

SHIRE OF MERREDIN



“Heart of the Wheatbelt”

MINUTES OF SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

19 July 2013

MINUTES OF THE SHIRE OF MERREDIN SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
HELD FRIDAY 19 JUNE 2013

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MINUTES OF THE SHIRE OF MERREDIN SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
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**Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Shire of Merredin held in the Council
Chambers, Corner King and Barrack Streets, Merredin on
Friday 19 July 2013 commencing at 5.16pm.**

ATTENDANCE:

| | | |
|--------------|-------------------|--|
| Councillors: | KA Hooper | Shire President |
| | RM Crees | Deputy President |
| | BJ Anderson | |
| | DN Hayes-Thompson | |
| | D Morris | |
| | M Morris | |
| Apologies | D Crook | |
| | T McFarlane | |
| | W Wallace | |
| Staff: | G Powell | Chief Executive Officer |
| | L Wyatt | Executive Assistant to Chief Executive Officer |

1.0 **OFFICIAL OPENING**

The Shire President declared the meeting open at 5.16pm.

2.0 **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

3.0 **APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Councillor D Crook has approved leave of absence for this meeting.
Cr McFarlane and Cr Wallace had previously tendered their apologies.

4.0 **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

Nil

5.0 **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION**

5.1 **2013/2014 BUDGET ADOPTION**

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Reporting Department: | Finance and Administration |
| Reporting Officer: | Evelyn Arnold – Executive Manager Corporate and Community Services |
| Legislation: | Local Government Act 1995 and Financial Management Regulations |
| File Reference: | Nil |
| Disclosure of Interest: | Nil |
| Attachments: | 2013/2014 Budget document |

Background

Council is required to prepare and adopt, in the manner and form prescribed, its Annual Budget by no later than 31 August each year, in accordance with Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995. A number of motions are required to formalise the process.

Statutory Implications

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1995, an Absolute Majority decision of Council is required in adopting the Annual Budget.

Comment

Council has considered the contents of the various schedules contained in the draft budget, the plant replacement program, road works program and capital expenditure items. Variations to the draft information are incorporated in the Annual Budget document which is presented in **Attachment 5.1A**.

Since the last draft report was presented to Council the following changes have been made:

1. Seniors centre building maintenance of \$17,000 which was being budgeted for in both Schedule 8 and 11 has been amended and is now only in Schedule 8.
2. \$6,000 has been added to Apex Park maintenance to budget for resurfacing the skate park.
3. The WEROC contribution has increased by \$5,000. This is for the Strategic Waste Management plan; \$2,500 was received in the 12/13 financial year and is included in unspent grants. The balance has been invoiced in 13/14 and has been budgeted in other income.
4. Adjustments have been made to the Councillor remunerations in accordance with the resolution from the ordinary meeting of Council held on Tuesday 16th July 2013.
5. The Regional Meeting allowance of \$5,000 has been removed.

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6. The income from the Directions Lease of \$3,625 has been removed.
7. The project for the solar water heater has been included. The net effect of this will be a Council contribution of \$3,960.

31185 Moved: Cr D Morris Seconded: Cr Anderson

Officer's Recommendation

1. General Rate

That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.33 of the Local Government Act 1995, imposes a rate in the dollar for the areas in the Shire valued on Gross Rental Values of 10.4332 cents and Unimproved Values as outlined below for the 2013/2014 financial year.

| Unimproved Value | Rate in \$ |
|------------------------------|------------|
| UV1 – Rural | \$0.014902 |
| UV2 – Urban Rural | \$0.019861 |
| UV3 – Mining | \$0.029804 |
| UV4 - Special Zone Wind farm | \$0.029804 |
| UV5 – Special Use Airstrip | \$0.029804 |
| UV6 – Merredin Power | \$0.029804 |

2. General Minimum Rate

That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.35(1) of the Local Government Act 1995, set a general minimum rate of \$699 for the 2013/2014 financial year for Gross Rental Value properties. Unimproved Values properties as outlined below:

| Unimproved Value | Minimum Rate |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| UV1 – Rural | \$868 |
| UV2 – Urban Rural | \$868 |
| UV3 – Mining | \$139 |
| UV4 - Special Zone Wind farm | \$1,157 |
| UV5 – Special Use Airstrip | \$1,157 |
| UV6 – Merredin Power | \$868 |

3. **Due Date for Payment of Rates**

That the Shire of Merredin set the due date for payment of rates for the 2013/2014 financial year to be 23rd September 2013.

Due Date for Payment of Rate Instalments

That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Regulation 64(2) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, set the due date for the payment of rate instalments for the 2013/2014 financial year as follows:

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <i>First Instalment</i> | <i>23 September 2013</i> |
| <i>Second Instalment</i> | <i>25 November 2013</i> |
| <i>Third Instalment</i> | <i>28 January 2014</i> |
| <i>Fourth Instalment</i> | <i>24 March 2014</i> |

4. **Interest on Rate Instalments**

That the Shire of Merredin set an interest rate of 5.5% for the 2013/2014 financial year in accordance with Section 6.45 (4)(e) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 68 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

5. **Administration Charge on Instalments**

That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.45(3) of the Local Government Act 1995, set an administration charge of \$11.00 per rate instalment notice where the instalment plan is selected.

6. **Interest on Overdue Rates**

That the Shire of Merredin set an interest rate of 11% for the 2013/2014 financial year in accordance with Section 6.51(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 70 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

7. **Interest on Money Owing to Council – General Debtors**

That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.13 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 19(a) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, set an interest rate of 11% for the 2013/2014 financial year.

8. **Adoption of Budget**

That the Shire of Merredin, in accordance with Section 6.2(1) of the Local Government Act 1995, adopt the Budget for the 2013/2014 financial year as presented in Attachment 7.3A.

9. **Councillor Remuneration**

That the Shire of Merredin adopt the Councillor Remuneration levels as:

Councillor Meeting Fees - \$7,500 per Councillor

President Allowance \$12,500

Deputy President Allowance \$3,125

10. **Adoption of Material Variance Level for Reporting**

That Council adopt the value of +/- \$5,000.00 or 5% whichever is the greater as the minimum amount for reporting material variances for the 2013/2014 financial year.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 5/1

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6.0 **MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC**

Nil

7.0 **CLOSURE**

There being no further business the President declared the meeting closed at 5.31pm.