
MINUTES
of the
Public Water Supply Bylaw
DELIBERATIONS MEETING
held
9.30 am, Tuesday, 16 October 2018
at
Tasman Council Chamber, 189 Queen Street, Richmond

Present: Mayor R Kempthorne, Councillors S Bryant, P Canton, M Greening, P Hawkes, D McNamara, D Ogilvie, P Sangster, T Tuffnell, A Turley and D Wensley

In Attendance: Activity Planning Manager (D L Fletcher), Utilities Manager (M Schruer) and Executive Assistant (R L Scherer)

- 1 **OPENING, WELCOME**
- 2 **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Moved Cr Ogilvie/Cr Tuffnell

SH18-10-01

That apologies from Cr S Brown, Cr T B King and Cr C M Maling and for lateness from Cr P Hawkes be accepted.

CARRIED

3 **REPORTS**

3.1 **Public Water Supply Bylaw Review - Deliberations**

Activity Planning Manager, Dwayne Fletcher spoke to the report contained in the agenda which was taken as read. Mr Fletcher spoke about the issue of choosing the correct baseline for introducing water restrictions.

In response to a question, Mr Fletcher agreed that staff will be consulting with the affected stakeholders including the three major water users on the proposed changes to the draft bylaw.

Mr Fletcher noted that while households tend to be uniform in their water use, businesses have different and more variable needs making it difficult to provide industry specific rules at each rationing step. The proposal to have a set percentage saving on their water use for all business addresses this by treating all businesses the same.

In response to a question about the likelihood of restrictions applying while the Waimea Dam is being constructed, Mr Fletcher noted that any restrictions will depend on rationing put on the Council water supplies through the TRMP. He suggested that rationing is unlikely to be affected this summer period because of timing.

In response to a question regarding the proposed treatment of the Richmond Aquatic Centre compared with other community swimming pools, Mr Fletcher said that staff had considered the Aquatic Centre from a “community” perspective. He agreed that staff could consult with all community swimming pools during the next round of consultation on the water restrictions.

The Councillors discussed the difference between the TRMP rules and the water restrictions criteria contained in the water supply bylaw. Mr Fletcher agreed that while the TRMP rules appear to be harsh, they reflect the issues arising from the no-dam scenario in terms of available water supplies.

In response to a question, regarding animal welfare, Mr Fletcher said that the proposed changes to the draft bylaw would ensure that water was supplied to ensure animal welfare.

The Councillors discussed future scenarios where water restrictions could still occur after the dam is built. Mr Fletcher noted that the likelihood of water restrictions is 1:60 years with the dam. In response to a question, Mr Fletcher confirmed that he would arrange for written commentary to be provided to the Council outlining the future scenarios for water restrictions once the Waimea Dam is completed.

Cr Hawkes arrived at 10.10 am.

In response to a question about the classification of school/community swimming pools under the draft protocol, Mr Fletcher noted that they would still be treated the same as a business under the water restrictions regime.

The meeting adjourned at 10.35 am and resumed at 10.55 am.

In response to a question regarding water leaks, Mr Schruer noted that while electronic metering would be the ideal for every property, the cost of implementing this would be extremely high. He said that the Council spends \$100,000 each year on leak detection. The average water losses across the District is 21% but some can be very high as was the case with a large water leak in Pohara last year. Mr Schruer advised that staff are looking at the option of rearranging water supply areas into smaller zones to make it easier to identify where water losses are happening. Mr Schruer added that staff are currently focusing on water loss in Newline.

In response to a question about further consultation, Mr Fletcher said that staff propose to re-consult with all of the groups that submitted to the bylaw as well as the top 20 water users as a minimum.

Mr Fletcher explained the process going forward. He said that the resolution in today’s agenda will be presented to Full Council. Following that staff will re-consult with the community before presenting a further report to Council for final adoption of the Public Water Supply Bylaw.

*The meeting adjourned at 11.17 am to allow staff to make changes to the original resolution.
The meeting resumed at 11.31 am.*

Moved Cr Tuffnell/Cr Ogilvie

SH18-10-2

That the Submissions Hearing Panel:

1. receives the Public Water Supply Bylaw Review - Deliberations Report; and
2. agrees to recommend to Full Council to consult on the recommended changes to the draft Public Water Supply Bylaw outlined below:
 - a) Maintain flexibility in the restrictions Protocol and not include trigger criteria.
 - b) Public swimming pools should be treated as a commercial business not as a typical residential pool.
 - c) Remove all reference to 'Implement Water Shortage Plan' from the Protocol.
 - d) Add an exemption for industries that have a current water supply agreement with Council, with exemption expiring if and when the water supply agreement is renewed.
 - e) Add a new clause to the Bylaw to allow the Council to prescribe or amend the baseline demand by resolution.
 - f) Provide the ability to establish Water Reduction Agreements for setting the baseline demand for individual businesses; and
3. instructs staff to establish draft criteria to guide the development and implementation of Water Reduction Agreements; and
4. notes that the Council will undertake targeted consultation with stakeholders directly affected by the proposed changes to the Public Water Supply Bylaw and on the Water Reduction Agreement criteria; and
5. notes that the timing of targeted consultation will be completed by the end of the first quarter of 2019; and
6. notes that staff will recommend the adoption of the amended Bylaw to Full Council in 2019 after targeted consultation is complete, and with the request to approve the definition of the baseline; and
7. requests that staff provide additional information in writing to the Full Council regarding the 1:60 year drought security and any associated rationing if the Waimea Dam does go ahead.

CARRIED

Cr Canton asked that his vote against the resolution be recorded in the minutes.

The meeting concluded at 11.35 am.

Date Confirmed:

Chair: