



CITY OF MELBOURNE

Council Meeting

Minutes

**Special Meeting Number 20
Tuesday 13 March 2018
4pm**

**Council Chambers
Level 2
Melbourne Town Hall**

Present

Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood
Councillor Nicolas Frances Gilley
Councillor Philip Le Liu
Councillor Rohan Leppert
Councillor Kevin Louey
Councillor Cathy Oke
Councillor Beverley Pinder-Mortimer
Councillor Nicholas Reece
Councillor Susan Riley
Councillor Jackie Watts

Confirmed at the meeting of Council
on Tuesday 27 March 2018

1. Commencement of meeting and apologies

The meeting commenced at 4pm.

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, advised that:

- the meeting was being recorded and the audio would be made available on the City of Melbourne website before close of business tomorrow
- the agenda comprised of one report from management
- no apologies have been received
- extraordinary circumstances have prevented Council from giving public notice at least seven days before the special meeting due to the meeting only being called on Friday 9 March 2018.

2. Disclosures of conflicts of interest

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, advised that conflicts of interest would be disclosed as they arose.

Submissions/Correspondence

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, advised that the following submission had been received in accordance with the Council's *Meeting Procedures Code*.

In relation to Agenda item 3.1, '**Update on the Investigation into allegations regarding the former Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle**':

Item of correspondence:

- Anthony van der Craats.

The Chief Executive Officer, Ben Rimmer tabled the report in relation to Agenda item 3.1 **Update on the Investigation into allegations regarding the former Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle** at the meeting.

3. Report from management

There was one report from management for consideration.

3.1 Update on the Investigation into allegations regarding the former Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle

The purpose of this report was to provide Council with the outcomes stemming from the First Report of Dr Freckelton QC's investigation into allegations against the former Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle.

Moved: Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood

1. That Council:

- 1.1. *Notes the Chief Executive Officer's Summary Report concerning the status of the investigation into the allegations concerning the former Lord Mayor, Robert Doyle.*
- 1.2. *Notes that the Chief Executive Officer has decided to suspend the investigation in relation to allegations by a third complainant until Mr Doyle is able to respond.*
- 1.3. *Makes the following statement:*

Council deplores violence against women in all of its forms. As Councillors, we are deeply concerned about the findings of the independent investigation, which concerns our workplace and colleagues. As a Council, we are united in ensuring such behaviour does not occur again. Further, we are hopeful that this difficult period for the City can serve as an example to other organisations and pave the way for significant reform, particularly for the workplace safety for councillors across Victoria. We value gender equality and want our City to remain as a leader to its community and all visitors. It is important that all women are encouraged to speak out and that councillors have a workplace where they are safe to do their jobs.

We have previously agreed to review our Councillor Code of Conduct to ensure allegations of this nature are dealt with appropriately. We support management's review of all relevant administrative policies referencing Councillors, including and in particular, the Alcohol and Drug policy. We also support management's productive discussions with the Victorian Government about improvements to the Local Government Act 1989 for dealing with allegations of this nature across the sector.

Our primary aim is to deliver great outcomes for this wonderful city and its people. And we will continue to do that.

Seconded: Cr Reece

The motion was put and carried unanimously with the following Councillors present: The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood and Councillors Frances Gilley, Le Liu, Leppert, Louey, Oke, Pinder-Mortimer, Reece, Riley and Watts.

4. Closure of meeting

The Chair, Acting Lord Mayor, Arron Wood, declared the meeting closed at 4.40pm.

Confirmed at the meeting of Council on Tuesday 27 March 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'A. Wood', is written over the text of the meeting closure.

Chair
Council

