



**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MORELAND CIVIC CENTRE,
90 BELL STREET, COBURG
ON TUESDAY 14 JUNE 2016**

The meeting commenced at 7.04 pm and closed at 8.38 pm.

Present:	Time In	Time Out
Cr Lita Gillies (Acting Mayor)	7.04 pm	8.38 pm
Cr Sue Bolton	7.04 pm	8.38 pm
Cr Helen Davidson	7.04 pm	8.38 pm
Cr Meghan Hopper	7.04 pm	8.38 pm
Cr John Kavanagh	7.04 pm	8.38 pm
Cr Lambros Tapinos	7.04 pm	8.38 pm
Cr Michael Teti		
Cr Lenka Thompson	7.04 pm	8.38 pm
Cr Rob Thompson	7.04 pm	8.38 pm
Cr Oscar Yildiz JP	7.04 pm	8.38 pm

APOLOGIES:

Leave has been granted to Cr Ratnam - 27 May to 6 July 2016

OFFICERS:

Chief Executive Officer – Nerina Di Lorenzo
Director Corporate Services – James Scott
Director City Infrastructure – Grant Thorne
Director Social Development – Arden Joseph
Director Planning and Economic Development - Kirsten Coster
Executive Manager Organisation Development - Anita Craven
Manager Governance – Lidia Harding

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS AND/OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Nil

COUNCIL REPORTS:

DCS35/16 ADOPTION OF THE COUNCIL BUDGET 2016-2017 (D16/184038)

The purpose of this report is to present to Council a final Budget for adoption for the financial year 2016-2017. The issues raised at the Council meeting held on 6 June 2016 have been considered by Council and responses are contained within the report.

A number of amendments have been made to the proposed budget including those resolved at the Council meeting 26 April 2016, and changes made based on new information and budget submissions received. Details of the changes are provided in section 3 of this report.

There were 102 submissions made to the budget process. There are two significant projects which are referred to in a number of the submissions that should be highlighted. There is a desire to progress the Merlynston Hall Refurbishment works and the Oxygen Youth Space Stages 2 and 3 by allocating additional funds into the 2016-2017 financial year. If the amount of construction funding is allocated into 2016-2017, this would equate to approximately \$3.7M (more than 10% of the whole CAPEX program) which would need to be allocated from elsewhere for these projects that are not yet 'shovel ready'.

A proposal has been developed to bring these forward in acknowledgement of the submissions, and to allocate an appropriate amount of funding in 2016-2017 so that they may progress as quickly as possible.

Merlynston Hall

The proposed budget did not have any funds allocated to this project nor in the 5 year CAPEX program. The proposal had been to wait for the completion of the EOI process to determine funds needed and then to allocate those through the mid-year budget adjustments. It was clear from the officer report in December last year that some funds would be required from Council even with a successful EOI, however it is difficult to determine what these funds would be. The submissions and community input has raised some valid issues in relation to having some funds available to smoothly progress this project.

The final scope of this work is not determined (and needs to be informed by the EOI) and the last estimated cost for construction was \$1.145M in the December 2015 Council Report. It would not be possible to expend the full construction value in the 2016-2017 financial year as the project will need to undergo detailed design followed by a formal tender.

The officer proposal is to allocate \$100,000 into the 2016-2017 Budget which would come from residual funds that would otherwise have gone to the Reserve. If there is no successful EOI, the \$100,000 will allow officers to immediately progress the detailed design for the refurbishment of the existing Hall, and ready it for construction estimate and then tender in 2016-2017. If there is a successful EOI, the \$100,000 funds can be allocated to this partnership project.

It is further proposed that Council empower officers to allocate up to \$400,000 in additional funds, subject to a successful EOI, which meets Council's requirements for community utilisation. These funds would come from any 2015-2016 surplus which would otherwise go to the Reserve. A point is included in the resolution to empower officers to proceed on this basis (refer resolution 5 below).

Oxygen Youth Centre stages 2 and 3

The draft budget currently includes \$100,000 to prepare stages 2 & 3 for tender. This involves design review (in accordance with current standards), building permits and other ancillary actions necessary to undertake a tender. There is \$1.3M allocated to 2017-2018 for stage 2 and \$1.4M allocated to 2018-2019 for stage 3.

The proposal is for officers to complete the work required to make stages 2 & 3 'shovel ready', and for Council to authorise officers to proceed directly to tender this project on the basis that potential carry forward funds would be utilised to begin its construction prior to June 2017. This is possible because the funds are allocated in 2017-2018. It is also proposed that Council empower officers to tender for two scenarios; construct stage 2 and stage 3 together as well as the cost to construct them separately as they are currently planned. This will allow cost savings of grouping the projects to be quantified and will allow Council to consider awarding the contract for both of these. Regardless of the funding available, the earliest a tender could be awarded is February 2017, making a construction commencement of April 2017. This proposal means the project is not delayed by waiting for approval for additional funds (refer resolution 6 below).

Cr R Thompson moved, Cr Kavanagh seconded that -

Council resolve:

1. That having received and considered submissions on the Proposed Budget, to adopt the 2016-2017 Budget as detailed in Attachment 1.
2. To authorise the Director Corporate Services to give public notice of this decision in accordance with section 130(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
3. In accordance with section 223(1)(d)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, to notify in writing all people who lodged separate submissions (and in the case of submissions lodged on behalf of a number of people, notify in writing one of those people) of the Council's decision, the reasons for the decision and thank them for their submission.
4. To formally declare the Rates Levies and Annual Service Charges for the 2016-2017 rating year as follows:

a) Declaration of Rates and Charges:

In accordance with section 158 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the following rates and charges are declared for the rating year commencing 1 July 2016 and ending 30 June 2017.

b) Amount Intended to be Raised:

An amount of \$136,335,040 (or such other amount as is lawfully raised as a consequence of this Resolution) be declared as the amount which Council intends to raise by general rates and the annual service charge, which is calculated as follows:

Category	Amount
Residential Properties	\$105,786,742
Commercial Properties	\$7,005,857
Industrial Properties	\$4,945,304
Vacant Land *	\$5,697,032
Unoccupied Land & Buildings	\$66,758
Municipal Charge	Nil
Service Charges	\$12,815,069
Charge in lieu of rates on Cultural and Recreational Lands	\$18,277
Total	\$136,335,040

* Rate revenue shown includes estimated rebates

- i. General Rates:
 - A general rate to be declared for the 2016-2017 Financial Year.
 - It be further declared that the general rate be raised by the application of differential rates.
 - A differential rate be respectively declared for rateable land having the respective characteristics specified below, which characteristics will form the criteria for each differential rate so declared.
- ii. Vacant Land:
 - Any land on which no dwelling or other building designed or adapted for permanent occupation is constructed.
- iii. Unoccupied Land:

Any land on which a dwelling or building is erected but which dwelling or building:

 - Is not designed, adapted or intended for permanent occupation; or
 - Does not have connected to it means for the transmission of electricity or water; or
 - Is by reason of its condition, unfit for human habitation.
- iv. Other Land:

Any land which is not:

 - Vacant Land; or
 - Unoccupied Land
- v. Each differential rate will be determined by multiplying the Capital Improved Value of each rateable land (categorized by the characteristics described in this Resolution) by the relevant percentages indicated in the following table:

Category	Rate
Residential Properties	0.002527 (0.2527 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value)
Commercial Properties	0.002527 (0.2527 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value)
Industrial Properties	0.002527 (0.2527 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value)
Vacant Land Properties	0.009266 (0.9266 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value)
Unoccupied Land & Building Properties	0.009266 (0.9266 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value)

- vi. It be recorded that Council considers that each differential rate will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of Council functions, and that:
 - the respective objectives of each differential rate be those specified in Section 7 of the Final Budget 2016-2017 (Attachment 1)
 - the respective types or classes of land which are subject to each differential rate be those defined in the Section 7 to the Final Budget 2016-2017; and

- the respective uses and levels of each differential rate in relation to those respective types or classes of land be those described in the Schedule to this Resolution; and
- the relevant:
 - uses of;
 - geographical locations of;
 - planning scheme zonings of; and
 - types of buildings on the respective types or classes of land be those identified in the Schedule to this Resolution.

vii. It be confirmed that no amount is fixed as the minimum amount payable by way of general rate in respect of each rateable land within the municipal district.

c) Municipal Charge:

No municipal charge is declared in respect of the 2016-2017 Financial Year.

d) Annual Service Charge:

- i. An annual service charge, for the collection and disposal of refuse, be declared in respect of the 2016-2017 Financial Year.
- ii. The annual service charge be in the sum of, and be based on the criteria, set out below:

60 litres of capacity	\$80.94
80 litres of capacity	\$154.60
120 litres of capacity	\$361.42
160 litres of capacity	\$482.20
160 litres of capacity (concession approved)	\$273.62
200 litres of capacity	\$603.09
200 litres of capacity (concession approved)	\$394.51
240 litres of capacity (residential properties)	\$723.98
240 litres of capacity (residential property concession approved)	\$470.87

e) Cultural and Recreational Land:

In accordance with section 4(4) of the *Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963*, the following amounts be declared as a charge in lieu of the general rate (which would otherwise be payable):

Glenroy Road, Glenroy	Northern Golf Club	\$16,478
Outlook Road, Coburg	Vic Amateur Basketball Assoc	\$ 1,799
TOTAL:		\$18,277

f) Rebates and Concession:

- i. It be recorded that, in accordance with section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, Council may grant a rebate in respect to land which is classified as:
 - Vacant Land; or
 - Unoccupied Land.
- ii. The rebate be granted to assist the proper development of the municipal district, and more specifically:

- To provide incentives designed to promote the responsible management of land (or land including buildings) with the characteristics of Vacant Land and Unoccupied Land; and
 - To ensure that such land (or land including buildings) does not pose a risk to public safety or adversely affects public amenity.
- iii. The rebate will be:
- granted in accordance with the objectives and performance criteria outlined in the Vacant and Unoccupied Land and Building Management Rebate Policy as amended from time to time for the proper and responsible management of the land:
 - in an amount of 62.5% for Vacant Land and Unoccupied Land and Buildings that meet the performance criteria; and
 - in an amount of 75.0% for properties that meet the performance criteria and also have a current building permit and are developing the land.
- g) Incentives:
- No incentives are declared for the payment of general rates (and annual service charge described earlier in this resolution) before dates fixed or specified for their payment under section 167 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
- h) Interest on Rates and Charges:
- i. Council declares that interest is to be charged in accordance with section 172 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, on any amounts of rates and charges which have not yet been paid by the instalment dates fixed by the Minister in accordance with section 167 of the *Local Government Act 1989*;
 - ii. That the interest to be charged is at the rate fixed under section 2 of the *Penalty Interest Rates Act 1983*, that applied on the first day of July immediately before the due date for payment; and
 - iii. Interest on rates and charges is to be calculated from the date on which the instalment was due.
- i) Interest on Unpaid Monies:
- i. Council declares that interest is to be charged on any amounts of money (other than rates and charges) which a person owes to the Council, and which has not been paid by the due date;
 - ii. The interest rate shall be determined by Council from time to time and shall not exceed the rate fixed from time to time by the Order-in-Council; and
 - iii. That such interest is to be applied in accordance with the provisions of section 227A of the *Local Government Act 1989*.
5. To note that provision has been made in the budget of \$100,000 in 2016-2017, with a further \$400,000 to be accessed based on a successful EOI:
- a) To fund this \$500,000 allocation from a recent successful easement negotiation which resulted in a \$500,000 payment to Council, and to allocate these funds into a new reserve for the Merlynston Progress Hall Refurbishment, allowing it to be accessed for either the EOI or to commence detailed design.
 - b) Officers to develop a funding model for the remainder of the construction costs, depending on the outcome of the EOI, to enable the remaining costs to be considered for the 2017-2018 and/or 2018-2019 budget. That this funding model will be presented to Councillors with the results of the EOI.
 - c) To note that the EOI provides for Council to commit funding of between 50%-70% of the cost, and to notify any parties interested in the EOI of Council's funding commitment made tonight.

6. To authorise officers to proceed with making the Oxygen Youth Space stages 2 and 3 'shovel ready' including the attainment of all relevant permits and ancillary work. To authorise officers to proceed directly to tender for the latter stages of the project with options for constructing the later two stages together or separately. Council commits to allocating potential carry forward funds to enable the project to commence construction in 2016-2017.
7. To adopt the Moreland City Council Rating Strategy 2016-2017 as at Attachment 3:
8. That Council allocate at a ratio of \$2 (Council funding) to \$1 (funding leveraged from other sources) for improvements to Anderson Reserve Coburg on the condition that:
 - a) The community funding is received by Council prior to 31 December 2016 to enable the works to be carried out in 2016-2017.
 - b) If the funding is not received by that date the proposed funding allocation ceases.
 - c) That a total amount of at least \$30,000 (Council and community funding) be available prior to any works being undertaken.
 - d) That the Council funding be limited to \$100,000.
 - e) That the Council funding be drawn from the Public Resort and Recreation Fund.

Amendment

Cr Tapinos moved, Cr Bolton seconded that

9. To note that provision has been made in the budget of \$100,000 in 2016-2017 with a further allocation in 2017-2018 budget for Oxygen stage 2 and 3.
 - a. To fund \$1.1 million allocation from a recent successful sale of a property on Prospect Street that resulted in \$1.1million additional funds to Council from the expected sale, and to allocate these funds into a new reserve in the 2016-2017 budget for the Oxygen Youth Project stage 2 and 3 allowing it to be accessed for the progress of the Oxygen Youth Project stage 2 and 3.
 - b. That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to go straight to tender in 2016-2017 after the project is made shovel ready and develop a funding model for the remainder if the construction to begin as soon as possible and allow access to the carried forward as per budget documents.

Lost

Cr Tapinos called for a division.

For

Cr Bolton
Cr Tapinos
Cr Gillies

Against

Cr Kavanagh
Cr Yildiz
Cr L Thompson
Cr R Thompson
Cr Hopper
Cr Davidson

Total For (3)

Total Against (6)

Amendment

Cr Hopper moved, Cr L Thompson seconded that Counihan Gallery fees be capped at the 2015-2016 rate and that the current of the Arts and Culture Strategy 2016-2021 be tasked with recommending alternative means of funding Counihan Gallery exhibitions and the budget impact (estimated as \$12,000) be funded from the residual funds.

Carried

Amendment

Cr Bolton moved, Cr Tapinos seconded to amend the Fees and Charges Schedule in Appendix A1 to reflect the following change: For Home and Community Care Services (including home support, home maintenance and social support) and Early Years Services and Leisure Centre fees to not increase above the CPI, and the budget impact to be funded from residual funds.

Lost

Cr Tapinos called for a division.

Against

Cr Bolton
Cr Tapinos
Cr Gillies

For

Cr Kavanagh
Cr Yildiz
Cr L Thompson
Cr R Thompson
Cr Hopper
Cr Davidson

Total Against (3)

Total For (6)

The substantive motion was carried

DOD6/16 2016-2017 COUNCIL ACTION PLAN (D16/177135)

The 2013-2017 Council Plan sets the strategic vision for Moreland City Council.

The Council Action Plan 2016-2017 outlines the key initiatives and actions and the corresponding measures and targets to be delivered during the 2016-2017 financial year. This is the fourth and final year for the delivery of the 2013-2017 Council Plan.

Cr R Thompson moved, Cr Yildiz seconded that -

Council resolve to:

1. Adopt the 2016-2017 Council Action Plan.
2. Authorise the Executive Manager Organisation Development to make any necessary and minor administrative changes to ensure the documents reflect the final adopted 2016-2017 Budget.

Carried

DCI29/16 VICTORIAN DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING PERMIT SCHEME - RENEWAL OF PERMIT PROCESS (D16/191687)

At the Council meeting on 13 April 2016, it was resolved that a report be prepared on reviewing the decision to stop sending renewal notices for Disabled Persons' Parking permits (GB22/16).

Disabled Persons' Parking permits are issued to an individual based on a medical assessment. The permits are issued to people with significant ambulatory disabilities; acute, severe or chronic illnesses; individuals who require the use of a complex walking aid; or those who are in extreme danger to themselves or others in a public place without assistance by a carer.

Council currently issue renewal notice reminders to permit holders whose permits are due to expire. Permit holders are issued an application form with the renewal letter and are required to have the form completed by their medical practitioner and then returned to Council for processing.

For the past eight months, renewal letters have included a small paragraph advising residents that as of 1 August 2016, there will be two changes to the renewal process:

- If the permit holder has been assessed by the medical practitioner on their initial application as having a Permanent Disability, they will no longer be required to go to a medical practitioner to complete a new application form to renew their permit every three years. They will instead need to contact Council a month prior to the expiry of the current permit to request a new permit.
- Permit renewals will no longer be issued and that the renewal of permits is the responsibility of the permit holder.

The current renewal process places an unnecessary burden on permit holders with permanent disabilities needing to see a medical practitioner to have an application form completed and then having to return the form to Council. This occurs every three years, prior to the expiry of the existing permit. This process delays the issuing of a new permit to those permit holders.

It is recommended that Council continue with the current practice of sending out renewal notices until July 2016, with a paragraph advising permit holders that effective 1 August 2016, permit holders will be required to contact Council prior to the expiry of their permit and that renewal notices will no longer be issued.

Cr L Thompson moved, Cr Bolton seconded that -

1. Council resolve to endorse the proposed changes to the process for renewing Disabled Parking Persons' permits as of 1 August 2016.
2. That Council continues to issue the reminder notices as per their current practices.

Carried

Take Motion Off the Table

Cr Hopper moved, Cr Kavanagh seconded that Committee to Council Report RCC13/16 Moreland Arts Board Minutes (D16/129229) presented to the 11 May 2016 Council meeting be taken off the table.

Carried

RCC13/16 MORELAND ARTS BOARD MINUTES (D16/129229)

The minutes of the Moreland Arts Board held on 6 April 2016 are provided for Council's information.

Key Items Discussed:

- Acquisitions for Moreland Art Collection
- Update on Moreland Arts and Culture Strategy

Cr Hopper moved, Cr Kavanagh seconded that the report from Committee to Council be received and noted.

Amendment

Cr Tapinos moved that Council purchase the recommended work by Shaun Tan - Crossing (Willy Wagtail) (2015) Acrylic and oil on canvas, 150 x 150 cm \$12, 500 plus GST (offer to Moreland).

**The amendment lapsed for want of a seconder
The substantive motion was carried**

The meeting closed at 8.38 pm.

Confirmed

Cr Lita Gillies
ACTING MAYOR