



Burdekin Shire Council

MINUTES

BUDGET MEETING

2020/21

**HELD AT COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING,
145 YOUNG STREET, AYR**

on 23 June 2020

COMMENCING AT 9:00AM



Burdekin Shire Council

TUESDAY 23 JUNE 2020

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ATTENDANCE

Councillors L.A. McLaughlin (Mayor), S.P. Perry (Deputy Mayor), K.D. Boccalatte, J.T. Bonanno, M.J. Detenon, J.A.G. Furnell and M. Musumeci

Mr. T. Brennan - Chief Executive Officer

Mr. N. O'Connor – Director Corporate and Community Services

Mr. N. Wellwood – Director of Infrastructure, Planning and Environmental Services

Mrs. K. Olsen – Manager Financial and Administrative Services

Ms. F. Smith – Financial Accountant Reporting

Mr. N. Toll – Media and Communications Officer

Minutes Clerk – Mrs. A. Dale

1. Mayor's 2020/21 Budget Address

Recommendation

That the Mayor's 2020/21 Budget Address be received.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Furnell, seconded Councillor Boccalatte that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

2. Adoption of Operational Plan for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 174(1) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council adopt the Operational Plan for the 2020/21 financial year.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Perry, seconded Councillor Detenon that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Adoption of Differential General Rates for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That:

- (a) Pursuant to section 81 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the categories in to which rateable land is categorised, the description of those categories and, pursuant to sections 81(4) and 81(5) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the method by which land is to be identified and included in its appropriate category is as follows:

Category	Description	Identification
A – Residential	Land which is used or intended to be used for residential purposes.	Land with land use codes 01-06, 08, 09 and 72 and/or a property type of Urban Residential or Urban Vacant and as identified by the CEO, but excluding the following properties with assessment numbers: 1872, 3085, 3094, 3097, 3100, 3112, 6214, 6215, 6220, 6221, 6781, 6782, 11093 to 11096, 12390, 12391, 12463 to 12465, 12580 to 12594, 15251, 15252, 15767 and 15768.
A1 – Rural Residential	Land which is used or intended to be used for rural residential purposes.	Land with land use codes 01, 02, 04- 06, 09 and 72 and/or a property type of Rural Residential or Rural Vacant and as identified by the CEO.
B – Commercial and Industrial	Land used, or intended to be used, for commercial and/or industrial purposes other than land included with category B1.	Land with land use codes 07, 10-20, 21-59, 90, 92, 96-97 and 99 and as identified by the CEO and including the following properties with assessment numbers: 1872, 3085, 3094, 3097, 3100, 3112, 6214, 6215, 6220, 6221, 6781, 6782, 11093 to 11096, 12390, 12391, 12463 to 12465, 12580 to 12594, 15251, 15252, 15767 and 15768.

Category	Description	Identification
B1 – Shopping Centre	Land used, or intended to be used, for the purposes of a shopping centre, or as a part of a shopping centre, having a gross floor area greater than 4,500 square metres, and on-site car parking for more than 80 vehicles.	Land with land use code 16 and as identified by the CEO.
C – Grazing and Livestock	Land used for the purposes of grazing or livestock.	Land with land use codes 60-69, 85-87 and 89 and as identified by the CEO.
D – Sugar Cane	Land used for the purposes of growing sugar cane.	Land with land use code 75 and as identified by the CEO.
E – Rural (Other) - less than 20 hectares	Land used for rural purposes, other than land included in category C or D, with an area of less than 20 hectares.	Land with land use codes 70-71, 73-74, 76-84, 88, 93-94 and as identified by the CEO.
E1 – Rural (Other) - 20 hectares or more	Land used for rural purposes, other than land included in category C or D, with an area of 20 hectares or greater.	Land with land use codes 70-71, 73-74, 76-84, 88, 93-94 and as identified by the CEO.
F – Sugar Milling	Land used, or intended to be used, for the purposes of sugar milling, including land used in connection or in association with sugar milling.	Land identified by the CEO.
G1 – Water (Less than 10 hectares)	Land used, or intended to be used, for the extraction, storage, delivery, transport or drainage of water, with an area of less than 10 hectares.	Land with land use code 95 and as identified by the CEO.
G2 – Water (10 hectares or more)	Land used, or intended to be used, for the extraction, storage, delivery, transport or drainage of water, with an area of 10 hectares or greater.	Land with land use code 95 and as identified by the CEO.
H1 – Solar Farms – 40MW – 100MW	Land used, or intended to be used, in whole or in part, for the purposes of a solar farm, with an approved output capacity not lower than 40MW but equal to or less than 100MW.	Land with land use code 91 and as identified by the CEO.

Category	Description	Identification
H2 – Solar Farms – 101MW – 250MW	Land used, or intended to be used, in whole or in part, for the purposes of a solar farm, with an approved output capacity not lower than 101MW but equal to or less than 250MW.	Land with land use code 91 and as identified by the CEO.
H3 – Solar Farms – >250MW	Land used, or intended to be used, in whole or in part, for the purposes of a Solar Farm, with an approved output capacity greater than 250MW.	Land with land use code 91 and as identified by the CEO.
H4 – Electricity and Telecommunications Infrastructure	Land used, or intended to be used, in whole or in part, for the purposes of transformers, electricity substations, communication facilities and telephone exchanges.	Land with land use code 91 and as identified by the CEO.
I – Other	Land not otherwise categorised.	Land identified by the CEO.

(b) Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power, pursuant to sections 81(4) and 81(5) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, to identify the rating category to which each parcel of rateable land belongs.

(c) Pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 80 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the differential general rate to be made and levied for each differential general rate category and, pursuant to section 77 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the minimum general rate to be made and levied for each differential general rate category, is as follows:

Category	Rate (Cents) in the Dollar (\$)	Minimum Differential General Rate
Category A - Residential	1.645	\$1,079
Category A1 - Rural Residential	1.563	\$1,079
Category B - Commercial & Industrial	1.787	\$1,101
Category B1 - Shopping Centre	2.846	\$34,232
Category C - Grazing & Livestock	2.226	\$1,101
Category D - Sugar Cane	3.700	\$1,101
Category E - Rural (Other) - less than 20 hectares	2.093	\$1,101
Category E1 - Rural (Other) - 20 hectares or more	3.700	\$1,101

Category F - Sugar Milling	28.538	\$171,160
Category G1 - Water (less than 10 hectares)	21.059	\$1,101
Category G2 - Water (10 hectares or more)	61.523	\$5,112
Category H1 - Solar Farms - 40MW - 100MW	3.078	\$40,800
Category H2 - Solar Farms - 101MW - 250MW	3.078	\$71,400
Category H3 - Solar Farms > 250MW	3.078	\$101,800
Category H4 - Electricity and Telecommunications Infrastructure	3.078	\$1,619
Category I - Other	1.645	\$1,079

Resolution

Moved Councillor Detenon, seconded Councillor Bonanno that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Making and Levying Waste Management Utility Charges for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 99 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council make and levy waste management utility charges, for the supply of waste management services by the Council, as follows:

Waste Service Charges	
140L Domestic 2 Bin Service	\$410
240L Domestic 2 Bin Service	\$517
140L Domestic 3 Bin Service	\$468
240L Domestic 3 Bin Service	\$575
240L Commercial 2 Bin Service	\$496
240L Commercial 3 Bin Service	\$554
140L Multiple Domestic 2 Bin Service	\$410
240L Multiple Domestic 2 Bin Service	\$517
Additional 140L Domestic Waste Bin	\$335
Additional 240L Domestic Waste Bin	\$442
Additional 240L Commercial Waste Bin	\$398
Additional Domestic Recycle Bin	\$75
Additional Commercial Recycle Bin	\$98
Additional Green Waste Bin	\$58
Waste Access Charge	\$20
Waste Legacy Landfill Charge	\$20

Resolution

Moved Councillor Furnell, seconded Councillor Perry that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

5. Making and Levying Sewerage Utility Charges for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 99 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council make and levy sewerage utility charges, for the supply of sewerage services by the Council, as follows:

Sewerage Charge	\$545
Subsequent Water Closet Charges (Where Applicable)	\$272.50
Pump Septic Tank Effluent to Sewer System	\$327

The charges will be levied in accordance with the details contained in the adopted Revenue Statement for the 2020/21 financial year.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Musumeci, seconded Councillor Perry that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

6. Making and Levying Water Utility Charges for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That:

- (a) Pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 99 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council make and levy water utility charges, for the supply of water services by the Council, as follows:

Water Access Charge	\$460
Water Consumption Charge (per 1,000L)	
For water supplied by Council's Giru Water Supply Scheme to properties included in rating category F – Sugar Milling	\$2.40
For water supplied to all other properties from any of Council's water supply schemes	
For usage up to 1,000,000 litres	\$0.30
For usage above 1,000,000 litres	\$1.50

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- (b) Pursuant to section 102(2) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a water meter is taken to have been read during the period that starts 2 weeks before, and ends 2 weeks after, the day on which the meter is actually read.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Furnell, seconded Councillor Detenon that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

7. Making and Levying Environmental Separate Charge for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 103 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council make and levy a separate charge (to be known as the “Environmental Separate Charge”) in the sum of \$10.00 per rateable assessment, to be levied equally on all rateable land in the region, for the Shire to fund projects that have an environmental benefit to the Burdekin community, including but not limited to the following environmental improvement and natural resource conservation, preservation or enhancement initiatives:

- (a) Rehabilitation, care or maintenance of the natural environment in areas including aquatic weed management; wetland management; herbicide subsidy; and management of local biosecurity matters such as declared pest animals and weeds.
- (b) Preservation or remediation of environmentally important areas.
- (c) Acquisition of land that has particular environmental value.
- (d) Promotion and encouragement of sustainable practices such as energy efficiency and waste minimisation.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Perry, seconded Councillor Boccalatte that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

8. Making and Levying Mount Kelly Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That:

- (a) Pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and section 128A of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, Council make and levy a special charge (to be known as the “Mount Kelly Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge”) of \$15.00, on all rateable properties to which the overall plan applies, to fund the cost of providing rural fire fighting services to properties in the Mount Kelly area.
- (b) The overall plan for the Mount Kelly Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge is as follows:
 - i. The service, facility or activity for which the plan is made is the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural fire fighting equipment for the rural fire brigades that operate in the Mount Kelly area.
 - ii. The rateable land to which the plan applies is every parcel of rateable land shown on plan number RF2009 (as annexed hereto).
 - iii. The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$2,295.
 - iv. The estimated time for carrying out the overall plan is 1 year.
- (c) The rateable land or its occupier specially benefits from the service, facility or activity funded by the special charge because the properties are located within the area serviced by the rural fire fighting service in the Mount Kelly area.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Furnell, seconded Councillor Musumeci that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

9. Making and Levying Scott Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That:

- (a) Pursuant to section 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and section 128A of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, Council make and levy a special charge (to be known as the “Scott Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge”) of \$50.00, on all rateable properties to which the overall plan applies, to fund the cost of providing rural fire fighting services to properties in the Scott area.

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- (b) The overall plan for the Scott Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge is as follows:
- i. The service, facility or activity for which the plan is made is the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural fire fighting equipment for the rural fire brigades that operate in the Scott area.
 - ii. The rateable land to which the plan applies is every parcel of rateable land shown on plan number RF0425 (as annexed hereto).
 - iii. The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$4,350.
 - iv. The estimated time for carrying out the overall plan is 1 year.
- (c) The rateable land or its occupier specially benefits from the service, facility or activity funded by the special charge because the properties are located within the area serviced by the rural fire fighting service in the Scott area.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Musumeci, seconded Councillor Bonanno that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

10. Adoption of Interest on Overdue Rates or Charges

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 133 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, compound interest on daily rests at the rate of eight percent (8%) per annum is to be charged on all overdue rates and charges.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Perry, seconded Councillor Musumeci that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

11. Adoption of Levy and Payment

Recommendation

That:

- (a) Pursuant to sections 104 and 107 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and section 114 of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, Council's rates and charges (excluding utility charges for water) and the State Government's Emergency Management, Fire and Rescue Levy be levied for the year 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 in August 2020.
- (b) Pursuant to section 107 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council's utility charges for water be levied bi-annually in the months of August and January.

(c) Pursuant to section 118 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, that:

- i. Council's rates and charges, and the State Government's Emergency Management, Fire and Rescue Levy levied on 7 August 2020 be paid within eighty (80) days from the date of the issue of the rate notice; and
- ii. all other rates and charges levied by Council during the 2020/21 financial year be paid within thirty-one (31) days from the date of the issue of the rate notice.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Furnell, seconded Councillor Boccalatte that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

12. Adoption of Pensioner Concessions

Recommendation

That pursuant to sections 120, 121 and 122 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council shall grant rating concessions for eligible pensioners with respect to a property which is the principal place of residence of the eligible pensioner.

Eligibility

The concession shall only be granted with respect to a property which is owned solely by eligible pensioner/s and where the property is the principal place of residence of the eligible pensioner/s.

An eligible pensioner is one who is in receipt of a full pension/allowance, who produces a Pensioner Concession Card or a DVA Health Card (All Conditions within Australia or Totally & Permanently Incapacitated) issued by Centrelink or the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

This rebate shall also extend to:

- War Widows who are the holders of a Gold Card;
- Eligible pensioners who occupy a dwelling in respect to which a life tenancy has been granted by way of Will and providing there is no provision in the Will which relieves the life tenant of the obligation to pay the rates and charges; and
- Eligible pensioners who reside in cared-accommodation, including hospitals, or are in family care irrespective of whether or not the property is occupied on a paid tenancy basis.

The pensioner rebate is to be calculated as half the sum of the relevant General Rates, up to the maximum rebate set at **\$374**.

Council may, in its discretion, consider any case on its merits where special circumstances apply; and allow such rebate as it sees fit up to the maximum remission.

Applications for rate concessions by qualifying applicants who own relevant properties on 1 July 2020 are to be dealt with in the following manner:

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1. For existing eligible pensioners, the details currently held continue to be used for annual verification with Centrelink/Department of Veterans' Affairs;
 2. For new eligible Pensioners, an initial application is required to be made; and
 3. For pensioners requesting a rebate due to special circumstances, an annual application is required to be made.

The amount of pension payable at time of the verification from Centrelink/Department of Veterans' Affairs will determine the eligibility for the Council rebate.

Any rebate granted pursuant to this section is only applicable for the period of time that the eligible pensioner is the owner of the property and all requirements set out above remain fulfilled. If the principal place of residence is disposed of during the financial year, a supplementary rates notice will be issued to the new owner of the property representing the proportionate share of the remission from date of sale to 30 June next.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Musumeci, seconded Councillor Boccalatte that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

13. Adoption of Donations to Not for Profit Community Organisations

Recommendation

That in accordance with Chapter 4, Part 10 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, donations equivalent to 45% of the sum of the relevant sewerage charges in respect of second and subsequent pedestals and/or urinals at premises or land used for private schools, churches, welfare and youth organisations, sporting purposes and public halls, excluding premises licensed under the *Liquor Act 1992* will be made to the relevant community organisations for each financial year immediately upon payment in full of all levied rates and charges, together with any overdue rates and charges, if any. Council may, at its discretion, consider any case on its merits where special circumstances apply and make such donations as Council considers appropriate.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Furnell, seconded Councillor Detenon that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

14. Timely Rates Payment Incentive

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 131 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council offer an incentive, in the form of four (4) \$500 prize draws, for eligible ratepayers who make full

payment of all current and arrears of rates and charges by close of business on 7 September 2020.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Perry, seconded Councillor Boccalatte that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

15. Adoption of the Debt Policy for 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 192 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council adopt the Debt Policy which states the new borrowings planned for the 2020/21 financial year and the next nine (9) financial years; and the time over which the local government plan to repay existing and new borrowings.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Perry, seconded Councillor Detenon that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

16. Adoption of the Investment Policy for 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 191 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council adopt the Investment Policy for the 2020/21 financial year.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Furnell, seconded Councillor Perry that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

17. Adoption of the Procurement Policy for 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 198 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council adopt the Procurement Policy for the 2020/21 financial year.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Detenon, seconded Councillor Musumeci that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

18. Adoption of Rates and Charges Recovery Policy for 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That Council in accordance with sections 132 to 135 and 138 to 152 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* adopt the Rates and Charges Recovery Policy for the 2020/21 financial year.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Musumeci, seconded Councillor Perry that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

19. Adoption of Rates and Charges Hardship Policy for 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That Council in accordance with section 120 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* adopt the Rates and Charges Hardship Policy for the 2020/21 financial year.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Furnell, seconded Councillor Boccalatte that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

20. Adoption of Rates and Charges COVID-19 Financial Assistance Policy for 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That Council in accordance with section 120 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* adopt the Rates and Charges COVID-19 Financial Assistance Policy for the 2020/21 financial year.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Bonanno, seconded Councillor Furnell that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

21. Adoption of the Estimated Financial Position

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 205 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the statement of the financial operations and financial position of the Council in respect of the financial period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (“the Statement of Estimated Financial Position”) be received and the contents noted.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Perry, seconded Councillor Detenon that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

22. Adoption of the Revenue Statement for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That Council in accordance with section 169 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* adopt the Revenue Statement for the 2020/21 financial year.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Perry, seconded Councillor Detenon that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

23. Adoption of Budget for the 2020/21 Financial Year

Recommendation

That pursuant to section 169 and 170 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council’s budget for the 2020/21 financial year, incorporating:

- i. Statement of Comprehensive Income and Expenditure;
- ii. Statement of Financial Position;
- iii. Statement of Cash Flows;
- iv. Statement of Changes in Equity;
- v. The relevant measures of financial sustainability;
- vi. The total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget;
- vii. The long-term financial forecast which includes the Statement of Comprehensive Income, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Changes in Equity; and

viii. Revenue Policy (adopted by Council resolution on 26 May2020),

as tabled, be adopted.

Resolution

Moved Councillor Detenon, seconded Councillor Perry that the recommendation be adopted.

CARRIED

Mayor McLaughlin acknowledged the Councillors for their work in preparing a budget straight after an election and added that the excellent work and experience of staff we have assisting made it much more achievable to prepare the budget.

Thanks also to Mrs. Olsen, Ms. Smith, Mr. Toll, the Executive Leadership Team and all staff involved.

Mayor McLaughlin wished everyone a great year working together to deliver Council's Budget, strengthening community spirit, community infrastructure, and the wellbeing of our residents.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35am.

These minutes were confirmed by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 14 July 2020.

MAYOR