

**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
40 CHERRY STREET BALLINA,
ON 10/02/17 AT 4.00 PM**

Attendance

Crs David Wright (Mayor - in the chair), Phillip Meehan, Sharon Parry, Jeff Johnson (arrived at 4.01 pm), Eoin Johnston, Stephen McCarthy, Nathan Willis, Keith Williams, Sharon Cadwallader and Ben Smith.

Paul Hickey (General Manager), John Truman (Group Manager Civil Services), Steve Barnier (Group Manager Strategic and Community Facilities), Linda Coulter (Manager Financial Services) and Sandra Bailey (Secretary) were in attendance.

There were nine people in the gallery at this time.

1. Acknowledgement of Country

In opening the meeting the Mayor provided an Acknowledgement of Country by reading the following statement on behalf of Council:

I would like to respectfully acknowledge past and present Bundjalung peoples who are the traditional custodians of the land on which this meeting takes place.

2. Apologies

Nil

3. Declarations of Interest and Reportable Political Donations

Nil

There were no reportable political donations.

4. Deputations

- **Keith Johnson** – spoke in opposition to Item 5.1 – Proposed Special Rate Variation – Consultation.

Cr Jeff Johnson arrived at the meeting at 04:01 pm.

- **Ralph Moss** – spoke in opposition to Item 5.1 – Proposed Special Rate Variation – Consultation.

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5. General Manager's Group Reports

5.1 Proposed Special Rate Variation - Consultation

100217/1 RESOLVED

(Cr Keith Williams/Cr Nathan Willis)

1. That Council acknowledges the feedback from the community consultation process undertaken for the proposed special rate variation to finance the Healthy Waterways Program and increased asset renewal.
2. In acknowledging this consultation Council remains of the opinion that it is reasonable to proceed with the proposed special variation application for a number of reasons, including but not limited to:
 - a) It is essential that Council increases its level of rate income to finance an adequate level of asset renewal to reduce the risk of Council's infrastructure assets deteriorating over time
 - b) The funding of the Healthy Waterways Program will help Council improve the overall condition of the Shire's waterways
 - c) The additional rate income generated will improve Council's overall financial position and long term financial sustainability
 - d) The removal of the waste operations charge in 2017/18 results in the financial impact of the additional increase in ordinary rates being substantially reduced for all residential and farmland ratepayers; and
 - e) Council is committed to minimising increases in the water, wastewater, waste and stormwater charges for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 to assist in lessening the financial impact on ratepayers.
3. That Council authorises the General Manager to submit an application to IPART for a special rate variation based on 4.9% in 2017/18, 5.9% in 2018/19 and 5.9% in 2019/20.

FOR VOTE - Cr David Wright, Cr Sharon Parry, Cr Eoin Johnston, Cr Stephen McCarthy, Cr Nathan Willis, Cr Keith Williams and Cr Sharon Cadwallader

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Phillip Meehan, Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

MEETING CLOSURE

5.07 pm

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 10/02/17 were submitted for confirmation by Council on 23 February 2017 and amendments (if any) are contained in the confirming resolution. Such Minutes were signed by the Mayor at the meeting on 23 February 2017.