



Minutes

Extraordinary Council Meeting

6.30pm, Monday 19 June 2023

Richmond Town Hall

1. Statement of recognition of Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Land

“Yarra City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people as the Traditional Owners and true sovereigns of the land now known as Yarra.

We acknowledge their creator spirit Bunjil, their ancestors and their Elders.

We acknowledge the strength and resilience of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, who have never ceded sovereignty and retain their strong connections to family, clan and country despite the impacts of European invasion.

We also acknowledge the significant contributions made by other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to life in Yarra.

We pay our respects to Elders from all nations here today—and to their Elders past, present and future.”

2. Attendance, apologies and requests for leave of absence

Attendance

Councillors

- Cr Claudia Nguyen Mayor
- Cr Edward Crossland Deputy Mayor
- Cr Michael Glynatsis Councillor
- Cr Stephen Jolly Councillor
- Cr Herschel Landes Councillor
- Cr Anab Mohamud Councillor
- Cr Bridgid O'Brien Councillor
- Cr Amanda Stone Councillor
- Cr Sophie Wade Councillor

Council staff

Chief Executive Officer

- Sue Wilkinson Chief Executive Officer

General Managers

- Brooke Colbert Governance, Communications and Customer Experience
- Sam Hewett Infrastructure and Environment
- Kerry McGrath Community Strengthening
- Mary Osman City Sustainability and Strategy
- Jenny Scicluna Corporate Services and Transformation

Governance

- Phil De Losa Manager Governance and Integrity
- Rhys Thomas Senior Governance Advisor
- Mel Nikou Governance Officer

3. Declarations of conflict of interest (Councillors and staff)

No declarations were made.

4. Council business reports

Item		Page	Res. Page
4.1	Adoption of Annual Budget 2023/24, Long Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2032/33 and Revenue and Rating Plan	4	9

4.1 Adoption of Annual Budget 2023/24, Long Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2032/33 and Revenue and Rating Plan

Reference	D23/210491
Author	Dennis Bastas - Manager Financial Services
Authoriser	Chief Financial Officer

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council, following a community engagement process conducted in accordance with its community engagement policy:
 - (a) notes that the Budget, Financial Plan and Revenue and Rating Plan are updated to reflect the changes that have occurred since mid-April 2023, which led to a minor reduction of operating surplus for 2023/2024 from \$15.4m to \$15.2m;
 - (b) notes that the current Council Plan 2021-2025 and Yarra Vision 2036 was used to develop this Budget, Financial Plan and Revenue and Rating Plan;
 - (c) adopts the Annual Budget 2023/2024 as its budget for the 2023/2024 financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years (**Attachment One**);
 - (d) adopts the Long Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2031/32 (**Attachment Two**);
 - (e) endorses the Revenue and Rating Plan (**Attachment Three**);
 - (f) declares rates and charges as per pages 35-38 of the budget document (**Attachment One**). In summary, an amount of \$132.118m (or such greater amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this resolution) as the amount which Council intends to raise by General Rates and other charges, which is calculated as follows:

Category	\$000
General Rates	\$ 111,493
Public waste rate	\$7,192
Kerbside waste rate	\$11,874
Service rates and charges	\$50
Special rates and charges	\$143
Supplementary Rates and rate adjustments	\$1,500
Interest on rates and charges	\$300
Revenue in lieu of rates	\$39
Council Pension Rebate	(\$439)
Cultural & Recreational Lands and EPU's	(\$35)
Total Rates and Charges	\$132,118

- (g) advises in respect to General Rates:
 - (i) a general rate be declared in respect of and for the entire duration of the 2023/2024 financial year;
 - (ii) it further be declared that the general rate be raised by application of a uniform rate;

- (iii) a percentage of 0.032237540 be specified as the percentage of the uniform rate which may be alternatively expressed as 0.032237540 cents in the NAV dollar;
- (iv) it be confirmed that no amount is fixed as the minimum amount payable by way of a general rate in respect of each rateable property within the municipality; and
- (v) the Council funded Pensioner Rate Rebate be declared at \$204.10 for 2023/24;
- (h) declares no Annual Service Charge in respect of the 2023/24 financial year;
- (i) declares no Municipal Charge in respect of the 2023/24 financial year; and
- (j) authorises the Chief Executive Officer to effect administrative and wording changes to the Annual Budget 2023/2024, Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2032/33 and Revenue and Rating Plan, which may be required.

REVISED RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council, following a community engagement process conducted in accordance with its community engagement policy:
 - (a) notes that the Budget, Financial Plan and Revenue and Rating Plan are updated to reflect the changes that have occurred since mid-April 2023, which led to a minor reduction of operating surplus for 2023/2024 from \$15.4m to \$15.2m;
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 - (c) adopts the Annual Budget 2023/24 as its budget for the 2023/24 financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years (**Attachment One**);
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Council Pension Rebate	(\$439)

<i>(It is of benefit to the community as a whole to provide rate relief to holders of a Pensioner Concession Card or Veterans' Affairs Gold Card and assist them to remain in their homes)</i>	
Cultural & Recreational Lands and EPU's	(\$35)
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 - (v) the Council funded Pensioner Rate Rebate be declared at \$204.10 for 2023/24;
- (h) authorises the Chief Executive Officer to effect administrative and wording changes to the Annual Budget 2023/2024, Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2032/33 and Revenue and Rating Plan, which may be required.

MOTION

Moved: Councillor Landes

Seconded: Councillor Nguyen

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 - (b) notes that the current Council Plan 2021-2025 and Yarra Vision 2036 was used to develop this Budget, Financial Plan and Revenue and Rating Plan;
 - (c) adopts the Annual Budget 2023/24 as its budget for the 2023/24 financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years (**Attachment One**), subject to the following adjustments:
 - (i) Decreasing the 23/24 laneway renewal program by \$230k;
 - (ii) Pausing the annual contribution to the Victorian Heritage Restoration Fund for the 23/24 year only (\$80k);
 - (iii) Redistributing \$55k of the existing community grants program for the 23/24 year only;
 - (iv) Adjusting capital works program to include the installation of one additional temporary portable changeroom at the Yambla Street Pavillion (\$100K) to total three;
 - (v) Adjusting capital works program to include the installation of additional bike hoops (\$20K);
 - (vi) Adjusting capital works design program to include the design of bicycle intersection upgrades on Wellington/Johnston Street, Collingwood (\$45k) and Balmain Cotter Street, Cremorne (\$70k);
 - (vii) Increasing the allocation to the youth services program by \$30k to provide additional youth support including establishment of a partnership with local health care providers to deliver an accredited mental health first aid program for at risk

young people and young people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds living in Yarra’s Public Housing Estates; and

(viii) Increasing the existing Community Housing community grants stream for 23/24 by \$100K to provide initiatives that help sustain tenancies including emergency rent relief to those experiencing financial rental distress, supporting people out of homelessness, reduce and address the social and cultural impacts for tenants of community housing and those at risk of homelessness in Yarra; and

- (d) adopts the Long Term Financial Plan 2022/23 to 2031/32 (**Attachment Two**);
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- (f) declares rates and charges as per pages 35-38 of the budget document (**Attachment One**). In summary, an amount of \$132.118m (or such greater amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of this resolution) as the amount which Council intends to raise by General Rates and other charges, which is calculated as follows:

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AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Jolly

Seconded: Councillor O'Brien

Replacing 1. (c) (viii) with:

Increasing the existing Community Housing community grants stream for 23/24 by \$100K to provide emergency rent relief to those experiencing financial rental distress, which would be administered by a third party not for profit provider with expertise in housing and rental relief;

LOST

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillors Jolly, O'Brien and Glynatsis

Against: Councillors Crossland, Stone, Mohamud, Nguyen, Landes and Wade

LOST

AMENDMENT

Moved: Councillor Stone

Seconded: Councillor O'Brien

Replacing 1. (c) (i) with:

Decreasing the 23/24 laneway renewal program by \$235k;

Adding to 1. (c):

Making an allocation of \$5000 towards supporting Yarra's Municipal Agreement with the District of Baucau, Timor Leste, to facilitate staff exchange of knowledge and skills during 2024;

LOST

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillors Jolly, Stone, O'Brien and Glynatsis

Against: Councillors Crossland, Mohamud, Nguyen, Landes and Wade

LOST

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved: Councillor Landes

Seconded: Councillor Nguyen

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CARRIED

CALL FOR A DIVISION

For: Councillors Crossland, Stone, Mohamud, Nguyen, Landes and Wade

Against: Councillors Jolly, O'Brien and Glynatsis

CARRIED

Conclusion

The meeting concluded at 7.09pm.

Confirmed Tuesday 18 July 2023

Mayor