trust in the democratic system”.

2) LTP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact

Relates to C534: Elections, Governance and Democratic Process.

3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations

There are no Treaty of Waitangi implications.

4) Decision-making

This is not a significant decision.

5) Consultation

a) General consultation

Not required.

b) Consultation with Maori

Not required.

6) Legal implications

Nil

7) Consistency with existing policy

This report is consistent with existing Wellington City Council policy.