

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

*** A G E N D A ***

**FOR A SPECIAL MEETING OF SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL
TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 3 MARKET PLACE, HAMILTON
ON WEDNESDAY 29 JUNE 2016 COMMENCING AT 5.30 PM**

- 1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
- 2. PRAYER**
- 3. APOLOGIES**
- 4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS**
- 5. BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**
 - 5.1 ADOPTION OF 2016/2017 BUDGET, DECLARATION OF RATES AND CHARGES, ADOPTION OF STRATEGIC RESOURCE PLAN AND COUNCIL PRICING REGISTER**
- 6. CLOSURE**

DIRECTOR COMMUNITY & CORPORATE SERVICES**5.1 *Adoption of 2016/2017 Budget, Declaration of Rates and Charges, Adoption of Strategic Resource Plan and Council Pricing Register*****Summary**

At its meeting held on 11 May 2016 Council resolved to give public notice of its intention to adopt the proposed Budget for 2016/2017 and public notice was subsequently given, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989, of the intention to consider adoption of the Budget, along with the declaration of rates and charges and the adoption of the Strategic Resource Plan.

As part of the process of giving public notice, submissions on the proposed Budget were invited.

Council resolved, at its Meeting on 22 June 2016 to consider any submissions received and determine whether any changes are required to the proposed Budget and present the draft Budget, for adoption at a Special Meeting to be held on 29 June 2016.

This report recommends the adoption of the Budget as presented taking into consideration submissions received, including those heard at the Special Council Meeting on 22 June 2016.

Background

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1989, Council is required to prepare a proposed Budget and give public notice of its preparation. Part of that process is to invite submissions on the proposals in the Budget. The proposed Budget was advertised in the Hamilton Spectator and on Council's website.

At its Special Meeting held on 11 May 2016 Council resolved to give notice of the preparation of the Draft Budget for 2016/2017.

In accordance with Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 submissions were invited by placement of a notice in the Hamilton Spectator and on Council's website. The closing date for receipt of submissions was 15 June 2016.

Council Plan

The Annual Budget includes the key activities and initiatives to be funded that will contribute to achieving the strategic objectives specified in the Council Plan.

Policy/Strategy/Legal/Statutory

Under the Local Government Act 1989 the Council is required to prepare and adopt both the annual Budget and a Strategic Resource Plan by 30 June each year.

The Budget is required to include certain information about rates and charges that Council intends to levy as well as a range of other information required by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 which support the Act.

5.1 Adoption of 2016/2017 Budget, Declaration of Rates and Charges, Adoption of Strategic Resource Plan and Council Pricing Register (cont'd)

The Strategic Resource Plan is required to contain information about both financial and non-financial resources for at least the next four financial years as required by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.

Social/Economic/Environmental

The Annual Budget provides the funding for the Council to undertake its social, economic and environmental initiatives outlined in the 2013/2017 Council Plan.

Financial/Risk Management

Council is required to implement the principles of sound financial management detailed in Section 136 of the Local Government Act 1989. In developing the Draft Budget and Strategic Resource Plan, Council considers relevant financial risks to ensure it can achieve its Council Plan objectives within a longer term prudent financial framework.

Discussion

Eleven submissions (one including 12 letters of support) were received in response to the public notice advising of the preparation of the draft Budget and these have been circulated to Councillors.

The submissions received commented on issues such as:

- Proposed rate increases & rate capping,
- Debt structuring for Council,
- Financial indicators over the medium term,
- Strategic Objectives & Advocacy, and
- General financial management observations.

Specific items commented on within the submissions included (but not limited to);

- Capital works expenditure,
- Infrastructure & road expenditure,
- Hamilton Indoor Leisure and Aquatic Centre,
- Cavendish townscape,
- Hamilton Showgrounds,
- Cox Street Front Door Project,
- Hamilton CBD,
- Tree management plans,
- Family Day Care Fee increases,
- Escalating costs and
- General Administration.

It is recommended that Council adopt the Draft Budget, Strategic Resource Plan and Pricing Register (subject to minor amendments) as presented to the Council meeting held on 11 May 2016.

5.1 Adoption of 2016/2017 Budget, Declaration of Rates and Charges, Adoption of Strategic Resource Plan and Council Pricing Register (cont'd)**Community Engagement**

The proposed Budget was advertised in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989 and submissions invited.

Communication of Decision

Public notice of Council's decision in respect of the adoption of the Budget will be given by public notice as required by the Local Government Act 1989.

All persons who made written submissions will receive letters thanking them for their submissions and advising of Council's decision.

Officer Declaration of Interest

Under section 80c of the Local Government Act 1989, officers providing advice to Council must disclose any interests, including the type of interest.

Officer Responsible – Belinda Johnson, Manager Finance.

In providing this advice as the Officer Responsible, I have no disclosable interests in this report.

Author – Belinda Johnson, Manager Finance

In providing this advice as the Author, I have no disclosable interests in this report

Recommendation

That having considered all submissions received, Council resolve as follows –

1. Adoption of 2016/2017 Budget

1.1. That the Budget for the year ending 30 June 2017 as presented at the Council meeting held on 11 May 2016 be adopted; and

1.2. That public notice of the adoption of the Budget be given in accordance with Section 130 of the Local Government Act 1989.

2. Declaration of Rates and Charges for 2016/2017

That the following rates and charges be declared for the financial period commencing on 1 July 2016 and ending on 30 June 2017 -

A. AMOUNT INTENDED TO BE RAISED

That the amount of \$18,752,093 be declared as the amount which Council intends to raise by general rates, special rates, municipal charges and service charges which amount is calculated as follows –

General Rates	\$15,552,718
Municipal Charge	\$ 1,746,360
Service Charge	\$ 1,453,799
Special Rate	\$ <u>4,216</u>
	\$18,752,093

5.1 Adoption of 2016/2017 Budget, Declaration of Rates and Charges, Adoption of Strategic Resource Plan and Council Pricing Register (cont'd)**B. GENERAL RATE**

1. A general rate be declared for the period commencing on 1 July 2016 and ending on 30 June 2017.
2. It be further declared that, subject to paragraph 4 of this Part, the general rate be raised by the application of differential rates.
3. It is confirmed that the general rate for all rateable land within the municipal district be determined by multiplying the Capital Improved Value of each rateable land by the relevant differential rate as specified in paragraph 5 of this Part.
4. It be recorded that Council considers that the application of the differential rates will contribute to the equitable and efficient carrying out of Council's function and that the purpose of levying differential general rates is to recognise the following factors:
 - The different standard of municipal services provided to the residents and ratepayers in different areas of the Shire;
 - The different range of municipal services available to the residents and ratepayers in different areas of the Shire;
 - Differences in the accessibility to municipal services for the residents and ratepayers in different areas of the Shire.
5. That differential rates be declared as specified below:
 - i. on all rateable land in the parishes of North Hamilton and South Hamilton, excluding farm land (as defined by Section 2 (1) of the Valuation of Land Act 1960) comprising all or part of a single farm enterprise (as defined by Section 159 (4) of the Local Government Act 1989) with an area of 40 hectares or more, a differential general rate of 0.5279 per cent or 0.5279 cents of each dollar of the Capital Improved Value;
 - ii. on all rateable farm land (as defined by Section 2 (1) of the Valuation of Land Act 1960) in the parishes of North Hamilton and South Hamilton comprising a single farm enterprise (as defined by Section 159 (4) of the Local Government Act 1989) with an area of 40 hectares or more, a differential general rate of 0.4223 per cent or 0.4223 cents of each dollar of the Capital Improved Value.
 - iii. on all other rateable land in the Shire, a differential general rate of 0.4223 per cent or 0.4223 cents of each dollar of Capital Improved Value.
6. It be confirmed that no amount is fixed as a minimum amount payable by way of general rate in respect of each rateable land within the municipal district.

C. MUNICIPAL CHARGE

1. A municipal charge be declared for the period commencing on 1 July 2016 and ending on 30 June 2017.
2. The municipal charge be declared for the purpose of covering some of the administrative costs of Council.
3. The municipal charge be in the sum of \$189.00 for each rateable land (or part) in respect of which a municipal charge may be levied; and
4. It be confirmed that the municipal charge is declared in respect of all rateable land within the municipal district in respect of which a municipal charge may be levied.

5.1 Adoption of 2016/2017 Budget, Declaration of Rates and Charges, Adoption of Strategic Resource Plan and Council Pricing Register (cont'd)**D. SERVICE CHARGES**

1. Service charges be declared for the period commencing on 1 July 2016 and ending 30 June 2017.
2. The service charges be declared for each rateable land (or part) in respect of which service charges may be levied.
3. A service charge of \$230.00 be made on all improved properties within, Balmoral, Byaduk, Byaduk North, Coleraine, Dunkeld, Glenthompson, Hamilton, and Penshurst urban areas for the collection and disposal of refuse, excluding all commercial and industrial properties where such service is provided only upon request and for payment of the said charge.
4. That a service charge of \$230 be made on improved properties in the areas immediately north and east of Hamilton as defined within the "refuse collection area" for the collection and disposal of refuse, (if the ratepayers for individual properties elect to receive the service) excluding all commercial and industrial properties where such service is provided only upon request and for payment of the said charge.
5. That a service charge of \$230 be made on improved properties within Tarrington and its immediate surrounds as defined within the "refuse collection area" for the collection and disposal of refuse, (if the ratepayers for individual properties elect to receive the service) excluding all commercial and industrial properties where such service is provided only upon request and for payment of the said charge.
6. That an organic waste collection service charge of \$83 be made on improved properties within the Hamilton urban area, (if the ratepayers for individual properties elect to receive the service).

E. SPECIAL RATE (YATCHAW DRAINAGE AREA):

1. A special rate be declared for the period commencing on 1 July 2016 and ending on 30 June 2017.
2. The special rate be declared on all rateable land within the Yatchaw Drainage Area for the purpose of defraying the costs of drainage in that area.
3. The Council is of the opinion that the purpose for which the special rate is being declared will be of special benefit to the persons required to pay the special rate.
4. The special rate of 0.0425 per cent or 0.0425 cents of each dollar be declared and levied on each dollar of the Capital Improved Value of all rateable land in the Yatchaw Drainage Area.

F. EXEMPTION FROM MUNICIPAL CHARGE:

That Council accept applications for exemptions from the requirements to pay the Municipal Charge under the provisions of Section 159 of the Local Government Act 1989 throughout the year.

5.1 *Adoption of 2016/2017 Budget, Declaration of Rates and Charges, Adoption of Strategic Resource Plan and Council Pricing Register (cont'd)*

G. INCENTIVE FOR PROMPT PAYMENT:

That as an incentive for prompt payment a discount of two per cent be allowed in accordance with Section 168 of the Local Government Act 1989 where all four instalments of rates and charges declared for the current year (less the discount) are paid on or before 30 September 2016 excluding any arrears of rates and charges outstanding from previous years.

H. INTEREST ON UNPAID RATES AND CHARGES:

That interest at the rate prescribed by Section 172(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1989 be payable in respect of any of the aforesaid rates and charges which are not paid by the dates fixed pursuant to Section 167(2) of the Local Government Act 1989.

I. AUTHORISATION TO LEVY AND RECOVER:

That the Chief Executive Officer of the Council be authorised to levy and recover the aforesaid rates and charges in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

3. Adoption of the Strategic Resource Plan 2016/2017 – 2020/2021

That the Strategic Resource Plan 2016/2017 - 2020/2021 be adopted.

4. Pricing Register for 2016/2017

That Council's Pricing Register for 2016/2017 be adopted.

6. CLOSURE