

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 10 December 2025, commencing at 9.00am

- Members Present:** Grant Smith (The Mayor) (in the Chair) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.
- Apologies:** Councillor Bowen (early departure, on Council business).

10 December 2025

Councillor Orphée Mickalad entered the meeting at 9.06am. He was not present for clause 201.

During consideration of clause 208 Councillor Rachel Bowen left the meeting at 3.10pm and entered the meeting again at 3.20pm. She left the meeting at 3.24pm and entered the meeting again at 3.46pm. She was not present for clauses 208.4, 208.5, 208.7 and 208.12.

During consideration of clause 208 Councillor Kaydee Zabelin left the meeting at 3.16pm and entered the meeting again at 3.27pm. She was not present for clauses 208.4 and 208.6.

During consideration of clause 208 Councillor Billy Meehan left the meeting at 4.10pm. He was not present for clauses 208.11 to 208.14 inclusive.

17 December 2025

During consideration of clause 212 Councillor Karen Naylor left the meeting at 9.48am, 17 December 2025. She entered the meeting again at 10.28am during consideration of clause 214. She was not present for clauses 212 and 213.

The Mayor (Grant Smith) was not present when the meeting resumed at 11.31am. He was not present for clauses 215 and 216.

Councillor William Wood was not present when the meeting resumed at 11.31am. He entered the meeting again at 11.35am after consideration of clause 215. He was not present for clause 215.

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb opened the meeting with karakia.

201-25 Apologies

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Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive the apologies.

Clause 201-25 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Vaughan Dennison declared a conflict of interest in Item 10 (Travel approval for Councillor Vaughan Dennison to attend the 2026 Taipei Smart City Summit and Expo) (clause 206) and took no further part in discussion or debate and sat in the gallery.

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb declared a conflict of interest in Item 11 (Annual Budget 2026/27) G2 Economic Development (Programme 2563 to provide civic support for the PNBHS Hockey Turf project of \$33.5k) and took no further part in discussion or debate and sat in the gallery.

Councillor Leonie Hapeta declared a conflict of interest in Item 17 (Tuere Place – Land Acquisition for Road Reserve) (clause 215) and took no further part in discussion or debate and sat in the gallery.

202-25

Response to Notice of Motion: Public Health and the District Plan

Memorandum, presented by Jono Ferguson-Pye, Manager City Planning.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive the memorandum titled 'Response to Notice of Motion: Public Health and the District Plan'.

Clause 202-25 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

203-25

Notice of Motion: Public Health and the District Plan

Moved Brent Barrett, seconded Mark Arnott.

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RESOLVED

1. That Council assess the Palmerston North District Plan for gaps in relation to public health, including but not limited to consideration of safe separation between petrol stations and childcare, school, health and residential land use.

Clause 203-25 above was carried 15 votes to 1, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillor Vaughan Dennison.

REPORTS

204-25

Development Subsidy Fund Application: Menzshed Building Improvements
Memorandum, presented by Keegan Aplin-Thane, Senior Planner.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council approve the allocation of \$7,000 from the Development Subsidy Fund to support building consent fees for the Menzshed.

Clause 204-25 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

205-25

Local Water Done Well - Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement
Report, presented by Chris Dyhrberg, Executive Director Central Districts Water, Mike Monaghan, Manager Three Waters and Julie Keane, Transition Manager.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

3. That Council, as shareholder of Central Districts Water, approve the attached Shareholders' Agreement for Central Districts Water, and delegate to the Chief Executive to sign the Shareholders' Agreement on behalf of Palmerston North City Council.
5. That Council approve the establishment of a joint committee made up of representatives from across the Shareholding councils and Mana Whenua

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partners and endorse the terms of reference included in Schedule 3 of the Shareholders' Agreement.

Clause 205.1-25 above was carried 10 votes to 6, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Mark Arnott, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

1. That the report 'Local Water Done Well – Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement' for the joint Water Services Council-Controlled Organisation known as Central Districts Water be received.
2. That Council, as shareholder of Central Districts Water, approve the attached Constitution for Central Districts Water, and delegate to the Chief Executive to sign any documents required to approve the Constitution on behalf of Palmerston North City Council.
4. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive the ability to agree any minor, non-material amendments to the Constitution and Shareholders' Agreement prior to final approval, and to report back to Council on any changes made under this delegation.
6. That Council note, as the next step in establishing Central Districts Water as a joint Water Services Council-Controlled Organisation, that it will be required to appoint its representative(s) to the Shareholders' Committee and delegate the power to make the decisions recorded in Section 2 of Schedule 3 of the Shareholders' Agreement.
7. That Council delegate to the Chief Executive the authority to sign documentation on behalf of Council to complete the incorporation and registration of Central Districts Water with the Companies Office and all related formalities.

Clause 205.2-25 above was carried 15 votes to 1, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillor Hayden Fitzgerald.

The meeting adjourned at 11.03am.

The meeting resumed at 11.24am.

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- 206-25 Travel Approval for Councillor Vaughan Dennison to attend the 2026 Taipei Smart City Summit and Expo**
Memorandum, presented by Gabrielle Loga, Manager International Relations.

Officers noted an update to clause 2.9 of the report – Councillor Dennison will be able to attend the Finance, Performance & Audit Committee meeting on 4 March 2026.

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council grant approval for Councillor Vaughan Dennison to travel to Taipei from 17 March to 20 March 2026 to lead a small delegation attending the 2026 Taipei Smart City Summit and Expo.

Clause 206-25 above was carried 11 votes to 4, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Mark Arnott, Hayden Fitzgerald, Orphée Mickalad and Karen Naylor.

Note:

Councillor Vaughan Dennison declared a conflict of interest and took no further part in discussion or debate and sat in the gallery.

- 207-25 Council Work Schedule**

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive its Work Schedule dated 10 December 2025.

Clause 207-25 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

- 208-25 Annual Budget 2026/27**
Memorandum, presented by Scott Mancer, Manager Finance and Cameron McKay, Chief Financial Officer.

The meeting adjourned at 1.30pm.

The meeting resumed at 2.45pm.

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CAPITAL PROGRAMMES – RENEWAL

A1 Moved Karen Naylor, seconded Hayden Fitzgerald.

RESOLVED

Reduce Programme 2495 – Council Chambers refresh from \$313K to \$0K in the 26/27 budget and refer the programme to the 2027/37 Long-Term Plan.

Clause 208.1-25 above was carried 14 votes to 2, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Brent Barrett and Bonnie Kuru.

A2 Moved Kaydee Zabelin, seconded Lorna Johnson.

RESOLVED

That the budget for Programme 213 – Cultural Facilities Renewals remains as proposed in the Long-Term Plan (\$522K).

Clause 208.2-25 above was carried 11 votes to 5, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Mark Arnott, Hayden Fitzgerald, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

A3 Moved Kaydee Zabelin, seconded Lorna Johnson.

RESOLVED

That the budget for Programme 1786 – Recreational Buildings, Sports Pavilion and Changing Rooms remain as proposed in the Long-Term Plan (\$209K).

Clause 208.3-25 above was carried 14 votes to 2, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald and Karen Naylor.

1b Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

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RESOLVED

1. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare a draft of the Consultation Document and supporting information for the Annual Budget 2026/27 for consideration by Council at its meeting on 11 February 2026 and that it contains:
 - b. Renewal capital programmes as outlined in Attachment 5, including the agreed motions above.

Clause 208.4-25 above was carried 12 votes to 2, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad and William Wood.

Against:

Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald and Karen Naylor.

CAPITAL PROGRAMMES – NEW AND GROWTH

A5

Moved William Wood, seconded Grant Smith.

RESOLVED

That the consultation document include options to increase the footpath renewal budget by \$1.47M to align with the depreciation cost, \$1M, or \$500K, and the rating impact of these options.

Clause 208.5-25 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

A6

Moved Vaughan Dennison, seconded Leonie Hapeta.

RESOLVED

Programme 2361 – That CET Arena replacement roof be moved forward into the draft 2026/2027 Annual Budget (\$2.131M).

Clause 208.6-25 above was carried 12 votes to 3, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan and William Wood.

Against:

Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald, Orphée Mickalad and Karen Naylor.

B

Moved Hayden Fitzgerald, seconded Karen Naylor.

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RESOLVED

Arts & Heritage

Reduce Programme 902 - Seismic Strengthening from \$2,089K to \$1M in the 26/27 budget, to provide additional time for consideration of new legislative framework and how this applies to our portfolio and refer the programme to the 2027/37 Long-Term Plan.

Councillor Kaydee Zabelin entered the meeting again at 3.27pm.

Clause 208.7-25 above was carried 9 votes to 6, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Leonie Hapeta and Lorna Johnson.

C1

Moved Karen Naylor, seconded Hayden Fitzgerald.

Note:

On a motion that:

'Recreation & Play

Reduce the following programme to \$0 for the 26/27 budget and refer the programme to the 2027/37 Long-Term Plan:

- Programme 1194 – CET Arena - \$8,878K – Masterplan redevelopment.'

the motion was lost 4 votes to 12, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Brent Barrett, Hayden Fitzgerald, Orphée Mickalad and Karen Naylor.

Against:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

C2 (i)

Moved Hayden Fitzgerald, seconded Karen Naylor.

RESOLVED

Reduce the following programmes to \$0 for the 26/27 budget and refer the programmes to the 2027/37 Long-Term Plan:

- Programme 1846 - \$192K – City reserves – walkway extension.
- Programme 1845 - \$102K – Te Marae o Hine – The Square.

Clause 208.8-25 above was carried 9 votes to 7, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

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Against:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lorna Johnson and Bonnie Kuru.

C2 (ii)

Moved Hayden Fitzgerald, seconded Karen Naylor.

Note:

On a motion that:

‘Reduce the following programme to \$0 for the 26/27 budget and refer the programmes to the 2027/37 Long-Term Plan:

- Programme 1851 - \$235K – Sports field improvement.’

the motion was lost 3 votes to 13, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald and Karen Naylor.

Against:

Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

1c

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare a draft of the Consultation Document and supporting information for the Annual Budget 2026/27 for consideration by Council at its meeting on 11 February 2026 and that it contains:
 - c. Capital New and Growth programmes outlined in Attachment 6, which includes programme 1681 (Kikiwhenua Transport) highlighted in clause 9.2; and including the motions above.

Clause 208.9-25 above was carried 14 votes to 2, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald and Karen Naylor.

1g

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare a draft of the Consultation Document and supporting information for the Annual Budget

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2026/27 for consideration by Council at its meeting on 11 February 2026 and that it contains:

- g. Bringing forward Programme 2366 (Hydroslices) from 2029/30 to 2026/27 and updating the associated budgets as identified in Attachment 7.

Clause 208.10-25 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Councillor Billy Meehan left the meeting at 4.10pm.

OPERATING PROGRAMMES

F

Moved Karen Naylor, seconded Hayden Fitzgerald.

Note:

On a motion that:

'Recreation & Play

1 (f) - That new Programme 2559 to provide civic support for Massey's Te Waimana o Turitea Botanical Gardens project \$50k is not included in the draft 26/27 budget, and that this is made explicit in the consultation material.'

the motion was lost 7 votes to 8, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Leonie Hapeta and Bonnie Kuru.

G1

Moved Karen Naylor, seconded Hayden Fitzgerald.

Note:

On a motion that:

'Economic Development

That the following new programmes are not included in the draft 26/27 budget, and that this is made explicit in the consultation material:

- Programme 2560 to provide support for Manawātū Rugby in Community Rugby and towards Cyclones and Turbos teams of \$25k.'

the motion was lost 4 votes to 11, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Brent Barrett, Hayden Fitzgerald, Orphée Mickalad and Karen Naylor.

Against:

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The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

G2

Moved Karen Naylor, seconded Hayden Fitzgerald.

Note:

On a motion that:

‘Economic Development

That the following new programmes are not included in the draft 26/27 budget, and that this is made explicit in the consultation material:

- Programme 2563 to provide civic support for the PNBHS Hockey Turf project of \$33.5k.’

the motion was lost 5 votes to 9, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Brent Barrett, Hayden Fitzgerald, Lorna Johnson, Orphée Mickalad and Karen Naylor.

Against:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Note:

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb declared a conflict of interest and took no further part in discussion or debate and withdrew from the table.

H

Moved Karen Naylor, seconded Hayden Fitzgerald.

Note:

On a motion that:

‘Biodiversity and the Manawatū River

That new Programme 2561 to fund the Te Ahu a Turanga gateway carpark at \$20K is not included in the draft 26/27 budget, and that this is made explicit in the consultation material.’

the motion was lost 6 votes to 9, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Mark Arnott, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and William Wood.

Against:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru and Kaydee Zabelin.

1a

Moved Grant Smith, seconded William Wood.

RESOLVED

1. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare a draft of the Consultation Document and supporting information for the Annual Budget 2026/27 for consideration by Council at its meeting on 11 February 2026 and that it contains:

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- a. Operating programmes as outlined in Attachment 4, which continue to include those highlighted in clause 9.2.

Clause 208.11-25 above was carried 13 votes to 2, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald and Karen Naylor.

OPERATING BUDGETS

A4

Moved William Wood, seconded Grant Smith.

That Council increase the footpath maintenance budget by \$200k for the draft 2026/2027 Annual Budget.

Clause 208.12-25 above was carried 14 votes to 1, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillor Karen Naylor.

I

Moved Hayden Fitzgerald, seconded Karen Naylor.

Note:

On a motion that:

‘That the International Relations expense is reduced by 10% (\$52K) and that there is a corresponding reduction of activity.’

the motion was lost 4 votes to 11, the voting being as follows:

For:

Councillors Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Orphée Mickalad and Karen Naylor.

Against:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

1e

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare a draft of the Consultation Document and supporting information for the Annual Budget 2026/27 for consideration by Council at its meeting on 11 February 2026 and that it contains:

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- e. Operating budgets as outlined in Attachments 1-3 including the motion above.

Clause 208.13-25 above was carried 13 votes to 2, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Hayden Fitzgerald and Karen Naylor.

1d

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

ASSUMPTIONS

1. That Council instruct the Chief Executive to prepare a draft of the Consultation Document and supporting information for the Annual Budget 2026/27 for consideration by Council at its meeting on 11 February 2026 and that it contains:

- d. Significant budget assumptions as outlined in Section 5.

Clause 208.14-25 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb closed the meeting with karakia.

The meeting adjourned at 4.35pm until Wednesday 17 December at 9.00am.

The meeting resumed on Wednesday 17 December at 9.01am.

Members

Present:

Grant Smith (The Mayor) (in the Chair) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Vaughan Dennison, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and Kaydee Zabelin.

Members

Present Online:

Councillors Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay and William Wood.

Apologies:

Councillors Brent Barrett and Hayden Fitzgerald; Councillors Vaughan Dennison, Karen Naylor and William Wood (early departure).

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Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Debi Marshall-Lobb opened the meeting with karakia.

209-25 Apologies

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

1. That Council receive the apologies.

Clause 209-25 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

210-25 Notification of Additional Items

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

That Council accept the late item as follows:

Grant of licence and easements for a communications station in the Turitea Reserve (confidential)

Reason for lateness:

Commercial negotiations were completed after the Agenda was published.

Reason for urgency:

Palmerston North City Council have committed to the provider that the licence will be finalised as soon as possible, so as not to delay their project.

Clause 210-25 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC

211-25 Recommendation to Exclude Public

Moved Grant Smith, seconded Debi Marshall-Lobb.

RESOLVED

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That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting listed in the table below.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered		Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution
19.	Grant of licence and easements for a communications station in the Turitea Reserve	It is to the greater public interest that Council acts in confidence at this stage of the negotiations.	s7(2)(b)(ii) THIRD PARTY COMMERCIAL Disclosing the information could harm a company's commercial position. s7(2)(c)(i) PREJUDICE THE SUPPLY OF SIMILAR INFORMATION Releasing this information could negatively affect similar confidential information or discourage people from sharing such information. s7(2)(i) NEGOTIATIONS This information needs to be kept confidential to ensure that Council can negotiate effectively, especially in business dealings. s7(2)(j) PREVENT IMPROPER GAIN OR ADVANTAGE This information needs to be kept confidential to prevent its improper use for personal gain or advantage.
15.	Tender Award - Stoney Creek Road Upgrade	Agreeing the tender confidentially allows Council to get best value for these public works.	s7(2)(b)(ii) THIRD PARTY COMMERCIAL Disclosing the information could harm a company's commercial position.
16.	Digital Transformation Programme Update	This programme of work is currently under commercial contract negotiations. Commercial aspects, specifically pricing, offered to Palmerston North City	s7(2)(b)(ii) THIRD PARTY COMMERCIAL Disclosing the information could harm a company's commercial position. s7(2)(i) NEGOTIATIONS This information needs to be kept confidential to

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		Council are done so only with the strict proviso that they remain under a non-disclosure agreement due to their significant favourability. This is a global 'bring-to-market' offering and details must remain confidential until product release.	ensure that Council can negotiate effectively, especially in business dealings.
17.	Tuere Place – Land Acquisition for Road Reserve	The report contains commercially sensitive information which, if released at this stage, could prejudice Council's position in the ongoing settlement process.	s7(2)(h)COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES: This information needs to be kept confidential to allow Council to engage in commercial activities without prejudice or disadvantage
18.	Appointment of Directors to Central Economic Development Agency	A candidate's right to privacy outweighs the public's interest to know who has applied to the CEDA Trust Board until the appointment has been confirmed.	s7(2)(a)PRIVACY This information needs to be kept private to protect personal information that is confidential or sensitive. This includes people who are no longer alive

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as stated in the above table.

Also that Yvonne Evans, Senior Property Consultant / Manager (The Property Group) be permitted to remain after the public has been excluded for Item 19 Grant of licence and easements for a communications station in the Turitea Reserve, assisting the meeting in speaking to the report and answering questions, noting that she will be present at the meeting only for item 19.

Clause 211-25 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Debi Marshall-Lobb, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Leonie Hapeta, Lorna Johnson, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

The public part of the meeting finished at 9.07am, 17 December 2025.

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Confirmed 11 February 2026

Mayor

UNCONFIRMED