

**SHIRE OF**  
**WESTONIA**  
A vibrant community lifestyle

# Minutes

## Ordinary Council Meeting

Held in Council Chambers, Wolfram Street Westonia

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024

### CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

These minutes were confirmed by the Council on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024 as a true and accurate record of the Ordinary Council Meeting held 21<sup>st</sup> November 2024.

.....  
**Cr RM Crees**  
**Shire President**

*All attachment items referred to in these minutes are available for public perusal at the Shire Office*



## Disclaimer

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Westonia for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council meetings.

The Shire of Westonia disclaims and liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused by arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during the Council Meetings.

Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement, act or omission made in a Council or committee meeting does that persons or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the board disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a license, any statement or intimation made by any member or Officer of the Shire of Westonia during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Westonia.

The Shire of Westonia warns that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of Westonia must obtain and should only rely on **WRITTEN CONFIRMATION** of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Westonia in respect of the application.



**SHIRE OF WESTONIA**  
A vibrant community lifestyle

# STRATEGIC COMMUNITY

**SNAPSHOT**

**PLAN**

**2018-2028**

## CORE DRIVERS

1. Relationships that bring us tangible benefits (to the Shire and our community)
2. Our lifestyle and strong sense of community.
3. We are prepared for opportunities and we are innovative to ensure our relevancy and destiny.

## OUR VALUES

**Respect** – We value people and places and the contribution they make to the Shire.

**Inclusiveness** – Be receptive, proactive, and responsive.

**Fairness and Equity** – Provide services for a variety of ages and needs.

**Communication** – Create opportunities for consultation with the broad community.

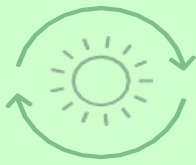
## OUR VISION

A vibrant community lifestyle

## MISSION

Provide leadership and direction for the community.

## ECONOMIC



**Support growth and progress, locally and regionally...**

**Efficient transport connectivity in and around our Shire.**

- Continue to utilise our Road Management Plan, which incorporates a road hierarchy, minimum service levels and maintenance policy.
- RAV Ratings and Shire boundaries are consistent across local government boundaries.
- Lobby and build enduring partnerships with key Government Departments to improve Great Eastern Hwy.
- Actively participate in the Secondary Freight Network group.
- Develop and implement a Road Asset Plan highlighting key funder and strategic partnerships to support sustainability.
- Develop a Gravel Reserve Policy which identifies future gravel reserves and recognises cost to local government.
- Educate road users about road safety and driving on gravel roads.
- Optimal and safe use of our plants and equipment assets.
- Ensure that appropriate RAV vehicles traverse correct RAV routes.
- Maintain our airport with a view to improvements to meet commercial and recreational aviation needs.

**Facilitate local business retention and growth.**

- Council recognises the opportunity of partnering with Westonia Progress Association, works closely and supports them to help achieve their economic development projects and our strategic goals.
- Council continue to have a role in facilitating the presence of a Co-op in our community.
- Enhance local economic activity by supporting the growth of tourism in our Shire and region including applying for funding to improve tourist facilities.
- Improve our online tourism presence.
- We forward plan to improve the economic diversity in our community.
- In partnership with Council, the mine develops long term business plans for current mine assets.
- Investigate options for multipurpose accommodation if vacancies arise in mine accommodation.

## SOCIAL



**Provide community facilities and promote social Interaction...**

**Plan for community growth and changing demographics.**

- Develop the Town Planning Scheme.
- Plan and develop residential and industrial land.
- Community safety and ease of access around town is a priority.
- Our lifestyle, facilities and sense of community is promoted.
- The CEACA project continues to expand the number of universally designed dwellings in our town.
- We support our emergency services.
- We enable visiting health professionals to our community.
- The Community Resource Centre receives external funding to provide preventative health and community development initiatives to the community.
- We facilitate healthy and active ageing in place
- Our cemetery is well presented.

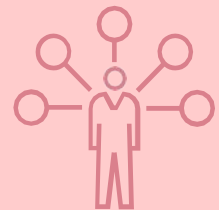
**Our community has the opportunity to be active, socialised and connected.**

- We collaborate and encourage active engagement in local clubs and community initiatives that support a healthy lifestyle.
- Investigate motor sport opportunities around the Shire.
- Preserve and celebrate our local history.
- Support our volunteers and clubs to remain strong, dynamic, and inclusive.
- Encourage lifelong learning.
- Children and youth have active and social opportunities.
- Continue to provide high standard and accessible shire facilities.
- Retain and expand Westonia's unique tourism experience.

**Natural spaces are preserved and bring us value.**

- Sustainably manage our reserves and open spaces.
- Participate in best practice waste management.
- Work collaboratively to meet legislative compliance with managing weeds and pests as well as our environmental health standards.
- Investigate renewable energy generation technologies.

## GOVERNANCE



**Continually enhance the Shire's organisational capacity to service the needs of a growing community...**

**Be progressive and capture opportunities.**

- Be open to local productivity/ best practice and cost saving opportunities locally and regionally.
- Investigate joint resourcing and tendering
- Advocate and develop strong partnerships to benefit our community.
- Be prepared by forward planning our resources and focusing on continuous improvement.
- Identify risks and opportunities after the life of the mine.

**The community receives services in a timely manner.**

- Meet our legislative and compliance requirements.
- Work towards optimal management of our assets.
- Work to develop Councillor and staff skills and experience to provide career and succession opportunities within the Shire.
- Inside and outside staff are multi skilled to understand the business of local government and provide a seamless service to the community.
- Communicate and engage with our community regularly.

**Financial resources meet the ongoing needs of the community.**

- Seek external funding for significant capital improvements that deliver upon our strategic objectives.
- Investigate ways to reduce reliance on operational grants given the current State and Federal Government priorities.

**Shire of Westonia: - A vibrant community lifestyle.**



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. DECLARATION OF OPENING</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (3.35PM – 3.50PM)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6. RECEIVAL OF MINUTES</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7. PRESIDENT/COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>8. DECLARATION OF INTEREST</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>9. MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION</b>	<b>7</b>
9.1. GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL SERVICES	7
9.1.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – OCTOBER 2024	7
9.1.2 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY– OCTOBER 2024	9
9.1.3 GST RECONCILIATION REPORT – OCTOBER 2024	11
9.2 COMMUNITY AND REGULATIONS	13
9.3 WORKS AND SERVICES	14
9.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES	15
9.4.1 PLANNING APPLICATION AMALGAMATION LOTS 58 & 59 JASPER STREET WESTONIA TOWNSITE	15
9.4.2 PLANNING APPLICATION SUBDIVISION LOTS 366 ECHO VALLEY ROAD	17
<b>10. ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>11. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY A DECISION OF THE MEETING</b>	<b>19</b>
11.1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT MASTER LENDING AGREEMENT WITH WATC	19
11.2 RATE REFUND – VALUATION CALCULATION ERROR	22
<b>12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>13. MEETING CLOSURE</b>	<b>23</b>

## 1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The President, Cr Crees welcomed Councillors and staff and declared the meeting open at 3.34pm.

## 2. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

### Councillors:

Cr RM Crees	<i>Shire President</i>
Cr RA Della Bosca	<i>Deputy Shire President</i>
Cr DL Geier	
Cr WJ Huxtable	
Cr A Faithfull	

### Staff:

Mr. AW Price	<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>
Mrs JL Geier	<i>Deputy Chief Executive Officer</i>

### Members of the Public:

Mr. Doug Hermon

### Apologies:

Nil

### Approved Leave of Absence:

Cr DL Simmonds

## 3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (3.35PM – 3.50PM)

NIL

## 4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

NIL

## 5. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

---

### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

---

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

---

### RESOLUTION

---

<b>Moved:</b>	<b>Cr DellaBosca</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Cr Faithfull</b>
---------------	----------------------	------------------	---------------------

<b>01/11-24</b>	<b>That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record.</b>
-----------------	--

CARRIED 5/0

## 6. RECEIVAL OF MINUTES

### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

That the minutes of the CEACA annual meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 be accepted.

That the minutes of the CEACA management meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 be accepted.

### RESOLUTION

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Huxtable

02/11-24 That the minutes of the CEACA annual meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 be accepted.

That the minutes of the CEACA management meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2024 be accepted.

CARRIED 5/0

## 7. PRESIDENT/COUNCILLORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

President, Cr Crees advised having attended the following meetings:

Great Eastern Zone Meeting held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2024

Deputy President, Cr Della Bosca advised having attended the following meetings:

Nil

Councillor Geier advised having attended the following meetings:

Nil

Councillor Faithfull advised having attended the following meetings:

Nil

Councillor Huxtable advised having attended the following meetings:

Nil

## 8. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Financial** interest were made at the Council meeting held on **21<sup>st</sup> November 2024**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

In accordance with Section 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Closely Association Person and Impartiality** interest were made at the Council meeting held on **21<sup>st</sup> November 2024**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	



In accordance with Section 5.60B and 5.65 of the *Local Government Act 1995* the following disclosures of **Proximity. interest** were made at the Council meeting held on **21<sup>st</sup> November 2024**.

Name/Position	
Item No./Subject	
Nature of interest	
Extent of Interest	

## 9. MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION

### 9.1. GOVERNANCE, ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

#### 9.1.1 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT – OCTOBER 2024

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Bill Price, CEO
<b>Author:</b>	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
<b>File Reference:</b>	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>Attachment 9.1.1</b> List of Accounts
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Officer</b>  <b>CEO</b> 

#### **Purpose of the Report**

Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

#### **Background**

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996. A Local Government is to develop procedures for the authorisation of, and payment of, accounts to ensure that there is effective security for, which money or other benefits July be obtained.

#### **Comment**

Attached is a copy of Accounts for Payment for the month of October 2024. The credit card/ Fuel Card statements currently show: -

#### **MasterCard Transactions**

**CEO October 2024 \$11,267.57** associated with the Bendigo Card Fee, 1049451 Cloud Anti Spam Recurring1038203 Office 365 Exchange online Plan Monthly Recurring1047021 Microsoft 365 Business Basic Recurring Monthly Active8me internet service1049449 Managed Endpoint & Subscriptions Recurring1038283 - Microsoft 365 Business Std Recurring Starlink - CEO Internet - August Invarion - RapidPlan single machine Subscription Belgian Beer Café - LG Week Dinner Tony Romas - Perth - LG Week Dinner Long Neck Brewery - LG Week Dinner Long Neck Brewery - LG Week Drinks Metro Bar & Bistro - Drinks Shire of Westonia - License WT139 GM Taxipay - Taxi fee Convention Centre - Parking Hilton Perth - LG Week Accom Wilson Parking - Parking IGA Merredin - Snack Bags Aust Post - Stallholder prizes

**DCEO October 2024 \$2,294.98** associated with the purchase of Adobe Sydney - Subscription Belgian Beer Café - Refreshments Metro Bar & Bistro Swan Taxi Combined Tyres - Bike Tube 2 Dogs - Staff water jugs Australia Post - Prizes Interest Bendigo - Card Fee

#### **Fuel Card Transactions**

<b>CEO</b>	<b>October 2024 \$139.61</b>
<b>DCEO</b>	<b>October 2024 \$106.06</b>
<b>Construction Supervisor</b>	<b>October 2024 \$200.40</b>

**Statutory Environment**

Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996 Regulations 12 & 13 requires the list of accounts to be presented to Council. Payments are made by staff under delegated authority from the CEO and Council.

**Policy Implications**

Council does not have a policy in relation to payment of accounts.

**Strategic Implications**

Accounts for payment are presented to Council in the interests of accountability and provide information on Council expenditure.

**Financial Implications**

Expenditure in accordance with the 2024/2025 Annual Budget.

**Voting Requirements**



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

---

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

That October 2024 accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal D/Debits from DD4302 to DD4330 and Electronic Fund Transfers EFT7161 to EFT7226 (Inclusive of Department for Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Credit Card Payments) totalling \$668,430.11 be passed for payment.

---

**RESOLUTION**

---

Moved:

Cr Faithfull

Seconded:

Cr Huxtable

03/11-24


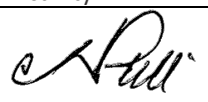
That October 2024 accounts submitted to today's meeting on Municipal D/Debits from DD4302 to DD4330 and Electronic Fund Transfers EFT7161 to EFT7226 (Inclusive of Department for Planning and Infrastructure / Creditor and Bank Fees Directly Debited and Credit Card Payments) totalling \$668,430.11 be passed for payment

CARRIED 5/0



**9.1.2 MONTHLY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY– OCTOBER 2024**

---

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Bill Price, CEO
<b>Author:</b>	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
<b>File Reference:</b>	F1.3.3 Monthly Financial Statements
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>Attachment 9.1.2</b> Monthly Statement of Financial Activity
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Officer</b>  <b>CEO</b> 

---

**Purpose of the Report**

- Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council’s activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

**Background**

This information is provided to Council on a monthly basis in accordance with provisions of the Local Government Act 1995 and Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1996.

**Comment**

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity for the period ending October 2024 is attached for Councillor information, and consists of:

1. Statement of Financial Activity
2. Statement of Financial Position
3. Note 1 Basis of Preparation
4. Note 2 Statement of Financial Activity Information
5. Note 3 Explanation of Material Variances
6. Supplementary information

**Statutory Environment**

General Financial Management of Council  
Council 2024/2025 Budget  
Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 34 1996  
Local Government Act 1995 section 6.4

**Policy Implications**

Council is required annually to adopt a policy on what it considers to be material as far as variances that require to be reported for Council. Council policy is that the material variation be set at \$10,000 and 15%.

**Strategic Implications**

The Monthly Statement of Financial Activity is a record of Council’s activities and financial performance during the reporting period.

**Financial Implications**

There is no direct financial implication in relation to this matter.

**Voting Requirements**

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

---

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending October 2024 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.

---

**RESOLUTION**

---

**Moved: Cr Della Bosca**

**Seconded: Cr Geier**



**04/11-24**

**That Council adopt the Monthly Financial Report for the period ending October 2024 and note any material variances greater than \$10,000 or 15%.**

**CARRIED 5/0**

**9.1.3 GST RECONCILIATION REPORT – OCTOBER 2024**

---

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Bill Price, CEO
<b>Author:</b>	Jasmine Geier, Deputy Chief Executive Officer
<b>File Reference:</b>	F1.4.4 Audit Report
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>Attachment 9.1.3</b> GST Report
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Officer</b>  <b>CEO</b> 

---

**Purpose of the Report**

- Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

The GST reconciliation is presented to Council as a means of indicating Council’s current GST liability, which has an impact on Council’s cash-flow.

**Background**

The Reconciled Balance of the GST Ledger to the General Ledger as reported as at October 2024 provided to Council on a monthly basis as a means of keeping Council informed of its current GST liability.

**Comment**

The GST Reconciliation Report is attached for Councillor consideration.

**Statutory Environment**

Nil

**Policy Implications**

Council does not have a policy in regard to Goods and Services Tax.

**Strategic Implications**

Nil

**Financial Implications**

The GST reconciliation is presented to Council as a means of indicating Council’s current GST liability, which has an impact on Council’s cash-flow.

**Voting Requirements**

- Simple Majority  Absolute Majority

---

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

That the GST Reconciliation totalling **(\$16,126.00)** for the period ending October 2024 adopted.

---

**RESOLUTION**

---

**Moved:** Cr Faithful

**Seconded:** Cr Huxtable

05/11-24 That the GST Reconciliation totalling **(\$16,126.00)** for the period ending October 2024 adopted.

**CARRIED 5/0**

## **9.2 COMMUNITY AND REGULATIONS**

Nil

### **9.3 WORKS AND SERVICES**

Nil


## 9.4 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES

### 9.4.1 PLANNING APPLICATION AMALGAMATION LOTS 58 & 59 JASPER STREET WESTONIA TOWNSITE

---

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Bill Price, CEO
<b>Author:</b>	Bill Price, CEO
<b>File Reference:</b>	D2.1.2 Amalgamations/Subdivisions
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	
<b>Attachments:</b>	Subdivision Illustrations
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Officer</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>CEO</b></span>

---



#### Purpose of the Report

- Executive Decision  Legislative Requirement

This report seeks Council's support for the proposed amalgamation of Lots 58 & 59 Jasper Street Westonia as depicted.

#### Background

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has received an application for planning approval from Suburban Surveys for a proposed amalgamation of Lots 58 & 59 Jasper Street Westonia. These are the lots that Council have just resolved to sell to D & J McAuliffe under the conditional land release.

Council has 42 days from application to make comments on the proposal to the WAPC, being 20 December 2024.

#### Comment

The proposal is supported by Council as the purchase of the 2 x lots was based on a larger development being proposed for the site.

#### Statutory Environment

Western Australian Planning Act (Amalgamations/Subdivisions)

#### Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to this matter

#### Strategic Implications

Establishment of alternative lifestyle residential options for the community.

#### Financial Implications

Nil



**Voting Requirements**



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

---

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

That Council support the proposed amalgamation of Lots 58 & 59 Jasper Street as depicted in diagrams (attached)

---

**RESOLUTION**

Moved:

Cr Geier

Seconded:

Cr Faithfull

06/11-24

That Council support the proposed amalgamation of Lots 58 & 59 Jasper Street as depicted in diagrams (attached)

CARRIED 5/0




**9.4.2 PLANNING APPLICATION SUBDIVISION LOTS 366 ECHO VALLEY ROAD**

---

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Bill Price, CEO
<b>Author:</b>	Bill Price, CEO
<b>File Reference:</b>	D2.1.2 Subdivisions
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Subdivision Illustration

---

<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Officer</b>	<b>CEO</b>
-------------------	----------------	------------



---

**Purpose of the Report**

- Executive Decision                       Legislative Requirement

This report seeks Council’s support for a proposed subdivision of Lot 366 Echo Valley Road as depicted in diagrams (attached)

**Background**

The Western Australian Planning Commission (WAPC) has received an application for planning approval from Mr Ben Farina for a proposed subdivision of Lot 366 Echo Valley Road Warralakin. The purpose of the proposal is likely to clearly define the areas of arable land from the remnant vegetation ecological corridors.

Council has 42 days from application to make comments on the proposal to the WAPC, being 23 December 2024.

**Comment**

The proposal clearly defines the arable areas from the remnant ecological areas and would have little effect on the protection of farming land from non-traditional uses. The vegetation Lot is proposed to be purchased by mining company as an environmental offset.

**Statutory Environment**

Western Australian Planning Act (Subdivisions)

**Policy Implications**

Council does not have a policy in relation to this matter

**Strategic Implications**

Nil.

**Financial Implications**

Nil.

**Voting Requirements**

- Simple Majority                       Absolute Majority



**10. ELECTED MEMBERS MOTIONS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

**11. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE INTRODUCED BY A DECISION OF THE MEETING**

---

**RESOLUTION**

---

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Della Bosca

08/11-24 That Council introduces the following two (2) item of an urgent nature to the meeting for discussion

CARRIED 5/0

**11.1 LOCAL GOVERNMENT MASTER LENDING AGREEMENT WITH WATC**

---

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Bill Price, CEO
<b>Author:</b>	Jasmine Geier, DCEO
<b>File Reference:</b>	F1.7.2 Loans Raised
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil
<b>Attachments:</b>	Master Lending Agreement between WATC and Shire of Westonia
<b>Signature:</b>	Officer <span style="float: right;">CEO</span>

---



**Purpose of the Report**

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

The Purpose of the Report is to Execution of the Local Government Master Lending Agreement (LGLMA) with the Western Australian Treasury Corporation (WATC), as provided under separate cover.

**Background**

The Local Government Master Lending Agreement will facilitate all future borrowings with the WATC under the one agreement thereby removing the need for individual loan agreements to be executed under seal each time the Shire utilises WATC lending facilities.

**Comment**

To start the process it is necessary for the Shire of Westonia to enter into a Local Government Master Lending Agreement with WATC. The WATC requires that the Shire of Westonia execute the LGMLA under its common seal as authorised by a resolution of Council.

Any borrowing under the LGMLA will be subject to WATC's credit approval policy at the time of the application, and the release of funds is subject to the issuance of a firm rate quote by WATC and its acceptance by an authorised signatory of the Shire of Westonia.

**Statutory Environment**

*Local Government Act 1995*

**6.20. Power to borrow**

- (1) Subject to this Act, a local government may —
  - (a) borrow or re-borrow money; or
  - (b) obtain credit; or
  - (c) arrange for financial accommodation to be extended to the local government in ways additional to or other than borrowing money or obtaining credit, to enable the local government to perform the functions and exercise the powers conferred on it under this Act or any other written law.
- (2) Where, in any financial year, a local government proposes to exercise a power under subsection (1) (**power to borrow**) and details of that proposal have not been included in the annual budget for that financial year —
  - (a) unless the proposal is of a prescribed kind, the local government must give one month's local public notice of the proposal; and
  - (b) the resolution to exercise that power is to be by absolute majority.
- (3) Where a local government has exercised a power to borrow and —
  - (a) it does not wish to proceed with the performance of the function or the exercise of the power for which the power to borrow was exercised; or
  - (b) after having completed the performance of the function or the exercise of the power for which the power to borrow was exercised, any part of the money borrowed, credit obtained or financial accommodation arranged has not been expended or utilized,  
  
the local government may resolve\* to expend the money or utilize the credit or financial accommodation for another purpose if one month's local public notice is given of the proposed change of purpose.

\* Absolute majority required.
- (4) A local government is not required to give local public notice under subsection (3) —
  - (a) where the change of purpose has been disclosed in the annual budget of the local government for the relevant financial year; or
  - (b) in such other circumstances as are prescribed.
- (5) A change of purpose referred to in subsection (3) is to be disclosed in the annual financial report for the year in which the change occurs.

#### Policy Implications

Council does not have a policy in relation to this matter

#### Strategic Implications

Good governance structures, supporting council focus on strategic areas.

#### Financial Implications

Nil.

#### Voting Requirements



Simple Majority



Absolute Majority

---

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

---

That Council

- a) Enters into a Master Lending Agreement with Western Australian Treasury Corporation as per the document tabled at this meeting.
- b) Endorse the affixation of the Common Seal of the Shire of Westonia to the said Master Lending Agreement in the presence of the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer, each of whom shall sign the document to attest the affixation of the Common Seal thereto; and

- 
- c) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign schedule documents under the Master Lending Agreement and to give instructions thereunder on behalf of the Shire of Westonia.
- 

**RESOLUTION**

---

**Moved:** Cr Faithfull

**Seconded:** Cr DellaBosca

09/11-24

**That Council**

- a) Enters into a Master Lending Agreement with Western Australian Treasury Corporation as per the document tabled at this meeting.
- b) Endorse the affixation of the Common Seal of the Shire of Westonia to the said Master Lending Agreement in the presence of the Shire President and the Chief Executive Officer, each of whom shall sign the document to attest the affixation of the Common Seal thereto; and
- c) Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign schedule documents under the Master Lending Agreement and to give instructions thereunder on behalf of the Shire of Westonia.


CARRIED 5/0

## 11.2 RATE REFUND – VALUATION CALCULATION ERROR

---

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Bill Price, CEO	
<b>Author:</b>	Bill Price, CEO	
<b>File Reference:</b>		
<b>Disclosure of Interest:</b>	Nil	
<b>Attachments:</b>	Nil	
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Officer</b>	<b>CEO</b>

---



### Purpose of the Report

Executive Decision

Legislative Requirement

The purpose of this report is for Council to make the necessary rate refunds to individual assessments due to a valuation/rate in the dollar calculation error at the time of the adoption of the annual budget.

### Background

Firstly, I wish to apologise to the Council for this embarrassing oversight and administrative error. This is a clumsy error that should not have transpired with the necessary checks in place.

Council has been made aware of an administration error made at the time of the adoption of the annual 24/25 Budget in the calculation of rates.

During the rate modelling process at the draft budget stage, it was wrongly presumed that the new valuations were provided to calculate the rate in the dollar for the 24/25 financial year. Instead, the existing valuations were used in the modelling calculations which has resulted in the Council levying an additional \$ 90,727.95 rate income over and above its budget figure of \$ 1,220,000 (which included the 5% increase)

### Comment

Refunds have been calculated for those rate assessments that have paid their rates in full, with a credit being calculated on those rate assessments that have chosen to make instalment payments, The breakup being \$ 51,056.18 in refunds and \$ 39,580.06 credit reductions in the next instalments payments.

Council have been provided separately a copy of the spreadsheet showing the refunds calculated per individual assessment.

### Statutory Environment

### Policy Implications

Nil

### Strategic Implications

Nil

### Financial Implications

This adjustment does not affect the adopted 24/25 budget as the rate income to be received after refunds is as per the amount recognised in the budget.

### Voting Requirements

Simple Majority

Absolute Majority

---

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS**

---

That Council make the necessary rate refunds to individual assessments due to a valuation/rate in the dollar calculation error at the time of the adoption of the annual budget.

---

**RESOLUTION**

---

Moved: Cr Geier

Seconded: Cr Faithfull

10/11-24 That Council make the necessary rate refunds to individual assessments due to a valuation/rate in the dollar calculation error at the time of the adoption of the annual budget.

CARRIED 5/0

**12 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next ordinary meeting of Council will be held on Thursday 19 December 2024 commencing at 3.30pm.

**13. MEETING CLOSURE**

There being no further business the Shire President, Cr Mark Crees declared the meeting closed at 4.13pm