



COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA – 9 JUNE 2021 WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

TO BE HELD:	Wednesday 9 June 2021
LOCATION:	Edenhope Council Chamber & online via Microsoft Teams
COMMENCEMENT:	10:00am
PUBLIC ACCESS:	Recording made available on Council's website www.westwimmera.vic.gov.au

REQUIRED TO ATTEND:	
Councillors	Senior Officers
Bruce Meyer OAM, Mayor Jodie Pretlove, Deputy Mayor Trevor Domaschenz Tom Houlihan Tim Meyer	David Bezuidenhout Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Vin McKay Director Corporate & Community Services (DCCS) Mark Marziale Director Infrastructure Development & Works (DIDW)
	Officers: Kaddie Cother Governance Support Officer Melanie Jordan Finance Coordinator

The West Wimmera Shire Council Governance Rules set out the meeting procedure rules for this Council Meeting.

Members of the public are reminded that they are required to remain silent during this meeting, except during Section 4.0 Questions from the Gallery.

Vision Statement:

Our Wimmera Shire communities are healthy, thriving, diverse, harmonious, prosperous and self-sustaining, with regional and global connectivity



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1.0 WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

The West Wimmera Shire Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet, and pays respect to their elders, past, present and emerging.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That in view of the current COVID-19 Pandemic and the social distancing restrictions put in place by the Australian and Victorian Governments, public access to this meeting will be limited to viewing of recording via Council's website.

2.0 OPENING PRAYER – CEO

Almighty God, we humbly ask your blessing upon this Council. Guide and prosper our decisions to the advancement of Your Glory and the true welfare of the people of West Wimmera Shire. Amen.

3.0 APOLOGIES, LEAVE OF ABSENCE, DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

3.1 APOLOGIES

3.2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

3.3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All Councillors have a personal responsibility to ensure they are aware of the provisions mandated in the Local Government Act 2020 with regard to Conflict of Interest disclosures.



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4.0 CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS TO THE 2021/22 PROPOSED BUDGET

FILE NUMBER: FM0070

REPORT AUTHOR: MELANIE JORDAN, FINANCE COORDINATOR

FOR DECISION

Introduction

This report presents all submissions received by West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) as per the resolution made at the Council Meeting held 5 May 2021.

In accordance with Council's public advertisement inviting submissions, any person wishing to be heard in support of their submission was given to opportunity to present to Council at the Special Council Meeting held at the Edenhope Community Hall on 28 May 2021 at 10:00am.

It is noted in this report also that several minor changes have been made to the proposed 2021-22 budget since the time of public advertisement due to new information being made available to Council. A summary of these changes is outlined below.

Declaration of Interests

No officer declared an interest under the *Local Government Act 2020* in the preparation of this report.

Background

As part of its 2021/22 budget process West Wimmera Shire Council (Council) resolved at its Council Meeting on 5 May 2021:

Moved: Cr Tim Meyer

Seconded: Cr Trevor Domaschenz

- 1. That the Draft 2021/22 Budget attachment be Council's Proposed Annual Budget 2021/2022 (Budget) prepared for the purposes of Section 94 of the Local Government Act 2020.**



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- 2. That in accordance with Section 158 of the Local Government Act 1989 Council proposes to declare a General Rate of 0.1920 cents in the dollar of the Capital Improved Value within the municipal district for all rateable land for the rating period commencing 1 July 2021 and ending 30 June 2022.**
- 3. That Council notes that the General Rate of 0.1920 cents in the dollar of the Capital Improved Value as noted in recommendation 2 is subject to confirmation from the Valuer General of Victoria of the valuations within West Wimmera Shire and the issuance of a Certificate 7A under the Valuation of Land Act 1960. Should valuations change materially, there will be a requirement to amend the General Rate in the dollar in order to ensure compliance with the Local Government Amendment (Fair Go Rates) Act 2015. However, this will have no impact on the total rates revenue raised.**
- 4. That Council proposes that all rates for rateable land be determined by multiplying the Capital Improved Value of the rateable land by the relevant General Rate indicated at recommendation 2 above.**
- 5. That in accordance Section 167 (1) of the Local Government Act 1989, the general rates and service charges be payable by:**
 - a. Four instalments for which the gazetted instalment dates as fixed by the Minister are as follows: 30 September 2021, 30 November 2021, 28 February 2022 and 31 May 2022; or,**
 - b. Lump sum by 15 February 2022.**
- 6. That in accordance with Section 159 of the Local Government Act 1989, Council proposes to declare that a municipal charge of \$157.93 will be levied against any rateable land on which a municipal charge may be levied for the rating period commencing on 1 July 2021 and ending on 30 June 2022.**
- 7. That in accordance with Section 162 of the Local Government Act 1989, Council proposes to declare the following annual waste management service charges for the period commencing 1 July 2021 and ending 30 June 2022:**
 - a. Urban 120 litre bin collection \$326**
 - b. Rural 120 litre bin collection \$315**
 - c. Commercial 240 litre bin collection \$424**
- 8. That Council notes that in accordance with Section 158 of the Local Government Act 1989 and Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020, detailed information concerning General Rates and Charges is included in the Budget document.**
- 9. That in accordance with Section 96(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2020, the Budget is being developed in accordance with the Council’s community engagement policy:**
 - a. The Budget will be made available for inspection at Council’s Customer Service Centres in Edenhope and Kaniva. An online**



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version of the Budget will also be published and made available for download via Council’s website and promoted on social media.

- b. Public notice be given that the Budget has been prepared and is available for public inspection and submissions will be received until 5.00pm Friday 21 May 2021.**
- c. Submissions may be included in an agenda for a meeting of the Council that will be made available to the public.**

10. Schedule any person wishing to be heard in support of their submission to the proposed budget, to be heard by Council on Friday 28 May 2021 at a meeting to be held in the Edenhope Community Hall.

11. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to undertake minor editorial changes to the proposed annual budget 2021/2022 if required.

12. Consider a recommendation to adopt the proposed annual budget 2021/2022 (including any amendments made as a result of community engagement and public submissions on the proposed budget) at the Council Meeting on Wednesday 16 June 2021.

Carried (5/0)

All budget submissions received by Council by the deadline of 5.00pm Friday 21 May 2021 are attached for Councillors information and discussion.

The purpose of this Special Council Meeting is for Council to resolve which, if any, of the submissions received they wish to be included in the final 2021-22 Budget, scheduled for adoption at the Council Meeting on 16 June 2021. Further information will be provided to Councillors prior to the meeting in the form of an Addendum report.

A summary of changes made to the proposed 2021-22 budget since the time of public advertisement is outlined below:

Classification	Budget Impact	Reason
Editorial	none	The role of CEO has been updated to reflect the appointment of David Bezuidenhout on 10 th May 2021.
Income	\$47,480 increase	The final estimated VGC allocations were communicated to Council on 20 th May 2021. Council’s allocation is slightly higher than original estimates.
Capital Expenditure	\$10,000 increase to capital, \$10,000	Preliminary works for stonewall entrances added to capital works schedule.



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	decrease to operating	
Capital Expenditure	\$8,184 increase	Final seal to Patyah Rd Ch. 3220 - Ch. 3440 - 6.2m added to capital works schedule.

Risk Management Implications

Not commented on.

Legislative Implications

Local Government Act 1989:

- Sections 154 – 181 – Rates and charges

Local Government Act 2020:

- Section 94 – The budget
- Section 95 – Revised budget
- Section 96 – Preparation of budget or revised budget

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020:

- Regulation 7 – The financial statements
- Regulation 8 – Other information to be included

Local Government Amendment (Fair Go Rates) Act 2015

- Capped rate increase

Valuation of Land Act 1960

- Valuation of all properties within the Shire

Under section 55(d) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Council is required to apply its Community Engagement Policy to the Annual Budget Development. Members of the public are entitled to make a submission to the budget under section 94 of the Act. Council has now complied with these requirements of the Act for the 2021/22 budget.

Environmental Implications

Not commented on.

Financial and Budgetary Implications

The 2021/22 budget has direct and significant financial implications. It highlights Council's revenue and spending for the coming four financial years and outlines Council's short and medium term sustainability.

Should Council elect to include any of the attached public submissions in the final adopted budget, this will have an impact on Council's financial performance and position. The effect of each submission will be spoken to at the time of discussion.



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Policy Implications

This report is supported by the following West Wimmera Shire Council Policy:

Advocacy Policy
Asset Capitalisation Policy
Asset Management Policy
Borrowings Policy
Building Fee Refunds Policy
Community Engagement Policy
Fraud Control Policy
Investment Policy

Council Plan Implications

This report supports all sections of the West Wimmera Shire Council Plan 2017-2021:

- Strategic Objective 1: A proactive, well governed, professional and financially sustainable organisation that encourages community participation.
- Strategic Objective 2: Meaningful partnerships to support advocacy priorities and service provision.
- Strategic Objective 3: Quality sustainable community services and infrastructure.
- Strategic Objective 4: Building on our agricultural and business strengths and supporting economic development.
- Strategic Objective 5: Thriving, safe and diverse local communities.
- Strategic Objective 6: Participating in activities that address health and wellbeing issues.
- Strategic Objective 7: Providing access to and promoting the natural environment.

Communication Implications

The public submission process allows interested members of our community to have a direct impact on Council's budget process and service delivery.

The outcomes of any public submissions made will be communicated to the parties making the submissions.

Under section 55(d) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), Council is required to apply its Community Engagement Policy to the Annual Budget Development. Members of the public are entitled to make a submission to the budget under section 94 of the Act. Council has now complied with these requirements of the Act for the 2021/22 budget.

The proposed 2021/22 budget has been displayed at Council's service centres in Edenhope and Kaniva and also on Council's website. Public advertisements were conducted in newspapers, on Council's social media and displayed on public notice boards. Council also held two public information drop-in sessions on the proposed 2021/22 budget on 18th May at the Edenhope Community Centre and 19th May at the Kaniva Hall.



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Conclusion

Per Council's Engagement Policy and in accordance with section 55(d) of the Act, the proposed 2021/22 budget was released for public consultation for the period between 22 April 2021 and 21 May 2021.

Submissions were received from six community groups and/or community members and are attached for Councillors' consideration and decision about inclusion in the final 2021/22 budget. A Special Council meeting was held on 28 May 2021 at the Edenhope Community Hall for Council to receive and consider these submissions, with any person wishing to be heard in support of their submission given the opportunity to present to Council.

The Officer recommendations as outlined below seek for Council to resolve which, if any, of the submissions received they wish to be included in the final 2021-22 Budget, scheduled for adoption at the Council Meeting on 16 June 2021.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. That Council resolve to include or omit in the final 2021/22 Budget the following public submission;**
 - a. Cr Trevor Domaschcz: proposed budget allocation of \$20,000 to establish a Wetlands Centre of Excellence, and;**
- 2. That Council resolve to include or omit in the final 2021/22 Budget the following public submission;**
 - a. Vision and Voice of Edenhope: proposed budget allocation of \$20,000 for playground equipment at Lions Park, Edenhope, and;**
 - b. Vision and Voice of Edenhope: proposed budget allocation of \$50,000 for the implementation of Stage 1 of the Lake Wallace Strategic Plan, and;**
- 3. That Council resolve to include or omit in the final 2021/22 Budget the following public submission;**
 - a. Friends of Lake Wallace: proposed budget allocation of \$5,000 to acquire engineering designs for a weed cutting machine for the weeds in Lake Wallace, and;**
- 4. That Council resolve to include or omit in the final 2021/22 Budget the following public submission;**



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- a. **Alysha Jacobson and Shelley Hartle: proposed budget allocation of \$50,000 to conduct business planning & feasibility activities into establishing a childcare service in Edenhope, and;**
5. **That Council resolve to include or omit in the final 2021/22 Budget the following public submission;**
 - a. **Edenhope Tourism Inc.: proposed budget allocation of \$9,700 to cover operating costs as listed in submission, and;**
 - b. **Edenhope Tourism Inc.: proposed budget allocation of \$4,000 to paint the SES shed, and;**
6. **That Council resolve to include or omit in the final 2021/22 Budget the following public submission;**
 - a. **Apsley and Districts Action Group: various projects as outlined in submission.**

Attachments:

No.	Name	RecFind Ref
1	Budget Submission 2021-22 - Cr T. Domaschenz	
2	Vision and Voice of Edenhope draft WWSC Budget submission 20.5.21 v1	
3	Friends of Lake Wallace - Submission to Council on Lake Wallace weeds	
4	Budget-Submission-Form-2022-AlyshaJacobsonShelleyHartle-Childcare	
5	Edenhope Tourism Inc Budget Submission	
6	Apsley and Districts Action Group Budget Submission	
7	Addendum Report - Special Council Meeting 9 June 2021	



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MEETING CONCLUDED:

NEXT MEETING: