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**THE SPEAKER  
COUNCIL ITEM**

**DESIGNATION OF MANGAUNG METRO OFFICE BEARERS AS FULL -TIME  
COUNCILLOR**

**1. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to consider the appointment of the elected office bearers as full-time councillors

**2. BACKGROUND**

Section 18 (4) of Local Government Municipality Structure Act, (Act 117 of 1998) reads as follow:

“(4) A municipal has power o designate councillors determined by MEC for local government as full-time. An MEC’s determination must be in accordance with policy framework as may be determined by Minister after consulting the MEC’s for local government.”

This policy framework for the designation of full-time councillors was gazetted in 2002 when Notice 2073 of 2002 was published and the MEC for local government determined that the councillors who had been elected to the following offices would be designated as full-time:

- Speaker
- Executive Mayor
- Deputy Executive Mayor
- Members of Mayoral Committee
- Council Whip
- Section 79 Chairpersons

This policy framework was amended by way of Government Notice 1064 dated December 14,2011 where Section 79 Committee Chairperson were also designate as full-time councillor.

A councillor who is a full-time councillor my not undertake any other paid work, except with the consent of the Mangaung Metro Municipality Council which consent shall not unreasonably be withheld.

The Council may not designate any Councillor as full-time Councillor, unless it has received and considered a report from the Municipal Manager in terms of the provisions of Rule 70 of the Council’s Standing Rules and Orders. The report of the Municipal Manager must be submitted at he first meeting of the Council after general election of Councillors an reflect on the issues mentioned under Rule 71 of the Council ’s Standing Rules and Orders.

### **3. THE POWER AND FUNCTIONS OF FULL-TIME COUNCILLORS**

#### **A. The Speaker**

It is the role of the Speaker

- to preside over Municipal Council meeting so that its business can be carried out efficiently and effectively;
- to provide information and recommendations to the Municipal Council with respect to the role of Council;
- to carry out the duties of Chairperson of the Municipal Council under the Structure Act, System Act, the Municipality's Rule of Order, common law and tradition;
- to enforce the Code of Conduct; and
- to exercise delegated authority.

#### **B. The Executive Mayor**

The election of an individual executive leader in the person of the Executive Mayor, has several advantages of which the key advantage is that it put a "face" to local Government. The Councillor who accounts for the performance of the Municipality is well known to residents and in this regard, it would be necessary for the Council to delegate sufficient powers and functions to the Executive to enable him or her to take decisions regarding issues that affect the day-to-day life of the community of Mangaung.

#### **C. The Deputy Executive Mayor**

The Executive Deputy Mayor's role is two-fold

- when acting in the stead of the Executive Mayor the role is identical to that of the Executive Mayor;
- when not acting in the stead of the Executive Mayor the role is identified in relation to the extent of powers delegated to the office or as member of the Mayoral committee.

#### **D. The Members of the Mayoral Committee**

The Mayoral Committee has no power on its own; it is an instrument to assist the Executive Mayor, to offer him/her advice and to take decision together with the Executive Mayor with regards to designated powers. Decision are those of the Executive Mayor but individual members of the Mayoral Committee may however be granted delegated powers. The Executive Mayor may delegate specific responsibility to each member of the committee.

#### **E. The Council Whip**

The Council Whip's role spans both the political and administrative domains of the Council, with the emphasis on the political aspect. A range of political parties has representation on Council and the Council Chief Whip has to ensure that relationships are constructive and focused on the key issues at hand. This requires an approach in which the efficient functioning of the City has to be prioritised.

The Council Chief Whip also collaborates on a regular basis with the Council Speaker on issues of conduct, councillor benefits and governance. Furthermore, the Council Chief Whip acts as an interface between the Speaker, the Mayoral Committee and the Executive Mayor. Diplomacy and a thorough understanding of the Council system are therefore integral to successful communication.

## **F. The Chairperson of Section 79 Committees**

This report proposes that the role fulfilled by the Chairperson of Section 79 Committees be recognized through their designation as a full-time councillors.

That the following Chairperson should be designated as full time, namely

- chairperson of MPAC;
- Chairperson of the Rules;
- Chairperson of Street Naming and Geographical Features;
- Chairperson of Motions and Petitions; and
- Chairperson of Remunerations and Benefits

## **4. FINANCIAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES IN SUPPORT OF FULL-TIME COUNCILLORS**

The existing administrative resources and infrastructure which supported the previous full-time Councillors, are still available and may be used without any additional financial burden on Council.

## **5. OFFICE FACILITIES, OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND SECRETARIAL SUPPORT TO FULL-TIME COUNCILLORS**

The exiting office accommodation in the Bram Fischer Building is suitable for utilisation by full-time Councillors and suitable supporting administrative staff is available subject to affordability by the city.

The existing office equipment and furniture are also suitable and no real need for additional equipment should arise on the short term. A sufficient number of offices for full-time Councillors to serve on the Mayoral Committee, are available within the Bram Fischer Building.

Adequate office space has been allocated for use by the Section 79 Committee : MPAC Chairperson at the Leslie Monnayane Building.

Clerical support with regard to the preparation of agendas and minutes of the meetings of the Mayoral Committee will be provided by the Sub-Directorates Committee Services.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

- a) that the Council designate the Speaker, Executive Mayor, Deputy Executive Mayor, Members of the Mayoral Committee, the Chairperson of Section 79 Committees as well as the Council Whip as full-time Councillors;
- b) that in order to maintain continuity and co-ordination, it is hereby proposed that the official working hours of full-time Councillors be the same as those of the administrative employees of the Council and
- c) that full-time Councillors not be allowed to conduct any form of employment other than that of the Council.

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**MR SELLO MORE**  
**ACTING CITY MANAGER**

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