



AGENDA
of the
SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL
To be held on
WEDNESDAY 27 JULY 2016
in the
ALEXANDRA CHAMBERS
commencing at
6.00 pm

INDEX

1.	PRAYER, OATH & RECONCILIATION STATEMENT	2
2.	APOLOGIES AND REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE	2
3.	DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST	2
4	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME	2
4.1	Hearing of Submissions.....	2
5.	OFFICER REPORTS.....	2
5.1	Consideration of Submissions For Council Budget 2016-2017	2
5.2	Consideration of submissions For Council Plan 2013-2017 (Including Strategic Resource Plan) Final Year Review	4

1. PRAYER, OATH & RECONCILIATION STATEMENT**2. APOLOGIES AND REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

REF: SF/306

3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST

REF: SF/783

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME**4.1 HEARING OF SUBMISSIONS****5. OFFICER REPORTS****5.1 CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS FOR COUNCIL BUDGET 2016-2017**

REF: D15/6291

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a summary of the submissions received in relation to the Council Budget 2016-2017.

Officer Recommendation:

That Council considers the submissions received in relation to the Council Budget 2016-2017.

Background:

At the Special Meeting of Council on 15 June 2016, the Draft 2016-2017 Budget was endorsed for public exhibition in accordance with Section 127 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The budget documents were made publically available at Council Offices and on Council's website and submissions were sought from the public.

Advertisements were placed in the relevant weekly newspapers in the Shire, with submissions due by 5pm Wednesday 20 July 2016.

At the time of preparing the agenda, two submissions were received by Council. Both submissions have been provided to all Councillors for review prior to the Special Meeting.

Council Plan/Strategies:

This process is part of the required process for adoption of the 2016-2017 Council Budget.

Legal/Policy Issues:

The process complies with the relevant provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Financial/Resources/Risk:

There are no financial considerations regarding the consideration of submissions.

Consultation:

The Council Budget 2016-2017 was advertised for public consultation and submissions in the following publications:

Newspaper / Other	Publishing Date (s)
Alexandra Standard	21-Jun-16
Yea Chronicle	21-Jun-16
Marysville Triangle	22-Jun-16
North Central Review	20-Jun-16
Website	20-Jun-16
Copies at Council offices: Alexandra, Kinglake, Yea and also Eildon Resource Centre & Marysville Visitor Information Centre	20-Jun-16

Discussion:

Two submissions were received in relation to the Draft 2016-2017 Budget.

Following consideration of the submissions, the submitters will receive a reply with respect to the matters identified.

Summary of Submissions:**Submitter 1**

The submission raises many questions, those specifically related to the budget include:

- Other Income is budgeted \$1,107,000 what is that other income and why it is not detailed?
- Employee cost is budgeted at \$13,866,000 and on page 30 under Section 3.4 flows from operating activities is shown as \$13,615,000. Why is that different?
- Rates and charges are shown \$19,102,000. In Section 3.1 they are shown as \$19,237,000, which do we believe is the correct figure?
- Motor vehicles and plant, cost is shown \$939,000. Can you please explain in more details what motor vehicles and for what use and what plant is going to be purchased?
- Public Convenience Renewal in Leckie Park is shown to cost \$89,000. What works will be done?
- Leckie Park Pavilion cost is shown \$50,000. What will be done there?
- Utilities are budgeted \$538,000, What items, goods are there?
- Legal Expenses are budgeted to \$241,000. In year 2015/2016 it was \$248,000. Please let me know examples of cases and the reasons for legal expenditure?
- Consultants are budgeted for \$246,000 again can I please see some examples for last fiscal year, for what works, services were consultants paid?
- Roads, Streets and Bridges for repairs or maintenance should be named and where they are. I feel that ratepayers/residents are entitled to know where the works are to be done.

- At the information session on the budget, the Councillor Margaret Rae commented that the Council has to prepare the budget to satisfy government regulations. How about sharing those regulations with us, the ratepayers, so we can see what is required of the council to inform and declare to the ratepayers/residents in the budget.

Officer Comment

The comparisons of various figures made by the submitter relate to differences between the operating statement and the cashflow statement, which represent different accounting treatments. Items that appear in the operating statement represent when the activity occurred, but may not be recorded in the cashflow statement due to timing differences (eg. Rates are raised within one financial year, but are not collected until the following financial year if they are not paid on time).

Council's budget documentation has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and with reference to the Chartered Accountants ANZ "Victorian City Council Model Budget 2016/2017" a best practice guide for reporting local government budgets in Victoria.

Details relating to the various capital projects raised by the submitter, as well as clarification on other operating expenditure will be addressed in the response provided to the submitter pending Council's consideration of the submission.

Submitter 2

The submission raises many questions and discussion points, those specifically related to the budget include:

- It seems Council is putting money into reserves for future servicing and maintenance of assets while also obtaining loans that are to be paid for by future ratepayers. Why is this?
- By offsetting the Rural sector by placing a higher rate on residential, commercial and Industrial ratepayers thus causing disharmony and disparity between these ratepayers, pitting one against the other and using the excuse that the rural sector has further to travel is seriously erroneous as we both know there are many small hamlets who have to travel for services.
- A number of clarifications are also sought regarding the calculation of rates in the dollar, rate revenue, supplementary rates and employee numbers.

Officer Comment

Details relating to the various operational matters raised by the submitter, as well as clarification on the use of financial reserves to fund various projects and future requirements will be addressed in the response provided to the submitter pending Council's consideration of the submission.

Conclusion:

It is appropriate that Council considers any submissions received for relevance and its influence on the Draft 2016-2017 Budget prior to adoption at the Special Meeting of Council on 3 August 2016.

5.2 CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS FOR COUNCIL PLAN 2013-2017 (INCLUDING STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN) FINAL YEAR REVIEW

Purpose:

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with a summary of the submissions received in relation to the 2013-2017 Council Plan Review and Strategic Resource Plan.

Officer Recommendation:
That this report be received.

Background:

On 15 June 2016, Council endorsed the 2013-2017 Council Plan Review and Strategic Resource Plan for public exhibition in accordance with Sections 125 and 126 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Submissions were sought from the public and the documents were made available at Council Offices and on Council's website. Advertisements were placed in the relevant weekly newspapers in the Shire.

Council Plan/Strategies:

This process is part of the required process for adoption of the 2013-2017 Council Plan and Strategic Resource Plan.

Legal/Policy Issues:

The process complies with the relevant provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Financial/Resources/Risk:

There are no financial considerations regarding the consideration of submissions.

Consultation:

The 2013-17 Council Plan and Strategic Resource Plan were advertised for public consultation and submissions in the following publications:

Newspaper / Other	Publishing Date (s)
Alexandra Standard	21-Jun-16
Yea Chronicle	21-Jun-16
Marysville Triangle	22-Jun-16
North Central Review	20-Jun-16
Website	20-Jun-16
Copies at Council offices: Alexandra, Kinglake, Yea and also Eildon Resource Centre & Marysville Visitor Information Centre	20-Jun-16

Discussion:

At the time of preparing the agenda, no submissions were received in relation to the Draft 2013-2017 Council Plan Review and SRP.

Conclusion:

It is appropriate that Council gives consideration to formally adopting the 2013-2017 Council Plan Review and Strategic Resource Plan at the Special Meeting of Council on 3 August 2016.