

ORDINARY COUNCIL SPEECH PRESENTED BY HIS WORSHIP MAYOR OF BLOUBERG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, COUNCILOR MASEKA SOLOMON PHEEDI: 30 JULY 2018 AT MAKGATO COMMUNITY HALL, KROMHOEK VILLAGE

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

Municipal Manager and senior managers

All Traditional Leaders

All Ward Committees & CDW's

Members of the Community

Representative of Sector Departments Present

All municipal official

INTRODUCTION

Madam Speaker we are meeting on the eve of the conclusion of Mandela month. Indeed if Tata Mandela and, Mama Sisulu were here, they would have turned centenarians/100 years. We are forever indebted to their contribution to the struggle for freedom and a better life for all. Let us continue to make every day a Mandela day. Let us celebrate the lives of the two icons. Madam Speaker, we are meeting at the time when African National Congress; the ruling party in the province, regions and sub regions have just concluded their elective conferences. Congratulations are in order to the provincial leadership led by the Chairperson Cde Stanley Chupu Mathabatha and one of our own Cde Maria Thamaga and Cde Donald Selamolela as PEC members, the Peter Mokaba Regional leadership led by the chairperson Cde Makoro John Mpe and Blouberg Sub-regional leadership led by Cde Manare Billy Choshi. We further congratulate one of our own, the Premier of Gauteng, Cde David Makhura for being elected Chairperson of the ANC in Gauteng.

Congratulations to the Republic of South Africa led by the President; Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa for successfully hosting the BRICS Summit over the weekend.

Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to wish the people of Zimbabwe a free and fair elections as they cast the ballot today.

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Madam Speaker I would like to table the following matters before Council for consideration:

Madam Speaker, this council meets at a time when Auditor General is knocking at the door to begin with the 2017/18 audit. There is also a remarkable progress on the implementation of the 2016/17 action plan. Of a total of 24 findings, 23 had been resolved. The only remaining one is related to the implementation of the disaster recovery plan, which is at final stage. Our officials should continue to pull up their socks in ensuring that credible financial statements and all other information is ready for submission, and always on time.

1. REPORT ON EMPLOYEES STRIKE: 22-26

Madam Speaker, it was during the period under review where the municipality experienced an industrial action by the employees, led by their union, SAMWU, from the 29th June to the 10th July 2018. The union had a plethora of demands, starting from the demand to implement pay progression, benchmarking, and finally the speedy implementation of the job evaluation. The strike was called off after we decided to take the legal route, hence the attached court interdict. This illegal and unprotected strike took 8 days, in which a lot of revenue was lost, and that there was no service rendered to the community.

Madam Speaker, just to brief August Council that the Job Evaluation outcomes report is finalized, and that the management is still engaging SALGA on the report, which will still undergo consultation processes before this council could adopt it. We hope that this matter, if finalized, will serve as a closed chapter for this impasse with the labour union.

2. REPORT ON INCREMENT OF WARD COMMITTEE OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENCES STIPENDS

Madam Speaker, this council should also acknowledge the role played by the ward committees as the foot soldiers for service delivery to communities. For the past 4 years, their stipends were never increased, hence the annual inflation. It is against this background that we submit to **this council the proposed increase** of R240 for ward committees' stipends, which means a total of R1500 per month.

3. DISPOSAL OF THE ALLDAYS EXTENSION TWO RESIDENTIAL ERVEN (200 SITES)

Madam Speaker, we had previously reported that CoGHSTA funded the engineering services for the about 200 sites in Alldays; and now the project is complete and was handed over to the municipality. The developmental impact of the project is that it will grow the economy of Alldays, as it will also attract mineworkers to invest within our municipality. It is against this background that we propose

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- that Council approves the advertisement of the disposal of about 200 sites in Alldays, in line with the approved supplementary valuation roll, and secondly,
- that Council approves the disposal of the remainder of portion 4 of Farm Alldays 295 LS, and
- that council further approve the advertisement of the disposals for public consultation.

Madam Speaker, allow me to appraise this council about the land invasion that took place within the above-mentioned sites in Alldays by the unknown persons, as cited within the attached court order. We had to quickly invoke the prescripts of the law to apply for an interdict, which was successful. The court ordered that those unlawful occupants should vacate or their shacks be demolished. It should also be highlighted that during the previous financial year our attempts to purchase 300 hectares of Monmouth Farm were delayed by the fact that the farm was under claim by Tshivhula family, however, we continue to find a breakthrough as well as other alternative land with the Rural Settlements department and other related organs.

4. PROGRESS REPORT ON MUNICIPAL WIDE RDP PROJECT: page 58-69

- We further bring the progress report on municipal wide RDP project to this council for noting.

5. FOURTH QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT- doc 2 from page 1-150

Madam Speaker, Section 46 of the Municipal Systems Act, Act no 32 of 2000, (1) provides that a municipality must prepare for each financial year a performance report reflecting (a) the performance of the municipality and each of external service provider during that financial year; a comparison with targets as well as the measures taken to improve performance.

The table below shows how departments have performed during the Fourth Quarter. It further shows that out of 175 overall targets for the fourth quarter, **155** targets have been achieved and 20 were not achieved. The overall percentage of Municipal targets achieved is **88 %** whilst targets not achieved represents **12 %**. Although two departments have regressed compared to the previous quarter, the overall municipal performance has improved by 6 %. The municipality managed to appoint service providers for all capital projects for both MIG and INEP. We managed to complete internal street projects, electrification, and construction of creches and sports facilities. We further appreciate that we have spend 100% for both MIG and INEP.

6. DECISIONS TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE- Page 435-442

Madam Speaker, during the period under review, the Executive Committee took a number of decisions in a bid to ensure that our municipality strengthens its oversight on the implementation of the SDBIP. The executive committee holds its meetings monthly to ensure the day-to-day running of the municipality. We recommend that council approve the report on the decisions taken by the Executive committee.

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7. REPORT ON HUMAN RESOURCE POLICIES: 70-72

Madam Speaker, the Subsistence and Travelling policy was last reviewed by the Special Council of the 30th June 2015 to the effect that EXCO members, Senior Management and all other Councillors be capped at 2 500 kilometers. Given the enormous workload and amount of travelling and work done by the Chief Whip, Executive Committee members as well as the Chairperson of the Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC) in their respective lines of duty, it is hereby recommended that their travelling claims be capped at 3 000 kilometers per month.

We further bring the following related Human Resource policies for approval:

- i. Subsistence and Travelling
- ii. Smoking Policy
- iii. Reasonable Accommodation Policy
- iv. Code of Good Practices on Handling Sexual Harassment Cases
- v. Employment Equity Policy
- vi. Overtime Policy
- vii. Policy on HIV/AIDS
- viii. Email and Electronic Systems Policy
- ix. Dress Code Policy
- x. Bursary Scheme Policy
- xi. OHS Policy
- xii. Bereavement Policy
- xiii. Policy on Adult Basic Education
- xiv. Attendance and Absenteeism
- xv. Recruitment, Selection and Induction Policy
- xvi. PMS Policy

8. APPROVED 2018/19 SDBIP: page 90-235

Madam Speaker, the Service Delivery and Implementation Plan (SDBIP) is a management tool to implement the Integrated Development Plan (IDP). It consists of the key performance areas and the performance targets, to mention but a few. I signed the plan on 28 June and handed over to Municipal Manager for implementation. Its going to be business unusual. Besides Senior Managers, each portfolio chairperson will have to apply stricter oversight role to ensure that we do not only wait for quarterly performance review session for unachieved targets and resolutions. The commencement of the 3 new senior managers (CFO/Corporate/Community) from the 1st August (this Wednesday) will also strengthen the management of this municipality.

I also bring the following to this council for approval:

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- 2018/19 Delegation of Powers: 236-419
- 4th Quarter deviations: 453
- 2018/19 IDP process plan 420-434
- 2018/19 Back to Basics Action Plan: 73-86

Ke a leboga:

Cllr Maseka Pheedi

Mayor; Blouberg Local Municipality