

VIRTUAL ORDINARY COUNCIL REPORT PRESENTED BY HIS WORSHIP, MAYOR OF BLOUBERG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, COUNCILOR MASEKA SOLOMON PHEEDI: 29 JULY 2020 WITHIN THE MUNICIPALITY (SENWABARWANA).

Madam Speaker

Members of the Executive Committee

The Chief Whip of the majority party and other Whips

Chairperson of the Municipal Public Accounts Committee

Fellow Councillors

Kgoshi Makgato

Municipal Manager and senior managers

All municipal officials

INTRODUCTION

Madam Speaker, this is the time the whole country, needs each other. I think that I will be failing in my responsibilities as a Mayor if I do not reflect on the pandemic which is reaping the world apart. I however, would like to encourage you not to despair.

Firstly, let me pass my condolences to the fallen sons and daughters of the soil. Those who passed on due to Covid-19 and any other natural cause, to mention but a few,

Mapiti Matsena

Zinzi Mandela

Madumane Matabane

Andrew Mlangeni (whose burial is today)

The father to Mrs. Rabumbulu

The brother and father of Mr. Masipa,

Our former employee, Mr. Mabolola, and many more that I didn't mention.

May their souls rest in peace.

Once more, I call on members to follow lock-down guidelines general measures of wearing face masks everytime, when in public spaces, wash hands and sanitize regularly, adhere to physical distancing and remain at home, except to seek medical care, to do shopping, work, place of worship and exercise.

1. **FOURTH QUARTER AS PER APPROVED SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN 2019/20. (page 157-264)**

Madam Speaker, let me kick start the Executive Committee reports by presenting to council progress achieved in respect of the Fourth Quarter Performance as per the approved 2019/20 Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan of the municipality as well as the summarized version of the Annual 2019/20 SDBIP performance per KPA. Madam Speaker, as elucidated in your documents, the table below indicates the summary of Fourth Quarter SDBIP 2019/20 Performance. Out of 123 targets for the quarter, 88 targets were achieved while 35 targets were not achieved. The overall performance for the fourth quarter stands at 71 %.

1.1. **Overall Annual SDBIP performance for 2019/20 per Department**

Madam Speaker, it is of cardinal importance to note that quarterly reports like the one alluded to culminate into an annual performance report. The Annual 2019/20 SDBIP Performance per KPA is as follows: Out of 161 targets for the year, 124 targets were achieved while 37 targets were not achieved. The overall annual performance stands at 88 %. Though it makes for very interesting reading, we hold the belief that there is always room for improvement. Please refer to your documents for further details.

Madam Speaker, the Covid-19 pandemic had a serious impact on the overall performance of our municipality, especially in the last quarter. The KPIs mostly affected include the public participation meetings as well as the forums. The lockdown called for us to stay at home, and most of the e planned programs could not be undertaken as a result.

The covid-19 had also impacted negatively on the financial performance of our municipality. The revenue collection was highly affected, as we couldn't issue out bills on time, as a result we experienced lower revenue collection. We also had to re-direct our expenditure plans to adhere to the covid-19 personal protective equipment (PPE).

Madam Speaker, it gives me great joy to share with this Council that under the difficult circumstances, we managed to complete all our Municipal Infrastructure Grants projects. However the area that seems to pose a challenge is on the Electrification projects. This Council had pro-actively made a request for roll-over of these projects as we anticipated such a delay. The mostly affected is the **Sub-station project**, whereby the project was constructed on an unsuitable site. The matter was attended to and resolved amicably. The Engineer took full responsibility of this problem and the construction will soon resume.

The maintenance of our roads had since been a great challenge. The resumption of duties by the Roads and Storm Water Cost Centres will now become a great relief as they have already started fixing the potholes and grading of roads. For this financial year we also set aside the budget for roads maintenance as well.

The management of waste within our towns and villages remained a big challenge, however we had set aside a budget in this financial year to ensure intensive strategies to reduce illegal dumps. Management should encourage

individuals and cooperatives to establish recycling projects, which could be of assistance in managing waste at landfill sites and transfer stations such as the one at Taaibosch.

Work-place plan (331-341)

We continue to work within our new normal way of running the institution, hence the attached Covid 19 work-place plan. Fumigation and sanitization is now a daily routine, to curb the spread of the virus and save our employees and the communities we serve. It is against this background that we bring the report for noting.

Report on the implementation of the Supply Chain Management Policy-Deviations (329-330)

We further present a report on quarterly deviations amounting to R731, 604.43 to EXCO and further to Council for noting.

Opening of an additional sub-account. (317-328)

We also bring to this Council to authorize the opening of an additional bank account (sub-accounts) in order to easily create deposit references, as well as for the bank to control non-referenced deposits.

Overall Annual SDBIP performance for 2019/20 per Department (157-264)

The table below indicate the summary of Annual SDBIP Performance 2019/20 per KPA. Out of 161 targets for the year, 124 targets were achieved while 37 targets were not achieved. The overall annual performance stands at 88 %.

Department	Total Targets for the year	Total Targets Achieved for the year	Total Targets not achieved for the year	Overall Percentage for year
Corporate Services	36	26	10	69 %
Community Services	23	17	06	74 %
Economic Development and Planning	13	08	05	61 %
Budget and Treasury	35	34	01	97 %
Technical Services	24	16	08	67 %
Municipal Manager' Office	30	23	07	77 %
Overall Total Municipal Targets for the Year	161	124	37	77 %

Madam Speaker, it is hereby **recommended that Council approves the 2019/20 Fourth Quarter SDBIP and overall Annual performance.**

WAIVER FOR DIRECTOR SIBOIBOI (272-273)

Madam Speaker, the newly appointed Director for Technical services , Ms Siboiboi Denga Grace, as anticipated, joined us from the 1st July 2020, and would like **request council to give a go-ahead to apply** to the Minister, a waiver over the notch she is currently at. The current remuneration falls below some of the manager's position due to the challenge of salary creep at Blouberg Municipality

Previously Council resolved to apply for waiver for the Municipal Manager, Director Economic Development and planning, CFO, Director Corporate services and Community Services to address similar problem alluded to above.

Minister of CoGTA duly approved application for waiver for the Municipal Manager, Director Economic Development and planning, Chief Finance Officer, Director Corporate services and Community Services.

TERM OF OFFICE OF AUDIT COMMITTEE (274-303)

Madam Speaker, we are presenting this report to request council to authorise recruitment of new Audit Committee members, extend the term of the current Audit Committee and to renew the term of the one Committee member. We suggest that the current Audit Committee term be extended by five months, from 1 September 2020 to 30 January 2021, to allow a smooth transfer and sharing of experience / knowledge between old members and new members.

As the external audit will be starting in August 2020, it is prudent to allow the current Audit Committee to supervise this external audit and do proper handover to the new one in January 2021.

This shall also afford the current Audit Committee to present their Annual and Close-up reports to Council in January 2021.

REPORT ON THE DBSA SUPPORT PROGRAMME IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE MUNICIPALITY (306-307)

Madam speaker, Our municipality, through its basic services and infrastructure KPA, renders the following services: roads and storm water, electricity distribution. Water and sanitation infrastructure is controlled by the Capricorn District as the WSA and WSP. Maintenance of the above mentioned infrastructure is a challenge to the municipality. The infrastructure is aging and there are no funds to implement planning projects such as feasibility studies to measure the lifespan of the assets, their quality and ability to serve the community adequately. Infrastructure planning is very important as it gives municipalities opportunity to practice forward planning and enhance the revenue.

Currently the municipality is experiencing electricity distribution loss at over 10% and thus supplying the community with a service that is costly to deliver. This causes increase in tariffs charged. There are illegal connections and aging infrastructure issues that are contributing to the distribution loss.

The implications of not getting the support required are:

- Loss of revenue
- Poor infrastructure which will then deliver poor services to the community
- Poor planning and fruitless expenditure which could be avoided if infrastructure lifespan is monitored
- Mismanagement of municipal finances
- Increase in vandalism and theft

Priority Support Required from the DBSA

Our priority support areas include:

- Infrastructure master plans (energy, roads and storm water and water and sanitation). The benefits are:
 - Forward planning to ensure resources are adequately distributed to service the current and upcoming generation
 - Viable financial management as there won't be issues of distribution loss and the cost of giving the service will be resolved
 - The tariffs may go down to relieve the community from paying high tariffs.
- Revenue enhancement programme
 - Improved financial management of the municipality
 - More adequate service delivery
 - Improved livelihoods
 - Management of municipal debts and improved billing
- Asset care Project

Madam Speaker, I recommend for this Council sitting to resolve that:

- I. The report is adopted for implementation
- II. The Projects be approved, and accept the DBSA's grant funding and Revenue Enhancement Programme and supports the implementation of the project and in terms of the Grant Agreement on condition that Council agrees with the terms and conditions within the Grant Agreement.
- III. That the Grant Agreement be subjected to Council approval before implementation
- IV. The Municipal Manager as the Accounting Officer is hereby authorised and mandated to sign the Grant Agreement on its behalf, and to sign and/or dispatch all documents and notices to be signed and/or dispatched by it or in connection with the Agreement.
- V. Municipal Manager to provide the DBSA with the Designated and Authorised Signatories, any of whom shall represent the Municipality on the Project Steering Committee for the purposes stated in the Grant Agreement;
- VI. The municipality provides the relevant FICA documentation required by the DBSA in terms regulations 3,4,5 and 6 of FICA (the Financial Intelligence Centre Act, 38 of 2011)

REPORT ON THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMMES WITH THE MUNICIPALITY (308-313)

Madam speaker, In terms of the constitution of the Republic of South Africa Act 108 of 1996 one of the objectives of the local government is to promote social and economic development. The Blouberg Municipality is not immune to this constitutional mandate and therefore the municipality must ensure there are economic spinoffs to uplift the standard of living of the residents.

As an approach towards economic development which allows and encourages the communities to work together to achieve sustainable economic growth and development it therefore brings economic benefits and improves quality of life for all residents in a municipal area. The Municipality developed the Blouberg Growth and Development which seeks to attract investors to grow the economy that could create more job opportunities and alleviate poverty in all forms.

The municipality deemed it necessary forge partnerships with different stakeholders to accelerate development and create jobs in-line with the Growth and Development Strategy. The Private Public Partnerships will be explored together with any government partnerships that can be harnessed.

Madam Speaker, I therefore recommend for this Council to:

- I. Adopt the report for implementation
- II. Approve the Partnership projects related to job creation, poverty alleviation, revenue enhancement, energy efficiency, such as Solar Plant projects, and any other sound development initiative of the municipality
- III. That any Agreement be subjected to Council approval before implementation
- IV. The Municipal Manager as the Accounting Officer is hereby authorised and mandated to sign Agreements on its behalf, and to sign and/or dispatch all documents and notices to be signed and/or dispatched by it or in connection with the Agreement.
- V. Municipal Manager to provide the Designated and Authorised Signatories, any of whom shall represent the Municipality on the Project Steering Committee for the purposes stated in the Agreement;

REPORT ON THE SUPPLEMENTARY ROLL. (315)

Madam Speaker, Blouberg municipality developed a general valuation roll for the financial year 2016 to 2021. The roll has reached its full life span and its validity ends in the year 2021. The municipality has as per section 78 of Municipal Property Rates Act, 6 of 2004, developed supplementary valuation roll for financial year 2020/2021. The document served at the Council sitting of the 15th May 2020 and has been subjected for inspection until July 2020.

Madam Speaker, I therefore recommend to Council that:

- The report on the supplementary roll is noted for implementation on the financial year 2020/2021.

REPORT ON THE DRAFT 2020/2021 IDP/ BUDGET PROCESS PLAN (314)

Municipalities are required to develop the road map with time schedule of key deadlines in line with the Municipal Finance Management Act No 21 (1)(b) and 53(1)(b). The Municipal Mayor should then table the process in the council meeting for approval. The plan shall serve as the activity plan for the development and implementation of the municipal programs. In order to ensure certain minimum quality standards of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), and a proper coordination between and within spheres of government, the preparation of the process plan has been regulated in the Municipal Systems Act, Chapter 5 Section 28(1), 2000. The preparation of a process plan, which is in essence the IDP Process set out in writing, requires the adoption by Council.

The plan has to include the following:

- A programme specifying the time frames for the different planning steps;
- Appropriate Mechanisms, processes and procedures for consultation and participation of local communities, organs of state, traditional authorities, and other role players in the IDP drafting process;
- An indication of the organizational arrangements for the IDP process;
- Binding plans and planning requirements, i.e. policy and legislation; and
- Mechanisms and procedures for vertical and horizontal alignment.

Madam Speaker, In terms of MSA section 28, Council must adopt the draft 2020/2021 IDP/ Budget Process plan and subject it to public participation before its approval. Then the Council will approve and adopt the final Process plan after the consultation process and advertise the notice of adoption of the said document on media, newspaper, website, local posters and further make sure the document is placed in all satellite offices as well as public areas such as local libraries.

Madam Speaker, I therefore recommend to the Council that:

- The Draft 2020/2021 IDP/ Budget Process plan is considered and adopted
- The Draft 2020/2021 IDP/Budget Process Plan is approved for public consultation

REPORT ON THE PROPOSED WSIG2020/21 SENWABARWANA WATER TREATMENT PLANT. (316)

Madam Speaker, the Capricorn District Municipality requested a site for their proposed WSIG2020/21 Senwabarwana water treatment plant. The project was meant to commence from the 20th July 2020 until the 20th October 2020 in the financial year 2020/21. The site is located next to Mohodi boundary as you approach Blouberg from Dendron side, this is where the concrete reservoir is which supplies water to the Senwabarwana location. See annexure 1.

Based on nature of the project and the requirements in terms of location and impact the proposed water treatment plant has on future planning of the town, it was ideal to allocate a site as an extension to existing concrete in take reservoir on the edge of Bochum 178 LS which is owned by the Blouberg Municipality. Proper town planning processes to be followed and closely monitored by The Department of Economic Development & Planning.

Madam Speaker, I therefore recommend to this Council that:

- The proper disposal of the proposed portion of land to CDM be followed as per the land disposal and acquisition policy
- The proposed 5000sqm be disposed off for the development of the water purification and treatment system
- Town Planning application be submitted for approval
- EIA must be conducted together with other relevant studies
- Plans & sketch diagrams must be submitted to the Municipality Building inspectors for approval.

WE FURTHER BRING THE FOLLOWING TO THIS COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL OR NOTING.

- Report on delimitation of wards 2019-2020, cancelation of outstanding (batch 2 category) ward delimitation public consultation meetings for approval **(Addendum)**
- The Draft IDP/ Budget Process plan, which is subjected to public Participation for approval
- Quarterly and annual Back-basics report for approval. **(page 29-156)**
- The change control/ reprioritaization from Eskom on 2020/2021 Electrification Programme for noting.
- The Performance Management cascading plan for the year 2020/21 for approval.
- The progress on the implementation of Council resolutions for noting **(page 11-19)**
- The report on decisions taken by the EXCO for noting. **(page 20-28)**

Madam Speaker, in conclusion , let me appreciate efforts made by all councilors, including JOC, District Command Council as well as our officials, in particular, management and the Technical Covid-19 team, in ensuring that our communities adhere to the Covid-19 regulations. Let me reiterate this that : **“PLEASE DON’T DESPAIR.”**

THANK YOU.