

**MINUTES OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE BALLINA SHIRE COUNCIL CHAMBERS
40 CHERRY STREET, BALLINA,
ON 10/04/19 AT 4.00 PM**

Attendance

Crs David Wright (Mayor - in the chair), Phillip Meehan, Sharon Parry, Eoin Johnston, Stephen McCarthy, Nathan Willis, Keith Williams and Sharon Cadwallader.

Paul Hickey (General Manager), John Truman (Director Civil Services Division), Matthew Wood (Director Planning and Environmental Health Division) and Sandra Bailey (Secretary) were in attendance.

Other Staff in Attendance

Kelly Brown, Manager Human and Resources and Risk, Craig Brown, Manager Community Facilities and Linda Coulter, Manager Financial.Services)

There were six people in the gallery at this time.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cr Ben Smith and Cr Jeff Johnson.

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Keith Williams/Cr Nathan Willis)

That such apologies be accepted and leave of absence granted.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

2. Declarations of Interest

- **Cr Stephen McCarthy** – declared an interest in Item 4.14 – Facility Management. (Nature of Interest: non significant, non pecuniary – he is a coach with Ballina Basketball who will be a potential hirer of the Ballina Indoor Sports Centre). He will be remaining in the meeting while the matter is discussed and voting on the matter.
- **Cr Phillip Meehan** – declared an interest in Item 4.9 – Community Infrastructure – Recurrent Capital Expenditure and in particular to the section on roads and bridges where Burnet Street is mentioned. (Nature of Interest: non significant, non pecuniary – he has relatives who live in the area). He will be remaining in the meeting while the matter is discussed and voting on the matter.

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- **Paul Hickey, General Manager** – declared an interest in Item 4.11 – Community Infrastructure – Non-recurrent Capital Expenditure and in particular to where Intrapac is mentioned. (Nature of Interest: non significant, non pecuniary – he has a friend who does consultancy work for Intrapac). He will be remaining in the meeting while the matter is discussed and voting on the matter.
- **Cr David Wright** – later in the meeting declared an interest in Item 4.13 – Fees and Charges – 2019/20 and in particular the Ferry Fees and Charges and the submission received from Earthworks Landscaping. (Nature of Interest: non significant, non pecuniary – he has worked with the mother of the person who made the submission). He remained in the meeting while the meeting was discussed and voted on the matter.

3. Deputations

- **Anne Marchment** – spoke in opposition to Item 4.9 – Community Infrastructure – Recurrent Capital Expenditure, and in particular to Point 6 – Street Lighting (and in particular lighting for Deadmans Creek Road/Tamarind Drive intersection).
- **Anne Marchment** – spoke in opposition to Item 4.16 – Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2019/20 – Exhibition, and in particular to the mowing schedule for Summerhill Crescent/Deadmans Creek Road intersection.

4. Committee Reports

4.9 Community Infrastructure - Recurrent Capital Expenditure

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Phillip Meehan/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

1. That Council includes in the draft 2019/20 to 2022/23 Delivery Program and Operational Plan the recurrent capital expenditure priorities as outlined in this report with the street lighting program to be discussed separately.
2. That Council amend the draft road reconstruction program as follows:
 - Byron Street, Wardell - \$131,000 – transferred from 2021/22 to 2019/20
 - Kays Lane, Alstonville - Transfer \$131,000 from 2019/20 to 2020/21
 - Links Avenue, Ballina - \$141,000 – delete from 2020/21 as works completed
 - 2021/22 program to be amended accordingly.
3. That part of the exhibition process, Council identify opportunities to increase the public amenities budget.

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4. That part of the exhibition process, Council examine options to extend the works in Burnet Street, Ballina.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Phillip Meehan/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

1. That Council exhibit the current street lighting program as outlined in the report.
2. That as part of the exhibition process, Council determine the design and costings and possible grant funding opportunities for 'normal' lighting at the intersection of Tamarind Drive and Deadmans Creek Road. This information is to be reported back to Council as part of the adoption of the Draft Delivery Program.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

4.16 Delivery Program and Operational Plan 2019/20 - Exhibition

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Keith Williams/Cr Nathan Willis)

1. That Council approves the exhibition of the draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan, and Asset Management Plan documents, as attached to this report, inclusive of any changes arising from this meeting.
2. That Council amend the mowing schedule for the intersection of Deadmans Creek Road and Summerhill Crescent from 5-6 weeks in the growing season to 3-4 weeks in the growing season.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

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4.1 Alstonville Bowls and Sports Club Ltd - Charges Adjustment

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Eoin Johnston/Cr Nathan Willis)

That based on the contents of this report Council approves an adjustment to the water and wastewater access charges levied on the Alstonville Bowls and Sports Club Ltd for the 2017/18 and 2018/19 financial years, from a 100mm water connection to a 32mm connection, as the 32mm connection reflects the actual needs of the Club based on Council's recent engineering assessment.

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

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

4.2 West End Hall - Sale

A **Motion** was moved by Cr Sharon Parry and seconded by Cr Nathan Willis

1. That Council confirms that it will allocate \$20,000 of the sale proceeds from the sale of West End Hall, to provide improvements to the shed at the Council Depot, for storage of goods by the Ballina Lions Club.
2. If agreement is unable to be reached with the Ballina Lions Club on the storage of their goods at the Council Depot, even with the expenditure of \$20,000, the General Manager is authorized to proceed with the sale of West End Hall, without Council providing another suitable storage location.

An **Amendment** was moved by Cr Sharon Cadwallader

That Council confirms that it will allocate \$40,000 of the sale proceeds from the sale of West End Hall, to provide improvements to the shed at the Council Depot, for storage of goods by the Ballina Lions Club.

The **Amendment LAPSED**.

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

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

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RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Sharon Parry/Cr Nathan Willis)

1. That Council confirms that it will allocate \$20,000 of the sale proceeds from the sale of West End Hall, to provide improvements to the shed at the Council Depot, for storage of goods by the Ballina Lions Club.
2. If agreement is unable to be reached with the Ballina Lions Club on the storage of their goods at the Council Depot, even with the expenditure of \$20,000, the General Manager is authorized to proceed with the sale of West End Hall, without Council providing another suitable storage location.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

4.3 Marine Estate Management Strategy - Road Funding

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Eoin Johnston/Cr Keith Williams)

That Council authorises the General Manager to accept the grant offer (Funding Deed) from North Coast Local Land Services for works under the Marine Estate Management Strategy initiative "Rural roads and track actions" for financial years 2018/19 and 2019/20 as outlined in this report.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

4.4 Car Park - Upgrade Program

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Nathan Willis/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

1. That Council notes the contents of this report in respect to the Car Park Upgrade Program.
2. That Council receive a further report outlining a ten year strategic plan of works and recommended funding strategy for consideration as part of the preparation of the 2020/21 Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

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4.5 North East Weight of Loads Group (NEWLOG)

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Nathan Willis)

That Council endorses the draft NEWLOG budget for 2019/20 as per the contents of this report.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

4.6 Surf Life Saving Services - Flat Rock Beach

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Eoin Johnston/Cr Nathan Willis)

That Council supports the continuation of a roving guard at Flat Rock for the 2019/20 season funded from the Flat Rock Tent Park reserve, with this expenditure and funding to be included in the draft 2019/20 Long Term Financial Plan.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

4.7 Policy (New) - Farmland Rating

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Sharon Parry/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

1. That Council adopts the draft Farmland Rating Policy, as attached to this report.
2. That Council place this policy on exhibition for public comment, with any submissions received to be resubmitted back to Council. If no submissions are received then it be reported back to Council as part of the adoption of the Delivery Program.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

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4.8 Rating Structure - 2019/20

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Keith Williams/Cr Nathan Willis)

1. That for the preparation of the draft 2019/20 Operational Plan Council approves a rating structure based on the 5.9% special rate variation as determined by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal.
2. That for the draft 2019/20 Operational Plan, Council approves the inclusion of a base rating structure, which applies 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 19.85% income from the rate yield to be sourced from the business category properties
 - d) Farmland rate in the dollar is approximately 85% of the residential rate in the dollar
 - e) 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).
3. That Council notes the indicative figures for this rating structure for 2019/20, are as per Tables Six and Seven of this report.
4. That Council confirms that for 2020/21 onwards it wishes to examine further changes to the rating structure that may help to reduce the large differential currently being applied to the category of business properties as compared to residential properties.

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

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Phillip Meehan and Cr Sharon Cadwallader

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

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4.10 Property Reserves - Review

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Keith Williams/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

1. That Council approves the inclusion of the forecast cash flows for the Property Development Reserve, as per Attachment 1 to this report, in the draft Long Term Financial Plan for 2019/20 to 2028/29.
2. That Council approves the inclusion of the forecast cash flows for the Property Development Loan Reserve, as per Table Two in this report, which summarises the loan funded property development activities, as per Attachments 2 and 3 to this report, in the draft Long Term Financial Plan for 2019/20 to 2028/29.
3. That Council approves the inclusion of the forecast cash flows for the Community Infrastructure Reserve, as per Attachment 4 to this report, in the draft Long Term Financial Plan for 2019/20 to 2028/29, subject to any changes identified in the report titled Non-recurrent Community Infrastructure Projects, as outlined later in this agenda.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

4.11 Community Infrastructure - Non-recurrent Capital Expenditure

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Sharon Cadwallader/Cr Nathan Willis)

1. That Council approves the allocation of the Community Infrastructure Reserve dividends to the projects outlined in Table Four of this report, for inclusion in the draft 2019/20 to 2022/23 Delivery Program and Operational Plan.
2. That Council authorises the General Manager, or delegate, to undertake negotiations with Intrapac Pty. Ltd. to develop a voluntary planning agreement that will allow the works identified in the Sharpes Beach Master Plan to be funded and delivered within the near future.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

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4.12 General Fund - Long Term Financial Plan

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Nathan Willis/Cr Sharon Cadwallader)

That Council approves the exhibition of the draft Long Term Financial Plan, as attached to this report, including any amendments arising from this meeting.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

4.13 Fees and Charges - 2019/20

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Nathan Willis/Cr Sharon Parry)

That Council approves the exhibition of the draft schedule of fees and charges for 2019/20 as attached, including any amendments resulting from this meeting to include an additional ferry season ticket category for Ballina Shire residents, for trucks over ten tonne with an exemption of any trailers or dogs with those trucks, for a trial for a period of 12 months, for a fee of \$1,500 per annum.

(Cr David Wright – at this point declared an interest in this item, particularly the Ferry Fees and Charges and the submission received from Earthworks Landscaping. (Nature of Interest: non significant, non pecuniary – he has worked with the mother of the person who made the submission). He remained in the meeting while the meeting was discussed and voted on the matter).

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

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

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4.14 Facility Management

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Phillip Meehan/Cr Keith Williams)

1. That Council authorises the General Manager to employ four permanent additional staff, during 2019/20, consistent with the draft Long Term Financial Plan, to manage the Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre and the Ballina Indoor Sports Centre.
2. That Council approves the exhibition of the draft fees and charges for the Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre and the Ballina Indoor Sports Centre, as per Tables Three and Four of this report, with the Ballina Indoor Sports Centre fees to be based on the higher column as per Table Four.

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

AGAINST VOTE - Cr Stephen McCarthy

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

4.15 Workforce Management Plan - 2019/20

RECOMMENDATION

(Cr Eoin Johnston/Cr Sharon Parry)

That Council approves the exhibition of the draft Workforce Plan as part of the exhibition of the draft 2019/20 Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

FOR VOTE - All Councillors voted unanimously.

ABSENT. DID NOT VOTE - Cr Jeff Johnson and Cr Ben Smith

MEETING CLOSURE

6.11 pm