

Minutes of Budget Meeting of Louth County Council held in County Hall, Dundalk on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019

**In attendance:**

**Cathaoirleach:** Cllr. L. Reilly

**Members:** Councillors: P. Bell, M. Butler, T. Byrne, J. Byrne, A. Campbell, E. Coffey, E. Corrigan, R. Culhane T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, C. Markey P. McGeough, D. Minogue, R. O'Murchu, , D. Saurin, P. Savage, P. Smith, J. Tenanty O. Tully, A. Watters, M. Yore.

**Absent:** Cllrs. K. Callan, J. McGahon, T. Sharkey

**Officials:** J. Martin, Chief Executive  
F. Pentony, Director of Services  
J. McGuinness, Director of Services  
P. Donnelly, Director of Services  
B. Woods, Head of Finance  
W. Walsh, A/Director of Services  
M. Johnston, Senior Engineer  
M. Sheeran, Senior Engineer  
J. O'Hagan, Senior Engineer  
C. Moss, Senior Executive Officer  
J. Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer  
A. Lawler, Senior Executive Officer  
L. McKenna, Senior Executive Officer  
B. Lynch, Financial Accountant  
R. McAuley, Financial Accountant  
A. Sherry, Meetings Administrator  
C. Mullen, Administrative Officer

**Minute No. 220/18**

**Draft Budget 2019**

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Liam Reilly formally opened the meeting to consider the Draft Budget for 2019.

In a presentation the Chief Executive highlighted some of the main financial challenges in 2019 and informed the members that the budget was balanced on the basis of increasing pay parking fees in Dundalk and Drogheda. It was also pointed out to the members that Statutory Instrument 231 of 2014 allowed the Council to pass a motion to permit the Council rather than the municipal districts to vote in relation to the setting of the parking fees in the county if it felt that was appropriate in these circumstances.

Some members welcomed this approach while others expressed their opposition to the power being taken from the Municipal or Borough districts.

The Head of Finance then gave a presentation to the members outlining the main points of the draft budget following which the members had questions answered in relation to the expenditure and income tables for each division.

Following further discussion:-

**It was proposed by Cllr. P. Savage and seconded by Cllr. R. Culhane to adopt the Budget for 2019**

A roll call vote followed:

**For:** Cllrs. T. Byrne, R. Culhane, C. Keelan, L. Reilly, P. Savage, J. Tenanty, M. Yore

Total: **Seven (7)**

**Against:** Cllrs. P. Bell, M. Butler, J. Byrne, A. Campbell, E. Coffey, E. Corrigan, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, M. Doyle, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, C. Markey, P. McGeough, D. Minogue, R. O' Murchu, D. Saurin, P. Smith, O. Tully, A. Watters

Total: **Nineteen (19)**

**Absent:** Cllrs. K. Callan, J. McGahon, T. Sharkey

Total: **Three (3)**

The members were advised that failure to adopt a budget would result in the matter being referred to the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government and that the Minister had the power to abolish the Council and appoint a commissioner in these circumstances

**It was proposed by Cllr. C. Keelan and seconded by Cllr. M. Yore to adjourn the meeting for 15 minutes**

A roll call vote followed:-

**For:** Cllrs. P. Bell, T. Byrne, E. Coffey, R. Culhane, M. Doyle, F. Godfrey, C. Keelan, C. Markey, D. Minogue, L. Reilly, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, O. Tully, M. Yore

Total: **Fourteen (14)**

**Against:** Cllrs. M. Butler, J. Byrne, A. Campbell, E. Corrigan, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, K. Flood, P. McGeough, R. O' Murchu, D. Saurin, A. Watters

Total: **Eleven (11)**

**Absent:** Cllrs. K. Callan, J. McGahon, P. Savage, T. Sharkey

Total: **Four (4)**

**It was proposed by Cllr. O. Tully and seconded by Cllr. D. Minogue to adjourn the meeting until 6.00 p.m. on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November**

A roll call vote followed:-

**For:** Cllrs. P. Bell, M. Butler, J. Byrne, T. Byrne, A. Campbell, R. Culhane, T. Cunningham, M. Dearey, K. Flood, F. Godfrey, P. McGeough, R. O' Murchu, D. Saurin, P. Smith, J. Tenanty, A. Watters, M. Yore

Total: **Seventeen (17)**

**Against:** Cllrs. E. Coffey, M. Doyle, C. Keelan, C. Markey, D. Minogue, L. Reilly, O. Tully

Total: **Seven (7)**

**Absent:** Cllrs. K. Callan, E. Corrigan, J. McGahon, P. Savage, T. Sharkey

Total: **Five (5)**

That concluded the business of the meeting.

The Minutes were confirmed at a meeting of Council held on:-

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach: \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_