

Minutes of the Budget Meeting of the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown

Date: Wednesday 13th November, 2019 at 4.00p.m.

Venue: Kilkenny County Council Area Office, Prologue, Callan, Co. Kilkenny.

Chair: Cllr Patrick O'Neill

Present: Cllr Peter Cleere, Cllr Deirdre Cullen, Cllr Matt Doran, Cllr Michael Doyle, Cllr Joe Lyons.

Apologies: None

In attendance: Mr. Martin Prendiville, Finance Officer; Ms Fiona Deegan, Meetings Administrator; Mr. Declan Murphy A/Senior Executive Engineer; Ms. Carmel Brett, Staff Officer; Ms. Sian Moloughney, Kilkenny People.

1) Budget Plan 2020

Cllr P. O'Neill opened the meeting by welcoming Mr. M. Prendiville and inviting him to commence his presentation.

Mr. Prendiville gave an overview of the local authority budgetary process and timelines involved, saying it is a reserved function of the members of the Municipal District to adopt the draft budgetary plan with or without amendment, with the Statutory Budget meeting for full Council taking place on Monday 25th November in County Hall.

He explained that the General Municipal Allocation (GMA) for Municipal Districts is the amount of discretionary funding which is made available to Municipal District members for allocation in the draft budgetary plan, and he outlined the funding challenges as well as the areas the council supports financially.

General budget information for 2020 was outlined:

- Total estimated budget expenditure €82.4m;
- Amended Local Property Tax base rate will yield extra income of €1,125k;
- LPT allocation and contribution from Equalisation Fund will total €11.8m;
- Net reduction in income from commercial rates of €130k;
- Estimated financial loss arising from appeals of commercial rates to Valuation Tribunal of €1.05m;
- Additional Income from valuation of utilities of €900k;
- Municipal District Allocation proposal of €40k;
- Estimated Discretionary Roads Budget €650,000;
- Estimated Discretionary General Budget €40,000.

Cllr O'Neill thanked Mr. Prendiville and the members held a discussion, raising the following issues:

- Appeal process for commercial rates to Valuation Office & concerns expressed regarding potential financial implications for Kilkenny County Council: submission already made to Department;
- Increased income generated by valuation of utilities welcomed;

Cllr Doran proposed, Cllr Doyle seconded and it was resolved that the draft Budget Plan 2020 for the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown be adopted.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Date:

Patrick O'Neill

11/12/19