

Meeting Date: Wednesday 22 March 2023

Location: Council Chambers, Level 1A, 1 Pope Street, Ryde and Online

Time: 5.00pm

Councillors Present in Chambers: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Maggio and Purcell.

Councillors Present via online Audio Visual: Councillors Deshpande, Han, Lara-Watson, Li, O'Reilly, Pedersen and Song.

Apologies: Councillor Lane.

Staff Present: Chief Executive Officer, General Manager – Business and Operations, General Manager – City Shaping, General Counsel, Manager – Corporate Governance, Acting Manager – Communications and Engagement, Executive Officer – City Economy, Media and Communications Officer, System Support Officer, Civic Services Manager and Civic Support Officer.

PRAYER

Councillor Maggio offered prayer prior to the commencement of the meeting.

NATIONAL ANTHEM

The National Anthem was sung prior to the commencement of the meeting.

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

TABLING OF PETITIONS

No Petitions were tabled.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA

No written submissions were received.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA

No written submissions were received.

MAYORAL MINUTE

MM4/23 CITY OF RYDE INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION VISIT TO TAIWAN AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS POLICY - Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM

Note: Councillor Pedersen joined the meeting at 5.09pm during discussion on this Item.

MOTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

- (a) That Council notes that in the interests of transparency, the City of Ryde international delegation visit to Taiwan has been referred to the ICAC by the Mayor and Council will await their further response with respect to this matter.
- (b) That Council notes the advice received from the Office of Local Government (OLG) regarding Council's International Relations Policy being that:-
 - International Relations / Sister Cities policies are considered by the OLG to be an internal matter for Councils to consider and there is no requirement for consultation with the OLG.
 - It is not a function of the OLG to provide advice on Council policies unless there is a significant issue regarding implementing an OLG mandatory guideline or code.
 - A written request to OLG would not be considered, as they would seek to avoid setting a precedent for all 128 NSW Councils to contact them on every policy matter.

AMENDMENT: (Moved by Councillors Purcell and Pedersen)

- (a) That Council notes that in the interests of transparency, the City of Ryde international delegation visit to Taiwan has been referred to the ICAC by the Mayor and Council will await their further response with respect to this matter.
- (b) That all documents submitted to ICAC by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM in regards to the trip to the Taiwan Conference be made available to all Councillors immediately.

- (c) That Council notes the advice received from the Office of Local Government (OLG) regarding Council's International Relations Policy being that:-
- International Relations / Sister Cities policies are considered by the OLG to be an internal matter for Councils to consider and there is no requirement for consultation with the OLG.
 - It is not a function of the OLG to provide advice on Council policies unless there is a significant issue regarding implementing an OLG mandatory guideline or code.
 - A written request to OLG would not be considered, as they would seek to avoid setting a precedent for all 128 NSW Councils to contact them on every policy matter.
- (d) That the City of Ryde call upon the Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM and Councillor Trenton Brown to stand down from their positions in the interim, pending these investigations.
- (e) That the City of Ryde call upon the Mayor, Councillor Sarkis Yedelian OAM and Councillor Trenton Brown not to go to the Taiwan Conference, pending these investigations.

On being put to the meeting, the voting on the Amendment was four (4) For and seven (7) Against. The Amendment was **LOST**. The Motion was then put and **CARRIED**.

Record of Voting:

For the Amendment: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Against the Amendment: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lara-Watson, Li and Maggio

RESOLUTION: (Moved by the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM)

- (a) That Council notes that in the interests of transparency, the City of Ryde international delegation visit to Taiwan has been referred to the ICAC by the Mayor and Council will await their further response with respect to this matter.
- (b) That Council notes the advice received from the Office of Local Government (OLG) regarding Council's International Relations Policy being that:-
- International Relations / Sister Cities policies are considered by the OLG to be an internal matter for Councils to consider and there is no requirement for consultation with the OLG.

- It is not a function of the OLG to provide advice on Council policies unless there is a significant issue regarding implementing an OLG mandatory guideline or code.
- A written request to OLG would not be considered, as they would seek to avoid setting a precedent for all 128 NSW Councils to contact them on every policy matter.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM and Councillors Brown, Deshpande, Han, Lara-Watson, Li and Maggio

Against the Motion: Councillors O'Reilly, Pedersen, Purcell and Song

Note: Councillor Maggio left the meeting at 5.41pm and did not return.

NOTICE OF MOTION

1 INTERNATIONAL TRIP TO THE SMART CITY SUMMIT AND EXPO AND CITY OF RYDE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS POLICY - Councillor Bernard Purcell and Councillor Penny Pedersen

Note: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM ruled that this Motion not be considered by Council as a substantially similar Motion had already been dealt with by Council at this meeting.

MOTION OF DISSENT

Councillor Purcell attempted to move a Motion of Dissent against the Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM's ruling that Motion 1 - International Trip to the Smart City Summit and Expo and City of Ryde International Relations Policy was a substantially similar Motion to Mayoral Minute 4/23, the time being 5.45pm.

Note: The Mayor, Councillor Yedelian OAM ruled Notice of Motion 1 Out of Order.

The meeting closed at 5.45pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 4TH DAY OF APRIL 2023

Chairperson