

## **Alteration and Rescission of Motions: No Special Rate Variation for the 2025/26-Financial Year**

Council, at its Ordinary Meeting held on 26 June 2024, amongst others, adopted the following resolutions ((96/24):

*(5) Confirms its resolution adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 27 March 2024 for a Special Rate Variation (SRV) application to the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to be prepared for an SRV to be implemented for the 2025/26 Financial Year onwards to address the current and ongoing future operating deficits and associated inability of Council to adequately address the maintenance and renewal of its infrastructure assets.*

*(6) Commences as soon as is possible with the preparation of an updated suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IPRF) documents and SRV-application, noting that community consultation is an intrinsic process associated with these preparation actions, and that Centium consultancy firm has been engaged to facilitate the community consultation processes and assist Council staff with the preparation of the SRV-application and the IPRF-suite of documents.*

*(7) Determines a proposed percentage increase for the SRV and the proposed implementation period before the community consultation regarding the SRV commences, and that the Councillor Workshop that is scheduled for 10 July 2024 be 6 2 July 2024 earmarked for initial information presentations by staff in this regard.*

In moving the rescission and alteration motions, the following factors have been considered:

- We acknowledge Council's tight financial situation, and also acknowledge the tight financial situation in the community with interest rate rises, increased commodity prices and lower livestock prices, however:-
- In consultation with the General Manager, it would be possible for Council to adjust its 2024/25-Budget to fund its projected cash deficit, and those alterations would be incorporated as part of the first quarterly budget review.
- Council has received an increased allocation of Roads to Recovery funding.
- Council has a small cushion with the RERRF funds (Pothole money)
- Presently we have just completed the first year of the 43% SRV implementation and are now entering the second year. We note that even with the rate rise Tenterfield Shire rates are still well below many other councils.
- The necessary SRV and IP&R-community consultations in close succession to each other in the second part of 2024 is not ideal, as it can confuse the issues.
- Council's asset plans and associated information are not updated yet and would be difficult to achieve in time for an RSV-applications for 2025/26, as it involves time-consuming processes and interpretation of data.
- The consultation and implementation of a revised Organisation Structure is another time-consuming exercise, and in conjunction with an SRV-application, would be challenging for staff to accomplish within strict timeframes.
- The expenditure of \$87Million DRFA and other grant funding over the next couple of years places an enormous additional burden on the organisation.
- The payment by the public of the Emergency Levy to Councils is currently under consideration by the State Government.
- The rate pegging policy in NSW is currently under investigation and consideration by the State Government.

- The future of the Rural Fire Service's red fleet and other assets and associated depreciation costs, and how these costs will be dealt with in NSW in future, is uncertain and currently further being investigated.

Therefore, we the undersigned

**Move that Council:**

1. Rescinds in totality the contents of paragraphs five (5) and seven (7) of Resolution 96/24 adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 June 2024.

2. Alters the contents of paragraph six (6) of Resolution 96/24 adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 June 2024 to read as follows:

(6) Commences with the preparation of an updated suite of Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework (IPRF) documents as soon as is practicable after the September 2024 Local Government Elections, noting that community consultation is an intrinsic process associated with the preparation actions, and that Centium consultancy firm has been engaged to facilitate the community consultation processes and assist Council staff with the preparation of the IPRF-suite of documents.

3. Makes the necessary funding alterations in its adopted 2024/25-Budget to cover the projected cash deficit of \$928,088 as follows:

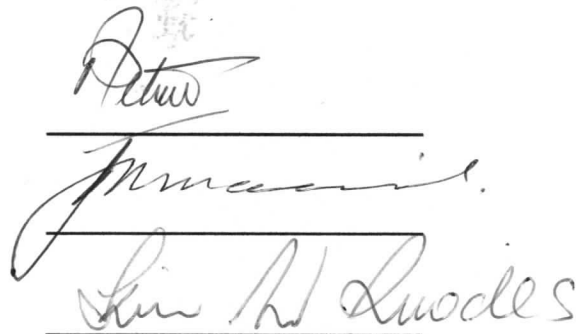
Descriptor	Budgeted Amount	Revised Amount	Amount Saved	Alternative Funding Source
Urban Streets – Reseal Program	\$100,000	Nil	\$100,000	\$100,000 funded from R2R – from the increased allocation of \$793,700pa
Rural Roads- Reseal Program	\$400,000	Nil	\$400,000	\$400,000 funded from R2R – from the increased allocation
Urban Road Rehabilitation	\$75,000	Nil	\$75,000	\$75,000 funded from R2R – from the increased allocation
Rural Roads Maintenance	\$1,500,000	\$1,146,912	\$353,088	\$353,088 funded from RERRF (Pot-hole money)
<b>Cash Deficit</b>	<b>(\$928,088)</b>		<b>\$928,088</b>	

Signed by:

Cr Bronwyn Petrie – Mayor

Cr John Macnish – Deputy Mayor

Cr Kim Rhodes



Three handwritten signatures are present, each on a horizontal line. The top signature is Bronwyn Petrie, the middle is John Macnish, and the bottom is Kim Rhodes.