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MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 15 July 2020

Released to the public on Wednesday 22 July 2020

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COVID-19 OMNIBUS (EMERGENCY MEASURES) ACT 2020, THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIRTUALLY.

LIVE STREAMING OF THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS MADE AVAILABLE ON COUNCIL'S INTERNET SITE.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Council pays respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.



English

These are the Minutes for the Council Meeting. For assistance with any of the items in the minutes, please telephone 8470 8888.

Arabic

هذه هي محاضر اجتماع المجلس. للحصول على المساعدة في أي من البنود في المحاضر، يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف 8470 8888.

Chinese

这些是市议会会议纪要。如需协助了解任何纪要项目，请致电8470 8888。

Greek

Αυτά είναι τα Πρακτικά της συνεδρίασης του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου. Για βοήθεια με οποιαδήποτε θέματα στα πρακτικά, παρακαλείστε να καλέσετε το 8470 8888.

Hindi

ये काउंसिल की बैठक का सारांश है। सारांश के किसी भी आइटम में सहायता के लिए, कृपया 8470 8888 पर टेलीफोन करें।

Italian

Questo è il verbale della riunione del Comune. Per assistenza con qualsiasi punto del verbale, si prega di chiamare il numero 8470 8888.

Macedonian

Ова е Записникот од состанокот на Општинскиот одбор. За помош во врска со која и да било точка од записникот, ве молиме телефонирајте на 8470 8888.

Nepali

यी परिषद्को बैठकका माइन्युटहरू हुन्। माइन्युटका कुनै पनि वस्तुसम्बन्धी सहायताका लागि कृपया 8470 8888 मा कल गर्नुहोस्।

Punjabi

ਇਹ ਵੈੱਸਲ ਦੀ ਮੀਟਿੰਗ ਵਾਸਤੇ ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਹੈ। ਸੰਖੇਪ ਸਾਰਾਂਸ਼ ਵਿਚਲੀਆਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਵੀ ਆਈਟਮਾਂ ਸੰਬੰਧੀ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਵਾਸਤੇ, ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ 8470 8888 ਨੂੰ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ।

Somali

Kuwaani waa qodobadii lagaga wada hadlay Fadhiga Golaha. Caawimada mid kasta oo ka mid ah qodobada laga wada hadlay, fadlan la xiriiir 8470 8888.

Spanish

Estas son las Actas de la Reunión del Concejo. Para recibir ayuda acerca de algún tema de las actas, llame al teléfono 8470 8888.

Urdu

یہ کاؤنسل کی میٹنگ کی روداد کے نقاط ہیں۔ روداد کے کسی بھی حصے کے بارے میں مدد کے لیے براہ مہربانی 8470 8888 پر فون کریں۔

Vietnamese

Đây là những Biên bản Họp Hội đồng Thành phố. Muốn có người trợ giúp mình về bất kỳ mục nào trong biên bản họp, xin quý vị gọi điện thoại số 8470 8888.

Table of Contents

Item Number	Page Number
1. PRESENT	1
2. APOLOGIES.....	1
3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.....	1
4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS.....	2
5.1 ADOPTION OF ANNUAL BUDGET 2020-21, STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN 2020-2024 AND TEN YEAR CAPITAL WORK PLAN	2
5.2 COUNCIL PLAN ACTION PLAN 2020–21	20
5. CLOSE OF MEETING	23

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
DAREBIN CITY COUNCIL HELD AT VIRTUALLY ON WEDNESDAY 15
JULY 2020**

THE MEETING OPENED AT 6.02pm

THE MAYOR ADVISED THAT THE MEETING WAS BEING HELD VIRTUALLY AND STREAMED LIVE AND THAT AUDIO AND VIDEO WOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE ON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE ON WEDNESDAY 15 JULY 2020.

1. PRESENT

Councillors

Cr. Susan Rennie (Mayor) (Chairperson)
Cr. Susanne Newton (Deputy Mayor)
Cr. Steph Amir
Cr. Gaetano Greco
Cr. Tim Laurence
Cr. Kim Le Cerf
Cr. Trent McCarthy
Cr. Lina Messina
Cr. Julie Williams

Council Officers

Sue Wilkinson - Chief Executive Officer
Ingrid Bishop - General Manager Governance and Engagement
Sam Hewett - General Manager Operations and Capital
Kerry McGrath - General Manager Communities
Rachel Ollivier - General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy
Damian Hogan – Manager Finance
Stephen Mahon - Coordinator Governance, Council Business and Civic Services
Lisa Thomas-Bates - Governance Project Officer

2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr. Williams declared an interest; in Item 5.1 due to her daughter being a participant in sporting activities at Zwar Reserve.

4. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

5.1 ADOPTION OF ANNUAL BUDGET 2020-21, STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN 2020-2024 AND TEN YEAR CAPITAL WORK PLAN

Author: Manager Finance

Reviewed By: General Manager Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Annual Budget is an essential planning and resource tool produced each year. The development of a considered budget is vital to the ongoing operational and financial viability of Council. The annual budget sets out the expected income and expenditure of both operational, strategic and capital activities for the coming year and also incorporates Council's rating strategies.

The annual budget is a transparent account of Council's operations in line with good governance. The budget documentation forms part of a comprehensive public accountability process and reporting that includes:

- The Council Plan
- The Strategic Resource Plan
- The Annual Budget
- Internal and External Audit; and
- The Annual Report

The Annual Budget 2020-21 contains the information specified in the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) and all details required by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 (the Regulations).

Like the rest of Australia, and the world, the Darebin community is facing an unprecedented challenge in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. In a context where Council's own finances are projected to be significantly impacted and the future is uncertain, many of Council's services and programs have been adapted to ensure that we can be agile and meet the emerging and new needs of our community.

The onset of the pandemic has meant that the process of the preparation of the budget this year has been particularly challenging. Whilst work in previous years has meant that Council has entered this unprecedented period in a sound financial position, ongoing closures of Council's various facilities, changes to services and programs has and will continue to affect the financial position through significantly reduced revenue and increased expenses. The variation in timing of cashflow also needs to be tightly managed so that payments can be processed as and when they fall due.

It is increasingly evident that the financial impacts will be ongoing, difficult to predict and changing as the effect of the pandemic is more clearly defined and analysed at both a global and local level. Towards this, the 2020/21 budget seeks to balance Council's deep commitment to the wellbeing of our community at this time with the need to ensure Council's ability to serve their needs into the future.

A key feature of the 2020/21 Budget is the inclusion of funding for Council's Covid-19 Community and Local Business Resilience and Recovery Package. This package is the biggest response to COVID-19 of any Victorian local government apart from the City of Melbourne. At this time the package for 20/21 has a direct value of \$11.3m and includes:

- Rate relief – a hardship policy that allows ratepayers to postpone payments until 2021 with no penalty interest charges or need to complete an application
- Funding for emergency food relief for people who are the most vulnerable in the community, coordinated by Council through Darebin's emergency relief agencies
- Almost \$1m of additional, specialised business grants
- Support for the arts and culture sector

In addition to this direct cost, many Council staff have also been redirected to focus on COVID-19 response work supporting those most vulnerable. This includes the establishment of a dedicated COVID-19 Recovery Team comprising community and economic development specialists working together to provide a "one stop shop" service for the community.

Other key features of the 2020/21 budget include:

- Delivery of high quality services and programs for the community
- Ongoing focus and commitment to Council's long term financial sustainability
- No borrowings
- No changes to current service levels (increased in some areas to respond to the pandemic)
- An overall average rate increase of 2.0% in line with the rate cap set by the Victorian State government

Sustainability and Biodiversity initiatives include:

- Implementation of the Local Government Power Purchase Agreement for renewable energy
- Implementation of a carbon management plan on Council buildings to reduce Council's greenhouse and carbon emissions
- Ongoing support for Climate Emergency Darebin and the Darebin Nature Trust
- Implementation of the Safe and Sustainable Travel Program which seeks to activate new cycling and walking infrastructure and move towards safe and sustainable travel
- Implementation of Darebin's Climate Emergency Plan to focus on community mobilisation and advocacy work
- Significant tree planting across the city to improve canopy cover

Social inclusion and community initiatives include:

- Financial support for Merri Outreach Support Service - Darebin Assertive Community Outreach Program Brokerage aimed at supporting homelessness in Darebin
- Implementation of Council's Towards Equality City Council's Equality, Inclusion and Human Rights Framework 2019-2029 - ensuring we welcome and include everyone in our community, including those from culturally diverse backgrounds, older people, young people, families, Aboriginal members of our community, people of all abilities, gender considerations and those from socio-economic disadvantaged backgrounds.

- Implementation of year two of Aged Friendly Darebin – which aims to ensure the full participation of older people in community life and promote healthy and active ageing
- Aboriginal cultural inclusion guided by Wurundjeri Woi-Wurrung Corporation and in partnership with Darebin's Aboriginal Advisory Committee as well as inclusion of other culturally diverse groups
- Maximising affordable access to remove financial barriers to participation, increase employment and business opportunities for Darebin residents and local businesses
- Upgrading three Maternal and Child Health sites so they are more welcoming to our diverse community and encourage greater access and engagement
- Implementation of our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion strategy with associated action plans
- Implementation of the Social and Sustainable Procurement Policy
- Implementation of the Workforce Diversity and Inclusion Strategy 2020, Community Employment Plan and Council's Aboriginal Employment Strategy
- The renewal and replacement of technical and operational equipment at Arts Venues & Hubs
- Stage 2 works to reinvigorate the Darebin Arts Centre

Public infrastructure initiatives include:

- Commencement of the construction of a new multi-purpose stadium (MSS) at John Cain Memorial Reserve to provide more sports opportunities for women and girls
- Completion of the schematic design and commencement of the detailed design of the Northcote Aquatic and Recreation Centre
- Building upgrades and maintenance at Reservoir Leisure Centre
- The redevelopment of the KP Hardiman synthetic hockey pitch
- The commencement of the redevelopment of BT Connor pavillion
- A broad program of improvements and new works in our parks, open spaces, and playgrounds across the municipality
- Ongoing investment to ensure our critical assets and infrastructure are maintained including roads, drainage and footpaths

Strategy and planning initiatives include;

- Continued advocacy on key design and construction management issues surrounding the removal of four level crossing in Preston
- Commencement of an expansive campaign of community engagement to develop a draft 50 Year vision for the city called 'Future Darebin'
- Development and implementation of a new Design Excellence program in 2020-21 that aims to significantly improve the quality of future private developments across the City
- Improving safety in public spaces including through the delivery of lighting improvements in Main Drive Bundoora and safety-focused public improvements in response to the Gender Equality Map findings
- Complete scoping reports on local blackspot locations and advocate for funding to improve the safety of the local road network in Darebin

The General Manager Operations & Capital introduced the report and advised Council that due to advice received today regarding additional grant funding for the Multi Sports Stadium and the KP Hardiman Project a revised Officer Recommendation had been prepared. The Officer Recommendation below reflects this revision.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Having considered all submissions received and having complied with the requirements of sections 127 and 129 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, adopts the Annual Budget 2020–21 (attached as **Appendix A**).
- (2) Adopts the Strategic Resource Plan 2020–2024 (**Appendix B**) as its Strategic Resource Plan for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2024 including updates to reflect any consequential changes to the Annual Budget 2020–21.
- (3) Adjusts the Council Plan 2017–2021 by replacing the existing Strategic Resource Plan with the Strategic Resource Plan 2020–2024 (**Appendix B**).
- (4) In accordance with sections 158 and 161 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, declares the Rates and Annual Service Charges for the 2020–21 rating year commencing 1 July 2020 and ending 30 June 2021 as detailed in the Annual Budget 2020–21.
- (5) In accordance with section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, declares a rebate in relation to rates of \$150 to each owner of rateable land who is an 'eligible recipient' within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004* to assist the proper development of the municipal district as detailed in the Annual Budget 2020–21 and is being granted because Council considers that it provides a benefit to the Darebin community in that it provides some relief on rates to elderly and other eligible residents in addition to the State Government rates concession and is consistent with principles of fairness and equity.
- (6) Notes the summary of the submissions received, prepared on behalf of the Hearing of Submissions Committee (attached as **Appendix C**).
- (7) Advises all submitters that Council has considered their submissions relating to the Draft Annual Budget 2020–21 and that the submitters be advised of the outcome of the consideration as it relates to their specific submission, and they be thanked for their contributions.
- (8) Amends the Annual Budget 2020–21 to allocate funds from realised savings (\$400,000) in the 2019-20 capital works program to the COVID-19 Community and Economic Development Program.
- (9) Amends the Annual Budget 2020–21 to allocate \$238,000 to the John Hall Lighting Upgrade (noting this is the next priority in the outdoor sports infrastructure framework) with works to commence in 2020-21 Q3 and noting that an amount of \$120,000 would be also be included in 2021/22 budget to complete the project in Q1 2021/22.
- (10) Notes the update on the COVID-19 Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package.
- (11) Adopts the Ten-Year Capital Works Plan and receive an update every 6 months with the next update at the mid-year year budget review (**Appendix D**).
- (12) Gives public notice of the adoption of the Annual Budget 20120-21 in accordance with section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

- (13) Notes that a copy of the adopted Annual Budget 2020–21 will be provided to the Minister for Local Government in accordance with section 130(4) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Motion

MOVED: Cr. S Amir
SECONDED: Cr. K Le Cerf

That Council:

- (1) Having considered all submissions received and having complied with the requirements of sections 127 and 129 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, adopts the Annual Budget 2020–21 (attached as **Appendix A**).
- (2) Adopts the Strategic Resource Plan 2020–2024 (**Appendix B**) as its Strategic Resource Plan for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2024 including updates to reflect any consequential changes to the Annual Budget 2020–21.
- (3) Adjusts the Council Plan 2017–2021 by replacing the existing Strategic Resource Plan with the Strategic Resource Plan 2020–2024 (**Appendix B**).
- (4) In accordance with sections 158 and 161 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, declares the Rates and Annual Service Charges for the 2020–21 rating year commencing 1 July 2020 and ending 30 June 2021 as detailed in the Annual Budget 2020–21.
- (5) In accordance with section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, declares a rebate in relation to rates of \$150 to each owner of rateable land who is an 'eligible recipient' within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004* to assist the proper development of the municipal district as detailed in the Annual Budget 2020–21 and is being granted because Council considers that it provides a benefit to the Darebin community in that it provides some relief on rates to elderly and other eligible residents in addition to the State Government rates concession and is consistent with principles of fairness and equity.
- (6) Notes the summary of the submissions received, prepared on behalf of the Hearing of Submissions Committee (attached as **Appendix C**).
- (7) Advises all submitters that Council has considered their submissions relating to the Draft Annual Budget 2020–21 and that the submitters be advised of the outcome of the consideration as it relates to their specific submission, and they be thanked for their contributions.
- (8) Amends the Annual Budget 2020–21 to allocate funds from realised savings (\$400,000) in the 2019-20 capital works program to the COVID-19 Community and Economic Development Program.
- (9) Amends the Annual Budget 2020–21 to allocate \$238,000 to the John Hall Lighting Upgrade (noting this is the next priority in the outdoor sports infrastructure framework) with works to commence in 2020-21 Q3 and noting that an amount of \$120,000 would be also be included in 2021/22 budget to complete the project in Q1 2021/22.
- (10) Notes the update on the COVID-19 Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package.
- (11) Adopts the Ten-Year Capital Works Plan and receive an update every 6 months with the next update at the mid-year year budget review (**Appendix D**).
- (12) Gives public notice of the adoption of the Annual Budget 20120-21 in accordance with section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

- (13) Notes that a copy of the adopted Annual Budget 2020–21 will be provided to the Minister for Local Government in accordance with section 130(4) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. S Newton
SECONDED: Cr. T McCarthy

That point 8 be amended to read;

- (8) Amends the Annual Budget 2020–21 to allocate funds from realised savings (\$400,000) in the 2019-20 capital works program to the following:-
- \$50,000 for lighting at Crispe Park.
 - \$15,000 for lighting design at Mott Reserve.
 - \$25,000 for development of a new Darebin Parklands Management Plan delivered by Darebin Creek Management Committee on behalf of Cities of Darebin and Banyule.
 - \$10,000 for a gate and gravel path for Alphington Farmer's Market.
 - The balance to be directed to the COVID-19 Community and Economic Development Program.

The Mayor advised that the amendment before the meeting would be debated collectively however each component voted on separately.

Amends the Annual Budget 2020–21 to allocate funds from realised savings (\$400,000) in the 2019-20 capital works program to the following:-

- \$50,000 for lighting at Crispe Park.

The amendment was put and carried.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- \$15,000 for lighting design at Mott Reserve.

The amendment was put and carried.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- \$25,000 for development of a new Darebin Parklands Management Plan delivered by Darebin Creek Management Committee on behalf of Cities of Darebin and Banyule.

The amendment was put and carried.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- \$10,000 for a gate and gravel path for Alphington Farmer's Market.

The amendment was put and carried.

CARRIED

For: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Greco, Laurence, Le Cerf, McCarthy, Messina and Williams (8)

Against: Cr Amir (1)

- The balance to be directed to the COVID-19 Community and Economic Development Program.

The amendment was put and carried.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That a new point 4 be added and point 5 be amended to read

- (4) Due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic crisis which is putting unprecedented social and financial stress on our community, and due to Council's positive financial position with the projected net increase of \$13.6 million in cash and cash equivalents over the 2020-21 financial year, include the following rate relief and fee and charges reductions:-
- Council does not apply a 2% rate increase in this year's annual budget.
 - Council does not increase concession fees and charges and keeps them frozen at 2019-2020 levels for eligible residents.
 - Job Keeper and Job Seeker recipients be eligible for concession fees and charges for the 2020-2021 financial year.
 - Council matches dollar for dollar the 2020-21 Special Rates charges applying to commercial ratepayers covered by the four Darebin Trader Associations to further assist with promotion and marketing of shopping strips.
- (5) *Pensioner rate rebate be increased by \$50 to \$200 to reflect rises in rates and inflation over the last 6 years since the rebate was last increased and in accordance with section 169 of the Local Government Act 1989, declares a rebate in relation to rates of \$200. to each owner of rateable land who is an 'eligible recipient' within the meaning of the State Concessions Act 2004 to assist the proper development of the municipal district as detailed in the Annual Budget 2020–21 and is being granted because Council considers that it provides a benefit to the Darebin community in that it provides some relief on rates to elderly and other eligible residents in addition to the State Government rates concession and is consistent with principles of fairness and equity.*

The Mayor advised that the amendment before the meeting would be debated collectively however each component voted on separately.

The Mayor ruled against a point of order raised by Cr Greco.

Cr Greco moved a motion of dissent in the Chairperson's ruling on the point of order.

Motion of Dissent

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That the Chairperson's ruling on the point of order be dissented from.

7.38pm In accordance with clause 57 of the Council Meeting Governance Rules (Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law) 2020, the Mayor left the chair and the Deputy Mayor assumed the chair as temporary Chairperson.

The temporary Chairperson invited the mover of the motion of dissent to state the reasons for his dissent.

The temporary Chairperson invited the Mayor to respond.

The motion that the Chairperson's ruling be dissented from was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Crs Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

7.42pm The Deputy Mayor left the chair.

7.43pm The Mayor resumed the chair.

The Mayor ruled against a point of order raised by Cr Greco.

Cr Laurence moved a motion of dissent in the Chairperson's ruling on the point of order.

Motion of Dissent

MOVED: Cr. T Laurence
SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That the Chairperson's ruling on the point of order be dissented from.

7.51pm In accordance with clause 57 of the Council Meeting Governance Rules (Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law) 2020, the Mayor left the chair and the Deputy Mayor assumed the chair as temporary Chairperson.

The temporary Chairperson invited the mover of the motion of dissent to state the reasons for his dissent.

The temporary Chairperson invited the Mayor to respond.

The motion that the Chairperson's ruling be dissented from was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Crs Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

7.54pm The Deputy Mayor left the chair.

7.55pm The Mayor resumed the chair.

The Mayor ruled against a point of order raised by Cr Greco.

Cr Greco moved a motion of dissent in the Chairperson's ruling on the point of order.

Motion

MOVED: Cr. G Greco

SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That the Chairperson's ruling on the point of order be dissented from.

7.56pm In accordance with clause 57 of the Council Meeting Governance Rules (Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law) 2020, the Mayor left the chair and the Deputy Mayor assumed the chair as temporary Chairperson.

The temporary Chairperson invited the mover of the motion of dissent to state the reasons for his dissent.

The temporary Chairperson invited the Mayor to respond.

The motion that the Chairperson's ruling be dissented from was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Crs Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

7.58pm The Deputy Mayor left the chair.

7.59pm The Mayor resumed the chair.

(4) Due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic crisis which is putting unprecedented social and financial stress on our community, and due to Council's positive financial position with the projected net increase of \$13.6 million in cash and cash equivalents over the 2020-21 financial year, include the following rate relief and fee and charges reductions:-

- Council does not apply a 2% rate increase in this year's annual budget.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

Against: Cr Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf and McCarthy (5)

- Council does not increase concession fees and charges and keeps them frozen at 2019-2020 levels for eligible residents.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- Job Keeper and Job Seeker recipients be eligible for concession fees and charges for the 2020-2021 financial year.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- Council matches dollar for dollar the 2020-21 Special Rates charges applying to commercial ratepayers covered by the four Darebin Trader Associations to further assist with promotion and marketing of shopping strips.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

Against: Cr Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf and McCarthy (5)

- (5) Pensioner rate rebate be increased by \$50 to \$200 to reflect rises in rates and inflation over the last 6 years since the rebate was last increased and in accordance with section 169 of the Local Government Act 1989, declares a rebate in relation to rates of \$200.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

Against: Cr Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf and McCarthy (5)

8.10pm The Council meeting was adjourned for short break.

8.16pm The Council meeting resumed.

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That point 1 be amended to read;

- (1) Having considered all submissions received and having complied with the requirements of sections 127 and 129 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, adopts the Annual Budget 2020–21 (attached as **Appendix A**), subject to the following:-
- Due to the continuing economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for a local economic stimulus that creates jobs and employment, and due to Council's positive financial position with the projected net increase of \$13.6 million in cash and cash equivalents over the 2020-21 financial year, the annual budget 2020-21 will include additional capital works expenditure as follows:-
 - \$280,000 to fund a necessary specialist feasibility analysis and options assessment to address the long standing toxic water quality issues of Edwardes Lake.
 - \$10m local economic stimulus package for "shovel ready" infrastructure works projects from the Council's Ten-year Capital Works Plan that will improve community infrastructure across the city.

The Mayor advised that the amendment before the meeting would be debated collectively however each component voted on separately.

- (1) Having considered all submissions received and having complied with the requirements of sections 127 and 129 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, adopts the Annual Budget 2020–21 (attached as **Appendix A**), subject to the following:-
- Due to the continuing economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the need for a local economic stimulus that creates jobs and employment, and due to Council's positive financial position with the projected net increase of \$13.6 million in cash and cash equivalents over the 2020-21 financial year, the annual budget 2020-21 will include additional capital works expenditure as follows:-
 - \$280,000 to fund a necessary specialist feasibility analysis and options assessment to address the long standing toxic water quality issues of Edwardes Lake.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- \$10m local economic stimulus package for "shovel ready" infrastructure works projects from the Council's Ten-year Capital Works Plan that will improve community infrastructure across the city.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. J Williams

SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That point 1 be amended to read;

- (1) Having considered all submissions received and having complied with the requirements of sections 127 and 129 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, adopts the Annual Budget 2020–21 (attached as **Appendix A**), subject to the addition of the following projects:
 - include the schematic design for Zwar Reserve to be included in the 2020/21 budget up to the value of \$500,000.
 - subsidise the special rates that are charged to the traders for a 7-month period in the upcoming financial year.
 - allocate 2 school crossing supervisors for the corner of Bell street and Gilbert Road at a cost of \$26,642 per annum.
 - allocate funding for Christmas decorations at the following sites:-
 - a) Oakhill Shopping strip \$10,000.
 - b) Broadway Shopping strip \$15,000.
 - allocate \$50,000 for the purchase and installation costs for food waste bio-dehydrator for the Moon Rabbit Social Enterprise Café.

The Mayor advised that the amendment before the meeting would be debated collectively however each component voted on separately.

- (1) Having considered all submissions received and having complied with the requirements of sections 127 and 129 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, adopts the Annual Budget 2020–21 (attached as **Appendix A**), subject to the addition of the following projects:
 - include the schematic design for Zwar Reserve to be included in the 2020/21 budget up to the value of \$500,000.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

Against: Cr Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf and McCarthy (5)

- subsidise the special rates that are charged to the traders for a 7-month period in the upcoming financial year.

The amendment was put and carried.

CARRIED

For: Cr's Rennie, Amir, Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (6)

Against: Cr's Newton, McCarthy and Le Cerf (3)

- allocate 2 school crossing supervisors for the corner of Bell street and Gilbert Road at a cost of \$26,642 per annum.

The amendment was put and carried.

CARRIED

For: Cr's Newton, Amir, Greco, Laurence, McCarthy, Messina and Williams (7)

Against: Cr Rennie and Le Cerf (2)

- allocate funding for Christmas decorations at the following sites:-
 - a) Oakhill Shopping strip \$10,000.
 - b) Broadway Shopping strip \$15,000.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy (5)

- allocate \$50,000 for the purchase and installation costs for food waste bio-dehydrator for the Moon Rabbit Social Enterprise Café.

The amendment was put and carried.

CARRIED

For: Cr's Rennie, Greco, Laurence, Le Cerf, McCarthy, Messina and Williams (7)

Against: Cr Newton (1)

Abstained: Cr Amir (1)

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. T Laurence
SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That new points 8 and 9 be added as follows and the existing points renumbered;

That Council:

- (8) Allocates funds from the open space reserve to purchase 3 parcels of open space in Clements Reserve.
- (9) Allocates an initial \$1.5 million funds from the open space reserves to purchase the Strathallan open space in Bundoora.

The Mayor advised that the amendment before the meeting would be debated collectively however each component voted on separately.

- (8) Allocates funds from the open space reserve to purchase 3 parcels of open space in Clements Reserve.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- 9) Allocates an initial \$1.5 million funds from the open space reserves to purchase the Strathallan open space in Bundoora.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. T Laurence
SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That a new point 11 be added as follows and the existing points renumbered ;

That Council:

- (11) Include in the 20-21 Capital Works Plan the following projects to help stimulate the local economy:-
 - \$1.5 million for design work for adding a 50 metre pool to the Reservoir Leisure Centre.

- An additional \$2.5 million for the BT Connor stadium project.
- \$2 million to design and construct 2 shared footbridges over Darebin Creek at Clough Parade and Gronn Street in Reservoir.
- \$115,000 for the renovation and re-opening of public toilets at rear of Kingsbury Bowls Club near Darebin Creek parklands Reservoir.
- An additional \$120,000 for minor park improvements such as drinking fountains, dog waste bag dispensers and fencing repairs and pathway repairs along the Darebin Creek between Plenty Rd Reservoir and Clough Street Reservoir.
- Allocate funds for the restoration of car spaces at Banff Street Shops Reservoir.
- \$2.5 million for the design and construction of stadium at Dole Reserve Reservoir.
- Allocate funds for installing stainless steel soap dispensers in all public toilets.
- \$135,000 to start design works for Lower Merri Creek Trail project.
- That officers report back to Council regarding any debt arrangements possible to accommodate these items.

The Mayor advised that the amendment before the meeting would be debated collectively however each component voted on separately.

- 9.37pm Cr Amir left the meeting.
- 9.49pm Cr Messina left the meeting.
- 9.50pm Cr Amir returned to the meeting.
- 9.50pm Cr Messina returned to the meeting.

Extension of Time

MOVED: Cr. L Messina
SECONDED: Cr. T McCarthy

9.56pm That the Council meeting be extended for 30 minutes.

CARRIED

- (11) Include in the 20-21 Capital Works Plan the following projects to help stimulate the local economy:-
- \$1.5 million for design work for adding a 50 metre pool to the Reservoir Leisure Centre.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- An additional \$2.5 million for the BT Connor stadium project.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf and McCarthy (5)

- \$2 million to design and construct 2 shared footbridges over Darebin Creek at Clough Parade and Gronn Street in Reservoir.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- \$115,000 for the renovation and re-opening of public toilets at rear of Kingsbury Bowls Club near Darebin Creek parklands Reservoir.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- An additional \$120,000 for minor park improvements such as drinking fountains, dog waste bag dispensers and fencing repairs and pathway repairs along the Darebin Creek between Plenty Rd Reservoir and Clough Street Reservoir.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf and McCarthy (5)

- Allocate funds for the restoration of car spaces at Banff Street Shops Reservoir.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- \$2.5 million for the design and construction of stadium at Dole Reserve Reservoir.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr’s Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr’s Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- Allocate funds for installing stainless steel soap dispensers in all public toilets.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr’s Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr’s Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- \$135,000 to start design works for Lower Merri Creek Trail project.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr’s Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr’s Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

- That officers report back to Council regarding any debt arrangements possible to accommodate these items.

The amendment was put and lost.

LOST

For: Cr’s Greco, Laurence and Williams (3)

Against: Cr’s Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

The substantive motion before the Council, i.e. the Officer’s Recommendation and adopted amendments, was put and carried.

CARRIED

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 20-125

MOVED: Cr. S Amir
SECONDED: Cr. K Le Cerf

That Council:

- (1) Having considered all submissions received and having complied with the requirements of sections 127 and 129 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, adopts the Annual Budget 2020–21 (attached as **Appendix A**), subject to the addition of the following projects:-

- subsidise the special rates that are charged to the traders for a 7-month period in the upcoming financial year.
 - allocate 2 school crossing supervisors for the corner of Bell street and Gilbert Road at a cost of \$26,642 per annum.
 - allocate \$50,000 for the purchase and installation costs for food waste bio-dehydrator for the Moon Rabbit Social Enterprise Café.
- (2) Adopts the Strategic Resource Plan 2020–2024 (**Appendix B**) as its Strategic Resource Plan for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2024 including updates to reflect any consequential changes to the Annual Budget 2020–21.
- (3) Adjusts the Council Plan 2017–2021 by replacing the existing Strategic Resource Plan with the Strategic Resource Plan 2020–2024 (**Appendix B**).
- (4) In accordance with sections 158 and 161 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, declares the Rates and Annual Service Charges for the 2020–21 rating year commencing 1 July 2020 and ending 30 June 2021 as detailed in the Annual Budget 2020–21.
- (5) In accordance with section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, declares a rebate in relation to rates of \$150 to each owner of rateable land who is an ‘eligible recipient’ within the meaning of the *State Concessions Act 2004* to assist the proper development of the municipal district as detailed in the Annual Budget 2020–21 and is being granted because Council considers that it provides a benefit to the Darebin community in that it provides some relief on rates to elderly and other eligible residents in addition to the State Government rates concession and is consistent with principles of fairness and equity.
- (6) Notes the summary of the submissions received, prepared on behalf of the Hearing of Submissions Committee (attached as **Appendix C**).
- (7) Advises all submitters that Council has considered their submissions relating to the Draft Annual Budget 2020–21 and that the submitters be advised of the outcome of the consideration as it relates to their specific submission, and they be thanked for their contributions.
- (8) Amends the Annual Budget 2020–21 to allocate funds from realised savings (\$400,000) in the 2019-20 capital works program to the following:
- \$50,000 for lighting at Crispe Park.
 - \$15,000 for lighting design at Mott Reserve.
 - \$25,000 for development of a new Darebin Parklands Management Plan delivered by Darebin Creek Management Committee on behalf of Cities of Darebin and Banyule.
 - \$10,000 for a gate and gravel path for Alphington Farmer’s Market.
 - The balance to be directed to the COVID-19 Community and Economic Development Program.
- (9) Amends the Annual Budget 2020–21 to allocate \$238,000 to the John Hall Lighting Upgrade (noting this is the next priority in the outdoor sports infrastructure framework) with works to commence in 2020-21 Q3 and noting that an amount of \$120,000 would be also be included in 2021/22 budget to complete the project in Q1 2021/22.
- (10) Notes the update on the COVID-19 Community and Business Resilience and Recovery Package.
- (11) Adopts the Ten-Year Capital Works Plan and receive an update every 6 months with the next update at the mid-year year budget review (**Appendix D**).
- (12) Gives public notice of the adoption of the Annual Budget 20120-21 in accordance with section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
-

- (13) Notes that a copy of the adopted Annual Budget 2020–21 will be provided to the Minister for Local Government in accordance with section 130(4) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

CARRIED

For: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy (5)

Against: Cr's Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

Extension of Time

MOVED: Cr. J Williams

SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

10.23pm That the Council meeting be extended for 30 minutes.

CARRIED

10.25pm Cr Messina left the meeting.

10.26pm Cr Williams left the meeting.

10.30pm Cr Williams returned to the meeting.

10.31pm Cr Messina returned to the meeting.

5.2 COUNCIL PLAN ACTION PLAN 2020–21

Author: Coordinator Planning and Reporting

Reviewed By: General Manager Governance and Engagement

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council is required by the *Local Government Act 1989* ('the Act') to prepare a Council Plan that contains the strategic objectives of Council, strategies for achieving those objectives and indicators to monitor the achievement of the objectives.

Each year, Council adopts an annual Council Plan Action Plan that sets out in more detail how the objectives of the Council Plan will be achieved during the forthcoming year of the plan.

The draft Council Plan Action Plan 2020–21 (refer **Appendix A**) addresses the fourth year of the Council Plan 2017–21 and clearly articulates Council's priorities and initiatives towards achieving its Vision of 'Greener, Bolder, More Connected City'.

As the 2020/21 budget reflects, many Council services and programs have been directly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and the Council Plan Action Plan also highlights a number of the key activities occurring as part of Councils COVID-19 Community and Local Business Resilience and Recovery Package. This support package has a total direct value of \$11.3m.

It is important to note that whilst these additional measures have been recognised in the Council Plan Action Plan, this is not a comprehensive list of all of the Council activities occurring which are aimed at supporting the community in light of the pandemic. In a context where Council's own finances have been significantly impacted by COVID-19, many Council services and programs have been significantly adapted in new and innovative ways to ensure that we can be agile and continue to meet the needs of our community. Many Council staff have been redirected to our work supporting those most vulnerable and a dedicated recovery team comprising community and economic development specialists from across the organisation has also been established.

Recommendation

That Council adopts the Council Plan Action Plan 2020–21.

Motion

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. L Messina

That Council adopts the Council Plan Action Plan 2020-21.

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: -

That the following be added to the end of the recommendation –

with the inclusion in the Community Employment Plan of a mentoring program for refugee and other diverse groups.

The mover and seconder consented to the amendment.

The amendment became part of the substantive motion before Council.

Amendment

MOVED: Cr. G Greco
SECONDED: Cr. T Laurence

That Council review and report on institutional racism and bias.

The amendment was put and carried.

CARRIED

For: Cr's Amir, Greco, Laurence, McCarthy and Williams (5)

Against: Cr's Rennie and Newton (2)

Abstained: Cr's Le Cerf and Messina (2)

Motion

MOVED: Cr. T Laurence

SECONDED: Cr. G Greco

That Item 5.2 – Council Plan Action Plan 2020-21 be deferred to the Council meeting to be held on 20 July 2020.

LOST

For: Cr's Greco, Laurence, Messina and Williams (4)

Against: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf and McCarthy (5)

Procedural Motion

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy

SECONDED: Cr. S Amir

That in accordance with Clause 52 of the Council Meeting Governance Rules (Meeting Procedure and Common Seal Local Law) 2020, that the motion be put.

The motion was put and carried.

CARRIED

For: Cr's Rennie, Newton, Amir, Le Cerf, McCarthy and Messina (6)

Against: Cr's Greco, Laurence, and Williams (3)

The substantive motion before the Council, i.e. the Officer's Recommendation with adopted amendments, was put and carried.

CARRIED

Council Resolution

MINUTE NO. 20-126

MOVED: Cr. T McCarthy
SECONDED: Cr. L Messina

That Council:-

1. Adopts the Council Plan Action Plan 2020–21 with the inclusion in the Community Employment Plan of a mentoring program for refugee and other diverse groups.
2. Review and report on institutional racism and bias.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. CLOSE OF MEETING


The meeting closed at 10.57pm.

**CITY OF
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