


Minutes Inaugural Council Meeting – 6 November 2025

	Details of Meeting:	WHAKATĀNE DISTRICT COUNCIL INAUGURAL MEETING HELD IN ROOM TŌTARA, COMMERCE STREET, WHAKATĀNE, ON THURSDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2025, COMMENCING AT 12:36 PM.
	Present:	His Worship the Mayor N Tánczos, Councillors T Boynton, G Dennis, C Hamill, A Iles, L Immink, J Morgan-Ranui, W James, J Jukes, T O'Brien and M Whitaker
	In Attendance:	S Perdia (Chief Executive), D Bewley (GM Planning, Regulatory and Infrastructure), E Hatch (GM People and Partnerships), H Patrick (Kaihautu – Strategic Māori Partnerships and GM Commercial), L Woolsey (GM Strategy and Growth), P Davidson (Chief Financial Officer), A Pickles (GM Community Experience), N Johansson (Transition Director), K Boreham (Principal Advisor – Executive Office), C Viljoen (Manager Governance Services), and S Duffy (Senior Governance Advisor)
	Visitors:	Visitors, guests and members of the public L O'Reilly (Tompkins Wake – Special Counsel)
	Apologies:	

1 KARAKIA and MIHI

The Kaihautu – Strategic Māori Partnerships and GM Commercial led with an opening Karakia. Following this, the Chief Executive formally welcomed everyone and commenced the inaugural meeting of the Whakatāne District Council at 12:36 pm.

2 MEETING NOTICES

The Chief Executive shared meeting notices on live streaming and health and safety.

3 APOLOGIES

Nil.

4 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

5 DECLARATION OF ELECTION RESULTS

Refer to pages 10-17 of the agenda.

The Electoral Officer's Declaration of results for the Whakatāne District Council 2025 local body elections was received and noted by the meeting.

6 DECLARATIONS OF OFFICE

Refer to pages 18-21 of the agenda.

6.1 Declaration by Mayor-Elect N Tánczos

Mayor-Elect Tánczos read aloud the statutory declaration pursuant to clause 14 of schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002. The Chief Executive witnessed his signing of the written declaration.

The Chief Executive then placed the chains of office on Mayor Tánczos.

Mayor Tánczos gave a speech. He acknowledged dignitaries present, all who stood for a position at the election, those elected and those retiring Elected Members, staff, previous Mayors, his campaign team and his whanau. The Mayor also shared his vision for the district.

The Mayor chaired the meeting from this point.

6.2 Declaration by Councillors

Each of the newly elected Councillors read aloud the statutory declaration pursuant to clause 14 of schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 and signed their written declarations which were witnessed by the Mayor.

Mayor Tánczos invited Councillors to make introductory remarks after their declarations were made, and all Councillors responded.

7 REPORTS

7.1 Appointment of the Deputy Mayor

Refer to pages 22-23 of the agenda.

Mayor Tánczos announced the appointment of Councillor Jukes to the position of Deputy Mayor of the Whakatāne District Council for the triennium.

Moved Councillor Immink / Seconded Councillor James

RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Appointment of Deputy Mayor 2025-2028 report be **received**; and
2. THAT the Council **acknowledges** the appointment of Councillor Jukes as the Deputy Mayor of the Whakatāne District Council for the 2025-2028 triennium.

CARRIED

7.2 Legislative Advice to incoming Council 2025-1028 Report

Refer to pages 26-38 of the agenda.

Ms O'Reilly introduced herself and gave a high-level overview of certain legal provisions, legislation, acts, and several policies that impacted elected members. Members were advised that an up-coming induction training would cover more detailed information on legislative advice.

Moved Councillor Dennis / Seconded Councillor Boynton

RESOLVED:

THAT the report 'Legislative Advice to the Incoming Council 2025-2028' report be **received**.

CARRIED

7.3 Fixing the Date and Time of the First Meeting

Refer to pages 24-25 of the agenda.

The Chief Executive presented the report and noted it was a legal requirement that at its inaugural meeting Council fix the date and time of its first meeting. He advised the subsequent Council meeting would be held on 4 December 2025.

Moved Councillor Wilson / Seconded Councillor Iles

RESOLVED:

1. THAT the 'Fixing the date and time of the first meeting' report be **received**; and
2. THAT the Whakatāne District Council **confirms** that its first meeting will be held on 19 November 2025 commencing at 9:00 am in the Tōtara Meeting Room (Council Chambers) located at the Whakatāne District Council, 14 Commerce Street, Whakatāne.

CARRIED

7.4 Resolution of thanks to Retiring Elected Members

Refer to pages 38-40 of the agenda.

Moved Mayor Tánczos / Seconded Councillor Boynton

RESOLVED:

THAT the following retiring Elected Members from the 2022-2025 triennium be **thanked**:

Mayor 2022-2025	Dr Victor Luca
Councillor Whakatane Ōhope General Ward	John Pullar
Councillor Toi ki Uta Māori Ward	Ngapera Rangiaho

Murupara Community Board	Sheena Jones Jesse Morgan-Ranui (<i>elected Councillor 2025-2028</i>)
Rangitāiki Community Board	Leeann Waaka (Chairperson) Ross Gardiner (Deputy Chairperson) Peter Falwasser Peter Flowerday Clive McIndoe

Tāneatua Community Board	Natasha George Leonardus Ruiterman Moana Stensness (Chairperson) Honey Thrupp Michael Tuwairua
Whakatane-Ōhope Community Board	Carolyn Hamill (Chairperson / <i>elected Councillor 2025-2028</i>) Mark Inman Ozgur Jahn

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 1:54 pm with a Karakia by Kaihautu – Strategic Māori Partnerships and GM Commercial.

Confirmed at the meeting dated:
CHAIRPERSON

You Tube link to [Inaugural Council meeting 6 November 2025](#)