

MINUTES

Finance and Governance Committee

Monday, 13 May 2019

6.00pm

Georges River Civic Centre
Hurstville

DRAFT



GEORGES RIVER COUNCIL

Present

Council Members

Councillor Vince Badalati (Chair), Councillor Stephen Agius, Councillor Sam Elmir, Councillor Sandy Grekas, Councillor Con Hindi, Councillor Rita Kastanias (arrived 6.24pm), Councillor Lou Konjarski, Councillor Nancy Liu, Councillor Colleen Symington and Councillor Warren Tegg

Council Staff

Director Business and Corporate Services - Mr David Tuxford, Director, City Strategy and Innovation – Sue Weatherley, Director Legal Services and General Counsel - Ms Jenny Ware, Director Assets and Infrastructure – Mr Laurie O’Connor, Manager, Director, Environment and Planning - Meryl Bishop, Chief Financial Officer – Ms Danielle Parker, Head of Strategic Property – Mr Bernard Morabito, Manager, Project Delivery - Michelle Whitehurst, A/Coordinator Governance - Vicky McKinley, Manager, Strategic Planning – Catherine McMahon, Economic Development Officer – Craig Edmondson, Head of Executive Services – Ms Jennifer Anderson, Executive Assistant to Director Business and Corporate Services – Ms Nickie Paras.

Opening

Councillor Badalati opened the meeting at 6:07pm.

Acknowledgement of Country

Councillor Badalati acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land, the Biddegal people of the Eora Nation.

Apologies

There were no apologies.

Disclosures of Interest

Councillor Badalati declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item FIN039-19 – St George Business Chamber – Variation of the Terms of the Deed of Agreement, for the reason that he knows the President of St George Business Chamber very well.

Councillor Hindi declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item FIN039-19 – St George Business Chamber – Variation of the Terms of the Deed of Agreement, for the reason that he occasionally has coffee with the President of St George Business Chamber.

Councillor Konjarski declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item FIN039-19 – St George Business Chamber – Variation of the Terms of the Deed of Agreement, for the reason that he knows the President, Vice President and Secretary of St George Business Chamber.

Councillor Kastanias declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item FIN039-19 – St George Business Chamber – Variation of the Terms of the Deed of Agreement, for the reason that a non-executive member of St George Business Chamber, who is a business owner in Chivers Hill Shopping Centre, has previously completed architectural work for the Councillor.

Public Addresses To The Meeting

There were no registered speakers at this meeting.

Minutes of previous meetings

FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - 08 APRIL 2019

Recommendation: Councillor Elmir and Councillor Agius

That the Minutes of the Finance and Governance Committee held on 08 April 2019, be confirmed.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

Committee Reports

FIN029-19 Advice on Costs and Status of Council's Court Proceedings - April 2019
(Report by Director Legal Services and General Counsel)

Recommendation: Councillor Elmir and Councillor Hindi

That the re report "Advice on Costs and Status of Council's Court Proceedings – April 2019" be received and noted.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

FIN030-19 Local Government Remuneration Tribunal Determination - Mayor and Councillors fees for 2019-2020
(Report by Manager, Office of the General Manager)

Recommendation: Councillor Agius and Councillor Hindi

That this matter be deferred to the full Council meeting for determination.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

FIN031-19 Quarterly Budget Review Statement for quarter ending 31 March 2019
(Report by Chief Financial Officer)

Recommendation: Councillor Hindi and Councillor Elmir

(a) That Council receive and note the Quarterly Budget Review for quarter ending 31 March 2019.

(b) That Council approve the variances to the 2018/19 Budget, as detailed in Attachment 1, as a result of the quarter ending 31 March 2019 Budget Review.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

FIN032-19 Investment Report as at 31 March 2019
(Report by Finance Accountant - Reporting)

Recommendation: Councillor Grekas and Councillor Hindi

That Council receive and note the contents of the Investment Report as at 31 March 2019.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

FIN033-19 Draft Budget 2019/20 - resources in the Strategic Planning Team to deal with development contributions
(Report by Manager Strategic Planning)

Recommendation: Councillor Hindi and Councillor Agius

- (a) That Council approve the extension of the finance resource allocated to development contributions and VPA for a further 13 months - from 16 May 2019 until 30 June 2020 - so as to continue to assist in the financial side of the development contributions and voluntary planning agreements area within the Strategic Planning team.
- (b) That in accordance with Recommendation 2 of the Section 7.11 & 7.12 Income Audit dated 18 March 2019 that Council create a dedicated Development Contributions Officer position to reduce the potential for errors in contribution levies applied and the loss of funding for future developments.
- (c) That Council note impact to the staff costs in the 2019/20 budget for the two positions reference in (a) and (b) and the ongoing staff costs for the dedicated Development Contributions Officer (referenced in (b) above).

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

FIN034-19 Draft 2019/20 Budget - Consideration of Upgrading Hurstville War Memorial and Provision of a New Basketball Court in Hurstville Ward
(Report by Manager Project Delivery)

Recommendation: Councillor Hindi and Councillor Elmir

- (a) That Council considers the upgrading of the Hurstville War Memorial when the 2019/20 draft budget is being formulated.
- (b) That Council considers the provision of a basketball court as part of the Kempt Field Masterplan works.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

FIN035-19 Quarterly Report - Outstanding Council Resolutions as at 31 March 2019
(Report by Head of Executive Services)

Recommendation: Councillor Hindi and Councillor Tegg

- (a) That the Quarterly Report - Outstanding Council Resolutions (OCR) as at 31 March 2019, be received and noted.

- (b) That the list of OCR be amended to include the names of the Councillors who have moved Notices of Motion.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

FIN036-19 Results of exhibition of Council's Draft Code of Conduct and the Draft Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct
(Report by Manager Governance and Risk)

Recommendation: Councillor Elmir and Councillor Agius

- (a) That Council note the contents of this report incorporating the responses from the Office of Local Government (OLG) and the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC).
- (b) That Council adopted the Draft Code of Conduct and Draft Procedures for the Administration of the Code of Conduct (Procedures), as attached.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

Note: Councillor Kastanias arrived at the meeting, the time being 6.24pm.

FIN037-19 Property Matter - Lease of Commercial Office Space - Suite 4E, 34 MacMahon Street, Hurstville.
(Report by Strategic Property Specialist)

Recommendation: Councillor Grekas and Councillor Konjarski

That the report "Property Matter - Lease of Commercial Office Space – Suite 4E, 34 MacMahon Street Hurstville" be received and noted.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

Note: Councillor Badalati wished it to be placed on record that he does not have a conflict of interest in item FIN037-19 - Property Matter - Lease of Commercial Office Space - Suite 4E, 34 MacMahon Street, Hurstville - and this statement is made based on the information presented to Councillors in the report.

Note: Councillor Hindi wished it to be placed on record that he does not have a conflict of interest in item FIN037-19 - Property Matter - Lease of Commercial Office Space - Suite 4E, 34 MacMahon Street, Hurstville - and this statement is made based on the information presented to Councillors in the report.

Note: Councillor Katris arrived to the meeting, the time being 6.32pm, and took part in discussion on Item FIN038-19, but did not participate in voting on this item as he is not a member of the Committee.

FIN038-19 Property Matter - Waratah Private Hospital Car Park
(Report by Head of Strategic Property)

Recommendation: Councillor Elmir and Councillor Konjarski

- (a) That Council receive and note the contents of this report.
- (b) That Council continue with 1 hour free parking (as per the proposed Draft 2019/2020 Fees and Charges) to offset the operating loss currently incurred at the Waratah Private Hospital Car Park.
- (c) That the General Manager prepares a report investigating the opportunities available to dispose of the 150 Council owned car parking spaces and consider the benefits in reinvesting those funds in existing Council owned car parks or future development sites within Hurstville having regards to the provisions of Council's Draft Car Parking Strategy.
- (d) That the General Manager prepares a report investigating ways to provide free community volunteer car parking in the Hurstville precinct.

Record of Voting:

For the Motion: Unanimous

Note: Councillor Badalati vacated the Chair at 6.48pm. To exercise an abundance of caution Councillor Badalati left the meeting, having declared a Non-Significant, Non-Pecuniary interest in Item FIN039-19. The Deputy Mayor, Councillor Elmir, took the Chair.

Note: Councillor Hindi declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item FIN039-19, however remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting on this item.

Note: Councillor Kastanias declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item FIN039-19, however remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting on this item.

Note: Councillor Konjarski declared a Non-Significant Non-Pecuniary Interest in item FIN039-19, however remained in the Chamber during discussion and voting on this item.

FIN039-19 St George Business Chamber - Variation of the Terms of the Deed of Agreement
(Report by Economic Development Officer)

Recommendation

- (a) That Council reaffirms its commitment to having a constructive and positive ongoing relationship with the St George Business Chamber in accordance with the intent of the Deed of Agreement between both parties.
- (b) That Council agree to amend the Deed of Agreement to encourage the St George Business Chamber to meet its obligations of the Deed with regards to providing the remaining six events for local businesses between now and the end of 2019.

- (c) That Council agree to pay the St George Business Chamber the sum of \$22,500 as an adjusted payment with regards to the outstanding 2018/2019 invoice.
- (d) That a further report be presented to Council on the effectiveness of the Deed to support and promote local business.

Note: Councillor Badalati returned to the meeting at 7.00pm. Councillor Elmir resumed his seat and Councillor Badalati took the Chair.

Conclusion

The Meeting was closed at 7:01pm

Chairperson

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