



MINUTES SPECIAL (BUDGET) MEETING

19 JUNE 2024

COMMENCING AT 9:00 AM

PRESENT: Cr A Eden (Chairperson)
 Cr R Coghlan
 Cr A Middleton
 Cr B Moller
 Cr B Olds
 Cr R Pyne
 Cr M Tickner
 Cr T Tim
 Cr K Vallely
 Cr C Zeiger

OFFICERS:

J Andrejic	A/Chief Executive Officer
C Posgate	Director People & Organisational Performance
E Johnson	Director Planning Growth & Sustainability
M Wuth	Director Cairns Infrastructure & Assets
D Puia	Director Lifestyle & Community
L Whitton	Director Finance & Business Services
N Masasso	Director Economic Development & Advocacy
G Everson	Associate Director Service Delivery
S Stephen	Associate Director Engineering Services
S Foster	Executive Manager Creative Life
A Moore	A/Executive Manager Community Life
A Combe	Executive Manager Marketing & Communications
P Rogato	Media Coordinator
A Turnbull	Executive Manager – Engagement
J Ritchie	Executive Manager – Finance
J Rillstone	Coordinator Management Accounting
R Jones	Coordinator Financial Accounting
S Godkin	Minute Secretary

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CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

To consider the matters listed on the agenda.

MAYOR EDEN BUDGET SPEECH

Seventy days ago, when myself and my fellow Councillors were sworn in to represent the people of Cairns, I was asked to present a plaque of recognition to Antonije Dimitrijevic – the Mayor of our Youth Council – and the voice of young people in our city.

Now, you'd think my memory would centre on my own swearing in and the official commencement of my service; but to be honest with you, instead, it keeps going back to that moment on the stage with Antonije, and to the youth of our city, who, like everyone else in Cairns, are relying on us to make decisions that will help secure a bright future for them.

And that's exactly what we plan to do. It's what we promised, and it's what we will invest every second of our time in for the duration of our term.

But, sometimes enabling that bright future – setting out on that journey to get to something better – starts with working together to clear a path through the obstacles that sit directly in front of us.

I love this city (I even have the shirt to prove it), and while today, in honesty, I'm sitting here delivering a budget largely inherited and not everything that I'd have hoped for, I do still present it with a great deal of hope.

Hope that it allows us to address critical challenges this year, and in doing so, empowers us to build from that platform next year, with the new initiatives and fulfilled promises that will make Cairns the city we all want it to be.

This is not the budget of my dreams, it is a *business as usual* budget, and a budget that was 90% developed and locked in by the previous council by the time we were elected.

It is business as usual in that our first budget workshop, just two days after being sworn in, we were presented with a budget rate rise of 7.9%.

Business as usual in that spending has exceeded income for 6 of the last 12 years.

Business as usual in that our operational base has ballooned over the last three years.

Business as usual in that we are left with high debt and depleted cash reserves.

Finally, it is business as usual in that all these circumstances combined, in addition to the unexpected \$30 million cost Council incurred as a result of Cyclone Jasper, has left little room for immediately implementing new initiatives, for now.

Positively, on the 16th of March, Cairns voted for change.

Our community chose to do things differently – not for business as usual.

That change started with reviewing the budget we inherited, and working within the limited boundaries available to us, to make adjustments that will address the fundamental needs of the people of Cairns, while also delivering improvements to lifestyle.

It centred first on minimising any additional pressures on cost of living, by making intricate and carefully calculated revisions to decrease the planned rate rise from 7.9% to 6.7% – no small feat in the face of escalating costs on so many fronts.

The next 12 months will see Councillors and the Executive continuing to work hard to bring our costs under control by doing things differently. Because you voted for different.

Despite these challenges we face together, there are some small wins and big projects that I'd like to highlight.

There is significant investment through a \$383 million capital works program, that includes \$217.7 million for the Cairns Water Security Stage 1.

This is Council's largest ever project and is vitally important to safeguard the city's drinking water into the next decade and to ensure our future prosperity.

I would like to thank the State Government for announcing \$195 million in the budget last week, but additional funding from the Federal Government is still required to fully realise this project without hitting the back pockets of our community.

In redeveloping what we could of this budget, we also focused on the 'little big things' that will make a difference to our community's most vulnerable and get us back to the basics our people most urgently need.

The pensioner rate subsidies have been expanded under the updated policy. The subsidy offered to pensioner ratepayers will be increased to \$320 per year, with eligibility criteria widened to provide cost-of-living relief to 1200 more households than last year, through pro-rating of part eligible households.

Previously, the subsidy amount did not increase in line with rate rises and the eligibility criteria required all ratepayers on the title to be pension card holders.

There is also \$3 million allocated to new footpaths, up from \$1 million in last year's budget, and a significant increase in funding to ensure our parks and open spaces live up to community expectations.

We've also earmarked \$355,000 for bus stop improvements and will invest more than \$475,000 to upgrade lighting along roads and footpaths to improve safety.

It's the little things that are the big things.

The \$669 million budget includes a capital works program of \$383 million with allocations of:

- \$217.7 million to Cairns Water Security Stage 1

- \$52 million for roads, bridges, street lighting, drainage, kerb and channel, shoulder sealing, and bus stops
- \$43.1 million to enhance our water network ((\$53.1(12.32 on tape)
- \$32.7 million for improving our wastewater network
- \$20.4 million dedicated to community, sport, and cultural projects.

Residential water usage charges will increase by 13 cents per kilolitre and commercial water usage charges by 14 cents per kilolitre.

To address the challenges with city parking, and encourage use of off-street parking, and free up on street parking, Council will reduce the hourly fee at the Lake Street carpark to \$1.50 an hour (down from \$2.10 an hour), capped at \$10 per day.

A daily rate of \$6 will also be introduced at the Grafton Street carpark.

Like I said, it's the little big things.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors for their time and input in preparing the budget and acknowledge the efforts of Chief Financial Officer Lisa Whitton and her team, and the Executive Leadership Team, for their guidance and assistance in preparing the budget.

I present the 2024/25 Cairns Regional Council budget to you for its adoption and before dealing with the respective resolutions, I would like to offer Councillors an opportunity to speak to the budget and ask Councillors to limit your comments to three (3) minutes or less each. The order of divisional Councillor addresses will be 'luck of the draw' with names drawn out of a bowl.

In closing, I think the reason my mind keeps drifting back to that moment on the stage, standing next to a smiling and rightfully proud Antonije, is simple. As leaders, we have a responsibility to think about how we can create positive change that makes for better lives for our people, right now; but we also have an added accountability for the future we are delivering for our young people.

The decisions we have before us, the budget we are presenting – though maybe not exactly what we had hoped for, this time – is designed to offer some relief now: some improvements to lifestyle, services, and amenities. Perhaps equally important, though, it is designed to clear a path for a stronger future in Cairns, with more abundant safe drinking water, robust infrastructure and happier, healthier living.

As part of this Council, I'm pleased to roll up my sleeves, to clear the path to that future. Thank you.

CR PYNE

Thank you, Mayor Eden, I do think every now and then, there may be reasons for a Councillor to not support a budget, either through some inherent unfairness or philosophical problem but that is certainly not the case with this budget today.

It is important to realise that a Councillor cannot get everything they want in a budget no one can. Perhaps the definition of a good budget is one which everyone is equally unhappy with it, but the questions you need to ask yourself about a rate increase like today.

I think there are two questions, one is, have you found efficiencies within the organisation and we know that has happened, and the second question is whether there is any gold plating going on in terms of the services Council is delivering and I am sure that is not happening either, in some cases, is it completely the opposite, so in light of all that and what is actually in this budget, how money is being spent I think a business as usual budget is a good description of it and it is going to implement a number of things that really need to be done. There is no option so in light of that I will be supporting the budget.

CR MOLLER

Thank you Mayor, yes a business as usual budget but certainly far from business as usual financial circumstances that we find ourselves in and with respect I don't agree with the Mayor's comments about the previous council. We have got three new councillors here but in each of the previous budgets as we go through the process a number of workshops discussions and arriving at a consensus but particularly in a situation where we have increasing interest rates, high CPI, we know that the cost of labour and materials for all levels of government in terms of projects have blown out and what we are facing in this budget really is coming out of two huge cost imposts.

That is the water security stage 1 project \$472M and a commitment of about \$218M in this budget and of course the shortfall from TC Jasper as the Mayor said of close to \$30M so with that we have to be prudent responsible in our levying of rates and charges that are reasonable but necessary to meet the infrastructure and service costs expected by our community.

That's a difficult financial situation that we find ourselves in certainly for division 1 coming out of Jasper I have \$7.2M worth of road repairs from Woopen Creek, in the south, East Russell, Deeral, Aloomba and Goldsborough just to name a few because of the Mulgrave and Russell River water system. In addition, three main bridges were damaged out there, Grays Bridge south of Edmonton, Lamins Bridge at Aloomba, and Fisheries Bridge at Goldsborough where of course it was washed away. There is another \$1.2M so their repair bills have got to come out of this budget forsaking footpaths and playgrounds and other things – this is essential infrastructure that needs to be addressed and repaired I am pleased to see the next lot of funding to complete stage 1 of the Pyramid Parklands Gujura upgrade formally Kenrick Park \$1.35M that will be completed hopefully by the end of this year with another \$100,000 of funding of stage 2 which is also exciting

I am pleased to see the Alley Park lighting upgrade project commence this financial year to go over another two years and the new Splashpool at the Gordonvale Pool will also commence a 3 year funding this year. So, they are the above ground highlights.

However, those two cost imposts caveats that I talked about, means that as a Council we need to be really disciplined going forward, we need to be focused and it is not about what the populist wants, it is what our community will need and it is a really challenging environment but we really do have to be focused. We have a lot of risk and uncertainty going forward. Uncertainty in resource recovery post the Bedminster System coming off line in 2026 and the waste levy and the diversion from landfill targets set by State/Federal governments, a new kerbside contracts and once we build our new water treatment plant we are going to have to operate it at significant cost, more so than we have ever seen before in terms of water supply and we have already discussed the need for future trunk infrastructure in the growing Mt Peter corridor and the cost of that trunk infrastructure. These are all risks let alone if we faced another weather event like TC Jasper.

So financial sustainability is in the legislation that governs us. Borrowings have to be considered in terms of our long-term financial planning, that is why we have that within the budget document. A disciplined approach by our council will ensure that intergenerational equity, which is really important because as the needs arise of future generations need to be taken into account by our Council today and our saying in our statement that we need to deliver today while planning for tomorrow is that future generation and having a look at the debt levels over out 10 year plan. This should be our focus going forward but I commend today's budget with those caveats around those risks. Thank you.

CR OLDS

Thanks Mayor Eden, I am usually last so this is a turn up, this is good. I hopefully won't be longer than 5 minutes, but you never know your luck in a big city.

I do want to start off by saying thank you to the Executive Team Leaders and your team, all the executives and my colleagues. We are in a pretty privileged position to be leaders of this community and every decision we make is utilising other people's money so it is serious business and at the end of the day this is a user pays system.

Everyone's cost of living has gone up, including Councils and as Cr Moller said including the State and Federal Governments everyone's costs have gone up.

We have only got 3 levers when it comes to how we pay for everything, we can either reduce the levels of service, which that is never a good idea people love the way the roads look out there and the parks taken care of. Our officers do a great job right down through the whole organisation, so that is one lever and you could do that and that is something we don't really want to play with, we can take on more debt which is something I will talk about in a second that the State Government has suggested we do, I don't think that is a good option because that money has to be paid back with interest at some stage by future rate payers and the third one is the rates. This is what we are here for today to deliver a rate rise now.

Last year in the forecasting, that was forecasted in June in much better times than now before any Cyclone Jasper had hit us and before we saw the recent State budget, but back then we thought it was going to be 5.3% this year, is what we had forecasted, and it came out at 6.7%, so it is 1.4% more. But when you add that up to the regular rate payer the median ratepayer and including the water usage and everything that is \$49 a

year it is less than \$1 per week with all those issues that you have highlighted Mayor and Cr Moller and Cr Pyne have already talked about.

With the cost of Cyclone Jasper the damage that we might not recover that we have to pay for and even with the State funding which we are really appreciative of you did a great advocacy work there to get the extra \$87.5 million from the State for the water project, which is vitally important and that cost burden should not be put on our ratepayers because our ratepayers are tax payers too.

But then when I saw the budget come out and even with that included and we have gone backwards we are the only SA4 region that has actually got less than the other regions and again we were the least amount out of everyone in Queensland. So I think that is 12 or 13 years in a row last year we got a little bit more but of the last 13 years I think 12 years in a row we are billions of dollars short compared to the other SA4 regions.

The only reason I bring that up is on the back of the State financial statement that does not affect your rates, it is a contributing factor absolutely and I just think that while this is not the rates of our dream our aim and our goal. I know we have all been talking over the, this is our 9th week I think, we don't know what the future holds hopefully nothing like we saw last December.

Our goal is this will be the worst rate rise of the term. We do need to tighten our belts as Cr Moller suggested and we need to get on with business.

I will finish off with just a couple of positives. We have some rock walls going at Clifton Beach which we voted on a few weeks ago the residents up there are really looking forward to that because the beaches are eroding away. The Northern Beaches Leisure trail is something I would love to see over this term of Council we really progressed to try and finish that off. Kewarra Beach to Trinity Beach that is in this budget which is really exciting. Ellis Beach has a masterplan that we have not voted on yet it is coming up but even without that we have got some toilets we are putting in there which is very much needed especially with the Wangatti trail coming up and then as you have already mentioned in your speech Mayor the footpaths there, and people love their little big things people love footpaths we have increased that from \$1M to \$3M for this year and next which is huge and you can always judge a society on how they treat their elderly and I love that senior citizens policy. That was fantastic.

While this is not the best news day a 6.7% rate rise it is the highest we have had in a long time I do believe with us working together it will be worst one of our term and there are legitimate reasons for that which I will get into more over the coming weeks and months with the State and Federal government upcoming elections.

CR TIM

Thank you Mayor, with this being the first budget for the new kid on the block, one of the new kids on the block, I am excited to be here, in actual fact I am excited to be anywhere. I'd like to thank my fellow Councillors for their support and guidance through the process.

It has been a very thorough and collaborative process with everyone focused on delivering the best outcomes to our community. I would like particularly to thank the Mayor for her support and guidance and leadership.

The business of the Council is massive, it's more than potholes, as I said the new kid on the block learning the process, I am here with an open mind, with a student mind and with a passionate heart so I am very excited to be here as I said. There are lots of rules and regulations that guide us and from a budget perspective one of our key requirements is making sure this Council is financially sustainable. That means not just making decisions for right now but for the future as well. This budget is full of initiatives that help future proof this city that we love, none more significant than the Cairns Water Security Strategy. Even with the much welcome and appreciative support from the State and Federal Government, the Cairns Water Security Strategy project will require investment from us, a team effort. We're also having to account for significant recovery costs from the TC Jasper event.

This budget is a balancing act you could say in more ways than one – we have to make sure essential services are maintained, key project costs are covered, and rates are kept affordable. It's great to see us being able to offer pension rates and what Cr Olds was saying there, rates and concessions to significantly more people this year to help those that need it most. I am pleased to see even greater investment in our footpaths. I look forward to working with Council officers to get some links delivered for Division 4, that's my area, thank you.

Lastly, I'd like to thank the Executive Leadership Team, I love your passion, I love your knowledge, and you are very approachable. So, thank you for being there for us and it is a team effort, and teamwork makes the Dreamwork and we all need to get it together, together. So, I am very happy with the budget. Thank you very much.

CR COGLAN

Thankyou Mayor Eden. I have one word for this budget. RESPONSIBLE. That word truly is the only word to describe it.

Firstly before I begin, I would like to thank Ms Whitton and her team for their patience and the constant reworking of every possible scenario week after week after week. I applaud you, your patience is amazing. It's not pretty and we've done our best to keep current projects in the forward budget. For Division 8 this is projects like the Masterplan for Barron Waters and Smithfield Leisure precinct which will begin to progress this financial year. Not many new items in this year's budget.

I too like Cr Olds would love to see the Northern Beaches Leisure Trail progress in this term and lets see how we go its good to see the next step happening there.

It's our Duty to make sound financial decisions that benefit the community and address the needs of our residents. With that in mind we have carefully reviewed our spending priorities, to strike a balance between providing the expected diverse range of services which is expected by our community and minimising the burden on ratepayers.

This has been a difficult budget due to significant cost escalation mostly due to inflationary pressures. A good example of this is the extraordinary cost escalation of the Cairns Water Security Project. Our biggest project for this Council.

Also the additional costs Council will incur for the shortfall in recovery costs from the flooding event post Cyclone Jasper. No one is more aware of these costs to our infrastructure and the impost on residents than I.

We have absorbed these cost impacts to the greatest extent possible without compromising service levels.

We have a diverse community and bat above our average in terms of what we can do with comparatively low rate rises (annual rates benchmarking shows we are excellent value for money still).

We have a strong focus on liveability, which is a key element of our Corporate Plan

Maintaining our service levels and expenditure also makes a significant contribution to the local economy – almost 90% of our expenditure is spent local every year.

Thank you to our executive team for controlling staff costs and the inflow/outflow of staff in such difficult times. Thank you a great big thank you to all council staff, for your passion and commitment which is a source of pride to our city and certainly to us as councillors.

In conclusion, our upcoming budget reflects our commitment to operate within spending constraints. We understand the challenges faced by households, and we are dedicated to making responsible fiscal decisions that prioritise essential services, infrastructure development and fiscal sustainability. We will continue to seek your feedback and support so that together we will continue to build a stronger, more resilient Cairns.

CR TICKNER

It's rather an uncanny position we as new Councillors undertake, you are elected along with about 100 items of priority gained throughout the campaign you then get flung straight into forming a budget to deliver in 9 weeks. That's when the reality hits, its uncanny but here we are as our role.

In reality, what this does highlight, is the critical importance of an organisation like ours, having a dedicating operations team who through the trials and tribulations of Cyclones, increasing market constraints, significant city building projects and a newly elected Council can maintain the stability that is required for the benefit of our city and the rate payers of Cairns.

This budget may be delivered to the community by the 10 of us in this Chamber, but what it really represents is the tireless work of every staff member in the organisation and that hard work and stability of operation is very much appreciated.

This budget has not been easy, there is no sugar coating the reality of what we are up against. Inflation is high, material costs are high, electricity prices are high, we are facing labour shortages nationwide and still recovering from the huge cost of rebuilding post Cyclone Jasper – The reality that every local household will understand all too well, is our cost of living is continuing to climb and the cost of doing business is no exception in this outlook - Council is not immune to any of these market shocks.

This budget represents a fiscally conservative approach to tackle the economic issues we are all up against while maintaining as minimal impact on the community as possible. This budget is responsible and this budget is sustainable long term, focused on the future vision of our Cairns Community.

- We are investing in our most precious resource with the Cairns water security project – The single largest project spend in Council’s history at \$472 Million joint funded with all 3 levels of Government.
- We are further investing in the safety of our community with a \$1.7 Million dollar increase to our suburban community patrols who work in conduit between the community and the Police.
- And we are delivering the largest Capital Investment spend in Cairns Regional Council history driving better infrastructure, secure water supply and a better quality of lifestyle for our residents.

In the Division I represent – Division 2:

- We will see the much-anticipated pavement rehabilitation of Mt. Peter Road this financial year.
- The \$1.25M upgrade of the assets at Sugarworld Park currently underway in combination with a further \$2.05 million pinned in to upgrade the Sugarworld Parklands Play & Adventure Park in the forwards - Elevating the park into a true destination facility for the local community.
- Also in the forward capital expenditure program is a new Toilet block facility at Todd Park to allow for better community engagement with the park.
- And upgrades to a number of our local parks including one quite close to my heart Wilmot Park in Edmonton.

We may be facing some tough economic headwinds in combination with a significant forward project base, but I ask the community to come with us on this journey as we navigate this unprecedented period of change. The Cairns community can rest assured that this budget is required and will position our city in a strong standing with an amazing future that this city has.

CR ZEIGER

We are all on the same page here and look I am truly privileged to serve this community and Council, and despite this being the 9th Budget that I have been part of, it doesn’t get any easier. Each year comes with its own challenges. Current challenges have been spoken about this morning include addressing the net debt, along with post cyclone Jasper disaster recovery costs, whilst ensuring funding for our water supply on the south is locked in, so that for many years to come water supply is sufficient to serve our ever-growing population. We thank the State Government for their recent addition of funding towards the Cairns Water Security project, bringing their contribution now to \$195 Million, and we will continue to advocate to the Federal Government to seek the same.

Since Covid, as we are all aware, that globally the increase in costs, supply shortages etc. have brought about many changes and we need to ensure as a Council that we are fiscally responsible, that our quality of service is of high standard, that necessary and new

infrastructure is provided, whilst ensuring value for money and financial sustainability. No easy feat!

With this said, I am happy to share good news, and also shared by the Mayor this morning and also some of my fellow councillors it is right up there with the footpaths, going for more money for footpaths we have \$3m coming in which is good, but of course great news I got excited for those who are eligible for the State Government Pensioner Subsidy – previously if a property was co-owned, so if you had a father and son, the father was a pensioner the son was not there was no discount. But now approved pensioners who are co-owners will be granted a concession proportionate to their ownership share of the property, even better for Spousal relationships where they will get 100% concession. Which I think is amazing and in these times every little bit helps in the cost of living.

I want to thank Lisa Whitton and her team for the solid work that have put in, the many budget workshops provided to us, for being flexible as requests were made and together achieving the best possible rate in the current circumstances.

I also want to thank the Managers and their teams for finding savings and also providing workshops and educating Councillors to ensure a true and clear details relating to each department, their projects and responsibilities.

On the Division 3 Horizon, as I said Division 3 is the place to be, I am pleased to be able to announce this 24/25 year will see \$100,000 budgeted towards the design of the Jeff Pezzutti Youth Activity Space, in fact tonight we are having a meeting in Woree at the Disaster Centre with residents including teens, especially the teens on the new Skatepark design.

This financial year we will also see \$250,000 spent on the design of the White Rock Community Centre because we have already had the discussions with the community leaders. This has been going on – on the board since I became a Councillor in 2015 for White Rock and 2016 for Jeff Pezzutti park respectively.

Construction is earmarked in the Capital Budget for the White Rock Community Centre for 25/26 year. So I am pretty pumped about that.

I am committed to see both projects through to completion, and whilst it has taken a while... the results will be amazing. Thank you.

CR MIDDLETON

When I entered office in April as a new councillor, it was made clear to me that presenting a budget that was fiscally sensible, well considered and delivered on time was a Cairns Regional Council priority. I want to recognise that a lot of the heavy lifting had been done by the previous council and I thank them for it.

We have achieved this budget with the expert guidance of our finance team led by Ms Lisa Whitton.

Thank you for your undying patience.

Through the numerous workshops and briefings presented by the leadership teams of all

the different sectors within council, I have come to truly understand the extent of services and operations that are delivered at the high level that our community expects, and rightly so.

The increasing costs to deliver for Cairns led to careful consideration and prioritising so we could maintain a financial sustainable council that is continuing to move forward and support local jobs and small businesses and vulnerable like our pensioners as Cr Zeiger mentioned.

Add to this, Cairns Regional Council is about to undertake the biggest capital works program in our history, the water treatment plant that will give our community water security.

We as a council have to be forward thinking to ensure we have the funds to operate the plant; it is no use building infrastructure we can't afford to use.

Division 7. Our Division is an established area full of amazing assets: parks, sporting facilities, the tanks, the Botanical Gardens and arrow walking tracks just to name a few. Which is why I love it.

So, this budget for our Division is about business as usual, essential work, maintenance of drains (who knew we had so many!) and kerb and channeling, parks maintenance and upgrades, new pavements and such.

We will continue to progress our active transport system to increase connectivity throughout our community. We have tripled the shared paths allocation and I look forward to working with officers to get some wins for Division 7.

This is a budget that focuses on our existing assets with some great plans on the horizon for the Botanical Gardens, Red Arrow walking track, local sporting facilities and the Tanks, all focused on enriching the livability of our area.

Finally, I want to thank the exceptional team at Cairns Regional Council from the leadership team to those out in the field, together they create the incredible city we are blessed to live in.

Thank you

CR VALLELY

I have to concur with Cr Moller's comment in regard to previous Council considering 70% of us sat on that previous Council including the current Mayor so that is something we shouldn't forget.

Absolutely. It's safe to say that the past six months have been incredibly challenging for our community. However, during this time, the true heart and spirit of our community have shone through brightly.

We've been tested in every conceivable way, but through resilience, solidarity, and determination, we've continued to persevere. We are all here, committed to navigating these difficult times together ensuring that we make the best decisions for the well-being

and future of our community.

As councillors, we are acutely aware that our residents are feeling the financial pressures of the times we are currently living through. Council operations are too subject to the same pressures so it's certainly not easy an easy feat delivering a budget that ticks all of the boxes.

However, today I think we're pretty close. For me personally I'm very happy to have 6 million allocated for the footpath between Ryan Weare Park and Freshwater Christian College allocated in the 10 year plan. So happy with that one.

And 3.4 million for the Redlynch Sporting Precinct in the next 3 financial years.

So today is a good day for division 6 residents.

I'd like to close by thanking the wonderful officers we are surrounded by some of Cairns's some of Australia's best and I am forever grateful particularly for Ms Lisa Whitton, thank you for everything you do and your team. Really appreciate it. Let's get going.

**1. NATIONAL COMPETITION POLICY IMPLEMENTATION FOR THE
2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR..... 4**
63/8/32-01 | #7383855

MOLLER / ZEIGER

That Council:

- 1. Note that the following are all business activities that are to be conducted by Council during the 2024/25 financial year:**
 - a. Cairns Water**
 - b. Cairns Resource Recovery**
 - c. TicketLink**
 - d. Car Parking**
 - e. Cemeteries**
 - f. Botanical Gardens Visitor Centre**
 - g. Munro Martin Parklands**
 - h. Tanks Arts Centre**
 - i. Cairns Performing Arts Centre (CPAC)**
 - j. Barlow Park**
 - k. Swimming Pools**
 - l. Sugarworld Water Park**
 - m. Libraries**
 - n. The Court House**
 - o. Caravan Parks**

2. Note that for the 2024/25 financial year, the identified significant business activities of Council which are subject to the National Competition Policy (NCP) under Section 43 of the *Local Government Act 2009* are:
 - a. Cairns Water
 - b. Cairns Resource Recovery
 3. Note that the competitive neutrality principle will be applied to all of the identified significant business activities for the 2024/25 financial year. The level of reform applied to the significant business activities is:
 - a. Cairns Water – commercialisation
 - b. Cairns Resource Recovery – commercialisation
 4. Note that it will not conduct any significant business activities that were not conducted in the preceding financial year, that is, there are no new significant business activities to be conducted in the 2024/25 financial year.
 5. Note that for that 2024/25 financial year, the following are prescribed business activities under Section 39 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:
 - a. Cairns Water
 - b. Cairns Resource Recovery
 - c. TicketLink
 - d. Car Parking
 - e. Cemeteries
 - f. Botanical Gardens Visitor Centre
 - g. Munro Martin Parklands
 - h. Tanks Arts Centre
 - i. Cairns Performing Arts Centre (CPAC)
 - j. Barlow Park
 - k. Swimming Pools
 - l. Sugarworld Water Park
 - m. Libraries
 - n. The Court House
 6. Note that the code of competitive conduct will mandatorily apply to a ‘building certifying activity’ within the meaning of Section 47(4) of the *Local Government Act 2009*. Council note that it will not conduct a business activity within the meaning of a ‘building certifying activity’ in the 2024/25 financial year.
 7. Note that the code of competitive conduct will mandatorily apply to a ‘roads activity’ within the meaning of Section 47(5) of the *Local Government Act 2009*. Council note that it will not conduct a business activity within the meaning of a ‘roads activity’ in the 2024/25 financial year.
 8. Decide by resolution, for the 2024/25 financial year, that the following prescribed business activities apply the code of competitive conduct under Section 47(7) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:
 - a. Cairns Water
 - b. Cairns Resource Recovery
 9. Decide by resolution, for the 2024/25 financial year, that the following prescribed business activities do not apply the code of competitive conduct under Section 47(7) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, for the reasons provided:
-

Business Activity	Reason
TicketLink	Principle purpose to ticket Council events and shows
Car Parking	Principle purpose to increase availability of parking in the Cairns CBD
Cemeteries	Primarily undertaken as a community service, with little or no competition
Botanical Gardens Visitor Centre	Primarily undertaken as a community facility, with little or no competition
Munro Martin Parklands	Primarily undertaken as a community facility, with little or no competition
Tanks Art Centre	Primarily undertaken as a community facility, with little or no competition
Cairns Performing Arts Centre	Primarily undertaken as a community facility, with little or no competition
Barlow Park	Primarily undertaken as a community facility, with little or no competition
Swimming Pools	Primarily undertaken as a community facility, with little or no competition
Sugarworld Water Park	Primarily undertaken as a community facility, with little or no competition
Libraries	Primarily undertaken as a community service, with little or no competition
The Court House	Primarily undertaken as a community facility, with little or no competition

carried unanimously

2. DEBT POLICY..... 10
63/8/32-01 | #7416362

VALLELY / MIDDLETON

That Council adopts the Debt Policy for 2024/25.

carried unanimously

3. PROCUREMENT POLICY 2024/25..... 16
63/14/4 | #7386755

COGHLAN / TICKNER

That Council adopts the proposed amendments to the Procurement Policy for 2024/25.

carried unanimously

4. ADOPTION OF FEES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR 56
63/2/12-01 | #7415964

OLDS / PYNE

That Council:

1. Adopts the 2024/25 Fees and Charges Schedule, effective from 1 July 2024 by:
 - a. Fixing the cost-recovery fees as indicated in the 2024/25 Fees and Charges Schedule in accordance with section 97(1) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.
 - b. Fixing all other fees and charges contained in the 2024/25 Fees and Charges Schedule.
 - c. Allowing any changes to fees and charges to be reflected in all supportive documentation, plans and customer communications.
2. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to set or vary any fee or charge, other than those that are cost-recovery fees, in accordance with section 257(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

carried unanimously

5. AMENDMENT SCHEDULE 2 OF SUBORDINATE LOCAL LAW NO. 12 (PARKING) 2016 94
71/2/01-02 | #7420320

OLDS / TIM

That Council:

1. proposes to adopt the amendments contained in *Amending Subordinate Local Law No. 12 (Parking) 2024* as outlined in Attachment 1 to this Report (“the Amending Subordinate Local Law”);
2. pursuant to section 257(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2009* (“the Act”), delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to:
 - a) consult with the public about the proposed Amending Subordinate Local Law for at least 14 days by:
 - (i) publishing a notice (a consultation notice) about the proposed Amending Subordinate Local Law at least once in a newspaper circulating generally in the local government area; and
 - (ii) displaying the consultation notice in a conspicuous place in the local government’s public office from the first day of the

consultation period until the end of the last day of the consultation period; and

(iii) making copies of the proposed Amending Subordinate Local Law available for inspection at the local government’s public office during the consultation period; and

(iv) making copies of the proposed Amending Subordinate Local Law available for purchase at the local government’s public office during the consultation period; and

(b) carries out the necessary anti-competitive review consistently with the Act and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

carried with Cr Tickner voting against the motion

6. ADOPTION OF DIFFERENTIAL GENERAL RATES FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR..... 142
63/19/1 | #7410412

TICKNER / MOLLER

That Council:

1. Resolve, pursuant to section 81 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the categories into which rateable land is categorised, the description of each 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:

Summary of Land Use Categories

The following categories and descriptions are to be used for rating purposes for all rateable properties:

Category	Description
Residential A	Residential properties
Residential K	Residential properties that are building units.
Residential L2	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 2
Residential L3	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 3
Residential L4	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 4
Residential L5	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 5
Residential L6	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 6
Residential L7	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 7
Residential L8	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 8
Residential L9	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 9
Residential L10	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 10
Residential L11	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 11

Category	Description
Residential L53	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 53
Residential L54	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 54
Residential L55	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 55
Residential L56	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 56
Residential L57	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 57
Residential L58	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 58
Residential L59	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 59
Residential L60+	Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is equal to 60+
Residential M	Residential land which is subject to section 50 of the <i>Land Valuation Act 2010</i> .
Residential R	Retirement Villages and Relocatable Home Parks
Commercial B	Major Shopping Centres over 34,999m2 Gross Lettable Area – Retail (GLAR).
Commercial D	Commercial properties located within the Inner City.
Commercial E	Commercial properties not included in Commercial Categories B, D, F & G.
Commercial F	Properties used by Not for Profit Recreation, Sporting and Community Groups that are eligible for Rates Based Financial Assistance.
Commercial G	Major Shopping Centres over 20,000m2 and less than 35,000m2 GLAR.
Rural Productive	All properties which are used predominantly for Primary Production.
Other Land	Land not included in any of the above categories.

Description of Land Use Categories

The following is a description of the land use categories:

Note: The zones in CairnsPlan 2016 may be a factor in determining the rating categories for Land Use Codes 01, 04, 06, 09, and 72.

RESIDENTIAL

Residential A

Residential Properties

This category will only apply where:

- a) the land is used solely for residential purposes or has the potential predominant use by virtue of its improvements or activities conducted upon the land to be used solely for residential purposes; or
- b) the land contains a dwelling house and secondary dwelling; or
- c) the sole purpose for which the subject land is presently utilised is vacant land and has been purchased by an individual for solely residential purposes following the re-configuration of allotments.

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:

- 01 Vacant urban land (excluding those included in commercial categories D and E);
- 02 Residential single unit dwelling - urban and rural;
- 04 Large homesite - vacant urban and rural (excluding those in commercial categories D and E);
- 05 Large homesite - dwelling - urban and rural;
- 06 Outbuildings (excluding those in commercial categories D and E);
- 09 Group Titles;
- 94 Vacant rural land.

Residential K

Residential properties that are building units

This category will only apply where:

- a) the land is used solely for residential purposes or has the potential predominant use by virtue of its improvements or activities conducted upon the land to be used solely for residential purposes; and
- b) the land is part of a community title scheme.

Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:

- 08 Building Units

Residential L2 to Residential L60+

Where the number of Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) on the property is between 2-60+.

This category will only apply where:

- a) the land is used solely for residential purposes or has the potential predominant use by virtue of its improvements or activities conducted upon the land to be used solely for residential purposes; and
- b) the land contains between 2-60+ Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs); and
- c) the land does not fall into category Residential K;

Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:

- 03 Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs)

Residential M

Residential land which is subject to section 50 of the *Land Valuation Act 2010*. Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:

72 Residential land which is subject to section 50 of the *Land Valuation Act 2010*.

Residential R

Retirement Villages and Relocatable Home Parks

This category will only apply where the land is:

- a) used for retirement village purposes or has the potential predominant use by virtue of its improvements or activities conducted upon the land of retirement village purposes.
- b) used for relocatable home park purposes or has the potential predominant use of or adapted to be used for the siting of relocatable homes for residential use

Ordinarily properties with the following land use code would fall within this category:

10 Combined multi-dwelling and commercial
21 Residential Institutions (non-medical care);

The following land is specifically included in this category:

- a) Over-50's Lifestyle Resorts
- b) Relocatable home parks
- c) Retirement villages

COMMERCIAL

Commercial B

Major Shopping Centres over 34,999m² Gross Lettable Area- Retail (GLAR)

This category will apply where the land is:

- a) used for shopping centre purposes or has the potential predominant use by virtue of its improvements or activities conducted upon the land of shopping centre purposes; and
- b) the anchor tenants are a variety of department store(s)/ discount department store(s) and large grocery supermarkets; and
- c) major on-site parking facilities; and
- d) a gross lettable area retail (GLAR) over 34,999m²

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:

12 Shopping Group (more than 6 shops);
13 Shopping Group (2 to 6 shops);
14 Shops Main Retail;
15 Shops Secondary Retail;

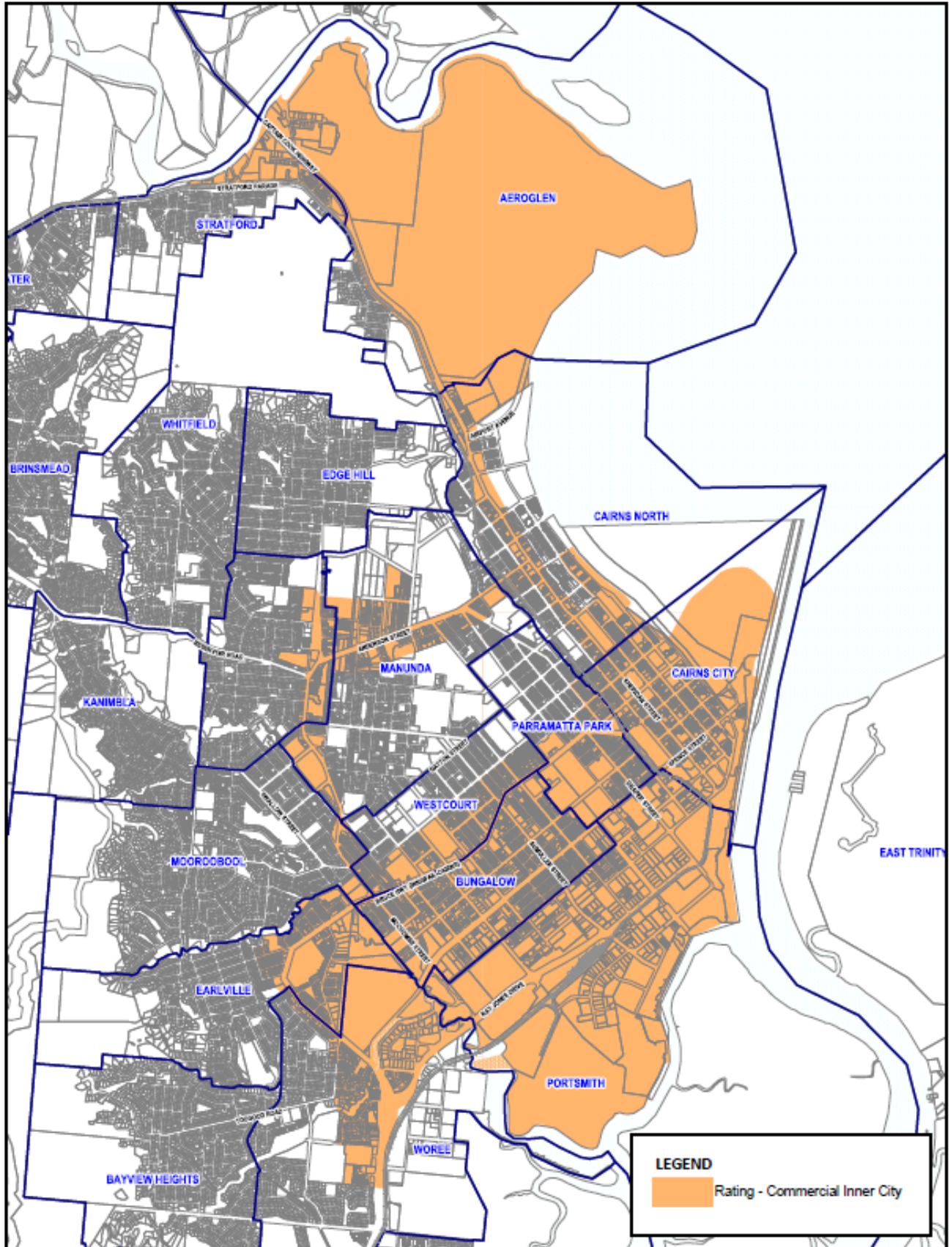
16 Drive-In Shopping Centres.

Commercial D

Commercial Properties located within the Inner City

This category will apply where the land is:

- a) used for commercial/ industrial purposes or has the potential predominant use by virtue of its improvements or activities conducted upon the land of commercial/ industrial purposes; and**
- b) are contained within the shaded area on the below map shown as commercial inner city.**



LEGEND
 Rating - Commercial Inner City

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Cairns Regional Council
 RATING DISTRICT
 COMMERCIAL INNER CITY

 Cairns
 REGIONAL COUNCIL
 Plan No.1

Author: TM	Date: 15/05/2023	Sheet 1	Rev.
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Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:

07	Guest House/Private Hotel;	32	Wharves;
08	Building Units;	33	Builders Yard/Contractors Yard;
09	Group Titles;	34	Cold Stores - Iceworks;
10	Combined Multi Dwelling and Shop;	35	General Industry;
11	Shop - Single;	36	Light Industry;
12	Shops - Shopping group (more than 6 shops, excluding those in Categories B, E and G);	37	Noxious/Offensive Industry;
13	Shopping group (2 to 6 shops, excluding those in Categories B, E and G);	38	Advertising - Hoarding;
14	Shops - Main Retail (excluding those in Categories B, E and G);	39	Harbour Industries;
15	Shops - Secondary Retail (excluding those in Categories B, E and G);	40	Extractive;
16	Drive In Shopping Centres (excluding those in Categories B, E and G);	41	Child Care;
17	Restaurant;	42	Hotel/Tavern;
18	Special Tourist Attraction;	43	Motel;
19	Walkway;	44	Nurseries;
20	Marina;	45	Theatres and Cinemas;
22	Car Park;	46	Drive-In Theatre;
23	Retail Warehouse;	47	Licensed Clubs;
24	Sales Area Outdoor;	48	Sports Clubs/Facilities;
25	Offices;	49	Caravan Parks;
26	Funeral Parlours;	50	Other Clubs; Non-Business;
27	Hospitals; Convalescent Homes (Medical Care) (Private);	51	Religious;
28	Warehouses and Bulk Stores;	52	Cemeteries (including Crematoria);
29	Transport Terminal;	55	Library;
30	Service Station;	56	Showgrounds/Racecourses /Airfields;
31	Oil Depot and Refinery;	57	Parks and Gardens;
		58	Educational - including Kindergartens;
		91	Transformers;
		92	Defence Force establishments;
		95	Reservoir, Dam, Bores;
		96	Public Hospital;
		97	Welfare Homes/Institutions;
		99	Community Protection Centre.

Also including the following properties where that land is included as Principle centre, Major centre, District centre, Local centre, Neighbourhood centre, Mixed-use precinct 1, Mixed-use precinct 2, Low-impact industry, Medium-impact industry, High-impact industry, Waterfront and marine industry, Specialised centre, Strategic Port Land zones within CairnsPlan 2016.

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:

- 01 Vacant urban land;
- 04 Large vacant urban land;
- 06 Outbuildings;
- 09 Group Titles;
- 72 Refer to section 50 of the *Land Valuation Act 2010*.

Commercial E

Commercial properties not included in Commercial Categories B, D, F & G

This category will apply where the land is:

- a) used for commercial/ industrial purposes or has the potential predominant use by virtue of its improvements or activities conducted upon the land of commercial/ industrial purposes; and
- b) are not contained within the shaded area on the map shown as commercial inner city.
- c) Does not fall into commercial categories B, D, F and G

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 07 Guest House/Private Hotel; | 33 Builders Yard/Contractors Yard; |
| 08 Building Units; | 34 Cold Stores - Iceworks; |
| 09 Group Titles; | 35 General Industry; |
| 10 Combined Multi Dwelling and Shop; | 36 Light Industry; |
| 11 Shop - Single; | 37 Noxious/Offensive Industry; |
| 12 Shops - Shopping group (more than 6 shops); | 38 Advertising - Hoarding; |
| 13 Shopping group (2 to 6 shops); | 39 Harbour Industries; |
| 14 Shops - Main Retail; | 40 Extractive; |
| 15 Shops - Secondary Retail; | 41 Child Care; |
| 16 Drive In Shopping Centres; | 42 Hotel/Tavern; |
| 17 Restaurant; | 43 Motel; |
| 18 Special Tourist Attraction; | 44 Nurseries; |
| 19 Walkway; | 45 Theatres and Cinemas; |
| 20 Marina; | 46 Drive-In Theatres; |
| 22 Car Park; | 47 Licensed Clubs; |
| 23 Retail Warehouse; | 48 Sports Clubs/Facilities; |
| 24 Sales Area Outdoor; | 49 Caravan Parks; |
| 25 Offices; | 50 Other Clubs; Non-Business; |
| 26 Funeral Parlours; | 51 Religious; |
| 27 Hospitals; Convalescent Homes (Medical Care) (Private); | 52 Cemeteries (including Crematoria); |
| 28 Warehouses and Bulk Stores; | 55 Library; |
| 29 Transport Terminal; | 56 Showgrounds/Racecourses /Airfields; |
| 30 Service Station; | 57 Parks and Gardens; |
| 31 Oil Depots and Refinery; | 58 Educational - including Kindergartens; |
| 32 Wharves; | 91 Transformers; |

92	Defence establishments;	Force	97	Welfare Homes/Institutions;
95	Reservoir, Dam, Bores;		99	Community Protection Centre.
96	Public Hospital;			

Also including the following properties where that land is included as Principle centre, Major centre, District centre, Local centre, Neighbourhood centre, Mixed-use precinct 1, Mixed-use precinct 2, Low-impact industry, Medium-impact industry, High-impact industry, Waterfront and marine industry, Specialised centre zones within CairnsPlan 2016.

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:

- 01 Vacant urban land;
- 04 Large vacant urban land;
- 06 Outbuildings;
- 09 Group Titles;
- 72 Refer to section 50 of the *Land Valuation Act 2010*.

Commercial F

Properties used by Not for Profit Recreations, Sporting and Community Groups that are eligible for Rates Based Financial Assistance.

This category will apply where the land qualifies for assistance under Council's Rates Based Financial Assistance Policy.

Commercial G

Shopping Centres over 20,000m² and less than 35,000m² GLAR

This category will apply where the land is:

- a) used for shopping centre purposes or has the potential predominant use by virtue of its improvements or activities conducted upon the land of shopping centre purposes; and
- b) the anchor tenants are a variety of department store(s)/ discount department store(s) and large grocery supermarkets; and
- c) major on-site parking facilities; and
- d) a gross lettable area retail (GLAR) over 20,000m² and less than 35,000m²

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:

- 12 Shopping Group (more than 6 shops);
- 13 Shopping Group (2 to 6 shops);
- 14 Shops Main Retail;
- 15 Shops Secondary Retail;
- 16 Drive-In Shopping Centres.

RURAL PRODUCTIVE

This category will apply where the land is used for primary production purposes or has the potential predominant use by virtue of its improvements or activities conducted upon the land of primary production purposes.

Ordinarily properties with the following land use codes would fall within this category:

60	Sheep Grazing - Dry;	78	Rice;
61	Sheep Breeding;	79	Orchards;
64	Cattle Grazing - Breeding;	80	Tropical Fruits;
65	Cattle Breeding and Fattening;	81	Pineapples;
66	Cattle Fattening;	82	Vineyards;
67	Goats;	83	Small Crops and Fodder Irrigated;
68	Milk - Quota;	84	Small Crops Fodder Non- irrigated;
69	Milk - No Quota;	85	Pigs;
70	Cream;	86	Horses;
71	Oil Seeds;	87	Poultry;
73	Grains;	88	Forestry and Logs;
74	Turf Farms;	89	Animals Special;
75	Sugar Cane;	93	Peanuts
76	Tobacco;		
77	Cotton;		

OTHER LAND

Land not included in any of the above categories.

2. Resolve to delegate 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.
3. Resolve, 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, as follows:

Category	Rate in the dollar	Minimum
Residential A	0.00604200	1,072.90
Residential K	0.01075000	1,072.90
Residential L2	0.00856300	2,145.80
Residential L3	0.00856300	3,218.70
Residential L4	0.00856300	4,291.60
Residential L5	0.00856300	5,364.50
Residential L6	0.00856300	6,437.40
Residential L7	0.00856300	7,510.30
Residential L8	0.00856300	8,583.20
Residential L9	0.00856300	9,656.10
Residential L10	0.00856300	10,729.00
Residential L11	0.00856300	11,801.90
Residential L12	0.00856300	12,874.80
Residential L13	0.00856300	13,947.70
Residential L14	0.00856300	15,020.60
Residential L15	0.00856300	16,093.50
Residential L16	0.00856300	17,166.40
Residential L17	0.00856300	18,239.30
Residential L18	0.00856300	19,312.20
Residential L19	0.00856300	20,385.10
Residential L20	0.00856300	21,458.00
Residential L21	0.00856300	22,530.90
Residential L22	0.00856300	23,603.80
Residential L23	0.00856300	24,676.70
Residential L24	0.00856300	25,749.60
Residential L25	0.00856300	26,822.50
Residential L26	0.00856300	27,895.40
Residential L27	0.00856300	28,968.30
Residential L28	0.00856300	30,041.20
Residential L29	0.00856300	31,114.10

Category	Rate in the dollar	Minimum
Residential L30	0.00856300	32,187.00
Residential L31	0.00856300	33,259.90
Residential L32	0.00856300	34,332.80
Residential L33	0.00856300	35,405.70
Residential L34	0.00856300	36,478.60
Residential L35	0.00856300	37,551.50
Residential L36	0.00856300	38,624.40
Residential L37	0.00856300	39,697.30
Residential L38	0.00856300	40,770.20
Residential L39	0.00856300	41,843.10
Residential L40	0.00856300	42,916.00
Residential L41	0.00856300	43,988.90
Residential L42	0.00856300	45,061.80
Residential L43	0.00856300	46,134.70
Residential L44	0.00856300	47,207.60
Residential L45	0.00856300	48,280.50
Residential L46	0.00856300	49,353.40
Residential L47	0.00856300	50,426.30
Residential L48	0.00856300	51,499.20
Residential L49	0.00856300	52,572.10
Residential L50	0.00856300	53,645.00
Residential L51	0.00856300	54,717.90
Residential L52	0.00856300	55,790.80
Residential L53	0.00856300	56,863.70
Residential L54	0.00856300	57,936.60
Residential L55	0.00856300	59,009.50
Residential L56	0.00856300	60,082.40
Residential L57	0.00856300	61,155.30
Residential L58	0.00856300	62,228.20
Residential L59	0.00856300	63,301.10
Residential L60+	0.00856300	64,374.00
Residential M	0.00604200	No minimum applies
Residential R	0.00604200	1,072.90
Commercial B	0.05390500	1,382,399.70
Commercial D	0.01902700	1,105.70
Commercial E	0.00853400	1,105.70
Commercial F	0.00604200	1,072.90
Commercial G	0.03871000	581,975.80
Rural Productive	0.00904500	1,105.70
Other Land	0.00853400	1,105.70

carried unanimously

7. ADOPTION OF 2024/25 ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR HOLLOWAYS BEACH ROCK WALL STAGE 2A..... 155
63/2/10-01 | #7370114

COGHLAN / OLDS

That Council adopts the 2024/25 Annual Implementation Plan for Holloways Beach Rock Wall Stage 2A.

carried unanimously

8. HOLLOWAYS BEACH ROCK WALL STAGE 2A – SPECIAL CHARGE
..... 161
63/2/10-01 | #7417081

COGHLAN / OLDS

That Council adopts the following in accordance with sections 92 and 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:

Pursuant to section 92 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council resolves to levy a Special Charge on all rateable land within the area defined on the map marked Holloways Beach Rock Wall – Stage 2A (Attachment No. 1) in accordance with the Overall Plan adopted by Council on 30 June 2004.

Special Charge

- a.
- a. Each parcel of rateable land identified on the map marked Holloways Beach Rock Wall - Stage 2A will specially benefit from the constructed rock wall and each parcel will receive a special benefit by way of an improved level of protection from the sea for the length of wall constructed on the seaward side of that individual parcel.
- b. Council makes a special charge for the 2024/25 financial year to be levied on each parcel to the extent specified below:

Lot No.	Registered Plan	Amount
14	709285	\$1,240.07
48	709285	\$1,240.07

- c. That the Special Charge – Holloways Beach Rock Wall Stage 2A be levied over a period of 20 years from 2004.
- d. That the Special Charge – Holloways Beach Rock Wall Stage 2A be repaid at market value where the amount owed is paid prior to the 20 year expiry.

- e. **If, after the date of this resolution, and before the levy of the special charge, a reconfiguration of any of the parcels of rateable land into one or more rateable lots is registered:**
- i. **The gross amount to be levied on the rateable lot or lots created by the reconfiguration, from the date of registration, is the amount specified in the table above for the rateable lot which existed immediately prior to the reconfiguration, adjusted on a pro rata time basis to produce an amount for the period from the date of registration of the reconfiguration to 30 June 2025.**
 - ii. **If more than one rateable lot is created by the reconfiguration, the gross amount must be apportioned to all of the rateable lots created:**
 - **on a pro rata land area basis, if the rateable lots are created by standard format plan; or**
 - **on a pro rata gross floor area basis, if the rateable lots are created by building format plan.**
- f. **In making an apportionment under paragraph (e), land which is dedicated as a road or dedicated or transferred to a public authority for other public purposes, or which becomes common property (whether under a standard format or building format plan) must be disregarded, and must have no apportionment applied to it, so that the total amount apportioned to the new rateable lot or lots equals the amount specified in the table above as the special charge for the lot which existed immediately prior to the reconfiguration.**
- g. **If a rateable lot to which a special charge amount has been apportioned in accordance with this paragraph is itself reconfigured into one or more rateable lots before the levy of the special charge, sub paragraphs (e) and (f), and this subparagraph, must be applied, with necessary adaptations, to apportion the special charge amount for that rateable lot to the new rateable lots, and so on for any subsequent reconfiguration.**
- h. **If any adjustment of a special charge which has already been levied is required under Chapter 4, Part 9, Division 2 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, as a result of reconfiguration of any of the parcels of rateable land into one or more rateable lots, the adjustment must be made on a pro rata time basis, applying paragraph (e) to calculate the amount on which the calculation for the period after reconfiguration is based.**

carried unanimously

9. ADOPTION OF THE BLUEWATER SPECIAL CHARGE ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2024/25 167
63/2/11-01 | #7376491

COGHLAN / OLDS

That Council adopts the Bluewater Canal Special Charge Annual Implementation Plan 2024/25.

carried unanimously

10. BLUEWATER CANAL – SPECIAL CHARGE 173
63/2/11-01| #7376503

OLDS / COGHLAN

That Council levies a special charge in accordance with sections 92 and 94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* known as the Bluewater Canal Special Charge, as follows:

1. That Council makes and levies a special charge on the rateable land identified in this resolution for the purpose of funding works for the dredging and maintenance of the Bluewater Canal, Half Moon Creek and Offshore Channel.
2. At its meeting held on 30 June 2021, Council adopted the overall plan for the carrying out of the works identified therein. The rateable land to which the overall plan applies is the land specified in the Council adoption resolution.

The estimated cost of implementing the overall plan was \$8.2M across the ten (10) year period after allowing for contributions of \$0.3M from the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

3. The rateable land to which the special charge applies will specially benefit from the works, as compared to other areas of the Cairns region generally, for the reason that such rateable land has the benefit of direct access to the canal, creek and offshore channel, the subject of the works. In addition, the rateable land forms part of the canal estate which by its nature specifically contributes to the requirement that the canal, creek and offshore channel be dredged on a regular basis to allow access to the rateable land and marine berths.
4. The special charges for the 2024/25 financial year apply to the rateable land identified below:

Property Description	Amount of special charge
Lots 1 to 37 on SP165903	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lots 1 to 2 on SP279525	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lots 39 to 41 on SP165903	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lots 42 on SP241494	\$2,589.24 per lot

Property Description	Amount of special charge
Lots 44 to 65 on SP165903	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lots 79 to 116 on SP165903	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lot 117 on SP261231	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lots 119 to 130 on SP165903	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lots 22 to 23 on SP224676	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lots 1 to 3 on SP301538	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lots 26 to 31 on RP737271	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lots 32 to 43 on RP737260	\$2,589.24 per lot
Lot 1860 on SP264300 (the “Bluewater Marina”)	\$279,637.92
Lot 26 on SP122863 (the “Yorkeys Knob Marina”)	\$98,929.46

5. The special charge is to be levied by two half yearly levies.
6. If, after the date of this resolution, a reconfiguration of any of the parcels of rateable land into one or more rateable lots is registered in accordance with Chapter 4, Part 9, Division 2 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:
 - a. The gross amount to be levied on the rateable lot or lots created by the reconfiguration, from the date of registration, is the amount specified in the table above for the rateable lot which existed immediately prior to the reconfiguration, adjusted on a pro rata time basis to produce an amount for the period from the date of registration of the reconfiguration to 30 June 2025.
 - b. If more than one rateable lot is created by the reconfiguration, the gross amount must be apportioned equally to all of the rateable lots created with waterfrontages.
 - c. In making an apportionment under paragraph (b), land which is dedicated as a road, or dedicated or transferred to a public authority for other public purposes, or which becomes common property (whether under a standard format or building format plan) must be disregarded, and must have no apportionment applied to it, so that the total amount apportioned to the new rateable lot or lots equals the amount specified in the table above as the special charge for the lot which existed immediately prior to the reconfiguration.
 - d. If a rateable lot to which a special charge amount has been apportioned in accordance with this paragraph is itself reconfigured into one or more rateable lots, subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) and this subparagraph must be applied, with necessary adaptations, to apportion the special charge amount for that rateable lot to the new rateable lots, and so on for any subsequent reconfiguration.

carried unanimously

11. ADOPTION OF SEWERAGE UTILITY CHARGES FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR 179
63/19/1 | #7410426

ZEIGER / TIM

That Council resolve, 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

Sewerage charges shall be made for the cost of supplying a service for the removal of sewage for the 2024/25 financial year in accordance with the following:

(a) Residential

- (i) A standard charge of **\$948.86** to be applied in accordance with the following:
 - i. For each dwelling house, strata title unit or multi-unit dwelling (MUD)
 - ii. For each improvement built over two allotments of land with a total land area of less than 1190m² where Council is prepared to accept sewage.
- (ii) A charge of **\$755.42** to be applied to each vacant allotment.
- (iii) A standard commercial charge per pedestal will apply to properties where strata title units have pedestals/urinals servicing common property.

(b) Commercial

A standard charge of **\$811.80** per pedestal to be applied in accordance with the following:

- (i) In respect of seweraged premises designed or used as boarding houses, hostels, guest houses, hotels or motels or designed or used for commercial, manufacturing, repairing, servicing, building and like industries, erected on one allotment of land, a separate charge for each pedestal.
- (ii) In respect of seweraged premises designed or used as boarding houses, hostels, guest houses, hotels or motels or designed or used for commercial, manufacturing, repairing, servicing, building and like industries, erected over two or more allotments of land, a separate charge for each pedestal.
- (iii) In respect of seweraged premises designed or used as boarding houses, hostels, guest houses, hotels or motels or designed or used for

commercial, manufacturing, repairing, servicing, building and like industries, which are not connected to a sewer main, but in respect of which the Council is prepared to accept sewage, a charge shall be made in accordance with the applicable basis set out in subclause (i & ii) hereof.

- (iv) In respect of any structure, building or improvement on land exempt from rating under section 93 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 73 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* excluding however, places of worship, a charge in accordance with the applicable basis set out in sub-clause (i) to (iii) hereof shall be levied on the person or body, or Commonwealth or State Department at whose request the structure, building or improvement was provided with sewerage.
- (v) In respect of places of public worship and nursing homes listed under section 73 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* a charge of 50% of the standard charge for each pedestal, with the total charge being rounded up to the next full charge.
- (vi) In respect of caravan parks connected to sewer mains, a charge of 25% of the standard charge for each caravan, each tent site and each cabin without facilities, and 50% of the standard charge for each fully self-contained cabin (FSC) shall apply with the total charge being rounded up to the next full charge.
- (vii) In respect of vacant land where Council is prepared to accept sewage, a standard charge equivalent to one pedestal per allotment shall apply.
- (viii) Each residence, each flat, each strata title unit that has for the purposes of differential rating been categorised as co-existing within a commercial category a standard residential charge equivalent to one pedestal per residential improvement shall apply.
- (ix) The rating on the basis set out above to be charged from the date on which sewer connections are completed to the premises concerned. In the case of vacant land, or in the case where an owner or occupier refuses or delays permission to enter their land to complete connections, the rating be charged from the date on which connections would have been made if there was a building or improvement on the land or if the owner or occupier had not refused or delayed permission. In all those cases where the sewer connection is completed or would have been completed (as the case may be) after 1 July 2024 the rate shall be apportioned.

(c) **Rural Productive**

A standard charge of \$948.86 to be applied in accordance with the following:

- (i) In respect of all sewerred premises designed or used for rural productive purposes, a standard charge per pedestal shall apply.

- (ii) In addition, where a residential improvement co-exists, the standard sewerage charge shall apply for each barrack, each residence, each flat, and each strata title unit and vacant allotment where Council is prepared to accept sewage.

(d) **All Categories**

In respect of sewerage for Residential, Commercial and Rural Productive properties the following shall apply:

- (i) Subject to sub-clause (ii), properties and/or improvements capable of being connected to the scheme will be charged in accordance with the charges set out above.
- (ii) Council reserves the right to exempt certain properties from sewerage charges if such properties as defined by Council are not, in Council's opinion, capable of being connected within the foreseeable future.
- (iii) A charge for treatment of effluent from effluent storage tanks of \$401.38 for each residence, each flat, each strata title unit, each shop etc shall apply.

carried unanimously

12. ADOPTION OF WATER UTILITY CHARGES FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR 183
63/19/1 | #7410431

PYNE / VALLELY

That Council resolve:

1. 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 CHARGES - POTABLE

Water Charges shall be made for the purpose of supplying water for the 2024/25 financial year on the following basis:

Residential

- (i) An access charge of \$384.12 shall be applied in accordance with the following:
- For each barrack, each dwelling house, strata title unit or multi-unit dwelling, and each vacant allotment categorised as residential.
 - For each improvement built over two allotments of land with a total land area less than 1190m².
- (ii) In respect of all properties and/or premises at which a water meter is installed on the water service connection to such property and/or

premises, water usage shall be charged at the rate of \$1.70 per kilolitre for all water passing through the water meter within the water year.

Commercial

- (i) An Access Charge of \$379.68 shall be applied in accordance with the following:
- For each vacant allotment, each shop, each office, each school, each hotel, each motel, each hostel, each boarding house, each club, each hospital and each other commercial/industrial improvement not otherwise specified.
 - In respect of hotels and motels, one additional access charge shall apply for every three rooms or part thereof, provided for accommodation.
 - In respect of caravan parks, one additional access charge shall apply for every three accommodation units and every six tent/van sites or part thereof.
 - For each residence, each multi-unit dwelling, each strata title unit that has for the purposes of differential rating been categorised as co-existing with commercial category a standard residential charge per residential improvement shall apply.
- (ii) Where water is supplied through a water meter, which is not a trial water meter, all water consumed will be charged at the rate of \$1.78 per kilolitre for all water passing through the meter within the water year. The only exception being:
- Water supplied to Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Ltd for shipping, which is to be charged at \$2.28 per kilolitre for each kilolitre passing through the meter. Lessees of Far North Queensland Ports Corporation Ltd will be charged at the commercial rate with no access charged levied against the shared properties.

Rural Productive

- (i) An access charge of \$384.12 to be applied in accordance with the following: dwelling house, each multi-unit dwelling, each strata title unit.
- For each vacant allotment with a water meter connected.
 - For each rural productive improvement with a water meter connected.
- (ii) In respect of all properties and/or premises at which a water meter is installed on the water service connection to such property and/or premises, water usage shall be charged at the rate of \$1.70 per kilolitre for all water passing through the water meter within the water year.

All Categories

In respect of Residential, Commercial and Rural Productive properties, the following shall apply:

- (i) In respect of newly subdivided vacant land, water charges shall be levied proportionately for the unexpired part of the year from the date the plan of subdivision is registered at the Titles Office or from the date of connection of water to the subject land, whichever date shall be the earlier.
- (ii) In respect of improvements erected during the year, water charges shall be levied proportionately for the unexpired part of the year from the date the improvement is ready for occupation, or from the date of connection of water to the subject land, whichever date shall be the earlier.
- (iii) Where residential type improvements share a meter with commercial improvements and the Department of Natural Resources and Mines land use code for that assessment is commercial, water usage charges will be levied at the commercial rate.
- (iv) Where improvements are of a joint nature, water usage charges will be calculated using the water usage rate applicable to the category on which general rates are levied or would be levied if the property were rateable.
- (v) Meters shall be read on a rotational basis three times each year.
- (vi) Accounts for water usage will be issued three times during the year.

Water Charges - Recycled

Residential

- (i) An access charge of \$77.72 shall be applied for each dwelling house, each multi-unit dwelling, each strata title unit and each vacant allotment categorised as residential, which is supplied recycled water through a water meter.
- (ii) In respect of all properties and/or premises at which a water meter is installed on the recycled water service connection to such property and/or premises, recycled water usage shall be charged at the rate of \$0.85 per kilolitre for all water passing through the water meter within the water year.
- (iii) Water charges shall be levied proportionately for the unexpired part of the year from the date of connection of the water meter to the subject land.
- (iv) Meters shall be read on a rotational basis three times each year.
- (v) Accounts for recycled water usage will be issued three times during the year.

Commercial

- (i) An access charge of \$77.72 shall be applied for each separate improvement, as per the commercial rate for potable, and each vacant allotment categorised as commercial, which is supplied recycled water through a water meter.

- (ii) In respect of all properties and/or premises at which a water meter is installed on the recycled water service connection to such property and/or premises, recycled water usage shall be charged at the rate of \$0.85 per kilolitre for all water passing through the water meter within the water year.
 - (iii) Water charges shall be levied proportionately for the unexpired part of the year from the date of connection of the water meter to the subject land.
 - (iv) Meters shall be read on a rotational basis three times each year.
 - (v) Accounts for recycled water usage will be issued three times during the year.
2. Resolve, 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 two weeks before, and ends two weeks after, the day on which the meter is actually read.

carried unanimously

13. ADOPTION OF WASTE MANAGEMENT UTILITY CHARGES FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR..... 188
63/19/1 | #7410944

MOLLER / MIDDLETON

That Council resolve, 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:

Cleansing – Domestic

- (i) A Domestic Cleansing Charge, for the purpose of removal and disposal of refuse for the 2024/25 financial year be set at an amount of \$454.52 per service and applied in accordance with the following schedule:

Type of Improvement	No. of Services
Residence	1
Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDS)	1
Strata Title Units	1
Boarding House/Guest House/Hostel for each four persons able to be accommodated or part thereof	1

- (ii) A minimum charge of one service to apply on all improved properties for refuse removal and disposal and that a minimum of one annual charge of one service be made and levied on each separate occupancy (whether

occupied or vacant) within the Council solid waste area of coverage and that such charge shall apply whether or not a service is rendered, save and except that where land is for the first time built on during the year the charge shall be made from the date the structure is ready for occupancy, calculated proportionately for the unexpired part of the year.

- (iii) A minimum charge of \$227.26 to apply to all properties of South Woolanmaroo Reserve and Russell Heads, Reserve East Russell, where those ratepayers have signed an agreement for Council to remove household refuse from an agreed location.

carried unanimously

14. ADOPTION OF OVERDUE INTEREST ON RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR..... 190
63/19/1 | #7410951

MIDDLETON / VALLELY

That Council resolve, pursuant to section 133 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, compound interest on daily rests at the prescribed rate of 12.35% per annum is to be applied on all overdue rates and charges for 2024/25 financial year.

carried unanimously

15. ADOPTION OF LEVY AND PAYMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR..... 192
63/19/1 | #7410956

TIM / TICKNER

That Council:

1. Resolves, pursuant to section 107 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and section 114 of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, Council's rates and charges, and the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) Emergency Management Levy be levied:
 - a. for the half year 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2024 – between July and December 2024; and
 - b. for the half year 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025 – between January and June 2025

- 2. Resolves, pursuant to section 118 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, that Council’s rates and charges, and the QFES Emergency Management Levy, be paid by a date which is at least 30 days after the date of the issue of the rate notice.

carried unanimously

16. ADOPTION OF RATES PENSIONER CONCESSIONS FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR 194
63/19/1 | #7410968

ZEIGER / PYNE

That Council:

- 1. Resolves, for new approved applications, pursuant to sections 120, 121 and 122 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a rebate of the general rate of up to \$320.00 per annum be applied to all eligible ratepayers who are pensioners and who are eligible for the State Government Pensioner Subsidy for the 2024/25 financial year.
- 2. Resolves, for existing recipients, approved applications prior to 1 July 2022, pursuant to sections 120, 121 and 122 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a rebate of the general rate of up to 40% be applied to all eligible ratepayers who are pensioners and who are eligible for the State Government pensioner remission to a maximum of \$1,350 per annum for the 2024/25 financial year.
- 3. Adopts the Pensioner Concession Policy

carried unanimously

17. ADOPTION OF RATES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY FOR THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR 206
63/19/1 | #7410970

VALLELY / TICKNER

That Council resolves, pursuant to *section 121(b)* of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, to grant rates and charges concessions to those ratepayers experiencing financial hardship because of COVID-19 or any declared natural disasters or weather events by way of extended payment plans and interest waivers through the Financial Hardship Policy.

carried unanimously

18. STATEMENT OF ESTIMATED FINANCIAL POSITION 210

63/17/2-01 | #7402469

MIDDLETON / MOLLER

That Council notes the Statement of Estimated Financial Position in accordance with section 205 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

carried unanimously

19. ADOPTION OF BUDGET..... 215

63/2/12-01 | #7413274

MOLLER / ZEIGER

That Council, pursuant to section 107A of the *Local Government Act 2009* and sections 169 and 170 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council's Budget for the 2024/25 financial year, incorporating:

- i. The statements of financial position;
- ii. The statements of cash flow;
- iii. The statements of income and expenditure;
- iv. The statements of changes in equity;
- v. The long-term financial forecast;
- vi. The revenue statement;
- vii. The revenue policy (adopted by Council resolution on 22 May 2024);
- viii. The relevant measures of financials sustainability; and
- ix. 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,

as tabled, be adopted by Council.

carried unanimously

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9:46 AM

CONFIRMED THIS DAY OF 2024

.....
MAYOR

.....
ACTING / CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER