



EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

Held on

Tuesday, 16 May 2023
4pm

at

Armidale Council Chambers/Zoom

PRESENT: Councillor Sam Coupland (Mayor), Councillor Todd Redwood (Deputy Mayor), Councillor Paul Gaddes, Councillor Jon Galletly (via Zoom), Councillor Susan McMichael, Councillor Debra O'Brien, Councillor Margaret O'Connor, Councillor Paul Packham, Councillor Dorothy Robinson and Councillor Bradley Widders.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Daniel Boyce (Acting General Manager), Mr Darren Schaefer (Chief Officer Corporate and Community), Mr Alex Manners (Chief Officer Assets and Services), Ms Ann Newsome (Chief Financial Officer), Ms Simone Mooketsi (Manager Governance and Strategy), Ms Michaella Giandomenico (Executive Officer) and Ms Melissa Hoult (Executive Officer).

MINUTES

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- 1. CIVIC AFFIRMATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
Cr O'Brien delivered the Civic Affirmation and Cr McMichael delivered the Acknowledgement of Country.

- 2. STATEMENT IN RELATION TO LIVE STREAMING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**
The General Manager delivered the statement.

- 3. APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE BY COUNCILLORS**
Cr Mepham

- 4. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**
Nil.

- 5. MAYORAL MINUTE**
Nil.

- 6. REPORTS - GENERAL MANAGER'S OFFICE**
Nil.

- 7. REPORTS - FINANCE**
Nil.

- 8. REPORTS - PLANNING AND ACTIVATION**
Nil.

9. REPORTS - CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

9.1 Public Exhibition of the Operational Plan and Budget for 2023-24

Ref: AINT/2023/04386 (ARC22/5145)

48/23

RESOLVED

That Council:

- a. Note that Council has lodged an application with the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW (IPART) for a permanent Special rates Variation (SRV).
- b. Note that at time of preparing this report the decision of IPART on the SRV is unknown.
- c. Note that as the decision of IPART is unknown, two separate budgets have been prepared for the purposes of public exhibition based on the following scenarios:

Scenario One (SRV) is based on the rate peg and a 50% Special Variation. A rate peg of 2.5% is assumed for the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 financial years.

Scenario Two (Managed Decline) excludes the proposed 50% SRV. A rate peg of 3.7% has been applied for the 2023-2024 year and assumes a 2.5% increase for 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 financial years.

Note that the draft Operational Plan 2023-2024 indicates which items will be impacted by the SRV decision.

- d. Note that is expected that IPART will provide notice of the decision to Council in May or June 2023, and therefore the decision of IPART will be known before the Operational Plan 2023-24 including the Budget 2023-24, Revenue Policy 2023-24 and Fees and Charges Schedule 2023-24 are to be adopted.
- e. Note that IPART may make a decision which is mid-way between Scenario One (SRV) and Scenario Two (Managed Decline).
- f. Endorse that in the instance that IPART makes a decision mid-way between Scenario One (SRV) and Scenario Two (Managed Decline), authorise Council to operate with baseline expenditure as per the Scenario One budget model until all short-term operational projects and capital projects proposed under the Scenario One budget model can be reviewed and a revised budget is brought to Council for consultation and endorsement for public exhibition and subsequent adoption in the new financial year.
- g. Endorse the following draft documents for public exhibition for a minimum period of 28 days pursuant to the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1993 (NSW)*:
 - i. Draft Operational Plan and Budget 2023-24
 - ii. Draft Revenue Policy 2023-24
 - iii. Draft Fees and Charges Schedule 2023-24.
- h. Note that the public exhibition period for the draft documents will run from Wednesday, 17 May to Wednesday, 14 June 2023; and
- i. Following the exhibition period, a report be presented to Council, which outlines community submissions received, along with the finalised IP&R documents.

Moved Cr Gaddes

Seconded Cr Redwood

DIVISION The result being:-

FOR: Crs S Coupland, P Gaddes, J Galletly, S McMichael, D O'Brien, P Packham, T Redwood, D Robinson and B Widders

AGAINST: Cr M O'Connor

The Motion on being put to the vote was CARRIED

10. REPORTS - ASSETS AND SERVICES

Nil.

11. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Nil.

13. QUESTIONS FOR WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

There being no further business the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 4:14pm.