

MINUTES OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BUDGET MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 4TH NOVEMBER 2022 AT 10.30AM

In the chair: Cllr Mary Hilda Cavanagh
Present: Cllrs John Brennan, Michael Delaney, Pat Fitzpatrick and Michael McCarthy
In attendance: Mr Philippe Beubry, Mr Martin Prendiville, Ms Nancy Byrne, Mr Michael Leahy and Ms Noelle Brett

1. Budget 2023 - General Municipal Allocation for the Municipal District of Castlecomer

Mr Martin Prendiville provided details as follows:

- The prescribed period for holding the Municipal District budget meeting is from 14th October 2022 to 15th November 2022.
- The meeting must be concluded no later than 10 days prior to the Local Authority Budget meeting.
- The meeting cannot be adjourned.
- Straw poll from Local Authorities in which significant number of the executive recommended an increase in commercial rates of between 3 and 5%.
- The financial impact for businesses as a result of a possible rates increase and confirmed documentation in this regard had been circulated to members.
- Clarity was provided on the rates incentive grant scheme.
- Significant funding challenges faced including: impact of inflation, social housing voids funding shortfall and RAS recoupment shortfall, funding for new Mayfair Library and reduction in car parking income
- Impact on Council services as well as discretionary spend if this shortfall in funding is not met.

Contributions were received from the members as follows:

- Members spoke of staff shortages in the Council and in particular in the Housing Department.

Mr Michael Leahy spoke of staffing issues in all Departments of the Council and also the public's high expectation for the delivery of services and reminded members of an 8-week deadline to deal with ordinary housing maintenance requests.

It was

Proposed by: Cllr John Brennan

Seconded by: Cllr Michael Delany and agreed

That the Municipal District of Castlecomer hereby adopt the following Budget subject to funding being available in the Council budget:-

Discretionary Roads Budget	-	€772,000
Discretionary General Budget	-	€50,000

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chairperson: Mary Hilda Cavanagh
Date: 19th December 2022