

17<sup>th</sup> June, 2008

**TO: EACH MEMBER OF DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL**

A Special Meeting of Donegal County Council, requisitioned by the Mayor, will be held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008 in the County House, Lifford, at 10.00am to consider the appended agenda.

You are hereby requested to attend.

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E. Sweeney  
Meetings Administrator

**AGENDA**

To approve the actual revenue expenditure figures for 2007 as compared to the revised budget for 2007 as contained in the attached report from the Head of Finance.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY  
COUNCIL, HELD IN THE COUNTY HOUSE, LIFFORD ON 23<sup>rd</sup> June,  
2008

C/278/08     MEMBERS PRESENT

Clrs. J. Boyle, Mayor, D. Alcorn, L. Blaney, C. Brogan, B. Byrne, F. Conaghan, G. Crawford, R. Donaghy, M.T. Gallagher, J Harte, J. Kelly, J. Kennedy, D. Larkin, T. McDaid, M. McDonald, S. McEniff, I. McGarvey, D. McGonagle, P. Mc Gowan, B. McGuinness, P. McLochlainn, P. O'Dochartaigh, T. Pringle, J.J. Reid, T. Slowey.

C/279/08     APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Clr. A. Bonner, E. Bonner, N. McBride, and B. O'Neill who were unable to attend the meeting.

C/280/08     OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

Mr Michel McLoone, County Manager, Mr Liam Kelly, Assistant County Manager, Director of Housing, Mr Aidan McNicholas, Head of Finance, Mr. Peadar Mac Rory, A/Director Water, Environment and Emergency Services, Mr. Garry Martin, Senior Executive Officer, Mr Bartley McGlynn, Senior Executive Officer, Ms Helena O'Toole, Senior Planner, Mr Eunan Sweeney, Meetings Administrator, Ms. Anne Marie Crawford, Staff Officer, Corporate Services.

C/281/08     APPROVAL OF ACTUAL EXPENDITURE FIGURES FOR 2007 AS COMPARED TO THE REVISED BUDGET FOR 2007

Clr. Larkin expressed surprise that the Council had not received a report from the Finance Working Group in relation to its views on the proposed amendments. He noted the net disimprovement of €1,343,085 in water and sewerage services together with the failure to realise monies from the disposal of assets.

Mr Aidan McNicholas, Head of Finance reminded members that the calculations highlighted in the report related to the 2007 financial year. The 2008 budget, he affirmed, had been calculated from the ground up in terms of water services

expenditure. Overall, there had been a net surplus of €81,348 for the local financial year 2007.

On the proposal of Clr. Conaghan, seconded by Clr. Slowey, it was resolved to approve the actual expenditure figures for 2007 as compared to the revised budget for 2007.

It was agreed that there was an obvious need for further debate on a wide range of budgetary issues and that a workshop should be held; the selection of a date for the workshop to be agreed when the new Mayor was elected.

The County Manager acknowledged the work of the Finance Directorate in ensuring that there was a €81,348 surplus. He clarified that the under-realisation of water charges income could be attributed to the discontinuation of charging certain customers a combined charge for water and wastewater in 2007. It was hoped, he added, not to repeat this scenario in 2008.

Mr McLoone said that he envisaged holding a pre-budget meeting in September, thus commencing the budgetary process earlier in the year. He agreed to revert in September with a detailed report on the capital spend for 2008/2009 which would set out the parameters for the 2009 budget and allow all concerned to focus realistically on the financial constraints facing the Council.

This concluded the business of the meeting.