

# Kaunihera | Council

## Ngā Tāpiritanga – Mēneti | Attachments – Minutes

Attachments – Minutes of a meeting of an ordinary meeting of Matamata-Piako District Council held in the Council Chambers, 35 Kenrick Street, TE AROHA on 07 Jun 2023 at 9.00am.

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**Note:** The attachments contained within this document are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Councillors require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.



## DAMAGE TO ROAD SIGNS

One of the frustrations that Council's Road Maintenance team has to deal with is continuing deliberate damage to road signs. In certain areas of the district signs are regularly broken off, pushed over or cut down.

It is difficult to understand what is going on in the minds of individuals who do

this damage, but the ongoing repair and replacement of these signs creates both hazards and a needless expense that all residents of the district have to pay for.

Council encourages anybody with knowledge of who is responsible for this type of damage to inform Council or the Police.



## YOUR RATES – WHERE DO THEY GO?

The table below indicates the contributions of typical property rates to the activities undertaken by Council:

| Property Value & Type       | \$200,000        | \$300,000        | \$200,000       | \$400,000       | \$200,000 | \$300,000 | \$400,000 | \$250,000 | \$500,000 | \$1,500,000 | \$4,500,000 |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
|                             | Oto. Residential | Oto. Residential | Oto. Commercial | Oto. Commercial | Kawhia    | Kawhia    | Kawhia    | Kawhia    | Rural     | Rural       | Rural       |
| Activity                    | \$               | \$               | \$              | \$              | \$        | \$        | \$        | \$        | \$        | \$          | \$          |
| Council and Boards          | \$213            | \$241            | \$254           | \$350           | \$222     | \$253     | \$283     | \$147     | \$181     | \$320       | \$734       |
| Corporate Planning          | \$36             | \$39             | \$36            | \$43            | \$36      | \$39      | \$43      | \$37      | \$46      | \$81        | \$187       |
| District Promotion          | \$49             | \$52             | \$49            | \$56            | \$49      | \$52      | \$56      | \$51      | \$59      | \$92        | \$193       |
| Policy Development          | \$41             | \$45             | \$41            | \$49            | \$41      | \$45      | \$49      | \$43      | \$53      | \$93        | \$213       |
| Civil Defence               | \$23             | \$23             | \$23            | \$23            | \$23      | \$23      | \$23      | \$23      | \$23      | \$23        | \$23        |
| Environmental Health        | \$19             | \$21             | \$19            | \$23            | \$19      | \$21      | \$23      | \$20      | \$25      | \$43        | \$99        |
| Dog Control                 | \$4              | \$4              | \$4             | \$4             | \$4       | \$4       | \$4       | \$4       | \$4       | \$4         | \$4         |
| Ranging & Impounding        | \$1              | \$1              | \$1             | \$1             | \$1       | \$1       | \$1       | \$1       | \$1       | \$1         | \$1         |
| Litter Control              | \$6              | \$7              | \$6             | \$8             | \$6       | \$7       | \$8       | \$7       | \$9       | \$20        | \$51        |
| District Sport Co-ordinator | \$15             | \$16             | \$15            | \$17            | \$15      | \$16      | \$17      | \$15      | \$18      | \$26        | \$50        |
| Parks & Reserves            | \$62             | \$76             | \$62            | \$89            | \$62      | \$88      | \$88      | \$69      | \$102     | \$234       | \$632       |
| Refuse & Recycling          | \$123            | \$124            | \$123           | \$124           | \$250     | \$250     | \$250     | \$24      | \$24      | \$24        | \$26        |
| Water Supply                | \$334            | \$334            | \$334           | \$334           | \$469     | \$469     | \$469     | \$7       | \$7       | \$7         | \$7         |
| Otorohanga Sewerage         | \$341            | \$341            | \$341           | \$341           | \$5       | \$5       | \$5       | \$5       | \$5       | \$5         | \$5         |
| Library                     | \$49             | \$54             | \$49            | \$58            | \$49      | \$54      | \$58      | \$51      | \$63      | \$111       | \$256       |
| Public Toilets              | \$12             | \$15             | \$12            | \$17            | \$12      | \$15      | \$17      | \$13      | \$20      | \$48        | \$131       |
| Kawhia Medical Centre       | \$1              | \$1              | \$1             | \$1             | \$8       | \$9       | \$11      | \$1       | \$1       | \$2         | \$4         |
| Kawhia Wharf                | \$4              | \$4              | \$4             | \$5             | \$17      | \$20      | \$23      | \$4       | \$5       | \$9         | \$20        |
| District Property           | \$4              | \$4              | \$4             | \$5             | \$13      | \$15      | \$17      | \$3       | \$4       | \$6         | \$15        |
| Swimming Pool               | \$158            | \$158            | \$158           | \$158           | \$15      | \$15      | \$15      | \$82      | \$82      | \$82        | \$82        |
| Security Patrol             | \$7              | \$7              | \$564           | \$736           | \$0       | \$0       | \$1       | \$0       | \$1       | \$2         | \$6         |
| Kawhia Community Centre     | \$0              | \$0              | \$0             | \$0             | \$22      | \$22      | \$22      | \$0       | \$0       | \$0         | \$0         |
| Planning & Development      | \$14             | \$21             | \$14            | \$27            | \$14      | \$21      | \$27      | \$17      | \$34      | \$103       | \$308       |
| Building Control            | \$13             | \$20             | \$13            | \$27            | \$13      | \$20      | \$27      | \$17      | \$33      | \$100       | \$299       |
| Council Support             | \$8              | \$12             | \$8             | \$16            | \$8       | \$12      | \$16      | \$10      | \$20      | \$61        | \$183       |
| Cemeteries                  | \$3              | \$5              | \$3             | \$7             | \$3       | \$5       | \$7       | \$4       | \$8       | \$25        | \$74        |
| Rural Halls                 | \$0              | \$0              | \$0             | \$0             | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$1         | \$3         |
| Rural Fire                  | \$0              | \$0              | \$0             | \$0             | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$6       | \$12      | \$36        | \$109       |
| Stormwater                  | \$60             | \$90             | \$150           | \$300           | \$47      | \$71      | \$95      | \$2       | \$3       | \$10        | \$29        |
| Roads and Footpaths         | \$568            | \$695            | \$568           | \$821           | \$568     | \$695     | \$821     | \$631     | \$948     | \$2,214     | \$6,011     |
| Sewerage Loan               | \$63             | \$95             | \$158           | \$316           | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0         | \$0         |
| Water Loan                  | \$17             | \$25             | \$42            | \$84            | \$37      | \$55      | \$74      | \$0       | \$0       | \$0         | \$0         |
| Property Development        | \$1              | \$1              | \$1             | \$2             | \$19      | \$29      | \$38      | \$1       | \$2       | \$6         | \$19        |
| CBD Development             | \$0              | \$0              | \$179           | \$203           | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0       | \$0         | \$0         |
| TOTALS                      | \$2,249          | \$2,530          | \$3,236         | \$4,244         | \$2,048   | \$2,330   | \$2,587   | \$1,295   | \$1,794   | \$3,789     | \$9,773     |

PO Box 11, Otorohanga 3940 Phone: 873 4000 Free Phone: 0800 734 000 Fax: 873 4300 Email: [info@otodc.govt.nz](mailto:info@otodc.govt.nz)  
[www.otodc.govt.nz](http://www.otodc.govt.nz)

"A prudent council would not be looking to make huge changes, especially expensive Huge changes right after a global pandemic, which has taken its toll on our region Thanks to the huge number of tourists we never saw for the best part of three years.

It's bad enough to learn that the councillors thought it was appropriate to give themselves a pay rise every year of the pandemic whilst Kiwis were losing their jobs in the district because of business is closing down due to the pandemic, and I wouldn't be surprised to learn in due course when the requested info is provided that the same has applied to the upper echelons of council management (all 16 of them earning over 120K also getting a decent pay rise over the last two or three years! Most people have no idea the Council has staff on salaries like that or a CEO on close to \$400k a year!)

There is a large amount of info I was trying to obtain from the council ahead of this submission without success to comprehensively justify why this all needs to STOP and things need to stay as they are for the foreseeable future. However, due to time constraints, and in light of that information plus all the monetary policy related things I have discovered and the fact the wider community should be a lot more involved in this I urge the council **as one of their employers and this districts ratepayers to put everything on hold immediately and re-schedule a hearing for a Saturday morning in six weeks time when more people can attend and the requested information becomes available because it's not right how this is all done seemingly "in secret in the middle of the week when everyone's at work so they don't get too much pushback"** .

If they are going to just ignore my request then I standby am I remarks yesterday that they need to either do nothing for the next three years, and we revisit this plan then.

**BUT if they insist on going ahead, then they have to meet the community halfway which means:**

**1)getting rid of half of the counsellors and**

**2) a bunch of highly paid staff from the council service to minimise the average rate increase to half of what it is projected to be currently,**

**3) NO MORE PAY RISES FOR 5 YEARS.**

**It's called give-and-take and everybody has to make sacrifices, you just can't spend what you haven't got meaning you have to make cuts too-you cannot keep up with this scheme of coming up with crazy ideas and then expecting the community to pay for it especially when you cannot give me the info on how much has been spent on community initiatives to date when I request it because that should be public knowledge available on demand.**

I hope you all see sense and forget this whole crazy idea of having a "nice to have" scheme that is ridiculously expensive at a time when people are struggling to get by and put it in one of those goddamn wheelie bins where it belongs"

Cheers

John Townsend