

STAFF REPORT

TO: Councillors
FROM: Mayor J Hurley
REFERENCE: C780
DATE: 24 February 2005
SUBJECT: Mayor's Report

CIVIL DEFENCE

A one day exercise occupied Tasman District Council, Council Chambers with a full on civil emergency covering Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council staff, Mayors and emergency services, police, fire etc. As we have in place a completely revamped approach this exercise was very enlightening for all.

TRADES EDUCATION

Minister Trevor Mallard attended a presentation held at Saxton Field to present awards to those who have graduated various levels of trade education. I participated on behalf of Tasman District Council.

ENGINEERING CONFERENCE

The annual conference was held in Nelson this year. I participated at the official welcome. Some 170 engineers attended with many other support groups selling consultancy or equipment. Delegates enjoyed and were impressed with their visit.

ANNUAL PLAN HEARINGS

I want to thank Councillors for their effort hearing and deliberating the Annual Plan. It was a full on week.

TAPAWERA FIRE STATION

I attended on behalf of Council the opening of the recent new additions to the Tapawera Station. The fire service was represented by Dame Margaret Basley and MP for Tasman, Damien O'Connor, officiated. The improvements are a great asset

to those in the service. We have taken a quantum leap ahead with the facilities provided.

FONTERRA FIRE

I wish to acknowledge the effort that the combined emergency services put into this emergency. It was a very big and traumatic fire with many complications which occupied the fire service for two full days and nights. A very substantial save of major components of the complex will, I am confident, enable process to proceed at some level for the future. Attached is a letter to the Golden Bay Fire Brigade.

COLOUR PARADE

Kathryn and I attended the Nelson Marlborough West Coast Territorial Parade in Nelson. The ceremony is a full army formal drill which was very well performed. A strong emphasis on recruiting was also present together with one of the LAV3 on display. A step up in technology but not in many aspects of service capability in my view.

FACILITIES RATE

Comment made at deliberations concern me as to the criteria that currently applies to this funding. I recommend that clarification and possible review needs to be looked into.

PLANNING

I am very concerned that at a recent public consultation meeting held in Richmond, potential developers were scathing of Council's performance. The main factor being that concept proposals put forward by various people have not been before Council nor had they been allocated sufficient time to present scheme plans with adequate coverage of Councillors. This must be handled better in future if Council is to be seen to be considerate and thorough. I recommend that in future all significant concept proposals for subdivision reclassification of land be submitted to full Council to view and consider prior to entering the process procedures.

John Hurley
Mayor