

MAYOR MEETS AUDIT COMMITTEE, CALLS FOR STRENGTHENED INTERNAL CONTROLS TO ENSURE SOUND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Political Management Team (PMT) of the Blouberg Local Municipality led by the Mayor, Cllr Maria Thamaga, met the new municipal Audit Committee during its strategic session held on December 13, 2021

The committee's role includes among others; provide oversight and advice to Council, management of the municipality on matters including; the review of the Annual Financial Statements of the municipality, audit processes, municipal system and internal controls and provide the Council with credible view of the financial position of the municipality including its efficiency, effectiveness and its overall level of compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

The Blouberg Local Municipality has been working tirelessly and has provided communities with reassurance that their money is put to good use and spent as it should thus achieving the unqualified audit outcome for the financial year 2019/20 and an award for its 100% Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) spending for the same financial year.

Delivering the keynote address, Mayor Thamaga, firstly, welcomed the new committee chaired by Mr Dan Poopedi. The Mayor indicated that; the political leadership, rely on the expertise and advices of the Audit Committee on how they can improve the organizational management of the municipality, and thanked the outgoing committee for its sterling work.

"I wish to recognize and thank the previous Audit Committee for sterling work it has done. I have no doubt, that you will continue the good work done by previous committee and even help to us accomplish more. I am happy you have arranged this session so that you can be able to come with ways and means to help us better coordinate municipal activities, improve the audit outcomes and address challenges facing our municipality".

Mayor Thamaga said, good financial governance translates into better services to locals and that better audit outcome should be accompanied by service delivery.

"Our ultimate goal is not only to obtain clean audit outcomes, but also to have a clean administration that will be able to effectively deliver services to the community. We want to give people water, we want to give people electricity, improved audit outcomes must be accompanied by improved and effective service delivery. Our communities need services. Let's buy graders and waste trucks. Without effective service delivery to the communities, good audit outcomes means we will not make an impact in our communities".

With Mayor Thamaga, every day is "Mandela Day" in Blouberg Local Municipality - top on her agenda is service delivery and poverty alleviation.

"When I was elected as a Mayor I made a promise to our people that from now on every day in our municipality is a Mandela day. Which means provision of services to our poor communities and their upliftment out of the demon of poverty is my number one priority. I invite this committee to join me on this noble journey".



