

<b>Chairman</b>	N. Heath – General Manager.	<b>Media</b>
Lord Mayor Ald Damon Thomas	<b>Corporate Services</b>	Mercury
<b>Aldermen</b>	M. Johns – M.C.G. 4	ABC Radio
Deputy Lord Mayor Ald Ron Christie	J. Stafford – C.S.O.	Trevor Sutton
Ald Marti Zucco	A. Surtees – C.S.O.	<b>Sub Total: 21</b>
Ald Jeff Briscoe	A. Roth – C.S.O.	Reception 2
Ald Eva Ruzicka	C. White – P.A.L.M.	Public 2
Ald Peter Sexton		Trolley/Spare
Ald Helen Burnet		<b>Total Distribution: 26</b>
Ald Philip Cocker		
Ald Bill Harvey		
Ald Sue Hickey		
Ald Leo Foley		
Ald John Freeman		



CITY OF HOBART

# MINUTES

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**MEETING HELD 19 NOVEMBER 2012 AT 7.30 P.M.**

**PRESENT:** Lord Mayor Alderman D C Thomas (Chairman),  
Deputy Lord Mayor Alderman R G Christie and  
Aldermen M Zucco, J R Briscoe, E R Ruzicka, P T Sexton,  
P S Cocker, W F Harvey, S L Hickey, L D Foley and J W Freeman.

Mr Mike Blake, Auditor General, Tasmanian Audit Office  
Mr Jara Dean, Tasmanian Audit Office  
Mrs Leone Scrivener, 2012 Hobart City Council Citizen of the Year  
Mr Cliff Iles, President, Association of Independent Retirees Inc  
Hobart Branch  
Ms Carol Cruise, Vice President, Friends of the Royal Tasmanian  
Botanical Gardens Inc  
Mr Julian Punch, Hobart Community Liaison Committee Coming Out  
Proud Program  
Mr Jonathon Hodgkin, Secretary, New Town Rivulet Catchment Care  
Group Inc

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
19/11/2012  
MINUTES

**APOLOGIES:** Alderman H C Burnet.

Young Citizen of the Year – 2012 - Nene Manasseh  
Chief Executive Officer, Anglicare Tasmania Inc  
The Principal, Guilford Young College  
Chief Executive Officer, Hobart City Mission Inc  
Chief Executive Officer, Migrant Resource Centre  
Director, Royal Australian Institute of Architects  
Manager Corporate Relations, Tasmanian Ports Corporation Pty Ltd  
General Manager, Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra  
General Manager, Tennis Tasmania  
The Principal, The Friends' School  
Chief Executive Officer, Theatre Royal  
Chief Executive Officer, Tasmania Fire Service  
Secretary, Country Women's Association of Tasmania  
The Conveyor, South Hobart Bushcare Group  
President, Battery Point/Sullivans Cove Community Association Inc

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:** Nil.

## **1. DECLARE THE MEETING OPEN**

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The Lord Mayor opened the meeting at 7.30 p.m., welcomed those in attendance and noted the apologies.

## **2. MEETING PROCEDURES**

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The Lord Mayor outlined the procedures for the conduct of the meeting.

## **3. LORD MAYOR'S ADDRESS**

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9x's

Attachment 3/P1-9 Lord Mayor's address.

The Lord Mayor tabled his address, including highlights from the 2011/2012 Annual Report.

### **3.1 2011/2012 HOBART CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT**

#### **3.1.1 WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS FROM ELECTORS IN RELATION TO THE 2011/2012 ANNUAL REPORT.**

No written submissions were received.

#### **3.1.2 INVITATION FOR DISCUSSION AND MOTIONS ARISING FROM THE 2011/2012 ANNUAL REPORT.**

The Lord Mayor invited discussion or motions arising from the 2011/2012 Annual Report from those present at the meeting.

No discussion or motions were raised.

#### **3.1.3 CALL FOR A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2011/2012 ANNUAL REPORT.**

DEPUTY LORD MAYOR  
RUZICKA

That the Annual Report for  
2011/2012 be adopted.

MOTION CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY

**LORD MAYOR'S ADDRESS****2012 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING****ITEM 3. LORD MAYOR'S ADDRESS**

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The purpose of the meeting tonight is to consider and formally adopt the 2011/2012 Annual Report, which details the activities and financial performance of the Council over the year in review. A copy of the report is available in the folders provided and spare copies are on the table at the door.

I thank you for your interest in the activities of the Council on behalf of my fellow Aldermen, General Manager and staff.

Before I call for a motion to adopt the Annual Report I must acknowledge my strong support for our Aldermanic team who have provided demonstrable leadership for the City of Hobart over the past 12 months.

The role of an Alderman of this City has considerable responsibilities attached to it and our Aldermen undertake those responsibilities most professionally.

Now it gives me great delight to draw on a few highlights from the Council's many activities for the year under review.

We have embarked on delivering a range of reforms to build on the twin pillars of social and economic wealth to underpin the future of our city and its community. There are but two ways that

our city will grow - through local investment, which will be limited - and then, through the current twin economic relationships which we're exploring.

During the year under review, I expressed my concern that while we can grow the local economy, we won't get anywhere unless the city has a known liveability status. I pointed out that Adelaide, Brisbane and Melbourne are among the World's most liveable cities and this gives them a huge marketing advantage. It appeared that Hobart didn't have any ranking for some obscure reason! It was my long held belief that the City of Hobart would out-rank a number of the world's top ten cities.

I must say I was elated with recent recognition by the world's biggest travel guide publisher, Lonely Planet ranking our City number 7 on a scale of 1 to 10 of the world's top cities. Only this last week Trip Advisor listed Hobart as the 2nd most desirable city in Australia to visit.

Successful cities on the Asia-Pacific rim are engaged in networking and information exchange between Australia and Asia.

Hobart cannot become a major city in the Asia-Pacific region until such time as we really build our city pride. We cannot afford to have any inferiority complexes. We want to be seen as and feel special, as a capital city, and this is starting to happen.

We have shown that despite fractured economic times in Tasmania, a downturn nationwide and globally, Hobart is still

defying the trends. There is strong evidence and confidence in the direction the city is headed with major developments and investments coming online.

As part of the public realm of the City, the Council is developing a planned longer-term approach involving ideas for making the city a place where people want to come and spend time. This is where the Council's Inner City Action Plan will play a critical role in creating a place where people want to be and feel safe and engaged.

The first part of the Plan has been approved by the Council involving the redevelopment of the Mather's Lane Precinct, which is the first of 14 major projects planned across the City.

A major asset, Sullivans Cove on the Hobart waterfront is the focal point for both our local community and increasing numbers of tourists. This will benefit greatly from the development of the Brooke Street Pier and the \$7 million redevelopment of Macquarie Wharf No 2.

Quite some time ago the Council recognised the need to increase infrastructure and services to support the growing number of tourists visiting our city. Our city and our port are very attractive to international visitors with Hobart becoming one of the world's top destinations for visiting cruise ships, bringing almost \$7 million in direct expenditure to the State. In support of this vital activity, the Tasmanian Travel and Information Centre is performing

exceptionally well and we are now well advanced in catering for upwards of 100,000 passengers and crew.

The opening of the \$50 million Wellington Centre has been a standout success including a Woolworths supermarket, 11 retail and 4 kiosk tenancies, together with a multi-storey parking complex.

Further revitalisation within the City has involved the redevelopment of Cat and Fiddle Arcade, with major changes to the internal layout and exciting new tenancies. Other major developments have included Hotel Collins and Hadley Hotel's \$30 million 9 storey extension, as well as the \$11 million redevelopment of the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery with world-class exhibition spaces.

As part of the University's emerging Domain Precinct, the Menzies Research Institute and Faculty of Health Science accommodating 500 students and staff is rapidly becoming a world class biomedical and clinical research facility to improve human health and wellbeing. City of Hobart planners have also been involved with the creation of exciting new office space and inner city living options for Hobart.

Princes Wharf No 2, the state-of-the-art \$45 million Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS) provides a new research hub for marine, Antarctic and Southern Ocean scientists.

For the past 25 years the City has worked towards a community development approach to build community capacity and to provide greater opportunities for participation in community life, rather than directly providing services. This is achieved through working collaboratively and in partnership with all key stakeholders in the community to address issues of concern. The various community consultation processes undertaken by the City over many years have clearly identified that this is the approach that the community wants from the Council. There is a strong view that the Council has a major role to play in supporting and building the Hobart community.

The community has become much more diversified than it ever was. Once the Council used to deal with community or progress associations, now it has a much wider group of people to engage, from Bushcare right up to precinct type groups. As the Council's Chairman, my ambition is to bring all of them together at the one time in the one place and then ask, "How, as a Council can we work better with you?" I am convinced this will send a message that the Council is listening. It also achieves the important objective that the Council is getting value back!

On top of this we are achieving another important outcome, greater utilisation of Council infrastructure. We have the provision whereby we're encouraging much greater use of the Town Hall and other public facilities.



We are also aware of the community's desire to keep the rates as low as they can be, whilst being mindful of the needs of future generations.

The present campaign to reduce rates is self-defeating to the future of those who wish to see rates being lowered because, whilst it is within the Council's power to cut rates by 100%, such action would however, be totally irresponsible as the inevitable outcome would be that in two or three years time the city would not have sufficient funding for essential services. We must remember that we are here for the long term and must budget and plan for future community needs in precisely the same way as previous councils have, as well as protecting Council's financial position well into the future.

During the year in review the Council also looked at options for the procurement of asphalt for roads and footpaths.

After careful consideration, the Council decided that the best solution for ratepayers would be to source its requirements from an external supplier and so the Council has joined forces with Glenorchy City Council, Kingborough Council and the Brighton Council to partner in jointly tendering for the procurement of asphalt for use on local roads and footpaths.

This is evidence of local government working together in the interest of its ratepayers. All four councils have come together

through a collective process in an effort to make worthwhile savings on asphalt products and services.

We continue to strengthen our partnership with the University of Tasmania and the Council has signed a series of Memorandums of Understanding, including TasPorts, the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and the Arts, Hobart International Airport and the Launceston City Council. These strategic alliances are important for our city as they demonstrate that the Council is working across business and Government sectors to deliver important benefits to the city and the community.

The Council has also reinvigorated the need to push confidence building in the light of concepts and ideas that have the potential to really build on and add to Hobart's reputation as one of Australia's better cities. We're enthusiastic about the proposal to redevelop the Macquarie Point rail yards. The City of Hobart has long advocated for a sensible and strategic approach to development on the rail yards site. This project will assist in developing the Council's vision of positioning Hobart as a globally sustainable and liveable city, as well as attract new investment, generate jobs and boost the economy.

A special investment prospectus has been produced by the Hobart City Council with the support of the city's major stakeholders to bring about increased economic prosperity for the residents of the City of Hobart.

We also acknowledge a number of direct investments by the Council which have been assessed against a net social, economic and community benefit. These undertakings will produce, by any measure, great community value and will make it easier for businesses to survive and flourish and add to the social capital of the city.

These investments involve growing the city's economy, which is why the Council believes it is essential for the future of the City to invest in having a major national retailer in the CBD, and that is why we have helped, in a fully transparent way, to facilitate the redevelopment of the Myer site.

Throughout the year the Council has further demonstrated its leadership role as a sustainable city by partnering with Glenorchy City Council to install energy efficient street lighting.

In acknowledging the valuable support of the Federal Government and particularly the local member, Andrew Wilkie MP, the once in a lifetime opportunity to install new lighting over a significant part of the city, is one of the best opportunities ever presented, given the sound environmental and economic benefits it will deliver going forward.

The Council is leaving no stone unturned in the pursuit of a vibrant city that offers a quality of life unequalled anywhere else in Australia or overseas. We have entered a further exciting phase in

the evolution of our city, one that's very likely to bring increased prosperity and greater vitality to our deserving city.

This is just a quick snapshot of a very important range of actions and achievements of this Council over the 2011/2012 financial year. Full details of Council's activities are outlined in the Annual Report.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity to again thank and acknowledge my fellow Aldermen and Council staff for their major contributions over the past twelve months. In the face of an economic downturn, it has been another solid year, due mainly to the General Manager and his team who are working hard to make the City of Hobart the most sustainable council in the State. I am happy to report that the Council remains in a healthy financial position to continue to offer important services for its ratepayers and we will of course continue to explore all avenues for offering value for our ratepayers' hard-earned dollar.

I am pleased to be able to present the 2011/2012 Annual Report to you and would welcome comments.

#### **4. CLOSURE OF THE MEETING**

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There being no further business, the Lord Mayor closed the meeting at 7.40 p.m.

TAKEN AS READ AND SIGNED  
AS A CORRECT RECORD THIS  
10<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2012.

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**CHAIRMAN**