

## CITY OF COCKBURN

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## CITY OF COCKBURN

### MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, 25 JULY 2000 AT 7:30 P.M.

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#### PRESENT:

##### COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr J F Donaldson	-	Chairperson of Joint Commission
Ms J L Smithson	-	Joint Commissioner
Mr M A Jorgensen	-	Joint Commissioner

##### IN ATTENDANCE

Mr R W Brown	-	Chief Executive Officer
Mr D M Green	-	Director Community Services
Mr A T Crothers	-	Director, Finance & Corporate Services
Mr S M Hiller	-	Director, Planning & Development
Mr B K Greay	-	Director, Engineering & Works
Mr K Lapham	-	Manager, Finance
Mrs B Pinto	-	Secretary/PA, Finance & Corporate Services
Mrs C Button	-	Customer Services Manager

#### 668. (AG Item 1) DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 7.32 pm

#### 669. (AG Item 2) APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDING MEMBER (IF REQUIRED)

Nil

#### 670. (AG Item 3) DISCLAIMER (Read aloud by Presiding Member)



Members of the public who attend Council Meetings, should not act immediately on anything they hear at the Meetings, without first seeking clarification of Council's position. Persons are advised to wait for written advice from the Council prior to taking action on any matter that they may have before Council.

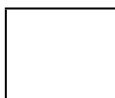
**671. (AG Item ) (Scm1\_7\_2000) - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**Mr Colin Crook**, resident of Spearwood tabled a letter in relation to Council's accountability to the public in providing information relative to the Agenda Papers for tonight's Special Council Meeting. He said, in his opinion the City's attitude towards community input to the 2000/01 Budget was a complete waste of time in attempting to participate and therefore resolved to accept it as recommended and criticise it later.

Mr Crook also asked the Commissioners what a *Parts Cleaner* is, which appeared under the Small Plant Schedule on Page 50 of Book I? Cmr Donaldson requested the Director, Engineering and Works to respond to which he replied that it was a request received from the Workshop to assist the mechanics in their work, as they spent much time having to do it manually when they could be attending to more important jobs. Mr. Crook was unhappy with the reply that was given, so Cmr Donaldson reiterated what was said earlier. He asked Mr. Crook whether he was happy with the answer or whether he preferred to have it in writing. Mr. Crook replied he was satisfied, but wished to discuss it at a later date.

**Mrs Mary Jenkins** of Spearwood spoke in relation to funds placed on the 2000/01 Budget for the upgrade of toilets at Coogee Beach. She said that only \$20,000 had been allocated to upgrade the changing rooms and toilets at Coogee Beach, which in her opinion were insufficient to carry out the necessary works required at Coogee Beach. She requested Council to spend the \$90,000 allocated to Catherine Point towards the upgrade of Coogee Beach. Mrs Jenkins said that it is time that the profile of Cockburn is improved so that tourists and visitors feel it is safe to visit one of the most popular beaches in the metropolitan area.

Cmr Donaldson replied that the issues raised require much study and a fair re-arrangement of items within the overall budget, and therefore would be incompatible with what Council would like to achieve tonight. However, Council has within its power during the year to assess the projects, which are designated in the budget with works priorities and if it deems appropriate, to re-assign monies to increase the funds on a particular item. Cmr Donaldson said that in response to the queries,



the Works Department will be approached to look at the Coogee Beach toilets with respect to issues raised and particularly in light of the tourism nature of the area and see if the Budget allocation is sufficient.

Mrs Jenkins also spoke on Child Safety in Children's Playgrounds. She said the recent upgrade of the children's play equipment in Manning Park and Coogee Beach poses a great safety threat to any child who uses these facilities. She requested that the sand be removed as soon as possible and be replaced by safe floor covering in each of these playgrounds and any other playgrounds in Cockburn that has sand as the base. Mrs Jenkins requested that this cost be included in the budget and the work done immediately before a child is put at risk.

Cmr Donaldson responded by saying that the issues raised are valid and Council will look into them.

**Mr. Laurie Humphreys** of Coolbellup spoke on Item 8.1 of the Agenda and Page 10 of Book I - Coolbellup Community Association - Commemorative Honor Board. He felt that this is a worthy cause and requested Commissioners to give some consideration towards this request.

Mr. Humphreys also queried the amount allocated on this year's Budget with regard to the Community Group Newsletter Subsidy from \$10,000 to \$5,000. He asked whether Council was going to notify the community groups of this reduction in funds allocation in this year's Budget, which meant that these groups may need to reduce the number of publications they put out.

Director, Finance and Corporate Services stated that less than \$3,800 was spent from this account in the last year and he felt that these funds could be better placed elsewhere, where it is needed.

**Mrs. Val Oliver** of Coolbellup spoke in relation to the Croation Soccer Club. She asked if the full cost of Lot 14 Progress Drive had been paid to Council for this land? Cmr Donaldson asked the Chief Executive Officer to respond, to which he replied that the total price for the land purchase was \$220,000. As a result of Council decision a \$10,000 deposit had to be made, which was been paid. An amount of \$125,000 had to be paid towards development costs. The balance of the \$220,000 will be paid when the land is available for purchase. The Chief Executive Officer stated that the balance of \$99,481 has been set aside for costs which the Club is paying towards infrastructure, sewerage, power and water. Mrs Oliver asked what is Council going to spend \$196,857 on? The Chief Executive Officer replied that he did not have the detail but it was his understanding that the amount reflected in the Business Plan would have been the amount that would

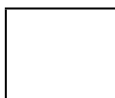


have been spent, such as the cost of the sewer, a contingency sum , money towards water and a clean up of the site. Mrs Oliver said that the Business Plan had been varied several times and it should have been prepared indicating what this Club was going to cost the ratepayers in the long term. It should have explained in full how much the Club would be paying and how much did it cost Council so far.

Cmr Donaldson thanked Mrs Oliver and stated that the Business Plan had not been varied and the money spent was spent in accordance with that original Business Plan. He also mentioned that the Chief Executive Officer was happy to write in detail of all expenses relating to the WA Croation Club, if Mrs Oliver so wished. Mrs Oliver did emphasise that there had been variances as the Club was only given a specific timeframe, which was only to be within about 12 months. Chief Executive Officer replied that Council did extend the time to the end of August for the settlement of that particular site. There had been continued problems in connection with the sewer. She asked whether Progress Drive had to be raised for this purpose? The Chief Executive Officer responded that the Water Corporation was requesting Council to pay the \$100,000 that had been set aside for the connection of the sewer towards public infrastructure works, such as roads, if such amount was not required for its original purpose. Council responded to Water Corporation saying it will not use those funds for this purpose and should they wish a contribution, then the Water Corporation will have to approach Council with a specific request for a contribution.

**Mr Stephen Lee** thanked the Commissioners and staff in the overall preparation of the 2000/01 Budget and also for the preparation of all the Statements which were provided. He supported the thrust of the Budget, being more funding for cleaning-up/beautification works.

**Mr Christopher Crane** of Hamilton Hill spoke regarding the charges for photocopying at the Spearwood Library. He said he had been a regular user at the Library and does a significant amount of photocopying. He queried why these charges had been increased from 10¢ to 20¢ about a month ago, and further more it has increased an extra 10¢, up to 30¢. He also stated that he was aware that due to the Goods and Services Tax there should not have been an increase in photocopying. Cmr Donaldson requested Director, Community Services to respond to which he replied that it is his understanding that the increase reflects the cost to the organisation and is passed on to the consumer. He was still unsure and preferred that the matter be taken on notice. Cmr Donaldson replied that the matter will be responded to in writing.



**672. (AG Item 7.1) (Scm1\_7\_2000) - PURPOSE OF MEETING**

The purpose of the Meeting is to adopt the Municipal Budget for the financial year 2000/01.

**673. (AG Item ) (Scm1\_7\_2000) - SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Cmr Donaldson SECONDED Cmr Jorgensen that Standing Orders be suspended, the time being 8.00 pm to discuss various matters relating to the 2000/01 Municipal Budget.

**CARRIED 3/0**

Discussion took place on various items listed under Item 8.1 (2), those being:

1. Coogee Beach - changerooms/toilets
2. South Lake Leisure Centre - duplicated items
3. Road Construction
  - Gerald Street, Spearwood - traffic management devices

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Chief Executive Officer declared a conflict of interest in the Works Program - Road Construction of the 2000/01 Municipal Budget. The nature of the interest being that he lives in Gerald Street, Spearwood.

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER LEFT THE MEETING THE TIME BEING 8.06 PM**

Discussion took place on the traffic management treatment in Gerald Street, Spearwood:

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RETURNED TO THE MEETING THE TIME BEING 8.09 PM**

Other issues that were discussed were as follows:

3. Road Construction
  - Ashwood Pl/Sycamore Ave - Drainage
4. Information Technology - Process of procurement



5. South Lake Ottey Family Centre - Airconditioning
6. Uncompleted Works - Schedule noted
7. Fees and Charges Schedule
8. Underground Power - Funds for Hamilton Hill

**674. (AG Item ) (Scm1\_7\_2000) - RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Cmr Donaldson SECONDED Cmr Jorgensen that Standing Orders be resumed, the time being 8.26 pm.

**CARRIED 3/0**

**675. (AG Item 8.1) (Scm1\_7\_2000) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2000/01 - SCHEDULES (5402) (ATC)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- (1) receive the report by the Director, Finance and Corporate Services on the Municipal Budget 2000/01;
- (2) include the items listed in the following schedules attached to the Agenda in the 2000/01 Municipal Budget:
  1. Summary of Fees and Charges.
  2. Proposed New/Increased Projects.
  3. Donations/Contributions.
  4. Furniture and Equipment.
  5. Information Technology.
  6. Waste Services.
  7. South Lake Leisure Centre.
  8. Road Construction.
  9. Footpath Construction.
  10. Park Construction.
  11. Environmental Services Projects.
  12. Buildings - Construction/Refurbishment.
  13. Major Building Maintenance.
  14. Light Fleet.
  15. Major Plant.
  16. Small Plant.
  17. Transfers to Reserve Funds.
  18. Uncompleted Projects Carried Forward.





**TO BE PASSED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL**

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Chief Executive Officer declared a conflict of interest in Item 8.1. The nature of the interest being that he lives in Gerald Street, which falls under the Works Program - Road Construction of the 2000/01 Municipal Budget.

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER LEFT THE MEETING THE TIME BEING 8.26 PM**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Cmr Jorgensen SECONDED Cmr Smithson that:

- (1) receive the report by the Director, Finance and Corporate Services on the Municipal Budget for 2000/01; and
- (2) include the items listed in the schedules, attached to the Agenda in the 2000/01 Municipal Budget, subject to the following amendments:
  1. Road Construction
    - Gerald Street (Phoenix/Spearwood) - Traffic Management Treatment - To be placed on the Budget as a contingency allowance to be further considered by Council.
    - Ashwood Place/Sycamore Avenue - Extend subsoil drainage - To be placed on the 2000/01 Budget as a contingency allowance to be further considered by Council.

**THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER RETURNED TO THE MEETING THE TIME BEING 8.28 PM**

2. South Lake Ottey Family Centre - Airconditioning. A contribution of \$5,000 be placed on the 2000/01 Budget, on a dollar for dollar basis.
3. Deletion due to the duplication of the following from the South Lake Leisure Centre Schedule:
  - A/c. No.590710 - Upgrade toilets/changerooms - \$6,000
  - A/c. No.590710 - Replace facility and road signage - \$6,000

4. An amount of \$7,000 be transferred to the Major Refurbishment Buildings Fund.

**CARRIED 3/0**

### **Explanation**

Further to an inspection done of the district the Commissioners felt it inappropriate to allocate \$170,000 towards road works for Gerald Street without further information being presented to Council. It was decided that these funds be left in the Budget, but only as a contingency measure, and the matter will be subject to further Council scrutiny.

In relation to allocation of \$50,000 towards providing a solution to the subsoil drainage problem in Ashwood Place/Sycamore Avenue, the Commissioners having had some of the history outlined, it was decided that the funds remain in the 2000/01 Budget but for this issue also to be placed as a contingency measure, so that the works could be carried out sometime in the future to alleviate the residents problems. A report is to be presented to Council outlining any possible alternative funding sources for this project.

Considering the fact that mothers and children remain at the South Lake Ottey Family Centre for considerable periods of time, Council considered that it would be unacceptable not to have the airconditioning at the Centre. It was decided that an amount of \$5,000 be allocated as a contribution towards the installation of airconditioning, with money being spent on a dollar for dollar basis. Council felt that funds should be sought from the Lotteries Commission or other sources to assist with the upgrade of the facilities at the Centre.

### **Background**

Council is required to adopt an annual budget by 31 August each financial year.

### **Submission**

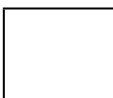
N/A

### **Report**

A report by the Director, Finance and Corporate Services on the 2000/01 Budget is attached to the Agenda, together with schedules of items included in the proposed Budget. Items considered but not included in the proposed Budget are attached to the report prepared by the Director, Finance and Corporate Services.

### **Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

8



The Budget provides funds for Council's activities in 2000/01.

**Budget/Financial Implications**

The above recommendations have been included in the proposed Budget for 2000/01.

**Implications of Section 3.18(3) Local Government Act, 1995**

N/A

**676. (AG Item 8.2) (Scm1\_7\_2000) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2000/01 - DIFFERENTIAL RATES (5402) (ATC)**

<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>		
That Council adopt the following in its 2000/01 Municipal Budget:		
(1) the rate in the dollar and minimum rate for Council's rate categories are:		
<b>Category</b>	<b>Minimum Rate</b>	<b>Rate in \$</b>
Residential Improved	396.00	6.2447
Commercial/Industrial Improved	591.00	6.2447
Residential/Vacant	396.00	10.8169
Commercial/Industrial Vacant	591.00	10.8169
UFL Residential Improved	396.00	5.6202
UFL Residential Vacant	396.00	9.7352
Rural/Resource	396.00	0.4375
UFL Rural	396.00	0.3937
(2) the charges for rubbish services be as follows:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Rubbish Collection Charge be levied at \$126.00 per assessed collection service for a weekly domestic rubbish collection, with a mobile bin levy of \$27.00 applying to ratepayers who received their bin after 1 July 1997.</li> <li>2. The Rubbish Collection Charge be levied for non-rateable properties at an annual rate of \$265.00 per assessed service for a weekly collection.</li> <li>3. The Commercial, Industrial and Residential premises be charged \$126.00 per assessed service for a bulk service weekly collection, with a bulk bin levy of \$27.00 for all</li> </ol>		



bins delivered after 1 July 1996.

4. The new rubbish services commencing during the year 2000/01 be levied a mobile bin service charge of \$27.00 and a pro-rata charge based on \$126.00 p.a.
- (3) a discount of 5.00% be allowed on current rates provided that all rates and charges due are paid within thirty-five(35) days of the date of issue of the rate notice;
- (4) offer payment options for Rates and Service Charges of:
1. Pay in full and receive discount (on current rates only).
  2. Pay in two instalments; and
  3. Pay in four instalments.
- provided that in all cases the first payment must be received within thirty-five days of the issue date of the Rate Notice.
- (5) sets the following payment dates for instalment options:
1. Two instalments
    - First payment due 12 September 2000.
    - Second payment due 16 January 2001.
  2. Four instalments
    - First payment due 12 September 2000.
    - Second payment due 14 November 2000.
    - Third payment due 16 January 2001.
    - Fourth payment due 20 March 2001.
- (6) charge an administration fee of \$5.00 for the second and subsequent instalments with alternative arrangements for payment of rates and charges being subject to administration charges of \$5.00 per instalment up to a maximum of \$20.00 per assessment with instalment interest rates and late payment interest rates to apply;
- (7) the interest rate on instalment payments be 5.5% per annum and the late payment interest rate be 11.00% per annum;
- (8) once-off extensions up to sixty(60) days be charged instalment interest from the due date but no administration fee; and
- (9) the Rates Incentive Scheme prizes apply for full payment within thirty-five(35) days of the date of issue of the rate notice.

**TO BE PASSED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL**



**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Cmr Smithson SECONDED Cmr Jorgensen that Council adopt the following in its 2000/01 Municipal Budget:

- (1) the rate in the dollar and minimum rate for Council's rate categories are:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Minimum Rate</b>	<b>Rate in \$</b>
Residential Improved	396.00	6.2447
Commercial/Industrial Improved	591.00	6.2447
Residential/Vacant	396.00	10.8169
Commercial/Industrial Vacant	591.00	10.8169
UFL Residential Improved	396.00	5.6202
UFL Residential Vacant	396.00	9.7352
Rural/Resource	396.00	0.4375
UFL Rural	396.00	0.3937

- (2) the charges for rubbish services be as follows:

1. The Rubbish Collection Charge be levied at \$126.00 per assessed collection service for a weekly domestic rubbish collection, with a mobile bin levy of \$27.00 applying to ratepayers who received their bin after 1 July 1997.
2. The Rubbish Collection Charge be levied for non-rateable properties at an annual rate of \$265.00 per assessed service for a weekly collection.
3. The Commercial, Industrial and Residential premises be charged \$126.00 per assessed service for a bulk service weekly collection, with a bulk bin levy of \$27.00 for all bins delivered after 1 July 1996.
4. The new rubbish services commencing during the year 2000/01 be levied a mobile bin service charge of \$27.00 and a pro-rata charge based on \$126.00 p.a.

- (3) a discount of 5.00% be allowed on current rates provided that all rates and charges due are paid within thirty-five(35) days of the date of issue of the rate notice;

- (4) offer payment options for Rates and Service Charges of:

1. Pay in full and receive discount (on current rates only).

2. Pay in two instalments; and
3. Pay in four instalments.

provided that in all cases the first payment must be received within thirty-five days of the issue date of the Rate Notice.

(5) sets the following payment dates for instalment options:

1. Two instalments
  - First payment due 12 September 2000.
  - Second payment due 16 January 2001.
2. Four instalments
  - First payment due 12 September 2000.
  - Second payment due 14 November 2000.
  - Third payment due 16 January 2001.
  - Fourth payment due 20 March 2001.

(6) charge an administration fee of \$5.00 for the second and subsequent instalments with alternative arrangements for payment of rates and charges being subject to administration charges of \$5.00 per instalment up to a maximum of \$20.00 per assessment with instalment interest rates and late payment interest rates to apply;

(7) the interest rate on instalment payments be 5.5% per annum and the late payment interest rate be 11.00% per annum;

(8) once-off extensions up to sixty(60) days be charged instalment interest from the due date but no administration fee; and

(9) the Rates Incentive Scheme prizes apply for full payment within thirty-five(35) days of the date of issue of the rate notice.

**CARRIED 3/0**

### **Explanation**

It was noted that Item (3) had a typographical error which should have read thirty-five (35) days.

### **Background**

Council is required to adopt an annual Budget by 31 August each year.

### **Submission**

12

N/A

**Report**

The recommendations shown above relate to the rate in the dollar to be charged, rubbish service charges, discount, payment options and penalty interest rates in the proposed budget for 2000/01.

**Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The budget provides funds for Council's activities in 2000/01.

**Budget/Financial Implications**

The above recommendations are included in the proposed Budget for 2000/01.

**Implications of Section 3.18(3) Local Government Act, 1995**

N/A

**677. (AG Item 8.3) (Scm1\_7\_2000) - ADOPTION OF MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2000/01 (5402) (ATC) (ATTACH)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the Municipal Budget for 2000/01 as attached to the Agenda.

**TO BE PASSED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Cmr Jorgensen SECONDED Cmr Smithson that the recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED 3/0**

**Background**

Council is required to adopt an annual budget by 31 August each year.

**Submission**

N/A



**Report**

The Municipal Budget, in the required AAS27 format, was attached to the Agenda.

**Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The Budget provides funds for Council's activities in 2000/01.

**Budget/Financial Implications**

The above recommendation adopts the Budget for 2000/01.

**Implications of Section 3.18(3) Local Government Act, 1995**

N/A

**678. (AG Item 9.1) (Scm1\_7\_2000) - RESOLUTION OF COMPLIANCE (Section 3.18(3), Local Government Act 1995) COUNCIL DECISION**

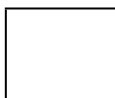
MOVED Cmr Jorgensen SECONDED Cmr Smithson that Council is satisfied that resolutions carried at this Meeting and applicable to items concerning Council provided services and facilities, are:-

- (a) integrated and co-ordinated, so far as practicable, with any provided by the Commonwealth, the State or any public body;
- (b) not duplicated, to an extent Council considers inappropriate, services or facilities as provided by the Commonwealth, the State or any other body or person, whether public or private; and
- (c) managed efficiently and effectively.

**CARRIED 3/0**

Cmr Donaldson thanked the Commissioners and public for their questions and input to the Budget. He also acknowledged the vote of appreciation from the Director, Finance and Corporate Services to staff. Cmr Donaldson also wished the Council well for the facilitation of good service for the City in the next twelve months.

Cmr Jorgensen mentioned on behalf of other Commissioners that the whole Budget process was much better this year as compared to last year. He said that a number of changes had been made in the last





twelve months which should be a credit to staff, as modifications were made to the overall process.

MEETING CLOSED 8.32 PM

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

I, ..... (Presiding Member) declare that these minutes have been confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Signed: ..... Date: ...../...../.....

