



TOWN OF VINCENT

"Enhancing and celebrating our diverse community"

MINUTES

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

<p>14 MAY 2008</p>

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Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council of the Town of Vincent held at the Administration and Civic Centre, 244 Vincent Street, Leederville, on Wednesday 14 May 2007, commencing at 6.00pm.

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Presiding Member, Mayor Nick Catania, JP, declared the meeting open at 6.03pm.

2. APOLOGIES/MEMBERS ON APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

(a) Apologies:

Cr Steed Farrell (<i>Deputy Mayor</i>)	North Ward (<i>Due to Family Commitments</i>)
Cr Izzi Messina	South Ward (<i>Due to Work Commitments</i>)

(b) Present:

Mayor Nick Catania, JP	Presiding Member
Cr Anka Burns	South Ward
Cr Helen Doran-Wu	North Ward
Cr Ian Ker	South Ward
Cr Sally Lake	South Ward
Cr Dudley Maier	North Ward
Cr Noel Youngman	North Ward

John Giorgi, JP	Chief Executive Officer
Des Abel	A/Director Development Services
Mike Rootsey	Director Corporate Services
Rick Lotznicker	Director Technical Services

Lindsay McPhee	Journalist – “ <i>The Guardian Express</i> ” (<i>until approx 6.20pm</i>)
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1 Member of the Public present.

(c) Members on Leave of Absence:

Nil.

3. (a) PUBLIC QUESTION TIME & RECEIVING OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

Nil.

4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER (WITHOUT DISCUSSION)

Nil.

6. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- 6.1 Mayor Catania disclosed a proximity interest in Item 7.1 – Draft Budget 2008/2009. The extent of his interest being that he owns a property in Forrest Street, North Perth, which is being considered for road works.
- 6.2 Cr Lake disclosed a financial interest in Item 7.1 – page 52 Heritage Grant Carryover. The extent of her interest being that she owns a heritage listed property.
- 6.3 Cr Lake disclosed a proximity interest on Item 7.1 – 1.9 Entry Statements – Chatsworth Road and 1.11 Road to Recovery – Chatsworth Road – the extent of her interest being that she owns a property in Chatsworth Road.
- 6.4 Cr Maier disclosed a financial interest in Item 7.1 – page 52 Heritage Grant Carryover. The extent of his interest being that he owns a property on the MHI.
- 6.5 Cr Maier disclosed a proximity interest on Item 7.1 – 1.9 Entry Statements – Chatsworth Road and 1.11 Road to Recovery – Chatsworth Road – the extent of his interest being that she owns a property in Chatsworth Road.

7.1 Draft Annual Budget 2008/2009

Ward:	Both	Date:	7 May 2008
Precinct:	All	File Ref:	FIN0025
Attachments:	-		
Reporting Officer(s):	M Rootsey		
Checked/Endorsed by:	John Giorgi	Amended by:	

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council:

- (i) ***APPROVES IN PRINCIPLE the Draft Budget 2008/2009; and***
- (ii) ***ADVERTISES the Draft Budget 2008-2009 for public comment for a period of twenty-one (21) days and further considers any submissions received.***

Moved Cr Burns, Seconded Cr Ker

That the recommendation be adopted.

Debate ensued.

Mayor Catania advised that he would call for speakers in turn. Each Councillor then spoke in turn.

Cr Ker spoke and asked a number of questions about the Minimum Rate. He also foreshadowed that he would be moving an amendment.

AMENDMENT 1

Moved Cr Ker, Seconded Cr Maier

That the Minimum Rate be changed to \$545.

Debate ensued.

AMENDMENT 1 PUT AND CARRIED (6-1)

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
Mayor Catania	Cr Doran-Wu
Cr Burns	
Cr Ker	
Cr Lake	
Cr Maier	
Cr Youngman	

(Crs Farrell and Messina were apologies for the meeting.)

Debate ensued.

AMENDMENT 2

Moved Cr Maier, Seconded Cr Youngman

That the Draft Budget 2008/2009 be amended by:

- (i) *deleting the item relating to the sale of the Sydney Street Carpark land; and*
- (ii) *deleting the corresponding amount of \$700,000 to be placed in the Beatty Park Leisure Centre Reserve Fund.*

Debate ensued.

The Presiding Member ruled that he would deal with the amendment in two parts, clause (i) and (ii).

Clause (i)

AMENDMENT 2 CLAUSE (i) PUT AND LOST (3-4)

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
Cr Lake	Mayor Catania
Cr Maier	Cr Burns
Cr Youngman	Cr Doran-Wu
	Cr Ker

(Crs Farrell and Messina were apologies.)

Clause (ii)

AMENDMENT 2 CLAUSE (ii) PUT AND LOST (0-7)

Debate ensued.

MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND CARRIED (6-1)

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
Mayor Catania	Cr Lake
Cr Burns	
Cr Doran-Wu	
Cr Ker	
Cr Maier	
Cr Youngman	

(Crs Farrell and Messina were apologies for the meeting.)

The Presiding Member, Mayor Nick Catania, JP declared the meeting closed at 6.23pm.

Cr Maier queried whether the next Special Meeting of Council (listed for 20 May 2008) for the budget would still be held. The Chief Executive Officer advised that as there were no other changes it would no longer be required and that the Council should delete it from the Budget Timetable.

Mayor Catania and Cr's Ker and Youngman signed the paperwork for the Motion to Change a Council Decision.

Moved Cr Burns, Seconded Cr Ker

That the Meeting be re-convened to consider the Budget timetable, as it was suggested that another Special Council Meeting may not be required.

CARRIED (7-0)

(Crs Farrell and Messina were apologies for the meeting.)

MOTION TO CHANGE A COUNCIL DECISION

Moved Cr Youngman, Seconded Cr Ker

That;

- (i) *in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 as referred to in Section 5.25(e) of the Local Government Act 1995, three Council Members, namely Mayor Catania., Cr Ker and Cr Youngman, being one third of the number of offices of members of the Council, SUPPORT this motion to revoke or change a Council decision; and*
- (ii) *in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 as referred to Section 5.25(e) of the Local Government Act 1995, the Council RESOLVES BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY to CHANGE part of the resolution adopted by the Council at its Ordinary Meeting held on 22 April 2008 by;*
 - (a) *Amending the Budget Timetable to:*
 - (i) *delete the "2nd Budget Briefing/Special Council Meeting (open to the Public) on 20 May 2008; and*
 - (ii) *varying the dates for the advertising of the Draft Budget for community consultation and the closing date (by bringing this forward).*

MOTION PUT AND CARRIED
BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (5-2)

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
Mayor Catania	Cr Lake
Cr Burns	Cr Maier
Cr Doran-Wu	
Cr Ker	
Cr Youngman	

(Crs Farrell and Messina were apologies for the meeting.)

COUNCIL DECISION ITEM 7.1

That the Council;

- (i) ***APPROVES IN PRINCIPLE the Draft Budget 2008/2009 subject to the following amendment:***
 - (a) *that the Minimum Rate be changed to \$545;*
- (ii) ***APPROVES BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY to amend the Budget Timetable to:***
 - (a) *delete the “2nd Budget Briefing/Special Council Meeting (open to the Public) on 20 May 2008; and*
 - (b) *varying the dates for the advertising of the Draft Budget for community consultation and the closing date (by bringing this forward); and*
- (iii) ***AUTHORISES the Chief Executive Officer to advertise the Draft Budget 2008-2009 for public comment for a period of twenty-one (21) days and further considers any submissions received.***

PURPOSE OF REPORT:

To present the Draft Budget prepared for the financial year 2008/2009.

BACKGROUND:

The budget timetable for the Budget 2008-2009 was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 4 December 2007 but was subsequently amended at the Ordinary Council Meeting of 22 April 2008, Item 10.3.3. The amended timetable is shown below.

<i>DATE</i>	<i>TOPIC</i>
<i>1-30 April</i>	<i>Chief Executive Officer and Directors to review Draft Budget.</i>
<i>5 May</i>	<i>Draft budget issued to Council Members</i>
<i>10 May</i>	<i>Briefing (behind closed doors) provided to Council Members on Draft Budget</i>
<i>14 May</i>	<i>1st Budget briefing/Special Council Meeting (open to the public</i>
<i>20 May</i>	<i>2nd Budget briefing/Special Council Meeting (open to the public)</i>
<i>30 May - 2 June</i>	<i>Budget documentation finalised for public comment</i>
<i>2 June</i>	<i>Advertise for public comment</i>
<i>23 June</i>	<i>Public comment closes</i>
<i>23 June - 26 June</i>	<i>Final Budget documentation and report for Council prepared</i>
<i>26 June</i>	<i>Agenda report issued</i>
<i>2 July</i>	<i>Adoption of Annual Budget at the Special Council meeting</i>

The briefing (behind closed doors) for the Council Members was held on Saturday 10 May 2008.

DETAILS:

Draft Budget

The Draft Budget 2008-2009 as presented proposes the funds for the new capital works as follows:

Land and Buildings	\$3,114,334
Infrastructure	\$6,123,612
Plant and Equipment	\$970,700
Furniture and Equipment	\$123,850

The Town's Administration has prepared the draft budget and has included the following;

- (a) Council adopted programs;
- (b) Items from Council resolutions;
- (c) Council Members' requests;
- (d) Ratepayer/resident requests; and
- (e) Projects identified by the Town's Administration.

The Town's Administration has used the following criteria to determine project priorities;

<i>Priority Rating</i>		
1	Very High	Adopted program/Legislative requirement/safety issue/significant Ratepayer benefit
2	High	Essential/cost benefits/Community need
3	Medium	Desirable/may benefit the Community
4	Low	Nice to do/not a priority
5	Very Low	No demonstrated benefit/need

The budget for recurrent operating expenditure is \$33,331,910.

The rates figure on the summary page of the Draft Budget of \$17,775,567 represents the funds that would be generated from a rates calculation at this point of time using the existing rate in the dollar, plus an estimate of the existing rates from the new areas using the Town's rate in the dollar, therefore taking into account any interim accounts that would be applicable for the full year. The value of operating revenue other than rates income is \$15,065,030.

As the summary indicates, if all the works included on the Draft Budget 2008/09 as presented are funded, the Council will need an estimated increase of **5.9%** in the rate in the dollar to meet all of the requests.

CONSULTATION/ADVERTISING:

The Council's Policy No. 4.1.21 "Community Consultation" prescribes the Draft Budget to be advertised on a local basis for a period of 21 days. Copies are also placed on the Town's Web page, placed in the Library and sent to the Community/Business Groups.

LEGAL/POLICY:

Adoption of Budget

The recent amendments to the Local Government Act 1995 now allow the Council to adopt its budget prior to the end of the financial year 30 June 2008. The Council will this year adopt the budget at a Special Council Meeting on 2 July 2008.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:

The Council's budget process is in accordance with the Council's Plan for the Future Strategic Plan 2006-2011, Objective 4.1 Leadership, Governance and Management:

- "4.1.2 Manage the organisation in a responsible, efficient and accountable manner"*
- "4.1.4 Deliver services in ways that accord with the expectations of the community, whilst maintaining statutory compliance"*
 - (c) Develop a medium to long-term strategic vision and strategic financial plan to ensure the long term financial viability of the Town."*

FINANCIAL/BUDGET IMPLICATIONS:

The approval in principle of the Draft Budget is essential to maintain the timeframe to allow adoption of the Annual Budget in line with the Council approved timetable.

This will then ensure funding for the operations of the Council for the next financial year.

COMMENTS:

The Draft Budget 2008-09 provides funding for a comprehensive Capital Works Programme to provide good quality infrastructure for the Town. In addition, the Operating Budget includes monies to provide and maintain current level of service for the ratepayers.

It is recommended the Council consider and approve in principle the Draft Budget 2008-2009 and for this to be advertised and issued for public comment.

8. CLOSURE

The Presiding Member, Mayor Nick Catania, JP declared the meeting closed at 6.27pm with the following persons present:

Mayor Nick Catania, JP	Presiding Member
Cr Anka Burns	South Ward
Cr Helen Doran-Wu	North Ward
Cr Ian Ker	South Ward
Cr Sally Lake	South Ward
Cr Dudley Maier	North Ward
Cr Noel Youngman	North Ward
John Giorgi, JP	Chief Executive Officer
Des Abel	A/Director Development Services
Mike Rootsey	Director Corporate Services
Rick Lotznicker	Director Technical Services

1 Member of the Public.

These Minutes were confirmed by the Council as a true and accurate record of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 14 May 2008.

Signed:Presiding Member
Mayor Nick Catania, JP

Dated this day of 2008