

Minutes of Statutory Budget Meeting held on 11th January, 2013

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick

Councillors: Cllrs. M. H. Cavanagh, P. Millea, M. Shortall, J. Brennan, C. Connery, J. Coonan, M. Brett, P. Cuddihy, A. McGuinness, D. Fitzgerald, M. Doran, W. Ireland, T. Maher, P. Crowley, J. Moran, T. Prendergast, M. O' Brien, S. Treacy, C. Long, T. Breathnach, P. Dunphy, A.M. Irish, E. Aylward, F. Doherty.

In Attendance: Joe Crockett, John Dempsey, John McCormack, P. O' Neill, S. Walton, M. Delahunty, D. McDonnell, D. Shortall and A.M. Walsh.

Apologies: Cllr. M. Noonan.

Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick opened the Statutory Budget Meeting.

Cllr. Fitzpatrick proposed and extended a vote of sympathy to Cllr. Paul Cuddihy and his extended family on the death of his mother Ailish Cuddihy. Cllr. C. Connery seconded this. Cllr. M. O' Brien, M. Doran and P. Crowley were associated with the vote of sympathy and paid tribute to Ailish Cuddihy for her work as a doctor within the community in Kilkenny.

Mr. Joe Crockett on his own behalf and on behalf of all staff extended his condolence to Cllr. Cuddihy and family.

Cllr. P. Cuddihy thanked the members and the Manager for their kind words.

As a mark of respect Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick adjourned the meeting for 15 minutes.

Statutory Budget Meeting resumed at 3.30p.m.

Mr. Crockett County Manager outlined to the members the main factors influencing the 2013 Budget. Total expenditure is €61.2m and the Local Government Fund remains unchanged at €15.1m. There have been major reductions over the years in expenditure on payroll, procurement of services and consultant fees. All income sources are under pressure and collection of income is challenging in the current environment. He referred to his report circulated with the budget and in particular to Page 2 which outlines clearly the main factors influencing the 2013 Budget. The Budget as presented is balanced and is based on the presumption of a certain allocation in road grants and on flexibility within the road grants for works. Depending on the road grants allocation there may be a requirement to come back with a revised budget to the members in March 2013.

He thanked the members for the input into the process and the work put into it at CPG and committee meetings. A number of proposals were reviewed and amendments made.

Mr. Crockett also thanked Mr. John Dempsey and all the Directors and their staff for their input into the Budget for 2013.

Cllr. M. Fitzpatrick asked the members to refer to the budget pack and reports circulated to them and requested their approval to the following:-

Programme Group A

The programme group was considered and noted.

Programme Group B

The programme group was considered and noted.

Programme Group C

The programme group was considered and noted.

Programme Group D

The programme group was considered and noted.

Programme Group E

The programme group was considered and noted.

Programme Group F

The programme group was considered and noted.

Programme Group G

The programme group was considered and noted.

Programme Group H

The programme group was considered and noted.

Contributions were made by Cllr. P. Cuddihy, M. O' Brien and M. Doran.

Members thanked the County Manager, Head of Finance and staff for all the work done in producing a balanced budget in these challenging times and thanked the staff for clarification on all issues raised during their consideration of the draft budget, revised proposals and further data requested at CPG Meetings and Committee Meetings.

**Cllr. P. Cuddihy proposed, seconded by Cllr. M. O' Brien and agreed by all members: -
 "That the following amendments be made to the 2013 Draft Budget".**

Expenditure

Service Division	Code	Description	Expenditure Budgeted by Manager	Expenditure Adopted by Council	Net Change
C0101	31819005	O & M Legal Costs	25,000	10,000	15,000
E1101	54113003	Fire Brigade Fees & Wages	2,167,000	2,159,500	7,500
E1101	54813002	Agreement Waterford Corp.	250,000	235,000	15,000
F0201	62114004	Salaries Library Staff	971,600	1,016,600	(45,000)
J0501	ZHR00004	Employee Care Assistance	15,000	7,500	7,500

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Cuddihy, Seconded by Cllr. M. O' Brien and agreed:- "That the Budget of Kilkenny County Council for the financial year ending 31st December, 2013 as set out in Table B be adopted as amended".

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Cuddihy, Seconded by Cllr. M. O' Brien and agreed: - "That the Rates in Table A, of the Draft Budget of Kilkenny County Council for year ending 31st December, 2013 be determined in accordance with the said Budget to the Annual Rate of Valuation to be levied for that year for the purposes set out in Table A as amended"

Cllr. Fitzpatrick thanked all members for the detailed consideration of the Budget and their co-operation in the discussions on the Budget and looked forward to working with the members and management over the coming year.

The meeting concluded at 4.00p.m.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Cathaoirleach