



**TOWN OF VINCENT**

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*"Enhancing and celebrating our diverse community"*

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# MINUTES

## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

<p>12 MAY 2010</p>
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*This document is available in the following alternative formats upon request for people with specific needs; large print, Braille, audio cassette and computer disk*

Minutes of the Special Meeting of Council of the Town of Vincent held at the Administration and Civic Centre, 244 Vincent Street, Leederville, on Tuesday 11 May 2010, commencing at 6.00pm.

**1. DECLARATION OF OPENING**

The Presiding Member, Mayor Nick Catania, JP, declared the meeting open at 6.04pm.

**2. APOLOGIES/MEMBERS ON APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

**(a) Apologies:**

Cr Steed Farrell (*Deputy Mayor*) – apology due to personal commitments.

**(b) Present:**

Mayor Nick Catania, JP	Presiding Member
Cr Matt Buckels	North Ward
Cr Taryn Harvey	North Ward
Cr Sally Lake ( <i>Deputy Mayor</i> )	South Ward
Cr Warren McGrath	South Ward
Cr Dudley Maier	North Ward
Cr Joshua Topelberg	South Ward
John Giorgi, JP	Chief Executive Officer
Rob Boardman	Director Development Services
Rick Lotznicker	Director Technical Services
Mike Rootsey	Director Corporate Services

No members of the Public present.

**(c) Members on Leave of Absence:**

Cr Anka Burns – due to personal reasons.

**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)**

I would like to officially announce that Cr Burns has given birth to a young baby boy called Hunter! On behalf of the Council, I offer our congratulations.

**6. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Nil.

**7.1 Draft Annual Budget 2010/2011**

<b>Ward:</b>	Both	<b>Date:</b>	5 May 2010
<b>Precinct:</b>	All	<b>File Ref:</b>	FIN0025
<b>Attachments:</b>	-		
<b>Reporting Officer:</b>	M Rootsey, Director Corporate Services		
<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	John Giorgi, Chief Executive Officer		

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:**

*That the Council;*

- (i) **APPROVES IN PRINCIPLE the Draft Budget 2010/2011;**
- (ii) **ADVERTISES the Draft Budget 2010/2011 for public comment for a period of fourteen (14) days and further considers any submissions received; and**
- (iii) **in the event that a second Budget Special Council Meeting is not required, APPROVES BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY to authorise the Chief Executive Officer to amend the adopted Budget Timetable to:**
  - (a) **delete the 2<sup>nd</sup> Budget Briefing/Special Council Meeting (open to the Public) on 26 May 2010; and**
  - (b) **varying the dates for the advertising of the Draft Budget for community consultation and the closing date for receiving of public submissions.**

**Moved Cr Topelberg, Seconded Cr Buckels**

*That the recommendation be adopted.*

The Presiding Member stated that as the Director Corporate Services had briefed Council Members at the briefing session held on Thursday 6 May 2010, he would consider the Draft Budget in sections. He would call on Councillors to speak in turn for each section.

At approximately 6.10pm the Presiding Member suggested that Standing Orders be suspended to enable Council Members to have free and open debate on each item.

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

**Moved Cr Harvey, Seconded Cr McGrath**

*That Standing Orders be suspended to enable Council Members to have free and open debate on each item.*

**PROCEDURAL MOTION PUT AND CARRIED (7-0)**

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

Discussion ensued on the various items.

**Confidential briefing – ME Bank Stadium**

The Chief Executive Officer and Mayor provided a confidential briefing to the Council Members. The Council requested that this information be included in the Minutes on a confidential basis in order that the future Council will have access to the information. (Refer to confidential attachment.)

At 8.15pm the following Procedure Motion was moved.

**PROCEDURAL MOTION**

**Moved Cr Topelberg, Seconded Cr Maier**

*That Standing Orders be resumed.*

**PROCEDURAL MOTION PUT AND CARRIED (7-0)**

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

The Presiding Member, Mayor Catania asked for any amendments to be moved.

**AMENDMENT NO 1**

**Moved Cr Maier, Seconded Cr Topelberg**

*(Page 1.3) That the Slab Footpath Programme of \$450,000 be reduced to \$300,000.*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 1 PUT AND LOST (3-4)**

**For:** Cr McGrath, Cr Maier, Cr Topelberg

**Against:** Mayor Catania, Cr Buckels, Cr Harvey, Cr Lake

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**AMENDMENT NO 2**

**Moved Cr Maier, Seconded Cr Lake**

*(Page 1.3) That the amount for the Slab Footpath Programme be reduced from \$450,000 to \$350,000.*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 2 PUT AND CARRIED (7-0)**

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**AMENDMENT NO 3**

**Moved Cr Maier, Seconded Cr Harvey**

*(Page 1.6) That the amount for the Outdoor Gym Equipment be increased from \$20,000 to \$60,000.*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 1 PUT AND LOST (3-4)**

**For:** Mayor Catania, Cr Lake, Cr Maier

**Against:** Cr McGrath, Cr Buckels, Cr Harvey, Cr Topelberg

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**AMENDMENT NO 4**

**Moved Cr Maier, Seconded Cr Lake**

*(Page 1.6) That the amount for the Outdoor Gym Equipment be increased from \$20,000 to \$50,000.*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 1 PUT AND LOST (3-4)**

**For:** Cr Lake, Cr Maier, Cr Topelberg

**Against:** Mayor Catania, Cr McGrath, Cr Buckels, Cr Harvey

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**AMENDMENT NO 5**

**Moved Cr McGrath, Seconded Cr Maier**

*(Page 1.6) That the amount for the Outdoor Gym Equipment be increased from \$20,000 to \$40,000.*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 1 PUT AND CARRIED (6-1)**

**For:** Mayor Catania, Cr Harvey, Cr Lake, Cr McGrath, Cr Maier, Cr Topelberg

**Against:** Cr Buckels

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

Cr Maier requested that the words on page 1.11 be amended to read as follows "Installation of air-conditioning RG (new hall)" be changed to read as "Installation of cooling RG (new hall)".

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 6**

**Moved Cr Topelberg, Seconded Cr Buckels**

*(Page 4.63) That the words "Cappuccino Festival" be changed to read "Community Festivals Programme".*

**AMENDMENT NO 6 PUT AND CARRIED (6-1)**

**For:** Cr Buckels, Cr Harvey, Cr Lake, Cr McGrath, Cr Maier, Cr Topelberg

**Against:** Mayor Catania

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**AMENDMENT NO 7**

**Moved Cr Maier, Seconded Cr McGrath**

*(Page 2.1) That there be an addition of two (2) Rangers and ancillary supporting staff and equipment at the cost of \$200,000 and simultaneously, the recognition of \$200,000 in revenue.*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 7 PUT AND LOST (3-4)**

**For:** Cr Buckels, Cr McGrath, Cr Maier

**Against:** Mayor Catania, Cr Harvey, Cr Lake, Cr Topelberg

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**AMENDMENT NO 8**

**Moved Cr Lake, Seconded Cr Buckles**

*(Page 3.4) That the "Hyde Park Reserve – Cyclist speed reduction treatments of \$5,000" be included into the 2010/11 Budget.*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 8 PUT AND CARRIED (7-0)**

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**AMENDMENT NO 9**

**Moved Cr Maier, Seconded Cr Harvey**

*(Page 4.59) That the recovery of the deficit for the Leederville Oval Electricity account be reduced from \$27,000 to \$10,000.*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 9 PUT AND CARRIED (7-0)**

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**Negotiations with State Government – ME Bank Stadium**

Whilst the Council was behind closed doors, the Chief Executive Officer provided comprehensive confidential background information on the negotiations to date and the draft Lease details.

The Council requested that a summary of the information be included in Minutes on a confidential basis, in order that the Council in the future can have access to the details of negotiations.

**CONFIDENTIAL MOTION**

**Moved Cr Topelberg, Seconded Cr Harvey**

*“That the Council:*

- ...(iv) *AUTHORISES the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the possible long term lease of ME Bank Stadium to the State Government of Western Australia (the State) and ADOPTS Option 2 (as shown in the Confidential Attachment 7.1), as its preferred Option; and*
- (v) *REQUESTS that any report to the Council for ratification of the Lease, Terms and Conditions, be accompanied with Independent advice from the Town's Valuer and/or Property Consultant.”*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 10 PUT AND CARRIED (7-0)**

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**AMENDMENT NO 10**

**Moved Cr Lake, Seconded Cr McGrath**

*(Page 5.1) That an additional \$50,000 be included into the Hyde Park Lakes Reserve Fund.*

Debate ensued.

**AMENDMENT NO 11 PUT AND CARRIED (5-2)**

**For:** Mayor Catania, Cr Buckels, Cr Harvey, Cr McGrath, Cr Lake

**Against:** Cr Maier, Cr Topelberg

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**MOTION AS AMENDED PUT AND CARRIED**  
**BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (7-0)**

(Cr Farrell was an apology for the meeting. Cr Burns was on approved leave of absence.)

**COUNCIL DECISION ITEM 7.1**

*That the Council;*

- (i) *APPROVES IN PRINCIPLE the Draft Budget 2010/2011, subject to the following changes:*
- (a) *(Page 1.3) That the Slab Footpath Programme of \$450,000 be reduced to \$350,000;*
- (b) *(Page 1.6) That the amount for the Outdoor Gym Equipment be increased from \$20,000 to \$40,000;*

- (c) *(Page 4.63) That the words “Cappuccino Festival” be changed to read “Community Festivals Programme”;*
- (d) *(Page 3.4) That the “Hyde Park Reserve – Cyclist speed reduction treatments of \$5,000” be included;*
- (e) *(Page 4.59) That the recovery of the deficit for the Leederville Oval Electricity account be reduced from \$27,000 to \$10,000; and*
- (f) *(Page 5.1) That an additional \$50,000 be included into the Hyde Park Lakes Reserve Fund;*
- (ii) *ADVERTISES the Draft Budget 2010/2011 for public comment for a period of fourteen (14) days and further considers any submissions received;*
- (iii) *in the event that a second Budget Special Council Meeting is not required, APPROVES BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY to authorise the Chief Executive Officer to amend the adopted Budget Timetable to:*
  - (a) *delete the 2<sup>nd</sup> Budget Briefing/Special Council Meeting (open to the Public) on 26 May 2010; and*
  - (b) *varying the dates for the advertising of the Draft Budget for community consultation and the closing date for receiving of public submissions;*
- (iv) *AUTHORISES the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the possible long term lease of ME Bank Stadium to the State Government of Western Australia (the State) and ADOPTS Option 2 (as shown in the Confidential Attachment 7.1), as its preferred Option; and*
- (v) *REQUESTS that any report to the Council for ratification of the Lease, Terms and Conditions, be accompanied with Independent advice from the Town's Valuer and/or Property Consultant.*

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**PURPOSE OF REPORT:**

To present and consider the Draft Budget for the financial year 2010/2011

**BACKGROUND:**

The budget timetable for the 2010/2011 Draft Annual Budget was adopted at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 1 December 2009 and revised at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 27 April 2010.

<i>DATE</i>	<i>TOPIC</i>
<i>1-30 April</i>	<i>Chief Executive Officer and Directors to review Draft Budget.</i>
<i>30 April</i>	<i>Draft budget issued to Council Members</i>
<i>6 May</i>	<i>Briefing provided to Council Members on Draft Budget</i>
<i>12 May</i>	<i>1<sup>st</sup> Budget briefing/Special Council Meeting (open to the public)</i>
<i>26 May</i>	<i>2<sup>nd</sup> Budget briefing/Special Council Meeting (open to the public)</i>
<i>26 May – 30 May</i>	<i>Budget documentation finalised for public comment</i>
<i>31 May</i>	<i>Advertise for public comment</i>
<i>15 June</i>	<i>Public comment closes</i>
<i>16 June – 24 June</i>	<i>Final Budget documentation and report for Council prepared</i>
<i>24 June</i>	<i>Agenda report issued</i>
<i>6 July</i>	<i>Adoption of Annual Budget at the Special Council meeting</i>

A briefing for the Council Members was held on Thursday 6 May 2010.

**DETAILS:**

**Draft Budget**

The Draft Budget 2010/2011 as presented proposes the funds for the new capital works as follows:

Land and Buildings	\$11,653,150
Infrastructure	\$7,374,834
Plant and Equipment	\$2,522,600
Furniture and Equipment	\$197,700

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:

<b>Priority Rating</b>		
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 \$39,964,715.

The rates figure on the summary page of the Draft Budget of \$20,851,929 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 \$17,439,355

As the summary indicates, if all the works included on the Draft Budget 2010/2011 as presented are funded, the Council will need an estimate increase of 4.94% in the rate in the dollar to meet all of the requests.

It should be noted that the inflation rate is estimated to be 3% (State Consumer Price Index) and the Local Government Index is estimated to be 3.7%. The State Government has stated that there will be significant increases in utility charges for the next financial year and the Town will also incur increases in waste tipping costs. Therefore, the estimated increase in the rate of the dollar is considered appropriate to meet all of the budget requirements.

**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 14 days. Copies are also placed on the Town's website, placed in the Library and sent to the Community/Business Groups.

The approved revised Budget timetable provides for two Special Council Meetings (12 and 26 May 2010) to consider the matter. The second meeting will only be held if required. In 2009 the Council considered and determined the Draft Budget at one Special Council Meeting. Should this be the case in 2010, it will be appropriate for the Council to amend the Budget Timetable to reflect the change – in essence, this would shorten the process by approximately two weeks.

## **LEGAL/POLICY:**

### **Adoption of Budget**

The 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 2010. The Council will this year adopt the budget at a Special Meeting of Council on 6 July 2010.

There is no legal requirement for a Local Government to advertise their Draft Budget for Community Consultation. However, as the Council is aware the Town has been advertising its Draft Budget for Community Consultation for a number of years in accordance with Community Consultation Policy 4.1.21.

## **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:**

The Council's budget process is in accordance with the Council's Plan for the Future Strategic Plan 2009-2014, 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 maintain 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."*

## **SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS:**

The Town has been independently assessed as being viable and sustainable.

The Town is in a strong financial position, with considerable funds in reserve, debts covered by money-back guarantees, considerable future revenue from its share of the Tamala Park land and with potential income from the future developments in Leederville.

## **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 next financial year.

## **COMMENTS:**

The 2010/2011 Annual Budget has been prepared in improved economic conditions.

The Draft Budget 2010/2011 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 the current level of service for the ratepayers.

It is recommended the Council consider and approve in principle the Draft Budget 2010/2011 and for this to be advertised for public comment.

**8. CLOSURE**

**The Presiding Member, Mayor Nick Catania, JP declared the meeting closed at 8.40pm with the following persons present:**

Mayor Nick Catania, JP	Presiding Member
Cr Matt Buckels	North Ward
Cr Taryn Harvey	North Ward
Cr Sally Lake ( <i>Deputy Mayor</i> )	South Ward
Cr Warren McGrath	South Ward
Cr Dudley Maier	North Ward
Cr Joshua Topelberg	South Ward
John Giorgi, JP	Chief Executive Officer
Rob Boardman	Director Development Services
Rick Lotznicker	Director Technical Services
Mike Rootsey	Director Corporate Services

No members of the Public were present.

These Minutes were confirmed by the Council as a true and accurate record of the Special Meeting of the Council held on 12 May 2010.

Signed: .....Presiding Member  
Mayor Nick Catania

Dated this ..... day of ..... 2010