Resolutions – Summary

ITEM NO. 14 FILE NO: 21/250545 EDRMS NO: PSC2017-00180

PORT STEPHENS COUNCIL FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY AND PROSPERITY FUND

REPORT OF: TIMOTHY CROSDALE - GROUP MANAGER CORPORATE

SERVICES

GROUP: CORPORATE SERVICES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 26 OCTOBER 2021 MOTION

292 Councillor Chris Doohan Councillor John Nell

It was resolved that Council:

- 1) Endorse the key directions for ongoing financial sustainability as detailed in this report.
- 2) Endorse the establishment of the Prosperity Fund.
- Receives a report within 6 months to endorse associated governance processes for the Prosperity Fund.

The motion was carried

ITEM NO. 1 FILE NO: 22/145962 EDRMS NO: PSC2022-145962

2022-2032 INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING DOCUMENTS AND 2022-2023 FEES AND CHARGES

REPORT OF: TIMOTHY CROSDALE - GROUP MANAGER CORPORATE

SERVICES

GROUP: CORPORATE SERVICES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 28 JUNE 2022 MOTION

160 Councillor Leah Anderson Councillor Chris Doohan

It was resolved that Council:

- Receive and note the community submissions received and responses in relation to the draft 2022 to 2032 Integrated Planning and Reporting documents and draft Fees and Charges 2022 to 2023 (ATTACHMENT 1).
- 2) Note the recommendations relating to changes to the Integrated Planning and Reporting documents, being the Community Strategic Plan 2022 to 2032, Delivery Program 2022 to 2026 incorporating the Operational Plan 2022 to 2023, Resourcing Strategy 2022 to 2032 (incorporating the Workforce Management Strategy 2022 to 2026, Long Term Financial Plan 2022 to 2032 and Strategic Asset Management Plan 2022 to 2032) and the Fees and Charges 2022 to 2023 (ATTACHMENT 2).
- 3) Adopt the Integrated Planning and Report documents, being the Community Strategic Plan 2022 to 2032, Delivery Program 2022 to 2026 incorporating the Operational Plan 2022 to 2023, Resourcing Strategy 2022 to 2032 (incorporating the Workforce Management Strategy 2022 to 2026, Long Term Financial Plan 2022 to 2032 and Strategic Asset Management Plan 2022 to 2032) and the Fees and Charges 2022 to 2023 with amendments as provided in (ATTACHMENT 2).
- 4) Make the rates and charges for 2022 to 2023 in accordance with (ATTACHMENT 3).

Councillor Jason Wells left the meeting at 5:34pm. Councillor Jason Wells returned to the meeting at 5:34pm.

Those for the Motion: Mayor Ryan Palmer, Crs Leah Anderson, Giacomo Arnott, Matthew Bailey, Chris Doohan, Peter Francis, Steve Tucker and Jason Wells.

Those against the Motion: Nil.

The motion was carried.

ITEM NO. 2 FILE NO: 22/152740 EDRMS NO: PSC2017-00180

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

REPORT OF: TIM HAZELL - FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTION MANAGER

GROUP: CORPORATE SERVICES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 28 JUNE 2022 MOTION

161 Councillor Leah Anderson Councillor Matthew Bailey

It was resolved that Council:

- 1) Note and endorse this report.
- 2) Commence an engagement process to discuss the financial sustainability of the Council over the next 10 years with the community, including but not limited to the prospect of submitting a Special Rate Variation to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) for consideration for the 2023-2024 financial year.
- 3) Note and endorse the Communications and Engagement Plan Our Funded Future (ATTACHMENT 3).
- 4) The following be included as part of the community engagement:
- The additional information being all of the items that the councillors brought to the table throughout the past few months of finance committee meetings (Supplementary information)
- b) That the parcels of land identified for potential sale be made transparent to the community, along with an explanation of how long this will take to have them re-zoned and what potential revenue we could achieve from the sales.
- c) When we anticipate the return of Airport Dividends and how they will be used to build a Prosperity Fund (and why) and not relied upon to fund our day to day operations in terms of this budget.

Those for the Motion: Mayor Ryan Palmer, Crs Leah Anderson, Matthew Bailey, Chris Doohan, Steve Tucker and Jason Wells.

Those against the Motion: Crs Giacomo Arnott and Peter Francis.

The motion was carried.

ITEM NO. 4 FILE NO: 22/218108 EDRMS NO: PSC2021-02359

OUR FUNDED FUTURE - PHASE 0 AND PHASE 1 ENGAGEMENT

REPORT OF: TIM HAZELL - FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTION MANAGER

GROUP: CORPORATE SERVICES

AMENDMENT

219 Councillor Giacomo Arnott Councillor Peter Kafer

It was resolved that Council:

- 1) Notes the outcomes of the community engagement for Phase 0 and Phase 1 of Our Funded Future, including a proposed Special Rate Variation (ATTACHMENT 1).
- Endorses the development of Our Funded Future Phase 2 Engagement Plan.
- 3) Endorses the development of revised Integrated Planning and Reporting documents, including Special Rate Variation options, to incorporate feedback gained from the community during Phase 0 and 1 whilst balancing Council's financial sustainability for further engagement with the community.
- The name of the engagement will not be called 'Our Funded Future' going forward.

Councillor Matthew Bailey left the meeting at 7:47pm. Councillor Matthew Bailey returned to the meeting at 7:50pm.

Those for the Amendment: Mayor Ryan Palmer, Crs Leah Anderson, Giacomo Arnott, Peter Francis, Peter Kafer and Jason Wells.

Those against the Amendment: Crs Matthew Bailey, Chris Doohan, Glen Dunkley, Mayor Ryan Palmer and Steve Tucker.

The amendment on being put became the motion, which was carried.

Those for the Motion: Crs Leah Anderson, Matthew Bailey, Chris Doohan, Glen Dunkley, Peter Francis, Peter Kafer, Mayor Ryan Palmer, Steve Tucker and Jason Wells.

Those against the Motion: Cr Giacomo Arnott.

The motion was carried.

ITEM NO. 10

FILE NO: 22/223589 EDRMS NO: PSC2021-02359

DRAFT INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDING SPECIAL RATE VARIATION OPTIONS - PHASE 2 (RATE RISE OPTIONS)

REPORT OF: TIM HAZELL - FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTION MANAGER GROUP: CORPORATE SERVICES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 13 SEPTEMBER 2022 MOTION

247 Councillor Leah Anderson Councillor Steve Tucker

It was resolve that Council:

- 1) Endorse the draft Integrated Planning and Reporting documents, being the Delivery Program 2022 to 2026, incorporating the Operational Plan 2023 to 2024, Resourcing Strategy 2023 to 2033 incorporating the Workforce Management Strategy 2022 to 2026, Long Term Financial Plan 2023 to 2033 and Strategic Asset Management Plan 2023 to 2033 that have been revised to model 2 options of a Special Rate Variation, as per amendments outlined in (ATTACHMENT 1).
- Note the proposed additional affordability measures, included as Appendix 4 of the draft Operational Plan 2023 to 2024 (ATTACHMENT 1).
- Place the draft revised documents on public exhibition for a period of 28 days, invite submissions and report back to Council.

4) Endorse the revised Phase 2 Rate Rise Options Engagement Plan (ATTACHMENT 2).

Councillor Jason Wells left the meeting at 7:19pm. Councillor Jason Wells returned to the meeting at 7:22pm.

Those for the Motion: Mayor Ryan Palmer, Crs Leah Anderson, Matthew Bailey,

Peter Francis, Steve Tucker and Jason Wells.

Those against the Motion: Cr Giacomo Arnott.

The motion was carried.

ITEM NO. 1

FILE NO: 22/254564 EDRMS NO: PSC2017-00180

SPECIAL RATE VARIATION - REVISED INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING DOCUMENTS - RATE RISE OPTIONS ENGAGEMENT

REPORT OF: TIM HAZELL - FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTION MANAGER

GROUP: CORPORATE SERVICES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 25 OCTOBER 2022 AMENDMENT

290 Councillor Leah Anderson Councillor Jason Wells

It was resolved that Council:

- Deferred Item 1 until the Council meeting of 8 November 2022 to allow the Mayor and Councillors to read all of the 138 written submissions, and 264 online survey comments from the community, and the additional information provided in the Supplementary Report received on 24 October 2022.
- Request that the Mayor and Councillors have a Two way conversation during the next 2 weeks before the next council meeting to discuss the community feedback and additional information provided by Council, and discuss ways to move forward with the rate rise options and our written intention to IPART.

Councillor Peter Kafer left the meeting at 6:57pm. Councillor Peter Kafer returned to the meeting at 7:01pm.

Those for the Motion: Mayor Ryan Palmer, Crs Leah Anderson, Matthew Bailey, Steve Tucker and Jason Wells.

Those against the Motion: Crs Giacomo Arnott and Peter Kafer.

The motion was carried.

ITEM NO. 1 FILE NO: 22/287452 EDRMS NO: PSC2017-00180

SPECIAL RATE VARIATION - REVISED INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING DOCUMENTS - RATE RISE OPTIONS ENGAGEMENT

REPORT OF: TIM HAZELL - FINANCIAL SERVICES SECTION MANAGER

GROUP: CORPORATE SERVICES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING - 8 NOVEMBER 2022

304 Councillor Leah Anderson Councillor Jason Wells

It was resolved that Council:

- Receive and note the Independent Financial Analysis 2022 Consolidated Reports from UNE Emeritus Professor Brian Dollery and Professor Joseph Drew (ATTACHMENT 1).
- 2) Receive and note the community submissions and responses in relation to the Draft 2023 to 2033 Integrated Planning and Reporting documents revised for a Special Rate Variation (ATTACHMENT 3).
- 3) Receive and note outcomes of the community engagement provided in the Rate Rise Options Engagement Report (ATTACHMENT 4).
- Note the recommendations relating to amendments to the 2023 to 2033 Integrated Planning and Reporting documents revised for a Special Rate Variation (AMENDED ATTACHMENT 5).
- Adopt the Integrated Planning and Reporting documents, being the Delivery Program 2022 to 2026 incorporating the Operational Plan 2023 to 2024, Resourcing Strategy 2022 to 2032 (incorporating the Workforce Management Strategy 2022 to 2026, Long Term Financial Plan 2023 to 2033 and Strategic Asset Management Plan 2023 to 2033) revised for a Special Rate Variation with amendments provided in (AMENDED ATTACHMENT 5) relating to the base scenario as well as amendments that reflect the special rate variation application type and percentage as stated in recommendation 6.
- 6) Apply to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal under Section 508(A) of the Local Government Act for a 2023-2024 Special Rate Variation of a cumulative increase of 31.29%, being a 9.5% increase for three consecutive years 2023-2024 to 2025-2026, to be a permanent increase that will be retained within the rate base with financial sustainability being the key purpose of the application.
- 7) Subject to the approval of a Special Rate Variation endorse the inclusion of the proposed additional affordability measures into the Debt Recovery & Hardship Policy to further support ratepayers should a Special Rate Variation be approved.
- 8) Requests the General Manager to provide information regarding its hardship policy & the process on the Rates Notices
- Requests the General Manager to provide a comprehensive monthly report at each month's council meeting detailing income and expenditure for each month and year to date actual v budget
- 10) Requests the General Manager to provide a comprehensive quarterly two-way discussion with the Mayor and Councillors regarding Council's overall financial position, income, and expenditure, and that quarterly budget review reports are promptly made available to the Mayor and Councillors and the general public as close as possible after the end of each quarter
- 11) Requests the General Manager to develop a program to address the additional recommendations of the independent financial review, specifically providing a two-way conversation on the following topics:
- Combat fiscal illusion ongoing by providing carefully constructed financial sustainability information with rates and charges notices.
- 2) Review of its Corporate Structure
- 3) Service Level Review program
- 4) Internal efficiencies review, including potential deferral of discretionary projects, improved procurement practices, review of community grant schemes, and improved capture of tourist revenues including more appropriate use of tailored fees and charges.

Those for the Motion: Mayor Ryan Palmer, Crs Leah Anderson, Matthew Bailey, Chris Doohan, Peter Francis, Peter Kafer and Jason Wells.

Those against the Motion: Nil.

The motion was carried.