



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Special Finance Meeting 23rd September 2014, Council Chamber, 10.00 a.m.

Presiding

Cathaoirleach, Councillor Jim Holloway

Councillors Present:

Councillors Joe Bonner, Sinéad Burke, Shane Cassells, Eugene Cassidy, Francis Deane, Seán Drew, Eimear Ferguson, Brian Fitzgerald, Enda Flynn, Wayne Forde, Joe Fox, Noel French, Michael Gallagher, David Gilroy, Trevor Golden, Johnny Guirke, Wayne Harding, Tom Kelly, Sharon Keogan, Nick Killian, Caroline Lynch, Stephen McKee, Ronan McKenna, Paddy Meade, Maria Murphy, Gerry O'Connor, Claire O' Driscoll, Maria O' Kane, Damien O' Reilly, Darren O' Rourke, Bryan Reilly, Sarah Reilly, Tommy Reilly, Alan Tobin, Sharon Tolan.

Apologies: Councillors Suzanne Jamal, Joe Reilly, Seán Smith, Gillian Toole

Officials in attendance:

County Manager: Jackie Maguire

Directors of Service: Kevin Stewart, Fiona Lawless, Joe Fahy(A), Tadhg McDonnell

Meetings' Administrator: Olive Falsey

Accountants: Paul Timoney, Sheila Harkin

Senior Executive Officer: Larry Whelan

Apologies: Des Foley, Director of Service

1 To consider the report of the Chief Executive prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Local Property Tax (Local Adjustment Factor) Regulations 2014, for the purpose of resolving as follows:

- a) Vary the basic rate and set a local adjustment factor that will apply for a period of one year from the next Local Property Tax liability date, or
- b) Not vary the basic rate.



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

The Cathaoirleach opened the meeting and the Chief Executive provided an overview of the purpose of the meeting and the decisions required. The Head of Finance made a presentation that comprised of two parts:

1. An overview of the 2015 budget process, including the legislation, regulations, circulars, timelines and the decisions required as part of that process. These include the harmonisation of commercial rates, the vacancy refund rate and the General Municipal Allocation. The Budget Meeting is to take place on 24th November 2014.
2. The issues related to the Local Property Tax Adjustment Factor. The presentation outlined the regulations, the approach to and outcomes of the public consultation, the estimation of income and expenditure for 2015, a statement of the Council's current financial position and the financial effect of the varied rate. These are all matters that Councillors must have regard to in making their decision.

Three proposals were made as follows:

- A reduction of 5% in the Local Property Tax was proposed by **Councillor Shane Cassells** and seconded by **Councillor Wayne Harding**.
- A reduction of 15% in the Local Property Tax was proposed by **Councillor Darren O'Rourke** and seconded by **Councillor Sinéad Burke**.
- **Councillor Gerry O'Connor** proposed an amendment to retain the Local Property Tax at its current rate and this was seconded by **Councillor Eugene Cassidy**.
- A reduction of 2% was proposed by **Councillor Joe Bonner** and seconded by **Councillor Michael Gallagher**.

The proposal to reduce the basic rate of the Local Property Tax by 5% was defeated following a roll call vote:

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Cllr. Joseph Bonner		AGAINST		
Cllr. Sinead Burke	FOR			
Cllr. Shane Cassells	FOR			
Cllr. Eugene Cassidy		AGAINST		
Cllr. Francis Deane		AGAINST		
Cllr. Sean Drew	FOR			
Cllr. Eimear Ferguson	FOR			
Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald		AGAINST		
Cllr. Enda Flynn		AGAINST		



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Cllr. Wayne Forde		AGAINST		
Cllr. Joe Fox		AGAINST		
Cllr. Noel French		AGAINST		
Cllr. Michael Gallagher	FOR			
Cllr. David Gilroy		AGAINST		
Cllr. Trevor Golden		AGAINST		
Cllr. Johnny Guirke	FOR			
Cllr. Wayne Harding	FOR			
Cllr. James Holloway		AGAINST		
Cllr. Suzanne Jamal				ABSENT
Cllr. Tom Kelly		AGAINST		
Cllr. Sharon Keogan		AGAINST		
Cllr. Nick Killian		AGAINST		
Cllr. Caroline Lynch				ABSENT
Cllr. Stephen McKee	FOR			
Cllr. Ronan McKenna	FOR			
Cllr. Paddy Meade		AGAINST		
Cllr. Maria Murphy		AGAINST		
Cllr. Gerry O' Connor		AGAINST		
Cllr. Claire O' Driscoll	FOR			
Cllr. Maria O' Kane	FOR			
Cllr. Damien O' Reilly	FOR			
Cllr. Darren O' Rourke	FOR			
Cllr. Bryan Reilly	FOR			
Cllr. Joe Reilly				ABSENT
Cllr. Sarah Reilly		AGAINST		
Cllr. Tommy Reilly	FOR			
Cllr. Sean Smith				ABSENT
Cllr. Alan Tobin		AGAINST		
Cllr. Sharon Tolan		AGAINST		
Cllr. Gillian Toole				ABSENT
Result	15	20		5

Result: For = 15, Against = 20, Absent = 5

The proposed amendment to retain the basic rate of the Local Property Tax was carried following a roll call vote:



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Cllr. Joseph Bonner		AGAINST		
Cllr. Sinead Burke		AGAINST		
Cllr. Shane Cassells		AGAINST		
Cllr. Eugene Cassidy	FOR			
Cllr. Francis Deane	FOR			
Cllr. Sean Drew		AGAINST		
Cllr. Eimear Ferguson		AGAINST		
Cllr. Brian Fitzgerald	FOR			
Cllr. Enda Flynn	FOR			
Cllr. Wayne Forde	FOR			
Cllr. Joe Fox	FOR			
Cllr. Noel French	FOR			
Cllr. Michael Gallagher		AGAINST		
Cllr. David Gilroy	FOR			
Cllr. Trevor Golden	FOR			
Cllr. Johnny Guirke		AGAINST		
Cllr. Wayne Harding		AGAINST		
Cllr. James Holloway	FOR			
Cllr. Suzanne Jamal				ABSENT
Cllr. Tom Kelly	FOR			
Cllr. Sharon Keogan	FOR			
Cllr. Nick Killian	FOR			
Cllr. Caroline Lynch				ABSENT
Cllr. Stephen McKee		AGAINST		
Cllr. Ronan McKenna		AGAINST		
Cllr. Paddy Meade	FOR			
Cllr. Maria Murphy	FOR			
Cllr. Gerry O' Connor	FOR			
Cllr. Claire O' Driscoll		AGAINST		
Cllr. Maria O' Kane		AGAINST		
Cllr. Damien O' Reilly		AGAINST		
Cllr. Darren O' Rourke		AGAINST		
Cllr. Bryan Reilly		AGAINST		
Cllr. Joe Reilly				ABSENT
Cllr. Sarah Reilly	FOR			
Cllr. Tommy Reilly		AGAINST		
Cllr. Sean Smith				ABSENT
Cllr. Alan Tobin	FOR			
Cllr. Sharon Tolan	FOR			



Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Cllr. Gillian Toole				ABSENT
Result	19	16		5

Result: For = 19, Against = 16, Absent = 5

It was therefore resolved not to vary the basic rate of Local Property Tax for 2015 in respect of residential properties in County Meath in accordance with the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act 2012, as amended.

This concluded the business of the meeting.