

**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES & SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD 11 JUNE, 2002, CIVIC CENTRE, OXLEY STREET
CAMDEN**

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Present: Cr S Winn (Deputy Mayor/Chairperson), Cr G Corrigan, Cr C Patterson, Cr N McFadden, Cr F Anderson, Cr S Senise & Cr B Batros arrived during Item 3 – the time being 5.52pm.

Staff: General Manager, Director Governance & Outcomes, Director Works & Services, Director Development & Environment, Manager Outcomes, Manager Engineering, Administration Officer.

Apologies: An apology was received from Cr S Fekete and Cr E Campbell from this meeting.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan, seconded Cr McFadden that leave of absence be granted to Cr Fekete and Cr Campbell for this meeting.

RS029/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

1. Investment Monies: Period Ended, 30th April, 2002
(Director Governance & Outcomes)

In accordance with clause 19 (3a & 3b) of the Local Government (Financial Management) Regulation 1993, a list of investments held by Council as at 30th April 2002, is provided as **Tabled Document “RS 1”** (page 57).

It is further certified that all investments have been made in accordance with section 625 of the Local Government Act 1993, the relevant regulations and Council’s investment policy.

Current investments of the General Fund both term and call are returning an average daily yield of 4.47% and during the month of April, 2002, the average return on all investments both call and term was 4.48%.

Recommended: That,

- (i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Council’s Investment Policy.
- (ii) The list of investments as at 30th April, 2002 be noted.
- (iii) The interest rate return of 4.48% for the month of April, 2002, be noted.

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Resolved on the Motion of Cr Anderson, seconded Cr Corrigan that,

- (i) Council note that the Principal Accounting Officer has certified that all investments held by Council have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act, Regulations and Council's Investment Policy.*
- (ii) The list of investments as at 30th April, 2002 be noted.*
- (iii) The interest rate return of 4.48% for the month of April, 2002, be noted.*

RS030/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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**2. Local Government Remuneration Tribunal – 2002/03
Determination – Councillors fees.**

(719/5) (Director Governance and Outcomes)

Each year, the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal reviews and determines fees paid to Councillors and Mayors for the ensuing 12-month period.

The Tribunal has recently released its Report and Determination for 2002/2003 increasing fees payable by three percent (3%). The Tribunal stated "...some economic adjustment is warranted to recognise the increasing responsibilities placed upon councillors and mayors over the previous 12 months. These changes are assessed taking into account national economic indicators such as inflation and the Wage Cost Index." Camden Council is categorised as a Category 2 Council having been reclassified in May, 2001.

The applicable Councillor fees for a Category 2 Council are a minimum of \$5,350 to a maximum of \$11,770. The applicable Mayoral allowance is \$11,000 to \$24,860. Councillors are currently paid \$11,000 and the Mayor \$22,600 per annum. Fees were not increased in the 2001/2002 year.

The new Category 2 Fees applicable for 2002/2003 year are:

Councillor Annual Fee		Mayor Annual Fee	
Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
\$5,510	\$12,125	\$11,330	\$25,605

Council adjusted the fees payable to Councillors in May, 2000, with the last prior increase in May, 1995.

The draft Budget currently on exhibition provides for a 3% increase on current Councillor fees.

Recommended: That Council determine the remuneration payable to the Mayor & Councillors for the year 2002/2003.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr McFadden, seconded Cr Corrigan that the Mayoral allowance be set at the maximum allowed for a Category 2 Council, being \$25,605.00 and Councillors' Fees be set at the maximum allowable in Category 2, being \$12,125.00.

RS031/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

(Crs Senise & Batros voted against the Motion).

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**3. Variation to Section 88B Restriction – Lot 21 DP 730360
Cut Hill Road**

(PF2200.725) (Director Governance and Outcomes)

Lot 21 Deposited Plan 730360 was created in 1985 and had a restriction created by way of a Section 88B instrument, requiring the Lot be used in conjunction with an adjoining Lot.

As Lot 21 has now been consolidated with the adjoining Lot into one Title, the Section 88B restriction is no longer required, although it still remains recorded on the Title.

The owners of Lot 21 have contacted Council and advise they now wish to sell the land. They have pointed out that the restriction on the Title provides an unnecessary burden on the land and any potential purchaser would require clear Title. Solicitors for the owners have requested Council, as the appropriate authority, now release the restriction.

Council is listed as the authority with the right to release, vary or modify the restriction.

Council staff have researched the matter and have no objection to the release of the 88B restriction, as it is no longer relevant.

Recommended: That Council, as the prescribed authority for the purposes of Section 88E(3) of the Conveyancing Act, being the party having the sole right to release, vary or modify the restriction as to user, agree to release Lot 21 Deposited Plan 730360 from the restriction firstly referred to in the Section 88B instrument and execute a deed of release under the Common Seal.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan, seconded Cr Anderson that Council, as the prescribed authority for the purposes of Section 88E(3) of the Conveyancing Act, being the party having the sole right to release, vary or modify the restriction as to user, agree to release Lot 21 Deposited Plan 730360 from the restriction firstly referred to in the Section 88B instrument and execute a deed of release under the Common Seal.

RS032/02

THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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4. Cottages at 42 – 48 Springs Road

(Files 7325/48; 7325.90; 7325.100)(Director Governance & Outcomes)

Council owns 3 small weatherboard cottages in Springs Road, Spring Farm. They were acquired in the late 1980's to facilitate the extraction of sand, under Contributions Plan 6, with a medium term view to their demolition. One of the cottages, No. 46, was demolished in 1999 when the maintenance costs began to exceed rental revenue.

As the redevelopment of Spring Farm for urban purposes becomes imminent, it is appropriate to plan for the final extraction of the sand resources within Council property, the lowering of Springs Road and the finalisation of the landform within the area. The three cottages are in only moderate states of repair and have reached the end of their economic life. They are tenanted on a month to month basis at present, all of the leases having expired.

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval for the removal of the cottages to facilitate the orderly removal of sand resources prior to urban development. The actual planning for the lowering of Spings Road will be reported to Council at the appropriate time.

Notice will be served on the tenants of the properties as required under the terms of the lease to vacate the dwellings. Period of 64 days notice will be given in order to allow ample time for alternate accommodation to be found. Once this has occurred, quotes will be obtained for the demolition of the buildings, with the cost of demolition to be funded from the Contributions Plan

Recommended: That Council

- (i) Issue notice as required under the Residential Tenancies Act, 1987 to the tenants of numbers 42,44 and 48 Springs Road to terminate the leases and to vacate the premises.
- (ii) Undertake the demolition of the three cottages, ancillary buildings and structures following their vacation, to be funded from Contribution Plan No 6.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan, seconded Cr Anderson that Council

- (i) *Issue notice as required under the Residential Tenancies Act, 1987 to the tenants of numbers 42,44 and 48 Springs Road to terminate the leases and to vacate the premises.*

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- (ii) *Undertake the demolition of the three cottages, ancillary buildings and structures following their vacation, to be funded from Contribution Plan No 6.*

RS033/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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5. Camden Riparian Areas Plan of Management
(4450) (Director Governance and Outcomes)

Background

The sustainable management of land associated with watercourses is a key factor in approaching the vision established in the Camden 2025 strategic plan.

Council was successful in obtaining financial assistance from the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning through the Metropolitan Greenspace Program to develop a management strategy for public land associated with wetlands and watercourses.

Council engaged consultants Pittendrigh Shinkfield & Bruce to develop a natural areas plan of management (POM) for public reserves adjoining wetlands and watercourses both natural and constructed.

The draft plan of management has been distributed to **Councillors under separate cover.**

Management Strategy

The Plans of Management categorise all publicly owned riparian land as a 'natural area'. The core objective for the management of community land characterised as a natural area is the maintenance of ecosystem function. It is the natural functioning of the freshwater wetland ecosystem that provides the crucial water quality improvements required to minimise the impact of urban development and contribute to a more sustainable Camden generally. This categorisation reinforces the position that, regardless of the context, the primary management objective for wetlands or watercourses will be the maintenance of ecosystem function.

In the management of riparian land there are issues which are common to all areas and there are specific issues related to each individual reserve. The structure of the Camden Riparian Areas POM reflects this reality with a generic POM covering the entire LGA which has been designed to accommodate specific area POMs as they are developed on a priority basis.

Key Issues

The report is comprehensive and identifies a number of strategies that when implemented will assist in the realisation of Camden's

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sustainability objectives. Key to the implementation of these strategies are the following points:

- Stormwater Management.

The report identifies that traditional 'end of pipe' stormwater management solutions are inconsistent with Council's objectives of a functional, low maintenance, ecologically sound and aesthetic pleasing system. Further, traditional methods of stormwater management are generating environmental problems which may be costly to remediate for example, urban salinity and creek bank erosion.

The report recommends that council adopt water sensitive urban design (WSUD) principles in all new developments. To a great extent the recommendations regarding the implementation of water sensitive design have been adopted with elements incorporated into the master planning of Elderslie, Manooka Valley and Spring Farm

- Management Structure.

Traditionally the responsibilities for the design, installation and management of wetlands and watercourses has fallen across several divisions. The report suggests this previous fragmentation of responsibility has contributed in part to the less than ideal status of water body management within the Camden LGA and in the region generally. The report supports Council's progression towards a shared planning and outcomes model of service delivery as a structure better suited to achieve sustainable outcomes within a system as complex as the urban water cycle.

Conclusion.

The report provides a sound insight into the management of publicly owned riparian land and the development of an appropriate land management strategy focussed on general and specific requirements. Further, it reinforces the shared planning and outcomes model as an appropriate structure for achieving the sustainability objectives of Camden 2025.

Recommended: That

- (i) The Draft Plan of Management for Riparian Areas be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days
- (ii) A further report be submitted to Council following the exhibition and submission periods.

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Resolved on the Motion of Cr Batros, seconded Cr McFadden that

- (i) The Draft Plan of Management for Riparian Areas be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days*
- (ii) A further report be submitted to Council following the exhibition and submission periods.*

RS034/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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6. The Camden Festival

(4511) Director of Governance & Outcomes)

The purpose of this report

This report seeks Council's support of the proposed Camden Festival together with the endorsement of a committee established under section 355 of the Local Government Act to coordinate and manage the activities of the festival. The report further seeks Council's endorsement of the proposed street closures and the temporary lifting of the ban on alcohol consumption in the John Street precinct referred to in the report.

The Festival Concept

The role of the township of Camden in portraying the unique heritage assets and rural character that contribute so strongly to the appeal of the town and the area has previously been articulated in various strategic documents. Appropriate festivals and events are a means of providing opportunities both for the local community to celebrate a sense of place that is unique to Camden and for visitors to experience the cultural and tourist appeal of the town and the area.

The recently adopted Economic Development and Tourism strategies make reference to the potential value of an annual springtime festival based in the township of Camden. The concept has also received support from a number of community-based organisations and a modest inaugural event occurred in 2001. The community and business interest and support generated by this initial unfunded attempt indicates that the festival concept has the potential to become a significant event on the annual calendar.

The 2002 festival will umbrella a number of existing community events providing advertising and promotional support, and include some exciting new events to reinforce the festival themes.

The Festival Vision

The Festival Taskforce agreed that the vision for the festival should be:

To establish an annual community event that defines, showcases and celebrates the unique characteristics of the area including natural and built heritage, history and attractions and profiles the name of Camden both within our community and beyond.

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The Festival Committee

The nucleus of the Festival Taskforce endorsed by Council in 2001 has continued the planning process for the 2002 event. Expressions of interest were recently advertised through the local media to participate on the Camden Festival Committee to be established under section 355 of the Local Government Act.

At the conclusion of the expressions of interest deadline the following persons had volunteered to plan, coordinate and support a program of activities that will constitute the 2002 Camden Festival, on behalf of Council:

- ❑ Peter Wright – Global Ballooning
- ❑ Robert Bushby – Macarthur Unlimited
- ❑ Patricia Hyett – Camden Lions Club
- ❑ Eva Campbell – Community Member
- ❑ Rosemary Versteeg – Lexie’s Restaurant
- ❑ Maryke Archbold Hession – Belgenny Farm
- ❑ Deborah Knoke – Consultant
- ❑ Michell Rofe – Butlers Funerals
- ❑ Helen Byfield-Fleming Campbelltown TAFE
- ❑ Fred Whiteman – Argyle Living

Public Liability

One of the issues that hindered the planning and implementation of the 2001 festival was that of public liability. The escalating scale of claims and the prohibitive cost of insurance premiums has received much publicity recently and has led to the cancellation of many community events across the country.

The establishment of a 355 committee to act on behalf of Council will enable the event to be listed as an activity of Council. It will allow the various business and community members named above to participate in planning and coordinating the festival under the cover of Council’s public liability insurance. The various community groups that organise events under the festival umbrella will still be required to have their own individual cover.

Conclusion

It is anticipated that the festival has the potential to evolve into a ‘signature’ annual event of national significance and be an important tool in profiling the name of Camden both within the region and in the broader market place.

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Recommended: That Council:

- (i) Endorse the 2002 Camden Festival and the festival vision.
- (ii) Endorse the following persons to participate on the Camden Festival 355 Committee:
 - Peter Wright – Global Ballooning
 - Robert Bushby – Macarthur Unlimited
 - Patricia Hyett – Camden Lions Club
 - Eva Campbell – Community Member
 - Rosemary Versteeg - Lexie's Restaurant
 - Maryke Archbold Hession – Belgenny Farm
 - Deborah Knoke – Consultant
 - Michell Rofe – Butlers Funerals
 - Helen Byfield-Fleming - Campbelltown TAFE
 - Fred Whiteman – Argyle Living
- (iii) Nominate a Councillor to serve on the Festival Committee.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Patterson, seconded Cr Anderson that Council:

- (i) *Endorse the 2002 Camden Festival and the festival vision.*
- (ii) *Endorse the following persons to participate on the Camden Festival 355 Committee:*
 - Peter Wright – Global Ballooning*
 - Robert Bushby – Macarthur Unlimited*
 - Patricia Hyett – Camden Lions Club*
 - Eva Campbell – Community Member*
 - Rosemary Versteeg - Lexie's Restaurant*
 - Maryke Archbold Hession – Belgenny Farm*
 - Deborah Knoke – Consultant*
 - Michell Rofe – Butlers Funerals*
 - Helen Byfield-Fleming - Campbelltown TAFE*
 - Fred Whiteman – Argyle Living*
- (iii) *Nominate Cr Geoff Corrigan as the Councillor to serve on the Festival Committee with Cr Chris Patterson as the alternate.*

RS035/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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7. Donation request

(894/11) (Director Works and Services)

Dean Foldi, a resident of Camden has written to Council requesting a donation to assist him in meeting the costs incurred in travelling to the United States to take up a three month scholarship at Camp Woodward, a Skate-boarding and In-line Skating summer school. (**see Tabled Documents "RS 2"**).

Dean is an amateur In-line Skater and has represented the Camden community at a range of amateur competitions and demonstrations. Dean also works part time at the Alive SK8 Centre at Narellan where he offers advice and support to young skaters.

Dean is 20 years old and is the first person from Australia to be offered a scholarship of this type. Dean will be involved in coaching young skaters as well as receiving further tuition from a number of professionals donating their time at the camp.

Related Policy: Community Support Policy – Donations to Gifted Persons 2.1.1

Dean meets the criteria outlined in the above policy.

Recommended: That Dean Foldi be granted the maximum amount (\$250) permissible under the policy 'Donations to Gifted Persons 2.1.1'.

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Batros, seconded Cr Corrigan that Dean Foldi be granted the maximum amount (\$250) permissible under the policy 'Donations to Gifted Persons 2.1.1'.

RS036/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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8. Petition for Pedestrian Crossing – Richardson Road, Narellan

(File 978/3) [Director, Works and Services]

Council is in receipt of a petition containing 76 signatories, which states;

“The parents/guardians of the students of Macarthur Anglican Junior School support the need for a pedestrian and wombat crossing on Richardson Road, Narellan with a 40km/hour speed limit enforced”.

A copy of the petition was made available for Councillors separately.

Council has also received a request from the Principal of Macarthur Anglican Junior School, and from a parent through the Mayor for a school crossing on Richardson Road.

Council, through the Traffic Committee, has recently considered a report on the introduction of a pedestrian crossing at this site. The request from the Macarthur Anglican School has been investigated and was considered by the Traffic Committee at its meeting of 8 April 2002, the Committee recommendation was confirmed at Council’s meeting of 22 April 2002, when it was resolved that;

- (i) *a pedestrian crossing on Richardson Road between Macarthur Anglican School and Narellan Public School be approved subject to (ii) and (iii).*
- (ii) *Council liaise with residents directly affected by the installation of the pedestrian crossing.*
- (iii) *Council be advised of any physical works and the associated estimate for the project prior to the installation of the crossing.*

Plans for the practical introduction of a pedestrian crossing at the site are currently being prepared and consultation will be undertaken shortly. The matter will then be reported to the Traffic Committee for consent.

Source of funds for this project is Council’s Section 94 Contribution Plan No. 17. Council will also seek funding from the RTA for the school crossing.

Recommended: That Council note the petition and that the concerns within the petition are being addressed.

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Resolved on the Motion of Cr Patterson, seconded Cr Anderson that Council note the petition and that the concerns within the petition are being addressed.

RS037/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

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9. Tender for the Provision of Landscape Architectural Services

(File 4602) (Director Works and Services)

Purpose of the Report

This report is to notify Council of the proposed engagement of a landscape architect consultant to prepare the necessary designs for the embellishment of various reserves in Narellan Vale, Mount Annan and Currans Hill. The consultant's fees are to be funded by Section 94 Contributions Plan N°2 (Community & Recreational Facilities for Narellan, Narellan Vale, Mount Annan and Currans Hill).

This report makes recommendation to Council to approve the engagement of a landscape architectural consultant to undertake the necessary design work.

The Sites Requiring Landscape Design Plans

Contributions Plan N°2 (CP2) has identified the need to provide further landscaping and embellishment of a number of public reserves in the residential areas of Narellan Vale, Mount Annan and Currans Hill. Council has collected developer contributions from the subdivision of land in these areas for such works.

The consultant's brief prepared by Council officers detailed the services to be provided by a landscape architect to prepare designs and documentation for works at the following reserves. The proposed budgets detailed by CP2 for the construction works that will be undertaken as a result of the design phase are also shown.

Reserve	CP2 Proposed Works Budget
Col Barrett Reserve and Valley View, Narellan	\$ 21,700
Manna Gum Reserve, Narellan Vale	\$ 70,000
Glenlee Reserve, Narellan Vale	\$ 10,000
Birriwa Reserve, Mount Annan	\$146,000
George Caley Reserve, Mount Annan	\$ 90,000
Currans Hill Park, Currans Hill	\$ 17,630
Sedgwick Reserve, Currans Hill	\$ 14,500
Jack Nash Reserve, Currans Hill	\$ 98,500

Scope of the Work to be Undertaken by the Landscape Architect

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The scope of the work will require the successful consultant to facilitate all the necessary community consultation, site analysis, design and documentation for the embellishment of the above-mentioned reserves. Council's staff will assist in this consultation process.

The objective of the project is for the consultant to provide Council with suitable landscape designs and documentation that will allow Council to proceed to tender for the construction of the works.

To complete the requirements of the brief, the successful consultant will be required to produce a landscape design for each of the reserves to be landscaped and embellished to a standard that:

- is consistent with the physical and cultural elements of the neighbourhood;
- is sympathetic to the surrounding landscape;
- provides an aesthetic and safe environment that will meet the needs of and attract the usage of the reserves by the local residents;
- is consistent with the requirements of the Disability Discrimination Act;
- is within the budgeted amounts that Council has collected;
- minimises future maintenance activity and recurrent costs required to keep the area to an acceptable amenity; and
- minimises the likelihood of use of the reserves for anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

Submissions Received

Submissions were invited from suitably qualified and experienced landscape architectural consultants by way of advertisements placed in the Sydney Morning Herald on 16 & 23 April, and the local press.

As a result of the advertisements briefs for the project were sought from 32 interested firms. The closing date for the receipt of submissions was 10 May.

Submissions were received from 15 consultants interested in undertaking the project.

The brief required that submissions provide information on the following criteria to allow for a detailed assessment:

- a fee proposal detailed with a lump sum for each reserve;
- details of key personnel to be involved in the project;

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- an appreciation of the overall work program for the project, the requirements necessary to meet the brief including a time line showing the staging of the various components of the project linked to a time line and budget; and
- projects of a similar nature recently completed

The following table summarises the submissions received in order of total fees (for designs for all reserves):

Consultant	Total Lump Sum (excl. GST)
Tramonte Jensen Pty Ltd	\$28,070
Belt Collins PPD	\$33,000
Bill Muir	\$35,450
Pittendrigh Shinkfield Bruce Pty Ltd	\$37,930
Landscape Architects International	\$38,125
Spackman & Mossop Pty Ltd	\$38,700
Hassell Pty Ltd	\$41,210
Scott Murray & Associates	\$43,465
EDAW Pty Ltd	\$43,750
URS Australia Pty Ltd	\$44,500
J Easthope & Associates	\$47,600
Guy Sturt & Associates	\$57,400
Jane Irwin	\$60,700
LandArc Pty Ltd	\$66,455
Jordan Pregelj	\$89,800

Assessment of Submissions

Council's officers reviewed the information provided by all the above tenderers. Overall the submissions were considered to be of a very high standard.

As part of the review of the submissions a value assessment was undertaken to help select the proposal that provides the best value for money. The value assessment process involves an objective assessment of the proposals to enable both price and non-price attributes to be taken into account. The objective assessment of the ability and merit provides a clearer indication of a potential consultant by balancing the 'value for money' against the required standards and scope of work.

For such a design project, where the cost of the design component is relatively small when compared to the works to be constructed, the assessment for the most suitable consultant should not be overly biased towards price. As such in the assessment undertaken, a 50% weighting was attributed to price, and a 50%

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weighting was attributed to non price factors. The non price factors consisted of standard of submission (5%); appreciation of works program (20%); experience of key personnel (5%); similar past projects completed (10%); and possible likelihood of variations to proposed fee (5%).

Based on this process to assess the relative merits of the submissions received, it is considered that the proposal by Belt Collins PPD is the best option for Council.

The submission by Belt Collins PPD is the second cheapest proposal, but is superior in its response to the brief. It shows an excellent appreciation of the project. Their staff has an excellent proven record that indicates that they are more than capable to complete interesting and innovative landscape designs for Council. Their submission clearly defines the services that they will provide for this project, giving confidence that there is minimal likelihood to any variations to the quoted fees.

Conclusion

From the assessment process undertaken, it is considered that the submission by Belt Collins is the preferred tenderer for Council in engaging a consultant to provide landscape architectural services for the project as detailed in the consultant's brief. From their submission for this project they appear to provide excellent value for money whilst offering a high standard of professional service.

Recommended: That Council approves the engagement of Belt Collins PPD to provide landscape architectural services for the design of improvements to various reserves for the quoted sum of \$33,000 (exclusive of GST). (Source of funds Council's Section 94 Contribution Plan No. 2)

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Anderson, seconded Cr Patterson that Council approves the engagement of Belt Collins PPD to provide landscape architectural services for the design of improvements to various reserves for the quoted sum of \$33,000 (exclusive of GST). (Source of funds Council's Section 94 Contribution Plan No. 2)

RS038/02 *THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.*

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10. NSW Fire Brigades 2002/2003 Fire District Estimates
(File 584/17) [Director, Works & Services]

In correspondence dated 9 May 2002, the NSW Fire Brigades advised all Councils that “... *the Fire District Estimates will increase by approximately 13.3% in 2002/2003. This is an average increase across the entire State. The actual increase will vary in individual councils as a result of specific circumstances in their respective Fire Districts.*”

In the weekly circular dated 24 May 2002, the LGSA state “*The LGSA have objected to the increase ... The LGSA have made representations to the Minister for Local Government, Harry Woods; Premier, Bob Carr; and the Minister for Emergency Services, Bob Debus objecting to the extent of the increase. The Government has been urged to limit the increase to no more than the rate pegging limit of 3.3%. Short of this, the LGSA have sought full accommodation of the increase by way of special variations for all affected councils.*”

Council’s 2001/2002 contribution to the NSW Fire Brigades was \$43,023 and in line with a predicted 3% increase the 2002/2003 allocation has been estimated at \$44,314. Should the proposed average increase of 13.3% be applied to Camden, then Council’s 2002/2003 contribution may be in the order of \$48,745; representing an increase of \$5,722 on Council’s current contribution. Council’s contribution could exceed the average increase.

Recommended: That Council write to the LGSA in support of:

- (i) their objection to the proposed increase in NSW Fire Brigades Levy;
- (ii) their pursuit of a resolution which has no adverse financial impacts on Council; and
- (iii) Council forward letters of objection to the Minister for Local Government, Harry Woods; Premier, Bob Carr; and the Minister for Emergency Services, Bob Debus.

**MINUTES OF THE RESOURCES & SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD 11 JUNE, 2002, CIVIC CENTRE, OXLEY STREET
CAMDEN**

Resolved on the Motion of Cr Corrigan, seconded Cr Patterson that Council write to

- (i) The Local Government & Shires Association expressing support for;
 - (a) their objection to the proposed increase in NSW Fire Brigades Levy; and*
 - (b) their pursuit of a resolution which has no adverse financial impacts on Council.**

- (ii) The Minister for Local Government, Harry Woods; Premier, Bob Carr; Treasurer, Michael Egan and the Minister for Emergency Services, Bob Debus stating its objection to the proposed increase in the NSW Fire Brigades Levy.*

RS039/02 THE MOTION WAS **CARRIED**.

The Meeting closed at 6.28pm.