

**MINUTES OF MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL ADJOURNED BUDGET MEETING
HELD ON FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY, 2004, AT 3.00 p.m.**

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. F. Chambers, was in the Chair.

The other Councillors present were:-

Cllrs. B. Golden, S. Molloy, E. Staunton, S. Weir, M. Burke, J. Mannion, D. Ryan, G. Coyle, P. Kilbane, F. Leneghan, T. Quinn, C. Burke, B.C. Flynn, T.D., H. Kenny, A. McDonnell, J. Mee, M. Carty, J. Cribbin, R. Finn, P. McHugh, J. Flannery, J. Maloney, J. Mellett, G. Murray, M. Adams, P. Sweeney.

The Council Staff in attendance were:-

Mr. D. Mahon, Co. Manager, Mr. J. Beirne, Dir. of Services / Co. Engineer, Mr. J. Loftus, Dir. of Services, Mr. J. Walsh, A/Meetings Administrator, Mr. T. Mullen, Head of Finance, Mr. P. Hynes, Dir. of Services, Mr. S. Granahan, Dir. of Services, Mr. S. Murphy, Chief Fire Officer, Mr. P. Duggan, Management Accountant, Ms. E. McCormack, Financial Accountant, Ms. M. Gannon, A/Co. Librarian, Mr. D. Turnbull, Comm. Dev. Officer, Mr. J. Moran, Sen. Staff Officer, Ms. A. McCarthy, Arts Officer, Ms. C. Kenny, Asst. Staff Officer.

Discussion continued on the Annual Budget of Mayo County Council.

ITEM NO. 1.

- TO CONSIDER THE BUDGET OF MAYO COUNTY COUNCIL FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 2004, AND
 - TO ADOPT THE SAID BUDGET WITH OR WITHOUT AMENDMENT;
 - TO DETERMINE BY RESOLUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SAID BUDGET AS ADOPTED THE ANNUAL RATE TO BE LEVIED FOR THE PURPOSES SET OUT IN TABLE B OF THE SAID BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 2004, AND
 - TO DETERMINE BY RESOLUTION THE CHARGES TO BE MADE FOR SERVICES PROVIDED IN RESPECT OF DOMESTIC PREMISES FOR REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE AND FIRE BRIGADE SERVICE.
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PROGRAMME GROUP 5 - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

Mr. R. Norton, Dir. of Services, and Mr. S. Murphy, Chief Fire Officer, outlined details of Programme Group 5 – Environmental Protection.

A detailed discussion took place under this Programme Group during which reference was made to the following:-

- The need to control waste;

- The success of Derrinnumera and Rathroeen Landfill Sites;
- The need for more composting to be done at home;
- The need for increased funding for maintenance of Burial Grounds;
- That there be no increase in Bin Charges this year;
- The lack of Fire Fighting facilities on Clare Island;
- The success of the Green Schools Programme and the Blue Flag Beach Campaign;
- Indiscriminate dumping throughout the County;
- Call out charges for the Fire Service;
- The success of the Cleaner Community Campaign;
- The deterioration in the quality of water in Lough Carra;
- The provision of Civic Amenity Sites in Claremorris and East Mayo;
- Polluter Pays Principle.

Proposed by Cllr. E. Staunton

Seconded by Cllr. R. Finn

Resolved:-

“That a letter be issued to the relevant Minister requesting that Fire Fighting Personnel and Ambulance Drivers should not be prosecuted for driving at speed to fires and scenes of accidents”.

Mr. R. Norton, Dir. of Services, Mr. T. Mullen, Head of Finance, Mr. S. Murphy, Chief Fire Officer and Mr. D. Mahon, Co. Manager, replied to queries raised by the Members under this Programme Group.

PROGRAMME GROUP 6 - RECREATION AND AMENITY.

Mr. D. Mahon, Co. Manager, outlined detailed of Programme Group 6 – Recreation and Amenity.

A discussion took place under this Programme Group during which reference was made to the following:-

- The provision of a Swimming Pool in the Erris area;

- The excellent work being carried out by the Arts Service and the Library Service;
- The success of the Museum of Country Life at Turlough Park House;
- The refurbishment work being carried out at Claremorris Library;
- The forthcoming opening of the Arts Centre in Ballina;
- The refurbishment of Claremorris Swimming Pool;
- The upgrading of facilities at Charlestown and Kilmovee Swimming Pools.

Proposed by Cllr. J. Mellett

Seconded by Cllr. H. Kenny

Resolved:-

“That this Council supports the campaign for the official status of Irish in the European Union and that we will write to the Taoiseach, Brian Cowen (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Minister Eamon O Cuiv (Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs) and Minister Dick Roche (Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs)”.

PROGRAMME GROUP 7 - AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE.

Mr. D. Mahon, Co. Manager and Mr. J. Beirne, Dir. of Services / Co. Engineer, outlined details of this Programme Group – Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare.

A detailed discussion took place under this Programme Group during which reference was made to the following:-

- Piers and Harbours;
- Urban and Village Enhancement Schemes;
- Higher Education Grants;
- The amount of bureaucracy involved in the farming industry;
- The Excellence Through People Award won by the Council;
- The excellent work carried out by the County Council during the recent landslides at Pullathomas and Glengad;
- Dog Control;

- **Connection of Towns with a population of 1,000 or more to Broadband.**

Mr. D. Mahon, Co. Manager and Mr. T. Mullen, Head of Finance, replied to queries raised by the Members under this Programme Group.

PROGRAMME GROUP 8 - MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

Mr. T. Mullen, Head of Finance, outlined details of Programme Group 8 – Miscellaneous Services.

A discussion took place on this Programme during which reference was made to the following:-

- **Council Insurances;**
- **The proposed new Electronic Voting System;**
- **Access to Information Technology;**
- **Local Elections 2004;**
- **Closure of Polling Booths throughout the County.**

The time being 7.23 p.m., it was -

Proposed by Cllr. P. McHugh

Seconded by Cllr. P. Kilbane

Resolved:-

“That the Meeting be adjourned for 10 minutes”.

The Meeting resumed at 7.33 p.m.

Proposed by Cllr. P. McHugh

Seconded by Cllr. P. Kilbane

Resolved:-

“That the Annual Rate for 2004 be increased by 4.5%”.

Proposed by Cllr. P. McHugh

Seconded by Cllr. P. Kilbane

Resolved:-

“That having considered the County Manager’s Annual Budget for the Financial Year ending 31st December, 2004, together with his Report, the Council hereby amend the said Annual Budget as follows:-

Programme Group 5 - Environmental Protection:-

**That Loan Repayments of €3,092,000 – Sub-Programme - Waste Disposal -
be reduced by €39,239**

Programme Group 8 – Miscellaneous Services:-

**That Overdraft Interest of €450,000 – Sub-Programme – Financial
Management – be reduced by €100,000**

Table B:-

Amount to be levied reduced by €139,239

Annual Rate:-

To be reduced to €60.12”.

Proposed by Cllr. P. McHugh

Seconded by Cllr. P. Kilbane

Resolved:-

**“That the County Council of the County of Mayo hereby adopt the said
Annual Budget for the Financial Year ending 31st December, 2004, as set
out in Tables A and B, as amended”.**

Proposed by Cllr. P. McHugh

Seconded by Cllr. P. Kilbane

Resolved:-

**“That the County Council of the County of Mayo hereby determine, in
accordance with the Annual Budget as adopted, for the Financial Year
ending 31st December, 2004, the rate set out in Table B to be €60.12”.**

Proposed by Cllr. P. McHugh

Seconded by Cllr. P. Kilbane

Resolved:-

**“That in accordance with Section 2 of the Local Government (Financial
Provisions) (No. 2) Act, 1983 (No. 21 of 1983), the Council hereby make a
charge of €100.00 payable on receipt of demand from the County Council
for attendance of the Fire Brigade at a domestic premises for the Financial
Year ending 31st December, 2004”.**

**The Cathaoirleach, on behalf of the Council, thanked all the Members of
the Council for their co-operation in the adoption of the Budget and the
County Manager and Staff for their work in the preparation of the Budget.**

The County Manager thanked the Cathaoirleach and the Members of the Council for their co-operation in the adoption of the Budget. He also thanked his Staff for their work in the preparation of the Budget.

The Meeting concluded at 8.00 p.m.