

4.3 OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT and **MINUTES** of a meeting of the **OPERATIONS COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Thursday 4 June 2009, commencing at 1.30 pm.

PRESENT: Mayor M B O'Malley; Councillors B A Tasker (Chair), L J Leadley, N A Brown, I J Burgess, J A Everest, K W P Lowe and P W Reveley.

Also in attendance Councillors R C Beavan and R J Kilworth; Operations Manager, Water Services Manager, Roading Contracts Engineer and Committee Secretary.

Two members of the public attended.

APOLOGIES: Crs K L Holmes, J A Kingsbury and J Sparks **Sustained**

Extraordinary Business

“That pursuant to Section 7(2)(A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 the following item be introduced and considered as extraordinary business:

- Water Services Department Preferred Professional Services Provider – 12 month extension to Contract 477

Reason: To consider the contract extension prior to 30/06/09 - Section 7(2)(i) Commercial activities.

Holmes/ Lowe **Carried**

Confirmation of Minutes

It was noted that Cr Lowe reported on the Civil Defence meeting held in Christchurch on 22 April.

“That the minutes of the Operations Committee meeting held on 23 April, 2009, as amended, be taken as read and confirmed.”

Leadley/Lowe **Carried**

Matters Arising

Sealed road rehabilitation

Cr Reveley expressed concern that sealing is being undertaken at this time of the year with adverse weather causing some new seal to lift.

Trees shading roads

The Operations Manager reported that property owners who were notified of their need to trim trees shading roads have been followed up. Five properties complied, 113 had trimmed the trees but require further work and 95 had taken no action. Mr Rouse tabled a map showing the roads affected and confirmed that properties will be further monitored for compliance.

Activity Reports

“That the reports be received.”

Burgess/Lowe **Carried**

Financial reports

Reports for the period ending 31 March were presented. It was noted that there is approximately one month's delay with job costing which prevents a more up to date report being provided to the Committee. The Operations Manager agreed that the system of reporting financials could be reviewed, noting that the Environmental Services Committee reports are prepared by the Finance department.

- Stockwater reserve – noted that the fund has been built up to meet the costs of the consenting process. The Operations Manager agreed that this work needs to be progressed.

Ashburton Business Estate

Design work inside the footprint is complete and will be reviewed by the Operations Manager who reported that infrastructure work is progressing as planned.

Trade Waste Bylaw

The Mayor reported that he has received a letter from the Mid Canterbury Principals Association seeking a review of the trade waste fee. The Association considers that schools, which already pay a pan tax and do not discharge trade waste, should be exempt from the fee.

The Operations Manager explained that the bylaw is intended to cover all activities that are not residential. A one off charge would be applicable to schools and kindergartens as well as an annual fee. Mr Rouse reported that at the time of the Bylaw development, letters were sent to approximately 260 premises which were identified as likely to require a trade waste discharge consent. It is not certain whether all schools were included and this will be followed up.

The Operations Manager advised that there is no ability to change the fees which were set through the LTCCP process, noting that there were no submissions received on this matter. Instead, Mr Rouse agreed to write to the Principals Association advising that consideration will be given to assessing each school's requirement for a trade waste consent on a case by case basis.

Stockwater Race Ranger

The stockwater race ranger vacancy will be advertised from 30 May 2009.

State Highway Work

The Mayor reported on his attendance at the Regional Land Transport submission hearings. The hearing panel initially agreed to the inclusion of traffic lights in the programme, however advice has been received since that this decision is to be reviewed on the basis that the project, at \$2.6m, is unlikely to meet the benefit / cost ratio.

The draft RLT Committee's 10 year programme will be addressed by ECan on 15 June and signed off by 15 July 2009.

The Operations Manager reported that the Transportation Study had identified the cost of the Tinwald project being no more than \$1m. He suggested that the response to the RLT Committee should refer to the inter-dependences needed between various projects.

The Mayor will progress Council's view that the Tinwald traffic lights are a priority in the 10 year programme.

Ocean Farm

• Bore

It was reported that the consent to drill an irrigation bore at Ocean Farm will lapse on 30 June 2009. The Operations Manager confirmed that an application will be made to extend the consent, however the bore which was originally included as part of the site investigation will now need to be re-sited to a more appropriate place. Mr Rouse advised that it will not be costly to extend the consent.

• Water Services Subcommittee

The Water Services Manager referred to an earlier undertaking to provide the Committee with an update on drinking water standards. It was suggested that this could take place at a meeting of the Water Services Subcommittee.

- **Farm Management Subcommittee**

Cr Leadley said that comment at the Ocean Farm public open day highlighted that there is an inefficient use of irrigation water. The Operations Manager said that this will be addressed, however, from a wastewater treatment and disposal perspective, the facility is considered to be very effective.

Stockwater Race Closures

An explanation was sought on the length of race closed since 1 July 2008. It was noted that there is considerable discrepancy between the reported distance closed of \$35,861m and that of the GIS measurement which indicates closures at around 103,520m. The Water Services Manager explained that some problems exist with the GIS system that makes it difficult to apply to stockwater measurement. The measurement has been taken from topographical data supplied by another agency and the data is now being progressively corrected with improvements made to the accuracy of data input.

Tenders for Waste Collection

The Operations Manager reported that tenders for Council’s kerbside collection and recyclable disposal contract closed yesterday. This matter will be the subject of a report to an Extraordinary Council meeting on 18 June.

The Committee adjourned for afternoon tea at 2.55 pm and resumed at 3.10 pm.

Items transacted with the public excluded (3.12 pm)

“That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – the general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

| Item no | General subject of each matter to be considered: | In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter: |
|----------------|---|--|
| 6 | Disposal of cleanfill, building and demolition material | Section 7(2)(i) Conduct of negotiations |
| 7 | Mt Somers water supply – trunk main upgrade | Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities |
| 8 | Water services preferred professional services provider – 12 month contract extension | Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities |

Everest/Brown

Carried

The meeting concluded at 3.41 pm.