



Merri-bek
City Council

Minutes of the Special Council Meeting

ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

Held in Bunjil (Council Chamber), Merri-bek Civic Centre,
90 Bell Street, Coburg
on Thursday 26 March 2026

This Special Meeting was convened following Council’s resolution on 25 March 2026 to conduct a new election for the position of Deputy Mayor. Council was unable to give the notice required under the Governance Rule, and these circumstances are recorded accordingly in these Minutes.

The Mayor opened the meeting at 6.03 pm and stated the Council meeting is being held on the traditional country of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people and acknowledged them as Traditional Owners. The Mayor paid respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging, and the Elders from other communities who may be here today.

Present	Time In	Time Out
Cr Nat Abboud, Mayor	6.03 pm	6.21 pm
Cr Sue Bolton	6.03 pm	6.21 pm
Cr Helen Davidson	6.03 pm	6.21 pm
Cr Liz Irvin	6.03 pm	6.21 pm
Cr Chris Miles	6.03 pm	6.21 pm
Cr Helen Politis	6.03 pm	6.21 pm
Cr Adam Pulford	6.03 pm	6.21 pm
Cr Ella Svensson	6.03 pm	6.21 pm
Cr Katerine Theodosis	6.03 pm	6.21 pm
Cr Oscar Yildiz JP	6.03 pm	6.21 pm

Officers

Acting Chief Executive Officer – Sue Vujcevic
Acting Director Business Transformation – Anita Curnow
Manager Governance and Strategy – Yvonne Callanan

Apologies

Nil.

Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest

Nil.

Election of Deputy Mayor

The Acting Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with section 25 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the Governance Rules, invited nominations for the office of the Deputy Mayor for the term ending 18 November 2026.

Cr Svensson nominated Cr Irvin, seconded by Cr Abboud.

Cr Irvin accepted the nomination

Cr Yildiz nominated Cr Theodosis, seconded by Cr Politis .

Cr Theodosis accepted the nomination.

As there were two nominations for the office of Deputy Mayor, the Acting Chief Executive Officer put it to the vote.

The vote resulted in five (5) votes for Cr Irvin and five (5) votes for Cr Theodosis.

As no candidate received an absolute majority of votes, the Acting Chief Executive Officer advised that a second vote will be conducted.

Meeting Adjournment

Resolution

Cr Theodosis moved, Cr Miles seconded -

That Council resolves the meeting be adjourned for 10 minutes.

Carried

The Council meeting was adjourned at 6.10 pm.

Meeting resumption

The meeting resumed at 6.20 pm.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer re-conducted the vote for the election of the Deputy Mayor.

The second vote resulted in five (5) votes for Cr Irvin and five (5) votes for Cr Theodosis.

As no candidate received an absolute majority of votes, the Chief Executive Officer, in line with the Governance Rules, put forward the motion that the Meeting will need to resolve to conduct a new election at a Meeting to be held at 6 pm the following day.

Resolution

That a Council meeting to elect a Deputy Mayor be held at 6 pm on 27 March 2026.

CARRIED

Meeting Close

The Council meeting closed at 6.21 pm.

Confirmed

Cr Nat Abboud
MAYOR