

SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

MINUTES

Special Council Meeting

To be held via electronic means
Corner King & Barrack Street's, Merredin
Tuesday, 12 August 2022
Commencing 12.00pm

Common Acronyms Used in this Document	
CBP	Corporate Business Plan
CEACA	Central East Accommodation & Care Alliance Inc
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CSP	Community Strategic Plan
CWVC	Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre
DCEO	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
EA	Executive Assistant to CEO
EMCS	Executive Manager of Corporate Services
EMDS	Executive Manager of Development Services
EMES	Executive Manager of Engineering Services
ES	Executive Support Officer
GECZ	Great Eastern Country Zone
GO	Governance Officer
LGIS	Local Government Insurance Services
LPS	Local Planning Scheme
MCO	Media and Communications Officer
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Manager of Projects
MRCLC	Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre
SRP	Strategic Resource Plan



Shire of Merredin Special Council Meeting

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Shire of Merredin
Special Council Meeting
12:00pm Tuesday, 12 August 2022



1. Official Opening

In accordance with Section 14 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996 “Meetings held by electronic means in public health emergency or state of emergency (Act s. 5.25(1)(ba))”, the President declared that this Meeting will take place via instantaneous communication.

The President acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, the Njaki Njaki people of the Nyoongar Nation and paid his respects to Elders past, present and emerging. The President then welcomed those in attendance and declared the meeting open at 12:04pm.

2. Record of Attendance / Apologies and Leave of Absence

Councillors:

Cr M McKenzie	President
Cr R Billing	
Cr D Crook	
Cr R Manning	
Cr P Patroni	
Cr M Simmonds	
Cr P Van Der Merwe	

Staff:

L Clack	CEO
L Mellor	A/EMCS
M Wyatt	EA/ES
O Mellor	GO

Members of the Public:

Apologies:	P Zenni EMDS, Cr Flockart, L Boehme EMCS
Approved Leave of Absence:	Nil

3. Public Question Time

Nil

4. Disclosure of Interest

Nil

5. Applications of Leave of Absence

Nil

6. Petitions and Presentations

Nil

7. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings

Nil

8. Announcements by the Person Presiding without Discussion

Nil

9. Matters for Which the Meeting may be Closed to the Public

Nil

10. Receipt of Minutes of Committee Meetings

Nil

11. Recommendations from Committee Meetings for Council Consideration

Nil

12. Officer's Reports - Development Services


Nil

13. Officer's Reports - Engineering Services

Nil

14. Officers' Reports – Corporate and Community Services

14.1 2022-23 Budget Adoption

<div>Corporate Services</div> <div>SHIRE OF MERREDIN INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT</div>	
Responsible Officer:	Lindon Mellor, A/EMCS
Author:	As above
Legislation:	<i>Local Government Act 1995</i> <i>Local Government (Functions and General) Regulations 1996</i>
File Reference:	Nil
Disclosure of Interest:	Nil
Attachments:	Attachment 14.1A - 2022-23 Budget Attachment 14.1B - 2022-23 Objects and Reasoning

Purpose of Report



Executive Decision



Legislative Requirement

Background

Council Endorsed the 2022-23 Budget in a Special meeting of Council on 9 August 2022.

The following Officer's Recommendation was put forward to Council in Item 14.1, which was carried 7/0 (CM Ref# 82978):

That Council;

1. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 6.2 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Part 3 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, ADOPTS the 2022-23 Budget as contained in Attachments 14.1A and 14.1B, for the Shire of Merredin;
2. Pursuant to Sections 6.32, 6.33, 6.34 and 6.35 of the Local Government Act 1995 IMPOSES the following differential general and minimum rates on Gross Rental and Unimproved Values adopted for the purpose of yielding the deficiency disclosed by the Municipal Fund Budget in the Rate Setting Statement:

Unimproved Value	Minimum Rate	Rate in \$
UV1 – Rural	\$1,130.00	0.01752

UV2 – Urban Rural	\$1,130.00	0.03328
UV3 – Mining	\$200.00	0.03220
UV4 - Special Zone Wind Farm & Power Generation	\$1,130.00	0.03220
UV5 – Special Use Airstrip	\$1,130.00	0.03220

3. Pursuant to Section 6.45 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 64(2) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, Council ADOPTS the following due dates for the payment in full by instalments:

Full payment or 1 st Instalment due date	23 September 2022
2 nd Instalment due date	25 November 2022
3 rd Instalment due date	27 January 2022
4 th Instalment due date	31 March 2022

4. Pursuant to Section 6.45 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 67 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, ADOPTS an instalment administration charge where the owner has elected to pay rates (and service charges) through an instalment option of \$13 for each instalment after the initial instalment is paid;
5. Pursuant to Section 6.45 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 68 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, ADOPTS an interest rate of 5.5% where the owner has elected to pay rates (and service charges) through an instalment option;
6. Pursuant to Section 6.51(1) and subject to Section 6.51(4) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 70 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, ADOPTS an interest rate of 6.0% for rates (and service charges) and costs of proceedings to recover such charges that remain unpaid after becoming due and payable;
7. Pursuant to Section 67 of the Waste Avoidance and Resources Recovery Act 2007, ADOPTS the Schedule of Fees and Charges for the Shire of Merredin removal and/or deposit of domestic and commercial waste included in Attachment 14.1C;
8. Pursuant to Section 5.99 of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 34 of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, ADOPTS the following annual fees for payment of elected members in lieu of individual meeting attendance fees:

Shire President	\$8,879
Deputy Shire President	\$8,879
Councillors	\$8,879

9. Pursuant to Section 5.98A of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulation 33 and 33A of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, ADOPTS the

following annual local government allowance to be paid in addition to the annual meeting allowance:

Shire President	\$14,794
Deputy Shire President	\$3,698

10. In accordance with Regulation 34(5) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 and AASB 1031 Materiality, ENDORSES the level to be used in the Statement of Financial Activity in 2022-23 for the reporting material variance shall be 10% and \$10,000

Comment

Due to an administrative error, a table was missing from the Officer's Recommendation in the Budget 22-23 resolution, regarding the Gross Rental Values (GRV) for general rates.

Without Council's acceptance of this value, the Administration is unable to issue rates notices which is why the Administration seeks further resolution of this matter by Council.

The GRV value to be approved by Council is listed below:

Gross Rental Value	Minimum Rate	Rate in \$
GRV	\$910	0.11260

The proposed general and minimum rate amounts listed in this table, for the purpose of yielding the deficiency disclosed by the Municipal Fund Budget in the Rate Setting Statement (as per Attachment 14.1A) were previously approved by Council in the Ordinary meeting on 24 May 2022 (CM Ref# 82922).

To meet the governance requirements for the issuing of rates, the recommendation of this report is to replace Item 2 of the previous '2022-23 Budget Adoption' item accepted by Council in the Special Council Meeting held on 9 August 2022 (resolution CM Ref: 82978), to include the table shown above in addition to the differential rates table. The statement of objects and reasonings for differential rates is included as Attachment 14.1B.

The remainder of the resolution accepted by Council in the Special Council Meeting held on 9 August 2022 (resolution CM Ref: 82978) at items 1, and items 3-10 inclusive, remain in place as the remaining requirements for the adoption of the budget.

Policy Implications

The draft 2022-23 Budget is based on the objectives contained in the Strategic Community Plan and Policy 3.18 Financial Reserves.

Statutory Implications

Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* requires that no later than 31 August in each financial year, the local government is to prepare and adopt a budget for its municipal fund for the financial year ending on the next following 30 June.

Division 5 and 6 of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 1995 refers to the setting of budgets and raising of rates and charges. The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* details the form and content of the budget. The draft 2022-23 Budget as presented is considered to meet the statutory requirements.

	Strategic Implications
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➤ Strategic Community Plan

Theme:	4. Communication & Leadership
Service Area Objective:	4.2 Decision Making 4.2.2. The Shire is progressive while exercising responsible stewardship of its built, natural and financial resources.
Priorities and Strategies for Change:	N/A

➤ Corporate Business Plan

Key Action:	N/A
Directorate:	N/A
Timeline:	N/A

	Sustainability Implications
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➤ Strategic Resource Plan

The draft 2021-22 Budget has been compiled on the principles contained in the Strategic Resource Plan.

➤ Workforce Plan

Directorate:	Nil
Activity:	Nil
Current Staff:	Nil
Focus Area:	Nil
Strategy Code:	Nil
Strategy:	Nil
Implications:	Nil

	Risk Implications
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If Council do not accept the GRV value proposed, the Administration are unable to issue rates notices. This will limit the Shires rates income and would significantly affect the budget.

	Financial Implications
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This resolution allows Council to achieve it's project rates income, set out in the 22-23 budget adopted as Item 1 of Special Council Meeting held on 9 August 2022 (resolution CM Ref: 82978)

Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

Resolution

Moved: Cr Patroni

Seconded:

Cr Crook

That Council;

1. Pursuant to Sections 6.32, 6.33, 6.34 and 6.35 of the Local Government Act 1995 IMPOSES the following differential general and minimum rates on Gross Rental and Unimproved Values adopted for the purpose of yielding the deficiency disclosed by the Municipal Fund Budget in the Rate Setting Statement as per Attachment 14.1A and Attachment 14.1B:

a. General Rates

Gross Rental Value	Minimum Rate	Rate in \$
GRV	\$910	0.11260

b. General Differential Rates

Unimproved Value	Minimum Rate	Rate in \$
UV1 – Rural	\$1,130.00	0.01752
UV2 – Urban Rural	\$1,130.00	0.03328
UV3 – Mining	\$200.00	0.03220
UV4 - Special Zone Wind Farm & Power Generation	\$1,130.00	0.03220
UV5 – Special Use Airstrip	\$1,130.00	0.03220

82979

2. NOTES the following:

- a. Item 1 above, now replaces Item 2 in previous '2022-23 Budget Adoption' resolution CM Ref: 82978, adopted by Council in the Special Council Meeting held on 9 August 2022.
- b. Item 1, and Items 3 to 10 (inclusive) of CM Ref: 82978, adopted by Council in the Special Council Meeting held on 9 August 2022 remain unchanged.

CARRIED 7/0

15. Officers' Reports - Administration

Nil

16. Motions of which Previous Notice has been given

Nil

17. Questions by Members of which Due Notice has been given

Nil

18. Urgent Business Approved by the Person Presiding or by Decision

Nil

19. Matters Behind Closed Doors

Nil

20. Closure

There being no further business, the President thanked those in attendance and declared the meeting closed at 12:11pm.

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