

# CITY OF COCKBURN

## SUMMARY OF MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2005 AT 7:00 PM

---

---

|  | Page |
|--|------|
| 1. DECLARATION OF MEETING .....  | 1    |
| 2. APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDING MEMBER (IF REQUIRED).....  | 2    |
| 3. DISCLAIMER (READ ALOUD BY PRESIDING MEMBER).....  | 2    |
| 4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF WRITTEN DECLARATIONS OF<br>FINANCIAL INTERESTS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST (BY PRESIDING<br>MEMBER) .....                      | 2    |
| 5 (SCM 20/07/2005) - APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE .....  | 2    |
| 6 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME .....  | 2    |
| 7. DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE NOT GIVEN DUE<br>CONSIDERATION TO MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE BUSINESS.....  | 4    |
| 8 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PURPOSE OF MEETING .....  | 4    |
| 9. COUNCIL MATTERS.....  | 4    |
| 9.1 <u>(MINUTE NO 2889)</u> (SCM 20/07/2005) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET<br>2005/06 - SCHEDULES (5402) (ATC) (ATTACH).....  | 4    |
| <u>(MINUTE NO 2890)</u> (SCM 20/07/2005) - SCHEDULE 1 -<br>NEW/EXPANDED PROJECTS - 'DRIVE THROUGH ART GALLERY'<br>(5402) (RA).....                           | 6    |
| <u>(MINUTE NO 2891)</u> (SCM 20/07/2005) - SCHEDULE 8 -<br>PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM - BOLLARDS AT RINALDO<br>PARK, COOLBELLUP (5402; 1101398) (AC) ..... | 7    |
| <u>(MINUTE NO 2892)</u> (SCM 20/07/2005) - SCHEDULE 1 -<br>NEW/EXPANDED PROJECTS - COCKBURN POLICE STATION<br>(5402) (RA).....                               | 7    |
| <u>(MINUTE NO 2893)</u> (SCM 20/07/2005) - SCHEDULE 1 -<br>NEW/EXPANDED PROJECTS - INFORMATION MANAGEMENT<br>CONSULTANCY AUDIT (5402) (1402) (TM) .....      | 8    |
| <u>(MINUTE NO 2894)</u> (SCM 20/07/2005) - AMENDMENTS TO<br>SCHEDULE 1, 8 AND 18 (5402) (ATC).....   | 8    |

9.2 (MINUTE NO 2895) (SCM 20/07/2005) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET  
2005/06 - DIFFERENTIAL RATES (5402) (ATC) .....9

9.3 (MINUTE NO 2896) (SCM 20/07/2005) - ADOPTION OF THE  
MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 (5402) (ATC) (ATTACH)..... 14

9.4 (MINUTE NO 2897) (SCM 20/07/2005) - PARTICIPATION IN  
SISTER CITY VISIT - YEUYANG CHINA (1029) (SGC) ..... 15

9.5 (MINUTE NO 2898) (SCM 20/07/2005) - PROPOSAL TO  
ESTABLISH A FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF  
MOBILE, ALABAMA (1029) (SGC)..... 17

10. (MINUTE NO 2899) (SCM 20/07/2005) - RESOLUTION OF  
COMPLIANCE (SECTION 3.18(3), LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995).....22

11 (SCM 20/07/2005) - CLOSURE OF MEETING.....23

## CITY OF COCKBURN

### MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2005 AT 7:00 PM

---

#### PRESENT:

##### ELECTED MEMBERS

|                |   |                                 |
|----------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Mr S Lee       | - | Mayor                           |
| Mr R Graham    | - | Deputy Mayor                    |
| Ms A Tilbury   | - | Councillor                      |
| Mr I Whitfield | - | Councillor                      |
| Mr K Allen     | - | Councillor (Via telephone link) |
| Ms L Goncalves | - | Councillor                      |
| Mr J Baker     | - | Councillor                      |
| Mrs S Limbert  | - | Councillor                      |
| Mrs V Oliver   | - | Councillor                      |

##### IN ATTENDANCE

|                 |   |  |
|-----------------|---|--|
| Mr S. Cain      | - | Chief Executive Officer                    |
| Mr A. Crothers  | - | Director, Finance & Corporate Services     |
| Mr S. Hiller    | - | Director, Engineering & Works              |
| Mr K. Lapham    | - | Manager, Finance                           |
| Mr R. Avard     | - | Manager, Community Services                |
| Mr N. Mauricio  | - | Management Accountant                      |
| Mr V. Marcelino | - | Planning Officer                           |
| Mrs B. Pinto    | - | Secretary/PA, Finance & Corporate Services |
| Mr A. Jones     | - | Communications Manager                     |

#### 1. DECLARATION OF MEETING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 7.04 pm.

Mayor Lee advised the meeting that due to changes in the Local Government Meeting Regulations, Councillors who were absent from Council but were able to access a telephone, could still participate in the meeting. Cllr Kevin Allen will be participating via a telephone link from Cowes, Phillip Island, Victoria between the hours of 7.00 pm (Western Australian Standard Time) until the completion of the meeting.



**2. APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDING MEMBER (If required)**

Nil.

**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.

**4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF WRITTEN DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST (by Presiding Member)**

Nil

**5 (SCM 20/07/2005) - APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Clr T Romano - Apology

**6 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**Dan Scherr**, Coogee asked why members of the public were not notified of the Special Meeting at the Ordinary Council Meeting that was held last week? Why was there such short notice? Why wasn't this made part of the Ordinary Council Agenda? Mayor Lee asked the Chief Executive Officer how the meeting was advertised. The Chief Executive Officer advised that as a normal process, the meeting was advertised in the press, the libraries and posted on the front door of the Administration Building. Mayor Lee advised Mr Scherr, that perhaps next year his comments would be taken into consideration and sufficient time given in regard to the notification of a Special Council Meeting to adopt the Budget.

On another matter, Mr Scherr advised that he would be interested in participating in any debate or any formulation of a Sister City Committee with the City of Mobile, Alabama. He emphasised that he is willing and able to be part of any Sister City Committee that Council makes an alliance with.

Mayor Lee thanked Mr Scherr for his input.

**Mary Jenkins**, Spearwood spoke in relation to the Sister City matters. She said there has been no community consultation at all and asked a series of questions in relation to this.

Q1. What is the reason for becoming a sister city with Mobile Alabama?

- Q2. Is this just another port or travel gravy train?
- Q3. Why is Council not consulting with the community organisations any more?
- Q4. Why was notice of this meeting not given at the last Council Meeting to inform people?

Mayor Lee replied, that the Council is not setting up a Sister City Committee with the City of YeuYang, China. The City has an existing Sister City association which was set up in 1998. Council has received many invites from the Mayor of Yeuyang as well as the Government of YeuYang. It has requested Council to participate in a Sister City visit. The Chief Executive Officer and himself will be on an International Conference on Resource Management and whilst in China, will be accepting the invitation.

The Chief Executive Officer added that the recommendation in regard to the formal arrangement with the Sister City of Mobile, Alabama was based on the similarities of the two countries and two cities in regard to ship building industries.

**Bert Renner**, Spearwood queried as to why Clr Allen was attending the Conference on Waste Management in China? He was of the opinion that he had no environmental background. Clr Tilbury who has an environmental background with a degree, should really be attending such a conference. Why is Clr Tilbury not attending?

Mr Renner also asked why the Council has changed its stance in the rules of Public Question Time to what was said at the last Council Meeting?. Mayor Lee replied that Council has not changed its position at tonight's meeting in regard to Public Question Time. He said that it was mentioned at the last Ordinary Meeting of Council that the new rules for Public Question Time will take effect as of the Council Meeting in August.

The Chief Executive Officer in reply to the first question, added that Clr Allen sort to be a State representative of the Municipal Waste Advisory Committee. This is the premier Waste Management Group of the whole State. Each Councillor had the opportunity to nominate and Clr Allen's formal nomination was made some time ago. He is seeking to increase and enhance his knowledge of what is the premier Waste Management Conference in world.

**Robyn Scherr**, Coogee referred to Item 9.2 of the Agenda – Differential Rates, in particular those of Rubbish Collection. She said that she did not see the advert in the newspaper and asked why this was so? Mayor Lee directed her question to the Director, Finance and Corporate Services who replied that, yes, there was a notice in the West Australian dated Monday, 13 June 2005. These differential rates were also contained in his report which formed part of the Agenda attachments.

Mayor Lee thanked Mrs Scherr.



**7. DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE NOT GIVEN DUE CONSIDERATION TO MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE BUSINESS**

Nil

**8 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PURPOSE OF MEETING**

The purpose of the Meeting is:

- (1) to adopt the Municipal Budget for the financial year 2005/06;
- (2) for Clr Allen to participate in the Sister City visit to Yeuyang, China; and
- (3) for a proposal to establish a friendship agreement with the City of Mobile, Alabama.

**9. COUNCIL MATTERS**

**9.1 (MINUTE NO 2889) (SCM 20/07/2005) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 - SCHEDULES (5402) (ATC) (ATTACH)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- (1) receive the report by the Director, Finance and Corporate Services on the Municipal Budget for 2005/06; and
- (2) include the items listed in the following schedules in the 2005/06 Municipal Budget, as attached to the Agenda:
  1. New/Expanded Projects
  2. New Staff
  3. Information Technology – Hardware and Software
  4. South Lake Leisure Centre – Capital
  5. Furniture and Equipment
  6. Roadworks Infrastructure Program
  7. Footpaths Infrastructure Program
  8. Parks Infrastructure Program
  9. Environmental Projects and Studies
  10. Facilities Construction/Improvement Program
  11. Waste Services – Capital
  12. Major Plant Replacement Program
  13. Light Fleet Replacement Program
  14. Minor Plant
  15. Community Safety Projects
  16. Social Services – General Projects
  17. Summary of Fees and Charges



- |                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| 18. Transfers to Reserve Funds        |
| 19. Carried Forward Projects/Programs |

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Deputy Mayor R Graham SECONDED Cllr I Whitfield that the recommendation be adopted subject to the deletion of Schedules 1, 8 and 18 from Clause 2, which will be dealt with separately.

**CARRIED 9/0**

**Explanation**

The deletion of the respective schedules is necessary as there are proposed amendments which affect items listed in Schedules 1, 8 and 18.

**Background**

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

**Submission**

N/A

**Report**

A report by the Director, Finance and Corporate Services on the 2005/06 Municipal Budget is attached to the Agenda, together with Schedules of items included in the proposed Budget. A list of items considered but not included in the proposed Budget is also attached to the report.

**Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The Budget provides funds for Council's activities in 2005/06.

**Budget/Financial Implications**

The above recommendations have been included in the proposed Budget for 2005/06.

**Legal Implications**

N/A



**Community Consultation**

N/A

**Attachment(s)**

Municipal Budget 2005/06 – Schedules.

**Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A

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

Nil.

**(MINUTE NO 2890) (SCM 20/07/2005) - SCHEDULE 1 - NEW/EXPANDED PROJECTS - 'DRIVE THROUGH ART GALLERY' (5402) (RA)**

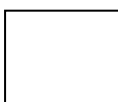
**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Deputy Mayor R Graham SECONDED Cllr I Whitfield a report be presented to a future Council meeting in relation to the process to be followed to determine the nature and location of artwork to be installed as part of the 'Drive Through Art Gallery' project, prior to the project commencing.

**CARRIED 9/0**

**Explanation**

Council is supportive of the 'Drive Through Art Gallery'. A goal of the project is the provision of a high-standard of public art throughout Cockburn. Public art projects in other localities have on occasions attracted negative public comment where the art has looked similar to graffiti. To ensure that the standard of public art provided as part of this project is consistent with community expectations, Council requires a report to be presented to a future Council meeting detailing the decision-making process that will be followed when determining the nature and location of artwork installed.





**(MINUTE NO 2891) (SCM 20/07/2005) - SCHEDULE 8 - PARKS INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM - BOLLARDS AT RINALDO PARK, COOLBELLUP (5402; 1101398) (AC)**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Clr S Limbert SECONDED Clr A Tilbury that Council:

- (1) allocate \$14,500 to place bollards around Rinaldo Park in Coolbellup;
- (2) reduce the transfer to the Community and Recreation Facilities Reserve Fund by \$14,500; and
- (3) prior to replacement of the bollards, be presented with a report at a future Council Meeting outlining full details of the history of the removal of the bollards.

**CARRIED 7/2**

**Explanation**

Bollards are required to prevent vehicle access to the park. Vehicles currently entering the park are a safety concern as well as a public nuisance to the park users, and cause damage to the grassed areas. Clr Limbert emphasised that for safety reasons and maintenance of the parks, it would be in the best interest of the community that these bollards are reinstalled.

**(MINUTE NO 2892) (SCM 20/07/2005) - SCHEDULE 1 - NEW/EXPANDED PROJECTS - COCKBURN POLICE STATION (5402) (RA)**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Mayor S Lee SECONDED Clr S Limbert that Council:

- (1) donate up to \$30,000 to the Cockburn Police Station towards the cost of upgrading the police station and associated community infrastructure; and
- (2) reduce the transfer to the Community and Recreation Facilities Reserve fund by \$30,000.

**CARRIED 9/0**



**Explanation**

Safety and Security are major concerns within our Community and we are always fighting for a greater Police presence in Cockburn. The Cockburn Police Station has been offered 8 more officers, subject to them providing accommodation. They have identified surplus demountables at Maylands Police Academy, and have requested for assistance in the cost of relocating these demountables and a potential upgrade of public amenities around the Police Station comprising footpaths, parking etc., which is in the vicinity of \$30,000.

**(MINUTE NO 2893) (SCM 20/07/2005) - SCHEDULE 1 - NEW/EXPANDED PROJECTS - INFORMATION MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY AUDIT (5402) (1402) (TM)**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Deputy Mayor R Graham SECONDED Cllr S Limbert that the report of the Information Management Consultancy Audit be presented to the Audit Committee.

**CARRIED 9/0**

**Explanation**

It is consistent with the purpose and terms of reference of the Audit Committee that the report be presented to it when prepared.

**(MINUTE NO 2894) (SCM 20/07/2005) - AMENDMENTS TO SCHEDULE 1, 8 AND 18 (5402) (ATC)**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Deputy Mayor R Graham SECONDED Cllr I Whitfield that Council adopt the following Schedules, subject to the changes agreed to at this meeting:

- (1) Schedule 1 – New/Expanded Projects;
- (2) Schedule 8 – Parks Infrastructure Program; and
- (3) Schedule 18 – Transfers to Reserve Funds.

**CARRIED 9/0**



## Explanation

Schedule 1, 8 and 18 now include the amendments made at tonight's meeting for adoption by Council.

### 9.2 **(MINUTE NO 2895) (SCM 20/07/2005) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 - DIFFERENTIAL RATES (5402) (ATC)**

| <b>RECOMMENDATION</b>  |                     |                   |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|
| That Council adopt the following in its 2005/06 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   | 456.00              | 5.8500            |
| Commercial/Industrial Improved   | 680.00              | 5.8510            |
| Residential/Vacant   | 456.00              | 9.2870            |
| Commercial/Industrial Vacant   | 680.00              | 9.2870            |
| UFL Residential Improved   | 456.00              | 5.2650            |
| UFL Residential Vacant   | 456.00              | 8.3590            |
| Rural/Resource   | 456.00              | 0.2845            |
| UFL Rural  | 456.00              | 0.2621            |
| (2) the charges for rubbish services be as follows:  |                     |                   |
| 1. The Rubbish Collection Charge be levied at \$189.00 per assessed collection service for a weekly rubbish collection, with a mobile bin levy of \$27.00 applying to ratepayers who received their bin after 1 July 2002. |                     |                   |
| 2. The Rubbish Collection Charges be levied for non-rateable properties at an annual rate of \$285.00 per assessed service for a weekly collection.  |                     |                   |
| 3. The new rubbish services commencing during the year 2005/06 be levied a mobile bin service charge of \$27.00 and a pro-rata charge based on \$189.00 p.a  |                     |                   |
| (3) a discount of 5% 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 annual 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.
  3. Pay in four instalments.

provided that in all cases the first payment must be received within thirty-five(35) days of the issue date of the annual Rate Notice;

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

1. Two instalments
  - first payment due 13 September 2005
  - second payment due 17 January 2006
2. Four instalments
  - first payment due 13 September 2005
  - second payment due 15 November 2005
  - third payment due 17 January 2006
  - fourth payment due 21 March 2006

- (6) charge an administration fee of \$5.50 for the second and subsequent instalments;

- (7) the interest rate on instalment payments be 4.0% p.a. and the late payment interest rate be 11% p.a.;

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

- (9) the Rates Incentive Scheme prizes apply for full payment within thirty-five (35) days of the date of issue of the annual Rate Notice;

- (10) impose a Service Charge of \$54.50 per property under Section 6.38(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 on each property owner in the City of Cockburn (except for non-rateable government owned properties) to meet the cost of providing a Community Surveillance Service to cover the entire Cockburn district.

- (11) impose a Private Pool Inspection Levy of \$13.75 per pool owner under Section 245A of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960.



**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Deputy Mayor R Graham SECONDED Clr L Goncalves that Council adopt the following in its 2005/06 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           | 456.00              | 5.8500            |
| Commercial/Industrial Improved | 680.00              | 5.8510            |
| Residential/Vacant             | 456.00              | 9.2870            |
| Commercial/Industrial Vacant   | 680.00              | 9.2870            |
| UFL Residential Improved       | 456.00              | 5.2650            |
| UFL Residential Vacant         | 456.00              | 8.3590            |
| Rural/Resource                 | 456.00              | 0.2845            |
| UFL Rural                      | 456.00              | 0.2621            |

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

1. The Rubbish Collection Charge be levied at \$189.00 per assessed collection service for a weekly rubbish collection, with a mobile bin levy of \$27.00 applying to ratepayers who received their bin after 1 July 2002.
2. The Rubbish Collection Charges be levied for non-rateable properties at an annual rate of \$285.00 per assessed service for a weekly collection.
3. The new rubbish services commencing during the year 2005/06 be levied a mobile bin service charge of \$27.00 and a pro-rata charge based on \$189.00 p.a

- (3) a discount of 5% 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 annual 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.
3. Pay in four instalments.

provided that in all cases the first payment must be received within thirty-five(35) days of the issue date of the annual Rate Notice;



- (5) sets the following payment dates for instalment options:
1. Two instalments
    - first payment due 13 September 2005
    - second payment due 17 January 2006
  2. Four instalments
    - first payment due 13 September 2005
    - second payment due 15 November 2005
    - third payment due 17 January 2006
    - fourth payment due 21 March 2006
- (6) charge an administration fee of \$5.50 for the second and subsequent instalments;
- (7) charge an interest rate on instalment payments of 4% p.a.;
- (8) charge an interest rate on late payments of 11% p.a.;
- (9) allow once-off extensions of up to sixty(60) days, where in the opinion of Council staff it is reasonable to do so;
- (10) charge instalment interest from the due date, and the administrative fee, on once-off extensions;
- (11) require a report to be presented to a future Council meeting regarding whether interest should be charged on amounts owed to Council other than rates or service charges;
- (12) provide a Rates Incentive Scheme for full payment within thirty-five(35) days of the date of issue of the annual rate notice;
- (13) impose a Service Charge of \$54.50 per property under Section 6.38(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 on each property owner in the City of Cockburn (except for non-rateable government owned properties) to meet the cost of providing a Community Surveillance Service to cover the entire Cockburn district; and
- (14) impose a Private Pool Inspection Levy of \$13.75 per pool owner under Section 245A of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960.

**CARRIED 9/0**

### **Explanation**

The wording changes make the motion clearer and easier to understand. The recommended motion provided that no administrative



fee would be charged for once-off extensions and did not provide guidance to staff regarding what circumstances justify an extension being granted. The motion provides that:

- (a) an administrative fee will be charged for once-off extensions, as administrative costs are incurred in making these arrangements; and,
- (b) extensions are only to be granted where this is considered reasonable in the opinion of Council staff. Council would like to consider whether it should charge interest on amounts owed to it, other than a rates or service charges.

### **Background**

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

### **Submission**

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 2005/06, as well as Service Charges in respect of the Community Surveillance Service and Pool Inspection Levy.

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

The Budget provides funds for Council's activities in 2005/06.

### **Budget/Financial Implications**

The above recommendations are included in the proposed Budget for 2005/06.

### **Legal Implications**

N/A

### **Community Consultation**

Notice of Intention to Levy Differential Rates and the proposed Rubbish Collection charge was advertised in the West Australian on 13 June 2005 inviting submissions in respect of the proposed rates and charge. No submissions were received by the closing date for submissions of 4 July 2005.



**Attachment(s)**

N/A

**Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A

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

Nil.

**9.3 (MINUTE NO 2896) (SCM 20/07/2005) - ADOPTION OF THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 (5402) (ATC) (ATTACH)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the Municipal Budget for 2005/06, as attached to the Agenda, subject to the changes made at this meeting.

**TO BE CARRIED BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Clr S Limbert SECONDED Clr A Tilbury that the recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL 9/0**

**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, is attached to the Agenda.

**Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The Budget provides funds for Council's activities in 2005/06.





**Budget/Financial Implications**

The above recommendation adopts the Budget for 2005/06.

**Legal Implications**

N/A

**Community Consultation**

N/A

**Attachment(s)**

Municipal Budget 2005/06

**Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A

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

Nil.

**9.4 (MINUTE NO 2897) (SCM 20/07/2005) - PARTICIPATION IN SISTER CITY VISIT - YEUYANG CHINA (1029) (SGC)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council authorises Clr Allen to accompany the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer on a visit to Yeuyang, China, whilst in China attending an international Waste Management Conference in September.

**COUNCIL DECISION**

MOVED Clr S Limbert SECONDED Clr L Goncalves that the recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED 9/0**

**Background**

The City of Cockburn established a Sister City relationship with the City of Yeuyang, China, in 1998. The previous Mayor and Chief Executive Officer made a visit to Yeuyang that year, but despite receiving regular



correspondence from the Mayor of Yeuyang inviting Council to return, there has been no visit to the City since then.

### **Submission**

N/A

### **Report**

Councillor Allen will be attending an international waste management conference in China from 25 – 29 September with the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer. Prior to this the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer will be making a short visit to the City of Yeuyang to renew the City-to-City relationship. Council Policy SC33 allows a Councillor to participate in a visit to a Sister City if approved by Council. As previous Chairman of the City's Sister City Committee, it would be appropriate for him to participate in this visit.

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

The Corporate Strategic Plan Key Result Areas that apply to this item are:-

#### *1. Managing Your City*

#### **Vision:**

Managing the City in a competitive, open and accountable manner.

#### **Objective:**

To manage Council affairs by employing publicly accountable practices.

Policy SC33 Sister City Relationships

### **Budget/Financial Implications**

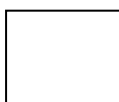
The cost of airfares, accommodation and meals is estimated at \$950. There is provision of \$40,000 in the Sister Cities budget.

### **Legal Implications**

N/A

### **Community Consultation**

N/A



**Attachment(s)**

N/A

**Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A

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

Nil.

**9.5 (MINUTE NO 2898) (SCM 20/07/2005) - PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA (1029) (SGC)**

**RECOMMENDATION**  
That Council:

- (1) establishes a Friendship Agreement with the City of Mobile, Alabama, in accordance with the guidelines set out in Council Policy SC33;
- (2) authorises the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the final form of the Agreement, in accordance with this Policy;
- (3) appoints Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ to chair the Friendship Association with the City of Mobile; and
- (4) in accordance with Policy SC33, authorise Clr \_\_\_\_\_ to accompany the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer in establishing this relationship with the City of Mobile.

**COUNCIL DECISION**  
MOVED Clr S Limbert SECONDED Clr L Goncalves that Council:

- (1) establishes a Friendship Agreement with the City of Mobile, Alabama, in accordance with the guidelines set out in Council Policy SC33;
- (2) authorises the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the final form of the Agreement, in accordance with this Policy;
- (3) appoints Councillor Allen to chair the Friendship Association with the City of Mobile; and
- (4) in accordance with Policy SC33, authorise Clr Allen to



accompany the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer in establishing this relationship with the City of Mobile.

**CARRIED 7/2**

### **Explanation**

Clr Allen has been a past chairperson of the Sister Cities Committee and has continued to promote the benefits of maintaining and establishing commerce based relationships. Since the election in 2000 Clr Allen has been a strong advocate for the resurrection of our Sister City Committee. Clr Allen is also very active in promoting local and developing business through his involvement with the Coastal Business Centre and the Melville Cockburn Chamber of Commerce.

### **Background**

The City of Cockburn currently has Sister City relationships with Split, Croatia and Yeuyang, China. Council has recently established a new Policy, SC33, which sets out what the City aims to achieve from its Sister City relationships, as well as the criteria upon which any new relationship would be established.

### **Submission**

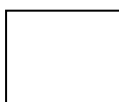
N/A

### **Report**

#### **Sister City Movement**

The Sister City movement, as a worldwide concept, came into its own very shortly after World War Two. National Sister Cities efforts were independently started on many different continents, but all had the same goal; to help develop enduring networks of communication between the cities of the world to cut across boundaries and reduce the likelihood of polarisation and conflict among nations. President Eisenhower's People to People program, which began in America in 1956, gave a huge boost to the concept of twinned cities. Some linkages occurred before that, but the Civic Committee of People to People (one of 40 People to People committees) which promoted town affiliations, eventually became Sister Cities International in 1974.

In Australia, the appeal of "international understanding and friendship" has been attractive to community minded local citizens since at least the 1930's. The Shire of Parkes, New South Wales, claims a Sister City affiliation with Coventry in England that originated in 1939. A relationship was established between Saddleworth in South Australia and Saddleworth Parish in the United Kingdom in 1941, while one has



existed officially between Hunters Hill and Henley-on-Thames since 1950, and one between Bega, New South Wales, and Lyttleton, Colorado, United States of America, since 1956. Today Australian cities have nearly 470 Sister City Agreements throughout the world and this number increases every year.

The ultimate aim of the Sister City Program is to:

“Increase international understanding and foster world peace by further international communication and exchange at the person-to-person level through city-to-city affiliation”.

### **Council Sister City Policy**

The City of Cockburn has two existing Sister City relationships. The first relationship was established with the City of Split in Croatia in 1997, followed by Yeuyang in China in 1998. Council desires to maintain a small number of active sister city relationships based upon the benefits which can accrue, including trade, tourism, cultural, educational and sporting activities.

Policy SC33 states the objectives in forming Sister City Relationships are:

1. *To promote Cockburn and assist in fostering economic development, tourism and trade relations.*
2. *To seek a wider understanding of other nations, their traditions, customs, education and cultures and similarly to promote to other nations the traditions, customs and education and cultures of Australia.*
3. *To foster international peace and goodwill.*

In Council Policy SC33 the Council considers that these objectives can be achieved by:

1. *Trade, cultural, educational, tourism and sporting exchanges.*
2. *Official visits.*

Council Policy SC33 also states that Council's role will be:

1. *To encourage exchanges.*
2. *To facilitate and assist visits and exchanges (such as providing letters of introduction to the Sister City).*
3. *To arrange an exchange of greeting on the occasion of visits from Sister Cities.*



4. *To facilitate exchange of educational, cultural and promotional material.*
5. *To encourage students to learn about a Sister City by carrying out school projects on that city.*
6. *To provide information to visitors from Sister Cities on places of interest.*
7. *To set up friendship associations for its Sister Cities. These associations will be chaired by a Councillor and would provide a vehicle for businesses, cultural and community groups, sporting associations and educational institutions to action the objectives of the Sister City relationship.*
8. *To take an active role in the Australian Sister Cities Association.*

#### **Linkages with the City of Mobile**

Using the above criteria, there is a strong justification in the City pursuing the establishment of a relationship with the City of Mobile, Alabama.

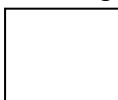
The City of Mobile is a city located in Mobile County, Alabama, United States. As of the 2000 census, the population of the city is 198,915. Mobile is the centre of Alabama's second-largest metropolitan area (which consists of Mobile and Baldwin Counties) and metropolitan Mobile has a population of 551,178. Its name is derived from the presence of the Mobile (Mauvile or Maubila) Indians in the area at the time of founding.

Mobile, as a central Gulf Coast city has a subtropical climate, which consists of mild, wet winter and hot, wet summers. Mobile is also very vulnerable to storm surges from hurricanes, which the area frequently experiences. The City is served by Mobile Regional Airport. Mobile is home to the University of South Alabama, Bishop State Community College, Spring Hill College and the University of Mobile.

*Trade links between the two countries; preference being given to cities in countries where Australia has a free trade agreement or a proven trade record.*

Cockburn and Mobile share common business interests as both have the Austal ship building company as a major employer. Austal's yard in Mobile, Alabama, established in partnership with Bender Shipbuilding and Repair, delivers a new dimension in high-speed marine transport, utilizing the company's leading edge technology and design capabilities

Austal has strong links with Mobile with staff from Austal yards regularly travelling between our two countries. Many of the businesses



in Cockburn are major clients of Austal –e.g. OneSteel and Ratheon, with a large number of jobs directly and indirectly dependent on this business.

The Mobile shipyard focuses entirely on defence shipbuilding, a specialization that is increasingly important to the Austal and Tenix shipyards. The recent awarding of the Air Warfare Defence Destroyer contract to the Australian Submarine Company will see a direct flow on of work to the AMC. Austal's bid for the Logistic Ship Replacement contract would also see a substantial flow of work into the AMC and businesses that service this facility. With the desire to establish a stronger defence industry cluster around the AMC, there is the potential to learn from Mobile's success.

Australia has also enjoyed a long and stable political relationship with the USA. The ANZUS alliance is now in its 50th year and we have recently signed a Free Trade Agreement. Our shared democratic values and interests make a Sister City relationship with a US City a logical extension of this political relationship.

Cultural links between the two countries; preference being given to cities in countries where Council determines that the City would benefit from a greater awareness and appreciation of that country's traditions and customs.

The City of Mobile has a strong education system focused on their local economy. There are 12 higher education institutions in Mobile, which are a mix of Universities, Community Colleges and Vocational Training Colleges, which have a defence and shipbuilding focus. The recent announcement by the West Australian State Government of a new TAFE College to be built at the Australian Marine Complex, with a focus on Oil and Gas, and an expansion of Defence and shipbuilding training, will see a similar level linkage of education to industry develop here in Cockburn. It is highly possible that education exchanges could occur in the future.

Friendship Agreement. The Mayor and senior officials from the City of Mobile have previously visited Cockburn. Following an informal contact recently with his Office, it is apparent there is considerable support in Mobile for the establishment of a formal relationship with Cockburn.

There are strong similarities between the two Cities and our economic base. There are also potential benefits that could arise from a closer working relationship. Our long-standing cultural and political ties make a relationship with a US city a worthwhile linkage. It is recommended that that the City establishes a Friendship Agreement with the City of Mobile, as a prelude to a possible full Sister City arrangement.



**Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The Corporate Strategic Plan Key Result Areas which apply to this item are:-

*1. Managing Your City*

**Vision:**

Managing the City in a competitive, open and accountable manner.

**Objective:**

To manage Council affairs by employing publicly accountable practices.

Policy SC33 Sister City Relationships

**Budget/Financial Implications**

There is a provision of \$40,000 in the Sister Cities account.

**Legal Implications**

N/A

**Community Consultation**

N/A

**Attachment(s)**

N/A

**Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A

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

Nil.

**10. (MINUTE NO 2899) (SCM 20/07/2005) - RESOLUTION OF COMPLIANCE (SECTION 3.18(3), LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council is satisfied that resolutions carried at this Meeting and applicable to items concerning Council provided services and facilities, are:-





- (1) integrated and co-ordinated, so far as practicable, with any provided by the Commonwealth, the State or any public body;
- (2) 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
- (3) managed efficiently and effectively.

**COUNCIL DECISION**  
 MOVED Deputy Mayor R Graham SECONDED Cllr L Goncalves that the recommendation be adopted.

**CARRIED 9/0**

**11 (SCM 20/07/2005) - CLOSURE OF MEETING**

Mayor Lee thanked the Director, Finance and Corporate Services for a professional job well done. On behalf of the Council, Mayor Lee extended his appreciation to those involved in the successful Budget process.

MEETING CLOSED 8.05 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: ...../...../.....

