



# MINUTES

## SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL

Tuesday, 25 September 2018

Held at the Swan Hill Town Hall  
53-57 McCallum Street, Swan Hill  
Commenced at 12:45 PM

**COUNCIL:**

Cr LT McPhee – Mayor

Cr JN Katis  
Cr GW Norton  
Cr C Jeffery  
Cr L Johnson  
Cr B Moar  
Cr A Young

Confirmed 16 October 2018

Chairperson.....

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**SECTION A – PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

- **Open**

Deputy Mayor, Cr Ann Young assumed the chair and declared the meeting open at 12.45pm.

- **Acknowledgement of Country**

Deputy Mayor, Cr Ann Young read the Acknowledgement of Country.

- **Prayer**

Cr John Katis read the prayer.

- **Apologies**

Cr Les McPhee  
Cr Lea Johnson

**90/18 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Jeffery**

**That the apologies be accepted.**

**SECONDED Cr Norton**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

- **Declarations of Conflict of Interest**

Nil

## **SECTION B – REPORTS**

### **B.18.75 IN-PRINCIPLE ADOPTION OF FINANCIAL AND PERFORMANCE STATEMENTS**

**Responsible Officer:** Director Corporate Services  
**File Number:** 42-01-00  
**Attachments:** 1 Annual Report 2017/18

#### **Declarations of Interest:**

David Lenton - as the responsible officer, I declare that I have no disclosable interests in this matter.

#### **Summary**

The Local Government Act requires that Council adopt its Annual Statements incorporating the General Purpose Financial Statements, and Performance Statement “in principle” prior to the Auditor General issuing an Audit opinion on the Statements. Officers have prepared a draft set of Statements, ready for “in principle adoption”, and request that Council adopt these Statements “in principle”.

#### **Discussion**

Officers have been working for some weeks to prepare Council’s annual Statutory Statements, incorporating the General Purpose Financial Statements and Performance Statement for 2017/18. A draft set of these statements has been prepared and presented for Audit.

Council’s Audit Committee met to review the Draft Statements on 20 September 2018. The Audit Committee recommended that Council adopt the statements “in-principle”. Accordingly, as required under the Local Government Act these draft statements are attached and are presented to Council for “in-principle” adoption.

The Auditor General and Local Government Victoria both accept that adoption is “in-principle” and is therefore not seen as a certification by Council as to the complete accuracy of the information being adopted.

It is anticipated that the final audit process will be completed shortly after Council adopts the Statements in-principle, at which time the Statements will be available for signing by the two appointed Councillors. The Statements can then be included in the Annual Report.

A formal advertising process will then take place, with the Annual Report being adopted at a Special Meeting of Council, to be arranged for late October 2018.

### **Consultation**

The statements form part of the Annual Report which will be advertised prior to adoption.

### **Financial Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Social Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Economic Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Environmental Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Failure to adopt the Statement „in-principle“ will contravene the Local Government Act.

### **Council Plan Strategy Addressed**

***Effective partnerships and relationships with key stakeholders and staff.*** - We will represent the interests of our community and will conduct our affairs openly and with integrity, reflecting high levels of good governance.

### **Options**

Failure to adopt the statements “in-principle” will delay the audit of the statements and may put Council outside the deadline for lodgement of the Annual report with the Local Government minister, which is 30 September 2018.

### **Recommendation**

**That Council adopt “in-principle” the Draft General Purpose Financial Statement and Performance Statement for the 2017/18 financial year as presented.**

**91/18 Motion**

**MOVED Cr Katis**

**That Council adopt “in-principle” the Draft General Purpose Financial Statement and Performance Statement for the 2017/18 financial year as presented.**

**SECONDED Cr Norton**

**The Motion was put and CARRIED**

# **Attachment**

- Annual Report 2017/18

There being no further business the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ann Young closed the meeting at 12.49pm.