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# CAMPBELLTOWN CITY COUNCIL

## Minutes Summary

**Extraordinary Council Meeting held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, 15 October 2024.**

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**Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Campbelltown City Council held on 15 October 2024**

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**Present**

- Councillor S Berbari
- Councillor M Chowdhury
- Councillor J Cotter
- Councillor K Halabi
- Councillor K Hunt
- Councillor M Khalil
- Councillor D Lound
- Councillor C McEwan
- Councillor W Morrison
- Councillor M Oates
- Councillor A Rahman
- Councillor J Rivera
- Councillor T Triebels
- Councillor I Wisniewska
- Councillor A Zahra

**1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF LAND**

An Acknowledgement of Land was presented by the Chief Executive Officer.

**Council Prayer**

The Council Prayer was presented by the Chairperson.

**2. APOLOGIES/ LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Declarations of Interest were made in respect of the following items:

**Pecuniary Interests**

Nil

**Non Pecuniary – Significant Interests**

Nil

**Non Pecuniary – Less than Significant Interests**

Nil

**Other Disclosures**

Nil

## 4. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS

### 4.1 Oath or Affirmation of Office

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The Oath of Office or Affirmation of Office was taken by each Councillor.

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### 4.2 Election of the Mayor

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#### Officer's Recommendation

The Chief Executive Officer conducted the election of the Mayor held at the Extraordinary meeting of Council on 15 October 2024.

One written nomination was received for Mayor for Councillor Darcy Lound.

The nomination was seconded by Councillor Meg Oates, Councillor Karen Hunt and Councillor Masood Chowdhury.

As only one candidate was nominated, the Chief Executive Officer declared Councillor Darcy Lound elected as Mayor for the October 2024- September 2026 term.

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### 4.3 Election of Deputy Mayor

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It was **Moved** Councillor Oates, **Seconded** Councillor Chowdhury:

1. That the Council determine the term for Deputy Mayor be 12 months.

**299/2024** The Motion on being Put was **CARRIED**.

The Chief Executive Officer, conducted an election held at the Extraordinary meeting of Council on 15 October 2024 for the election of Deputy Mayor.

One written nomination was received for Deputy Mayor for Councillor Karen Hunt.

The nomination was seconded by Councillor Darcy Lound, Councillor Meg Oates and Councillor Ashiqur Rahman.

As only one candidate was nominated, the Chief Executive Officer declared Councillor Karen Hunt elected as Deputy Mayor for the October 2024- September 2025 term.

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#### 4.4 Casual Vacancies in the Office of Councillor

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It was **Moved** Councillor Chowdhury, **Seconded** Councillor Oates:

1. That pursuant to section 291A(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, Campbelltown City Council declares that casual vacancies occurring in the office of a councillor within 18 months of after the last ordinary election of councillors for the Council on 14 September 2024 are to be filled by a countback of votes cast at that election for office in accordance with section 291A(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 1993*.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer to notify the NSW Electoral Commissioner of the Council's decision within 7 days of the decision.

**300/2024** The Motion on being Put was **CARRIED**.

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#### 4.5 2024 Council Meeting Calendar

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It was **Moved** Councillor Khalil, **Seconded** Councillor Morrison:

That the remainder of the 2024 calendar be noted and adopted.

**301/2024** The Motion on being Put was **CARRIED**.

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#### PRESENTATION BY COUNCILLORS

1. Mayor Darcy Lound began with expressing how humble and honoured he felt to be elected as the new Mayor of Campbelltown City Council here tonight. He relayed how great a privilege it is to be able to lead this great Council for the people of the Campbelltown Local Government Area. He congratulated his Councillor colleagues - both returning and newly elected.

Mayor Lound expressed his gratitude to his wonderful family present - his wife Rebecca and his children Josh, Brody and Kealey, as well as his sons partners Grace and Chelsea, for their support that enabled him to serve on the Council. He conveyed his deep love for them all. He thanked his mother, Wanda, for her constant presence and encouragement, as well as his mother-in-law, Linda, for her support of him and his family. He also acknowledged his extended family who was in attendance, expressing his heartfelt thanks and love for each of them.

Mayor Lound expressed his gratitude to the Council staff with whom he has had the pleasure of working over the past 12 years as a councillor, and he looked forward to continuing that collaboration in his new role as Mayor. He commended the staff for their outstanding contributions throughout the years, highlighting that the Council has consistently maintained a strong financial position while effectively delivering services to the community. He is eager to build on this solid foundation and continue advancing the Council's efforts for the benefit of the community.

Mayor Lound took a moment to acknowledge several individuals who have been instrumental during his early days on the Council, expressing his gratitude for their support, guidance, and dedication over the years. He paid tribute to the late Paul Tosi, the former General Manager, along with Chief Executive Officer Lindy Deitz, Director Jim Baldwin, the late Michael Sewell, and Nicholas Smolonogov. He also recognised former Mayor Paul Lake for taking him under his wing.

Mayor Lound expressed his enthusiasm for collaborating with CEO Lindy Deitz and Deputy General Managers Jai Rowell and Ben Hoyle. He believes that this strong team has the potential to achieve remarkable things for the community of Campbelltown, and he is eager to embark on this journey together.

Mayor Lound expressed his gratitude to the local Members of Parliament—Dr. Mike Frelander, Anne Stanley, Greg Warren, Anoulack Chanthivong, and Nathan Hegarty—for their mentoring and friendship throughout the years. He highlighted their unwavering support for both him and the Labor team, acknowledging the strong partnership they have fostered. As he steps into his role as Mayor, he is eager to collaborate closely with them and is committed to working together for the benefit of the community.

Mayor Lound acknowledged his good friends in attendance, expressing his heartfelt appreciation for their support. He noted how their encouragement has meant a lot to him during his volunteer roles, especially when his duties as a councillor kept him from being present. Their understanding and loyalty have been truly important to him, and he is thankful to have them by his side.

Mayor Lound expressed his gratitude to the late Fred Borg OAM, who gave him the opportunity to run alongside him back in 2012. He described Fred as a fantastic campaigner and a dedicated community member, emphasising how much he owes to Fred for the start of his journey in Council. He acknowledged Fred's significant contributions and the lasting impact he had on the community and on his own career.

Mayor Lound took a moment to express his gratitude to the Australian Labor Party, of which he has been a member since 2015. He specifically thanked General Secretary Dominic Ofner and Assistant General Secretary David Dobson for their steadfast support throughout his journey. He acknowledged their role in helping him become the caucus leader and for providing him with the opportunity to run for Mayor.

Mayor Lound sincerely thanked the members of the Campbelltown and Macquarie Fields Branch of the Labor Party. He described them as wonderful community members who share Labor values and provide strong support to the Labor councillors and local MPs. He acknowledged that their dedication and encouragement play a crucial role in helping the party achieve its goals and serve the community effectively. He also thanked the General Secretary Graham Kelly of the Union he forms part of.

Mayor Lound praised the Campbelltown Local Government Area as a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family, which he has personally experienced. He expressed his deep affection for the area while also highlighting the potential for further growth and improvement within the community. A strong advocate for community engagement, Mayor Lound stressed the importance of listening to residents and fostering vibrant community advocacy. He recognised the contributions of advocacy panel members Jim Marsden OAM and former Premier Morris Iemma, thanking them for their significant efforts in supporting the Campbelltown community.

In concluding, Mayor Lound promised to listen to and consult with his fellow councillors and the Council's executive staff. He highlighted the importance of working together to meet the needs of the Campbelltown community. He assured residents that he would be dedicated to serving them and improving their quality of life. He expressed his commitment to open communication and teamwork, reinforcing his pledge to prioritise the community's well-being in all decisions during his time in office.

2. Councillor Karen Hunt began by congratulating all her fellow councillors on their re-election and those newly elected, expressing her confidence that they would form a strong team dedicated to improving the community. She offered heartfelt thanks to her husband for his unwavering support, as well as to her three children.

Councillor Hunt expressed gratitude to her Labor colleagues and the members of both branches, acknowledging that their support has been crucial in her efforts to serve the community. She is looking forward to working collaboratively as a team, highlighting that Campbelltown is a growing city with much potential. Councillor Hunt extended her appreciation to the executive staff, particularly Director of Planning Jim Baldwin, for his invaluable help and guidance over the years. In concluding, she recognized everyone for their support and pledged to do her utmost for the community.

3. Councillor Masood Chowdhury extended his congratulations to the Mayor on his recent appointment. Councillor Chowdhury expressed gratitude to the Campbelltown residents for electing him for a third term. He acknowledged the support of the multicultural community as well as the Labor Party branches in Macquarie Fields and Ingleburn for their attendance.

Councillor Chowdhury expressed appreciation for Chief Executive Officer Lindy, Deputy General Managers Ben and Jai, and Director Jim for their unwavering dedication to the residents of Campbelltown. He also took a moment to thank the senior citizens in the community.

4. Councillor Meg Oates expressed her honour and privilege in serving the people of Campbelltown again. She promised to listen to residents' concerns and respond fairly. She expressed her eagerness to work with the CEO, Directors, and dedicated staff and aims to create a productive Council focused on providing timely services and quality programs to improve residents' lives.

Councillor Oates thanked her family for their support during her time on the Council, stating she couldn't have done it without them. She concluded by congratulating her fellow Councillors and is looking forward to working positively with all of them.

5. Councillor Ash Rahman expressed how honourable and humbling it was to be present as a newly elected Councillor. He began by paying tribute to his parents and grandparents who have passed but whose guidance and sacrifice has shaped his journey. He acknowledged how the day was a victorious milestone for himself and for the wonderful, diverse and resilient community of Campbelltown.

Councillor Rahman recognised the importance of the role as a Councillor and stands ready to serve with the full dedication the community deserves. He extended his deepest gratitude to his fellow Councillors whom he looks forward to working alongside and is eager to work together to make sure every voice in the community is heard. He especially thanked new Mayor, Darcy Lound, and Deputy Mayor, Karen Hunt whose leadership sets the tone for the work ahead and he is excited to collaborate with them. Additionally, Councillor Rahman thanked Councillor Chowdhury for his support and leadership.

In concluding, Councillor Rahman thanked his family for their support, strength and constant encouragement to motivate him to work towards the betterment of the community.

6. Councillor Isabella Wisniewska began by congratulating her fellow Councillors and expressed her eagerness to collaborate with them to achieve positive outcomes for the community in the coming years. She extended her gratitude to her Labor Party colleagues for their support and guidance over the past few months, which she deeply appreciated.

Councillor Wisniewska also thanked her mentors from the past decade—Greg Warren MP, Mike Frelander MP, and Richard Olsen and Gavin Webb from the Transport Workers Union—for their generosity with their time and efforts in supporting her. She expressed heartfelt thanks to her parents for their dedication and encouragement, which instilled in her the belief that anything is possible. Additionally, she acknowledged her husband, Todd, for his sacrificial and unwavering support.

In concluding, Councillor Wisniewska shared her excitement about representing and engaging with the Campbelltown community, reflecting on how growing up in Campbelltown has shaped her life. She hopes to give back, even in small ways, to the community that has given her so much.

7. Councillor Jayden Rivera thanked all of the Campbelltown community for believing in the Greens team and for their votes to represent the Greens at Campbelltown Council. He is looking forward to working with everyone and noted that there is a lot of work to do.

Councillor Rivera extended his thanks to the entire Macarthur Greens team and the dedicated volunteers who have tirelessly supported their efforts over the years, particularly during both local and federal elections. He emphasised that the team's current success would not have been possible without their unwavering commitment and hard work.

8. Councillor Tao Triebels began by congratulating the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and his fellow Councillors on their recent appointments to the Council. He expressed his eagerness to collaborate with all Councillors and staff, emphasising the importance of fostering a productive environment during their term.

Councillor Triebels conveyed his hope that everyone would remain committed to making the most of the opportunities ahead, as they work together to serve the community effectively.

9. Councillor Cameron McEwan began by expressing his gratitude to the community for their support during the election and to everyone who helped campaign for the Sustainable Australia Party. He acknowledged his family, particularly his wife, Amy, and William Bourke, the National Administrator for the Sustainable Australia Party, and extended his congratulations to his fellow Councillors.

Councillor McEwan explained that his motivation for running in this local election stemmed from a desire to address pressing issues such as climate change and housing affordability, which he viewed as critical crises. He emphasised the need for proactive change and expressed his commitment to protecting and enhancing Campbelltown to ensure that it remains an area admired for its natural beauty and a place where people enjoy spending time. Throughout his term, he stated that environmental protection would be a top priority, and with careful planning, he believes Campbelltown has a bright future ahead. As a newly elected Councillor, he looks forward to actively contributing to that vision.

10. Councillor Adam Zahra began by congratulating the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and fellow Councillors gathered at the table. He expressed his gratitude to his family for their hard work and support throughout his political journey. Councillor Zahra highlighted the importance of setting aside party politics to focus on the betterment and aspirations of Campbelltown and its residents. He also thanked the Adam Zahra Independent branch for their dedication during the campaign and for their ongoing support.

In concluding, he expressed his enthusiasm for working collaboratively with everyone present to make Campbelltown an even better place.

11. Councillor Khaled Halabi began by congratulating the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and his fellow Councillors, expressing his eagerness to collaborate with them all. He shared his enthusiasm for working alongside Chief Executive Officer Lindy, Deputy General Managers Ben and Jai, and Director of Planning Jim, emphasising their collective goal of revitalizing Campbelltown.

Additionally, Councillor Halabi expressed his gratitude to Councillor Khalil for his invaluable mentorship throughout this journey. He concluded by thanking the community for their votes, acknowledging their trust and support in electing him to serve.

12. Councillor Masud Khalil started by congratulating the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. He acknowledged the audience stating, "You are the reason we are here," and thanked the voters for supporting the Community Voice of Australia. He looks forward to working with everyone in the chamber to make Campbelltown a better place.

Councillor Khalil expressed his gratitude to Eric Kontos and Brian Laul for being present in the chamber. He took note of the absence of Dr. George Greiss, Rey Manoto, Riley Munro, and John Chew, and relayed his appreciation of their support and guidance during the last term. He also acknowledged the support and sacrifice of his family, his wife Dr Masuma Khalil and his son Wasee Khalil.



In Concluding, Councillor Khalil thanked CEO Lindy Deitz, Deputy General Managers Ben and Jai, Director Jim Baldwin, and staff members Monique, Amanda, Corinne, and all the Council staff for their dedication and hard work for the Campbelltown community.

13. Councillor Warren Morrison congratulated Councillor Darcy Lound on becoming Mayor and Councillor Karen Hunt for her appointment of Deputy Mayor. He acknowledged the support of his family and friends after being with Council for 8 years and thanked them for being by his side. He is grateful and humbled by the residents for their support and voting for Community First Totally Independent.

Councillor Morrison promised to serve the community and give 200% for the next term. He thanked CEO Lindy, Deputy General Managers and all the Directors for their help in the past. He is looking forward to working with all the new staff.

In concluding, Councillor Morrison thanked to Eric Kontos from Southwest voice and for coming every month and acknowledged the importance of having the media present at meetings. He also thanked Brian Laul and everyone who was in attendance at the meeting and for their support.

14. Councillor Seta Berbari extended her congratulations to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. She offered a heartfelt thank you to Lindy, Jai, and Monique for their warm welcome.

Councillor Berbari expressed her eagerness to collaborate with fellow councillors and council staff in serving the wonderful community of Campbelltown. She relayed her deep passion and love for the area and thanked her Community First Totally Independent colleagues for their support throughout the campaign.

In concluding, Councillor Berbari expressed gratitude to her family and friends for their encouragement and is looking forward to working together to make Campbelltown an even greater city.

15. Councillor Joshua Cotter began by congratulating all the returning and newly elected councillors. He also extended his heartfelt congratulations to Mayor Darcy Lound and Deputy Mayor Karen Hunt, expressing his enthusiasm for collaborating with everyone in the chamber. Councillor Cotter took a moment to acknowledge Councillor Berbari, Councillor Morrison, and the entire Community First Totally Independent team for their unwavering support.

Councillor Cotter expressed gratitude to the staff, particularly the CEO, Deputy General Managers, and Directors, for their dedication and assistance. Additionally, he thanked his wife and two beautiful children, as well as his family, for their encouragement, stating that their support was essential to his journey.

In concluding, Councillor Cotter emphasised that serving as a councillor is a serious responsibility and a privilege. He reaffirmed their commitment to being community servants, stating that their primary focus is to serve the people of Campbelltown and work together as a united team.

- 16. Mayor Lound expressed his gratitude to the fellow councillors for their kind words during the evening, stating that he eagerly anticipates collaborating with each of them. He concluded by thanking all the staff for their efforts in organising the event, noting that both the ceremony and meeting have been exceptional.

Mayor Lound conveyed the immense honour he feels in being elected as Mayor, and he extended his heartfelt congratulations to Deputy Mayor Karen Hunt on her appointment.

**5. URGENT GENERAL BUSINESS**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7:42 pm.

Confirmed by Council on

..... Chief Executive Officer ..... Chairperson