

Shire of Goomalling



SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES CONFIRMED

29 July 2024



NYOONGAR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge this land that we meet on today is part of the traditional lands of the Nyoongar people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We also acknowledge the Nyoongar Ballardong people as the custodians of the greater Goomalling/Koomal area and that their cultural and heritage beliefs are still important to the living Nyoongar Ballardong people today.

NOTICE OF MEETING

Meeting No. 8 of 2024 of the Shire of Goomalling Council to be held in the Council Chambers, Administration Office, 32 Quinlan Street, Goomalling on Monday 29 July 2024 beginning at 6.00pm.

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING & ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES & APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

2.1. Attendance

Council	Shire President (electronic phone)	Cr Julie Chester
	Deputy President - Presided	Cr Roland Van Gelderen
	Councillor	Cr Mark Ashton
	Councillor	Cr Christine Barratt
	Councillor	Cr Casey Butt
	Councillor (electronic phone)	Cr Barry Haywood
	Councillor (electronic phone)	Cr Brendon Wilkes

Administration	Chief Executive Officer	Mr Samuel Bryce
	Finance Manager	Miss Natalie Bird
	Works Manager	Mr David Long

2.2. Apologies

Nil

2.3. Approved Leave of Absence

Nil

3. DECLARATION OF:

- FINANCIAL INTEREST
- MEMBERS IMPARTIALITY INTEREST
- PROXIMITY INTEREST

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

5. APPLICATION FROM MEMBERS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING PERSON WITHOUT DISCUSSION

7. PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/SUBMISSIONS



8. OFFICERS' REPORTS

8.1 ADOPTION OF 2024/2025 BUDGET

File Reference	03.6
Disclosure of Interest	Nil
Applicant	Shire of Goomalling
Previous Item Numbers	No Direct
Date	22 July 2024
Author	Natalie Bird – Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Authorising Officer	Samuel Bryce – Chief Executive Officer
Attachments	Copy of Budget Documents – printed version delivered

Summary

To present to Council the 2024/25 Budget, with increases in differential rates which will equate to a 4.5% increase on the previous year's yield, for adoption.

Background

Local Governments must give local public notice of the intention to levy in 2024/25 differential rates and minimum payments and consequently we have called for public submissions, which Council must consider before imposing the 2024/25 differential rates and minimum payments.

Local Governments must publish the differential rates on the Local Government's website, as applicable within 10-days of the Council resolution to impose them.

In accordance with section 6.34 of the Local Government Act 1995, the revenue estimated to be yielded by the general rates imposed for the 2024/25 financial year will be 100% of the 2024/25 Budget expenditure over and above what is covered by all other revenue sources.

Consultation

Council has advertised the proposal to levy differential rates and no submissions were received.

Statutory Environment

The Local Government Act 1995 and the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 provide prescriptive guidelines for the formal adoption of Council Budgets.

6.32. Rates and service charges

- (1) When adopting the annual budget, a local government
 - (a) in order to make up the budget deficiency, is to impose* a general rate on rateable land within its district, which rate may be imposed either
 - (i) uniformly; or
 - (ii) differentially;
 - (b) may impose* on rateable land within its district
 - (i) a specified area rate; or
 - (ii) a minimum payment; and
 - (c) may impose* a service charge on land within its district.

* Absolute majority required.

- (2) Where a local government resolves to impose a rate it is required to



- (a) set a rate which is expressed as a rate in the dollar of the gross rental value of rateable land within its district to be rated on gross rental value; and
 - (b) set a rate which is expressed as a rate in the dollar of the unimproved value of rateable land within its district to be rated on unimproved value.
- (3) A local government
- (a) may, at any time after the imposition of rates in a financial year, in an emergency, impose* a supplementary general rate or specified area rate for the unexpired portion of the current financial year; and
 - (b) is to, after a court or the State Administrative Tribunal has quashed a general valuation, rate or service charge, impose* a new general rate, specified area rate or service charge.
- * Absolute majority required.**
- (4) Where a court or the State Administrative Tribunal has quashed a general valuation the quashing does not render invalid a rate imposed on the basis of the quashed valuation in respect of any financial year prior to the financial year in which the proceedings which resulted in that quashing were commenced.

6.35. Minimum payment

- (1) Subject to this section, a local government may impose on any rateable land in its district a minimum payment which is greater than the general rate which would otherwise be payable on that land.
- (2) A minimum payment is to be a general minimum but, subject to subsection (3), a lesser minimum may be imposed in respect of any portion of the district.
- (3) In applying subsection (2) the local government is to ensure the general minimum is imposed on not less than
 - (a) 50% of the total number of separately rated properties in the district;or
 - (b) 50% of the number of properties in each category referred to in subsection (6), on which a minimum payment is imposed.
- (4) A minimum payment is not to be imposed on more than the prescribed percentage of
 - (a) the number of separately rated properties in the district; or
 - (b) the number of properties in each category referred to in subsection (6), unless the general minimum does not exceed the prescribed amount.
- (5) If a local government imposes a differential general rate on any land on the basis that the land is vacant land it may, with the approval of the Minister, impose a minimum payment in a manner that does not comply with subsections (2), (3) and (4) for that land.
- (6) For the purposes of this section a minimum payment is to be applied separately, in accordance with the principles set forth in subsections (2), (3) and (4) in respect of each of the following categories
 - (a) to land rated on gross rental value;
 - (b) to land rated on unimproved value; and
 - (c) to each differential rating category where a differential general rate is imposed.

Policy Implications

Nil



Financial Implications

The setting of the Shire's Annual Budget is a key decision made by Council on an annual basis. It is imperative that all Councillors fully understand the Budget and recognise the implications of decisions that have been made regarding resource allocation for the following 12 months as a result of the adoption of the Budget.

Strategic Implications

Shire of Goomalling Community Strategic Plan 2019-2028	
	The Shire of Goomalling Community Strategic Plan identifies a number of key objectives and strategies based upon a sustainable future. The 2023/24 Budget as presented is in keeping with Council's Strategic direction.

Comment/Conclusion

That Council adopt the budget in four (4) separate motions. Council has had to take into consideration other legislative requirements including the cost to have the road infrastructure network to be revalued and also including the increase of audit fees by 63% which has contributed to a deficit budget, but Council will during the financial year investigate ways to reduce the deficit especially within the area of cost recovery of services to the community.

Voting Requirements

Absolute Majority



OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 1

That the Fees and Charges and Rental Charges included within the budget document and the following Service Charges be adopted in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and the Health Act 1911.

**Local Government Act 1995 – Service Charges 2024/2025
Health Act 1911**

Refuse Removal Charges

Refuse Goomalling	\$335.50
Refuse –additional bin	\$335.50
Refuse Jennacubbine	\$358.50
Refuse Wongamine	\$358.50
Refuse Konnongorring	\$358.50
Refuse – additional bin	\$358.50
Recycling – Kerbside Collection	\$103.50
240 Litre Wheelie Bin	at cost
Tipping Fee - cubic metre – Non-Residents	\$25.00

Sewerage

Residential	07.600 cents in the dollar Minimum Charge \$811.00
Commercial	07.600 cents in the dollar Minimum charge \$811.00
Vacant Lot	\$811.00 per property
Minor Fixture Charge	\$272.00
Major Fixture Charge	\$811.00
Additional Fixtures	\$124.00

BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

RESOLUTION 791

Moved Cr Barratt, seconded Cr Ashton that the officer's recommendation be accepted.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Chester	√		Cr Ashton	√	
Cr Van Gelderen	√		Cr Barratt	√	
Cr Butt	√		Cr Wilkes	√	
Cr Haywood	√				



RECOMMENDATION 2

That the following General Rates for 2024/25 be adopted in accordance with the requirements of Section 6.32 of the Local Government Act 1995:

That the following Rates in the Dollar be adopted for the Shire of Goomalling for the year ending 30 June 2025:

Gross Rental Values	(Towns)
Residential	09.610 cents in the dollar
Commercial	11.900 cents in the dollar
Industrial	13.500 cents in the dollar
Urban Farmland	08.999 cents in the dollar

Unimproved Values	(Rural)
Rural Zone 2	00.4130 cents in the dollar
Special Rural	00.9079 cents in the dollar
General Zone 3	00.4081 cents in the dollar

MINIMUM RATES

That the minimum rate for Gross Rental Values and UV properties are set as follows for the various rate categories set as follows:

GRV Residential	\$1,105.00 per assessment
GRV Commercial	\$1,104.00 per assessment
GRV Industrial	\$605.00 per assessment
GRV Urban Farmland	\$830.00 per assessment

UV Rural Zone 2	\$879.00 per assessment
UV Special Rural	\$1,230.00 per assessment
UV General Zone 3	\$1,185.00 per assessment

Discount

No early settlement discount or rates incentive prizes to be offered in the 2024/25 Budget.

BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

RESOLUTION 792

Moved Cr Butt, seconded Cr Barratt that the officer's recommendation be accepted.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Chester	√		Cr Ashton	√	
Cr Van Gelderen	√		Cr Barratt	√	
Cr Butt	√		Cr Wilkes	√	
Cr Haywood	√				



RECOMMENDATION 3

PAYMENT OPTIONS

That Council, in accordance with the provisions of section 6.45 and 6.50 of the Local Government Act 1995, offers the following payment options for the payment of rates:

(a) Single Instalment

Payment in full within 35 days of the date of issue of the rate notice.

(b) Two Instalments

The first instalment of 50% of the total current rates, ESL, refuse charges, instalment charges plus the total outstanding arrears payable, within 35 days from the date of issue of the rate notice.

The second instalment of 50% of the total current rates, ESL, refuse charges and instalment charges, payable 4 months from the due date of the first instalment.

(c) Four Instalments

The first instalment of 25% of the total current rates, ESL, refuse charges and instalment charges plus the total outstanding arrears payable, within 35 days from the date of issue of the rate notice.

The second, third and fourth instalments, each of 25% of the current rates, ESL, refuse charges and instalment charges, payable at two monthly intervals after the due date of the first instalment.

INTEREST AND ADMINISTRATION CHARGES FOR INSTALMENT OPTIONS

That Council, in accordance with the provisions of section 6.45 of the Local Government Act 1995 imposes an Administration Fee of \$10 per instalment notice together with an interest charge of 5.5%, both of which applies to the second instalment of the Two Instalment option, and the second, third and fourth instalments of the Four Instalment option.

LATE PAYMENT PENALTY INTEREST

That Council, in accordance with the provisions of section 6.13 and 6.51 of the Local Government Act, and Regulations 19A and 70 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996, adopts an interest rate of 11% per annum. Penalty interest will apply to all charges which remain unpaid after 35 days from the date of issue of the rate notice.

Excluded are eligible pensioners, deferred pensioner rates and current instalment amounts not yet due.

BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

RESOLUTION 793

Moved Cr Haywood, seconded Cr Wilkes that the officer's recommendation be accepted.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Chester	√		Cr Ashton	√	
Cr Van Gelderen	√		Cr Barratt	√	
Cr Butt	√		Cr Wilkes	√	
Cr Haywood	√				



RECOMMENDATION 4

That the Council adopts the Budget under the Local Government Act 1995 Section 6.2 for the Shire of Goomalling for the year ending 30 June 2025, incorporating:

- Operating Statement
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Statement of Non-Operating Incomes and Expenditures
- Rate Setting Statement
- Statement of Rating Information
- Other supporting documents and schedules
- (Including the Ten-Year Plant Replacement Program, 2024/25 Road Program, Ten-Year Building Maintenance Plans and Five-Year Budget Forecast)

BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

RESOLUTION 794

Moved Cr Ashton, seconded Cr Barratt that the officer's recommendation be accepted.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Chester	√		Cr Ashton	√	
Cr Van Gelderen	√		Cr Barratt	√	
Cr Butt	√		Cr Wilkes	√	
Cr Haywood	√				

RECOMMENDATION 5

That Council adopts the following Annual Members Meeting Attendance Fees and Allowances for 2024/25 in accordance with the requirements of Sections 5.99 and 5.99(A) of the Local Government Act 1995 and Regulations 34A and 34B, and the Annual President Allowance for 2024/25 in accordance with the requirements of and Section 5.98(5) of the Local Government Act 1995 be adopted:

Presidential Allowance	\$3,300.00 Per Annum
Deputy President Allowance	\$750.00 Per Annum
Councillor Sitting Fees:	
Council Meeting – Councillor	\$150.00 Per Meeting
Council Meeting – President	\$300.00 Per Meeting
Committee Meeting – President	\$100.00 Per Meeting
Committee Meeting – Councillor	\$75.00 Per Meeting
Travel Allowance	\$0.9554/km

BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

RESOLUTION 795

Moved Cr Chester, seconded Cr Wilkes that the officer's recommendation be accepted.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Chester	√		Cr Ashton	√	
Cr Van Gelderen	√		Cr Barratt	√	
Cr Butt	√		Cr Wilkes	√	
Cr Haywood	√				



RECOMMENDATION 6

That Council adopts, in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 section 34(5), the material variance as reported in the Statement of Financial Activity in the financial year ending 30 June 2025 of 10% or \$10,000.

BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

RESOLUTION 796

Moved Cr Haywood, seconded Cr Ashton that the officer's recommendation be accepted.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY

	For	Against		For	Against
Cr Chester	√		Cr Ashton	√	
Cr Van Gelderen	√		Cr Barratt	√	
Cr Butt	√		Cr Wilkes	√	
Cr Haywood	√				

9. MEETING CLOSURE

Deputy Shire President thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 6:30 pm