



City of Belmont
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES
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28 July 2020

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ATTACHMENTS INDEX

Attachment 1 – Item 12.2 refers

Attachment 2 – Item 12.3 refers

Attachment 3 – Item 12.4 refers

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY OF BELMONT CIVIC CENTRE, 215 WRIGHT STREET, CLOVERDALE ON TUESDAY, 28 JULY 2020 COMMENCING AT 7.01PM.

MINUTES

PRESENT

Cr P Marks, Mayor (Presiding Member)	East Ward
Cr G Sekulla, JP, Deputy Mayor	West Ward
Cr M Bass	East Ward
Cr B Ryan	East Ward
Cr J Davis	South Ward
Cr J Powell	South Ward
Cr S Wolff	South Ward
Cr L Cayoun	West Ward
Cr R Rossi, JP	West Ward

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr J Christie	Chief Executive Officer
Mr R Garrett	Director Corporate and Governance
Ms J Gillan	Director Development and Communities
Ms M Reid	Director Infrastructure Services
Mr J Olynyk, JP	Manager Governance
Mr L Willcock	Manager Economic and Community Development
Mrs M Lymon	Principal Governance and Compliance Advisor
Ms D Morton	Media and Communications Adviser
Mrs J Cherry-Murphy	Senior Governance Officer

MEMBERS OF THE GALLERY

There were 15 members of the public in the gallery and no press representative.

GUESTS

Mr A Richardson
Mrs Y Richardson

1. OFFICIAL OPENING

7.01pm The Presiding Member welcomed all those in attendance and declared the meeting open.

The Presiding Member read aloud the Acknowledgement of Country.

Before I begin I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we are meeting today, the Noongar Whadjuk people, and pay respect to Elders past, present and future leaders.

The Presiding Member invited Cr Davis to read aloud the Affirmation of Civic Duty and Responsibility on behalf of Councillors and Officers. Cr Davis read aloud the affirmation.

Affirmation of Civic Duty and Responsibility
I make this affirmation in good faith and declare that I will duly, faithfully, honestly, and with integrity fulfil the duties of my office for all the people in the City of Belmont according to the best of my judgement and ability. I will observe the City's Code of Conduct and Standing Orders to ensure the efficient, effective and orderly decision making within this forum.

2. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST THAT MIGHT CAUSE A CONFLICT

Councillors/Staff are reminded of the requirements of s5.65 of the Local Government Act 1995, to disclose any interest during the meeting when the matter is discussed, and also of the requirement to disclose an interest affecting impartiality under the City's Code of Conduct.

3.1 FINANCIAL INTERESTS

Nil.

3.2 DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST THAT MAY AFFECT IMPARTIALITY

Name	Item No and Title	Nature of Interest (and extent, where appropriate)
Cr Cayoun	Item 13.2 – Notice of Motion (Councillor Sekulla) – Request to Support the Government of Western Australia to Retain a Hard Border During the Spread of COVID-19	Works in the Office of Premier Mark McGowan

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER (WITHOUT DISCUSSION) AND DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS

4.1 ANNOUNCEMENTS

This evening I have the pleasure of making a presentation of historic significance.

The City of Belmont hereby bestows the honour of Freeman of the City of Belmont to Alan Thorold Richardson.

In the City's history, there has only been five others who have received this honour.

This award is reserved for those who have made an outstanding contribution to local government and the local community.

Alan Richardson delivered excellent service to the Municipality of Belmont as a Councillor of the West Ward for 16 years, and during this time served two terms as Deputy Mayor in 1996 and 2003.

Alan represented the City of Belmont on a range of working groups, and also at the Western Australian Local Government Association, which resulted in him being presented with a Distinguished Service Award in recognition of his contribution.

Mr Richardson has served as president on various local associations and groups and was the recipient of a City of Belmont Community Service Award in 1996 and again in 2015.

He has a long and distinguished involvement with the Returned and Services League of Australia and is currently the President of City of Belmont Sub-Branch.

He also played a significant role in the City's ANZAC Centenary celebrations, with his actions contributing to the success of the 2014-2015 upgrade of the Belmont War Memorial in Faulkner Park.

Alan was presented with the Medal of the Order of Australia in 2013 and his service to the community continues today as a Justice of the Peace.

Therefore, in recognition of his contribution to the progress of this Municipality – and as a lasting symbol of appreciation of the wise counsel and wholehearted support he has given to the administration of it – the Council of the City of Belmont forever binds him as an Honorary Freeman of the Municipality.

We are proud to record this testimonial of respect and esteem.

I would like to invite Alan to come forward so that I can present him with a certificate, a badge to wear proudly and a plaque to commemorate this special occasion.

Congratulations Alan and please accept the honour of Freeman of the City of Belmont.

4.2 DISCLAIMER

7.10pm The Presiding Member drew the public gallery's attention to the Disclaimer.

The Presiding Member advised the following:

'I wish to draw attention to the Disclaimer Notice contained within the Agenda document and advise members of the public that any decisions made at the meeting tonight can be revoked, pursuant to the Local Government Act 1995.

Therefore members of the public should not rely on any decisions until formal notification in writing by Council has been received.'

4.3 DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS WHO HAVE NOT GIVEN DUE CONSIDERATION TO ALL MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE BUSINESS PAPERS PRESENTLY BEFORE THE MEETING

Nil.

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

5.1 RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

5.1.1 MR G SATNANI, 47 NORTHERLY AVENUE, ASCOT

The following question was taken on notice at the 23 June 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting. Mr Satnani was provided with a response on 7 July 2020. The response from the City is recorded accordingly:

1. What happens with the pathway which separates Lot 442 with Lot 452? There is no mention anywhere about the fate of this pathway.

Response

It is acknowledged that the draft Golden Gateway Local Structure Plan does not currently reflect this existing pathway. There is an easement in favour of the City of Belmont, located over the subject pathway where it is located within the WA Turf Club's land. The easement guarantees pedestrian access over this portion of land into the future, and there are no plans for the path to be removed. The draft Golden Gateway Local Structure Plan will be modified to reflect this pathway prior to the document being readvertised.

5.1.2 MR P HITT, 14 MCLACHLAN WAY, BELMONT

The following questions were taken on notice at the 23 June 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting. Mr Hitt was provided with a response on 1 July 2020. The response from the City is recorded accordingly:

1. My question is directed to the Mayor. Can you please inform the residents and ratepayers in the gallery as to the present situation, regarding the councils request to State Government as to the alteration or withdrawal of the Deed of Trust covering the location known as Parry Fields? (sic)

Item 5.1.2 Continued

Response

Neither the Council or Belmont Trust have made a request to the State Government to alter or withdraw the Declaration of Trust.

2. My question is directed to the Mayor. I recently heard from residents that there was a proposal to develop apartment tower blocks on Parry Fields up to twenty stories in height, if the Deed of Trust is removed on the location known as Parry fields. Is this correct, and would the CEO,S remuneration be increased accordingly due to the population increase within the city? (sic)

Response

There is no proposal to, as stated, “develop apartment blocks on Parry Fields up to twenty stories”. The Chief Executive Officer responded to the setting of the CEO’s salary at the meeting of 23 June 2020 and clarified that his salary has no correlation with the population of the City and is set by the Salaries and Allowances Tribunal, which is available on the State Government website.

5.1.3 Ms L HOLLANDS ON BEHALF OF BELMONT RESIDENT AND RATEPAYER ACTION GROUP (BRRAG)

The following questions were taken on notice at the 23 June 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting. Ms Hollands was provided with a response on 10 July 2020. The response from the City is recorded accordingly:

1. At the April Ordinary Council Meeting, Cr Davis remarked that \$1.1m has been spent on gratuity payments. How much has the Council spent on gratuity payments over the last five years, broken down into individual payments and the corresponding years of service for that amount?

Response

A summary of total expenditures has been provided as individual payments could potentially lead to the identification of the recipient which would be a breach of their privacy. Therefore this information will not be made available.

Over the last five financial years ie 2014/2015 to 2018/2019, a total of \$987,859 was expended.

						TOTAL
FINANCIAL YEAR	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	
	\$13,956	\$35,984	\$173,741	\$507,502	\$256,676	\$987,859
NO OF PAYMENTS	1	2	9	9	6	27
YEARS OF SERVICE	14	27	177	222	155	595 YRS

Item 5.1.3 Continued

2. At the last Council Meeting, a question was asked regarding the costs of our Councillors. The answer provided for allowances was \$440,537. According to the budget report, on page 45, it was \$446,931. The question from May also asked for a list of other things, such as meal allowances before meetings, Councillor's lounge, vehicles, training, and dinners they attend such as volunteer functions and pioneer luncheon. The figure provided for this was \$65,000 a year with a grand total of \$505,000. In the June 2019 Minutes, regarding the budget on page 7, there was \$28,000 listed for training, conferences and accommodation. On page 8, \$3,000 and meals another \$12,000 on beverages and on page 16, \$7,182 for Councillor's equipment.

Where did the figure of \$65,000 that you provided in the May Council Meeting come from?

Response

As the question to the 26 May Ordinary Council Meeting asked the cost per year "to have Councillors", it was considered appropriate to consider actual 2019-2020 costs directly associated with Elected Members. Unfortunately the 2018-2019 Actual figures for total allowances was inadvertently transcribed into the May response. This figure should read \$446,131. The \$65,000 quoted represents expected actual direct costs related to Elected Members for the 2019-2020 financial year with the revised total being approximately \$511,000. This cost includes meals, professional development, attendance at functions, and legislated allowances and expenses.

3. The Mayor's vehicle cost appears to be missing from the figures, in addition to the cost of dinners. Mayoral dinner is shown at \$33,000. Can we have an accurate costing?

Response

The operating cost of the Mayor's vehicle and cost of Elected Members' attendance at the Mayoral Dinner is included above. As demonstrated above, total budget figures are readily available in Council Minutes, however budgets often represent the anticipated costs of the overall activity rather than just those directly attributable to Elected Members.

5.2 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

7.11pm The Presiding Member drew the public gallery's attention to the rules of Public Question Time as written in the Agenda. In accordance with rule (I), the Mayor advised that he had registered nine members of the public who had given prior notice to ask questions.

The Presiding Member invited members of the public who had yet to register their interest to ask a question to do so. Two further registrations were forthcoming.

5.2.1 MS M SALDANHA, OWNER OF 337 SYDENHAM STREET, BELMONT

Ms M Saldanha or a representative did not attend the meeting. In accordance with the Rules of Public Question Time, the questions will be answered via written correspondence.

5.2.2 MS L HOLLANDS REPRESENTING MS S CARTER, 3/10 MARINA DRIVE, ASCOT

1. Is the 'disposal of assets' in this case vehicles values at \$334,038.32, for a nominal value of \$1, legally acceptable with a SUBJECT TO clause of continuance of a CHSP aged care service provision that once disposed the City of Belmont no longer has control over and unlikely to monitor or evaluate?

Response

The Presiding Member stated yes it is.

2. If yes, what measures does the City have to monitor and evaluate MercyCare provision of the transferred aged care provision licences in order to determine if they are 'sufficient' to meet the clause on vehicle use?

Response

The Manager Economic and Community Development advised, should these performance requirements which are to be reported on an annual basis not be met, then the City will be able to cancel the lease and call in an option to purchase back the buses for the same sale price (\$1).

3. The transfer of aged care licences to another facility is usually accompanied by staff transfers. How many staff previously employed to provide the funding for CHSP aged care service provision for Belmont were transferred as part of the total funding licence transfer agreement?

Response

The Manager Economic and Community Development advised that the reference to an aged care licence is not applicable in this situation. Aged care licences are linked to residential care providers. There was no transfer of licenses or staff.

The service provider did however employ a high percentage of the existing workforce related to the delivery of the service reducing any impact on clients.

Item 5.2.2 Continued

4. Were other aged care providers considered, was there a tender process?

Response

The Manager Economic and Community Development advised that the City of Belmont ran an Expression of Interest (EOI) for prospective service providers. Despite the fact that Council has no say in who the service provider appointed by the Commonwealth would be, the EOI was intended to assist the Commonwealth with shortlisting appropriate service providers who would deliver services on par or better with the existing service then provided by the City.

5. Can MercyCare hand back the aged care licences after the two years and what will that mean for the City of Belmont and its ratepayers and residents?

Response

The Manager Economic and Community Development advised that as previously mentioned an aged care licence is not applicable in this situation.

5.2.3 Ms L HOLLANDS, 2 MILLER AVENUE, REDCLIFFE

1. The state government amended the Local Government Act last year with respect to Councillor training. Under the new legislation Councillors have to complete five units of study within their first year of being elected.

How many of the Councillors elected at the 2019 Local Government Elections have completed this training and will all of them have complied with completing five units by October this year? If they have not complied, what steps if any will the CEO take in respect of any breach?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that information on the status of Elected Members attendance at compulsory training is publicly available on the Public Registers page of the City's website as the "Elected Members Mandatory Training Register".

Should any Elected Members not complete their mandatory training, the Chief Executive Officer will consider the requirements of the Local Government Act in determining action to be taken.

2. Questions have been raised regarding the monthly accounts with regards to a recurring invoice from WA Fresh delivered this month totalling \$1,165.50; I believe I was previously told this was for volunteers:

- a) If these recurring groceries are for volunteers why is this costing so much on a monthly basis?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

Item 5.2.3 Continued

- b) \$200,591 from McCleods what is this for? (sic)

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

- c) A 20 year service gift for \$615.00 why are such expensive gifts allowed?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

- d) \$2,633 for alcohol and beverages, in addition to a further \$993 for groceries other than WA Fresh. Why is so much money being spent on groceries and alcohol in these times of restricted gatherings?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

- e) \$721 for flowers for what purpose was this necessary?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

3. Is there any truth in a notification I got from a resident that the COB is considering reducing the size of the waste bins and reducing the collection from weekly to every two weeks in the future? Apparently this is being done in other localities.

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

5.2.4 MR B CHILDS, 122 SYDENHAM STREET, KEWDALE

Mr Childs submitted four questions. Question 4 was ruled out of order in accordance with Rules for Council Meeting Public Question Time, Rule e) being:

'Questions which are considered inappropriate; offensive or otherwise not in good faith; duplicates or variations of earlier questions; relating to the personal affairs or actions of Council members or employees; legal advice; legal proceedings or other legal processes; or would otherwise impose an unreasonable resource impost on the City; will be refused by the Presiding Member as 'out of order' and will not be recorded in the minutes'.

Item 5.2.4 Continued

1. Youth Engagement Funding – does this now bring Belmont City Youth involvement closer to the trashed Youth and Family Services?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

- 1a) Can we have an actual snapshot of the racial, gender and ethnicity of the Belmont Base?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

- 1b) What qualification does the Belmont City Officers have now to manage this funding to a given KPI?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

2. Can we have an explanation why the Hub is only now applying for CCTV etc?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

3. Rate Calculation starts with the costs of running the Council, in 2015 budget cost of the Hub was 28 million, tender written at 37 million and it now appears with variations 45 million. Can you help us rate payers with the obvious question?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that in accordance with section 6.2(6) of the Standing Orders, this question is to be responded to as normal business correspondence.

5.2.5 Ms H JONES ON BEHALF OF MERCYCARE

1. Is Council aware that the vehicles under discussion should be used for the delivery of Community Aged Care Services funded in the City of Belmont and that the use of these vehicles is vital for the ongoing delivery of activities and outings at Harman Park Community Centre, the Community Shoppers bus and to take aged care clients to essential medical appointments?

Response

The Manager Economic and Community Development advised that the City is aware and the proposed disposal of the assets to MercyCare is to ensure the ongoing delivery of those services mentioned in the question continue to be delivered to City of Belmont residents.

2. Is Council aware that MercyCare is a charitable, not for profit organisation and therefore cannot profit from any granting of assets?

Response

The Manager Economic and Community Development advised that the City is aware of the organisational status of MercyCare and understands it is unable to profit from the granting of assets. The proposed disposal of City Assets to MercyCare allows for the return of the assets to the City at the same value it disposes of them to MercyCare should MercyCare cease to use the assets for the purposes they are intended for.

5.2.6 MR R REAKES, 203 KEYMER STREET, BELMONT

1. Has the City of Belmont purchased gym equipment for the Oasis Leisure Centre and if so how much money was spent on this equipment?

Response

The Director Infrastructure Services advised that this question would be taken on notice.

2. If the City has bought equipment for them, why is the ratepayer paying for equipment for a private business? Aren't we responsible just for the building as far as the lease goes?

Response

The Director Infrastructure Services advised that this question would be taken on notice.

3. If you are buying equipment for Oasis, what other private businesses are you providing equipment or other items for and how much does it cost the ratepayer each year?

Response

The Director Infrastructure Services advised that this question would be taken on notice.

5.2.7 MR L ROSOLIN, 355 SYDENHAM STREET, BELMONT

1. I sent an email recently about the use of Roundup and the response received from the Acting Chief Executive Officer was the same as previously. Can you please review your position on the use of this herbicide and try something else?

Response

The Chief Executive Officer advised that our response remains the same as it was previously. The product is still approved by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority. They believe it is safe for use when used in accordance with the label instructions and our staff are qualified and certified in the application of it and our position remains unchanged.

5.2.8 MR P HITT, 14 MCLACHLAN WAY, BELMONT

1. Can you provide reassurance that the quality of the audio this evening will not impact on the audio recording like it did last month?

Response

The Chief Executive Officer advised that he would ask staff to have another look at the audio in the Chamber to ensure everyone can hear loud and clear.

2. On a number of occasions this evening you have quoted section 6.2(6) – how is this different to questions on notice?

Response

The Chief Executive Officer advised that under section 6.2(6) questions of an operational nature will be responded to as normal business correspondence in writing and not recorded in the minutes. Questions taken on notice will be responded to in writing and recorded in the minutes.

3. Have the two previous CEO's Shane Silcox and Stuart Cole plus the serving Councillors during their incumbency been privy to discussions, looking at the alteration of a full or partial withdrawal of the deed of trust covering Parry Fields?

Response

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the question would be taken on notice.

4. Did the City during the last two incumbents Silcox and Cole serving as CEO's engage legal opinions as to the validity of the Deed of Trust covering Parry Fields and advice on ways forward to change or withdraw the Trust?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that the question would be taken on notice.

Item 5.2.8 Continued

5. If the answer to question two is yes, my question three is what is the legal costs to date of any consultation and advice from The City's lawyers relevant to the Belmont Trust, to the residents and ratepayers of Belmont?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that the question would be taken on notice.

6. If the Councillors present tonight vote for Councillor Sekulla's motion, are individual Councillors personally announcing their support to the Labor Party and in turn, politicising the City of Belmont stance to a given political party? Think hard on this question as you could change the historically neutral political stance of Local Government in Western Australia.

Response

The Presiding Member advised that he could not answer that question and that Mr Hitt should wait for that item on the agenda to be considered.

5.2.9 MR R BROINOWSKI, 66 ARMADALE ROAD, RIVERVALE

1. I ask Council to pressure the Department of Communities to refrain from any placement of small children at Francisco Street at the corner of Toorak Road in those units because they have been classified as temporary housing only and not permanent housing?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that the question would be taken on notice.

2. I ask the Council to persuade the Department of Communities to close down the derelict units at Nannine Place? I am asking Council, at their regular meetings with Homeswest, to persuade them to do more at Nannine Place.

Response

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the City has worked closely with the Department of Communities with regard to Nannine Place and improving community engagement in that area. The Question will be taken on notice to provide a more detailed response on the excellent work undertaken by Officers with the Department of Communities.

3. I ask Council to consider opening the Councillor's bar on more occasions? Public relations is very important and very few Councillors apparently drink and I have never seen anyone misbehave at meetings. Because this is a peaceful community, a little bit of wine and occasional beer so residents can meet more with Councillors would help improve relations.

Response

The Presiding Member advised that the question would be taken on notice.

Item 5.2.9 Continued

4. Can Council ban really “over the top” serial council culture people? Should such people be termed as “vexatious”, sometimes making the auditorium an unpleasant place to be? Voicing opinions should be less personal and less sexist, racist or plain nasty. Can the Council correct or introduce mediation to handle some of the questions outside of this Council Meeting?

Response

The Presiding Member advised that the question would be taken on notice.

7.45pm ROSSI MOVED, POWELL SECONDED that Public Question Time be extended.

CARRIED 9 VOTES TO 0

5.2.10 Ms J GEE, 97 GABRIEL STREET, CLOVERDALE

1. Considering the City has really good IT services, what investigation was conducted about the quality of the recording at the last OCM and what was the outcome?

Response

The Director Corporate and Governance advised that a rogue microphone on a PC was the cause of the poor recording quality which has been rectified and the quality should be fine from now on.

2. So we are assured now that tonight’s meeting and going forward that there are going to be no microphones left on and we will be able to listen to a very clear OCM like we have in the past?

Response

The Director Corporate and Governance confirmed yes, that is the case.

5.2.11 Ms L HOLLANDS ON BEHALF OF BELMONT RESIDENT AND RATEPAYERS ACTION GROUP (BRRAG)

1. The City of Belmont adopted Policy BEXB10.1 Gratuity Payments and Gifts to Employees. Under Section 5.50 1 (b) which reads, “the manner of assessment of the additional amount and cause local public notice to be given in relation to the policy”, I ask:
 - a) What year did the Policy get adopted by the Council?
 - b) On what date was public notice given?
 - c) Where can we obtain a copy of the public notice?

Response

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the question would be taken on notice.

Item 5.2.11 Continued

2. Section 5.52 (b) reads “a local government may make a payment that is more than the additional amount set in the Policy under Sub Section 1 and adopted by the local government but local public notice is to be given in relation to the payment paid”. With the two employees that will be leaving soon and taking home around \$170,000 between them, are either of them getting more gratuity payment than set out in the policy and, if so, when can we expect the public notice to be given?

Response

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the question would be taken on notice.

3. In the budget tonight we find that residents who do not pay rates in one hit and pay by the four instalments will be hit with a \$20 fee on each payment, interest of more than 5% and the payment of 8%, all allowed under the Local Government Act. The City of Canning voted to remove the additional costs allowed under the Local Government Act, the budgeted cost for this is approximately (according to their figures) \$300,000. Why has the City of Belmont decided to keep these additional costs for Belmont residents in these tough times, but potentially give away vehicles valued at more than \$300,000? How can this be justified when there are many residents out there that may not be in hardship but still doing it tough?

Response

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the question would be taken on notice.

4. The Councillors have been provided with a copy of a letter that we wrote to the Federal Aged Care Minister. We asked why HACC services were given to an organisation which, if the report is accurate, may not be able to continue with transport services without these vehicles. What involvement did the City of Belmont have in the selection of MercyCare as the replacement provider and were you made aware of what facilities they could or could not provide?

Response

The Chief Executive Officer advised that the Manager of Economic and Community Development addressed a similar question earlier in public question time but the question would be taken on notice.

Ms Hollands asked a further question which the Presiding Member ruled out of order in accordance with Rules for Council Meeting Public Question Item, Rule e) being:

‘Questions which are considered inappropriate; offensive or otherwise not in good faith; duplicates or variations of earlier questions; relating to the personal affairs or actions of Council members or employees; legal advice; legal proceedings or other legal processes; or would otherwise impose an unreasonable resource impost on the City; will be refused by the Presiding Member as ‘out of order’ and will not be recorded in the minutes’.

7.53pm As there were no further questions, the Presiding Member declared Public Question Time closed.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES/RECEIPT OF MATRIX

**6.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 23 JUNE 2020
(Circulated under separate cover)**

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

DAVIS MOVED, POWELL SECONDED

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 23 June 2020 as printed and circulated to all Councillors, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

CARRIED 9 VOTES TO 0

**6.2 MATRIX FOR THE AGENDA BRIEFING FORUM HELD 21 JULY 2020
(Circulated under separate cover)**

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

POWELL MOVED, DAVIS SECONDED

That the Matrix for the Agenda Briefing Forum held on 21 July 2020 as printed and circulated to all Councillors, be received and noted.

CARRIED 9 VOTES TO 0

**7. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS ON WHICH DUE NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN
(WITHOUT DISCUSSION)**

Nil.

8. QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS WITHOUT NOTICE

8.1 RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Nil.

8.2 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil.

**9. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE APPROVED BY THE PERSON
PRESIDING OR BY DECISION**

Nil.

10. BUSINESS ADJOURNED FROM A PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil.

11. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Nil.

12. REPORTS OF ADMINISTRATION

WOLFF MOVED, RYAN SECONDED

That the Officer Recommendations for Items 12.1, 12.2, 12.3 and 12.4 be adopted en bloc by an Absolute Majority decision.

CARRIED BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY 9 VOTES TO 0

**12.1 DISPOSAL OF CITY ASSETS TO MERCY COMMUNITY SERVICES LIMITED UNDER S3.58
OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995**

SOCIAL BELMONT

ATTACHMENT DETAILS

Nil.

Voting Requirement	:	Simple Majority
Subject Index	:	59/001 – Administration and Coordination
Location/Property Index	:	N/A
Application Index	:	N/A
Disclosure of any Interest	:	Nil
Previous Items	:	23 July 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting Item 14.1
Applicant	:	N/A
Owner	:	City of Belmont
Responsible Division	:	Development and Communities

COUNCIL ROLE

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Advocacy | <i>When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Executive | <i>The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council eg adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Legislative | <i>Includes adopting local laws, local planning schemes and policies.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Review | <i>When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Quasi-Judicial | <i>When Council determines an application/matter that directly affect a person's right and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice. Examples of quasi-judicial authority include local planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (eg under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.</i> |

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council approval to dispose of six vehicles to the new Commonwealth appointed aged care service provider, so as to maintain the delivery of services to Belmont clients.

Item 12.1 Continued

SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

- Six vehicles, being one Toyota Camry Hybrid passenger vehicle, three Toyota Hiace Commuter buses and two Toyota Coaster buses, were purchased utilising State Government funding provided to the City to deliver aged care services. The City of Belmont provided no capital funds to purchase these vehicles.
- In line with the City's decision to transition out of the direct provision of the Commonwealth Home Support Programme (CHSP) and the Home and Community Care Programme (HCCP) from 30 June 2020, the vehicles are no longer required by the City.
- It is proposed to dispose of these six vehicles, by sale to Mercy Community Services Limited (MercyCare) for the sum of \$1. The depreciated value of the vehicles as at 30 June 2020 is \$334,038.32. The disposal of vehicles to MercyCare is proposed to be completed through an agreed contract of sale which states that should MercyCare discontinue the delivery of aged care services within the City of Belmont, the vehicles are to be returned to the City of Belmont.
- In the interim, the fleet of six vehicles is being made available to MercyCare to carry on the provision of services.
- To dispose of the vehicles to MercyCare, the City is required under s3.58 (3) Disposing of Property of the *Local Government Act 1995* to provide public notice of the proposed disposal. At the time of writing, a public notice was being advertised inviting submissions to be made. The advertising closed on 20 July 2020.
- Council is required to consider any submissions made before the close of advertising prior to agreeing to dispose of the vehicles.

LOCATION

The vehicles are currently located at the City of Belmont Operations Centre, 180 Planet Street, Carlisle when not being utilised for service provision.

CONSULTATION

A Public Notice has been placed on Notice Boards at the Civic Centre and Library. A Public Notice was placed in the 4 July 2020 West Australian Newspaper in accordance with s3.58 Disposing of Property of the *Local Government Act 1995*. The Public Notice allows for the public to make submissions to the City within 14 days.

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS¹

In accordance with the Strategic Community Plan Key Result Area: Social Belmont.

¹ Note: The Strategic Community Plan Implications outlined are reflective of the City of Belmont Strategic Community Plan 2016 – 2036. Council recently endorsed the City of Belmont 2020 – 2040 Strategic Community Plan which, as a result of COVID-19 administrative implications, is yet to be implemented across the City.

Item 12.1 Continued

Objective: The City will take a key leadership role to ensure access to services and facilities and developing collaborative partnerships that enable greater accessibility for a changing community.

Strategy: Adopt a Collaborative approach through the development of partnerships with service providers, to ensure maximum benefit for community groups and individuals.

Strategy: Identify and assist those in need by connecting them with appropriate internal or external service providers.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

The disposal of Council vehicles is to be considered in line with Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, as detailed below.

- A local government can dispose of property other than under subsection (2) if, before agreeing to dispose of the property —
 - (a) *it gives local public notice of the proposed disposition —*
 - (i) *describing the property concerned; and*
 - (ii) *giving details of the proposed disposition; and*
 - (iii) *inviting submissions to be made to the local government before a date to be specified in the notice, being a date not less than 2 weeks after the notice is first given;*
 - and*
 - (b) *it considers any submissions made to it before the date specified in the notice and, if its decision is made by the council or a committee, the decision and the reasons for it are recorded in the minutes of the meeting at which the decision was made.*

BACKGROUND

At the Ordinary Council Meeting of 23 July 2019, Confidential Item 14.1 – Aged and Community Care Reform, Council agreed to transition out of the direct provision of the CHSP and HCCP as of 30 June 2020. As part of the agreed transition strategy, Council agreed to provide the use of City vehicles (i.e. wheelchair accessible vehicles) so that the provision of services offered by the City could be maintained or improved upon by the incumbent organisation.

Item 12.1 Continued

Prior to 30 June 2020 the City was contracted as an aged care service provider receiving funds from the State and Commonwealth to deliver these services. As a part of that funding the State provided the City with funds specifically to purchase vehicles required to deliver aged care services. As of 1 July 2020 the Commonwealth has appointed MercyCare to deliver the CHSP within the City of Belmont and funding associated with transport (community and home support) is now provided to MercyCare. The City no longer receives grant funding to provide transport and therefore is not funded for the operational costs of transport vehicles.

The vehicles proposed for disposal are used for transport of CHSP clients. This transport includes assistance to attend medical appointments, shopping and activities related to, and transport to and from, the Harman Park Community Centre, which is now operated by MercyCare. The vehicles are listed in Table 1 below.

Vehicle No.	Rego No.	Details	WDV as at 30 June 2020	Use
FL23130	1HBI840	2017 Toyota Camry Hybrid Vin 6T1BD3FK30X154300	\$17,860.00	Community Transport Vehicle
MB09020	1GYE214	2020 Toyota Hiace Commuter Vin JTFHB8CP006009984	\$51,634.47	Community Transport – Shoppers Bus (10 seats, cargo barrier, electric step)
MB10010	1DZP832	2012 Toyota Hiace Commuter Vin JTFST22P300014102	\$29,019.00	Harman Park (10 seats, cargo barrier, folding step)
MB11010	1EAN733	2012 Toyota Hiace Commuter with wheelchair lift Vin JTFST22P100014079	\$23,342.64	Harman Park (10 seats, external wheelchair lift, folding rear seats for wheelchair place – reduces seating capacity)
MB03040	1GLA120	2017 Toyota Coaster with wheelchair lift Vin JTGFP728106600205	\$83,698.23	Harman Park (16 seats plus 1 wheelchair space, internal wheelchair hoist, electric step)
MB02010	1HAR886	2020 Toyota Coaster with wheelchair lift. Received 15/06/20. Vin JTGFP728106600642	\$128,483.98	Harman Park (16 seats plus 1 wheelchair space, internal wheelchair hoist, electric step)
TOTAL WDV			\$334,038.32	

Table 1

Item 12.1 Continued

OFFICER COMMENT

In accordance with the 23 July 2019 decision, arrangements have been made for use of the vehicles in Table 1 to MercyCare in return for continuing to deliver community transport services under the CHSP services to residents. Use of the vehicles by MercyCare is required in order for them to deliver services to the City's residents and maintain the high standard of service provision that the City of Belmont community expects.

Option 1 – City retains ownership of vehicles, MercyCare not permitted use

The City could retain the vehicles and not allow MercyCare to use the vehicles for transport (community and home support) to deliver services in the City of Belmont. Under this option it is likely MercyCare would withdraw from the provision of transport within the City of Belmont and the ongoing operation and viability of Harman Park Community Centre would also be impacted. This is not recommended.

Option 2 – City retains ownership of vehicles, MercyCare permitted use

The City could allow MercyCare to continue to use the vehicles for the Commonwealth funded services while the City retains ownership. In this instance the City would continue to carry costs and risks associated with the ownership of the vehicles and is therefore not recommended.

Option 3 – Dispose of vehicles directly to MercyCare

Option 3 is to dispose of these vehicles directly as MercyCare will be delivering the CHSP services to residents for a minimum of two years and possibly longer there is some risk, cost and administrative burden to the City in holding the vehicles as City assets while a third party has exclusive use of those vehicles. As such it is proposed to dispose of these vehicles directly to MercyCare. In this way all risks, costs and administration of operating these vehicles would be the sole responsibility of MercyCare. This is the preferred option.

It is proposed that the disposal of vehicles to MercyCare be completed through an agreed contract of sale which states that should MercyCare discontinue the delivery of aged care services within the City of Belmont, the vehicles are to be returned to the City.

The current public notice advertising closed on 20 July 2020 and, in accordance with s3.58(3) Disposing of Property of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council is required to consider any submissions made before the close of advertising prior to agreeing to dispose of the vehicles. At the time of writing no submissions had been received. Any submissions received by the City after the drafting of this report and the close of advertising will be provided to Council for its consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The sale of these vehicles to Mercy Community Services Limited for the nominal amount of \$1 will result in a loss on disposal in the City's financial statements in the 2020-2021 financial year. These vehicles were originally purchased entirely from grant funding, and as the profit/loss transactions are non-cash, they have no impact on the City's 2020-2021 cash (rates) budget.

Item 12.1 Continued

However, it should be noted that as the City currently has no obligation to refund the proceeds of the sale to the funding body, the City is effectively foregoing the funds that may be received as payment for the potential sale value of the vehicles in order to ensure the ongoing service provision to the current and future recipients of the transport services.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The City is committed to ensuring minimal impact on residents as a result of the City's transition out of the delivery of aged care services. The proposed disposal of vehicles will support the ongoing delivery of community transport, which meets the needs of clients to attend medical appointments, shopping and other requirements and to provide daily transport in relation to the operations of Harman Park Community Centre.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. In accordance with Section 3.58 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and having considered submissions received (if any) in response to the advertised public notice, resolves to proceed with the disposal of six vehicles being one Toyota Camry Hybrid passenger vehicle, three Toyota Hiace Commuter buses and two Toyota Coaster buses, by an agreed contract of sale to Mercy Community Services Limited for the consideration of \$1.**
- 2. Include in the contract of sale the provision for the return of the vehicles to the City in the event that Mercy Community Services Limited discontinues the delivery of aged care services inclusive of Harman Park within the City of Belmont.**

***OFFICER RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED EN BLOC BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY –
REFER TO RESOLUTION APPEARING AT ITEM 12***

12.2 FORMAL ADOPTION OF THE 2020-2021 ANNUAL BUDGET

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE BELMONT

ATTACHMENT DETAILS

Attachment No	Details
Attachment 1 – Item 12.2 refers	Draft Annual Budget 2020-2021

Voting Requirement	:	Absolute Majority
Subject Index	:	54/004-Budget Documentation Council
Location/Property Index	:	N/A
Application Index	:	N/A
Disclosure of any Interest	:	Nil
Previous Items	:	N/A
Applicant	:	N/A
Owner	:	N/A
Responsible Division	:	Corporate and Governance

COUNCIL ROLE

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Advocacy | <i>When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Executive | <i>The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council eg adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Legislative | <i>Includes adopting local laws, local planning schemes and policies.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Review | <i>When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Quasi-Judicial | <i>When Council determines an application/matter that directly affect a person's right and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice. Examples of quasi-judicial authority include local planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (eg under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.</i> |

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To seek Council's formal adoption of the 2020-2021 Budget in the prescribed manner.

To report to Council on any submissions following the advertising of Council's intended Differential Rates in the Dollar.

Item 12.2 Continued

SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

The City's Budget must be adopted in the prescribed manner. The attachment accompanying this report ([Attachment 1](#)) is in fact the Budget presented in the prescribed manner.

The Adoption of the Budget enables the Rates to be Levied and Budget information to be distributed to the organisation.

LOCATION

Not applicable.

CONSULTATION

The advertising of Council's intention to levy differential rates and the invitation to make submissions is designed to fulfil the consultation process required by the *Local Government Act 1995*.

STRATEGIC PLAN IMPLICATIONS²

In accordance with the Strategic Plan Key Result Area: Business Excellence Belmont.

Objective: Achieve excellence in the management and operation of the local government.

Strategy: Ensure Council is engaged at a strategic level to enable effective decision making.

The Budget provides the financial framework to enable the objectives and outcomes of the Strategic Plan to be achieved.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

In accordance with Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and Part 3 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* as amended, the 2020-2021 Budget is presented in the prescribed manner for formal adoption. The Statutory Budget has been prepared incorporating the principles of the Australian Accounting Standards.

² Note: The Strategic Community Plan Implications outlined are reflective of the City of Belmont Strategic Community Plan 2016 – 2036. Council recently endorsed the City of Belmont 2020 – 2040 Strategic Community Plan which, as a result of COVID-19 administrative implications, is yet to be implemented across the City.

Item 12.2 Continued

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 6.2 of the *Local Government Act 1995* and the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* as amended, the 2020-2021 Budget is presented in the prescribed manner for formal adoption. The Statutory Budget (refer [Attachment 1](#)) has been prepared incorporating the principles of the Australian Accounting Standards and Council's accounting policies.

Council has, in accordance with Section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, advertised its Intention to Levy Differential Rates and the applicable rates in the dollar, together with minimum payments, in both the West Australian and the Southern Gazette newspapers and invited submissions to be lodged prior to 4.00pm on 20 July 2020. At the time of writing this report no submissions had been received and any that are will be tabled at the meeting.

OFFICER COMMENT

The Adoption of the 2020-2021 Budget in the prescribed manner is the culmination of an extensive process that commenced in February 2020. There are a number of statutory processes that are required and have been met ensuring that certain factors of the Budget are put into the public arena.

The Budgets for service delivery and infrastructure maintenance, together with the extensive Capital Works Programme, have been developed within previously adopted strategies and plans. This ensures that Council's assets are improved, maintained and replaced at the appropriate time, thus assisting with the management of long-term financial responsibilities.

The preparation of the 2020-2021 Budget has again highlighted how difficult it is to try and meet all of the community's expectations, contain compliance costs and keep the rate increases at a reasonable level. The 2020-2021 Budget has however, achieved all of these factors due to prudent budgeting and continued growth in the City's rate base.

Budget preparation has also been far more challenging due to the impact of COVID-19 with more than \$2M being provided in response to the pandemic through a number of key initiatives, including a significant reduction in various fees and charges.

Landgate sets the Gross Rental Values (GRV) and Council determines the rate in the dollar. The GRV is multiplied by the rate in the dollar to give the total rates payable. The rate in the dollar differs for each differential rate with Council having three differential rates being Residential, Commercial and Industrial.

Council must also set a minimum payment for each rating category that cannot be charged on more than 50% of the total properties for any rate category i.e. Residential, Commercial or Industrial.

As reported in the Rate Setting Budget process, a balanced budget has been achieved with a 0% change in the annualised rate yield. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) and WALGA Local Government Cost Index (LGCI) for Perth can't be reliably estimated for 2020-2021. The best case scenario, as extracted from WALGA's May edition of the Economic Update, is that national inflation will be minus 1.00% for the 2019-2020 year and then rebounding to a positive 2.75% in 2020-2021. The true position and impact of COVID-19 will become clearer as 2020-2021 unfolds.

Item 12.2 Continued

The Budget allows for rubbish charges to decrease 5% (rounded) in 2020-2021 resulting in the (base) rubbish charge decreasing from \$318.81 to a flat \$303. Rubbish charges are a fee for service and aim to cover costs with any surpluses or losses offset by transfers through the Waste Management Reserve.

The Draft Budget has been prepared adopting a responsible approach to maintaining the City's assets, providing services to the community and responding accordingly to COVID-19. Other than those individual budgets impacted by COVID-19, the Budget is based on maintaining costs consistent with 2019-2020 with employee related costs increasing 1.75% based on anticipated CPI increases.

As previously mentioned, a balanced Budget has been achieved with a 0% increase in the rate yield. This continues the strategy of increasing rates in line with relative forecasted price indices or less, and sufficiently to offset the budget deficit. Although in the case of the 2020-2021 Budget as a result of COVID-19, income from reserves has also been sourced to balance the budget. This strategy is also supported by a thorough review of expenditure budgets with a zero based budget being the starting point. The Budget is a key component in the Integrated Planning Reporting process and enables Council to financially resource key actions as identified in the Corporate Business Plan. This ensures budgets remain focused on the community's needs. Expenditure efficiency measures, as supported by Councils Purchasing Policy, are also considered and factored into the budget process.

The adoption of the Budget in the prescribed manner ends the 2020-2021 Budget process and enables Council to issue the 2020-2021 Rate Notices in mid-August.

The whole Budget process has been an organisational team effort, involving a large number of officers throughout the organisation to ensure the City's strategic direction is maintained. Councillors have also participated through the Information Forum and Briefing process, and direct participation of all Managers, resulting in a sound and responsible Budget for the 2020-2021 financial year.

It is also pleasing to note that Council has again been able to maintain its Budget Timetable as was adopted in February 2020, ensuring that all its statutory obligations are adhered to and a sound budget is adopted in a timely manner.

The draft document has been included for Council's information however, it should be treated as a draft, as final checking and formatting is still required to ensure a professionally printed final document. Financial information contained within the document is not subject to any change.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The Annual Budget provides the financial framework for the Council to provide the necessary resources to fulfil its strategic objectives, fulfil its statutory and compliance obligations, enhance the Community and its assets in accordance with Council's Vision and respond to COVID-19 pandemic.

As noted in the adoption of the Rate Setting Budget in June, there is anticipated to be a significant impact on the rates income cash flows, and \$8M has been allocated from reserves to facilitate the effective management of this potential challenge. These funds will only be drawn down if circumstances require it.

Item 12.2 Continued

At its 23 June 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting, Council resolved to enhance the recently adopted BEXB7.7 – Financial Hardship Policy (COVID-19) by including a contribution of up to \$250 to any residential ratepayers whose rate charges have increased and also determined to be eligible under this policy. This has an unknown impact, but has been funded through the deferral of capital works to the value of approximately \$119,000. Any variations as a result of the application of this policy will be addressed through subsequent budget review processes.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no social implications associated with this report.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council

1. Adopt the 2020-2021 Statutory Budget as contained in [Attachment 1](#) which includes:
 - Statement of Comprehensive Income by Program
 - Statement of Comprehensive Income by Nature and Type
 - Statement of Financial Position
 - Statement of Cash Flows
 - Rate Setting Statement
 - Supporting notes, tables and other information.
2. That the following general rates be endorsed for rate setting purposes that equate to a 0% change in the total rate levy.

Rate	Cents in the Dollar
Residential	6.5585
Commercial	6.9271
Industrial	6.9459

3. That the following minimum payments that result in a 0% change for Residential, Commercial and Industrial respectively be endorsed.

Rate	\$
Residential	840
Commercial	990
Industrial	1,010

4. That in accordance with Section 6.46 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council offers a 5% discount to ratepayers who pay the full amount owing within 35 days of issuing the rate notice.

Item 12.2 Continued

5. That Council offer the following instalments for payment of Council Rates:
 - a) Single payment (all charges);
 - b) Two equal instalments (all charges); or
 - c) Four equal instalments (all charges),
in accordance with Section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
6. That in accordance with Section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council imposes a \$20.00 Administration Fee for all instalment options, excluding registered pensioners / seniors (unless waived in accordance with BEXB7.7 - Financial Hardship Policy (COVID-19)).
7. That in accordance with Section 6.45 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Council imposes the maximum instalment interest rate allowable. This is currently 5.5% and is applicable to the four instalments option (unless waived in accordance with BEXB7.7 - Financial Hardship Policy (COVID-19)).
8. That in accordance with *Local Government (COVID-19 Response) Order 2020* penalty interest is applied at the allowable rate of 8% and is applicable to overdue rates (including alternate arrangements unless waived in accordance with BEXB7.7 - Financial Hardship Policy (COVID-19)).
9. That Council offer arrangements and financial support to Ratepayers suffering hardship in accordance with Council's Policy BEXB7.7 - Financial Hardship Policy (COVID-19) and the payment of rates and in accordance with Section 6.49 of the *Local Government Act 1995*.
10. That the payments in lieu of rates received by Council continue to be rated at the Commercial Differential Rate in the dollar on Gross Rental Values.
11. That the following Rubbish Charges be endorsed that equate to a 5% decrease (rounded):
 - a) \$303.00 per annum for one full service which includes a 240 litre cart removed weekly, 240 litre cart for recyclables removed fortnightly and up to four bulk bins per annum;
 - additional full service = \$303.00;
 - additional service rubbish = \$212.00;
 - additional service recycling = \$106.00;
 - b) Exempted Commercial and Industrial properties = \$106.00;
 - c) Apartments – shared service = \$212.00 per unit.
12. That a Swimming Pool Levy for mandatory inspections is set at \$14.60 per annum.
13. Note that in accordance with Section 6.36 of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the Director Corporate and Governance has advertised the proposed differential rates in the dollar for the statutory 21 day period.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED EN BLOC BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY –
REFER TO RESOLUTION APPEARING AT ITEM 12**

12.3 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – JUNE 2020

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE BELMONT

ATTACHMENT DETAILS

<u>Attachment No</u>	<u>Details</u>
Attachment 2– Item 12.3 refers	Accounts for Payment – June 2020

Voting Requirement	:	Simple Majority
Subject Index	:	54/007-Creditors-Payment Authorisations
Location / Property Index	:	N/A
Application Index	:	N/A
Disclosure of any Interest	:	Nil
Previous Items	:	N/A
Applicant	:	N/A
Owner	:	N/A
Responsible Division	:	Corporate and Governance Division

COUNCIL ROLE

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Advocacy | <i>When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Executive | <i>The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council eg. adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Legislative | <i>Includes adopting local laws, local planning schemes and policies.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Review | <i>When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Quasi-Judicial | <i>When Council determines an application/matter that directly affect a person's right and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice. Examples of quasi-judicial authority include local planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/ licences (eg under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.</i> |

PURPOSE OF REPORT

Confirmation of accounts paid and authority to pay unpaid accounts.

SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

A list of payments is presented to the Council each month for confirmation and endorsement in accordance with the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*.

Item 12.3 Continued

LOCATION

Not applicable.

CONSULTATION

There has been no specific consultation undertaken in respect to this matter.

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

There are no Strategic Community Plan implications evident at this time.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Regulation 13(1) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* states:

“If the local government has delegated to the CEO the exercise of its power to make payments from the municipal fund or the trust fund, a list of accounts paid by the CEO is to be prepared each month showing for each account paid since the last such list was prepared:

- (a) the payee's name;*
- (b) the amount of the payment;*
- (c) the date of the payment; and*
- (d) sufficient information to identify the transaction.”*

BACKGROUND

Checking and certification of Accounts for Payment required in accordance with *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, Regulation 12.

OFFICER COMMENT

The following payments as detailed in the Authorised Payment Listing are recommended for confirmation and endorsement.

Municipal Fund Cheques	788480 to 788500	\$41,681.58
Municipal Fund EFTs	EF068140 to EF068584	\$5,285,442.15
Municipal Fund Payroll	June 2020	\$1,518,790.09
Trust Fund EFTs	EF068141 to EF068143	<u>\$17,522.09</u>
Total Payments for June 2020		\$6,863,435.91

A copy of the Authorised Payment Listing is included as [Attachment 2](#) to this report.

Item 12.3 Continued

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Provides for the effective and timely payment of Council's contractors and other creditors.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with this report. .

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no social implications associated with this report.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Authorised Payment Listing for June 2020 as provided under [Attachment 2](#) be received.

***OFFICER RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED EN BLOC BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY –
REFER TO RESOLUTION APPEARING AT ITEM 12***

12.4 MONTHLY ACTIVITY STATEMENT AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

BUSINESS EXCELLENCE BELMONT

ATTACHMENT DETAILS

Attachment No	Details
Attachment 3 – Item 12.4 refers	<u>Monthly Activity Statement as at 30 June 2020</u>

Voting Requirement	:	Simple Majority
Subject Index	:	32/009-Financial Operating Statements
Location/Property Index	:	N/A
Application Index	:	N/A
Disclosure of any Interest	:	Nil
Previous Items	:	N/A
Applicant	:	N/A
Owner	:	N/A
Responsible Division	:	Corporate and Governance

COUNCIL ROLE

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Advocacy | <i>When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.</i> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Executive | <i>The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council eg adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Legislative | <i>Includes adopting local laws, local planning schemes and policies.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Review | <i>When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Quasi-Judicial | <i>When Council determines an application/matter that directly affect a person's right and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice. Examples of quasi-judicial authority include local planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (eg under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.</i> |

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To provide Council with relevant monthly financial information.

SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

The following report includes a concise list of material variances and a Reconciliation of Net Current Assets at the end of the reporting month.

Item 12.4 Continued

LOCATION

Not applicable.

CONSULTATION

There has been no specific consultation undertaken in respect to this matter.

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

There are no Strategic Community Plan implications evident at this time.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Section 6.4 of the *Local Government Act 1995* in conjunction with Regulations 34 (1) of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* requires monthly financial reports to be presented to Council.

Regulation 34(1) requires a monthly Statement of Financial Activity reporting on revenue and expenditure.

Regulation 34(5) determines the mechanism required to ascertain the definition of material variances which are required to be reported to Council as a part of the monthly report. It also requires Council to adopt a “percentage or value” for what it will consider to be material variances on an annual basis. Further clarification is provided in the Officer Comments section.

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996* requires that financial statements are presented on a monthly basis to Council. Council has adopted ten percent of the budgeted closing balance as the materiality threshold.

OFFICER COMMENT

The Statutory Monthly Financial Report is to consist of a Statement of Financial Activity reporting on revenue and expenditure as set out in the Annual Budget. It is required to include:

- Annual budget estimates
- Budget estimates to the end of the reporting month
- Actual amounts to the end of the reporting month
- Material variances between comparable amounts
- Net current assets as at the end of the reporting month.

Item 12.4 Continued

Previous amendments to the Regulations fundamentally changed the reporting structure which requires reporting of information consistent with the “cash” component of Council’s budget rather than being “accrual” based.

The monthly financial report is to be accompanied by:

- An explanation of the composition of the net current assets, less committed* and restricted** assets
- An explanation of material variances***
- Such other information as is considered relevant by the local government.

**Revenue unspent but set aside under the annual budget for a specific purpose.*

***Assets which are restricted by way of externally imposed conditions of use e.g. tied grants.*

****Based on a materiality threshold of 10 percent of the July authorised budgeted closing balance as previously adopted by Council.*

In order to provide more details regarding significant variations as included in [Attachment 3](#) the following summary is provided.

Please note that the 30 June 2020 Financial Report is still to be updated for end of year accounting adjustments. The main adjustments include June ABC allocations, reserve transfers, expenditure accruals, salary accruals and leave accruals.

Report Section	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	Comment
Expenditure - Capital			
Finance Department	140,689	78,265	Purchase of some Fleet vehicles deferred until 2020-2021
Computing	1,561,938	960,984	Relates to the purchase of IT equipment for the New Community Centre that is currently on order.
Transfer To Reserve	4,308,305	Nil	Reserve transfers will occur once all 2019-2020 accounting adjustments are finalised.
Human Resources	50,939	Nil	Fleet vehicles are currently on order.
Property & Economic Development	200,000	387,959	Purchase of land is ahead of schedule.
Crime Prevention & Community Safety	975,736	267,413	Relates to fleet replacement and CCTV for the New Community Centre which has been ordered.
Orana Aged Housing	50,198	Nil	Orana Aged Housing reserve transfer not yet processed.
Faulkner Park Retirement Village	146,000	Nil	Faulkner Park Retirement Village reserve transfer not yet processed.
Town Planning	227,622	69,793	No capital contributions paid to LandCorp due to no developer contributions being received for the Springs.
Sanitation Charges	279,452	Nil	Waste Management reserve transfer not yet processed.

Item 12.4 Continued

Report Section	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	Comment
Belmont Oasis	110,000	5,942	Equipment purchased for the Oasis has been delayed due to closure of centre for COVID-19.
Ruth Faulkner Library	2,197,296	445,553	Equipment and furniture purchases for the new library are currently on order with some items re-budgeted in 2020-2021.
Grounds Operations	2,875,861	1,204,552	Variance mainly relates to Brearley Ave POS Irrigation project and Forster Park upgrade being delayed due to COVID-19.
Road Works	8,456,965	7,398,990	There are a number of large projects underway and the full year budget is expected to be utilised once all expenses have been accrued.
Streetscapes	458,253	341,295	Business Park bus shelters are on order.
Footpath Works	757,438	623,619	The Faulkner Park Bridge Rehabilitation project finished below budget. Other costs to be accrued.
Drainage Works	300,010	173,962	Design works are progressing and some projects may be carried forward.
Operations Centre	597,125	42,217	Plant purchases for the Operations centre are currently on order.
Building Operations	19,387,748	16,741,054	Variance relates to projects that will be carried forward including the New Community Centre and Oasis renewal works.
Expenditure – Operating			
Finance Department	2,150,921	2,010,692	Employee costs and Activity Based Costing allocations (ABC's) are below budget.
Computing	2,855,810	2,380,461	Variance mainly relates to employee, business applications and costs associated with the New Community Centre.
Marketing & Communications	2,086,465	1,681,730	Variance relates to various items including sponsorship of events, New Community Centre, community surveys and the implementation of the new website.
Reimbursements	285,985	509,236	Higher than budgeted Paid Parental Leave and Workers Compensation payments (offset in revenue).
Executive Services	1,512,777	1,356,695	Employee costs and ABC's are below budget.
Chief Executive Officer	864,471	654,639	Variance mainly relates to employee and consulting costs.
Records Management	806,768	754,934	ABC's are yet to be allocated for June.
Human Resources	1,267,158	1,114,312	Variances relates to Consultancy costs and ABC's.
Occupational Safety & Health	223,770	147,779	Variance relates to employee costs.

Item 12.4 Continued

Report Section	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	Comment
Organisational Development	518,837	433,492	Variance mainly relates to employee and consulting costs.
Governance	3,563,907	2,932,710	ABC's are yet to be allocated for June.
Belmont Trust	180,000	15,931	Consult for community consultation not engaged - re-budgeted in 2020-2021.
Rates	2,865,439	2,751,336	ABC's are yet to be allocated for June.
Property & Economic Development	1,084,603	907,816	Relates to a range of items mainly in relation to land transactions.
Belmont Community Watch	1,347,620	1,196,145	Variance relates mainly to Security invoices not yet received
Rangers	974,895	863,011	Variance relates mainly to employee related costs and ABCs.
Health	1,473,231	1,253,649	Variance relates mainly to employee related costs and ABCs.
Aboriginal Strategies	313,036	219,541	Variance mainly relates to employee costs.
Community Services	1,193,740	1,008,425	BBEC accommodation support to be accrued, other variances relate to consultancy and ABCs.
Community Place Making	666,299	600,132	Employee costs and ABC's are below budget.
Belmont HACC Services	2,868,461	2,338,330	Variance mainly relates to employee costs, ABCs and in Home services
Youth Services General	746,666	662,379	Variance mainly relates to Youth Services invoices not yet received for June 2020.
Town Planning	3,021,289	2,628,500	Variance mainly relates to ABCs, employee and consulting costs.
Sanitation Charges	6,274,033	5,350,267	Some outstanding invoices are yet to be processed.
Marketing & Communications	810,668	650,704	Variance mainly relates to cancelled Autumn River Festival
Donations and Grants	370,500	315,763	Payment for Community Programs were delayed partly due to COVID-19.
Ruth Faulkner Library	2,741,596	2,250,083	Variance mainly relates to employee costs and the New Community Centre.
Community Place Making	303,441	201,460	Variance mainly relates to public art in relation to the New Community Centre.
Community Wellbeing	497,939	400,902	Employee related costs and ABC's are below budget.
Healthy Communities	112,008	54,359	Employee related costs and ABC's are below budget.
Building - Active Reserves	797,723	674,117	Building maintenance costs have been impacted by the reduction in use of Council facilities
Grounds Operations	5,724,571	5,221,139	Employee costs, ABC's and Peachey Park remediation costs are currently below budget.
Grounds Overheads	1,550,502	1,432,750	Employee related costs and ABC's are currently below budget.

Item 12.4 Continued

Report Section	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	Comment
Road Works	1,127,034	968,451	Current underspend is due to a good standard of road conditions with the crack sealing program delayed and limited street lighting relocations and issues.
Streetscapes	2,005,038	1,808,910	Roundabouts, Street Tree maintenance and employee related costs are below budget.
Drainage Works	383,247	250,930	Capital projects have been the prioritised in 2019-2020 - it is anticipated the full budget will be utilised in the 2020-2021 financial year.
Building Control	904,444	802,000	ABC's are yet to be allocated for June.
Building Control Customer Service	636,445	500,486	Employee related costs and ABC's are currently below budget.
Building Operations	1,251,097	992,516	Building maintenance costs will be impacted by the reduction in use of Council facilities.
Public Works Overheads	1,608,893	1,371,266	Employee and related costs and ABC's are below budget.
Plant Operating Costs	1,009,885	958,717	Agency and employee related costs and ABC's are currently below budget.
Technical Services	2,620,733	2,280,557	Employee and consulting costs and ABC's are below budget.
Other Public Works	874,707	737,282	Variance relates to Street Lighting invoices not yet being received
Revenue - Capital			
Computing	(1,705,577)	(27,364)	Transfers from Reserve will occur once all 2019-2020 accounting adjustments are finalised.
Governance	(95,000)	Nil	Transfer from Election Expense Reserve has not yet occurred.
Belmont Trust	(185,070)	(19,026)	Transfers from Reserve will occur once all 2019-2020 accounting adjustments are finalised.
Rates	(240,000)	Nil	Transfers from Reserve will occur once all 2019-2020 accounting adjustments are finalised.
Property & Economic Development	(536,043)	(224,503)	Transfers from Reserve will occur once all 2019-2020 accounting adjustments are finalised.
Crime Prevention & Community Safety	(639,000)	(88,531)	Grant Funding not yet received for the CCTV at the Belmont Hub.
Belmont HACC Services	(327,166)	(16,364)	Transfers from Reserve will occur once all 2019-2020 accounting adjustments are finalised.
Ascot Close Housing	(54,847)	Nil	Reserve transfers have not yet occurred.
Wahroonga Housing	(81,104)	Nil	Reserve transfers have not yet occurred.

Item 12.4 Continued

Report Section	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	Comment
Town Planning	(227,114)	(27,045)	LSL Reserves transfer not yet occurred and no Springs Developer Contributions were received.
Ruth Faulkner Library	(1,776,391)	Nil	Reserve transfers have not yet occurred.
Grounds Operations	(366,629)	(13,000)	Some Reserve transfers have not yet occurred and some grant funding likely to be carried forward.
Grounds Overheads	(62,250)	Nil	Miscellaneous & LSL reserves transfers not yet occurred.
Road Works	(5,728,158)	(3,253,544)	Some Reserve transfers have not yet occurred and some grant funding likely to be carried forward.
Streetscapes	(114,390)	(14,390)	Reserve transfers have not yet occurred.
Operations Centre	(498,821)	(58,702)	Mainly relates to transfer from the Plant Replacement Reserve not yet being processed.
Building Operations	(17,921,039)	(7,194,853)	Some Grant funding likely to be carried forward and transfer from the Property Development Reserve not yet processed.
Public Works Overheads	(60,454)	Nil	Reserve transfers have not yet occurred.
Technical Services	(76,127)	Nil	Trade in of Fleet item deferred and LSL Reserve transfers not yet processed.
Revenue - Operating			
Finance Department	(2,123,554)	(1,894,365)	ABC recoveries currently below budget.
Computing	(2,553,307)	(2,033,254)	ABC recoveries currently below budget.
Reimbursements	(285,985)	(927,519)	Higher than expected Paid Parental Leave and Workers Compensation reimbursements. Also EMRC dividend for COVID-19 response.
Insurance	(755,323)	(830,076)	Relates to a surplus distribution from our insurer.
Records Management	(811,744)	(709,729)	ABC recoveries currently below budget.
Human Resources	(1,703,379)	(1,042,521)	ABC recoveries currently below budget.
Rates	(50,903,796)	(50,448,444)	Residential rate income higher than expected.
General Purpose Income	(431,560)	(877,031)	Financial Assistance Grant 50% prepaid.
Financing Activities	(1,770,261)	(1,049,987)	Monthly variances are expected due to the timing of term deposits maturing.
Health	(522,112)	(455,671)	ABC recoveries currently below budget.
Belmont HACC Services	(2,823,061)	(2,669,787)	Internal recovery allocations not processed for June 2020.

Item 12.4 Continued

Report Section	Budget YTD	Actual YTD	Comment
Orana Aged Housing	(107,080)	(8,390)	Net Rental income calculation yet to be processed for 2019-2020.
Gabriel Gardens	(70,000)	8,390	Net Rental income calculation yet to be processed for 2019-2020.
Town Planning	(1,216,099)	(1,024,399)	ABC recoveries currently below budget.
Sanitation Charges	(6,543,621)	(8,279,930)	EMRC FOGO contribution for second green bin received early.
Public Facilities Operations	(304,100)	(208,158)	Facility hire fees are below budget.
Road Works	(269,769)	(591,852)	Financial Assistance Grant 50% prepaid.
Building Control	(368,106)	(315,894)	Application fees are below budget.
Public Works Overheads	(1,548,439)	(855,784)	Overheads currently under recovered and will be reviewed as part of the year-end process.
Plant Operating Costs	(1,619,644)	(1,203,754)	Plant Operating costs currently under recovered and will be reviewed as part of the year-end process.
Technical Services	(479,926)	(344,430)	ABC recoveries currently below budget.
Other Public Works	(76,000)	(190,338)	Private Works projects completed are above anticipated budget.

In accordance with *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996*, Regulation 34 (2)(a) the following table explains the composition of the net current assets amount which appears at the end of the attached report.

Reconciliation of Nett Current Assets to Statement of Financial Activity		
Current Assets as at 30 June 2020	\$	Comment
Cash and investments	65,787,861	Includes municipal and reserves
- less non rate setting cash	(58,585,898)	Reserves
Receivables	2,771,497	Rates levied yet to be received and Sundry Debtors
ESL Receivable	(281,318)	ESL Receivable
Stock on hand	204,225	
Total Current Assets	9,896,366	
Current Liabilities		
Creditors and provisions	(10,071,518)	Includes ESL and deposits
- less non rate setting creditors & provisions	2,815,836	Cash Backed LSL, current loans & ESL
Total Current Liabilities	(7,255,682)	
Nett Current Assets 30 June 2020	2,640,684	
Nett Current Assets as Per Financial Activity Report		
Nett Current Assets as Per Financial Activity Report	2,640,684	
Less Restricted Assets	(312,392)	Unspent grants held for specific purposes
Less Committed Assets	(1,828,292)	All other budgeted expenditure
Estimated Closing Balance	500,000	

Item 12.4 Continued

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The presentation of these reports to Council ensures compliance with the *Local Government Act 1995* and associated Regulations, and also ensures that Council is regularly informed as to the status of its financial position.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no social implications associated with this report.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Monthly Financial Reports as at 30 June 2020 as included in [Attachment 3](#) be received.

***OFFICER RECOMMENDATION ADOPTED EN BLOC BY ABSOLUTE MAJORITY –
REFER TO RESOLUTION APPEARING AT ITEM 12***

13. REPORTS BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

13.1 REQUESTS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

13.2 NOTICE OF MOTION (COUNCILLOR SEKULLA) – REQUEST TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA TO RETAIN A HARD BORDER DURING THE SPREAD OF COVID-19

SOCIAL BELMONT

ATTACHMENT DETAILS

Nil.

Voting Requirement	:	Simple Majority
Subject Index	:	35/002–Notices of Motions
Location/Property Index	:	N/A
Application Index	:	N/A
Disclosure of any Interest	:	Nil
Previous Items	:	N/A
Applicant	:	N/A
Owner	:	N/A
Responsible Division	:	Development and Communities Division

COUNCIL ROLE

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Advocacy | <i>When Council advocates on its own behalf or on behalf of its community to another level of government/body/agency.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Executive | <i>The substantial direction setting and oversight role of the Council eg adopting plans and reports, accepting tenders, directing operations, setting and amending budgets.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Legislative | <i>Includes adopting local laws, local planning schemes and policies.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Review | <i>When Council reviews decisions made by Officers.</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Quasi-Judicial | <i>When Council determines an application/matter that directly affect a person's right and interests. The judicial character arises from the obligation to abide by the principles of natural justice. Examples of quasi-judicial authority include local planning applications, building licences, applications for other permits/licences (eg under Health Act, Dog Act or Local Laws) and other decisions that may be appealable to the State Administrative Tribunal.</i> |

PURPOSE OF REPORT

To consider the Notice of Motion received from Councillor (Cr) Sekulla requesting that the City of Belmont supports the initiative of the Government of Western Australia in its endeavours to retain a hard border during the spread of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Australia.

Item 13.2 Continued

SUMMARY AND KEY ISSUES

A request has been received from Cr Sekulla for Council to support the initiative of the Government of Western Australia in its endeavours to retain a hard border during the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia.

LOCATION

City of Belmont.

CONSULTATION

There has been no specific consultation undertaken in respect to this matter.

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS

There are no Strategic Community Plan implications evident at this time.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

There are no policy implications associated with this report.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

There are no specific statutory requirements in respect to this matter.

BACKGROUND

A Notice of Motion by Cr Sekulla for the July 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) reads as follows:

“That Council

- 1. Supports the initiative of the Government of Western Australia in its endeavours to retain a hard border during the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia.*
- 2. Directs the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Premier of Western Australia notifying him of Point 1 above, and to thank him and the State Government for their decisive leadership during the COVID 19 Pandemic.*

Reasons:

- 1. The premature removal of the hard border restrictions will have a significant impact on the local economy in the City of Belmont with businesses closing for a period of time and an increase in unemployment.*
- 2. The increase in local unemployment will contribute to an increase in anti-social behaviour and law and order issues within the City of Belmont.*

Item 13.2 Continued

3. *The premature removal of the hard border restrictions will have a significant social impact (such as increased health and emotional issues) in the City of Belmont with the spread of the coronavirus in the local community*
4. *The Premier of Western Australia and the State Government has done an excellent job in responding to the COVID 19 Pandemic and should be commended on their action to date in keeping Western Australians safe and limiting the spread of the virus during these unprecedented times.*

OFFICER COMMENT

The Minister for Emergency Services and the State Government declared a State of Emergency under the Emergency Management Act and a Public Health Emergency under the Public Health Act in response to COVID-19.

The decisions are made by the State Government with the aim to protect the community and minimise potential impacts of COVID-19. The phasing of the WA COVID-19 roadmap to see the remaining restrictions removed is a decision of the State Government based on the latest health advice and in consultation with the Federal Government.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications evident at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no social implications associated with this report.

Note:

Cr Cayoun declared an interest that may affect impartiality as she works in the Office of Premier Mark McGowan.

SEKULLA MOVED, DAVIS SECONDED

COUNCILLOR RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Supports the initiative of the Government of Western Australia in its endeavours to retain a hard border during the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Australia.
2. Directs the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Premier of Western Australia notifying him of Point 1 above, and to thank him and the State Government for their decisive leadership during the COVID 19 Pandemic.

Item 13.2 Continued

Reasons:

1. The premature removal of the hard border restrictions will have a significant impact on the local economy in the City of Belmont with businesses closing for a period of time and an increase in unemployment.
2. The increase in local unemployment will contribute to an increase in anti-social behaviour and law and order issues within the City of Belmont.
3. The premature removal of the hard border restrictions will have a significant social impact (such as increased health and emotional issues) in the City of Belmont with the spread of the coronavirus in the local community.
4. The Premier of Western Australia and the State Government has done an excellent job in responding to the COVID 19 Pandemic and should be commended on their action to date in keeping Western Australians safe and limiting the spread of the virus during these unprecedented times.

Note:

Cr Wolff put forward the following Procedural Motion.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

WOLFF MOVED, POWELL SECONDED

That the item be referred back to an Information Forum for further discussion.

CARRIED 7 VOTES TO 2

*For: Bass, Cayoun, Marks, Powell, Rossi, Ryan, Wolff
Against: Davis, Sekulla*

14. MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED

Nil.

15. CLOSURE

There being no further business, the Presiding Member thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.00pm.

MINUTES CONFIRMATION CERTIFICATION

The undersigned certifies that these Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 28 July 2020 were confirmed as a true and accurate record at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 25 August 2020:

Signed by the Person Presiding:  _____

PRINT name of the Person Presiding: **PHILIP MARKS**

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