

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON TUESDAY, 9th JUNE 2015**

1. OPENING

1.1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Shire President welcomed all in attendance and declared the meeting open at 5.35 pm.

1.2 RECORDING OF THOSE PRESENT

Cr K J Chappel	President
Cr D S Carslake	Deputy President
Cr D S Agar	
Cr D J Coaker	
Cr D B Collins	
Cr K P Stokes	
Cr M J Thornton	

Mr J E Roberts	Chief Executive Office
Mrs W J Gledhill	Manager Accounting & Finance

1.3 RECORDING OF APOLOGIES

1.4 VISITORS TO THE MEETING

Nil

2.0 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

3.0 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

4.0 REPORTS OF COMMITTEES AND OFFICER

Manager Accounting and Finance

4.1 Differential Rating - Advertising

Date of Meeting:	9th June 2014
Item No:	
Subject:	Differential Rating-Advertising
Date & Author:	04 June 2015 Fred Gledhill
Responsible Officer:	Manager Accounting & Finance
Applicant/Proponent:	Fred Gledhill
Previous minute/s & Reference:	June 2014

SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is for Council to determine;

1. The imposing of a differential rate being a differential Unimproved Valuation (UV) rate for Mining in Morawa at \$0.289681 in the valuation dollar for the 2015-2016 financial year.
2. That the proposal be advertised for 21 days in accordance with the Local Government Act 1995 section 6.36 for public comment, indicating the objects of and reasons for the differential rate.
3. Following the advertising period seek approval from the Minister to impose a differential UV mining rate which is more than twice the lowest differential UV Rate imposed.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Nil

ATTACHMENTS

Statement of Objects and Reasons for Differential Rates and Minimum Payments

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A local government may impose differential general rates based on the predominant purpose for which the land is held or used as determined by local government. Ministerial approval will need to be obtained to impose a differential rate which is more than twice the lowest differential rate imposed.

The Shire of Morawa has adopted differential rates since 2005. The current approved differential Unimproved Valuation (UV) Rural rate is \$0.0200775 cents in the dollar and for Mining UV in Morawa is \$0.274580 cents in the dollar.

It is proposed that the UV differential Mining Rate for the Shire of Morawa for the 2015/16 financial year be forecast to be set at \$0.289681 in the dollar. This represents an increase of 5.5% in the dollar.

The UV mining is again more than twice the lowest rate hence a council resolution; advertising and Ministerial approval is required prior to adopting the annual budget.

OFFICER'S COMMENT

Differential rating schemes adopted in Western Australia range from simple schemes used in pastoral/mining areas where a single differential rate is used, to those in more populated areas where many differentials may be used. It is suggested that Council continues to adopt a UV Rural Rate and a UV Mining Rate to address the perceived rating anomaly or inequality within the district. Once Council determines the proposed differential rate the proposal is required to be advertised for 21 days for public comment, indicating the objects of and reasons for the differential rate. Approval will then be sought from the Minister to impose a differential UV mining rate which is more than twice the lowest differential UV Rural rate imposed.

The proposed rate increase is consistent with the over-all current rate modelling being considered for the adoption of the 2015/2016 Shire of Morawa Annual Budget and allows for a small deviation of the annual rate in the dollar to be approved by Council in adoption of the budget.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995 Section 6.3 and 6.36

Ministerial approval will need to be obtained to impose a differential rate which is more than twice the lowest differential rate imposed.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This will impact on the forthcoming 2015/16 financial year budget

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The Annual budget is part of the Integrated Planning requirements to feed into the Corporate Business Plan and the Strategic Community Plan.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Failure to advertise and comply with the Local Government Act 1995 will seriously impact of Councils cash flow for the 2015-2016 financial year's budget as the Department will not accept the differential rate if the rate has not been advertised.

VOTING REQUIREMENT:

Absolute Majority

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended:-

1. The Shire of Morawa continues to adopt Differential Rates in formulating the 2015/16 financial year budget.
2. The proposed Differential Rate for Mining Unimproved Valuation is set at \$0.289681 cents in the dollar which is consistent with the over-all current rate modelling being considered for the adoption of the 2015/2016 Shire of Morawa Annual Budget.
3. The proposed Differential Rate for Mining be advertised for 21 days inviting public comment.
4. The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to request approval of the Minister for the adoption of the proposed Unimproved Valuation Differential Rates, if at the expiry of the public notice period, no submissions have been received.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Moved Cr K P Stokes
Seconded Cr D S Agar

That -

1. The Shire of Morawa continues to adopt Differential Rates in formulating the 2015/16 financial year budget.
2. The proposed Differential Rate for Mining Unimproved Valuation is set at \$0.289681 cents in the dollar which is consistent with the over-all current rate modelling being considered for the adoption of the 2015/2016 Shire of Morawa Annual Budget.
3. The proposed Differential Rate for Mining be advertised for 21 days inviting public comment.

The Chief Executive Officer be authorised to request approval of the Minister for the adoption of the proposed Unimproved Valuation Differential Rates, if at the expiry of the public notice period, no submissions have been received.

Carried by Absolute Majority
7/0

5.0 MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business for discussion the Shire President thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 5.36 pm.

I certify that the Minutes of this Meeting were confirmed at the Council Meeting held on Thursday, 18th June 2015

.....Presiding Person

