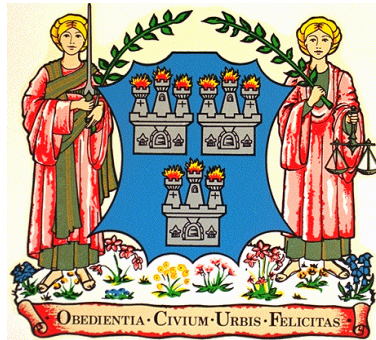


COMHAIRLE CATHRACH BHAILE ÁTHA CLIATH



Miontuairiscí Chruinniú Speisialta a tionóladh ar 16 Nollaig 2013 in Ionad Ché Amhaid ag 6 i.n.
I Láthair an tArdmheara Oisín Quinn sa chathaoir.

Comhairleoir:

Gerry Ashe
Kieran Binchy
Tom Brabazon
Gerry Breen
Christy Burke
Aine Clancy
Anthony Connaghan
Pat Crimmins
Pat Dunne
Mary Fitzpatrick
Declan Flanagan
Mannix Flynn
Sheila Howes
Vincent Jackson

Comhairleoir:

Dermot Lacey
Mícheál Mac Donncha
Ray McAdam
Paul McAuliffe
Paddy McCartan
Brian McDowell
Hugh McGarr
Ruairí McGinley
Seamus McGrattan
Padraig McLoughlin
Lucy McRoberts
Sean Paul Mahon
Louise Minihan

Comhairleoir

Andrew Montague
Rebecca Moynihan
Criona Ní Dhálaigh
Jim O'Callaghan
Damian O'Farrell
Naoise Ó Muirí
Mary O'Shea
Michael O'Sullivan
Larry O'Toole
Cieran Perry
John Redmond
Nial Ring
Brid Smith
Bill Tormey

Oifigigh

Owen Keegan
Kathy Quinn
Michael Philips
Philip Maguire
Brendan Kenny
Terence O'Keefe

Dick Brady
Adrian Conway
Mary Pine
Pauline Tracey
Pat Cronin

Oonagh Casey
Michael Gallagher
Carmel Walsh
Ray Glynn
Frank Hone

1.) The Lord Mayor opened the meeting with an item of business. He proposed the 6th January 2014 as the date for the budget information meeting and the 14th January for the statutory Budget Meeting. The City Council agreed these dates.

2.) The Lord Mayor then stated that the purpose of this meeting was to brief Members on the current position in relation to the transition of responsibility for water and waste water services from local authorities to Irish Water and to provide Members with an opportunity to receive clarification on issues of concern. He then invited the City Manger to speak.

3.) The Manager referred to Report 404/2013, which had been circulated to the Members prior to the meeting. He informed members that the Service Level Agreement was still a draft and that negotiations were continuing to resolve the outstanding issues. He highlighted the following areas of concern which he believes pose potential risks to Dublin City Council:

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- Pension liability for staff of Irish Water
- The transfer of DCC debtors to Irish Water
- Recoupment by DCC of Full Costs Incurred under SLA
- Role of the Local Government Management Association (LGMA) in Agreeing Changes to the SLA
- Suspension and Exit Arrangements
- Dispute Resolution Process
- Central Management Charge (CMC)/Support Services
- Planning & Development Control
- Uniform National Tariff
- Memoranda of Understanding

The Manager said that he is satisfied that the draft SLA represents the best deal that can be negotiated given all the circumstances.

4.) The Lord Mayor opened the discussion to the Members and the following Councillors spoke to the issue - Councillors Mary Fitzpatrick, Micheál Mac Donncha, Brid Smith, Cieran Perry, Nial Ring, Pat Dunne, Ruairi McGinley, Vincent Jackson, Jim O'Callaghan, Naoise Ó Muirí, Mannix Flynn, Bill Tormey, Andrew Montague, Gerry Breen, Paul McAuliffe, Dermot Lacey.

The Members thanked the Manager for his report and expressed the following views.

- The failure of Irish Water and the DoECLG to send representatives to this meeting was noted.
- The transfer of €2 billion worth of assets to Irish Water whilst it retains pension liabilities was unacceptable.
- The lack of prohibition on the sale of such assets after their transfer to Irish Water was an indication of the intention to privatise the water supply.
- The Department has failed to engage with Councillors and is instead forcing through this package without proper consultation and regard to the citizens of Dublin.
- The risks to Dublin City Council are significant and the SLA fails to provide adequate safeguards.
- The competitiveness of Dublin as a place to do business will be negatively impacted.
- There are concerns regarding the 12 year length of the SLA. This is not normal practice in the commercial sector.
- Concerns over the capacity and role of Dublin City Council in dealing with extreme weather events.
- Concerns over the ability of the City Council to deal with flooding and the Members ability to influence the selection of Capital flood alleviation Projects.
- The establishment of a single authority to oversee the water supply will enhance the capacity of Irish Water to raise funding and allow for much needed investment in the network.
- The implementation of metering in other countries has been shown to reduce consumption and leakages and lead to greater efficiencies.

The Members endorsed the Managers Report and supported him and the Management team in trying to achieve the best possible outcome for the City Council.

5.) The Lord Mayor invited the Manager to respond to the concerns raised by the Members. The Manager assured the Members that he and the Management Team would continue to work to get the best deal possible, however he had to accept the limitations of their negotiating position.

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The Manager provided clarification on the following issues:

- Dublin City Council will continue to have responsibility for surface water drainage and flood relief measures.
- There is no risk to the payment of pensions for current and retired employees.
- No Council staff will be transferred to Irish Water. However, their roles may change after June 2014.
- There is no available funding to subsidise businesses who are likely to face an increase in water charges.
- Despite significant funding restrictions the City Council has been able to provide a safe water supply over many years and compares favourably with other EU states in terms of water quality.

6.) It was agreed to suspend standing orders to take the following two motions.

Motion No.1 submitted in the names of Councillor Mary Fitzpatrick, Councillor Dermot Lacey and Councillor Gerry Breen, was agreed without debate by the City Council - "The Elected Members of Dublin City Council are extremely concerned about the transition of water services from DCC to Irish Water. Based on the report from the Dublin City Manager we believe this is a very bad deal with considerable risk for Dublin City. This Council calls on the Minister for Environment, Community & Local Government to meet a delegation from Dublin City Council to address all the issues raised in the City Managers Report before the services are transferred."

Motion No. 2 submitted in the names of Councillor Brid Smith and Councillor Louise Minihan, "This City Council will inform the Government that we will not pass any budget in January 2014, until and unless, all issues of concern and query raised by both Councillors and Management, are fully addressed and answered by the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government and Irish Water." A vote was taken and the motion was deemed to have fallen.

The Lord Mayor concluded the meeting and reminded Members that the Budget Information meeting will take place on 6th January 2014 in the Venue, Wood Quay.

Correct.

LORD MAYOR

MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

