

Sent: Sunday, 15 March 2015 4:08 PM
To: IPART Mailbox
Subject: Objection to CHCC extra rate rise

RE ..Coffs Harbour Special Rate Rise

I am a Coffs Harbour ratepayer and I am lodging an objection to the proposed 2015/16 rate rise council has asked for from IPART
I object strongly to a 16.5% cumulative increase over the next two years to be retained permanently in the rate base. this is in addition to a 7.9 % already approved for 2014/15
SURVEYS

Coffs Harbour Council did three surveys of which the results were 70% ..80+% ..and 80+% against

Why did the six councilors ignore the majority of RATEPAYERS .I was only asked to participate in one...I ask ipart why?????

The CHCC just wasted all that money,the were going to apply regardless . It shows the contempt those six councilors had
also the information booklet was biased and tried to say to all ratepayers ..NO RISE AND YOU WILL LOSE A LOT OF SERVICES, scare mongering it's called.

SPONSORSHIPS

CHCC has sponsored things such as Rally Australia,League, Australian Rules etc etc How is council allowed to hide the cost of all of these under confidentiality grounds ??,also these have there own income from gate takings etc and are commercial and profit driven .How can the CHCC justify giving them hundreds of thousands of ratepayers money, when all profit is taken out of town ,especially when the CHCC is eight +million dollars in debt,a figure which no councilor can confirm.....I ask IPART why not ..what is the true figure???

Waste

When you drive around Coffs Harbour all you see is absolute waste of ratepayers money, something that nearly all councilors I spoke to agreed. Examples.. 4 utes on one site all men leaning on the back of one ute talking and smoking for over one hour, heavy machinery and tip trucks parked on site for hours without moving,the cost of weeding gardens..utes trucks employees trafick control set up then they go to smoko.You only have to listen to employees saying how they do very little in a days work.Contractors saying how little fuel etc they have used.and made a fortune..if the General Manager was doing his job thoroughly in a time of when finances are in such debt ,we should not be seeing any waste.

WATER AND SEWER RATE FREEZE

The General Manager treats ratepayers as a joke..he needs to do his homework a bit better as he is inaccurate with his statement, those on tank water and septic who are not a business and can't claim rates on there tax as stated by the GM of CHCC save virtually nothing each year.

How do the two councilors that gave the General Manager a 9% salary rise especially in a time when the CHCC is in so much financial trouble justify this especially when the CPI is around 3.5%???

[REDACTED]

Also people have been told that they are wasting there time sending in submissions as it is a forgone conclusion that IPart has told council it will o k there request..if this is not true why is somebody saying this

RESPONSIBILITY

Coffs Harbour City Council must live and operate within it's means ,it has a responsibility towards the rate payers of CHCC .The General Manager along with CHCC and some (not all) councilors seem to think that all ratepayers have heaps of money to give council to throw around .It is noted that Coffs Harbour is in the lower half of the socia-economic spectrum where rate rises will possibly put some pensions in financial trouble and may have to move out of there homes..Lose there security ,also it will have an impact on the rental market in the area, something the CHCC seem to have overlooked or don't care.??? its called ignorance something that CHCC are known for.The six councilors forget that they were voted in BY THE PEOPLE FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE BEST FOR COFFS HARBOUR

If the General Manager Steve McGrath cannot run CHCC within the budget handed to him along with the general rate rise handed down each year of around 3% then he should resign as G M and allow someone in that position that can. Also any extra special rate rise that IPART gives will only be WASTED as CHCC seem to think that they can just keep asking IPART for extra rate rise every year...

I believe it is time that the Govening body should be looking at sacking the G M and council and bring in somebody to sort this mess out..

IT MUST STOP

Givin all above, I petition IPART to REJECT in total CHCC application for a special rate rise and only granting the rise pegged by the N.S.W.GOVERNMENT. and I ask that my submission be officially registered

[REDACTED]