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## **Council *Kaunihera* OPEN MINUTES**

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**Minutes of a meeting of the Council held in Civic Square and Council Chamber, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Wednesday 22 October 2025 at 10:30am.**

### **PRESENT**

**Chairperson** Mayor Tim Macindoe  
***Heamana***

**Members** Cr Andrew Bydder  
Cr Anna Casey-Cox  
Cr Maria Huata  
Cr Rachel Karalus  
Cr Leo Liu  
Cr Mesh Macdonald  
Cr Graeme Mead  
Cr Sue Moroney  
Cr Robbie Neha  
Cr Angela O'Leary  
Cr Emma Pike  
Cr Jamie Strange  
Cr Geoff Taylor  
Cr Sarah Thomson

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### **SWEARING IN OF MAYOR-ELECT AND COUNCILLORS-ELECT**

The Official Party and Elected Members entered the meeting. A karakia was given by Hamilton City Council Kaumatua Tame Pokaia followed by waiata by Council staff.

The Inaugural Council meeting was then opened by Chief Executive Lance Vervoort. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the presence of mana whenua and those able to be a part of the ceremony including the newly Elected Members, former Councillors, and family.

### **Installation of the Mayor**

Mayor Macindoe read and signed the Statutory Declaration required by the Local Government Act 2002, which was witnessed by the Chief Executive. Following his declaration, the Mayor addressed the meeting.

### **Installation of the Councillors**

Councillors Andrew Bydder, Anna Casey-Cox, Maria Huata, Rachel Karalus, Leo Liu, Mesh Macdonald, Graeme Mead, Sue Moroney, Robbie Neha, Angela O'Leary, Emma Pike, Jamie Strange, Geoff Taylor and Sarah Thomson read and signed the Statutory Declaration required by the Local Government Act 2002,

which were witnessed by Mayor Macindoe. Following their declarations, each Councillor addressed the meeting.

The Official Party, Elected Members, and all in attendance stood to sing the National Anthem.

Council Kaumata Tame Pokaia closed the ceremony with a karakia supported by a waiata.

**The meeting was adjourned from 12.15pm to 1.57pm.**

**1. Apologies – *Tono aroha***

There were no leaves of absence.

**2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take***

**Resolved:** (Cr Bydder/Cr Taylor)

That the Council confirms the agenda.

**3. Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipanga***

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

**4. Inaugural Meeting Requirements**

The Manager Governance and Assurance took the report as read.

**Resolved:** (Cr Taylor/Cr Thomson)

That the Council receives the report.

**5. Explanation of Statutory Matters Affecting Elected Members**

The Manager Governance and Assurance spoke to the report noting that there is Central Government proposal to raise the threshold for the Local Authority (Members' Interest) Act from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Staff responded to questions from Elected Members concerning official information costs and the code of conduct.

**Resolved:** (Cr O'Leary/Cr Pike)

That the Council:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) notes that until such time as the Council formally adopts a Code of Conduct, elected members are expected to abide by the provisions, as set out in Section 15, Code of Conduct, of the Local Government Act 2002.

*The meeting was closed with a karakia.*

**The meeting was declared closed at 2.04pm.**