

MINUTES

Special Council Meeting

Thursday 25 June 2026



Minutes of the City of Mount Gambier Special Council Meeting held at:

Time: 5:30 pm

Date: Thursday 25 June 2026

Location: Council Chamber - Civic Centre
10 Watson Terrace, Mount Gambier

PRESENT: Mayor Lynette Martin (OAM)
Cr Max Bruins
Cr Paul Jenner
Cr Josh Lynagh
Cr Sonya Meziniec
Cr Frank Morello

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:	Chief Executive Officer	- Mr Paul Simpson
	General Manager City Infrastructure	- Ms B Cernovskis
	General Manager Corporate and Regulatory Services	- Mrs J Fetherstonhaugh
	Manager Governance and Property	- Ms B Shelton
	Manager Financial Services	- Ms K Rolton
	Manager Waste, Reuse and Environment	- Mr J Martin
	Manager Performance and Capability	- Ms T McPherson
	Manager Economy, Strategy and Engagement	- Mrs B Shearing
	Director Riddoch Arts and Cultural Centre and Cultural Development	- Ms A Whatling
	Media and Communications Coordinator	- Ms S McLean
	Communications Officer	- Mrs A Watson
	Executive Administrator	- Mrs S Spears

1 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE BOANDIK PEOPLES AS THE TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF THE LAND WHERE WE MEET TODAY. WE RESPECT THEIR SPIRITUAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND AND RECOGNISE THE DEEP FEELINGS OF ATTACHMENT OUR FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES HAVE WITH THE LAND.

2 CONDUCT OF THE GALLERY

MEMBERS OF THE GALLERY ARE REMINDED THAT THEY MUST NOT BEHAVE IN A DISORDERLY MANNER OR CAUSE AN INTERRUPTION TO THE MEETING. WHILST AUDIO RECORDING OF COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS IS PERMITTED, PHOTOGRAPHING, FILMING AND TELEVISIONING ARE PROHIBITED UNLESS EXPRESS PRIOR PERMISSION IS GRANTED BY THE PRESIDING MEMBER. WE ASK THAT YOU PLEASE PLACE YOUR PHONES ON SILENT. SHOULD AN EMERGENCY OCCUR AT ANY STAGE, PLEASE FOLLOW THE DIRECTION OF COUNCIL STAFF TO VACATE THE BUILDING.

3 APOLOGIES

Nil

4 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

5 COUNCIL REPORTS

5.1 ADOPTION OF 2026/2027 ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN, BUDGET AND RATING POLICIES

RESOLUTION SCM 2026/8

Moved: Cr Sonya Meziniec

Seconded: Cr Frank Morello

1. That Council report titled 'Adoption of 2026/2027 Annual Business Plan, Budget and Rating Policies' as presented on Thursday 25 June 2026 be noted.
2. That Council, having considered the public submissions at the Special Council meeting on 16 June 2026 and the feedback provided at the Audit and Risk Committee on 3 June 2026, adopts the 2026/2027 Annual Business Plan and Budget which includes R105 Rating Policy and R155 Rate Rebate Policy as attached to this report.
3. Pursuant to section 123(7) of the Local Government Act 1999 and regulation 7 of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011, that having considered the Budget in conjunction with Annual Business Plan, determine the Budget to be consistent with, the Council's adopted Annual Business Plan per recommendation 2 above.
4. That Council adopts the Budget for the year ending 30 June 2027, as detailed in the attachments to this report which comprise:
 - (a) the budgeted financial statements including budgeted Uniform Presentation of Finances.
 - (b) statement within the Annual Business Plan and Budget that the projected operating income is sufficient to meet projected operating expenses as a result of a forecast balanced budget for 2026/2027.
 - (c) estimates with respect to the council's operating surplus ratio, net financial liabilities ratio and asset renewal funding ratio as presented in the Annual Business Plan and Budget.
5. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer or Delegate to make any necessary changes to the 2026/2027 Annual Business Plan and Budget document arising from this meeting, together with any editorial amendments, errors or omissions and finalisation of the document's formatting and graphic design that do not materially alter the integrity of the document.

CARRIED

Cr Paul Jenner called a division.

The declaration was set aside.

Voting by division being:

In Favour: Cr Max Bruins, Cr Josh Lynagh, Cr Sonya Meziniec and Cr Frank Morello

Against: Cr Paul Jenner

The Mayor declared the motion

CARRIED 4/5



5.2 ADOPTION OF VALUATIONS AND RATES DECLARATION YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2027

RESOLUTION SCM 2026/9

Moved: Cr Frank Morello

Seconded: Cr Sonya Meziniec

1. That Council report titled 'Adoption of Valuations and Rates Declaration year ending 30 June 2027' as presented on Thursday 25 June 2026 be noted.
2. That, pursuant to section 167(1) and (2) of the Local Government Act 1999 Council adopts, for rating purposes for the 2026/2027 financial year, the Valuer General's valuations of the capital values applicable to land within the area of the Council, totalling \$8,153,993,260 and that the date of adoption of the valuations is 25 June 2026.
3. That, pursuant to sections 152(1)(c), 153(1)(b) and 156(1)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999, and in order to raise rates in the amount of \$28,955,876, Council declares differential general rates for rateable land within the Council area for the 2026/2027 financial year as follows:
 - (a) 0.195275 of a cent per dollar of assessed capital value on rateable land of land use category (a) 'Residential' and category (i) 'Other'; and
 - (b) 0.253858 of a cent per dollar of assessed capital value on rateable land of land use category (g) 'Primary Production'; and
 - (c) 0.4881880 of a cent per dollar of assessed capital value on rateable land of land use category (b) 'Commercial-Shop', category (c) 'Commercial Office', category (d) 'Commercial-Other', category (e) 'Industry-Light', category (f) 'Industry Other' and category (h) 'Vacant Land' use.
4. That pursuant to section 152 (1)(c)(ii) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Council imposes in respect of the 2026/2027 financial year, a fixed charge on rateable land within the Council area to the sum of \$650.35.
5. That pursuant to section 155(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council imposes a Waste Service Charge of \$390.00 for the 2026/2027 financial year on all land to which it provides or makes available the prescribed waste service of bin collection, treatment and disposal in order to raise the amount of \$5,702,970.
6. That in the exercise of the powers contained in section 69 of the Landscape South Australia Act 2019 and section 154 of the Local Government Act 1999, in order to reimburse to the Council the amount contributed to the Limestone Coast Landscape Board, being \$1,544,358 differential separate rates based on a fixed charge of an amount that depends upon the use of the land on all rateable land in the Council's area and in the area of the said Board for the 2026/2027 financial year are declared as follows:
 - (a) \$98.05 per assessment on rateable land of category (a) 'Residential', category (h) 'Vacant Land' and category (i) 'Other';
 - (b) \$142.00 per assessment on rateable land of category (b) 'Commercial-Shop', category (c) 'Commercial-Office' and category (d) 'Commercial-Other';
 - (c) \$228.00 per assessment on rateable land of category (e) 'Industry-Light' and category (f) 'Industry-Other';
 - (d) \$419.00 per assessment on rateable land of category (g) 'Primary Production'.

7. That pursuant to section 153 (3) of the Local Government Act 1999 and for the financial year ending 30 June 2027 but subject to the criteria set out in the Annual Business Plan 2026/2027 being met, the Council fixes a maximum increase to the general rate of 15% over the amount of the general rate liability for the 2025/2026 financial year in respect of any rateable land that constitutes the principal place of residence of a principal ratepayer and determines that any amount in excess of the 15% be remitted.
8. That pursuant to section 181(2) of the Local Government Act 1999 the Council declares that quarterly payment of rates and charges in respect of the 2026/2027 financial year be payable on or before:
Friday 4 September 2026
Friday 4 December 2026
Friday 5 March 2027
Friday 4 June 2027

CARRIED

5.3 ADOPTION OF LONG TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (LTFP) 2027-2036

RESOLUTION SCM 2026/10

Moved: Cr Sonya Meziniec

Seconded: Cr Josh Lynagh

1. That Council report titled 'Adoption of Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP) 2027-2036' as presented on Thursday 25 June 2026 be noted.
2. That Council note the Audit and Risk Committee feedback, verbal and written submissions received from members of the public considered at the Special Council meeting held on 16 June 2026 as part of the broader Draft 2026/2027 Annual Business Plan and Budget and Draft Long Term Financial Plan Consultation.
3. That Council adopt the Long Term Financial Plan 2027-2036 as attached to this Report.
4. That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer or Delegate to make any necessary changes to the Long Term Financial Plan 2027-2036 document arising from this meeting, together with any editorial amendments, errors or omissions and finalisation of the document's formatting and graphic design that do not materially alter the integrity of the document.

CARRIED

6 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Nil

7 MEETING CLOSE

The meeting closed at 5:57 pm.

The minutes of this meeting confirmed at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 July 2026.

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MAYOR

