

*CONFIDENTIAL*



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**MINUTES  
of a  
SPECIAL MEETING**

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**MANGAUNG  
METROPOLITAN  
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

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**INDABA AUDITORIUM  
GROUND FLOOR  
BRAM FISCHER BUILDING  
BLOEMFONTEIN**

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**MONDAY  
AUGUST 16, 2021  
AT 10:00**

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**MANGAUNG  
METROPOLITAN  
MUNICIPALITY**

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**MINUTES OF A  
SPECIAL MEETING**

of the

**MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

held

**BRAM FISCHER BUILDING  
(VIRTUALLY – VARIOUS VENUES)**

on

**MONDAY, AUGUST 16, 2021**

at 11:00

- 1 **SPEAKER**  
COUNCILLOR MOTHIBI-NKOANE MM
- 2 **EXECUTIVE MAYOR**  
COUNCILLOR SIYONZANA MA
- 3 **DEPUTY EXECUTIVE MAYOR**  
COUNCILLOR MASOETSA LA
- 4 **CHIEF WHIP**  
COUNCILLOR MANGCOTYWA ZE

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

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

## SECTION 79 CHAIRPERSONS

- 14 COUNCILLOR NKOE MJ
- 15 COUNCILLOR SHOUNYANA MM
- 16 COUNCILLOR SELEKE PL
- 17 COUNCILLOR TLADI MM

## PR & WARD COUNCILLORS

- 18 COUNCILLOR BOLT W
- 19 COUNCILLOR BOROLE KS
- 20 COUNCILLOR BOTES FR
- 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 MOLEKO ML  
57 COUNCILLOR MONONYANE MB  
58 COUNCILLOR MOPELO TM  
59 COUNCILLOR MOREENG KC  
60 COUNCILLOR MORURI MM  
61 COUNCILLOR MOSALA MT  
62 COUNCILLOR MOTHUPI ML  
63 COUNCILLOR MOTLOUNG MV  
64 COUNCILLOR MVALA-MAJOLA DS  
65 COUNCILLOR NAILE TJ  
66 COUNCILLOR NDZUZO T

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

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

**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 | ACTING CITY MANAGER           | MR SELLO M    |
| 2 | GM: COMMITTEE SERVICES        | MR MOTHEKHE M |
| 3 | 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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**5**  
**MINUTES**  
**(OPEN COUNCIL)**

**139.**  
**OPENING**

The meeting commenced at 10h05 to allow all Councillors to be connected and form a quorum.

The Acting City Manager, Mr Sello More presided over this session of the meeting.

Prior to declaring the meeting officially opened, he confirmed that 78 Councillors were in attendance, and thus forming a quorum. In declaring the meeting officially opened, he welcomed Councillors, officials, media and the community of Mangaung to the important session of the Council.

**NOTED.**

**140.**  
**NOTICE OF THE MEETING**

The Acting City Manager read the notice of the meeting as outline on page 2 of the agenda.

**NOTED.**

**141.**  
**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.**

**142.**  
**ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

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

**NOTED.**

**143.**  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None.  
**NOTED.**

## PART ONE

144

PRESIDED BY THE ACTING CITY MANAGER

1.

**RESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER**

The Acting City Manager confirmed that all Councillors received the resignation of the Speaker of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipal Council, Councillor MA Siyonzana and it should therefore be noted.

NOTED.

2.

**ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER**

**The Acting City Manager remarked:** "The Speaker, Councillor MA Siyonzana resigned on Wednesday, August 11, 2021 and this resulted in the creation of a vacancy in the position of a Speaker. Therefore the Council is required to elect the speaker in terms of Section 36 of the Municipal Structures Act, which is our business today. In terms of the procedure, Schedule 3 of Act, Municipal Structures Act provides that the election of the office must be done through a secret ballot and the Councillor with 50% plus 1 of the ballots reflecting the total members present shall be deemed to have been elected.

We currently have three 3 venues which is the Council Chamber, Committee Room A and Committee Room B. we would have preventatives in all these Committee Rooms and the Chamber in terms of consolidating the numbers.

Immediately after all Councillors had cast their ballots, all the ballots would be brought here in the Council Chamber, in one box prior to counting. This is aimed at maximising the principle of secret ballot. The party whips would be required to be in the Council Chamber to monitor the verification and counting of the ballots.

I must indicate that we would be handling the voting as the City because the request was made to IEC they were however not available for this process. We will ensure that the process remains fair and procedurally correct from our side.

After the counting, I will announce the new Speaker who would take over from me for the next phase which will be the election of the new Executive Mayor."

**The Acting City Manager opened the floor for the nomination for the Speaker and the each nominee must be seconded and the officials from Committee Services will circulate the nomination forms for those nominating and the nominee must then accept the nomination in writing on the issued.**

**Nominations received as follows:**

Councillor PL Seleke proposed the name of Councillor MM Mothibi-Nkoane and was seconded by Councillor MA Siyonzana.

Councillor BJ Viviers proposed the name of Councillor TD Masoeu and was seconded by Councillor M Kganakga.

Whilst waiting for the signed nomination forms, the Acting City Manager acknowledged guest that were invited to the Council meeting, namely: National Executive Member of SALGA – Mr Bheki Stofile.

The Acting City Manager then explained that stamped ballot papers will be issued to Councillors.

The voting was then cast via a secret ballot where after the Acting City Manager announced that 85 Councillors signed the attendance register and 85 Councillors voted. He announced the results as follows:

- Spoiled ballots = 7
- Councillor MM Mothibi-Nkoane = 54
- Councillor TD Masoeu = 24

After the announcement of the results by the Acting City Manager, he declared Councillor MM Mothibi as the Speaker of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipal Council and requested that she ascend to take over chairing the meeting.

**RESOLVED** that the Mangaung Council elected Councillor MM Mothibi-Nkoane to serve as the Speaker on the full-time basis.

## PART TWO

145

PRESIDED BY THE SPEAKER

The newly elected Speaker, Councillor MM Mothibi-Nkoane requested all to bow their heads and she delivered a short prayer.

Thereafter, she delivered her acceptance speech as follows: “Thank you Acting City Manager and GM: Committee Services for facilitating the process today.

To the Deputy Executive Mayor, Councillor LA Masoetsa

Chief Whip of Council, Councillor ZE Mangcotywa

Fellow Councillors from all political parties

Acting City Manager, Mr S More

Municipal officials

Business leader

Ward Committee members

Distinguished guests

Members of the media

The community of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality following the proceedings on Facebook page

Ladies and Gentlemen

## 6B

It is indeed a great honour for me to be elected amongst many highly esteemed candidates to the position of the Speaker for the Mangaung Metropolitan Council. I am delighted to have the support of my political organisation which is the ANC, fellow Councillors and the people of Mangaung in particular.

I dedicate this elevation of women to positions of power to the 1956 courageous generation of women who defied oppressive systems of colonialism and apartheid, today we can see further because we are standing on the shoulders of those giants. One of those giants among them we have Lillian Ngoyi, Rahima Moosa, Helen Joseph, Sophia De Bruyn, Albertina Sisulu, Bertha Gxowa, Motlalepule Chabaku, Moipone Mohlakoana and many others. They must be smiling wherever they are to see our generation entrusted with such strategic and powerful governance posts.

As we celebrate women's month in 2021 as the year of Charlotte Maxeke, my appointment as a Speaker should be seen as victory for all women and the community of Mangaung. Beyond managing the proceedings of Council, I am quite aware of enormous task and public participation entrusted to the office of the Speaker. Managing community disputes in recent years has been very difficult; this has been worsened by the global pandemic in economic crisis distressing various communities.

Let me take this opportunity to make a solemn pledge from the very onset that I will do my utmost best to live up to the expectation of this office especially towards promotion of participatory democracy as outlined in the Constitution. Our duty in this regard is to improve Municipal responsive and intensive service delivery, accountability in accordance with the challenges raised by our communities.

Here we will rely on the vigilance of the Ward Councillors to provide leadership and advice to the Council where necessary. We are also aware of the emerging discontentment of ordinary citizens who contend that even the Ward Committees are no longer political but aligned to party politics. We would not tolerate any form of discrimination in this regard. We are totally committed to increase public participation in the governance of our City, the City of Roses.

We will also ensure that the moral of the members of Ward Committee is boosted so that, they too could make a significant contribution in restoring the confidence of the local community to this Council. I have also noted with great concern how opportunist often mislead our people and we will not tolerate that. This could be avoided if the accountability of Ward Councillors is improved and be inspired to communicate activities of their respective Wards to the Council on a regular basis.

As a member of the Council I will uphold all basic Rules and Regulations as adopted and published on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020 to apply to this house and Councillors. I believe fellow Councillors; you will likewise continue to follow the code of conduct; to achieve this we will provide adequate Councillor support so that there will be no excuses for not doing their work effectively.

Once again, I wish to thank everyone, every Councillor who voted and every Councillor who did not vote, I am the Speaker for every Councillor in this Chamber. Thank you, Councillors."

**Councillors were then allowed to convey their motion of congratulations to the newly elected Speaker.**

**Councillor TD Masoeu remarked:**

“Honourable Speaker, and honourable Councillors. Please allow me Madam Speaker to say congratulate you on your election as the Speaker of Mangaung Metro. We are all aware of the challenges that you are facing as the Speaker to bring credibility to what is taking place in this Council.

May I, at the very beginning say to you, it is an honour to see, as you rightly said that a woman is being recognised for her ability and that you will be serving this Council as the Speaker.

Honourable Speaker, may I just reiterate what you had already said, in terms of legislation; the Speaker is in charge of the legislative arm of the Council. The DA expects and hopes that the you as the Speaker of this Council and making sure that the discussions are taking place in order to advance our responsibilities as Councillors in this Council.

We hope that you as the Speaker will demonstrate impartiality, exercising the responsibilities of the Speaker with ultimate aim to make sure that Councillors participate regardless of political formation that they come from.

Honourable Speaker, may I remind you and urge you that this Council is interpretation services , in other words, the speakers are currently using one language and in fact we should be addressing the residents of Mangaung equally. Please ensure that in execution of performance of your duties you also look at those challenges we are having.

I cannot conclude my speech Honourable Speaker without saying the following, Mangaung is no longer the City of Roses; Mangaung is a City of garbage. Mangaung is a City that is downgraded, not once but twice by the rating agencies. Mangaung is a City that does not serve its citizens with passion that we are supposed to in fact residents of Mangaung are paying for services that are non-existent.

I want to give you this example as the last comment, where I am staying, I am paying my account for services in this Municipality, and my account is up to date, I checked it. But you know what Honourable Speaker, but I am also paying for a private company to remove refuse in front of my house together with other residents in that street.

There is also a park in that area, I am also paying for the other company to clean the park. In other words, I am paying the Municipality for services, but I am also paying extra to the other private companies. This is not how residents of Mangaung should be treated.

Congratulations Madam Speaker on your election as a Speaker.”

**Councillor MM Tladi remarked:**

“Thank you, Madam Speaker. The ANC on the month which celebrate women emancipation is consistent with its goal of equal representation and we are saying congratulations mbokodo.

As the former Chairperson of Rules Committee in the City, you made sure that there was order and stability in the Council. Re re, realeboha.

The role of the Speaker is to unite the Council and work with all Councillors of other parties and to make sure we are united as this Council and we know that you are going to do that mbokodo.

In conclusion mbokodo, as you all know, us as Chairpersons of Section 79 Committee, we were the masters and the champion of oversight. As you are the Madam Speaker now, I am sure and the power in you that you will conquer service delivery, consequence management and oversight for the City. We want a clear and good audit opinion for the City. We are sure and hopeful that you will champion that. Malibongwe!

**Councillor DM Sekakanyo remarked:**

“Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let me congratulate you, Councillor Mapaseka Mothibi-Nkoane as Honourable Speaker of the Council.

Let me start by saying that the emancipation of women is not an act of charity, but the results of humanitarian or compassionate attitude. *‘The liberation of women is a fundamental necessity for the revolution, a guarantee of its continuity and preconditions for its victory’* Samora Machel.

The women month which is August celebrate the women in pursued of gender equality in all aspects of South Africa. This month pays tribute to women in their role in liberation.

Honourable Speaker, to contest with a woman in August month is suicidal. Election of yourself Madam Speaker, is not an act of charity, but your capabilities in leading the society especially this Section and Region even in the Province, it is very much paramount.

I know Madam Speaker, in order to take a cue from Councillor MM Tladi on what she has alluded to, I know you will remind us that the decorum of the house image of the Council must be maintained and we know it very well that you will remind us. We as Councillors, we are the product and custodians of values in the Constitution of South Africa. Remember, you are always going to remind us that we should not forget that we are representing the electorates.

Honourable Speaker, you are not new in that particular position, you used to act in the absence of the former Speaker during the Council meetings. The ANC as the majority party welcomes you and really congratulate your election as a Speaker of this Municipality. The ANC was conscious and rational deciding about your name to become the Speaker. We are not suffering from cognitive dishonesty like other political parties.

Why I am saying that, as I come to my conclusion, I just want to inform my fellow brothers and sisters in the opposition parties especially the DA, where they know that they are going to fail to win the election, they will put the person of my colour.

Honourable Speaker, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2016, the DA submitted the name of Councillor TD Masoeu to contest the position of the Executive Mayor, it was August 18, 2026, today. It is August 16, 2021, the DA submitted the name of Councillor TD Masoeu to contest the position...”

**On a point of order, Councillor M Kganakga asked whether Councillor DM Sekakanyo was batching the DA or congratulating the Speaker, and therefore he be requested to stick to the item at hand.**

**Councillor BJ Viviers also raised a point of order as follows:**

“Thank you, Madam Speaker. Firstly, the person sitting next to me is not deaf. Secondly, it was not the proposal in 2016; he was also being proposed for the position of Speaker.”

**Councillor DM Sekakanyo continued:** “In conclusion, I need to congratulate the DA for failing continuously ...”

**Councillor M Kganakga raised a point of order and the Speaker requested that she gives Councillor DM Sekakanyo his chance to finish his speech.**

**Councillor DM Sekakanyo continued:**

“Honourable Speaker, as I am about to sit down, I am congratulating honourable Councillor TD Masoeu for continually failing to win the contest and I want to make my sisters and brothers aware that you are going to be soon as experiment in that particular party of yours. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

**On a point of exigency, Councillor TD Masoeu remarked:**

“Honourable Speaker, I earlier requested you that when discussions take place in this Council, it should be in the interest of Mangaung residents; what Councillor DM Sekakanyo is doing now, I could have done it...”

**Councillor MG Selebeli raised a point of order:**

“Thank you, Madam Speaker. Honourable Councillor TD Masoeu is misleading the Council, there is no point of exigency. Can he sit down and not defend himself?”

**The Speaker thereupon thanked Councillor MG Selebeli for what he had just raised.**

**Councillor TD Masoeu continued:**

“All I am asking Honourable Speaker is, I could have played politics, but it was more to congratulate you rather than doing what Councillor DM Sekakanyo did. I still say congratulations on your election as a Speaker.”

**Councillor T Ranchobe remarked:**

“Madam Speaker, the EFF will like to reserve its congratulation speech because it ...you want us to congratulate the office of the Speaker which we did not have a problem with, what we have a problem with is office of the Executive Mayor, so we want to reserve our comment. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

**Councillor E Snyman van Deventer remarked:**

“Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will be a lot more brief than Councillor DM Sekakanyo.

Madam Speaker congratulations with your election as a Speaker. I hope that you will be impartial and ensure free and fair debate in the Council, and that you will remember to protect the opposition party's Councillors. I hope you will fulfil your responsibilities as set out in the report before us and especially, to enforce the Standing Rules and Orders and maintain order in Council. I also hope the Councillors will respect you in this regard.

But also take note of the responsibilities set out in the report and one of them is to report to Council on the performance of Council Committees, something that we had never received up to now. I also hope you will use your position of leadership to contribute to ensuring leadership to officials for better services in our Metro. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

**Councillor MB Mononyane remarked:**

"Good day Madam Speaker. Allow me on behalf of COPE to congratulate you on your new position to be the Speaker of Mangaung. Hoping that you will be able to steer this ship through the remaining period of the Council to ensure that you maintain law and order and to make sure that debates are based on free and fair principle in the Council.

If you do the right thing Madam Speaker, I can assure you, you will earn our respect as Councillors because your main purpose is to make sure that agenda of Council is adhered to and it is order of the day. The rest will be able to judge your performance as we move on. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

**NOTED.**

**1.  
ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

**The Speaker explained the procedure as follows:**

- That the same procedure of secret ballot will be followed for the election of the Executive Mayor.
- That nomination forms will be provided to those nominating and nominees must accept the nomination.

**She thereon opened the floor for the nomination of the Executive Mayor of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipal Council.**

**Nominations received as follows:**

**Councillor LA Masoetsa nominated Councillor MA Siyonzana and was seconded by Councillor MM Tladi.**

**Councillor TD Masoeu nominated Councillor BJ Viviers and was seconded by Councillor JC Pretorius.**



**After the voting process, the Speaker thereon announced that a total of 88 Councillors were present and a total of 87 Councillors voted (i.e. excluding the Speaker). She announced the results as follows:**

- **Councillor MA Siyonzana = 57**
- **Councillor BJ Viviers = 25**
- **Spoiled ballots = 5**

**The Speaker thereupon declared Councillor MA Siyonzana as the Executive Mayor of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality.**

**On a point of order, Councillor T Ranchobe remarked:**

“Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am rising on a point of order because of interruption caused by the ANC Councillors... (inaudible – background noise)

**The Speaker stated that she took note of that.**

**The newly elected Executive Mayor, Councillor MA Siyonzana was afforded an opportunity to deliver his acceptance speech as follows:**

“Honourable Speaker, Councillor MM Mothibi-Nkoane  
NEC member of SALGA, Mr Bheki Stofile  
Honourable Premier, Ms Sefora Sisi Ntombela in absentia  
MEC GOCTA, Honourable T Nxangisa  
Deputy Executive Mayor, Councillor LA Masoetsa  
Chief Whip of Council, Councillor ZE Mangcotywa  
Mayco members  
Fellow Councillors  
Acting City Manager, Mr Sello More  
Municipal officials  
Business community  
Ward Committee members  
Distinguished Guests  
Members of the Media  
The people of Mangaung

Ladies and Gentlemen

I am indeed truly humbled to be standing here today following my election as the Executive Mayor of Mangaung. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the ruling party, the African National Congress, for entrusting me with the noble task of leading this great City.

The people of Mangaung acknowledge their anomalous position, and demand immediate change. A change that is community-based and community-led; allowing every citizen to have a say in determining the future of our City.

## 6H

I also wish to record my sincere thanks and appreciation to the outgoing Executive Mayor, Councillor SM 'Olly' Mlamleli who led this City for few years and Councillor LA Masoetsa and Councillor MA Morake who have been acting in this position for almost a year now. Under the circumstances, you all did your utmost best to represent us with excellence.

The task at hand is far greater than any individual upon whom the sceptre is bestowed, whether by means of participatory or representative democracy. Local governance is a delicate as it is everybody's business.

We are struck by unique crisis situations. These are the most trying times for our growing democracy. It is as if both William Butler Yeats and Chinua Achebe had the current state of our City in mind when they lamented: '*Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold; Mere anarchy is loosed upon the world*'.

With unity, we can restore this City as a centre that must hold. And our local community shall be the bedrock for this purpose. I cannot do all these alone, I need you.

This time around when we dominate the headlines again, let it be because we would have shifted our position to stability; having escaped from a fiscal cliff and no longer under Section 139 of the Constitution of the Republic South Africa.

Let it be because we would be on the right path towards building a capable and developmental City. This requires unity among all agents of developmental change. It challenges every interest party in community development to roll-up their sleeves; to establish common understanding on where we went wrong; to discuss what materials do we need and where to get them for the reconstruction and development of our City.

Today we have started well as we seized the moment given to us by people of Mangaung, to fill leadership vacuum. Perhaps I am standing here today as the anchor in the leadership relay of the City until the next local government elections. Though time is not in our favour, we are determined to work closely with all members of this Council to restore political stability and good governance.

This is a great opportunity to take the people of Mangaung along and bring them together behind a common purpose. For quite some time now we operated in silos. This created a wide chasm among us, which is now filled by anger, mistrust, anarchy, poor governance and lack of confidence in the leadership of the City. These are generic mayhems that local government faces.

With unity, we can build resilient communities. With unity, we can build a capable City; and with unity, we can achieve our developmental mandate.

In the next ten days, we will appoint the Mayoral Committee to provide sound leadership in restoring our City into the best model of good governance. During the pronouncement, this committee will also outline our plans with regard to overcoming the current financial crisis and poor service delivery challenges.

Whether our life span goes beyond 100 days or not in office, we will present a progress report detailing both strides and challenges during this period.

We will also prioritise the oversight function of the Council involving monitoring and evaluation the performance of the administration and Councillors.

Once again, I thank the ANC, the citizens of Mangaung and the entire Council. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

**Councillor BJ Viviers remarked:** “Thank you, Madam Speaker. Congratulation to you also Madam Speaker on your election, I almost wanted to say my Chair again like in the Rules Committee, congratulations.

Through you, Madam Speaker, Executive Mayor, Councillor MA Siyonzana, firstly congratulations on your election. Motions of congratulations is about positivity. I must honestly say that the speech that you have given today in this Council, it is what this is about. It is about the whole Council. It is about Councillors from all political parties.

You have given a lot of promises; it is a mammoth task that lies before you and a very short period of time, but I have the luxury of serving with you now for longer than a decade and there is indeed lots of positive attributes, your intelligence, your strong will, I will never forget especially when you were sitting on that chair one day and I made a comparison between you and Dingaan and I do believe that you have forgiven me for that.

You have made a lot of promises today Executive Mayor, it is going to be a mammoth task but what I strongly believe in life is that people can change and if you stick to what you said today and promise of today can unite this Municipality. It can make sure that our residents not politicians or political parties, then indeed Councillor MA Siyonzana as you see there, Mangaung can be at the heart of it all. We can be lovely; we can be at the centre of economic growth in this Country, and we can prosper. That is what I pray for you and what I wish for you. In the days to come I truly pray that you will achieve it. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

**Councillor LM Titi-Odili remarked:** “Thank you, Madam Speaker. Councillors, the NEC member of SALGA, IPC member, Mr Oupa Khoabane and the community of Mangaung in all seven 7 towns under this Municipality, Bloemfontein, Botshabelo, Thaba Nchu, Dewetsdorp, Wepener, Van Stadensrus and Soutpan.

Honourable Speaker, the ANC is enthralled with the prospects of Councillor Mxolisi Siyonzana for being the Executive Mayor of this Metro Municipality of Mangaung. Councillor MA Siyonzana went through a rigorous process within the ANC to test his understanding of the policies including of his in depth understanding of local government as important sphere of governance.

Honourable Speaker, and Councillor MA Siyonzana, the ANC is also counting on you and your experience as both the former Deputy Executive Mayor and the former Speaker of this institution to change lives of our people and directed by the national democratic revolution; you know that is our motto as the ANC, that is your bible Councillor MA Siyonzana.

Our communities have been crying and yearning for services such as refuse removal, water and sanitation, equal employment opportunities, business opportunities to name a few, but there are many and we hope that in your 100 days program, you make sure that you fast track those matters.

The ANC is confident that your promptness that earned you the name: *Ngoku*. We all know when you call us, you say *iza ngoku*, the person must come now. We hope that you will apply that word of *ngoku* to make sure that you change this Municipality. Everyone in this Municipality must now run. I know all of us, when you say *ngoku*, we come running. The service delivery of this institution must also come running, we have that confidence as the ANC that under your leadership that will happen.

On behalf of the ANC caucus, Councillor MA Siyonzana, we want to congratulate you and wish you well in your new role as an Executive Mayor. As the ANC we will be with you every step of the way Councillor MA Siyonzana. Make us proud, work for these communities of Mangaung because we know that you are here to do that and that is the objective and mission of the ANC. Do not go outside the objective and mission of the ANC. We believe in you. Amandla!”

**Councillor E Snyman van Deventer remarked:**

“Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Freedom Front Plus want to congratulate the newly elected Executive Mayor, Councillor MA Siyonzana.

Mister Executive Mayor, you referred to change; the Freedom Front Plus hopes that this will be a change for a clean governance and that you will lead this Municipality towards clean governance. The Freedom Front Plus hopes that for the rest of this term will be:

1. Ensure clean governance
2. Fight against corruption especially in the Supply Chain Management tender processes and other contracts
3. Most importantly service delivery

Please give political guidance to the officials and the ANC to ensure service delivery. Our Metro is crippled because of poor service delivery. The Freedom Front Plus cannot emphasize enough that your main focus must be service delivery. Mister Executive Mayor, please work for the community of Mangaung and not the ANC. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

**Councillor MB Mononyane remarked:**

“Thank you, Madam Speaker for allowing me this opportunity to congratulate the Executive Mayor, Councillor MA Siyonzana into his new post.

Councillor MA Siyonzana siyakubongela, ntate re o lakaletsa mahlohonolo. Just take note that only in this term. We had an Executive Mayor and two acting Executive Mayors before you and in Mangaung, all things had fallen apart, all services have collapsed. You look at our roads, water wastage, sewer spillage, polluted environment is an order of the day in Mangaung.

I would like to echo the same words echoed by Councillor LM Titi-Odili that, make us proud as the community of Mangaung. We will not judge you by what you said, but we will judge you by your actions to rid Mangaung from poor services. We are entering the rainy season; our drainage system is not in good standard. I wish you all the best and I hope you will do us proud in the remaining term of this office. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

**Councillor T Ranchobe remarked:** “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. The EFF choses to reserve their comment, to abstain on this item.”

**The Chief Whip remarked:**

“Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Our brand-new Honourable Speaker from the box. Let me take this time to acknowledge the presence of the NEC member of SALGA, the Speaker of Matjhabeng Local Municipality, Councillor B Stofile, the IPC member of the ANC, Comrade Oupa Khoabane and all other dignitaries who have graced this august house.

Let me also pass my revolutionary greeting to my comrades, my colleague, the new Executive Mayor of Mangaung, comrade Mqwathi, Ashford Dikela Siyonzana. You are congratulated my leader.

The Deputy Executive Mayor, Councillor LA Masoetsa, we are happy that you are finally able to join us after a long illness. Honourable MEC, Councillors, community of Mangaung from all corners of Mangaung.

Indeed, Honourable Executive Mayor, you are the chosen one and you made history because you are one of those first to test the policy of the ANC. I am sure in South Africa you are the second mayor to be interviewed and appointed after having interviewed by the leadership of the ANC, nationally, the whole Country. So, it is not just a small thing. The whole Country, after the Executive Mayor of Joburg City, you are the second. You have tested the policy of the ANC. That is why I am saying, you are the chose by the leadership of the ruling party.

Today, is the day of reckoning in Mangaung. The time has come, it has arrived, the time is now for unity and we have demonstrated that even today as the caucus of the ANC after some time; that united we can be strong. Give yourselves a round of applause for that. As the Chairperson of the caucus of the ANC, it is my interest to lead a united caucus of the ANC.

Mangaung is at the heart of it all. Mangaung is our hope and future of our children and generation to come. I am hereby given opportunity by the ANC to congratulate one of the sons of the soil, the finest in this Council, Councillor Mxolisi Ashford Siyonzana, breed and groomed in the ANC structures and in the politics of the ANC. A former Chief Whip, former Deputy Executive Mayor and recently from 2012 until now, the Speaker of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality; very knowledgeable in local government in particular and government in general.

When you were appointed in 2012, you brought stability in this particular Council, sitting up there and chairing Council meetings. One could only marvel at the manner than you stand in steering this particular ship bring stability, being respected by friends and foes; being respected by the ANC and opposition at the same time in this august house.

Councillor MA Siyonzana has brought stability to the Council of Mangaung Metro Municipality as the chair of Council. His chairing skills made sure that the Council is run properly. He also made sure that we have an effective public participation and functioning ward committee system despite challenges that we encountered.

He has immense experience; he has been a Councillor of Mangaung for about 20 years now. As the ANC we put you there because we have confidence in you as the party, that you will indeed deliver for this particular Council and the Municipality; for the fact that you know the challenges facing this Municipality because you have not been imposed but you are part and parcel, an integral part of the Council. So, you know what we are faced with, you know our strength and weakness and I am sure you will do exactly that. Remember that you are part and parcel of a collective. You know collective leadership and decision making is one of the principles of the ruling party therefore, you will have our full support as the ANC.

When I conclude Executive Mayor, I want to render the first stanza of this poem by Maya Angelou, '*still I rise*'. I am sure it is befitting for this occasion.

*'You may write me down in history (many have written you down)*

*With your bitter, twisted lies*

*You may trod me in the very dirt*

*But still, like dust, I'll rise'*

Indeed, you have risen like a phoenix and with those words, I would like to say thank you. Amandla! Power! Matla! Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

**Councillor FR Botes wanted to raise a point of clarity however the Speaker indicated that he was not one of those Councillors listed to pass motion of congratulations.**

## **RESOLVED**

- (a) That Council take note of the report and
- (b) That the Mangaung Metro elected Councillor MA Siyonzana to serve as the Executive Mayor on full-time basis.

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## **CLOSING OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING**

Prior closing the meeting, the Speaker thereafter requested all to bow their heads for a moment of silence for the passing of Councillor JF "Hans" Britz who passed on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of August 2021 and buried on the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2021 (on women's day). May his soul rest in peace.

With regard to the request by Councillor BJ Viviers, the Speaker stated that the motion of sympathy for the late Councillor JF Britz would be done at the ensuing Council meeting.

She then thanked all who attended the Council meeting, the honourable guests, media and everyone under strict covid-19 protocol.

She further stated that she will be working with all Councillors and also expecting all Councillors to be working with her to achieve their goals as Council.

The meeting was closed at 15h45.