

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Galway City Council
held on Friday 17th June, 2022
at 4.00pm in the Ardilaun Hotel, Galway and online.**

<u>Presiding:</u>	Cllr. C. Connolly, Mayor of the City of Galway
<u>Present:</u>	Councillors: I. Byrne, A. Cheevers, J. Connolly, M.J. Crowe, M. Cubbard, F. Fahy, O. Hanley, C. Higgins, E. Hoare, P. Keane, N. Larkin, D. Lyons, D. McDonnell, N. McNelis, N. Murphy, M. O'Connor & T. O'Flaherty
<u>In Attendance:</u>	Mr. B. McGrath, Chief Executive Ms. P. Philbin, Deputy Chief Executive Ms. R. McNally, Director of Services Mr. P. Greene, Director of Services Ms. H. Kilroy, Director of Services Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator Ms. S. King, Assistant Staff Officer Ms. M. Walsh, Clerical Officer

The Meeting commenced with a statement of intention to conduct the business of the meeting in line with Standing Orders followed by a moment of silent reflection.

Mayor C. Connolly welcomed all to the meeting and requested the suspension of Standing Order 22 regarding the recording of meetings to allow for the taking of photographs.

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Cubbard


Seconded by: Cllr. F. Fahy

To suspend Standing Order 22.

This was agreed.

1. Election of Mayor

Mayor C. Connolly relayed her enormous pride at having served as Mayor of the city of Galway for the last year. She paid tribute to her family, fellow Councillors, the Chief Executive and the Senior Management Team, staff from Corporate Services and the Mayoral office and all Council staff for their support during the last year. Mayor C. Connolly spoke of her great pleasure to attend over 300 events that were hosted across the city. She spoke of some of the highlights of her mayoral term which included the revival of the Lorient twinning relationship and the Mini Brittany fest held in Galway city in May; Mayoral receptions and the Mayor's awards, work with residents associations and the achievement of blue and green flags for the city. She expressed her delight at moving the motion forward with the help of her fellow Councillors to award the Freedom of the city to Patricia Burke Brogan and the late Ena McEntee for their work relating to women in the Magdalene laundries.

Minutes, Confirmed & Signed

Mayor of Galway

Councillors extended compliments to Mayor C. Connolly and her family and congratulated her on her achievements during her term. It was noted that she is the third in her family to become Mayor, her sister and Uncle being former Mayors of the city and is the 8th female Mayor of the city. The achievements and highlights were noted and acknowledged and members thanked the outgoing Mayor for her courtesy and fairness and her commitment to the role of Mayor, her promotion and use of the Irish language, her work with Comhairle na nÓg and her diligence representing the city.

The Chief Executive expressed thanks and compliments to the Mayor on his behalf and all the staff in Galway City Council noting that Cllr. C. Connolly had represented the City with dignity and pride during her term.

Cllr. C. Connolly called for Nominations for the Position of Mayor of the City of Galway.

i. Cllr. C. Higgins was proposed by Cllr. F. Fahy, and seconded by Cllr. E. Hoare

Cllr. F. Fahy and Cllr. E. Hoare spoke in favour of their proposal and outlined the qualities, capabilities and experience of Cllr. C. Higgins having been first elected to the City Council in 2019.

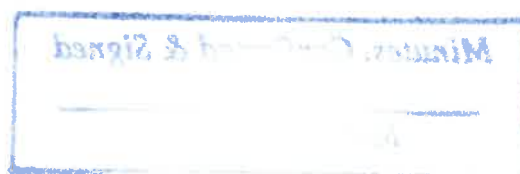
ii. Cllr. P. Keane was proposed by Cllr. M.J. Crowe and seconded by Cllr. J. Connolly

Cllr. J. Connolly spoke in favour of the proposal and the qualities, capabilities and experience of Cllr. P. Keane.

Ms. A. Rohan, Meetings Administrator proceeded to take a roll call vote requesting Councillors to name the Councillor that they wished to elect to the role of Mayor of the city of Galway of the two nominees, namely Cllr. C. Higgins or Cllr. P. Keane.

<p>Roll Call Vote to elect the Mayor of the city of Galway Candidates: Cllr. C. Higgins & Cllr. P. Keane</p> <p>In favour of Cllr. C. Higgins: Cllr. C. Connolly, Cllr. M. Cubbard, Cllr. F. Fahy, Cllr. C. Higgins, Cllr. E. Hoare, Cllr. N. Larkin, Cllr. D. Lyons, Cllr. N. McNelis, Cllr. N. Murphy, Cllr. M. O'Connor & Cllr. T. O'Flaherty.</p> <p>In favour of Cllr. P. Keane: Cllr. I. Byrne, Cllr. A. Cheevers, Cllr. J. Connolly, Cllr. M.J. Crowe, Cllr. P. Keane, & Cllr. D. McDonnell.</p> <p>Abstain: Cllr. O. Hanley</p> <p>In Favour of Cllr. C. Higgins : 11 In Favour of Cllr. P. Keane: 6 Abstain: 1 Present: 18</p> <p>Cllr. C. Higgins was deemed elected Mayor of the City of Galway</p>
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Ms. A. Rohan invited Mayor Higgins to wear the Mayor Chain and photographs were taken.



Councillors congratulated the Mayor on her election, and wished her well as Mayor for the year ahead. The Chief Executive, also congratulated the Mayor and offered his continued support and that of the staff of the City Council.

On taking the chair, Mayor C. Higgins thanked her proposer Cllr. F. Fahy and seconder Cllr. E. Hoare for their nomination. She thanked the outgoing Mayor Cllr. C. Connolly and her colleagues in the Council for their support. She acknowledged the presence of former Mayors of Galway city, B. Walsh, P. Conneely, P. McCormack and J. Mulholland, Senators M. Conway and S. Kyne and former Seanad member B. Lawless. She also thanked the people of Galway.

Mayor Higgins stated that it was an honour and a privilege to be elected Mayor of the city of Galway. Some of her aspirations for positive change in the year ahead were outlined including development of recreation and amenity facilities to improve wellbeing and mental health, housing development, transport, community, business, tourism and the completion of the Galway City Development Plan 2023- 2029. Mayor Higgins expressed her thanks to her husband Tom and son Harry, her parents, her siblings in particular the guidance from her sister Lorraine, the Chief Executive B. McGrath, Galway city council staff and her fellow Fine Gael colleagues for their support.

2. Election of Deputy Mayor

The Mayor invited nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor of Galway City.

i. Cllr. M. Cubbard was proposed by Cllr. D. Lyons and seconded by Cllr. M. O'Connor

Cllr. D. Lyons and Cllr. M. O' Connor spoke in favour of their proposal. No other nomination was received. The Mayor declared Cllr. M. Cubbard elected as Deputy Mayor.

Ms. A. Rohan invited Deputy Mayor Cubbard to wear the Deputy Mayoral Chain and photographs were taken.

Cllr. M. Cubbard thanked his proposer Cllr. D. Lyons and seconder Cllr. M. O'Connor for their nomination. He gave special thanks to his wife Karen and his three boys.

Councillors congratulated the Deputy Mayor on his election. The Chief Executive also congratulated the Deputy Mayor on his election.

3. Appointment of Representative on Other Body

(a) Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd (IPB) Appointment of One (1) Member (for a period of one year). (Non Group – Appointment by Vote.)

Nominations

- i. Cllr. E. Hoare was proposed by Cllr. F. Fahy and seconded by Cllr. M. Cubbard
- ii. Cllr. D. McDonnell was proposed by Cllr. P. Keane and seconded by Cllr. J. Connolly.

Cllr. D. McDonnell withdrew his name as a nominee.

Mayor C. Higgins deemed Cllr. E. Hoare elected.

4. To Fix Dates for Meetings of Galway City Council

The practice has been that Ordinary Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month, except for the month of August.

Cllr. D. Lyons proposed that meetings take place at 3.00pm on the second Monday of each month, excluding April 2023 owing to a bank holiday falling on the second Monday and August 2023. The motion was seconded by Cllr. F. Fahy and agreed.

11th July, 2022
12th September, 2022
10th October, 2022
14th November, 2022
12th December, 2022
9th January, 2023
13th February, 2023
13th March, 2023
17th April, 2023
8th May, 2023
12th June, 2023

The Meetings Administrator invited Members to assemble outside for photographs of the Council, as a robed body.

The Meeting concluded at 5.40 pm.