

SHIRE OF MOORA
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MOORA
26 AUGUST 2020

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* Separate Attachments
5.1.1 2020/2021 Budget

I. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

I.1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 5.00pm and welcomed the member of the public.

I.2 DISCLAIMER READING

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Moora for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during this meeting.

It is strongly advised that persons do not act on what is heard at this meeting and should only rely on written confirmation of Council's decision, which will be provided within fourteen (14) days of this meeting.

2. ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES / APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ATTENDANCE

KM Seymour	-	Presiding Member / President
TL Lefroy	-	Councillor / Deputy President
DV Clydesdale-Gebert	-	Councillor
El Hamilton	-	Councillor
JM Thomas	-	Councillor
SJ Gilbert	-	Councillor
MR Holliday	-	Councillor
TG Humphry	-	Councillor
PF Nixon	-	Councillor
AJ Leeson	-	Chief Executive Officer
G Robins	-	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
JL Greay	-	Manager Engineering Services
NM Beard	-	Manager Community Development & Visitor Servicing
MM Murray	-	Executive Support Officer (minute taker)

APOLOGIES

Nil

PUBLIC

Cynthia McMorran

3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs McMorran queried whether a mural could be placed on the side of the shed on Gardiner Street. (previously occupied by Farm Works)

Advised that the shed was privately owned; and leased by Nutrien Ag Solutions.

4. **PETITIONS / DEPUTATIONS / PRESENTATIONS**

Nil

5. **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

5.1 **GOVERNANCE AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

5.1.1 **ADOPTION OF THE 2020/2021 BUDGET**

REPORT DATE: 21 August 2020

OFFICER DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil

PREVIOUS MEETING REFERENCES: Nil

AUTHOR: Martin Whitely, LG Corporate Solutions

ATTACHMENTS: 2020/2021 Draft Budget

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

For Council to consider adoption of the 2020/2021 Budget.

BACKGROUND:

The 2020/2021 draft Budget is circulated as an attachment to this report. As per the requirements of the Local Government Act 1995, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, Australian Accounting Standards (AAS) and Australian International Reporting Financial Standards (AIFRS) the document has been prepared in its statutory format.

COMMENT:

The Budget for the 2020/21 financial year includes the following information:

- Shire of Moora Draft Statutory Budget
- Capital Expenditure Program
- Road Replacement Program
- Schedule of Fees & Charges

Over the past few months Councillors have had the opportunity to raise queries and have input into the draft budget at General Purpose Committee Meetings and Councillor Information sessions.

- The draft budget is based on an overall rate increase of 0%.
- GRV and UV rates in the dollar reflect a 30% and 70% split between GRV and UV rates revenue as per the Council's target set in 2019/20.
- Fees and charges, including refuse collection have all remained unchanged from 2019/20 financial year
- The sewerage service fees and charges and rate in the dollar remain unchanged from 2019/20 financial year
- A capital works program totalling \$6.83m for investment in property plant and equipment and construction of infrastructure is planned. This includes a \$3.18m investment in roads, drainage and footpaths.
- An estimated surplus of \$3.13m is anticipated to be brought forward from 30 June 2020. However, this is unaudited and may change. Any change will be addressed as part of a future budget review.
- Principle grant funding for the year is estimated from:
 - Drought Communities - \$1,000,000
 - Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Route - \$933,811

- Financial Assistance Grants - \$756,038
- Regional Road Group - \$642,968
- Local Roads & Community Infrastructure Program - \$507,857
- Roads to Recovery - \$471,070
- National Stronger Regions Fund - \$180,000

POLICY REQUIREMENTS:

The Budget is consistent with adopted Council policies and the Shire of Moora Rating Strategy. This strategy is available on the Shire's webpage (www.moora.wa.gov.au).

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS:

LGA S6.2 requires that by no later than 31 August in each financial year, or such extended time as the Minister allows, each local government is to prepare and adopt, (Absolute Majority required) in the form and manner prescribed, a budget for its municipal fund for the financial year ending on the next following

Divisions 5 and 6 of Part 6 of the *Local Government Act 1995* refer to the setting of budgets and raising rates and charges. The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* details the form and content of the budget. The draft 2020/21 budget as presented is considered to meet statutory requirements.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

The draft budget includes a number of operating and capital projects which will help Council deliver the priorities it has identified in its Community Strategic Plan and Corporate Business Plan.

The budget is based on an overall rate increase of 0%.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:

- **Environment**
There are no known significant environmental implications associated with this proposal.
- **Economic**
There are no known significant economic implications associated with this proposal.
- **Social**
There are no known significant social implications associated with this proposal.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The result of the following resolutions will be the adoption of the 2020/21 Budget.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority Required

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

107/20 Moved Cr Humphry, seconded Cr Holliday that Council adopts the 2020/21 Budget including the following matters:

(1) **Imposing General Rate for Gross Rental Value (GRV) properties – the general rate be set at 9.4556 cents in the dollar on Gross Rental Values for all rateable land within the district;**

(2) **Imposing General Rate for Unimproved Value (UV) properties – the general rate be set at 0.8920 cents in the dollar on Unimproved Values for all rateable land within the district;**

(3) **Rates increase by area can be summarised as:**

UV/Farming	\$2,867,604
GRV/Town	<u>\$1,233,768</u>
	\$4,101,372

Resulting in an actual increase in rate revenue across each area of:

	2019/20	2020/21	% increase
UV/Farming	\$2,863,273	\$2,867,604	0.00%
GRV/Town	\$1,230,211	\$1,233,768	0.00%

(4) **Imposing Minimum Payment (Rates) for Gross Rental Value (GRV) properties – the Minimum Payment (Rates) be set at \$676 per assessment for GRV properties;**

(5) **Imposing Minimum Payment (Rates) for Unimproved Value (UV) properties – the Minimum Payment (Rates) be set at \$676 per assessment for all UV properties in the Shire of Moora;**

(6) **Imposing Sewerage Rate – the sewerage rate in the dollar be set at 6.9550 cents in the dollar, and that the following apply:**

a. **That the minimum annual sewerage rates be as follows;**

Residential properties	\$377.00
Commercial properties	\$377.00
Vacant Land properties	\$377.00
Ex-Gratia Commercial/Industrial properties	\$377.00

b. **That the maximum annual sewerage rate be as follows;**

Residential properties	\$986.00
Vacant Land properties	\$986.00
Commercial properties	\$4,638.00

c. **Non Rateable Properties connected to sewer**

Class 1 Institutional/Public & Charitable Purposes for each property:

First major fixture	\$244.00 per annum
Each additional major fixture	\$102.00 per annum

**Class 2 State and Local Government properties of a commercial nature:
\$1,352.00 per Connection**

(7) **Rubbish Removal Charges (per annum) – be set at;**

- (i) **Residential – Non-pensioner** **\$385 per 240-litre bin (weekly) & recycling bin (fortnightly)**
- (ii) **Residential– Pensioner** **\$289 per 240-litre bin (weekly) & recycling bin (fortnightly)**

(iii) Non-Residential	\$385 per 240-litre bin (weekly)
(iv) Transfer Station Key	\$231 (Watheroo and Miling)

- (8) Incentive for Early Payment of Rates – Council is offering a \$600 cash prize to ratepayers who pay their 2020/21 rates, rubbish charges and arrears in full within 21 days from the issue date of the rate notice;**
- (9) Instalment Plan – The following options be made available to ratepayers: -**
- a. **To pay in full within 35 days of service of the rates notice.**
 - b. **To pay by 2 equal instalments as under.**
 - (i) 50% of the rates within 35 days**
 - (ii) 50% of the rates within 2 months of (i)**
 - c. **To pay by 4 equal instalments as under.**
 - (i) 25% of the rates within 35 days**
 - (ii) 25% of the rates within 2 months of (i)**
 - (iii) 25% of the rates within 2 months of (ii)**
 - (iii) 25% of the rates within 2 months of (iii) being 6 months from the expiration of the initial 35 day period and 6 months and 35 days from the date of service of the notice.**

In accordance with regulation 64(2) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, Council nominate the following due dates for the payment of rates and charges in the 2020/21 financial year:

Issue Date	4th September 2020
Payment in Full	9th October 2020

Payment by Instalments

First Instalment	9th October 2020
Second Instalment	11th December 2020
Third Instalment	12th February 2021
Fourth instalment	16th April 2021

- (10) Instalment Plan Interest Rate – a charge be set at 3% per annum calculated by simple interest method and applied to Rates and Rubbish Removal Charge;**
- (11) Instalment Plan Administration Charge – a charge of \$7.40 per instalment excluding the first instalment and applied to Rates and Rubbish Removal Charge;**
- (12) Late Payment Interest Rate – (Rates and Rubbish Removal Charge) - a charge be set at 5.5% per annum, calculated by simple interest method, be applied for instalments past the due date, or where the instalment option is not in place, 35 days after the date of issue of the rate notice;**
- (13) Late Payment Interest Rate – (Sundry Debtors Charges) - a charge be set at 5.5% per annum, calculated by simple interest method, be applied for outstanding sundry debtors past the due date, 30 days after the date of issue of the invoice;**
- (14) Reserve Accounts – Council confirms the names and purposes of its Reserve Accounts as listed within the Shire of Moora Budget 2020/21, including the**

adoption of a new reserve called “Infrastructure Renewal Reserve” for the purpose of funding future infrastructure renewal projects.

- (15) Materiality Threshold – that the materiality threshold for monthly financial reporting (Statement of Financial Activity – Program) be set at plus or minus 5% and greater than \$5,000 at Program and Category levels.***
- (16) Confirms the meeting fees to be paid to all Councillors at \$150 per Committee meeting; and for Council meetings \$300 per meeting to Councillors and \$380 per meeting for the Shire President.
Shire President’s allowance is set at \$16,000 per annum and Deputy President at \$4,000.***

Noting the addition of the below mentioned clause into the Schedule of Fees and Charges for 2020/2021.

***Note: Waiver of fees or concessions to community groups and other casual hirers arising from the usage or hire of Council facilities shall be restricted to those groups and user activities, or events as specified in the 2020-2021 Shire Budget (including Schedule of Fees and Charges) unless otherwise formally authorised by the Council. Waiver or concession applications must be received by the Shire of Moora no less than two months before the relevant event booking date.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 9/0

6. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 5.12pm.

CONFIRMED

PRESIDING MEMBER