

MINUTES OF STATUTORY BUDGET MEETING OF DONEGAL COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNTY HOUSE, LIFFORD, CO. DONEGAL ON
FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY, 2007 AT 10.00 a.m. FOR THE PURPOSE OF
ADOPTING A BUDGET AND DETERMINING THE ANNUAL RATE ON
VALUATION FOR THE SERVICES OF THE LOCAL FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING
31ST DECEMBER, 2007

C/01/07 MEMBERS PRESENT

Cllr Enda Bonner, Méara	Cllr J.J. Reid
Cllr Liam Blaney	Cllr David Alcorn
Cllr Dessie Larkin	Cllr Alice Bonner
Cllr Ciaran Brogan	Cllr John Boyle
Cllr Gerry Crawford	Cllr Francis Conaghan
Cllr Pdraig Doherty	Cllr Brendan Byrne
Cllr Rena Donaghey	Cllr Pearse Doherty
Cllr Jonathan Kennedy	Cllr Jimmy Harte
Cllr Noel McBride	Cllr Tony McDaid
Cllr Denis McGonagle	Cllr Ian McGarvey
Cllr Patrick McGowan	Cllr Brian O'Domhnaill
Cllr Bernard McGuinness	Cllr Thomas Pringle
Cllr Pdraig MacLochlainn	Cllr Terence Slowey
Cllr Sean McEniff	Cllr Marion McDonald

C/02/07 OFFICIALS PRESENT

Mr Michael McLoone, County Manager
Mr Aidan McNicholas, Head of Finance
Mr Liam Kelly, ACM & Director of Services, Housing/Building
Mr Michael Heaney, Director of Services, C, C & E
Mr John G McLaughlin, Director of Services, Roads & Transportation
Mr Jim Holohan, Director of Services, Water/Env/Emergency
Mr Francie Coyle, Director of Services, Planning/Economic Dev.
Mr Sean Sheridan, Director of Services, Corporate Services
Mr Joe Peoples, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services
Mr Bartley McGlynn, Senior Executive Officer, Finance
Ms Anne Marie Quinn, Administrative Officer, Finance
Ms Marie Quinn, Assistant Staff Officer, Finance
Ms Miriam Browne, Assistant Staff Officer, Finance
Ms Donna Rodgers, Clerical Officer, Finance

C/03/07 APOLOGIES

Cllr Benny O'Neill

C/04/07

MÉARA'S ADDRESS

1. The Méara, Cllr Enda Bonner, opened the Budget Meeting for 2007 and welcomed all in attendance. The Méara stated that the meeting would commence with the presentation by the Head of Finance followed by the presentation by the County Manager.

C/05/07

HEAD OF FINANCE'S PRESENTATION

Mr Aidan McNicholas presented to the meeting, for consideration, a very detailed account of the contents and strategies recommended in the 2007 Draft Revenue Budget. He also advised that the 3 year Capital Budget for 2007-2009 was also being presented at this time as required by law and references to aspects of this 3 Year Budget was made where appropriate during his presentation.

The Head of Finance thanked Members for attending the meeting and all staff for their help in preparing the Draft Budget for 2007.

C/06/07

COUNTY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION

The County Manager made a detailed presentation by Directorate followed by the Financial Summary and Recommendations to the Meeting on the Draft Budget for 2007.

He outlined the four major objectives of the overall Budgetary Strategy:

1. To improve the level and standard of maintenance of our existing infrastructure and services.
2. To remedy deficits in our physical and economic infrastructure (by increasing capital investment) to cater for existing demand and future developments.
3. To continue with the programme of reform and modernisation of Council services within the wider agenda of Public Service Reform/Delivering Better Government.
4. Lead in promoting the economic, social and cultural development of the County in partnership with other State Agencies, the private sector, the community and voluntary sector and the other social partners

The County Manager thanked all those involved in the preparation of Budget Report and recommended the Draft Budget be adopted by the Council.

C/07/07

MÉARA'S RESPONSE

The Méara complimented (with respect to the presentations made) the County Manager and Head of Finance.

C/08/07

VOTE OF SYMPATHY

A minute's silence was observed in memory of the Fishermen lost at sea off the South East Coast.

C/09/07

ADJOURNMENT

On the proposal of Cllr. Francis Conaghan, seconded by Cllr Sean McEniff it was agreed to adjourn the meeting at this point until 3.00p.m.

C/10/07

RESUMPTION OF MEETING

The meeting resumed at 3.30 p.m.

On the resumption of the meeting Cllr. Francis Conaghan proposed that the meeting be adjourned to the 16th January 2007 @ 10.00 a.m. to allow time for the County Manager and the Head of Finance to meet with all the parties and answer any Members' questions. Cllr. Patrick McGowan seconded this proposal.

Mayor:

Ede Sinner

Date:

16.4.07