

HAWKESBURY CITY COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING

Where People Make the Difference!

SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS PAPER

DATE OF MEETING: 10 October 1995

LOCATION: Council Chambers

TIME: 7:30pm

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ELECTION UNDERTAKINGS BY GOVERNMENT GE001/005 PT02

I have reported to the Council before the pursuit of a number of undertakings given by the now Government when in opposition. As well, I have been pursuing the release of the Environmental Impact Statement for the possible raising of the Warragamba Dam to permit a Flood Mitigation Protection for the number of homes and occupants downstream. It is anticipated that a recurrence of the 1867 flood would cause enormous damage and possible loss of life in the valley. Consultants undertaking the Floodplain Management Study estimate 10,000 properties would be inundated, 4,000 structurally damaged and a requirement for 50,000 people to be evacuated.

In terms of the probable maximum flood, the consultants estimate that 11,000 homes would be structurally damaged, 50,000 people directly affected and a damage bill in the order of \$4 billion. This then is compared to the estimated cost of the Dam project of \$300 million.

After reportedly spending \$10 million on the study, it seems totally irresponsible for the Government not to release the document for public debate and discussion before (as it has done) shelving a project that could provide major protection for the valley and its residents. I intend pursuing this matter.

With reference to flood free access the then Shadow Minister for Transport Brian Langton, stated:

"I understand there are several possibilities for the provision of flood free access west of the Hawkesbury River.

Following our discussions, I am happy to commit the next Labor Government to work with you, local government and the local community to determine the best solution to the problem which exists and to start work on the preferred solution as quickly as possible."

In terms of the Windsor Road upgrading, I note that today is the release of the State Budget. There was an undertaking that the Government would allocate funds in its first budget for the widening of the road and should this not be the position then that matter will also be pursued. The most recent correspondence from the Minister's office indicates that consideration is being given to a review of all road projects.

In relation to the proposal for an extension of National Park at Agnes Banks and Windsor Downs and the new reserve at Longneck Lagoon, the Minister has now advised that these matters have been directed to the National Parks and Wildlife Service to begin assessment and negotiations and that the Service will contact the Council as part of its procedures.

Councillor Rex Stubbs
Mayor

***** END OF MAYORAL MINUTES *****

ORDINARY

Section 4

Reports for Determination

ITEM: 90 HAWKESBURY CITY EISTEDDFOD

FILE NUMBER: GF008/001 PT11/CSV

REPORT:

At the Ordinary Meeting of 13 June 1995, Council again agreed to support the annual Hawkesbury City Eisteddfod as it has in the past. Council is the major sponsor of the event and has supported the event since its inception. The anticipated cost of the 1995 Eisteddfod was reported as \$5,000 being the hire charge of the Windsor Function Centre, this was based on the average cost of the event over the last 3 years.

The event is recognised as being one of the best organised and patronised Eisteddfods and attracts participants and audiences from interstate. This year two additional musical categories were added to the program to accommodate growing interest.

Due to increased participation and extended program, the venue hire cost came to a total of \$7,635. The Eisteddfod fosters musical talent within the Hawkesbury and is an important cultural event on the Hawkesbury calendar. Accordingly, Council's support in meeting the additional costs is recommended. Funds are available in the Public Relations Budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council vote a further amount of \$2,635 (two thousand six hundred and thirty five dollars) towards subsidising the 1995 Hawkesbury City Eisteddfod.

ATTACHMENTS:

There are no supporting documents for this report.

FN:ORA10LBX.C25

****** END OF ITEM 90 ******

**ORDINARY
MEETING**

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END OF BUSINESS PAPER