



Murrindindi
Shire Council

Unscheduled Meeting of Council

Agenda

Wednesday 13 April 2022
Yea Council Chambers
The Semi Circle
6:00 PM

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1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY AND COUNCILLORS' PLEDGE

1.1 Acknowledgement of Country

The meeting will be opened with the Mayor reading the following on behalf of the Murrindindi Shire Council:

“Murrindindi Shire Council is proud to acknowledge the Taungurung and Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land we now call Murrindindi Shire.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging, who are the keepers of history, traditions, knowledge and culture of this land.”

1.2 Councillors' Pledge

“The Councillors, democratically elected to represent our community as the Murrindindi Shire Council, are committed to working together in the best interests of the people who live in our municipality, those who conduct business here and those who visit.”

2 PROCEDURAL MATTERS

2.1 Privacy Note

This public meeting is being streamed live via our Facebook page and made available for public access on its website along with the official Minutes of this meeting.

2.2 Apologies and Request for Leave of Absence

2.3 Disclosure of Interest or Conflict of Interest

In accordance with section 130 (1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* Councillors are required to disclose any “conflict of interest” in respect of a matter to be considered at a Council Meeting.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

3 REPORTS - ASSETS AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE

3.1 Contract 21/30 Plant Tender Report Supply and Delivery of a Motor Grader

Attachment(s)	Confidential Attachment 1 – Contract 21/30 Plant Tender Report Supply and Delivery of a Motor Grader – Evaluation Report (distributed to Councillors separately)
Presenter	S Russell, Acting Manager Community Assets
Approved by	Acting Director Assets & Development
Purpose	For decision

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is for Council to appoint a supplier for CONT21/30 – Supply and delivery of a motor grader and roller control system for the maintenance of Council’s sealed and unsealed road network. This is to replace Council’s current motor grader and is a lump sum contract.

Tenders were sought from the MAV Procurement Panel via the National Procurement Network under its Earthmoving Equipment Panel.

The tender for these works closed on 21 January 2022. Two submissions were received at the close of tender, one of which was determined non-conforming. A detailed evaluation process was undertaken in line with Council’s Procurement Policy and against the tender evaluation criteria by a Tender Evaluation Committee.

Based on the analysis undertaken, the Committee recommended Tender 2 be awarded CONT 21/30 for the supply and delivery of a motor grader and roller control system for the lump sum price of \$487,600.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Accept the tender from Tenderer 2 for CONT 21/30 - Supply and Delivery of a Motor Grader and Roller Control System for the lump sum price of \$487,600**
- 2. Release this resolution and the name of Tenderer 2 into the Minutes of the Unscheduled Council Meeting 13 April 2022.**

Background

A new grader is required to replace a similar plant machine which is well overdue for replacement as part of Council’s approved plant replacement program.

The specification is for the supply and delivery of a Class 15 Motor Grader with the following basic features:

- industrial type Class 15 grader with heavy duty 18,000kg articulated frame
- capacity and certification to tow an 11 Tonne compactor roller
- certified 9 teeth ripper/scarifier assembly
- emissions, noise and safety system compliance
- electro-Hydraulic “Joystick” controls system
- powershift transmission with 8 forward and 6 reverse gears

- 12' Moldboard (Blade) with 2D cross-slope guidance system
- satellite tracking with remote monitoring.

Discussion

Tenders were sought from the MAV Procurement Panel via the National Procurement Network (NPN2.15) under their Earthmoving Equipment Panel.

Tender specifications were prepared by Council officers (including plant operators). The machine includes a fit out with equipment to undertake road formation, general grading and roller towing.

The tender for these works closed on 21 January 2022. Two submissions were received at the close of tender.

Council's Procurement Policy requires that all tenders be evaluated by a tender evaluation committee (Committee). The Committee responsible for evaluating this tender comprised of:

- Plant & Fleet Officer
- Acting Team Leader – Sealed Roads
- Plant Operator – Sealed Roads Team.

Tenders were assessed against the following criteria:

- Price – 60%
- Capacity to deliver – 20%
- Capability to deliver – 10%
- Relevant experience – 10%

All submissions were assessed for compliance prior to evaluating by Committee and one was deemed non-conforming.

The conforming submission was then evaluated to consider the Tenderer's ability to meet the requirements of the contract. The Tender was assessed with particular attention to the evaluation criteria requirements.

A detailed evaluation of the tenders is provided as a confidential attachment to this report.

Based on the analysis undertaken, the Committee recommended Tenderer 2 be awarded CONT 21/30 for the supply and delivery of a motor grader and roller control system for the lump sum of \$487,600.

Council Plan/Strategies/Policies

This report supports the *Council Plan 2021-2025 Transparency, Inclusion and Accountability* strategic objective "to ensure our services, people and systems deliver the best possible outcomes for our communities now and into the future".

This report supports the *Council Plan 2021-2025 Transparency, Inclusion and Accountability* strategy to "maintain transparent, inclusive and accountable governance practices".

Relevant Legislation

Council sought tender prices for this supply contract through the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) – National Procurement Network (NPN) Earthmoving Equipment Panel contract arrangements.

These procurement arrangements are carried out in accordance with section 186(5)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1989* which provides approval for Council to enter into a contract made available by the Municipal Association of Victoria for the purchase of earthmoving equipment.

Financial Implications and Risk

The total approved annual revised budget for 2021/2022 for the major plant replacement program is \$2,111,985. Currently \$1,341,742 has been committed against this budget. This allows \$770,243 available to purchase the grader. The tender price of \$443,300 for this grader is within the overall program budget. The remaining budget is to fund other approved plant replacements identified for the 2021/2022 program.

Conflict of Interest

There are no declared conflicts of interest by Council officers in relation to this report.

Community and Stakeholder Consultation

No external community or stakeholder consultation was required for this matter.

4 REPORTS - CORPORATE & SHARED SERVICES DIRECTORATE

4.1 2022/23 Draft Annual Budget

Attachment(s)	Attachment 1 - 2022-23 Draft Budget [4.1.1 - 68 pages]
Presenter	M Chesworth, Director Corporate & Shared Services
Approved by	Director Corporate & Shared Services
Purpose	For decision

Executive Summary

This report seeks Council's endorsement of the draft Annual Budget 2022/23 (draft Budget) for the purpose of a public exhibition and submission process in accordance with section 96 (1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note that the draft Annual Budget 2022/23 in attachment 4.1.1 has been prepared by Council in accordance with Section 94(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act)
2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to give public notice of the draft Budget
3. Advise that a copy of the draft Budget will be available for inspection on Council's website – www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au
4. Hear public submissions on a proposal (or proposals) contained in the draft Budget at the Scheduled Meeting on Wednesday 25 May 2022 commencing at 6 pm and held at the Council Chambers in Alexandra.
5. Note that following consideration of all written and verbal submissions, the 2022/23 Budget will be presented for adoption at the Scheduled Meeting to be held on Wednesday 22 June 2022 commencing at 6 pm and held at the Council Chambers in Yea.

Background

The development of the annual budget is part of an integrated process that occurs to ensure appropriate resource allocations are made to service Council's short and long-term activities and initiatives.

The Council Plan and the Financial Plan and their underpinning strategies inform the budget development process. The annual budget needs to consider Council Plan initiatives, external influences and any proposed new initiatives.

The draft Budget 2022/23 attached to this report outlines the financial implications of the strategic objectives and initiatives planned by Council, focusing on the coming financial year. The draft Budget balances the need to deliver infrastructure and services while also providing the best possible value for residents and ensuring careful ongoing financial management.

It is noted that Section 4.1 - Rates and valuation information is based on Stage 3 preliminary property valuation data. The information in this section may change as a result of receipt of the Stage 4 property valuation data from the Valuer-General Victoria.

Discussion

The draft Budget details the resource requirements and project priorities that are in accordance with the key strategic objectives that have been set in the Council Plan 2021-2025.

The draft Budget has been prepared on the principles of responsible financial management to achieve an operating result that ensures and maintains Council's long term financial sustainability.

The proposed 1.75% average rate increase is in line with the rate cap set by the State Government under the Fair Go Rates System for 2022/23 and provides for a continued mix of responsible operating and capital budget expenditures.

Council is forecast to hold no debt from loan borrowings at 30 June 2022 and no further borrowings are proposed in the draft Budget for 2022/23. This represents the lowest level of absolute debt Council has held in more than a decade.

User fees and charges have been benchmarked against our neighbouring councils. Some fees have been adjusted to reflect the cost of service provision, rather than rate payers subsidising these 'user-pay' services. All other non-statutory user fee increases have been limited to a 1.75% increase.

The draft Budget identifies that Council will spend \$55.8 million to deliver services and improve infrastructure. This includes a \$18.8 million Capital Works Program.

Highlights of the Capital Works Program include:

- Snobs Creek Road widening (\$600,000)
- Bridge replacement at the Yea Caravan Park (\$400,000)
- Great Victorian Rail Trail art installations and signage (\$1,100,000 fully grant funded and joint project with Mitchell and Mansfield Shires)
- Blue Gums to Eildon Trail (\$1,300,000)
- Alexandra Rotary Park & Visitor Precinct (\$900,000)
- Waste Transfer Station and Landfill upgrades (\$4.7 million)
- Alexandra Maternal & Child Health internal fit out (\$100,000)
- Further Kinglake Streetscape Works (following Kinglake Village development) (\$150,000)
- Yea Recreation Reserve Football Pavilion upgrade (\$220,000)
- Upgrades to a number of recreation, leisure and sporting club buildings across the Shire (\$1,778,000)
- Improvements to Yea Saleyards, including traffic management, sealing of asphalt and fences and boom gates (\$220,000)
- Skyline-Maintongoon-Sonnberg Rd - Stage 1 Design for Road Sealing (joint project with Mansfield Shire Council) (\$605,000)
- Improvement works across the Shire's four swimming pools (\$830,000)
- Farm Forestry Demonstration Project (this allocation is subject to the outcome of a feasibility study and viable business case currently underway) (\$175,000)

Other new initiatives included in the budget to support the achievement of our goals under the Council Plan 2021-25 include:

- additional funds allocated to maintain new infrastructure transferred to Council following recent subdivisions (roads, drainage, footpaths etc.) (\$135,000)
- strengthening our Maternal Child and Health services to better support vulnerable clients and supporting our nurses to be able to focus on direct service delivery requirements (\$50,000)

- funds to support the implementation of Council's first Indigenous Reconciliation Action Plan (\$15,000)
- improving compliance with regulatory requirements associated with development and approvals to enhance amenity and support positive community outcomes (\$72,000)
- continued implementation of Council's Tourism and Events Strategy, to support economic recovery of this sector, including new printed maps, visitor guide and tourism marketing brochures, new digital maps of key nature-based attractions and increased buy-in to promotions campaigns run by Tourism North East (\$62,500)
- a feasibility study into the development of a truck wash facility at the Yea Saleyards (\$20,000)
- conservation assessment, fuel load reduction and improved maintenance of Council owned and controlled bushland in the Shire, including bushland around Council's recycling and waste management facilities (\$85,000)
- development of a pathway of priority actions to encourage and involve the entire community in meeting Council's target of net zero emissions by 2035 across the Shire (\$25,000)
- additional funds to support grant seeking by Council and the community to leverage existing funds and in-kind support and improve outcomes for the Shire (\$24,000)
- advice to support and inform Council's review of its Rates and Revenue Plan to ensure it continues to reflect current socio-economic conditions (\$20,000).

Council Plan/Strategies/Policies

This report supports the *Council Plan 2021-2025 Transparency, Inclusion and Accountability* strategy to "ensure Council remains financially-sustainable through sound management, forward planning, innovative service delivery and asset consolidation as appropriate".

Relevant Legislation

Council is required under the Act, to prepare and adopt an annual budget.

Financial Implications and Risk

The proposed Budget 2022/23 is fiscally responsible in its scope of discretionary spending. The draft Budget details how Council can manage its requirement to keep average rate increases within the rate cap of 1.75% legislated by the State Government for 2022/23, whilst providing a responsible and viable financial plan for the ensuing year.

Conflict of Interest

There are no declared conflicts of interest by Council officers in relation to this report.

Community and Stakeholder Consultation

Council will give public notice that it intends to adopt the Budget. The draft Budget will be made available for viewing on Council's website and submissions invited from members of the public. The draft Budget will be formally advertised in a range of publications from 14 April 2022, with written submissions called for by 5:00pm 13 May 2022.