

CONFIDENTIAL

**MINUTES
of a
SPECIAL MEETING**

**MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

VIRTUALLY ON MS TEAMS

**MONDAY
MAY 31, 2021
AT 13:00**

**MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPALITY**



**MINUTES OF A
SPECIAL MEETING**

of the

MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

held

VIRTUALLY ON MS TEAMS

on

MONDAY, MAY 31, 2021

at 13:00

- 1 **SPEAKER**
COUNCILLOR SIYONZANA MA
- 2 **ACTING EXECUTIVE MAYOR**
COUNCILLOR MASOETSA LA
- 3 **CHIEF WHIP**
COUNCILLOR MANGCOTYWA ZE

MEMBERS OF MAYORAL COMMITTEE (MMC) (SECTION 80 CHAIRPERSONS)

- 4 COUNCILLOR JONAS-MALEPHANE VE
- 5 COUNCILLOR MAHASE MM
- 6 COUNCILLOR MONYAKOANA NP
- 7 COUNCILLOR MORAKE MA
- 8 COUNCILLOR NKHABU M
- 9 COUNCILLOR NOTHNAGEL J
- 10 COUNCILLOR PONGOLO XD
- 11 COUNCILLOR THIPENYANE G
- 12 COUNCILLOR TITI-ODILI LM

SECTION 79 CHAIRPERSONS

- 13 COUNCILLOR MOTHIBI-NKOANE MM**
- 14 COUNCILLOR NKOE MJ**
- 15 COUNCILLOR SHOUNYANA MM**
- 16 COUNCILLOR TLADI MM**

PR & WARD COUNCILLORS

- 17 COUNCILLOR BOLT W**
- 18 COUNCILLOR BOROLE KS**
- 19 COUNCILLOR BOTES FR**
- 20 COUNCILLOR BRITZ JF**
- 21 COUNCILLOR CAMPHER ZMC**
- 22 COUNCILLOR NB CEZULA**
- 23 COUNCILLOR CHAKA NS**
- 24 COUNCILLOR DAVIES M**
- 25 COUNCILLOR DENNIS ME**
- 26 COUNCILLOR DYOSIBA S**
- 27 COUNCILLOR FERREIRA TI**
- 28 COUNCILLOR KGANAKGA M**
- 29 COUNCILLOR KHOLOMBA KJ**
- 30 COUNCILLOR KHUNOU LM**
- 31 COUNCILLOR KLAASEN RS**
- 32 COUNCILLOR KOTZE GDP**
- 33 COUNCILLOR LEBONA NJ**
- 34 COUNCILLOR LEECH D**
- 35 COUNCILLOR LOTRIET PA**
- 36 COUNCILLOR MADELA BNV**

- 37 COUNCILLOR MAJARA LJ
- 38 COUNCILLOR MAKHALANYANE TS
- 39 COUNCILLOR MALELEKA PT
- 40 COUNCILLOR MAPHATHE LM
- 41 COUNCILLOR MARAIS P
- 42 COUNCILLOR MASOEU TD
- 43 COUNCILLOR MLAMLELI SM
- 44 COUNCILLOR MATETHA NR
- 45 COUNCILLOR MCKAY DMC
- 46 COUNCILLOR MICHAELS SO
- 47 COUNCILLOR MOFOKENG MJ
- 48 COUNCILLOR MOGAPI KT
- 49 COUNCILLOR MOHAPI TD
- 50 COUNCILLOR MOHIBIDU PM
- 51 COUNCILLOR MOHLOKI MM
- 52 COUNCILLOR MOHULATSI MM
- 53 COUNCILLOR MOKHOANATSE EM
- 54 COUNCILLOR MOKOAKOA MI
- 55 COUNCILLOR MOKOLOKO PR
- 56 COUNCILLOR MONONYANE MB
- 57 COUNCILLOR MOOPELO TM
- 58 COUNCILLOR MOREENG KC
- 59 COUNCILLOR MORURI MM
- 60 COUNCILLOR MOSALA MT
- 61 COUNCILLOR MOTHUPI ML
- 62 COUNCILLOR MOTLOUNG MV
- 63 COUNCILLOR MVALA-MAJOLA DS
- 64 COUNCILLOR NAILE TJ

- 65 COUNCILLOR NDZUZO T
- 66 COUNCILLOR NJIBA-LEBAJOA MA
- 67 COUNCILLOR NIKELO VE
- 68 COUNCILLOR OLIVIER GJ
- 69 COUNCILLOR PETERSEN JE
- 70 COUNCILLOR POONE-RANKHOLO PP
- 71 COUNCILLOR PRETORIUS JC
- 72 COUNCILLOR PRETORIUS S
- 73 COUNCILLOR RAMABOLU MJ
- 74 COUNCILLOR RAMAINOANE TD
- 75 COUNCILLOR RAMPAI CF
- 76 COUNCILLOR RAMATLAMA MJ
- 77 COUNCILLOR RANCHOBE T
- 78 COUNCILLOR RANTAI JH
- 79 COUNCILLOR RASILE MM
- 80 COUNCILLOR RASOEU LE
- 81 COUNCILLOR SEBOLAO JE
- 82 COUNCILLOR SEFUME NR
- 83 COUNCILLOR SEFUTHI NM
- 84 COUNCILLOR SEKAKANYO DM
- 85 COUNCILLOR SELEBELI MG
- 86 COUNCILLOR SELEKE PL
- 87 COUNCILLOR SEWISA OP
- 88 COUNCILLOR SNYMAN VAN DEVENTER E
- 89 COUNCILLOR TERBLANCHE AP
- 90 COUNCILLOR THATHO MV
- 91 COUNCILLOR THWALA ZJ

- 92 COUNCILLOR TLALE ME
- 93 COUNCILLOR TSIANE MMP
- 94 COUNCILLOR VAN DER MERWE R
- 95 COUNCILLOR VAN DER WALT TB
- 96 COUNCILLOR VAN NIEKERK HJC
- 97 COUNCILLOR VIVIERS BJ
- 98 COUNCILLOR WEWEGE M
- 99 COUNCILLOR QWEMA MB
- 100

MEMBERS OF BAROLONG TRADITIONAL COUNCIL

None of the members present

- 1 SETLOGELO M
- 2 MOROKA PE
- 3 MOLETSANE KC
- 4 SETLOGELO MB
- 5 MANYASHE V
- 6 MOKAKE KP
- 7 RANCHO TB
- 8 SESING LD
- 9 MOROKA MP
- 10 MOHAPI M

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

1	EXCO REPRESENTATIVE	MR MKAZA T
2	ACTING CITY MANAGER	MR MAINE TA
3	CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	MR MOFOKENG SE
4	HEAD: ENGINEERING SERVICES	MR NDLOVU M
5	HEAD: PLANNING	MR MTHEMBU BS
6	HEAD: SOLID WASTE AND FLEET MANAGEMENT	MR MORE S
7	HEAD: SOCIAL SERVICES	MR NKUNGWANA MG
8	HEAD: HUMAN SETTLEMENTS	ADV PHALADI MJN
9	HEAD: CORPORATE SERVICES	MR NKAISENG D
10	HEAD: ECONOMIC AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT	MR MAINE TA
11	CHIEF METRO POLICE	MR KGAMANYANE K
12	ACTING CEO: CENTLEC	MR SEKOBOTO M
13	CFO: CENTLEC	MR MATSIMELA M
14	GM: COMMITTEE SERVICES	MR MOTHEKHE M
15	SENIOR ADMINISTARTIVE OFFICER	MS MAMATELA R

Note by Secretariat

1. **Attendance Register:** Every member attending a meeting shall sign his/her name in the attendance register kept for this purpose before the commencement of the meeting.
2. **Leave Register:** In order to streamline administrative processes Councillors are friendly requested to submit applications for leave of absence in the appropriate register kept for this purpose. Members are requested to fill in this register 12 hours before the commencement of the meeting (Rule 22.2) (Yellow Form).
3. **Name-plates:** Councillors are friendly requested to please take along their name-plates and to display it throughout the meeting.
4. **Apologies during the course of the Council meeting:** Councillors are friendly requested to complete in full and submit the relevant apology form for this purpose (Yellow Form).
5. **Code of Conduct:** Councillors are reminded of item 3, Schedule 1 of the Code of Conduct for Councillors which reads as follows, namely:

Attendance at Meetings: A councillor must attend each meeting of the municipal council and of a committee of which that councillor is a member, except when:

- (a) leave of absence is granted in terms of an applicable law or as determined by the rules and orders of the council or
- (b) that councillor is required in terms of this Code to withdraw from the meeting.

6. Meeting rules:

- i. All Councillors must arrive at **least 15 minutes before the commencement** of the Council and all other Committee meetings;
- ii. Cellular phones **must be in silent mode** and **speaking on a cellular phone during the meeting is prohibited**; (Rule 50.2a)
- iii. A Councillor who speaks must **confine his or her speech strictly to the matter under discussion**; (Rule 31)
- iv. Unless expressly otherwise determined, a Councillor **may speak only once on a matter**; (Rule 32)
- v. No speech shall exceed **five (5) minutes** in length without the consent of the Speaker. (Rule 34.1)
- vi. Council members are reminded to uphold high level of good conduct during Council proceedings (No disruptions, no interruptions, no howling, no swearing to other Council members, less movement in the Chamber, no abuse of the PA system).

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**MINUTES
(OPEN COUNCIL)**

**85.
OPENING**

The meeting commenced at 13h10 to allow all Councillors to join the meeting in order to form a quorum.

The Speaker thereon declared the meeting officially opened. He further welcomed the Acting Executive Mayor, the Honourable Councillors, officials, and the citizens of Mangaung.

NOTED.

**86.
NOTICE OF THE MEETING**

The Speaker read the notice of the meeting as outline on page 2 of the agenda.

NOTED.

**87.
APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

All relevant leave of absence and apologies were recorded and minuted as such in the attendance list on the first four (4) pages of the minutes.

NOTED.

**88.
ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

The Council accepted the agenda as the official business of the Council meeting.

NOTED.

89.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker stated that this announcement was important and hoped that the media which wrote about Mangaung was listen. He stated as follows:

“That other Friday where we had a Council meeting, we were supposed to deal with two (2) items, but I would deal with one item that was submitted for leave of absence, which means the one on compulsory leave of absence. Councillor BJ Viviers that day requested that; he made a proposed that we must place the City Manager under precautionary suspension. Now, a precautionary suspension, it is not a suspension.

Precautionary suspension means that, we take a resolution as Council where we are going to give the City Manager an opportunity to make a representation. He must explain to us why he cannot be suspended, and that was done last week Monday. He received his letter but what then happened, later he then sends the letter to his lawyers to say that he is suspended. We explained to them that he is not suspended, he is in a precautionary suspension.

There is a process that must follow in terms of Regulation 6 where he is going to respond within seven (7) days, where we are going to take the item to Council. The dispute between ourselves, and City Manager was on suspension. He was claiming that we had suspended him, and we explained that he was not suspended, but on a precautionary suspension which means it was a process that must be followed, and he must make representation whereby if Council is satisfied about his representation, then he would not be suspended, but if Council feels that he should still be suspended then he would be suspended.

So, no one thus far had changed the Council resolution. The Council of Mangaung did not change, did not do anything else. There was a settlement which was discussed. Apparently, the City Manager voluntarily can take a leave if he wants, or he can come to work until that process is finalised.

So, in short, those who are asking why the City Manager is part of this meeting, I did not say the final order, but the draft order was saying City Manager will be on leave for two weeks. On the final order if he chooses not to be on leave, he can still be part of this meeting. I felt that it is important to explain that.

The City Manager did not win the case, but his concern was he is suspended, and the City said no, he is not suspended but on a precautionary suspension in terms of the resolutions of Council. I just wanted to give clarity on that.”

NOTED.

1.

PRESENTATION BY THE AUDITOR GENERAL ON MANGAUNG METRO MUNICIPALITY 2019/2020 AUDIT OPINION AND TABLING OF THE CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY AND CENTLEC FOR 2019/2020 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Acting Executive Mayor, Councillor Morake tabled the item and hand over to the office of the Auditor-General to present this item.

The Speaker raised his concerns: “I am not happy about this. When all other Council’s Auditor-General’s opinion are reported around February, ours comes in the same date as we pass the budget. I don’t think it is correct. I think we must make an opinion about our Provincial office of the Auditor-General because they are delaying. Sometimes they will finish the report and say they don’t have time and requested that another date.”

Whilst waiting for the Auditor-General the Speaker asked Councillor ME Dennis if she was satisfied with the answer he provided, under item 89 on announcement.

Councillor ME Dennis stated that she would accept it.

Whilst waiting for the Auditor-General, Councillor BJ Viviers requested the Speaker to explain the procedure on how many speakers would be allowed for discussion on budget and IDP whereupon the Speaker responded that because Councillors already prepared the speeches, if he talks about it at this stage, it might send another message.

The Speaker mentioned that ANC – 5 speakers, DA – 3, EFF – 2 and all others (AIC, ANA, FFP and COPE) 1 speaker.

Acting Executive Mayor indicated that the office of the Auditor General did receive the message, but they mentioned that they did not know exactly what time the meeting was scheduled.

The Speaker responded: “Let me tell you, Acting Executive Mayor, I am not happy about this because this report was supposed to come around February 2021 and now, we are at the end of May 2021. When we send out invites, the time is there. one cannot just send out invitation without indicating what time. That excuse really, doesn’t make sense to me at least because when you invite the AG you put on date and time. So, if you say you invited him, but you didn’t include time, it is really problematic.

I actually wanted to say something to him, all metro municipalities around February and it is only us and we are still waiting. It cannot be right that he would present ours around June; that is wrong. Even MPAC is going to do its work, and the report must come back to Council after 60 days. After that 60 days, there are other things that must be done, audit action plan etc, the whole cycle is compromised. Not happy about that.”

NOTED.

2.

TABLING OF THE MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY 2021/2022 INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP) AND SECTOR PLANS

As the Speaker explained the procedure for discussion, Councillor BJ Viviers raised a point of order:

“Thank you, Mister Speaker. When I ask you earlier while we were waiting for representative from Ag if the points would be handled on its own and your indication was yes and now you are giving the options to combine them. My humble request would be, please let us not combine them, give Councillors’ time to get through their speeches. In the past you allowed 10 minutes and not normal 5 minutes. Could you please be gracious again?”

The Speaker responded that it was the reason why he said Councillor BJ Viviers was out of order as he would normally give 10 minutes to each speaker when dealing with IDP and Budget.

Councillor BJ Viviers then requested that the two items not be handled as one.

Chief Whip explained as follows:

“Honourable Speaker, this is not first meeting where we approve the budget, we have been approving the budget since 2016. Order of speaking in budget Council meeting has been very clear, you have we have always combined IDP and budget. There is no been a stage where we have speaker on the budget and speaker on the IDP. That 10 minutes is for speaking on IDP and budget and it has always been like that. there has not been a stage where we deal with separately, otherwise we are going to have 20 people per party, and we would go off the meeting at 12 o’ clock midnight. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

The Speaker requested that the Acting Executive Mayor combine the items as it had been done in the past otherwise Council would sit until late at night.

The Acting Executive Mayor tabled his item as follows:

“Honourable Speaker, Councillor MA Siyonzana
Honourable Premier, S. Ntombela
MECs and MPLS
Chief Whip of Council, Councillor Z. E. Mangcotywa, happy birthday!
Members of Mayoral Committee
Fellow Councillors
EXCO Representative, Mr. T. Mkaza
Acting City Manager, Mr T. Maine
Municipal Officials
Business Leaders
Ward Committee Members
Distinguished Guests
Members of the Media
The people of Mangaung
Ladies and Gentlemen

7B

Honourable Speaker let me thank you for the opportunity to address this august house on the occasion of tabling our 2019/2020 Annual Report, Integrated Development Plan and the Medium-Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework (MTREF) 2021/2022.

Honourable Speaker and Councillors, last night the President of the Republic, Honourable Cyril Ramaphosa, addressed the nation on progress in the national effort to contain the covid-19 pandemic. With rising daily infections, the President announced that we are heading for the third wave with our provinces of Free State, Northern Cape, North West and Gauteng having reached the threshold of a third wave of infections. As a result of these developments, the Country was placed on Level Two of the Risk Adjusted Lockdown Strategy. We echo the call of the President, that we all have a role to play in curbing the spread of the virus and must continue to observe all the stipulated health protocols including wearing a mask in public, regular washing of hands or sanitizing and maintaining social distance at all times.

We must also commend that national effort towards vaccination which is now on full swing. The community of Mangaung is encouraged to register for the vaccination programme, especially the elderly and people with comorbidities.

We also table this budget whilst we are having community unrest in Mangaung which was genuine grievances that the community are having but I think we would move with speed with the last four months which we are left with as Council to make sure that this budget is implemented.

2019/2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Honourable Speaker and Councillors, you will all remember that shortly after the National State of Disaster and Hard Lockdown was announced on the 23rd of March 2020, the Minister of COGTA issued Regulations and Directions. These regulations prohibited municipalities from convening physical Council and community meetings. This immediately made all physical and contact community engagements on the proposed changes to the IDP and 2020/2021 budget almost impossible.

Given the challenges imposed by covid-19, the Minister of Finance, Honourable Tito Mboweni issued a Ministerial exemption of the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA), exempting municipalities and municipal entities from submitting their yearly financial statements and related reports for auditing at the end of August 2020. This exemption allowed for a two-month extension in the submission of Annual Financial Statements, Annual Reports, Audit Opinions and Oversight Reports.

The effects of an exemption were to assist in mitigating the anticipated widespread non-compliance with Sections 126, 127, 129 and 133 of the MFMA owing to the national state of disaster and lockdown restrictions. Furthermore, the extension will grant a further two-month period to municipalities and municipal entities to submit annual financial statements, annual reports and oversight reports, and also extend the period for the Office of the Auditor-General to submit the audit opinion and Council committees to conclude their oversight processes. The Municipality has achieved an improved Audit Outcome and Opinion from the Auditor General. This is a sign that the collective effort to improve our administrative and governance processes is bearing fruits. We must double our efforts to ensure that we address issues raised by the Auditor General and move towards a clean audit outcome.

Honourable Speaker, I hereby table the 2019/2020 annual report for referral to the Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC).

2021/2022 INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND SECTOR PLANS

Honourable Speaker, the approval of an Integrated Development Plan, as required by the Municipal Systems Act, Act No 32 of 2000, is a critical milestone that needs to be achieved to ensure sustainable long-term planning within any municipality. The IDP is a five-year plan is annually reviewed by a municipality to take stock on any changing conditions on the ground. I must indicate Honourable Speaker, this is the last IDP review of this term of Council as we are heading for local government election on Wednesday, 27th of October 2021.

A critical component and tradition of our municipality is the advancement of citizen engagement and public participation in the municipal planning and budget processes. The coronavirus pandemic has disrupted and changed the normal way of doing our municipal processes and because of the risk adjusted lockdown levels and Disaster Management Act provisions the municipality had to use non-contact and digital means of public participation. A key lesson of the new normal of covid-19 is that we must invest heavily in our Information Technology Infrastructure and embrace the fourth industrial revolution to reshape our municipal processes. Honourable Speaker we are aware of the new normal that has been caused by covid-19 and we had to ensure that public engagements will adhere to the health protocols and directives as and when issued.

Honourable Speaker and honourable Councillors, I hereby table for approval the IDP and sector plans as required by legislation.

2021/2022 MEDIUM TERM REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK

Honourable Speaker, allow me to provide a budget summary for the next MTREF period 2021/2022 – 2023/2024 in line with the following priorities:

- Poverty reduction, job creation, rural and economic development,
- Financial sustainability and viability,
- Radical Economic Transformation,
- Spatial development and the built environment,
- Eradication of bucket system, VIP toilets in Bloemfontein, Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu,
- Upgrading of informal settlements,
- Public transport including roads infrastructure,
- Environment management and climate change,
- Social and community services,
- Good governance.

The total revenue budget is projected at R8 billion in the 2021/22 (including capital grants) representing an increase in revenue of R721 million *as compared to adjusted budget of R7.353 billion in the 2020/21 financial year*. The allocation for the two outer years is *R8.2 billion and R8.7 billion* respectively.

7D

Mister Speaker, the projected revenue from the assessment rates will increase to R1.482 billion. The income from this source of revenue is projected at *R1.470 billion and R1.606 billion* respectively for the two outer years.

The sewerage charges are linked to the property values and the projected income from this source is that the revenue grows to *R415.8 million* in the 2021/22 budget year from an adjustment budget of *R343.7 million* of 2020/21 financial year. The projections for the two outer years are *R412.1 million and R456.8 million* respectively. The projected revenue for water is expected to increase to *R1 billion* for 2021/22 financial year.

Mister Speaker, this is part of implementation of Financial Recovery Plan to ensure financial sustainability. The allocation for the two outer years water revenue is projected at *R1.1 billion and R1.2 billion* respectively.

Mister Speaker, the Municipality will continue with the installation of automated pre-paid water meters in the prioritized areas within the City as a mechanism to reduce non-revenue water and improve revenue collection in line with our Financial Recovery Plan. More than 35 000 prepaid water meters have been installed to date.

Revenue from electricity services charges is projected at R3.166 billion in 2021/22, which represent an increase of R438 million from the 2019/20 adjustment budget. Increase for the outer two years is projected at R3.2 billion and R3.4 billion respectively. Electricity remains the City's main revenue source and it is critical to ensure finalization of reviewed Service Level Agreement between the Centlec and the municipality. Refuse and trade removal will contribute revenue of R157.3 million; and will increase to R169.1 million and R183.6 million in the 2021/22 and 2023/24 budget year respectively.

The Metro is to receive grants and subsidies totalling R 1.856 billion in a form of operating and capital allocation. Operating grants are budgeted at R925.3 million and Capital Grants will be R930.8 million in the 2021/22 financial year. These transfers represent 21% of the guaranteed income of the Metro. The remaining 79% of the revenue budget is from own sources and the City needs to implement Debt Collection and Credit Control Policy for defaulting customers in order to realize these estimated revenues. All Councillors and officials must pay their services.

TARIFFS

Mister Speaker, the above-mentioned revenue will be realized through the approval of the following tariffs which have been factored into our income and expenditure projections for the MTREF period:

- An increase of 1.92% is proposed on property rates tariffs with effect from the 1st of July 2021 taking into account an impact of covid-19 on our communities.
- Water tariffs are proposed to be increased by an average of 9%.
- The sewerage tariffs are determined to be increased by an average of 5.65% in the 2021/22 financial year.
- Refuse removal tariffs are proposed to increase by an average of 5.58%.
- Electricity tariffs are aligned to NERSA increase of 14.59% in the 2021/22 financial year

IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL RECOVERY PLAN

The City will be embarking on vigorous revenue enhancement and protection in the 2021/22 financial year. These are some of the elements of the strategy:

- Continuous public engagements through finance road shows,
- Improve communication and relationships with business community,
- Installation of prepaid meters,
- Improve record keeping and accuracy of billing information,
- Implementation of Outdoor Advertising by-laws,
- Finalization of Fifth Utility feasibility studies as approved by Council,
- Review of all lease agreements for municipal facilities; land and rental stock,
- Improve traffic collection systems and processes as part of implementation of Metro Police,
- Disposal and rental of vacant land with income generating potential.
- Compilation of the New Valuation Roll.

OPERATING EXPENDITURE BUDGET

The total operating expenditure will increase from R6.3 billion in the 2020/21 financial year to R7.4 billion in the 2021/22 budget year. The allocation for the outer two years of the MTREF period is *R7.6 billion* and *R7.8 billion* respectively.

Mister Speaker, the Municipality is currently implementing cost containment measures in line with Financial Recovery Plan limits and the operating expenditure budget has been compiled considering the current economic conditions faced by our Country as well as the impact of covid-19 pandemic.

As we enter the third wave of the pandemic, the City's response to covid-19 includes the following programmes:

- Purchasing of Personal Protective Equipment;
- Cleaning and disinfecting materials and supplies;
- Maintenance of Ventilated Pit Latrines (VIP) Toilets;
- Maintenance of water pipe bursts, leakages and unprecedented sewer spillages;
- Continuous solid waste removal and maintenance;
- Provision of information technology services for meetings and working from home; and
- Maintenance of municipal facilities in order to accommodate the homeless

Mister Speaker, the employee related for 2021/22 are estimated at R2.168 billion (which constitutes 29% of the operating expenditure budget. This is well within the benchmark of 25%-40% prescribed by National Treasury).

Overtime and acting allowances budget have been significantly reduced in order to ensure filling of vacant positions, where more than R105 million has been allocated to ensure improved service delivery.

Remuneration of Councillors is growing from R71.5 million to a new budget amount of R71.7 million in 2021/22. The projections for the two outer years of the MTREF period will remain the same at R 71.7 million.

7F

Bulk Purchases for electricity are allocated R2 billion for the 2021/22 budget year, which is the second biggest operational expenditure in the City after employee costs and represents 27% of total operating costs.

Necessary measures need to be taken to curb electricity and water losses as well as finding other innovative and effective ways of providing these basic services including avoidance of duplication of functions between Centlec and the Municipality. The allocation for bulk purchases for the two outer years of the MTREF period is R 2.1 billion and R 2.2 billion respectively.

A payment plan was concluded with Bloemwater regarding bulk water account, an allocation of R330 million has been included in the surplus for 2021/22 financial year towards payment of arrears on Bloemwater account.

The City has planned to continue investing in repairs and maintenance of service delivery infrastructure, thus a total of R597 million (representing more than 7.9% of the operating costs) has been allocated for 2021/22 budget. The allocation for the two outer years of the MTREF period the costs is projected at R600 million and R614 million respectively

Mister Speaker, the Municipality will continue to assess methods of providing services like security, trade refuse collection, unblocking of sewer, water leak repairs, vacuum services, and other functions to ensure efficiencies and will consider insourcing or outsourcing some of the functions to improve productivity and cost effectiveness.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Mister Speaker, the total capital budget of the Municipality for 2021/22 is set at R1.2 billion. The capital budget for the MTREF period is projected at R3.7 billion; and will be spent towards infrastructure development, service delivery assets and boosting of the economy within the City. This amount will be spent between 2021 and 2024.

The capital budget is funded mainly from capital grants, that is; Urban Settlements Development Grant (USDG), Informal Settlements Upgrading Grant, Public Transport Infrastructure and Systems Grant (PTISG), Neighbourhood Development Partnership Grant as well as Own Funds.

The following are key projects that will implemented in 2021/22 to 2023/24:

SANITATION

In order to restore the dignity and humanity of our community and to reduce the risk of contracting covid-19, the city has embarked on aggressive drive to remove conditions that perpetuate our people's humiliation.

Honourable Speaker, the City will be spending more than R383.2 million over the MTREF period for sewer purification and reticulation. More than R104.8 million will be spent in the coming budget year.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

The City continues to provide water services to more than 98.54% (228 552) of formal households. The City will invest more than R405.1 million over the MTREF period in implementing water projects. R114.2 million will be spent in the 2021/22 financial year.

TRANSPORT, ROAD AND STORM-WATER

Honourable Speaker, public transport is playing an important role in spatial transformation and it lowers the cost of movement and thus increases access to social, retail, education and employment opportunities. Furthermore, investment in public transport will stimulate the development of green economy, encourage socio-economic integration and may reduce our carbon emission from the transport sector.

The City has allocated R643.3 million over the MTREF period (2021/22 – 2022/23) for implementation and development of an Integrated Public Transport Network. An amount of R163.5 million will be spent on IPTN projects in the 2021/22 budget year.

Furthermore, we will be spending R285.6 million over the MTREF in upgrading and rehabilitating the roads and storm-water infrastructure in the various wards. More than R9.2 million is allocated in the 2021/22 for upgrading of roads.

ELECTRICITY SERVICES

Mister Speaker, the City continue in ensuring that our communities have access to electricity services. R 447.1 million will be spend over the MTREF by Centlec in providing and extending electricity services to households and upgrading the infrastructure. A total of R204.6 million will be spent in the 2021/22 financial year.

UPGRADING OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS

An allocation of R263.8 million in the 2021/22 financial year has been made available, intended to serve as a planning and preparation platform towards the introduction of a new Informal Settlement Upgrading Partnership grant. Previously this grant was included in the USDG and ringfenced for informal settlement.

Mister Speaker, a total of R835.3 million will be spent over the MTREF period towards upgrading of informal settlements in the City, whereby the municipality will install water connections, sanitation services, electricity and upgrading of roads in the informal settlements.

COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE

The City will continue to invest towards the development of community infrastructure and thus creating social cohesion and an inclusive City.

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The City will spend R174.2 million over the MTREF in upgrading community infrastructure such as cemeteries and social amenities – such as parks, stadia, sport centres, swimming pools that will be critical in realize our ideal of positioning the City as a mecca of Sport. A total of R55.1 million will be spent in the 2021/22 budget year.

FLEET MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS

The City will consider operating and maintenance solution for fleet in order to ensure continuous and reliable service provision in the 2021/22 financial year. A total of more than R162 million has been allocated over the MTREF period and R54 million will be spent in the 2021/22 budget year.

FREE BASIC SERVICES

Honourable Speaker, the Municipality will continue to commit more funds in supporting communities in need. Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality will spend approximately R693 million on its social package in the 2021/22 financial year, which covers free basic electricity, refuse removal, sanitation, free basic water and the property rates rebates.

The City will spend a total of R2.2 billion towards indigent households for the MTREF period. Indigent households in the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality area are entitled to 6 kilolitres of free water per month and 50 kilowatt free electricity on a monthly basis.

More than 66 546 indigent households are already receiving free basic services. The number of indigent households is expected to increase to more than 95 000 in the 2021/22 budget year due to the impact of covid-19 pandemic. Average monthly subsidy provided per indigent household is estimated at 670.

BUDGET FUNDING

Mister Speaker, as part of Financial Recovery Plan, a funded and credible budget is critical in ensuring financial viability and sustainability in the City.

Thus, the City submitted its budget to National Treasury for assessment and benchmark with the other metros in the country. The following was the conclusion from National Treasury:

'The City has taken into consideration the comments and recommendations provided by National Treasury and changes towards the right direction is seen on the budget being funded for 2021/22 financial year and two outer years. Collection of revenue from customers requires further attention and intensity in order to improve cash position and it is critical that the City manage this budget properly and not deviate'

Honourable Speaker, therefore, this implies that the budget presented before Council today, is fully funded.

Mister Speaker, the following are recommendations to the Council:

1. Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality in terms of Section 21(b) of the Municipality Finance Management Act, Act 56 of 2003, tables the 2021/22 annual budget for adoption with the total consolidated revenue of R 9,004 billion, operating expenditure of R 7,451 billion and capital expenditure of R 1,221 billion and the indicative allocations for the two outer years of the MTREF period including the multi-year and single-year capital appropriations, as set out in the following tables, for approval:
 - (a) Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue and expenditure by standard classification): - Table A2
 - (b) Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue and expenditure by municipal vote): - Table A3
 - (c) Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue by source and expenditure by type): - Table A4
 - (d) Multi-year and single year capital appropriations by municipal vote and standard classification and associated funding by source - Table A5
2. That the consolidated financial position, cash flow, cash-backed reserve/accumulated surplus, asset management, and basic service delivery targets be approved, as set out in the following tables:
 - (a) Budgeted Financial Position - Table A6
 - (b) Budgeted Cash Flows - Table A7
 - (c) Cash-backed reserves and accumulated surplus reconciliation - Table A8
 - (d) Asset Management - Table A9
 - (e) Consolidated Basic Service Delivery measurement - Table A10
3. That the consolidated budget that includes Mangaung Municipality and Centlec (SOC) Ltd be approved and that Centlec's standalone Budget be aligned to the consolidated budget as stated in the budget pack.
4. That the Council of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality acting in terms of Section 75A of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, Act 32 of 2000 as amended, hereby tables the following tariffs for approval and implementation with effect from 01 July 2021:
 - (a) Supply of Electricity - Page 51
 - (b) Property Rates - Page 53
 - (c) Sewerage Fees - Page 57
 - (d) Refuse Removal Fees - Page 59
 - (e) Supply of Water - Page 63
5. That the consolidated General Tariffs as set out in the Tariffs Booklet for the 2021/22 financial year be noted for implementation with effect from 01 July 2021.
6. That in terms of Section 21(b) (ii)(bb) of the Municipal Finance Management Act, Act 56 of 2003 the budget-related policies including any amendments be approved.

7. That the Centlec (SOC) Ltd budget submissions for the period 2021/22 – 2023/24 be noted as set out below, subject to the limitation of 3.7 above:
- (a) MTREF Operating and Capital Budget (as incorporated in the consolidated budget above).
 - (b) Service Tariffs.
 - (c) Policies.
 - (d) Business Plan.
 - (e) SDBIP.

I hereby table items on the Annual Report for noting and referral to MPAC, Integrated Development Planning and MTREF Budget 2021/22 for approval. Thank You, Mister Speaker and Honourable Councillors, media and the communities of Mangaung. This is how we can move as this Metro thus far. I therefore table:

- ✓ TABLING OF THE MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY 2021/2022 INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP) AND SECTOR PLANS
- ✓ APPROVAL OF:
 - i. MMM MEDIUM TERM REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK: 2021/22 – 2023/24
 - ii. MMM CAPITAL BUDGET 2021/2022
 - iii. MMM BUDGET RELATED POLICIES
 - iv. MMM GENERAL TARRIFFS 2021/2022
 - v. CENTLEC BUDGET 2021/2022
 - vi. CENTLEC BUDGET ANNEXURES
 - vii. CENTLEC BUDGET RELATED POLICIES

Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Councillor LM Titi-Odili addressed the Council:

“Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Acting Executive Mayor, all Councillors of Mangaung Metro Municipality, Acting City Manager, HODs, Representatives of EXCO let by Mr T Mkaza, Centlec members of the Executive, the community of Mangaung and media.

Honourable Speaker, the meeting of today is important because it is a legislated process. As the City we are guided by the legislation to adopt an IDP of the City. The road we took, to develop the reviewed IDP has not been easy. As the City we had to do things differently due to covid-19 pandemic for example, we could not do physical public participation meetings as we normally do however, the City was guided by Municipal Systems Act to perform these important processes.

Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000 Chapter 4, Section 16.1 & 2 provides for the culture of community participation. Section 17.1 & 2 provides for mechanism processes and procedures for community participation and lastly Section 17.2e instructs the Municipality to report back to the local communities.

Honourable Speaker, we had met all these requirements. Our IDP is very detailed. All the Chapters had been compiled to reflect the realities in our City during this pandemic. We did not compromise the quality and we took time to do justice to the process.

Since the term of Council is about to end, the 5-year term, the City has started with developing the handover report of this Council. This report will be tabled to the council before the local government election of this year.

Honourable Speaker, as the ANC we are saying, we are supporting this IDP as is tabled by the Acting Executive Mayor. We are saying under difficult processes we had under this pandemic, we managed to have the IDP that we are tabling today and we as the ANC we are supporting the item as is.

Honourable Speaker, in terms of the MTREF budget of 2021, as the ANC we are also supporting it through the background that it is ahead us the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Medium Term Expenditure Framework is tabled and whispered apprehensions about the poor health of the Country finances in the wake of covid-19 pandemic.

The Minister of Finance, Mr Tito Mboweni tabled an optimistic budget that seeks to set recovery plan for the year ahead. On the positive side, the Minister mapped out the path to reducing the budget deficit and did not raise taxes which is important for economic recovery, however there are still many risks and the long term recovery outlook remains subdued unless policies that stimulate the economy are implemented.

The GDP is expected to grow by 3.3% in 2021 as each rebound from -7.3% yearly, collapse of last year and GDP growth of 2.2% in 2022. The cut to the social grant systems are likely to cause significant hardship and unrest over next three years. This is especially relevant in recent employment trends in the latest quarterly labour force survey. The unemployment rose to 32.5%, the highest since 2008.

The national budget has pinned the hopes of path to recovery on a complicit of reforms; this is driven by combination of rising public infrastructure spending. Committing to fractional spending cuts to bring about a significant recovery to raise growth, raising tax revenue and rebuilding a sustainable economic trajectory that allow job creation and inclusive economic growth.

The City finances Honourable Speaker, remain under pressure mainly due to the low collection rates. Mangaung continue to implement its Financial Recovery Plan. The Financial Recovery Plan encourages that the workforce must be fast tracked to increase the collecting levels, reduce expenditure, increase and diversify additional revenue streams and attends to the management of surplus cash and its equivalence. The Municipality therefore acknowledge that failure to do so will put pressure on cash flow and liquidity of the Municipality.

Despite the fiscal pressure facing the City Honourable Speaker, the budget attempts to deliver on the Municipality's responsibility, reflect the needs to continue delivering effective service efficiency and not put financial pressure on the residents.

Honourable Speaker, this budget made sure that we put the Country priority funding bias to the following:

- Filling of the critical vacancies to reduce overtime, it is R105 million
- EPWP employment R5 million
- Learnership and internship R3 million
- Maintenance of parks entrances and felling of trees reserved for local SMMEs R10.2 million

- Sustainable refuse removal solution reserved for SMMEs door to door R12 million
- Maintenance addressing potholes, gravelling of streets and cleaning channels R36.9 million
- Upgrading of roads including resealing R96 million
- Unblocking and maintenance of sewer reticulation infrastructure R59 million
- Sewer infrastructure R104.8 million
- Addressing water leakages losses R50 million
- Upgrading of water infrastructure R92 million
- Prepaid water meters R22.3 million
- Electricity infrastructure R183 million
- Effective fleet management solution R54 million
- Maintenance of vehicles of the City R16.1 million
- Bloemwater bulk account arrears that is all over the show, we budgeted R340 million
- Land and availability of sides R33.8 million
- Metro Police R188.4 million
- Loan repayment R131.5 million

Honourable Speaker, as the ANC we appreciate this budget and we are supporting the budget as is. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Councillor JF Britz addressed the Council:

“Thank you, Mister Speaker. As this is the last budget that this Council will consider in their term, the DA want to reflect on the past four budgets together with the one we are considering today. Hopefully it will give you some insight in why the DA voted against the previous four budgets and at the same time show the people why they must vote you out in October. It is time for change, you had your chance and you messed it up.

Mister Speaker to kick off one needs to look at the tariffs and the impact it had on the disposable income of the community. You will see the result of your disastrous management of this Metro.

I analysed the monthly cost for municipal services for a typical residential owner during this period and I used the following parameters.

Property valuation	R1 500 000
Refuse removal	Property size between 901 and 1 500 square meters
Water consumption	70 Kilolitres
Electricity consumption	700 kWh based on the summer tariff

Based on this example R2 180.68 more is needed on the 1st of July 2021 than on the 1st July 2016 to settle this Municipal account. If your income increased on average with 12.89% per annum, which is more than double the inflation rate over this period this should not be a problem. I don't think many if any falls in this category. For the past five years the average income growth per year for the different services is as follows:

Property Rates 10.2%: What stands out here is the fact that, with implementation of the new valuation roll on the 1st July 2017, with increased valuations, the tariff was also increased. It was ridiculous and is, to the best of my knowledge the first time it happened in my 54 years involvement in this Municipality.

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Secondly according to the Property Rates Act a new valuation roll is supposed to be implemented on 1st July of this year. It cannot happen because of incompetence of your cadres.

Thirdly the budgeted income is understated every year.

Sanitation fees increased on average by 11.1% per year over this five-year period.

Refuse removal by 8.4% per year

Water by 11.3% per year

Electricity by 8.7% per year

All these 'on average' increases are well above the inflation rate and you are responsible for impoverishing the people. Sies man!

Expenditure by type and Income by source is another aspect that needs to be highlighted. The figures are reflected in the following Table

	EXP BY TYPE	REVENUE BY SOURCE	Difference	
	R Millions	R Millions	R Millions	
2016/17	6 575 087	6 634 917	-59 830	Audited
2017/18	7 240 887	6 630 645	610 242	Audited
2018/19	7 859 498	6 831 127	1 028 371	Audited
2019/20	7 105 690	7 089 828	15 862	Audited
2020/21	6 262 420	7 353 428	-1 091 008	Unaudited
2021/22	7 450 829	8 073 601	-622 772	Unaudited
	42 494 411	42 613 546	-119 135	

From the Table it can be observed that the first three budgets approved by this Council in this term (2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20) the expenditure exceeded income with R1.654 billion. This is audited figures. 2020/21 and 2021/22 reflect a better picture but is unaudited. Like in the past we expect the audited figure to be different again to what is reflected here.

Mister Speaker it is easy to prepare a balanced budget. If not executed as budgeted it means nothing, and that is what is happening in this Metro.

Employee related cost is another major expenditure item on the budget that was misused in this term. In the first three budgets approved in this term of Council the real expenditure exceeded the budgeted amount with R129 million. The biggest increase in employee related cost was in 2017/18, your first budget with an annual increase of 23.79%. This is based on audited figures. The 2020/21 and 2021/22 figures look ok on paper but again, as in the past, we don't believe these figures and the audited figures will confirm this later.

Mister Speaker we all know what the reasons for this situation is. The DA will correct that because we don't do cadre deployment and we don't fill the employee component with family and friends. It is time for change and to employ competent people from our community to serve our community. You dismally failed to do that.

Overtime in 2017/18 the budget amount was R60 million it was adjusted to R90 million and the audited outcome was R131 million, up and up all the time.

In 2018/19 the budget amount was R49 million it was adjusted to R91 million and the audited outcome was R168 million, same pattern. In 2019/20 the budget amount was R59 million it was adjusted to R102 million and the audited outcome was R148 million. In 2020/21 the budget amount was R24 million it was adjusted to R92 million. For 2021/22 the budget amount is R45 million. Like in all the previous budgets we tell you again the budgeted amount for 2021/22 is wrong, you are cooking the books. This is again not a properly prepared budget.

Capital Budget: Mister Speaker your inability to prepare proper capital budgets and to execute the budgets is by far the worst in the past 14 years. It is time for change, it is the only way this is going to be corrected. What will the DA do when we take over in October of this year is the following:

- We will conduct proper public participation to understand the needs of the community.
- We will collect the R1.8 billion owed by Government for services and we will ring fence that funds to address infrastructure disasters created by you. You know that we are referring to poor refuse collection, potholes, sewerage spillage, water losses, signage on streets and maintenance of open spaces. Added to this the DA will ensure that future budgets will at least provide 10% of the budget for maintenance.

The DA will deliver on their promises. It is time for change and the community knows that.

Outstanding Debtors: Mister Speaker to fund a budget to more realistic projects one needs to decrease expenditure I already referred to employee cost and overtime, that is on the expenditure side. On the income side one needs to collect your outstanding debtors and here you also failed dismally in your term. The total outstanding debtors increased with R1.8 billion or 104% in your term. There will always be outstanding debtors but to this extent it robs the budget of needed revenue to prepare and execute a budget that one can present with pride to the community. The DA does that where it governs but here you fail. If only 50% of the total increase of R3.6 billion was collected it would have released more funds to increase infrastructure development and maintenance.

Mister Speaker in closing The DA want to draw your attention to two matters and now Mister Speaker you must listen carefully and attentively:

1. Electricity tariffs: In the budget report it is stated: *'That the electricity tariffs for the 2021/22 financial year be increased by 14.59% as per Nersa approval'*. This is not sufficient for approval by Council. The tariff list and/or the Nersa approval must be included in this report. This will have to be submitted and approved by Council before 30 June 2021 because tariffs cannot be approved after that date.
2. Credit Control Policy: The following paragraph is added to the Credit Control Policy to be approved by Council: *'20(3)(b)(iii) a bulk meter is used to supply the property in question and only some consumers or owners have outstanding balance'* this means that if, for example, one person in a townhouse complex with a bulk water meter is in arrears for say rates and the bulk water account is paid in full they can disconnect the water of the complex as a result of that one outstanding account. It was tried before, not long ago and stopped because it is illegal and by adding it to a Credit Control Policy don't make such action legal. Application of this is going to land Council in court and they will lose.

Mister Speaker one would have expected a table in the budget document that indicates the changes made to the budget tabled on 31st March 2021. One would have further expected that the report offers solutions to areas addressed in this speech and there is many more to indicate how the problems will be addressed. The DA will again not support this budget and we will elaborate on it this further on national media. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Councillor T Ranchobe addressed the Council:

“Thank you, Honourable Speaker. In 2016 when we address the first budget, what an interesting budget and optimistic IDP. Today, five years later, we say that, these guys are very good in cutting and pasting.

Honourable Speaker, I personally follow the now acting Executive Mayor, Councillor MA Morake and my interest on him is that he calls himself a socialist and aspiring communist, but I will address that later because this budget says nothing to that.

Honourable the budget of the metro must talk to the issues of insourcing of cleaners and security guards. A budget of the Metro must talk to availability of land for both human settlement and agriculture. The budget of the Metro must speak to the job creation but not only job creation, but sustainable job creation and poverty alleviation. The budget of the Metro should speak to black business funding and development, but today, we heard repetition.

We have been talking about road infrastructure, maintenance of the infrastructure of the Municipality, but that has not been happening. Why is that? The problem is what we call cadre deployment. I know that it ticks the nerve when we talk to that, but that is that. The incapacity of the Metro to implement its own decisions and policies is a serious crisis.

Honourable Speaker, as the EFF, we are not in support of this budget solemnly because it doesn't take cognisance of the fact that the City has to grow, and before you grow the City, you have to grow its people. This budget says nothing about the people of the Metro, but it is optimistic like the bullet train. So, as the EFF, we do not support this budget. Thank you, honourable Speaker.”

Councillor VE Nikelo addressed the Council:

“Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me first greet the community of Mangaung and the Acting Executive Mayor. Let me say to you honourable Speaker, and the Councillors today, thank you Acting Executive Mayor, you had presented a wonderful budget wherein everybody now instead of acknowledging you...they basically don't know how to acknowledge what you had just presented because you are talking to the pro poor and the communities of Mangaung.

I am even surprised that when Councillor JF Britz was talking about the 10% for maintenance, what he is referring to because basically the laws said it has to be 8% and mainly it is because the DA is always trying to create their own laws. However Honourable Speaker, I also want to start by at least acknowledging that we are still celebrating the child protection week wherein as the government of African National Congress we do take care of the interest of those that had been marginalised.

It is also against this that perhaps we are saying, we are happy that in terms of Section 152 of the Constitution of the republic, we have to ensure that we provide democratic and accountable governance to the communities while ensuring that we provide the services to the communities in a very sustainable manner. As a result, while we promote also social economic development, that is why today Honourable Speaker, the 31st of May we are presenting this budget to the community of Mangaung.

Honourable Speaker, we are encouraged and motivated by the needs of our people hence our Acting Executive Mayor and the good MMC, Councillor LM Titi-Odili presented and made a very nice breakdown for the community of Mangaung to understand clearly, to say what is it the ANC or the government of the ANC is presenting to them in trying to address those issues.

In terms of the requirements of Section 24 of the Municipal Finance Management Act to say we are presenting the budget of which in its definition, it is a pro poor budget where it is directly talking to the much needed service delivery which our people needs most of the time.

I am not sure Honourable speaker because some people we need to buy binoculars for them like Councillor T Ranchobe who has just indicated here that there is nothing that is happening in the form of service delivery, maybe he doesn't see clearly, but we will buy the binoculars for them to see.

Having already started Honourable Speaker, you can go around and see that the government of the ANC has already started making sure that our internal streets and access roads are being attended to. So, nothing more that will make the community of Mangaung happy than seeing their City claiming its glorious days. In attending to water leakages, and grey water leakages spillages, we maintain the access roads and ensure filling of vacant post to expedite service delivery in a sustainable solution that we created in terms of the fleet management.

So, all of the above and many others will assist us in ensuring that the Municipality ultimately achieve its ultimate goal of providing sustainable services to the community of Mangaung. We are on the right track as the African National Congress because there are those who believe that they can win the government through the back door. So, if all of them want to win the government, they must just...come the 27th October, they must contest the elections and the people of Mangaung will also prove them wrong again.

However Honourable Speaker, drawing the courage of the 2016 manifesto which at the time we said together advancing the people's power in every community and then we were saying the local government is in your hands. We reiterate our commitment to the communities of Mangaung that working together with the people; people's power will indeed be advanced, progressive prioritisation and provision of basic services such as water and sanitation remains key as indicated by the Acting Executive Mayor; us is just to continue to play our oversight role in that regard and ensuring that this service as needed by our people are going to be provided because our budget like it has been indicated it is really talking to those who are raising simple and better issues of which we need to make sure that our people they get.

However, Honourable Speaker regardless of the challenges we are faced with and inspired by Chapter 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa under Bill of Rights many of our communities we still make sure that they have their roof.

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It is through these kinds of budgets that we are providing as Mangaung, we are providing as the government of the ANC to ensure ukuthi everybody has that. We remember that in terms of electricity nobody is determining the tariffs of the electricity except guided by the Nersa and if Nersa is guiding you It means you cannot go above the norm or go below the norm instead its either you go with that. So, the 14% that has been increased in terms of electricity, it is what is dictated in line with Nersa, therefore we cannot come to this Council and perhaps lie to the community of Mangaung as if yeah this is the Council of Mangaung or the leadership of Mangaung Does not care about its people.

Over and above that, I agree with what the Acting Executive Mayor was saying there are no cadres that are that being deployed in Mangaung instead we have the HODs and people who are much qualified to ensure services to our people unlike some other political parties who employ people who you still finding without standard 6 occupying the very senior positions, but they are not saying anything about those particular things, but us as the African National Congress we always ensure that we deploy, not necessarily we deploy, we employ people who are qualified. People who know their work, capable and who we just have to guide and make sure that they do their work. In saying so Honourable Speaker, we are waiting for bo marata helele, di 27th di a tla tsa October, let them come re tlo ba bolaisa sitilo, re ba bontshe why thaka di fatela ka mokoting, moo di fatelang hona. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Councillor M Kganakga addressed the Council:

“Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, the acting, acting sounded very startled, when he was reading the speech that was written for him; as an acting, acting, he should know to practise his lines before so that we know what he is talking about in this generation the ANC has created for us.

Honourable Speaker, here in Mangaung we have the entire institution and a group of people that sets goals for themselves year in and year out, not having a single one of these goals being achieved. There is a term for this type of behaviour, doing the same thing over and over and somehow expecting a different result, I would say it, but I am a lady, and it is completely against Council to use such direct words, so I am just going to go for complete lunacy.

Before poor covid became an excuse for absolutely everything in government not done, in the previous financial year Councillor LM Titi-Odili embarked on what is supposed to be public participation process, where she did pitch, it was a q& a where she did both the q and the a. I think when she got tired of hearing her own voice she decided to stay at home and skip Section L, N, T, S, U, W and V in Botshabelo, then she went on and skipped Ratau Extension and Moroka Location in Thaba Nchu. This shows what the ANC thinks of the people in Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu.

In the covid year, I am not sure what Councillor LM Titi-Odili abandons did for public participation, the whole explanation is unexplanatory. We as the DA Councillors given our submission for completeness of the IDP process, this submission has not filtered through to this document. I am not sure if they took our documents and used it for printing paper because we all know that Mangaung have no printing paper, but our submission did not filter through. I don't know what happened to our emails, did they block it, but our submission did not filter through.

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Anyone or any institution that sets goals for itself, year in and year out and not achieve a single goal that they themselves set, is not fit for governance. If they had achieved any of the goals, some of the items would not have been there for more than 10 years.

Mister Speaker, to be honest I do not know what the intentions were of Centlec when it was created but this entity needs to be cancelled and it needs to be cancelled today! As it stands, it is just a gravy train. The funniest thing readable in the pages provided for us specifically on page 107 is the reasons stated for the financial losses, namely covid! This is very funny!

In the previous financial year Centlec had a profit of R35 033 523 versus the devastating losses of R52 77 086 in the financial year we are discussing today. Between 2019 and 2020, different financial years Centlec had an increased revenue of R166 million. This means that in a covid year Centlec had an increase in revenue of R166 million, there are very few institutions that can talk about increase of revenue in covid years.

The actual losses in Centlec are not covid but the gravy train in form of salary increases or employee related costs. In the financial year that we are discussing today, these salary increases have gone up by R23 263 851 from the previous financial year, namely:

1. The Chief Financial Officer. In the previous financial year, Mr TJ Ramulondi was suspended and Mr M Matsimela was appointed on 1 January 2019. Mr Ramulondi's before he was suspended, he earned R752 786 per annum. When Mr Matsimela was appointed, he more than increased that salary to R1. 5 million per annum.
2. The Executive Manager in January 2019, Mr NA Leteno replaced Mrs PN Mbobo. Mr N A Leteno's replacement package was R1,2 million versus the R692 000 earned by the previous person.
3. The Company Secretary, before January 2019, these functions were done by Phatsoane & Henny for R211 000, then Centlec hired Mr T Malgas and he is costing the entity R1.3 million versus R211 000.
4. The Executive Manager, in January 2019, Mr Lenka served that position for R591 000, Mr Mokoena replaced him, and his package went over to R1.2 million.
5. Before Mr S Sekoboto became the CEO he took over from Mr Faku in January 2019. Mr Faku's was package was R617 170 and Centlec offered Mr Sekoboto R1.3 million.

The only two people who missed this gravy train are the then CEO and the HR Manager, Me S Molefe.

The reasons for covid-19 being the cause of the losses in Centlec is total nonsense because apart from the over R20 million in salary increases the line item for consultants and professional services went from R13 million to R22 million, an exact increase of R8 882 405. What consultation is being done by Centlec in a covid year when people were not even allowed to travel for the latter part of that year?

Centlec's training expenses went from R1.2 million in the previous financial year to R2.7 million, when people are mandated to do work over zoom and MS Teams like this meeting; Centlec apparently went and trained people for R2.7 million when they were sitting at home.

When I call this complete nonsense for covid-19 to be the reason for the losses is when the institution spend R7 642 862 on entertainment expenses, again in a covid year! Talk about a gravy train!

Apart from the massive expenses there are many other discrepancies in this document, and that is an understating of the rent and buildings by R16 Million.

The Directors remuneration in totality went up from R5.8 million to R9.4 million. If you were Chairperson of the Board in the previous financial year, you will get R121 446 versus now in this financial year, R242 892 per annum.

To add insult to injury, the fruitless and wasteful expenditure went from R10 million to R33 million, this increase of R23 233 086 is due to R17 million on interest payable on late payments to Eskom, Telkom and AGSA accounts as per page 111. The only thing that Centlec did was to ask Council to write off the R17 million. The remainder of the R5.7 million is for contracts with Elite Distribution for some sort of miscommunication that Centlec also wants Council to write off.

The irregular expenditure of R311 million is mainly due to the non-compliance of the Municipal Finance Management Act, Section 87 (8) in overspending on employee related costs and Centlec also stated that they just want Council to write off this R311 million.

But do not be fooled and think that the current situation in a financial year that is ending this month is better, the current CEO is continuing with the gravy train on the 21st of April 2021 after the Finance Minister and Treasury indicated there to be no salary increases, he went and wrote to the Board and gave them reasons of an outdated gazette and increased his salary to R2 345 270. According to me, his salary increase is illegal. As it stands today, Centlec is not even able to pay the so-called Directors that gave him the salary increase.

If you ask them about the inter-company loan, the current CEO, he has not paid any of the amounts to Mangaung because he is unable to because of the massive salary increase he has incurred himself.

The entity and its leadership it is disappointment and disgraces to the thousands of citizens whose electricity go off every-time they blink an eyes. I am embarrassed to think that a change in leadership was going to bring a difference in the people's lives in Mangaung especially my people in Grassland, Roodewal and Bloemspuit, sitting for more days without electricity than with electricity. Public Servants are there to serve the public and not to run down state intuitions and enrich themselves. The entire Centlec ought to be ashamed of themselves and Centlec should be dismantled. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Councillor MB Mononyane addressed the Council:

"Thank you, Mister Speaker. Good afternoon fellow Councillors and the communities of Mangaung at large.

Mister Speaker, today we are considering the budget for Mangaung Metro Municipality for the financial year July 2021 to June 2022. Yes, indeed it is important that we must be considering the budget as required by law, however I must outline certain things that every financial year we approve the budget for Mangaung and yet as we are sitting here today to consider this budget; one can hardly point fingers to say what has been done with the budget for the previous four financial years, what good? Is there anything that we can point to the community to say this is what have been done with the funds budgeted for.

Capital budget, I understand my fellow Councillors is that maybe bo marata helele, people like us, ons mense wat dinge like, we need binoculars, but it is for the community of Mangaung to judge us as to who is really lying, telling them lies to say there are services in Mangaung. Mister Speaker there are no services in Mangaung. Look at Moshoeshoe road, I will just mention few. At Moshoeshoe road the project is stuck for the past two years and we have two financial years behind our backs, why it is not completed my fellow Councillors. Look at Lubbe Hamilton behind Home Affairs, how long is that capital project stuck?

So, Mangaung community you are the one to judge. Project eo e sale e ema. Project ya ho lokisa seterata sa Moshoeshoe le ya ho lokisa...not only our access roads are in a bad condition, full of potholes including the rural farm roads, they are not being maintained. The best route that you will find is N1 and N8 and only up to the door of the City, immediately you enter the City, you would be welcomed by potholes, bad conditions.

Sewer is spilling into our roads, our streets are flooded with sewerage and yet we have budgeted for those to be maintained, but still no services. No refuse removal, our roads sites turned to be illegal dumping sites, why? Have we not budgeted for those services? We have. Why are we not getting services? It is a question to be answered by Mangaung maybe we still need binoculars.

We supposed to have a clean healthy environment, but clean healthy environment in Mangaung is a pipe dream. This is happening under the watchful eye of the Executive Mayor, Councillor MA Morake, Acting Executive Mayor, you are part including his Mayco members who have failed to see to it that services are delivered in Mangaung, and yet they are not ashamed to say to us we need binoculars, and we are liars.

Four years ago, I mentioned the drain blockages in the CBDs, the answer was Mangaung is on the road to be one of the best African cities. I now see what you meant when you were referring to the best African modern city. Are we saying we Africans like to live in squalor where there are no services, where the streets are flooded when it is raining? Is that the modern African city we aspire to have? A Municipality that did have reserves in its accounts, a bankrupt Municipality today which survives on loans to meet its financial obligations, and yet we have budgeted and we are considering a budget today.

In the past, apartheid was made an excuse for ones who failed to deliver their responsibilities. They would always refer to apartheid as an excuse. Now, today, I am sure apartheid is resting in peace in its grave, today it is covid-19 that is being made an excuse. Covid-19 started last year and the conditions in our City have been deteriorating for the past three years. They have reached a peak today. I wonder what excuse our Mayco would put forward if there was no covid-19.

Mister Speaker, we are approaching the end of the term of this Municipality, and I would like to say to our communities in Mangaung, we need change to make sure that we rescue our City from the deteriorating conditions we find ourselves today. We find ourselves in these conditions because of the inability of the ANC to do proper administration because of corruption; we find ourselves in these kinds of conditions. Fear no changes; we need a change come 27th October 2021, which is the birthday of the late OR Tambo. If he was alive, he would not be voting for ANC again. Let us go on the 27th of October to give a decent birthday to the late OR Tambo, to vote out the incapable Councillors who are unable to provide services to the communities of Mangaung.

Yes, as this budget would be approved today, you would start seeing dust in the City, you would see the contractors that have been stuck for the past three years, they would start doing something again at Moshoeshoe and Hamilton industrial area, om net te maak ons moet seker dink hulle is nou besig om dienste te lewer. Re tla be re bona hob a le lorolenyana, re be rere ho a sebetswa, ke hobane fela re kgothatswa hore re ye dikgethong. Baahi ba Mangaung ke lona batla ba baahlodi, re re vote for the change and the change is eminent so that we can safe South Africa, we safe Mangaung now on the 27th of October, go and vote for the best political party and I am one of those political parties, COPE, that can safe Mangaung. Eventually by 2024, we vote for the party that would give us a proper, accountable government in South Africa. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Councillor E Snyman van Deventer addressed the Council:

“Thank you, Mister Speaker. Honourable Acting Executive Mayor, Honourable member of the National Council of Provinces, Adriaan De Bruyn, MPs, Councillors, citizens of Mangaung.

I would first like to ask Councillor VE Nikelo for those binoculars that he referred to, we can most certainly use them to find service delivery in other municipalities that would really serve us well to use them to find that service delivery because you won't find it in Mangaung.

Mister Speaker, when we look at the IDP, we should start at the beginning. The vision of Mangaung is:

'globally safe and attractive to live, work and invest in'

Our Mission statement is:

'providing democratic and accountable government for local communities, ensuring the provision of services to City's community in a sustainable manner, promoting social and economic development to the residents of Mangaung, promoting safe and healthy environment and encouraging the involvement of communities and community organisations in the matters of local government.'

Looking at this, there supposed to be an alignment between the vision, mission, IDP and budget. This must be reflected as successes in the annual report and the AGs report, but we are not there yet.

When we look at the IDP, and it is interesting, I am referring to page 22 and 23, it is the back to basic approach and the first basic services, creating decent living condition etc, if we look at those five key performance areas that can actually serve as a checklist for the Municipality. If we do this right, if we get to those things, we can actually change the lives of our residents.

We can fulfil our vision and mission. However, looking at that we do not have a fundable consolidate infrastructure plan, we are not able to ensure maintenance of our infrastructure, repairs, reduce losses pertaining to water, sanitation etc. electricity, waste management, roads. We are not able to comply with legislations; I mean we all know how late everything in this Council is. We are not able to ensure the implementation of revenue enhancement strategy etc. That Mister Speaker is the problem. We cannot even do the little things right.

Another interesting thing and her, it is one of your own Councillors, the ANC Councillor. On page 21 of IDP, it refers to domestication of the sustainable development goals. Goal 2 reads as thus: *'end hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture'*. Mister Speaker, we have as Councillors internationally recognised for food security, he works in other municipalities, but not in our Municipality, we cannot even do the little things right.

Mister Speaker, moving on, to the budget. When looking at the budget and the tariffs, I am not sure if I want to cry or laugh. Crying because the ANC and the officials responsible for the budget policies and the tariffs are making such a mess of everything or maybe I should just laugh because one cannot believe that the ANC is making the same mess as they did for the past 20 plus years. Yes, Mister Speaker I also want to yawn when I read through this.

Mister Speaker, as I started working through the agenda and all the documents, I was still naïve enough to think that the Freedom Front Plus and other opposition parties can make a positive contribution, can you believe that after all these years, I was still thinking that, well that was until I came to page 33 of the draft general tariffs, Mister Speaker that convinced me to want to cry and to recognise that the ANC, the City Manager, the CFO, Mayoral Committee member for Finances, all the officials do not care about and do not know what is going on in Mangaung. Secondly, not one single person listened to a word that was said at the previous budget meetings.

Just a small example, the tariffs for admission to the Arthur Nathan pool are increased with 8%, closed down empty destroyed pool, but on page 16, the motivation is stated that the pool is closed. The Freedom Front Plus told you this last year at the budget meeting. We said then but you cut and paste without thinking. So, you did not even delete the Arthur Nathan pool from the list of tariffs, but at least you now acknowledge that it is closed, maybe we should be grateful for that that you actually acknowledge the pool being closed. If the City Hall is fully functional, its tariffs are also increased with 8% as all other tariffs as a blanket increase without any thought given to it.

The people of Mangaung deserve more. The people of Mangaung deserve the real budget and real numbers and the budget in which tariffs increases are in line with inflation and not just 8% for everything.

Another terrible omission of a Metro is former Naledi, since 2016, the general increase in tariffs in Naledi is a whopping 403%. The residents of Naledi are paying Metro tariffs without receiving any real basic service. This Metro should be ashamed at what is happening in Naledi and in Soutpan. In Soutpan there isn't even clear clean tap water.

The proposed increase in revenue in the budget in an amount of R184, 331 million through increasing property rates and all other services charges by substantial amount is way more than the current inflation rate. Residents paying their accounts are however affected by:

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1. Electricity outages due to faulty infrastructure
2. Water supply interruptions due to old and faulty infrastructure and the dispute with Bloemwater
3. Refuse collection service not provided but paid for.

Closely linked with the unacceptable proposed increase and the lack of service delivery is the bad debt written off and the poor debt collection right of the Metro, but debt written off is more than the proposed revenue increase in the proposed budget.

Mister Speaker, I received the following inputs on the draft budget submitted to the Metro in the public participation process and I want to read this to you so that it would be in the minutes on record and I quote:

'The employee related costs increases are proposed to be R133, 605 million amounting to a 6.38% increase. This is an increase more than the current inflation rate in a time when people are losing their employment in the private sector and in a year we solely increases are rarely seen. It is noted that overtime is reduced to R60 million across all departments to an affordable level, this is truly misleading as the budget for the previous year was initially R20 million for overtime, adjusted to R60 million and the current year to date expenditure of R134, 675 million, this is already an over expenditure on overtime of R70 million. The increase of over R130 million with the R70 million over expenditure is totally unacceptable.

In the current dire economic circumstances, it is insanity to continue as per usual with the methodology to increase rates and taxes; this will not solve the Metros financial troubles and problems. It would rather worsen it. These unaffordable increases will be detrimental to the economic growth and development in the Metro, it would also lead to more residents who would not be able to afford these tariffs and would default on their Municipal accounts, increasing the impaired debtors of the Metro, even more. In these uncertain and dire times, we need innovations, we need to create the conducive environment for the private sector to invest, grow and create employment, we should rather today decrease rates and taxes to create such an environment.'

Mister Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus would not support the tariffs increase, the budget and the IDP. Thank you, Mister Speaker."

The Chief Whip addressed the Council:

"Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Listening to what people from the opposition has been saying here, first and foremost the ANC is not a socialist organisation like Councillor T Ranchobe from the EFF wanted to insinuate. The ANC is a multiclass organisation, accommodating everybody, so Councillor MA Morake cannot be representing socialism in this particular Council.

Honourable Speaker, we know that this budget is a pro poor because it talks about sustainable refuse removal for the SMMEs. We know that the people who would benefit from those SMMEs are our entrepreneurs in the townships, the up-and-coming entrepreneurs are the ones who would benefit there.

Honourable Speaker, it is about upgrading of roads including resealing R96 million there, where? In the township.

Unblocking and maintenance of sewer reticulation R59 million.

Sewer infrastructure

Electricity infrastructure R183 million, where? There in the township.

Land and availability of sites, where? In the township, R73.8 million.

Vista Park development R63.2 million, where? In the township.

Upgrading of informal settlement R243 million, where? In the township.

So, when we say this budget is pro poor, we can pinpoint and not just pass rhetoric in this particular regard.

Honourable Speaker, the other thing is that, yes, I agree with Councillor MB Mononyane; in the recent by-elections people demonstrated that they still have confidence in the ANC. In the last term of Council, Councillor MB Mononyane you were two or three, where are your other representatives? Because the electorate has no confidence in you as COPE whereas as COPE, nothing and if you continue to talk like this as is our people are fools, I am telling you, in the next term you would not even see a single seat. You would not be there at all, because you were brought even last year, somebody made you a favour to come back to Council. You were gone my brother and you know it. You rather do the honourable thing, when you honour the leader of the ANC Oliver Tambo, do the honourable thing and come back to his organisation and I am certain that if he were still alive, he would still be a member of the ANC like when Mandela passed on, he was still a member of the ANC now in 2013 and so there would have been no difference with Oliver Tambo.

Honourable Speaker, Councillor M Kganakga from the DA, I want to advise you my sister, a sisterly advice, the DA will use you and dump you like a used condom, my dear sister, ask your contemporary Lindiwe Mazibuko, Mashaba, Patricia De Lille..."

At this point Councillors interrupted the Chief Whip, talking and raising point of orders.

The Chief Whip responded that he was not going to teach Councillors English as he was using a metaphor.

The Speaker commented: "Councillors, today is a budget meeting, there are no disruptions and there are no point of orders that is why I am saying, Chief Whip the language that you must use today should be a budget language. In other words, the manner in which we speak must not invite the people to come in and disrupt us. Please."

Councillors continued speaking even after being addressed by the speaker.

The Speaker continued: "Councillor ZE Mangcotywa, our Chief Whip, please!"

The Chief Whip stated that he had withdrawn.

The Speaker called for order in the Council and commented: "Chief Whip, I am glad that you had already withdrawn. Councillor M Kganakga please speaks to the Chief Whip and withdraws talking about his mother."

Councillor M Kganakga withdrew.

The Chief Whip continued:

“Honourable Speaker, the AG is not here to tell this particular august house that we have seen a tremendous improvement on our finances on the audit report, but there would come a day when the Auditor-General would come and put it to you that this Municipality has improved from the last financial years.

Honourable Speaker, I want to say to this Council that as the ANC like I indicated this budget is pro poor, this MTREF budget takes place whilst the Country is still under the grip of covid-19 pandemic, this is illustrated by the President announcement last night that the Country will be placed under lockdown adjusted level 2 from today. There are reports that our Province is already affected by the 3rd wave.

Honourable Speaker, on operating and capital budget, it is indeed discomfoting that capital expenditure has decreased by 2.57% which is an amount of R32.52 million compared to an increase in operating budget expenditure for 2021/22. This capital budget of R1.2 billion and the operating budget R7.4 billion, it is the resources that we are going to make sure that are used effectively and efficiently as this particular Council on this year where in which we are going to hold elections and we are not going to be apologetic about providing services to our people. If you see where it has been happening Councillor MB Mononyane you must know that we are not apologetic because we have approved the budget more so even when you have not voted for it. So, if you see service delivery there, we are not going to be apologetic about it.

On property rate Honourable Speaker, the growth of the City ...well for the increase in the revenue that is generated from property rates. It remains critical that responsible directorate in collaboration with the Finance directorate must work hard to ensure that the City is able to obtain what is due to it from property owners. The success of the Financial Recovery Plan hinges on the good work done with regard to appropriate valuations of property.

On water services charges, despite the 10.1% increase in tariffs structure for water charges, but we are proud that our water charges remain favourable in comparison with other metro municipalities in the Country. The Municipality largely relies on the supply of bulk water to communities and the expected 9% increase in the cost of bulk water will without doubt push further the cost of water in the City. Sound relationship between the two entities is necessary for the safeguard of continuous supply of water to communities.

On sewer and sanitation, and refuse removal, the growth of the City is a direct pressure on the provisions of sanitation and refuse removal. The increase in revenue on these issues is a direct consequence of that and it is also true that the City for economic reason and lack of effective collecting strategies, the City is not collecting as much as it should Honourable Speaker, because of issues of covid-19 in particular because it also preventing people from coming and paying for the services. This also had impact on the services provided due to lack of necessary equipment to do so.

In conclusion Honourable Speaker, the budget we are tabling as this Council should go a long way in bringing about much needed delivery of the social infrastructure to our communities. We ought to do this without fault as members of this Council is to ensure that we strengthen our political oversight role to ensure that this budget achieves what is intended for.

This therefore requires consequence management to be enforced where there are clear indications of low levels of performance due to Municipal officials failing to discharge their responsibilities. The answer to serious issues of service delivery is the ability to invest in the growth of our economy. To that end Honourable Speaker, the three spheres of governance utilises the budget to invest in economic infrastructure development to stimulate and bring private sector investment and the creation of job opportunities especially for the ...(inaudible – break in audio). It must reflect these critical goals. With these few words Honourable Speaker, as the ANC we move for the approval of this pro poor budget for it to be implemented by this Council of Mangaung. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Amandla!”

Councillor PP Poone-Rankholo addressed the Council:

Note by Secretariat: Due to poor audio connection, her speech was not minutes in its entirety.

“Kelebohe Modulaqhoha. Ke dumedise mokgatlho o nthumileng, baahi ba Mangaung ka kakaretso. Modulaqhoha ha ke bone diphethoho haholo hare bua ka ditekanyetso tsena; mmele wa ka wa tsitsipana, ka nnete re nale batho ba leleme le monate, dikebekwa le mamenemene tse tlhahisang ...(inaudible)

As Councillor EM Mokhoanatshe continued speaking, the Speaker requested that he stand at one place as his connection and audio to the meeting was not clear and audible and where after he continued as follows:

“Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I was saying, it is really a pity that amongst other things, very basic things like the issue of the bucket system is still part and parcel of this Council. This ought to be resolved many many years ago; it does not require rocket science to sort out the problem. We have technologies that are available to provide septic tanks that could actually bring dignity to the lives of our people.

It is very said that we hear with the audit report that we have not seen, but we are hearing in this Council that there is an improvement, but what we want to see is not an improvement, we want a clean audit, not an improvement on last year. What that means is that people are buying time so that they can continue to do the wrong things. With those few words, I would say that we won’t be in a position to support this budget. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Councillor MG Selebeli addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me start by greeting members of the Council, our community in general and also officials who are present here today. Honourable Speaker allow me to send my warmest birthday wishes to the Chief Whip of the Council, Councillor ZE Mangcotywa.

Honourable Speaker, we must welcome the budget speech on behalf of the ANC caucus as delivered by the Acting Executive Mayor, Councillor MA Morake. A hard-working deployee of the most trusted custodian of aspiration of many South Africans, the African National Congress.

This Council sitting takes place Honourable Speaker when South Africans across the breadth and the width of the Country have reaffirm their confidence in the ANC government in the by elections. This is evidence enough that the people continue to look to the ANC as the only hope for a better tomorrow.

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Honourable Speaker, a special word of congratulations to all our comrades who had made it in various municipalities in the Country. Although the economic climate has generally been adverse, this budget offers a serious promise and a potential to champion the socio-economic transformation that our Municipality needs desperately. It speaks directly to the economic growth, job creation, and reduction of inequalities.

This budget accords with efforts of the ANC government to improve our economic standing and to restore the dignity of our people. The budget moderate spending and commit to raising the revenue necessary to put the Municipality in good financial state, more broadly this budget presents a roadmap to maintaining the integrity of our Municipality while promoting efficiency in service delivery and protecting the poor people in our area.

We are pleased with the fact that the budget promises a pro poor, biased and commits the service of our people in radical ways. The fact that the indigent homeowners and child headed families continues to be exempted from rates; it is a cause for celebration. Furthermore, senior citizens and disabled people who are needy will also continue to be protected. Yes! another demonstration that the ANC government stands on the side of the poor.

We welcome the efforts to improve our collection of water tariffs particularly by business as well as those who can afford. We understand that this is necessary in order to enable the Municipality to render service to our communities. We also welcome the commitment in the budget to exempt indigent families from paying sewerage charges as this will be worsen their economic situation, but those citizens who can afford must indeed pay in order to make our work as the Municipality easier including all of us sitting in here, in Council Honourable Speaker. We must improve our collection regime so that we are efficient in collecting revenue.

The electricity increase is extremely high, and we are concerned as the ANC that this will have a negative impact on the masses of our people. Every price increase on electricity makes everything else expensive for the poor as the burden is always passed to the consumer of economic goods. We must do our best to curtail this increase on electricity if we want to improve the lives of our people.

Amongst the allocation of this period, we note the commitment to sustain social packages in terms of which we give our people free electricity, water and sanitation. It is the Freedom Charter that insists, no government can just claim authority unless it is based on the will of the people. It is the will of our people to walk with those who can afford to make lives of those who cannot afford as decent as possible. It is the will of our people that the weak and the vulnerable be protected.

We celebrate the proposed amendments to our procurement policy in order that we improve our care of public monies and increase efficiency in how we do things. The importance of consequence management cannot be over emphasised in ensuring that integrity is instilled. Many voters have said to us that Supply Chain Management across Municipality is a disaster and this is our effort to correct the system. The changes of adjudication committee will be more transparent and demonstrate our commitment to the new dawn, business unusual.

The budget reinforces our commitment to five priority areas set out in the IDP. This gives us the hope that we are still on the right track. All of us must walk together to realise these amendments to maximise value for our people.

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Honourable Speaker, we must intensify our engagement with investors to train our youth so that in our period we can own our industries. This initiative to expand the small businesses incubation programs must be priority and young people must be key beneficiaries. Unemployment and poor youth who are roaming our streets while they pose danger to the democratic government, it is extremely important that public confidence in the Municipality is restored and that it performs far more effectively. We therefore look forward to working with the Executive Mayor and his team Honourable Speaker.

Honourable Speaker let me also remind honourable Councillors who are gathered here that the cruelty of government of the Democratic Alliance is seen in the Western Cape where it leads; where our people are packed like sheep with no intentions of changing their lives.

Honourable Speaker, of course I concur and agree very much with honourable Chief Whip with his remarks. Let me also make my own that I must also give a sisterly advice to Councillor M Kganakga that in no time you will be called an experiment went wrong. Please my sister, wake up... Racist organisation and it has no interest of our people..."

At this point Councillors interrupted while Councillors MG Selebeli was talking, and the Speaker called the house to order. On a lighter note, the Speaker remarked: "Councillors when Councillor MG Selebeli was talking, he reminded me of a story of a dwarf, bathi ngohili in Xhosa. Apparently, there was a time when he was supposed to choose and they asked this draw on which side are you and in Xhosa he said kumnandi ngapha, kumnandi ngapha! Andiyazi ndiyephi! Ndise maphakathini."

Councillor R van der Merwe addressed the Council:

"Honourable Speaker, I am sure my colleagues on Council are experiencing the same problems of the IDP as I am in Ward 20. I am using Ward 20 as an example only. Year after year, the same items appear on the IDP without being done in response to Council's request. I would like to give a few examples of requests from my Ward 20 which have been ignored.

As a result of sewerage blockages which began amongst other at Preller Square in Dan Pienaar resulting raw sewerage landing via an open storm water canal which extends through sections of Dan Pienaar and Brandwag into Loch Logan at the Waterfront where many businesses are located. This is definitely a health risk which affects all residents of Mangaung. The poor residents who live along side this canal cannot bear the stench of sewerage. The open canal is never cleared of bushes, grass and trees, resulting in a stench and that means very bad smell being ever present.

Secondly a request for a robot of four-way stop has been made for the last fifteen 15 years at the dangerous Lucas Steyn, Frans Kleynhans, Reyneke, Ray Champion intersection in Heuwelsig, this crossing has been a danger for years moreover there has been great development in this area for example Woodland Hills and many townhouses' developments. Honourable Speaker, when is the dangerous intersection going to be put on the priority list?

Honourable Speaker, the reservoirs in Hillies van Der Walt Street and Spitskop in the north must be attended to urgently. The on and off mechanism do not function, and the pumps must be switched off manually when the weather is bad.

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No Mister Speaker, we in Mangaung are used to better than this.

Mister Speaker, the DA wishes to bring few matters which affect all Wards to the attention of Council, most of the residents of Mangaung wait for years until our attractive City falls apart completely, what a shame to see that no one set of traffic lights in the whole of Mangaung functions properly. The forty 40 traffic lights create a very negative impression and image of Mangaung for visitors in the City.

Mister Speaker where are our traffic officials? Look at the way drivers speed recklessly in the streets and see how many lamppost and traffic lights posts have been knocked over this year. The Traffic Department would issue many traffic fines to non-compliance residents and by so doing, meet their budget requirements, but I heard that they don't even have fine books.

Blocked storm water canals appear in many of our streets, and when it rains the water cannot flow normally, large pools of water are formed which are dangerous and can cause accidents, collisions and flooding as a result.

Another matter which does not need to be placed on the IDP are the cement covers blocks which had been broken by trucks, which must get immediate attention. These contribute to the run down appearance of Mangaung.

Furthermore, Mister Speaker, people would dump their refuse all over Mangaung. Our law enforcement officials must stop these people and fine them, again no fine books. A matter which requires urgent attention and would cost very little is the appalling condition on our signs and road markings, which had not been painted for years now. Why can all the roads in Mangaung not been painted starting tomorrow? Indeed, when we ask the HOD and the managers to paint the roads, we are told, we don't have paint.

Mister Speaker, how frustrating to have streetlights which are not functioning, some areas look like ghosts streets in a ghost town. Mister Speaker, why are speed humps not installed in areas where schools and old age homes are located? This will be a way of forcing motorist to slow down and save a few lives.

Mister Speaker, surely the biggest headaches for all Councillors, it is the waste removal problem. Before we do anything further, let us solve the basic small problems please. Mister Speaker, one could continue in this manner for quite a while. I am well aware that most of the abovementioned matters are actually maintenance matters, my goodness, could we make an effort to deal with the small cheaper projects, which deserve immediate attention, before we turn our attention to larger projects.

Mister Speaker, the reason why the maintenance of the budget should be 10% of the total budget is because the ANC let Metro is already so far behind on maintenance. It is a fact that the problems of managing in our Metro and other municipality originate with the ANC who are appointing their cadres in high positions without any proof that they can do the job. The DA will pull this City together, just give us a chance and resign otherwise the DA and other opposition parties will vote you out on the 27th of October. Thank you, Mister Speaker."

Councillor MM Tladi addressed the Council:

“Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me welcome the budget tabled by the Acting Executive mayor. This budget must bring change to the community of Mangaung regarding service delivery matters hobane re setshaba se batlang ditshebeletso, hape masepala ke masepala ka setshaba mme re tlamehile hob a fa ditshebeletso.

Honourable Speaker, the work of the opposition party is to oppose and that is exactly what they are doing today. Mosebetsi wa bona ke ho oppose whatever the ruling party is coming with, and as a result, they would not vote, and they want our communities to vote for them. A clear case law, are the previous by-election...(inaudible – disturbing noise on the background), at the same time ANC is winning left right and centre.

Honourable Speaker, when officials implement this budget, they should follow proper legislation especially the Supply Chain Management Policy to avoid unsatisfied audit outcome for the City, re kgathetse ke irregular expenditure, ka baka la ho se latelle melao. This budget must make sure that the critical posts are filled to create employment for the people of Mangaung especially the youth, batsha ba rona. Reduce high overtime payments, as highlighted by the AG previously.

This budget must make sure we have EPWP in all Wards to assist the City in terms of service delivery. This budget must make sure that we have a clean City, proper roads and infrastructure and make sure we finish all the outstanding projects and at the same time empower our local SMMEs. This budget should make sure that we pay Bloemwater, and we pay on time to make sure that we are not making our communities victims. This budget must make sure that our communities have access to electricity especially the elderly, re seke ra timela bonkgono le bontatemoholo motlakase ntle le mabaka a sa tlwahaleng.

Honourable Speaker, as MPAC we would continue to do oversight without fear or favour, wrong will be wrong and right will be right. I support the items as they are. Kealebaha.”

The Acting Executive Mayor was afforded an opportunity to respond to Council, he thereupon responded as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, honourable Councillors. I think that it is an election year and there is a lot of traffic, but we are saying that there are a lot of things...(inaudible – interrupted by another Councillor) with regard to issues of land, we have Vista Park 2 and 3, Airport Node which are projects that are supported by the office of the Presidency. It is going to give middle income or police, teachers and nurses and opportunity to own sites and houses at Vista Park 2 and 3 and also at Airport Node.

The Speaker thereupon requested each party to indicate whether to vote individually or block vote (i.e. per political party) whereupon each would give the number of Councillors present. They all the agreed-on a block vote. We have partnership with Department of Land Affairs, honourable Councillor T Ranchobe, they have procured five 5 farms for Mangaung Metro and that is where we are going to make sure that we distribute those five 5 farms to our current commonages. We have a serious huge number of people who want to farm, and we are up to speed engaging with other National Departments to assist us to buy the farms for our communities. We also have Botshabelo West and Botshabelo South as part of the gap sites, or bond sites that would be realisable in this financial year.

7AE

We know that Councillor MB Mononyane, because of climate change, it is not because the Municipality doesn't have capacity, when it rains, it is with thunderstorms and as a result, and it causes serious natural disasters. It is not by the Municipality makings, but it is upon the heavens that rain falls in big drops and it has really impacted us negatively in the City.

In terms of the issue of land reform and agricultural reform, with have partnership with CUT that we would be tabling to Council. That is a good partnership that will make sure that ordinary members of the community are skilled in terms of agriculture and animal production so that we realise this issue of giving back land to the people.

We know that in recent time we had a shutdown, and it is unfortunate that we have lost one of the young people, but we are committed that we want to see a different City after that. We are going to make sure that we accelerate service delivery. If you can look at the budget of maintenance for water and sanitation roads, it says a lot and we have what we call *Claim our City program*. This program has been unfolding in many Wards, 17, 45, 12, 8, 6, 7, so it is a massive City's program that is trying to address on what all honourable Councillors are saying. Soon we would be opening the City Hall, and that would be a serious milestone in the City.

I think to inform you honourable members, we know that we have a rolling debt, and it is too high, that is why there is an increase and we are trying to enforce debt collection policies to make sure that we get whatever. We want to say, humbly so, honourable Councillors, we need businesses to come and make arrangements for payment of debt at the Municipality, so that it is dealt with accordingly. We call to every citizen of Mangaung to come and make payment arrangements so that they are able to pay for services. We also want to call all those who want to install prepaid meter systems, they must come and pay and arrange for the system, they would be assisted.

We also, in terms of law enforcement in the City, have already procured the cameras, speed traps, and the Metro Police would be in full service very soon and I think that we need to really appreciate the officials, not cadres, officials that have worked so hard and the political oversight of Public Safety for this realisable dream because it has been there for quite some time, and now we are at the process where we are going to make sure that Metro Police is fully implemented.

Honourable Councillors, my doors are opened, and I have heard even from the opposition they are positive. There were Councillors that are complaining about the robots etc. please you can just send me a message if you have anything that you want to suggest or if you see anything around the City that you want to complain about, our hands are really open for all Councillors including those of opposition parties; you are welcomed even to visit my office to make sure that together and we join hands together to make sure that we build a City that would be a City people would be proud of Mangaung. I know that we have so many hiccups, but we are saying this budget would make sure that we are able to carry on with those backlogs.

There is an issue of refuse removal, we have a time schedule, and everybody can access it. You can come to my office to fetch you time schedule so that you know when are they coming to your Ward. So, we have win over with issue of refuse removal, we have scheduled dates that would be going to different areas of Mangaung.

With those few words Honourable Speaker, we humble ourselves to the residents and citizens of Mangaung to say please pay services.

If you have a complaint, complain and if you have a suggestion, make suggestions, so that we build a beautiful City; the City on the move, the City of Mangaung. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

The Speaker checked with the whips of the parties how would they be voting either individually or per party (i.e. block vote). After all parties agreed on block vote, the Speaker then explained that they would be voting simultaneously on the IDP, budget as well as policies.

After the Speaker had announced the results of voting, Councillor JC Pretorius requested that it be noted that the DA voted against the budget as well as Councillor PP Poone-Rankholo who also requested that it be noted that the EFF voted against the approval of the budget.

*It was thereupon with **55 votes in favour, 35 votes against and 0 abstained,***

RESOLVED that the recommendation as set out in the agenda be accepted, adopted and approved, by the Council.

RESOLVED that the Council approve:

- 1) the Integrated Development Plan for 2021/2022.
- 2) the below mentioned Sector Plans for 2021/2022 (Annexures as Key Components of IDP).

Sector Plan	Annexure
Integrated Human Settlement Plan	A
Environmental Management Plan and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy	B
Integrated Waste Management Plan	C
Ten - Year Water Conservation and Water Demand Management Strategy	D
Integrated Public Transport Network Plan	E
MMM Ward Demographics Maps	F
MMM Organogram	G
Technical Indicator Description (TIDs)	H
Audit Action Plan	I
Spatial Development Framework	J
Disaster Management Plan	K
Centlec Electricity Plan	L
Water Service Development Plan	M
Rural Development Plan	N
Roads Asset Management Plan	O
Organisational Performance Management Framework	P

- 3) that the IDP 2021/2022 and sector plans will be submitted to both the departments of Treasury and COGTA and further be published on the municipal website.

3.

APPROVAL OF:

- i. **MMM MEDIUM TERM REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK: 2021/22 – 2023/24**
- ii. **MMM CAPITAL BUDGET 2021/2022**
- iii. **MMM BUDGET RELATED POLICIES**
- iv. **MMM GENERAL TARRIFFS 2021/2022**
- v. **CENTLEC BUDGET 2021/2022**
- vi. **CENTLEC BUDGET ANNEXURES**
- vii. **CENTLEC BUDGET RELATED POLICIES**

All items were simultaneously discussed and voted upon.

It was thereupon with 55 votes in favour, 55 votes against and 0 abstained,

RESOLVED that the recommendation as set out in the agenda be accepted, adopted and approved, by the Council.

RESOLVED

8. Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality in terms of Section 21(b) of the Municipality Finance Management Act, Act 56 of 2003, tables the 2021/22 annual budget for adoption with the total consolidated revenue of R 9,004 billion, operating expenditure of R 7,451 billion and capital expenditure of R 1,221 billion and the indicative allocations for the two outer years of the MTREF period including the multi-year and single-year capital appropriations, as set out in the following tables, for approval:
- (e) Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue and expenditure by standard classification): - Table A2
 - (f) Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue and expenditure by municipal vote): - Table A3
 - (g) Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue by source and expenditure by type): - Table A4
 - (h) Multi-year and single year capital appropriations by municipal vote and standard classification and associated funding by source - Table A5
9. That the consolidated financial position, cash flow, cash-backed reserve/accumulated surplus, asset management, and basic service delivery targets be approved, as set out in the following tables:
- (f) Budgeted Financial Position - Table A6
 - (g) Budgeted Cash Flows - Table A7
 - (h) Cash-backed reserves and accumulated surplus reconciliation - Table A8
 - (i) Asset Management - Table A9
 - (j) Consolidated Basic Service Delivery measurement - Table A10
10. That the consolidated budget that includes Mangaung Municipality and Centlec (SOC) Ltd be approved and that Centlec's standalone Budget be aligned to the consolidated budget as stated in the budget pack.

8B

11. That the Council of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality acting in terms of Section 75A of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, Act 32 of 2000 as amended, hereby tables the following tariffs for approval and implementation with effect from 01 July 2021:
 - (f) Supply of Electricity - Page 51
 - (g) Property Rates - Page 53
 - (h) Sewerage Fees - Page 57
 - (i) Refuse Removal Fees - Page 59
 - (j) Supply of Water - Page 63

12. That the consolidated General Tariffs as set out in the Tariffs Booklet for the 2021/22 financial year be noted for implementation with effect from 01 July 2021.

13. That in terms of Section 21(b) (ii)(bb) of the Municipal Finance Management Act, Act 56 of 2003 the budget-related policies including any amendments be approved.

14. That the Centlec (SOC) Ltd budget submissions for the period 2021/22 – 2023/24 be noted as set out below, subject to the limitation of 3.7 above:
 - (f) MTREF Operating and Capital Budget (as incorporated in the consolidated budget above).
 - (g) Service Tariffs.
 - (h) Policies.
 - (i) Business Plan.
 - (j) SDBIP.

91	REPORTS OF THE SPEAKER
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None.

NOTED.

92	REPORTS FROM MUNICIPAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
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None.

NOTED.

93	REPORTS TO BE DEALT WITH IN COMMITTEE
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None.

NOTED.

94	CLOSING OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
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In closing, the Speaker mentioned that it was birthday of Councillor XD Pongolo, Councillor DM Sekakanyo as well as the Chief Whips of Council and he wished them all well. He further said they were fortunate as their birthday is remembered unlike him, no one would talk about his birthday, however he was not alone on this, it was him and the former Mangaung Metro Councillor Thabo Manyoni because they were born on the first week of January as Council would normally start on the last week of January or February.

The Speaker further indicated that the items are approved however they would be implemented on the 1st of July 2021, but they would be submitted to COGTA and National Treasury and that it was the first time they were on time and thus complied.

Furthermore, that there would be a Council meeting on Thursday, May 3, 2021.

The meeting closed at 16h40.

SECRETARIAT UNIT
COMMITTEE SERVICES