MINUTES

1. Elected Member’s Declaration of Interest
2. Reports for Decision
   2.1. Draft Annual Business Plan & Budget 2020-21
3. Meeting closed
MINUTES

COMMENCED: Meeting commenced at 5.00pm in Naracoorte Council Chamber, DeGaris Place, Naracoorte

PRESENT: Mayor Erika Vickery, Cr Craig McGuire, Cr Derek James, Cr Damien Ross, Cr Monique Crossling, Cr Scott McLachlan, Cr Cameron Grundy, Cr Julie Earl, Cr Trevor Rayner, Cr Ken Schultz

APOLOGIES:

ON LEAVE: Trevor Smart

OFFICERS:

Steve Bourne Director Operations
Fiona Stringer Director Corporate Services
Sally Klose Manager Governance and Community Development
Paul McRostie Manager Planning and Compliance
Daniel Willsmore Manager Operations

MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES:

Chris Oldfield Naracoorte Community News

1. Elected Member’s Declaration of Interest

2. Reports for Decision

2.1. Draft Annual Business Plan & Budget 2020-21

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<th>Director Corporate Services – Fiona Stringer</th>
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<td>Progressive Leadership – sustainable community finances &amp; assets and organisational excellence</td>
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Report

The Draft Annual Business Plan and Budget for 2020-21 have been prepared and are provided for Members consideration and endorsement to enable releasing for public consultation.

As per our Long Term Financial Plan, Council has generally increased its general rate income by CPI (Adelaide) as measured for the previous 12 months from December. The December 2019 CPI was 2.1%. Council considered three (3) general rate increases including 0%, 1% and 2.1% at a workshop on 26 May 2020. An assessment of the impact on Council’s operating surplus, long term financial plan and estimated variation for each property was considered.

Due to being in a strong financial position and identified savings as a result of an assessment of operating income & expenditure over the last three (3) years; the draft budget has been prepared based on a zero increase of its general rate income for 2020-21. This decision reflects and acknowledges Council’s understanding of the pressures on the local economy by providing some level of financial relief to ratepayers, including businesses, impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. This approach follows from Council’s recent decision to offer rate relief to ratepayers experiencing hardship due to COVID-19 by allowing ratepayers to apply for the postponement / deferment of rate payments and to not raise fines for the period 1 April 2020 to 30 September 2020.

The Budget for the year ending 30 June 2021 includes provision for the continuation of services for the Community, including:

- Parks and Gardens, Swimming Lake, Playgrounds & Town Hall Facilities
- Road Maintenance, Construction, Resealing & Resheeting Projects
- Footpath & Bike Network Maintenance
- Urban & Rural Drainage Maintenance
- Planning & Compliance Services including Fire Mitigation, Animal Management, Parking, Health & Building Functions
- Naracoorte Regional Livestock Exchange & our Visitor Information Centre
- Waste & Recyclables Collection and Disposal
- Street Sweeping
- Volunteer Services Support
- Community Development activities
- Library Services
- Administration Services

Provision for the support of community events and sport and recreational groups, including:

- Continuation of the community chest program
- Financial and in-kind support for the South East Field Days, TASTE the Limestone Coast Festival, Harmony Day and Senior Super Bowls Series
- Financial support for the Naracoorte Art Gallery
- Organisation of civic events such as Australia Day and Anzac Day
- Support for ongoing events that were introduced for the first time during 2019/20 – Tour of the Great South Coast – Bike Race, MegaFest - Naracoorte World Heritage Festival & Run and Limestone Coast Multicultural Soccer Carnival

The Budget also includes provision for the following projects:

- ARC Linkage Project (relates to the Naracoorte Caves) – final year
Naracoorte Library development at new location 93 Smith Street, Naracoorte
Implementation of the Caves Trail Master Plan
Implementation of the Frances Master Plan
Implementation of the Lucindale Masterplan
Progression of Naracoorte Regional Sports Centre Masterplan
Naracoorte Town Centre Rejuvenation Project
Continued replacement, renewal and upgrade of Council roads, footpaths and kerbing.
Continued promotion and upgrade of the Naracoorte Regional Livestock Exchange to ensure it maintains its position as the premium livestock selling facility on the Limestone Coast

There is an increased emphasis on maintaining roadside vegetation with an increase of $110,000 for tree trimming, which will now provide for an annual spend of $410,000 on this activity, and continued emphasis on the renewal of road infrastructure. Further information in relation to individual road and infrastructure projects may be sourced from Council’s Major Projects report.

The draft budget indicates an operating surplus before capital revenue of $1,668,898.

The Naracoorte Regional Livestock Exchange is also forecasting an operating surplus of $350,260 for the year.

The operating result may change following the public consultation period (eg. inclusion or removal of items following requests from the community and decision of Council).

Council’s cash position at 30 June 2021 is forecast to be $4.499 million.

The budget includes the following assumptions: -

- No increase in general rate revenue (gross of rebates)
- Lucindale Community Waste Management Scheme (CWMS) charges to remain at $589 for occupied properties and $213 for vacant land
- Kerbside waste collection charge to increase from $320 to $330 per annum
- Grants Commission allocation to increase by 2.0%
- Early Grants Commission payment to be received in June 2020 and June 2021
- Fines and interest on Council Rates to be waived for the period 1 July to 30 September 2020

Property valuations have increased by approximately 10% from 1 July 2019.

Expenditure on non-current assets is projected to be $9.8 million, with $7.1 million to be expended on the replacement and renewal of assets and $2.7 million allocated for new assets.

Capital expenditure will be primarily funded from Council’s cash reserves; however, it is predicted that a loan borrowing of $1 million may be drawn down for the Naracoorte library development.

Council’s asset renewal funding ratio is forecast to be 182%.

The community was invited to provide suggestions and great ideas for Council to consider during budget deliberations by 23 March 2020. The following community requests were received during this period (items highlighted green have been included in the budget; red items are undergoing investigation or will be taken into consideration in future plans for the area): -

☐ Lucindale Christmas Street Party (LINC) – annual request
NARACOORTE LUCINDALE COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
2 June 2020

✓ Naracoorte Regional Art Gallery – annual contribution
✓ Taste the Limestone Coast Festival – annual contribution
✓ Christmas Party for Special Children – annual contribution
✓ Naracoorte Interchurch – annual contribution
✓ Michael Lyons – promotional banners for events at town entrance to town to have a
permanent frame to hold them rigid
✓ Michael Lyons – sculpture at southern entry to Naracoorte lost in surrounds – Stage 1 of
improvements to the southern entry occurred in 2019-20; Stage 2 is scheduled for 2020-21
✓ Limestone Coast Prostate Cancer Support Group – financial support (subject to Council
resolution)
X Paul McCarthy – extend walking track from Golf Course Road to McMillan Road – minor
improvements to be implemented for safety on the corner of McMillan Road/Riddoch
Highway
X Michael Lyons - consideration be given to encourage a boutique beer maker in town
X Michael Lyons - old library be used as an information centre for travellers, bringing them
into the town.
X Michael Lyons - caves fun run be scheduled around the town (finishing in town Sq.) for
the 5 and 10 km run, with the bike ride out of town to finish also in the town Sq.
X Arrange to have old railway carriages etc. brought to Naracoorte to help promote the
history of rail in the area – this would be a comprehensive project that would require wider
community support and planning
X Two of our coffee shops be given a little more footpath space for their outside ambience
– would be considered upon application from the business owners, taking into
consideration Council policy

The following items submitted by Michael Lyons are in relation to private property and
outside Council’s control:
• Building in Smith Street,(old Red Rooster) next to the Kincraig hotel be used as a wine
promotion centre for our regional wines
• Scouts land near the creek is not utilised often enough.
• Look at the possibility of opening the old theatre in Smith St to have movies and use
as a museum
• Lights highlighting the churches on the hill until say 10pm
• A “mud map” painted on the wool store wall, opposite McDonalds, to indicate points
of interest.
• Arrange to have artistic graffiti on the silo’s in the rail yards promoting a local theme.
• Area at the rear of the art gallery and near the creek be used for temporary car/caravan
parking (drive through), while visiting the town during the day

Section 123 of the Local Government Act requires Council to release its Draft Annual
Business Plan and Budget for a period of public consultation of at least 21 days.
The documents to be released are in draft format only and may be amended prior to
adoption.

In previous years, Members of the public have been invited to attend a meeting to provide
comment and/or suggestions for Council’s annual business plan and budget for the year.
This year due to restrictions associated with COVID-19, this will not be occurring, with all
submissions being received in writing.

Council will consider formal adoption of the annual business plan and budget for 2020-21 at
a Special Council meeting on 30 June 2020.
REFER ATTACHMENTS 2.1
- Draft Annual Business Plan 2020-21
- Draft Budget 2020-21
- Major Projects 2020-21

MOVED CR ROSS
SECONDED CR MC LACHLAN

That: -

1. the Draft Annual Business Plan and Draft Budget for 2020-21 are endorsed for public consultation and community comment is invited; and

2. the period of public consultation commences on 3 June 2020 with written comment invited up to 5 pm on 23 June 2020; and

3. all community comments received in relation to the Draft Annual Business Plan and Draft Budget are given consideration by the Elected Council prior to adoption of an Annual Business Plan, Budget and Rating Information for the year ending 30 June 2021.

CARRIED 546/20

3. Meeting closed

Meeting closed at 5.05pm.