

CITY OF JOONDALUP

MINUTES OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM 1, JOONDALUP CIVIC CENTRE, BOAS AVENUE, JOONDALUP ON WEDNESDAY 14 JULY 2004

ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

CMR J PATERSON – Chairman
CMR P CLOUGH
CMR M ANDERSON
CMR S SMITH
CMR A FOX

Officers:

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| Acting Chief Executive Officer: | C HIGHAM |
| Director, Corporate Services & Resource Management: | P SCHNEIDER |
| Acting Director, Planning and Community Development: | G HALL |
| Manager Operations Services: | D CLUNING |
| Manager Audit and Executive Services: | K ROBINSON |
| Manager Infrastructure Management and Ranger Services: | P PIKOR |
| Manager Financial Services: | A SCOTT |
| Management Accountant: | S RYAN |
| Statutory Accountant: | J ROBERTS |
| Asset Controller: | A GASIOROWSKI |
| Team Leader, Organisational Policy & Planning: | G BLAKE |
| Committee Clerk: | J HARRISON |

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 1912 hrs.

Apologies:

Nil.

DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTEREST/INTEREST AFFECTING IMPARTIALITY

Cmr Smith declared an interest that may affect her impartiality in all Budget items that relate to:

- Currambine, as her daughter lives in that suburb;
- Padbury, as her husband owns property in that suburb.

Cmr Smith advised she would declare a financial interest in relation to Padbury if the need arose.

Cmr Fox declared an interest that may affect her impartiality in all Budget items that relate to the suburb of Padbury as she lives in that suburb.

Cmr Clough declared an interest that may affect his impartiality in all Budget items that relate to:

- Woodvale, as he lives in that suburb;
- Kingsley, as he owns property in that suburb.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE HELD ON 25 AND 27 MAY 2004

MOVED Cmr Smith **SECONDED** Cmr Fox that the Minutes of the Meeting of the Budget Committee held on 25 and 27 May 2004 be confirmed as a true and correct record, subject to the declaration made by Cmr Smith being amended to read as follows:

“Cmr Smith declared an interest that may affect her impartiality in all Budget items that relate to:

- **Currambine, as her daughter lives in that suburb;**
- **Padbury, as her husband owns property in that suburb.”**

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (5/0)

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

The Director Corporate Services and Resource Management outlined the items previously covered by the Budget Committee, and those which required to be considered at this evening's meeting, and advised that all items would be submitted to the next Committee meeting as a final package for consideration, prior to the holding of a Special Meeting of Council to adopt the budget.

A powerpoint presentation was made to the Committee in relation to:

- Fees and charges;
- Rating matters;
- Specified Area Rates;
- Emergency Services Levy;
- Waste management;
- Motor Vehicle and Plant Replacement;
- Estimated 2004/05 budget position;
- Contingencies.

A copy of the powerpoint presentation forms Appendix 1 hereto.

During the powerpoint presentation, the Committee raised comments on the items as outlined below.

2004/05 Fees And Charges

Following a query from Cmr Paterson, the Acting Director Planning and Community Development provided information on the commercial and community charges imposed for use of the City's facilities.

Cmr Anderson queried whether amounts could be rounded up to whole dollars. The Committee was advised that variable amounts are produced as a result of fees being increased in accordance with CPI.

Discussion ensued in relation to increases in inspection fees. The Committee was advised that certain increases related to changes to legislation, with others relating to cost recovery by business units. Concern was raised by the Committee on the impact of increased fees on small businesses.

Rating Matters - Rate In The Dollar / Charges / ESL

Discussion ensued in relation to the instalment payments, and the proposed increase in late payment interest.

The Committee sought information as to payment options in cases of hardship and was advised of the benefits provided under the Rates and Rebates Act, and the assistance provided by the City's Financial Counselling Service.

Cmr Anderson requested that information be provided to the Commissioners on the number of properties on which penalty interest has accrued as a result of late payment of deferred rates.

Specified Area Rating

Discussion ensued in relation to specified area rating and the Emergency Services Levy.

Waste Management Operations

Discussion ensued.

Motor Vehicle and Plant Replacement

Queries were raised as to whether light vehicles in the City's fleet included utilities.

Estimated 2004/05 Budget position

Discussion ensued in relation to the City's Reserve accounts.

Cmr Smith raised the suggestion that the City disband the Budget Committee and in its place establish a Strategic Financial Management Committee with the terms of reference to work with officers on the Principal Activities Plan, and with less emphasis on the budget.

Cmr Anderson spoke in support of the appointment of an Aboriginal Liaison Officer, to be jointly funded by the Cities of Joondalup, Wanneroo and Stirling and ECU. The Acting Director Planning and Community Development advised that the City is undertaking a Cultural Plan which involved a number of issues relating to Aboriginal heritage and stated it is anticipated that a report on this plan will be submitted to Council around October 2004. Cmr Fox commented she would require to see outcomes from the plan.

MOVED Cmr Anderson SECONDED Cmr Smith that the Budget Committee calls for a report on raising the profile of Aboriginal issues in the City of Joondalup as a significant part of the Cultural Plan.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (5/0)

MOVED Cmr Smith SECONDED Cmr Anderson that it be recommended that Council ADOPTS the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2004/2005 as submitted.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (5/0)

MOVED Cmr Smith SECONDED Cmr Fox that the rate in the dollar option schedule as submitted be RECOMMENDED to Council, other than the instalment fee which would reduce from \$6 to \$5, and that the Schedule of Fees and Charges 2004/05 be amended accordingly.

Discussion ensued.

The Motion was Put and

LOST (4/1)

In favour of the Motion: Cmr Smith **Against the Motion:** Cmr Paterson, Fox, Anderson and Clough.

MOVED Cmr Clough SECONDED Cmr Anderson that the rate in the dollar option schedule as submitted be RECOMMENDED to Council, on the basis that a policy is developed that indicates how the 11% late interest payment may be dealt with in cases of genuine hardship.

Discussion ensued.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (5/0)

MOVED Cmr Smith SECONDED Cmr Anderson that it be recommended that Council ADOPTS the Specified Area Rates as submitted.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (5/0)

MOVED Cmr Smith SECONDED Cmr Fox that it be recommended that Council ADOPTS the Domestic Waste Services Charges as submitted.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (5/0)

MOVED Cmr Fox SECONDED Cmr Clough that it be recommended that Council ADOPTS the Motor Vehicle and Plant Replacement programme as submitted.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (5/0)

MOVED Cmr Clough SECONDED Cmr Anderson that the Budget Committee ADOPTS the complete budget papers subject to changes, if any, arising from feedback from the Principal Activities Plan to achieve a balanced budget, with funds over the balanced position to be transferred to reserve, and a report being submitted to identify a suitable reserve.

The Motion was Put and

CARRIED (5/0)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Budget Committee will be held on Tuesday 27 July 2004.

CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 2130 hrs; the following Commissioners being present at that time:

CMR J PATERSON
CMR M ANDERSON
CMR P CLOUGH
CMR S SMITH
CMR A FOX