

Minutes of the Meeting of the Utility Services Committee held in the Council Chamber, The Regional Council Centre, 142-146 Wakefield Street, Wellington on Friday, 7 May 1999 at 9.30am

Present

Councillors McQueen (Chairperson), Laidlaw, Macaskill, Shaw, Shields, Thomas & Werry and Cr Hutchings (WCC)

Officers Present

Messrs Benham, Darroch, Kennedy, Leonard, Morrison, Roberts, Sells, Helen Sillars and Williams

Also Present

Councillor Allen

Public Business

Procedural Items

US 37 **Apologies**

There were no apologies.

US 38 **Public Participation**

There were no members of the public who wished to participate in the meeting.

US 39 **Confirmation of Minutes**

Resolved

(Cr McQueen/Cr Thomas)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 23 March 1999 be confirmed, the public excluded part to remain in public excluded.

Matters Arising

Members noted that Councillor Laidlaw should be included as present for the meeting on 23 March 1999.

Matter for Decision

US 40 **Hutt City Fluoridation**

Report 99.182

File: B/4/6/1

Councillor Werry arrived at 9.45am.

Councillor McQueen welcomed Peter Dennison, Public Health Dentist, Public Health Service for this item.

Mr Dennison gave a presentation showing the effectiveness and safety of water fluoridation in improving the oral health of residents in the Wellington region. This included new information and statistics confirming that water fluoridation was effective throughout a person's life span in protecting natural teeth. A copy of Mr Dennison's overheads were distributed to members.

Morning tea: 11.00am

Resumption: 11.15am

Resolved

(Cr McQueen/Cr Laidlaw)

That the Committee:

- (i) Notes that the 1993 fluoride consultation process was independent, comprehensive and had full community representation.*
- (ii) Notes that the Public Health Service, as our health advisor, fully supports the addition of fluoride to water supplies noting that the additional information about the safety and effectiveness of fluoridation since 1993 and strongly reinforces and endorses the general conclusions of the 1993 report.*
- (iii) Notes the significance of the public health benefits of fluoridation and strongly reaffirms the WRC's general policy of fluoridating the bulk water supply.*

- (iv) *Notes that preparations are well advanced to supply the Rahui reservoir with fluoridated water from the Waterloo Treatment Plant when the reservoir is completed in about two months.*
- (v) *Indicates to Hutt City Council that it is technically feasible to supply the City, except for the suburb of Manor Park, with non-fluoridated water should that be its requirement, and notes that if this path is followed the cost will lie with Hutt City Council.*
- (vi) *Notes that if any change to the WRC fluoridation policy, or its implementation, is to be considered by the WRC, the change would need to be at the initiative of, and as a result of, a formal proposal from any one or more of the bulk water supply customers.*

Matter for Recommendation

US 41 Wholesale Water Pricing

Report 99.173

File: B/5/2/1

Councillor McQueen welcomed Tim Davin, Group Manager Utilities Policy and John Oldfield, Water Supply Manager, Porirua City Council.

Mr Davin was invited to present a view on the pricing methodology for bulk water supply.

Resolved to Recommend (Cr McQueen/Cr Thomas)

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- (1) *That a Workshop be arranged with the Hutt City Council, Porirua City Council, Upper Hutt City and Wellington City Council and the members of the Utility Services Committee as soon as possible to review the long term arrangements for wholesale water pricing.*
- (2) *That any proposed changes in pricing methodology be deferred until after the workshop meeting.*
- (3) *That the Regional Council work towards the setting of a pricing methodology at the Policy and Finance and Wellington Regional Council meetings to be held on 7 July 1999.*

Councillor Laidlaw left at 12.50pm.

Matters for Information

US 42 **Divisional Report**

Report 99.201

File: O/2/1/10

Resolved

(Cr Shaw/Cr Thomas)

That the report be received and the contents noted.

US 43 **Questions**

There were no questions.

US 44 **General**

There were no matters of general business

The meeting concluded at 1.00pm.

Cr A E McQUEEN
Chairman

Date: