



Hawkesbury City Council

special meeting minutes

date of meeting: 17 April 2007

location: council chambers

time: 7.00 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING

Table of Contents

MINUTES: 17 April 2007

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE
	ATTENDANCE	1
	SECTION 4 - Reports for Determination	2
	GENERAL MANAGER	2
Item: 65	GM - Draft Management Plan 2007/2008 and Draft Budget 2007/2008 - (79351, 95496, 96332)	2
	SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS	7
	SUPPORT SERVICES	7
Item: 66	SS - Proposed Special Rate Variation - Draft Community Consultation / Engagement Strategy 2007/2008 - (79351, 96332)	7

SPECIAL MEETING

Table of Contents

MINUTES: 17 April 2007

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES: 17 April 2007

Minutes of the Special Meeting held at the Council Chambers, Windsor, on Tuesday, 17 April 2007, commencing at 7:05pm.

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Councillor R Stubbs, Mayor, Councillor B Bassett, Deputy Mayor and Councillors T Books, B Calvert, K Conolly, T Devine, D Finch, C Paine, B Porter, P Rasmussen, N Wearne and L Williams

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES: 17 April 2007

SECTION 4 - Reports for Determination

GENERAL MANAGER

Item: 65 GM - Draft Management Plan 2007/2008 and Draft Budget 2007/2008 - (79351, 95496, 96332)

Mr Doug Bathersby and Mr Brian McKinlay, respondents, addressed the Council

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Porter.

Refer to RESOLUTION

An AMENDMENT was moved by Councillor Calvert, seconded by Councillor Williams.

That:

1. The General Manager's report regarding the 2007/2008 draft Management Plan and Budget be received.
2. The 2007/2008 draft Management Plan and Budget, incorporating Council's Revenue Pricing Policy, be amended as follows:
 - a) Hawkesbury City Council's Sewage Management Facilities program be operated on the basis of an Approval to Operate (incl. Site inspection) fee of \$74.00 per inspection.
 - b) The provision for Section 356 Expenditure within Component 12 – Community Administration be increased by \$13,400 with the reduction in this program being in respect of financial assistance for the Women's Cottage in respect of a rental subsidy in the amount of \$6,600.
 - c) The provision for Section 356 Expenditure in respect of Council's contribution to Sister City activities within Component 40 – Commercial Response Unit be increased by \$10,000.
 - d) The provision for Fire Control Operating Expenses (Rural Fire Service Discretionary Expenditure) Within Component 66 – Fire Control be increased by \$70,000.
 - e) The proposal for a reduction in overtime by the introduction of a requirement for employees to start and finish at an appropriate depot not be proceeded with and increases as appropriate in the total amount of \$150,000 be made to appropriate components within the draft budget.
 - f) The provision for Contributions to Outside Bodies, in respect of Council's contribution to the Hawkesbury Sports Council, within Component 50 – Parks be increased by \$75,000.
3. Funding to increase the various allocations referred to in 2 above be allocated from the following sources:
 - a) Reduction of the proposed budget surplus by \$53,792.
 - b) Reduction of \$100,000 from funds to be transferred to the Employee Entitlements Reserve from the superannuation "contributions holiday" in respect of the Retirement & Defined Benefits Schemes.

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES: 17 April 2007

- c) Reduction in relevant allocations of \$101,778 in respect of proposed new staff positions/additional hours for positions within the External Services Directorate as detailed in the General Manager's report.
 - d) Reduction in the expense allocation for contributions to outside bodies (Hawkesbury River County Council) within Component 36 – Pollution Control of \$17,450 in order to reflect the recently advised proposed contribution to this body of \$125,000 in 2007/2008.
 - e) Utilisation of \$162,400 from Council's existing Contingency Reserve.
- 4. Council delegate management responsibility for the operation of the Richmond Occasional Child Care Centre and Family Day Care to Peppercorn Services Inc.
 - 5. Subject to the amendments detailed above, the 2007/2008 draft Management Plan, incorporating Council's Strategic Plan, Operational Plan, Budget Estimates and Revenue Pricing Policy, based upon the Special Variation Budget providing for a rate increase of 9.5%, subject to Ministerial approval, be adopted for exhibition purposes and be advertised in accordance with Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, it being noted that Council has previously resolved not to continue the Environmental Levy resulting in an effective reduction in rates of approximately 4.7%.
 - 6. An appropriate submission be made to the Minister for Local Government for a Special Rate Variation under Section 508(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* of 9.5% (including rate pegging), together with a corresponding increase in minimum rates, for the 2007/2008 financial year and on a subsequent ongoing basis including a Special Rate of 5% for properties zoned as "Business" being included with the funds being earmarked to run the Commercial Response Unit in partnership with local business groups.
 - 7. A Special Meeting of Council be held on Monday, 25 June 2007 to consider any public submissions received in respect of the 2007/2008 draft Management Plan and Budget and to consider the adoption of these documents and to make and fix rates and charges for the year ended 30 June 2008.
 - 8. Prior to consideration of Council's 2008/2009 Draft Management Plan and Budget a report be submitted for Council's consideration regarding possible alterations to the rates levied by Council, including subsequent effects, by the introduction of differing levels of rates for the varying categories and sub-categories of properties within Council's rating system as allowed under the *Local Government Act 1993* and/or the introduction of a base amount of a rate and ad valorem amount, as also allowed under the Act, so as to achieve a more equitable distribution of rating charges across the City area.
 - 9. The following issues be addressed in respect of the indicated years within Council's 10 year Base Budget Works Program:
 - a) The proposed allocation in 2009/2010 for Art Gallery "Artefact (3D) Storage System" be transferred to the Special Rate Variation Works Program with the funds proposed for this purpose (\$200,000) being allocated to road works within the Base Budget Works Program.
 - b) The proposed allocation of \$800,000 for expansion of the library in 2014/2015 being transferred to road works and/or community buildings.
 - 10. Council write to the Commonwealth Government and the Local Government Association and request:
 - a) That Local Government borrowings have its interest rate level limited to a maximum of 2% for the next ten years with the Federal Government making up the difference.
 - b) The Federal Government restore the National Cities Program.

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES: 17 April 2007

The amendment was lost.

The motion was put and carried

100 RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Porter

That:

1. The General Manager's report regarding the 2007/2008 draft Management Plan and Budget be received.
2. The 2007/2008 draft Management Plan and Budget, incorporating Council's Revenue Pricing Policy, be amended as follows:
 - g) Hawkesbury City Council's Sewage Management Facilities program be operated on the basis of an Approval to Operate (incl. Site inspection) fee of \$74.00 per inspection.
 - h) The provision for Section 356 Expenditure within Component 12 – Community Administration be increased by \$13,400 with the reduction in this program being in respect of financial assistance for the Women's Cottage in respect of a rental subsidy in the amount of \$6,600.
 - i) The provision for Section 356 Expenditure in respect of Council's contribution to Sister City activities within Component 40 – Commercial Response Unit be increased by \$10,000.
 - j) The provision for Fire Control Operating Expenses (Rural Fire Service Discretionary Expenditure) Within Component 66 – Fire Control be increased by \$70,000.
 - k) The proposal for a reduction in overtime by the introduction of a requirement for employees to start and finish at an appropriate depot not be proceeded with and increases as appropriate in the total amount of \$150,000 be made to appropriate components within the draft budget.
 - l) The provision for Contributions to Outside Bodies, in respect of Council's contribution to the Hawkesbury Sports Council, within Component 50 – Parks be increased by \$75,000.
3. Funding to increase the various allocations referred to in 2 above be allocated from the following sources:
 - f) Reduction of the proposed budget surplus by \$53,792.
 - g) Reduction of \$100,000 from funds to be transferred to the Employee Entitlements Reserve from the superannuation "contributions holiday" in respect of the Retirement & Defined Benefits Schemes.
 - h) Reduction in relevant allocations of \$101,778 in respect of proposed new staff positions/additional hours for positions within the External Services Directorate as detailed in the General Manager's report.
 - i) Reduction in the expense allocation for contributions to outside bodies (Hawkesbury River County Council) within Component 36 – Pollution Control of \$17,450 in order to reflect the recently advised proposed contribution to this body of \$125,000 in 2007/2008.

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES: 17 April 2007

- j) Utilisation of \$162,400 from Council's existing Contingency Reserve.
4. Council delegate management responsibility for the operation of the Richmond Occasional Child Care Centre and Family Day Care to Peppercorn Services Inc.
 5. Subject to the amendments detailed above, the 2007/2008 draft Management Plan, incorporating Council's Strategic Plan, Operational Plan, Budget Estimates and Revenue Pricing Policy, based upon the Special Variation Budget providing for a rate increase of 9.5%, subject to Ministerial approval, be adopted for exhibition purposes and be advertised in accordance with Section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, it being noted that Council has previously resolved not to continue the Environmental Levy resulting in an effective reduction in rates of approximately 4.7%.
 6. An appropriate submission be made to the Minister for Local Government for a Special Rate Variation under Section 508(2) of the *Local Government Act 1993* of 9.5% (including rate pegging), together with a corresponding increase in minimum rates, for the 2007/2008 financial year and on a subsequent ongoing basis.
 7. A Special Meeting of Council be held on Monday, 25 June 2007 to consider any public submissions received in respect of the 2007/2008 draft Management Plan and Budget and to consider the adoption of these documents and to make and fix rates and charges for the year ended 30 June 2008.
 8. Prior to consideration of Council's 2008/2009 Draft Management Plan and Budget a report be submitted for Council's consideration regarding possible alterations to the rates levied by Council, including subsequent effects, by the introduction of differing levels of rates for the varying categories and sub-categories of properties within Council's rating system as allowed under the *Local Government Act 1993* and/or the introduction of a base amount of a rate and ad valorem amount, as also allowed under the Act, so as to achieve a more equitable distribution of rating charges across the City area.
 9. The following issues be addressed in respect of the indicated years within Council's 10 year Base Budget Works Program:
 - a) The proposed allocation in 2009/2010 for Art Gallery "Artefact (3D) Storage System" be transferred to the Special Rate Variation Works Program with the funds proposed for this purpose (\$200,000) being allocated to road works within the Base Budget Works Program.
 - b) The proposed allocation of \$800,000 for expansion of the library in 2014/2015 being transferred to road works and/or community buildings.

Councillors Calvert, Paine, Rasmussen and Williams requested that their names be recorded as having voted against the motion.

MOTION:

RESOLVED on a FORESHADOWED motion moved by Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Porter.

Refer to RESOLUTION

An AMENDMENT was moved by Councillor Paine, seconded by Councillor Rasmussen.

That the matter be further workshopped.

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES: 17 April 2007

The amendment was lost.

The motion was put and carried

101 RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED on a FORESHADOWED motion moved by Councillor Devine, seconded by Councillor Porter.

That:

1. Council request the General Manager to develop an organisation structure comprising the General Manager and three senior executive positions consistent with Council's continuing focus on Strategy, Operations and Customer Service, for consideration by Council at its Budget Meeting on 25 June 2007.
2. Council note the responsibility of the General Manager pursuant to Section 335 of the Local Government Act pertaining to the appointment and dismissal of employees and request that the General Manager liaise with the remaining senior executives to ascertain their views on accepting variations to their current contracts of employment.

Councillors Calvert, Paine and Williams requested that their names be recorded as having voted against the Motion.

SPECIAL MEETING

MINUTES: 17 April 2007

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORTS

SUPPORT SERVICES

**Item: 66 SS - Proposed Special Rate Variation - Draft Community Consultation /
Engagement Strategy 2007/2008 - (79351, 96332)**

MOTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Rasmussen, seconded by Councillor Bassett.

Refer to RESOLUTION

102 RESOLUTION:

RESOLVED on the motion of Councillor Rasmussen, seconded by Councillor Bassett

That the information concerning the Draft Community Consultation/Engagement Strategy for use in association with Council's Proposed Special Rate Variation for 2007/2008 be noted and the various proposals detailed in the report in this regard be implemented including the participation of the Community Planning Advisory Committee.

The meeting terminated at 9:05pm.

Submitted to and confirmed at the Ordinary meeting held on 24 April 2007.

.....
Mayor