



MINUTES

Finance Committee

held at

Council Administration Centre
Committee Room
180 Mort Street, Lithgow

on

Monday 9 March 2020

at 4:00 pm

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1. Present

Present: Councillor S Ring, Councillor R Thompson, Graeme Faulkner, Councillor S Lesslie (observer)

Officers: Ross Gurney, Trinity Newton (minutes)

2. Apologies

Apology: Councillor W McAndrew

3. Declaration of Interest

Nil Declarations were made.

4. Staff Reports

4.1. 2019/20 Capital Program

The Committee discussed the impact of the bushfire related works and impacts on progressing the Capital Works Program. Capital projects will be comprehensively reviewed at the end of Quarter Three to determine if any projects need to be transferred to a future year.

A budget variation will be required for the clean-up relating to the EPA incident at Wallerawang STP.

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report on the status of the 2019/20 Capital Works Program be noted by the Committee.

MOVED: Graeme Faulkner

SECONDED: Councillor S Ring

CARRIED: Unanimously

4.2. Investments Report February 2020

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. Investments of \$28,200,000 and cash of \$795,336 for the period ending 29 February 2020 be noted.
2. The enclosed certificate of the Responsible Accounting Officer be noted.

MOVED: Graeme Faulkner

SECONDED: Councillor S Ring

CARRIED: Unanimously

4.3. FIN - 23/03/20 - Establishment of Mayoral Relief Fund

The committee discussed the Australian Tax Office requirements and the function of a Mayoral Relief fund.

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Note the progress of the application to the Australian Taxation Office to establish a Mayoral Relief Fund with deductible gift recipient status.
2. Approve the public fund rules included as an attachment to this report.

MOVED: Councillor S Ring

SECONDED: Graeme Faulkner

CARRIED: Unanimously

4.4. Lidsdale Business Rates Modelling

Councillor Lesslie entered the meeting at 4:09 pm as an observer.

The Committee discussed the options and the impact on rating income.

A report will be presented to a future Council meeting with modelling of the impacts of moving both the Lidsdale business and residential sub-categories to the rural business and residential sub-categories.

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Lidsdale business sub-category be retained with no change. To move the Lidsdale ratepayers to either the Wallerawang or Rural business sub-categories would result in a significant reduction in rates for Lidsdale business ratepayers which would be borne either by all ratepayers or the ratepayers in the Wallerawang or Rural sub-categories.

MOVED: Councillor S Ring

SECONDED: Graeme Faulkner

CARRIED: Unanimously

4.5. Audit Action Lists

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

THAT progress towards completing 2019/20 internal and external audit actions be noted by the Committee.

MOVED: Councillor S Ring

SECONDED: Graeme Faulkner

CARRIED: Unanimously

4.6. February 2020 Performance Reporting to OLG

ACTION / RECOMMENDATION

THAT the February 2020 Performance Report to the OLG be noted by the Committee.

MOVED: Councillor S Ring

SECONDED: Graeme Faulkner

CARRIED: Unanimously

5. General Business

The Committee discussed and reviewed in brief the Auditor General's Report to Parliament issued 9 March 2020.

The financial statements lodgement date was discussed but due to resource limitations, early lodgement is not generally possible for Lithgow City Council. The election is also an issue for early lodgement this year with caretaker mode beginning in early August.

6. Meeting Close

Next meeting is scheduled for Easter Monday - this meeting will be cancelled unless a need arises for a meeting. The Councillor Information Session on the draft 2020/21 budget and capital works program is scheduled for 6 April 20

There being no further business the Chairperson declared the meeting closed at 04:23 pm.