

MINUTES of the **SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE COLAC-OTWAY SHIRE COUNCIL** held at the COPACC Meeting Room, Rae Street, Colac on 10 June 2008 at 12.00 noon.

1. PRESENT

Cr Chris Smith, Mayor
Cr Tony Graham
Cr Fran Lehmann
Cr Peter Mercer
Cr Warren Riches
Cr Carol Wilmink

Tracey Slatter, Chief Executive Officer
Jack Green, General Manager Sustainable Planning and Development
Colin Hayman, General Manager Corporate and Community Services
Brett Exelby, Manager Finance and Customer Service

Althea Wright, Executive Officer
Suzanne White, Executive Assistant

2. APOLOGIES

Cr Joe DiCecco
Gary Dolan, General Manager Infrastructure and Services

The Mayor advised that no audio recording of this meeting would take place as the equipment is currently being repaired.

3. QUESTION TIME

Questions Received in Writing Prior to the Meeting

Rod Spence, CORRA

In 2004 Council sold approximately 11 acres of Council land in Bruce Street, Colac for \$1,030,000.00.

1. Why can't this money be used to reduce debt or fund part of the capital budget?

It is a matter for Council to decide upon. There are no legal or particular restrictions in place which prevent the funds from being used to retire debt, except that which forms part of the Council decision which sets up the reserve in which the funds were allocated.

However, there are other reasons that need to be considered prior to doing so. For instance, is it fiscally responsible to utilise these funds to retire debt? All of Council's debt utilises fixed rate loans which are at an average fixed rate of 6.47% which also attracts penalties for early payout. Council is currently able to obtain short term investment rates from banking institutions of 8.08% for the funds held in reserve. Council is in this case behaving in a far more financially responsible manner by retaining the funds in reserve, which in turn reduces the demands on rate income.

In addition to this, Council should make sure that in disposing of a community asset, Council ensures that these funds are then used to acquire another asset that gives a positive return to the community.

2. How much of these funds have been used already? How were they spent?

Of these funds approximately \$40,000 has been used for boundary realignment negotiations and associated legal fees.

3. How much of these funds are still held by Council?

The sale of lakeside resulted in a net result to Council of \$930,000, Council agreed to place the \$930,000 from the sale proceeds into reserves. In taking into account question two (2) above, Council currently holds approximately \$890,000 of the proceeds from the sale. The details about the initial recognition of the reserve are included on page 107 of the 2006/2007 Annual report, and any alterations to the reserve will be included in all subsequent Annual Reports and Annual Financial Statements.

Questions Received Verbally at the Meeting

Nil

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

OFFICERS' REPORTS

Corporate and Community Services

SC081006-1 CONSIDERATION OF THE 2008/09 BUDGET

SC081006-1 CONSIDERATION OF THE 2008/09 BUDGET

AUTHOR: Colin Hayman
DEPARTMENT: Executive

ENDORSED: Tracey Slatter
FILE REF: GEN00392
Estimates/Budgets

Recommendation(s)

1. ***That the 2008/09 Draft Budget annexed to this resolution be the Budget prepared by Council pursuant to Section 127 of the Local Government Act 1989.***
2. ***That the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to:***
 - (i) ***give public notice of the proposed Budget in accordance with Section 129(1) of the Local Government Act 1989; and***
 - (ii) ***make available for public inspection a copy of the proposed budget in accordance with Section 129(3) of the Local Government Act 1989.***
3. ***That Council:***
 - (i) ***calls for written submissions in accordance with section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 on the proposals contained in the 2008/09 budget. Written public submissions will be accepted until 5.00 pm Wednesday 9th July, 2008; and***
 - (ii) ***hears any person who wishes to be heard (either personally or by a person acting on their behalf) in support of a submission received in relation to the proposed budget at a Special Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 15th 2008 at 9.00 am.***
4. ***That Council:***
 - (i) ***Proposes that the rates in the dollar for each type of rate to be levied (expressed in "cents in the dollar") for the period commencing 1 July 2008 and concluding on 30 June 2009 are:***

<i>Residential – Colac, Colac East, Colac West, Elliminyt</i>	<i>\$0.3015</i>
<i>Residential – Balance Shire</i>	<i>\$0.2563</i>
<i>Rural Farm</i>	<i>\$0.2382</i>
<i>Holiday Rental</i>	<i>\$0.3015</i>
<i>Commercial/Industrial – Colac, Colac East, Colac West, Elliminyt</i>	<i>\$0.4975</i>
<i>Commercial/Industrial – Balance Shire</i>	<i>\$0.4221</i>
<i>Other Charges:</i>	
<i>Aire River Drainage Scheme</i>	<i>\$0.20 per hectare</i>
<i>Tirrengower Drainage Scheme</i>	<i>\$1.273 per hectare</i>

- (ii) *Proposes that a Municipal Charge of \$150.00 per each rateable property in respect to which a municipal charge can be levied for the period commencing 1 July 2008 and concluding on 30 June 2009.*
- (iii) *Proposes that a Waste Management Charge of \$235.00 be levied for the period commencing 1 July 2008 and concluding on 30 June 2009 for properties in areas receiving a weekly garbage collection service.*
- (iv) *Proposes that a Waste Management Charge of \$152.00 be levied for the period commencing 1 July 2008 and concluding on 30 June 2009 for properties in areas receiving a fortnightly or monthly garbage collection service respectively.*

Resolution

MOVED Cr Mercer seconded Cr Riches

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CARRIED 6 : 0

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