

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CNR CHERRY & TAMAR STREETS, BALLINA,
ON 20/03/12 AT 4.00 PM**

Attendance

Crs Phillip Silver (Mayor - in the chair), Sharon Cadwallader, Ben Smith, Keith Johnson, Robyn Hordern, David Wright, Jeff Johnson and Susan Meehan.

Paul Hickey (General Manager), John Truman (Civil Services Group Manager), Rod Willis (Regulatory Services Group Manager), Steve Barnier (Strategic & Community Services Group Manager), Peter Morgan (Manager Finance & Governance) and Sandra Bailey (Secretary) were in attendance.

There were three people in the gallery at this time.

1. Apologies

An apology was received from Cr Alan Brown.

RESOLVED

(Cr David Wright/Cr Ben Smith)

That such apology be accepted.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Peter Moore and Cr Alan Brown

2. Declarations of Interest

Cr Silver – declared a non significant non pecuniary in Item 4.2 – Ballina Town Centre - Beautification Program. (Nature of Interest: he owns a home unit in the vicinity of the CBD). He will be participating in the debate unless the discussion relates to finer details and then he will depart the meeting and not vote on the matter.

3. Deputations

- **Ralph Moss** - spoke in opposition to Item 4.1 - Rating Structure - 2012/13.
- **Ralph Moss** - spoke in opposition to Item 4.2 - Ballina Town Centre - Beautification Program.
- **Ralph Moss** - spoke in opposition to Item 4.3 - Fees and Charges - 2012/13.

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4. Committee Reports

4.2 Ballina Town Centre - Beautification Program

A **Motion** was moved by Cr Susan Meehan and seconded by Cr Robyn Hordern.

1. That Council approves the following program of works for 2011/12 and 2012/13 in respect to the Ballina Main Street Beautification Program:
 - a) 2011/12 - \$1.5 million - Cherry / River Street Roundabout to Fawcett Street - Funded from existing budget (i.e. reserves)
 - b) 2012/13 - \$1,800,000 - Cherry to Martin Streets section of River Street, excluding the Martin Street roundabout - Funded from a Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme loan of \$1.3 million and a standard loan of \$500,000.
2. Council adopts the revised Community Infrastructure Reserve Cash Flow, as per table six of this report, with the 2011/12 budget to be amended as per that cash flow, and the figures for 2012/13 onwards to be included in the 2012/13 Draft Operational Plan.

An **Amendment** was moved by Cr Jeff Johnson

That Council fund the road resealing program as identified in the Council report to the last Finance Committee meeting.

The **Amendment LAPSED.**

Cr Phillip Silver - declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item and left the meeting at 04:38 pm. Cr David Wright resumed the Chair.

The **Motion** was **CARRIED.**

RESOLVED

(Cr Susan Meehan/Cr Robyn Hordern)

1. That Council approves the following program of works for 2011/12 and 2012/13 in respect to the Ballina Main Street Beautification Program:
 - a) 2011/12 - \$1.5 million - Cherry / River Street Roundabout to Fawcett Street - Funded from existing budget (i.e. reserves)
 - b) 2012/13 - \$1,800,000 - Cherry to Martin Streets section of River Street, excluding the Martin Street roundabout - Funded from a Local Infrastructure Renewal Scheme loan of \$1.3 million and a standard loan of \$500,000.

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3. Council adopts the revised Community Infrastructure Reserve Cash Flow, as per table six of this report, with the 2011/12 budget to be amended as per that cash flow, and the figures for 2012/13 onwards to be included in the 2012/13 Draft Operational Plan.

FOR VOTE - Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Ben Smith, Cr Keith Johnson, Cr Robyn Hordern, Cr David Wright and Cr Susan Meehan

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Phillip Silver, Cr Moore, Cr Brown

Cr Phillip Silver returned to the meeting at 04:53 pm and resumed the Chair

4.1 Rating Structure - 2012/13

RESOLVED

(Cr David Wright/Cr Robyn Hordern)

1. That Council, for the 2012/13 Draft Operation Plan, include a base rating structure modelled on the following principles:
 - a) Marginally less than 50% of the rate income for the residential category of properties being generated from the base amount
 - b) Business, farmland and mining categories to have the same base amount as the residential base amount
 - c) A total of 20% income from the rate yield to be sourced from the business category properties.
 - d) The mining category rate in the dollar to be set as the same rate as the business category (currently no mining category properties in the shire).

2. Indicative figures for this rating structure for 2012/13, are as per tables six and seven within this report and as outlined below:

Table Six: Proposed 2012/13 Rating Structure

Rate Category	5.7% Increase	
	Base Charge	Rate in Dollar
Residential	397	0.151434
Business	397	0.537210
Farmland	397	0.122630
Mining	397	0.537210

Table Seven: Proposed 2012/13 Income per Category at 5.7%

Rate Category	2011/2012			2012/2013		
	6.1% increase	% of total	Ave Rate	5.7% increase	% of total	Ave Rate
Residential	11,177,453	72.17	752.00	11,926,964	72.15	796.00
Business	3,061,716	20.00	2,494.00	3,306,099	20.00	2,621.00
Farmland	1,213,150	7.83	1,143.00	1,297,231	7.85	1,220.00

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Mining	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	15,452,319	100.0	902.00	16,530,294	100.0	955.00

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.
ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore and Cr Alan Brown

4.3 Fees and Charges - 2012/13

RESOLVED

(Cr David Wright/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

That Council approves the draft schedule of fees and charges for inclusion in the draft 2012/13 Operational Plan, as attached to this report, including any adjustments resulting from this meeting, as follows:

- a) deleting fees for contribution to public works

FOR VOTE - Cr Phillip Silver, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Ben Smith, Cr Keith Johnson, Cr Robyn Hordern, Cr David Wright, Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Susan Meehan

ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore, Cr Alan Brown

RESOLVED

(Cr Susan Meehan/Cr Robyn Hordern)

That Council receive a report on pool entry fees.

FOR VOTE - Cr Phillip Silver, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Ben Smith, Cr Robyn Hordern, Cr David Wright, Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Susan Meehan

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Keith Johnson

ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore and Cr Alan Brown

4.4 Plant Operations - Long Term Financial Plan

RESOLVED

(Cr David Wright/Cr Robyn Hordern)

That Council notes the contents of this report on the long term financial plan for Council's plant operations, which will be included in the draft Operational Plan for 2012/13.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore, Cr Alan Brown

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4.5 Water Operations - Long Term Financial Plan

RESOLVED

(Cr Keith Johnson/Cr David Wright)

1. That Council approves the inclusion of the draft water budget, as attached to this report, in the 2012/13 Draft Operational Plan, for public comment.
2. That Council approves the inclusion of the following water charging structure in the Draft 2012/13 Operational Plan.

Charge Type	2011/12	2012/13	% Increase
Water Access Charge 20mm meter (1)	156	165	5.9
Water Consumption under 350kl	1.67	1.77	5.9
Water Consumption over 350kl	2.51	2.66	5.9
Vacant Land Charge	156	165	5.9

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore, Cr Alan Brown

4.6 Wastewater (Sewer) Operations - Long Term Financial Plan

RESOLVED

(Cr Keith Johnson/Cr Jeff Johnson)

That a workshop be held on this matter..

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore, Cr Alan Brown

4.7 Waste Operations - Long Term Financial Plan

RESOLVED

(Cr Jeff Johnson/Cr Keith Johnson)

That a workshop be held on this matter.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore, Cr Alan Brown

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4.8 Capital Works - Recurrent - 2012/13 to 2015/16

RESOLVED

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Robyn Hordern)

1. That Council approves the Capital Works - Forward Plans, as outlined in this report, for inclusion in the draft 2012/13 Operational Plan.
2. That Council receives a report in respect to policy for the capital maintenance of Council buildings given over to other organisations.

FOR VOTE - Cr Phillip Silver, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Ben Smith, Cr Keith Johnson, Cr Robyn Hordern, Cr David Wright and Cr Susan Meehan

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson

ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore and Cr Alan Brown

RESOLVED

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Robyn Hordern)

That Council receive a further report in respect to Newrybar Village Enhancement, Lake Ainsworth and Shaws Bay Management Plans implementation, along with costings, Missingham market site carpark, Alstonville carparking and Killen Falls path and tables.

(Cr Phillip Silver declared a non pecuniary interest in the matter relating to the Alstonville carparking - Nature of Interest: he is the owner of a property in the Alstonville CBD).

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore and Cr Alan Brown

4.9 General Fund - Operating Budget

RESOLVED

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Susan Meehan)

That Council endorses the draft operating budget, as per the separate attachment to this report, for inclusion in the draft 2012/13 Operational Plan, including any adjustments resulting from this meeting.

FOR VOTE - Cr Phillip Silver, Cr Sharon Cadwallader, Cr Ben Smith, Cr Keith Johnson, Cr Robyn Hordern, Cr David Wright and Cr Susan Meehan

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson

ABSENT: DID NOT VOTE: Cr Peter Moore and Cr Alan Brown

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MEETING CLOSURE

5.52 pm