



LEETON
SHIRE COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY
COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2022
COMMENCING AT 7.00PM
AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Present:

Councillors:

Cr Tony Reneker (Mayor), Cr. Michael Kidd (Deputy Mayor), Cr. Paul Smith, Cr. Krystal Maytom, Cr. Tony Ciccia, Cr. Matt Holt, Cr. Sandra Nardi, Cr. Tracey Morris (via videoconference) and Cr. George Weston.

Staff:

Jackie Kruger (General Manager), Mandy Rogers (Group Manager Corporate), Tom Steele (Group Manager Operations) and Sarah Graham (Governance and Customer Service Coordinator).

Guest Speaker:

Brad Bohn (Crowe via videoconference).

ARIC Chairman Graham Bradley in attendance for Special Rate Variation (Item 7.1, via videoconference).

Press:

Talia Pattison (Journalist, Australian Community Media).

LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

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1. **CIVIC PRAYER** Cr. Maytom
2. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY** Cr. Reneker
3. **APOLOGIES AND APPLICATIONS FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Nil

4. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

22/176

Resolved

THAT the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Thursday 27 October 2022, as circulated, be taken as read and CONFIRMED.

(Moved Cr. Kidd, seconded Cr. Maytom)

5. **DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS**

Item 7.10:

Cr. Reneker declared a significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest as he is part of the Yanco Town Improvement Committee and is on the board as Vicechair for Leeton Connect Inc.

Cr. Maytom declared a significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest as she is a committee member of JumpStart.

Cr. Weston declared a less than significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest as he is a member of the Rotary Club.

Cr. Smith declared a less than significant non-pecuniary conflict of interest as Leeton Harness Racing Club is sponsored by his employer for the upcoming Breeders' Plate Carnival.

6. **MAYORAL MINUTES**

Nil

7. **REPORTS TO COUNCIL**

Council meeting was adjourned at 7.05pm for the commencement of the public forum.

The following persons addressed Council on Item 7.1:

- Alison Cowell
- John Chant
- Ann Hillam
- Michael Nardi

Public forum concluded at 7.15pm and Council meeting recommenced.

GENERAL MANAGER'S MATTERS

Item 7.1 PROPOSED SPECIAL RATE VARIATION

22/177

Motion

THAT Council:

1. Approves the General Manager to proceed with an application to IPART, for a Special Rate Variation of 45.44% (compounded and above the rate peg) over 5 years, being 8% for the first 3 years and then 7.5% and 7.4% for the following 2 years, resulting in total rate increases of 65.63% (compounded and including the rate peg) over 5 years, commencing 1 July 2023.
2. Approves the General Manager to update the Long Term Financial Plan 2022–2032 in accordance with the above Special Rate Variation, and for the Long Term Financial Plan to include the following:
 - a) Total savings of \$290,000, allocated as \$100,000 during 2024/25, \$100,000 during 2025/26 and \$90,000 during 2026/27.
 - b) A commitment to allocate any proceeds from the sale of Council's investment water, that is over and above what is in the Long Term Financial Plan, to offset future rate increases.
3. Commits to undertaking a minimum of 2 service reviews per annum to ensure that Council's services are being provided as efficiently as possible.
4. Investigates offering additional concessions to eligible pensioners, over and above that for domestic waste management, water and sewerage services under section 575 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, with effect from 1 July 2023.
5. Considers the equity of the rating structure as part of the update of 2022–2025 Delivery Program by no later than April 2023, in order to take into account the anticipated revaluation by the Valuer General of the unimproved land values and having particular regard to fairness for ratepayers in the farmland category.
6. Signals to ratepayers its intention to undertake a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Special Rate Variation at 3 years, being 1 July 2026, in order to ensure its continuation for the remaining 2 years continues to be warranted.

(Moved Cr. Kidd, seconded Cr. Weston)

For the Motion

Cr. Weston
Cr. Kidd
Cr. Morris
Cr. Reneker

Against the Motion

Cr. Ciccica
Cr. Nardi
Cr. Smith
Cr. Holt
Cr. Maytom

The motion was lost.

Item 7.2 LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2022

22/178

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Notes the activities and progress made during the 2021/22 financial year, as outlined in the Annual Report 2022, towards achieving Council's Delivery Program commitments.
2. Endorses the Leeton Shire Council Annual Report 2022.
3. Notes that the Leeton Shire Council Annual Report 2022 will be uploaded to Leeton Shire Council's website prior to 30 November 2022, as required by legislation, and a link to the document will be provided to the Minister by way of an email to the Office of Local Government.

(Moved Cr. Kidd, seconded Cr. Weston)

Item 7.3 DELIVERY PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT FOR QUARTER 1 - 2022/23

22/179

Resolved

THAT Council notes for information Quarter 1 (July to September 2022) Progress Report on the implementation of the Leeton Shire Council Delivery Program (2022–2025).

(Moved Cr. Kidd, seconded Cr. Maytom)

CORPORATE MATTERS

Item 7.4 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2022

22/180

Resolved

THAT Council notes the presentation on the 2021/22 Financial Reports and Auditor's Reports for Leeton Shire Council by Mr Brad Bohun from Crowe in Albury representing the Auditor General.

(Moved Cr. Ciccica, seconded Cr. Holt)

Item 7.5 2022/23 BUDGET REVIEW FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2022

22/181

Amended Report

THAT Council accepts the amendments to the Quarterly Budget Review report as late corrections.

(Moved Cr. Weston, seconded Cr. Kidd)

Resolved

THAT Council review and consider the Quarterly Budget Review as at 30 September 2022, and approve the changes as recommended by management.

(Moved Cr. Kidd, seconded Cr. Weston)

Item 7.6 INVESTMENTS REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2022

22/182

Resolved

THAT Council notes the information contained in the Investments Report for October 2022.

(Moved Cr. Smith, seconded Cr. Maytom)

Item 7.7 QUARTERLY CAPITAL WORKS UPDATE REPORT - MAJOR PROJECTS

22/183

Resolved

THAT Council notes for information the Quarterly Capital Works Update Report for the period July to October 2022.

(Moved Cr. Weston, seconded Cr. Nardi)

Item 7.8 MINUTES OF THE AUDIT, RISK AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 8 NOVEMBER 2022

22/184

Resolved

THAT Council receives for information the minutes of the Audit, Risk and Improvement committee meeting held on 8 November 2022.

(Moved Cr. Morris, seconded Cr. Weston)

ACTIVATION MATTERS

Item 7.9 ADOPTION OF DISABILITY INCLUSION ACTION PLAN 2022-2025

22/185

Resolved

THAT Council adopts the Disability Inclusion Action Plan 2022-2025.

(Moved Cr. Maytom, seconded Cr. Nardi)

Item 7.10 ROUND ONE OF THE 2022/23 COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS PROGRAM ALLOCATIONS

22/186

Resolved

THAT Council:

1. Approves the following applications for funding under Round One of the 2022/23 Community Strengthening Grants program:

Yanco Town Improvement Committee	\$2,000.00
Leeton Connect Inc	\$1,815.00
Leeton Harness Racing Club	\$2,000.00
Leeton Jumpstart Fund	\$1,664.95
Rotary Club of Leeton	\$1,500.00
Anglican Parish of Leeton (Leeton Community Christmas Lunch)	\$2,000.00

TOTAL **\$10,979.95**

2. Approves \$1,500 funding from the Quick Response Grant program to the Yanco Town Improvement Committee.

(Moved Cr. Kidd, seconded Cr. Nardi)

Item 7.11 MINUTES OF THE WHITTON TOWN IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 19 SEPTEMBER 2022

22/187

Resolved

THAT Council receives for information the minutes of the Whitton Town Improvement Committee meeting held on Monday 19 September 2022.

(Moved Cr. Smith, seconded Cr. Kidd)

Item 7.12 MINUTES OF THE YANCO TOWN IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING - 7 NOVEMBER 2022

22/188

Resolved

THAT Council receives for information the minutes of the Yanco Town Improvement Committee meeting that was held on Monday 7 November 2022.

(Moved Cr. Smith, seconded Cr. Holt)

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

9. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

Nil

Cr. Nardi left the meeting, the time being 8.50pm.

Cr. Nardi returned to the meeting, the time being 8.55pm.

10. COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORTS

Item 10.1 COUNCILLOR ACTIVITY REPORT

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council notes the Councillor Activity Reports for the period 28 October 2022 to 23 November 2022.

11. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.06pm.

..... signed by
the Chairman of the meeting held on
14 Dec 2022 at which meeting the
signature hereon was subscribed.