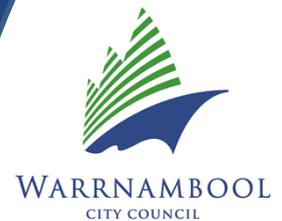


MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING

WARRNAMBOOL CITY COUNCIL

5:45 PM - MONDAY 24 JUNE 2019



VENUE:

**Reception Room
25 Liebig Street
Warrnambool**

COUNCILLORS

Cr. Tony Herbert (Mayor)
Cr. Robert Anderson
Cr. Sue Cassidy
Cr. Kylie Gaston
Cr. Peter Hulin
Cr. Michael Neoh
Cr. David Owen

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can be obtained online at www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au

Peter B. Schneider
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Page No.

1. OPENING PRAYER & ORIGINAL CUSTODIANS STATEMENT	4
2. APOLOGIES.....	4
3. DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS OF ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA.....	4
4. REPORTS	5
4.1. CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS TO BUDGET AND COUNCIL PLAN	5
4.2. ADOPTION OF THE 2017-2021 COUNCIL PLAN (REVISED 2019).....	10
4.3. WARRNAMBOOL CITY COUNCIL BUDGET 2019-2020.....	13
5. CLOSE OF MEETING	18

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE WARRNAMBOOL CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE RECEPTION ROOM, WARRNAMBOOL CIVIC CENTRE, 25 LIEBIG STREET, WARRNAMBOOL ON MONDAY 24 JUNE 2019 COMMENCING AT 5:45 PM

PRESENT: Cr. Tony Herbert, Mayor/Chairman
Cr. Robert Anderson
Cr. Kylie Gaston
Cr. Michael Neoh
Cr. David Owen

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr Peter B. Schneider, Chief Executive
Mr Peter Utri, Director Corporate Strategies
Mr Scott Cavanagh, Director City Infrastructure
Mr Andrew Paton, Director City Growth
Ms. Vikki King, Director Community Development

1. OPENING PRAYER & ORIGINAL CUSTODIANS STATEMENT

Almighty God
Grant to this Council
Wisdom, understanding and Sincerity of purpose
For the Good Governance of this City
Amen.

ORIGINAL CUSTODIANS STATEMENT

I wish to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we stand and pay my respects to their Elders past and present.

2. APOLOGIES

- Cr. Cassidy – Leave of Absence
- Cr. Hulin – Leave of Absence

3. DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS AND OFFICERS OF ANY CONFLICT OF INTEREST IN ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Pursuant to Sections 77, 78 and 79 of the Local Government Act 1989 (as amended) direct and indirect conflict of interest must be declared prior to debate on specific items within the agenda; or in writing to the Chief Executive Officer before the meeting. Declaration of indirect interests must also include the classification of the interest (in circumstances where a Councillor has made a Declaration in writing, the classification of the interest must still be declared at the meeting), i.e.

- (a) direct financial interest
- (b) indirect interest by close association
- (c) indirect interest that is an indirect financial interest
- (d) indirect interest because of conflicting duties
- (e) indirect interest because of receipt of an applicable gift
- (f) indirect interest as a consequence of becoming an interested party
- (g) indirect interest as a result of impact on residential amenity
- (h) conflicting personal interest

A Councillor who has declared a conflict of interest, must leave the meeting and remain outside the room while the matter is being considered, or any vote is taken. Councillors are also encouraged to declare circumstances where there may be a perceived conflict of interest.

Nil

4. REPORTS

4.1. CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS TO BUDGET AND COUNCIL PLAN

PURPOSE:

For Council to consider submissions to the 2017-2021 Council Plan (revised 2019) and the 2019-2020 Budget

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Council previously endorsed the release of the Draft Council Plan and Draft Budget for public comment.
- Several submissions were received in relation to the Draft Budget and one submission received on the Council Plan.
- Council heard 1 verbal presentation in support of a submission at its meeting on June 3rd, 2019.
- Councilors have considered all written submissions to the process.
- The submission requesting that a section of footpath be constructed along Rooneys Road from Nicolls Drive to Darwinia Street has been referred for consideration through Council's Small Infrastructure Fund.

MOVED: Cr. Michael Neoh

SECONDED: Cr. Robert Anderson

That Council notes the submissions made in relation to the Budget and Council Plan.

CARRIED: 5:0

BACKGROUND

The Council Plan is the feature document in Council's suite of strategic planning documents, formulated to guide the work of Council over a four-year period.

The Council Plan was prepared initially through workshops involving Councillors and through the community which provided comments and suggestions.

It also draws on an extensive base of community engagement activities undertaken by Council over recent years. This includes engagement activities around public amenities, health and wellbeing, car parking, safer boating, economic investment, community services and infrastructure and coastal and open space management.

The Council Plan 2017-2021 (revised 2019) reflects the aspirations and direction of the Council for its full term of office.

The revised Council Plan retains the vision for Warrnambool to be a *Cosmopolitan City by the Sea*, which references our beautiful and unique location and proclaims that the city is striving to be more welcoming, open and inclusive.

The revision also includes the visions for Warrnambool developed by the community in the long-term community plan, Warrnambool 2040.

The four visions were developed following an extensive community engagement process.

They are:

People: in 2040 Warrnambool will be a city where all people thrive.

Environment: in 2040 Warrnambool will be most sustainable regional city in Australia.

Place: in 2040 Warrnambool will be Australia's most liveable regional city.

Economy: in 2040 Warrnambool will be Australia's most resilient and thriving regional economy.

The theme for the Council Plan – *Growing Pride and Confidence in the City*, which emphasises the need to celebrate and promote our city, its attributes and its appeal to those in the region and beyond, has been retained.

The draft Council Plan outlines key activities and initiatives Council will undertake over 2019-2020 to deliver on the five objectives described in the plan which have been revised. Those objectives are for Council to:

- Sustain, enhance and protect the natural environment
- Foster a healthy, welcoming city that is socially and culturally rich
- Maintain and improve the physical places and visual appeal of the city
- Develop a smarter economy with diverse and sustainable employment
- Practice good governance through openness and accountability while balancing aspirations with sound financial management

As required by the Local Government Act the plan includes Strategic Objectives, Strategies for achieving the Objectives and Strategic or Key Performance Indicators for monitoring the achievement of the Objectives.

The Council Plan is a statutory requirement of the Local Government Act and is used by a number of other audiences and purposes including:

- A reference for the community.
- A framework for Council staff to build the annual Activities & Initiatives adopted by Council.
- A reference for State Government departments.
- Support for grant applications.
- Support for advocacy positions taken by Council.

The Draft Budget was prepared in accordance with the budget principles set down by council and follows a number of workshops by the executive and Council.

As required by the Local Government Act and the Local Government (Planning & Reporting) Regulations 2014 the Draft Budget includes prescribed information, including:

- Financial Statements
- Statement of Capital Works
- Services and Initiatives funded in the budget
- Performance Statement
- Fees and charges
- Rating and borrowing details
- Strategic Resource Plan

At the Council Meeting on April 29, 2019 Council voted to release the Draft Council Plan and the Draft Budget for public comment.

ISSUES

Submissions in relation to the 2019-2020 Budget

Submission	Issue raised in submission	Response
1	Seeking more specific information on allocations, eg road renewals.	Budget is a high level document that describes broad budget categories as required by Local Government Victoria. The roads program is described in more detail in subsequent information made available to the public.

2	Stay with the 2.5 per cent rate rise.	Independent regulator the Essential Services Commission has ruled that Council can seek to increase the rate rise to 4.5 per cent based on its asset renewal requirements.
3	Warrnambool has among the highest residential rates.	The Know Your Council website shows that Warrnambool rates are around the median for Victorian regional cities.
4	Do only essential work and remain within the rate cap.	Rate variation is for renewal of existing assets. Community has also indicated it is aspirational and wants improved facilities such as Reid Oval and the library.
5	Allocate money for a footpath along Rooneys Road from Nicolls Drive to Darwinia Street.	Council will consider this submission through the Small Infrastructure Fund.
6	Council rates are out of reach of normal people; people in Melbourne pay lower rates; why do big projects (Reid Oval, Lake Pertobe) simultaneously, allocation for climate control at the WAG seems expensive.	Council rates are comparable to other Victorian regional cities; projects are scheduled according to need and external funding opportunities; allocation for climate control system at the WAG is an estimate based on preliminary investigations for necessary works to keep the facility operating in a way that will preserve our collection.
7	Do more road work and general maintenance in-house; do own consultation and planning; choose other government grants for large projects; give unemployed people work experience; look to volunteers and community groups to carry out some tasks like meals on wheels. Maintain rates at current level.	Where possible Council does have its own staff carry out road work and general maintenance. Contractors are brought in for larger projects as required. Where possible Council does seek external government funding for large and small projects such as Lake Pertobe, Reid Oval and the library. Volunteers are already providing tremendous support to Council and the community through programs including meals on wheels and the visitor economy. Independent regulator the Essential Services Commission has ruled that Council can seek to increase the rate rise to 4.5 per cent based on its asset renewal requirements.
8	Victorian Farmers Federation has requested that Council Budget is fair and allows farmers the ability to continue operation of viable businesses.	The rate in the dollar on farming properties in the Warrnambool municipality is comparable to other municipalities and would be determined as a fair contribution as a differential rate compared to other property types.
9	Warrnambool Cemetery Trust has flagged a likely need for major road works along Hopkins Point Road before the first interment at the Tooram Memorial Park cemetery. The Trust has asked Council to prepare a road design and to consider funding the road works in the future.	Council has reviewed this request and no allocation is recommended for this item at this time.

Submissions in relation to the 2017-2021 Council Plan (revised 2019)

Submission	Issue raised in submission	Response
1	Council spent money on survey but did not listen to the public.	No additional money was allocated for the revision of the Council Plan. The review was completed in house. This submission is a reference to the cost associated with community engagement related to the "trade-off" questions around rates ahead of the submission to the Essential Services Commission.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Allocations or programs within the draft Budget accommodate or provide scope to respond to the submissions received. The exception is the submission from the Warrnambool Cemetery Trust which Council has not made an allocation towards at this time.

LEGISLATION/POLICY/COUNCIL PLAN CONTEXT

Under Section 127 of the Local Government Act Council is also required to prepare and adopt an annual Budget by June 30. In accordance with the Act the draft Budget was made available for public inspection for 28 days.

Council is required to develop a four-year Council Plan, which includes a Strategic Resource Plan, under Section 125 of the Local Government Act. Council is required to review the Council Plan annually. In accordance with the Act the revised draft Council Plan was made available for public inspection for 28 days.

TIMING

Council must consider the submissions ahead of the June 24 meeting at which it is proposed that Council adopt the draft Budget and revised Council Plan.

COMMUNITY IMPACT/CONSULTATION

Both the draft Budget and revised Council Plan were made available for public inspection over a 28-day period. Advertisements were placed in The Standard newspaper inviting submissions. This was also publicised via Council's website.

LEGAL RISK/IMPACT

Council must adopt a Budget and Council Plan before June 30.

OFFICERS' DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. Submission Budget - de-identified **[4.1.1 - 1 page]**
2. Submission Budget - Victorian Farmers Federation **[4.1.2 - 3 pages]**
3. Submission Budget - Warrnambool RSL **[4.1.3 - 2 pages]**
4. Submissions - online for Council Plan and Budget de-identified **[4.1.4 - 7 pages]**

Submissions to the draft Budget and revised Council Plan.

4.2. ADOPTION OF THE 2017-2021 COUNCIL PLAN (REVISED 2019)

PURPOSE:

This report presents the 2017-2021 Council Plan (revised 2019) for adoption by Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council at a meeting on June 3, 2019 gave notice that it would consider the Council Plan (revised 2018) at a Special Meeting of Council on June 24, 2019.

Section 125 of the Local Government Act (LGA) requires a Council to prepare and approve a Council Plan by the June 30 following a general election. The plan is reviewed annually.

The Council Plan is the feature document in Council's suite of strategic planning documents, formulated to guide the work of Council over the next four years.

Over recent months Council has reviewed the Council Plan 2017-2021. The revised draft of the Council Plan strongly references the visions from the long-term community plan, Warrnambool 2040.

These are:

- People: in 2040 Warrnambool will be a city where all people thrive.
- Environment: in 2040 Warrnambool will be most sustainable regional city in Australia.
- Place: in 2040 Warrnambool will be Australia's most liveable regional city.
- Economy: in 2040 Warrnambool will be Australia's most resilient and thriving regional economy.

The Council Plan retains Council's vision for Warrnambool to be a Cosmopolitan City by the Sea, which references our beautiful and unique location and proclaims that the city is striving to be more welcoming, open and inclusive.

Council will also continue with the theme for the Council Plan – Growing Pride and Confidence in the City, which emphasises the need to celebrate and promote our city, its attributes and its appeal to those in the region and beyond.

The Council Plan's key objectives have undergone some revision.

The objective to "Sustain and enhance the natural environment" becomes "Sustain, enhance and protect the natural environment".

The objective to "Foster a healthy city that is socially and culturally rich" becomes "Foster a healthy, welcoming city that is socially and culturally rich".

The objective to "Maintain and improve the physical fabric of the city" becomes "Maintain and improve the physical places and visual appeal of the city".

The objective to "Develop a modern economy with diverse and sustainable employment" becomes "Develop a smarter economy with diverse and sustainable employment".

The objective to "Practice good governance through openness and accountability" becomes "Practice good governance through openness and accountability while balancing aspirations with sound financial management".

The draft revision of the Council Plan lists key activities and initiatives Council will undertake over 2019-2020 to deliver on the five objectives described in the plan.

Council is now required to consider the adoption of the 2017-2021 Council Plan (revised 2019) and lodge the document with the Minister for Local Government.

MOVED: Cr. Kylie Gaston

SECONDED: Cr. David Owen

1. That Council pursuant to Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1989, adopt the 2017-2021 Council Plan (revised 2019) and, in accordance with Section 126 (b) of the Act, the 2019-2023 Strategic Resource Plan; that both documents be lodged with the Minister for Local Government by June 30, 2019 and be made available for public inspection at the Civic Centre, 25 Liebig Street, Warrnambool, and on Council's website, www.warrnambool.vic.gov.au

CARRIED: 5:0

BACKGROUND

The Council Plan 2017-2021 was developed in late 2016 and early 2017.

The consultation included a discussion document circulated within the community. The plan also drew on an extensive base of community engagement activities undertaken by Council over recent years. This includes engagement activities around public amenities, health and wellbeing, car parking, safer boating, economic investment, community services and infrastructure and coastal and open space management.

The revised plan strongly acknowledges the community plan, Warrnambool 2040. An extensive community engagement process for this 20-year plan was undertaken in 2017 and 2018 and there is an ongoing effort to involve community partners in the delivery of Warrnambool 2040.

As required by the LGA the plan includes Strategic Objectives, Strategies for achieving the Objectives and Strategic or Key Performance Indicators for monitoring the achievement of the Objectives.

The Council Plan is a statutory requirement of the Local Government Act and is used by a number of other audiences and purposes including:

- A reference for the community.
- A framework for Council staff to build the annual Activities & Initiatives adopted by Council.
- A reference for State Government departments.
- Support for grant applications.
- Support for advocacy positions taken by Council.

Council is required to produce a Council Plan, Strategic Resource Plan, Budget and Activities and Initiatives which will be subject to public notice and submission processes under Sections 129 and 223 of the Act. The Strategic Resource Plan is included with the Council Plan.

LEGISLATION / POLICY / COUNCIL PLAN CONTEXT

5 Practice good governance through openness and accountability

5.1 Strategic Resource Plan

5.3 Council Plan

5.8 Ensure financial sustainability through effective use of Councils resources and assets and prudent management of risk.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Council Plan was released for community feedback for a period of 28 days to June 3.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council plan 2017-2021 (2019 revision) with SRP June 21 **[4.2.1 - 69 pages]**

2017-2021 Council Plan (revised 2019) including the Strategic Resource Plan 2019-2023.

4.3. WARRNAMBOOL CITY COUNCIL BUDGET 2019-2020

PURPOSE:

This report presents the proposed 2019/20 Budget for Warrnambool City Council, including a recommendation to adopt the Budget.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- Preparation and adoption of the Annual Budget in accordance with Section 127 of the Local Government Act is a major responsibility of Council.
- Council has delivered a \$92.4m budget which balances the ongoing services to the community (\$73.0m) with the infrastructure needs of Warrnambool (\$19.4m).
- Council successfully applied for a rate cap variation under the State Governments 'Fair Go Rates System' of 4.5% increase to rates for 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.
- In accordance with its Budget Timetable, Council has worked through an extensive process to prepare a Proposed Budget for 2019/2020.
- Council advertised the preparation of the Budget at the Special Council meeting held on 29 April 2019.
- Following the public notification of the Proposed Budget several submissions have been received. Council has considered these submissions at a Council Briefing and there is no change to the proposed Budget with the submissions being referred to future Budgets for consideration or other funding opportunities.
- Council has received submissions for projects to the Small Infrastructure Fund which have been evaluated by Council officers and considered at a Council Briefing. An allocation of funding is proposed within this budget that allows for the progress of a number of these projects that meet the criteria.
- Council is now required to adopt the 2019/2020 Budget and lodge with the Minister for Local Government.

MOVED: Cr. Michael Neoh

SECONDED: Cr. Kylie Gaston

1. THAT THE BUDGET BE ADOPTED

- a) That Council pursuant to Sections 127, 129, 130 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 as amended (æthe Act□) adopts the Budget for the financial year, being for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (the Financial Year) attached as Appendix A and annexed to the recommendation.**
- b) That the rate applicable in the budget has been calculated at a rate amount pursuant to section 185E(6) of the Local Government Act 1989(Vic) on the basis of the Essential Services Commission special Order that:**

the applicable cap on rates in respect of the 2019-20 financial year for the Warrnambool City Council is a higher cap of 4.50 per cent comprising:

2.50 per cent* plus an additional 2.00 per cent

*** being the average rate cap specified in the general Order issued by the Minister under section 185D of the Local Government Act 1989 (Vic) for the 2019-20 financial year**

- c) Council give public notice of the adoption of the 2019/2020 Budget in accordance with Section 130(2) of the Act.**

- d) That a copy of the adopted Budget be forwarded to the Minister for Local Government in accordance with Section 130(4) of the Act.
- e) That a copy of the adopted Budget be kept available at the Warrnambool Civic Centre for public inspection in accordance with Section 130(9) of the Act.

2. THAT THE AMOUNT TO BE RAISED IS

\$40,511,000 (or such greater amount as is lawfully levied as a consequence of the adoption of the Recommendations) be declared as the amount which Council intends to raise in general rates by the application of differential rates, application of the annual service charge (waste management charge) and the application of a municipal charge (all described later in this Recommendation), which amount is calculated as follows;

▪ General Rates (including Recreational Lands & supplementary rates)	\$29,265,000
▪ Annual Service Charge (waste management charge)	\$6,532,000
▪ Municipal Charge	<u>\$4,714,000</u>

3. THAT A GENERAL RATE BE DECLARED \$40,511,000Â

- a) in respect of the Financial Year, being for the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020.
- b) That it be further declared pursuant to Sections 158, 158A and 161 of the Act that the general rate be raised by the application of differential rates having regard to the objectives of each differential rate and characteristics of the land which are the criteria for declaring each differential rate as set out in the Proposed Budget report 2019/2020 of the Meeting of Council of 29 April 2019.
- c) That it be confirmed that the differential rates for all rateable land within the municipal district be determined by multiplying Capital Improved Value of each rateable land by a percentage specified as the percentage of each uniform rate (which percent may be alternatively expressed as cents in the dollar of the Capital Improved Value):

Type of Rate	Rate in the Dollar on Capital Improved Value
Industrial Land Rate	0.006372
Vacant Land Rate	0.005836
Commercial Land Rate	0.006411
Industrial 2 Land Rate	0.004803
Other Land Rate	0.003726
Farm Land Rate	0.002297
Recreation Land Category 1	\$22,408.4
Recreation Land Category 2	0.003602

4. THAT A MUNICIPAL CHARGE BE LEVIED

- a) pursuant to Section 159 of the Act, a Municipal Charge be declared to cover some of the administrative costs of Council;
- b) The Municipal Charge be in the sum of \$271.70 per rateable land.

5. THAT AN ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE (WASTE MANAGEMENT CHARGE) BE LEVIED

- a) pursuant to Section 162(1)(b) and Section 221(1)(b) of the Act, an Annual Service Charge in respect of rateable and non-rateable land (excluding vacant land,

being land on which no buildings are erected) be declared in respect of the 2019/2020 Financial Year.

- b) That the Annual Service Charge be declared
That this Charge be referred to as the Waste Management Charge.
- c) That the Annual Service Charge be based on \$389.98 per assessment, for the services listed in b) above, where the service is available.

6. THAT CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL LAND BE LEVIED

in accordance with Section 4(1)(3) of the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963, the amounts payable in respect of recreational lands under this act shall be in accordance with Appendix A of the Proposed Budget report 2019/2020.

7. THAT NO REBATES BE GRANTED

in respect of the 2019/2020 Rates and Charges.

8. THAT NO INCENTIVES BE OFFERED

Or declared for early payment of the general rates, annual service charge and municipal charge for 2019/2020.

9. THAT ALL CONSEQUENTIAL MATTERS

- a) that may be recorded that Council requires any person to pay interest on any amounts or rates and charges which;
 - That person is liable to pay; and
 - Have not been paid by the date specified for their payment.
- b) The interest rate fixed under Section 2 of the Penalty Interest Rates Act 1983 be noted as the rate set out in accordance with Section 172(2) of the Act.
- c) That the Director Corporate Strategies be authorised to levy and recover the general rates, annual service charge, municipal charge and amounts payable under the Act and the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963.

10. THAT FUNDING BE ALLOCATED FROM THE SMALL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND RESERVE

For the following projects that have been assessed as meeting the criteria of the fund:

- Footpath from Cannon Hill to the new RSL memorial
- All-abilities picnic table and path in the Koroit Street Playground
- Footpath in Jamieson Street.

CARRIED: 5:0

BACKGROUND

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 29 April 2019, Council considered the 2019/2020 Proposed Budget and resolved to give public notice of the Proposed Budget and call for written submissions in accordance with Sections 129 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989.

- a) Public notice was published in the Warrnambool Standard on Tuesday 7 May 2019. A number of articles appeared in the Warrnambool Standard focussing on the Proposed Budget 2019/2020 and the Proposed Budget was posted on Council's website and copies made available at the Civic Centre Customer Services desk.
- b) The 2019/2020 Budget is attached – refer **Appendix A**.

SUBMISSIONS

Several submissions were lodged in response to the Proposed Budget 2019/2020.

They were lodged within the allocated timeframe and were considered at a Council Briefing with the matters being referred to future budgets for consideration or to investigate funding opportunities. A written response will be provided to each submitter.

SMALL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND

Council has received submissions for the Small Infrastructure Fund which have been evaluated by Council officers and considered at a Council Briefing. An allocation of funding is proposed for a number of projects that meet the criteria. A list of these projects is below:

- Footpath from Cannon Hill to the new RSL memorial
- All-abilities picnic table and path in Koroit Street Playground.
- Footpath in Jamieson Street

Two projects, footpaths in Rooneys Road and Frank Street, have been referred for consideration in the Small Infrastructure Fund process which would require a community contribution through a Special Charge Scheme.

BUDGET PROCESS

The preparation of the Annual Budget is an extensive process and incorporates the following budget principles:

2. Council plan vision and objectives to be key strategic driver in resource allocation decisions.
3. Service levels to be maintained at prior year levels where practicable.
4. Retain existing levels of subsidy for user fees where practicable. (Excluding field sports users).
5. Maintain and renew existing assets in accordance with Council's Asset Management Policy.
6. Real savings and efficiencies to be identified and preserved wherever possible.
7. Focus on advancing the liveability of Warrnambool.
8. New Projects do not become recurrent items unless endorsed by Council.

Council uses the "Model Budget" format which was initiated over ten years ago by representatives of FinPro (local government finance professionals), Institute of Chartered Accountants, LGPro and the MAV. The Model Budget is the local government best practice guide, and is now mandated to ensure:

- All statutory requirements relating to budget preparation have been met.
- Budget preparation and reporting are at best practice standards.
- The budget has been developed in the strategic planning framework.
- The budget is consistent with annual reporting requirements.

The Model Budget is required to be used by all 79 Victorian councils and promotes consistency of budget reporting, enables comparison of budget information between councils and achieves compliance with accounting standards.

Budget documents are complex and the financial statements must comply with Australian Accounting Standards.

The budget process is governed by Sections 127, 129 and 130 of the Local Government Act which requires:

2. Preparation of an annual budget containing prescribed information.
3. Public notification of the prepared budget giving persons the right to make submissions.
4. Adoption of the budget, with or without amendment, and public notification of same.
5. Lodgement of the budget with the Minister for Local Government.

LEGISLATION/POLICY/COUNCIL PLAN CONTEXT

5 Practice good governance through openness and accountability

5.2 Annual Budget

COMMUNITY IMPACT/CONSULTATION

The budget process has again been an extensive review process that commenced in late 2018 and has included:

3. Review of the Capital Works & Projects evaluation criteria.
4. Review and evaluation of submitted major capital works and projects budget bids.
5. Adoption of budget principles.
6. Councilor workshops to review proposed budget.
7. Online community survey
8. Community focus groups
9. Call for public submission to the proposed budget.

The budget is also informed by the variety of projects and working groups that consider and refer items to budget across the preceding year.

OFFICERS' DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declaration.

CONCLUSION

Council has worked through an extensive process and provided opportunity for the community to comment as part of developing the Council Budget for 2019/2020.

Council must now adopt the Budget for 2019/2020 and lodge with the Minister for Local Government.

ATTACHMENTS

1. ESC Warrnambool - Special Order **[4.3.1 - 1 page]**
2. Budget 2019-2020 **[4.3.2 - 101 pages]**

5. CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 6.17PM.

CHAIRMAN