



City of
Mount Gambier

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Mount Gambier SA 5290

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I hereby give notice that a Council Meeting will be held on:

Date: Tuesday, 19 March 2024

Time: 6.00 p.m.

**Location: Council Chamber
Civic Centre
10 Watson Terrace
Mount Gambier**

CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA

Council Meeting 19 March 2024

**Sarah Philpott
Chief Executive Officer
15 March 2024**

23.3 SALE OF LAND FOR NON-PAYMENT OF RATES – REPORT NO. AR24/17606

CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999* the Council orders that all members of the public, except the Mayor, Councillors and (Council Officers) be excluded from attendance at the meeting for the receipt and consideration in confidence of Agenda Item 23.3 AR24/17606 Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates.

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3) (a) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to the Agenda Item is:

- information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead)

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).

CONFIDENTIAL

23.3 SALE OF LAND FOR NON-PAYMENT OF RATES – REPORT NO. AR24/17606

Committee:	Council
Meeting Date:	19 March 2024
Report No.:	AR24/17606
CM9 Reference:	AF13/64
Author:	Jo Scheidl, Senior Revenue Officer
Authoriser:	Jane Fetherstonhaugh, General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services
Summary:	Sale of Land for non-payment of rates - notice of intention to sell land for non-payment of rates.
Strategic Plan Reference:	Goal 1: Our People Goal 3: Our Diverse Economy Goal 5: Our Commitment

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to Section 90(2) & (3) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this agenda item is:

- (a) information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).

REPORT RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council Report No. AR24/17606 titled 'Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates' as presented on 19 March 2024 be noted.
2. That the Chief Executive Officer be empowered to take whatever action is necessary to dispose of the property situated at 5 Bodey Street, Mount Gambier described as Lot 242 DP9604 CT5582/116 for non-payment of rates and other charges due to Council, in accordance with the provision of Chapter 10, Part 1, Division 9 of the Local Government Act, 1999.
3. Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be authorised to sign and affix the common seal to any contract and transfer affecting the sale of the allotment being disposed of by Council, as vendor, for non-payment of rates should such a sale be finally necessary.
4. The Chief Executive Officer be empowered to engage legal counsel or agent to act on Council's behalf in this matter.
5. Pursuant to the powers contained in Section 44 of the Local Government Act 1999, Council hereby delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to determine the date, time and place for the conduct of the public auction subject to compliance with Section 184 of the Act.



TYPE OF REPORT

Legislative

BACKGROUND

Section 184 (1) of the Local Government Act, 1999 provides a power for Council to sell land if an amount payable by way of rates in respect of land has been arrears for three years or more.

Every effort is made to ensure a ratepayer enters and adheres to an acceptable payment arrangement. Phone contact, reminder letters, payment options/arrangements, legal action, letters sent to all registered owners and interested parties are explored prior to the enactment of Councils' rights are sanctioned under Section 184. The Sale of Land for non-payment of Rates is the 'last resort' when rates have been outstanding for a period exceeding three years, all other means of recovering the outstanding rates have been exhausted and no other effective means of collection of rates from rate payers exists.

PROPOSAL

A property situated at 5 Bodey Street, Mount Gambier described as Lot 242 DP9604 CT5582/116 has an outstanding balance (rates, fines and interest and legal fees) of \$6,152.08 as at 12th March 2024.

The rates have now become outstanding for a period exceeding three years and Council should exercise its right pursuant to Chapter 10, part 1, Division 9 of the Local Government Act, 1999 to seek to sell the land for non-payment of Council rates, fines, etc.

In terms of the disbursement of any funds as a result of the sale of the property, Section 184 (11) of the Local Government Act 1999 provides:

“(11) Any money received by the council in respect of the sale of land under this section will be applied as follows:

- (a) Firstly - in paying the costs of the sale and any other costs incurred in proceeding under this section;*
- (b) Secondly - in discharging any liabilities to the council in respect of the land;*
- (c) Thirdly - in discharging any liability to the Crown for rates, charges or taxes, or any prescribed liability to the Crown in respect of the land;*
- (d) Fourthly - in discharging any liabilities secured by registered mortgages, encumbrances or charges;*
- (e) Fifthly - in discharging any other mortgages, encumbrances and charges of which the council has notice;*
- (f) Sixthly - in payment to the owner of the land.”*

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Section 184 (1) of the Local Government Act.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Financial sustainability in local government, ensuring consideration is given to the financial effects on future generations.

COUNCIL POLICY

[R105 Rating Policy](#)

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

Should outstanding debts not be collected in a timely manner economic pressures will have an impact on Council's budget and as a result will place pressure on all ratepayers.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Council's major source of revenue is Rates, derived as a tax on land within the Council area. All ratepayers receive benefits from paying rates, but those benefits are consumed in different quantities and types over the life of the ratepayer

CULTURAL IMPLICATIONS

N/A

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

N/A

VALUE FOR MONEY

Rates constitutes a system of taxation for Local Government purposes

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Should debts not be collected in a timely manner economic pressures will have an impact on Council's budget and as a result will place pressure on all ratepayers.

EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

N/A

ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

N/A

IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

N/A

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Noting the outstanding rates and charges owed to Council in relation to the property situated at 5 Bodey Street, Mount Gambier now exceed the three years or more provided for under Section 184 (1) of the Local Government Act, it is recommended that Council approve proceeding to sale of the property.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil



CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL

1. In accordance with Sections 91(7) and 91(9) of the *Local Government Act 1999* the Council orders that the report 23.3 AR24/17606 Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates and its attachments, resolution/s and minutes arising from the report, having been considered by the Council in confidence under Section 90(2) & (3) (a) be kept confidential and not available for public inspection until the latter of:- 12 months, or the matter being settled.
2. Further that Council delegates the power to review, revoke, but not extend the confidential order to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the provisions of Section 91(9)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

CONFIDENTIAL

**MINUTES OF CITY OF MOUNT GAMBIER COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, 10 WATSON TERRACE, MOUNT
GAMBIER
ON TUESDAY, 19 MARCH 2024 AT 6.00 P.M.**

PRESENT: Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM), Cr Frank Morello, Cr Josh Lynagh, Cr Kate Amoroso, Cr Mark Lovett, Cr Max Bruins, Cr Paul Jenner, Cr Sonya Meziniec, Cr Jason Virgo

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive Officer	- Mrs S Philpott
General Manager City Infrastructure	- Ms B Cernovskis
General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services	- Mrs J Fetherstonhaugh
Manager Governance and Property	- Mr M McCarthy
Manager Financial Services	- Mrs J Scoggins
Media and Communications Coordinator	- Ms S McLean
Executive Administrator	- Ms T Chant

RESOLUTION 2024/54

Moved: Cr Jason Virgo
Seconded: Cr Sonya Mezinec

CONSIDERATION FOR EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

Pursuant to section 90(2) of the *Local Government Act 1999* the Council orders that all members of the public, except the Mayor, Councillors and S Philpott, B Cernovskis, J Fetherstonhaugh, M McCarthy, J Scoggins, S McLean, E Solly, B Shearing, A Stevens and T Chant be excluded from attendance at the meeting for the receipt and consideration in confidence of Agenda Item 23.3 AR24/17606 Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates.

The Council is satisfied that, pursuant to section 90(3) (a) of the Act, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to the Agenda Item is:

- information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead)

The Council is satisfied that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead).

CARRIED

The Mayor sought the approval of at least two-thirds of the members present at the meeting to suspend meeting procedures for 5 minutes.

Purpose of the Suspension: To further discuss Item 23.3

Carried by more than two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.

Meeting Procedures were suspended at 07:51 PM

The Mayor determined that the period of suspension should be brought to an end;

Carried by more than two-thirds of the members present at the meeting.

The Period of Suspension came to an end and Meeting Procedures resumed at 07:57 PM

RESOLUTION 2024/55

Moved: Cr Max Bruins

Seconded: Cr Jason Virgo

1. That Council Report No. AR24/17606 titled 'Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates' as presented on 19 March 2024 be noted.
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3. Mayor and Chief Executive Officer be authorised to sign and affix the common seal to any contract and transfer affecting the sale of the allotment being disposed of by Council, as vendor, for non-payment of rates should such a sale be finally necessary.
4. The Chief Executive Officer be empowered to engage legal counsel or agent to act on Council's behalf in this matter.
5. Pursuant to the powers contained in Section 44 of the Local Government Act 1999, Council hereby delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the power to determine the date, time and place for the conduct of the public auction subject to compliance with Section 184 of the Act.

CARRIED

Cr Mark Lovett left the meeting at 7:57pm and did not return.

RESOLUTION 2024/56

Moved: Cr Jason Virgo

Seconded: Cr Sonya Mezinac

CONSIDERATION FOR KEEPING ITEMS CONFIDENTIAL

1. In accordance with Sections 91(7) and 91(9) of the *Local Government Act 1999* the Council orders that the report 23.3 AR24/17606 Sale of Land for Non-Payment of Rates and its attachments, resolution/s and minutes arising from the report, having been considered by the Council in confidence under Section 90(2) & (3) (a) be kept confidential and not available for public inspection until the latter of:- 12 months, or the matter being settled.
2. Further that Council delegates the power to review, revoke, but not extend the confidential order to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the provisions of Section 91(9)(c) of the *Local Government Act 1999*.

CARRIED

