

CONFIDENTIAL

**MINUTES
Of an
ORDINARY MEETING**

**MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER
FIRST FLOOR
BRAM FISCHER BUILDING
BLOEMFONTEIN**

**MONDAY
FEBRUARY 27, 2023
AT 10:00**

**MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPALITY**



**MINUTES OF AN
ORDINARY MEETING
of the
MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
held IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, BRAM FISCHER BUILDING
BLOEMFONTEIN
on
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2023
at 10:00**

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

POLITICAL LEADERSHIP			
#	NAME	PARTY	LEAVE
1	<u>Speaker</u> Cllr Lockman (Stefani Bernadette)	ANC	
2	<u>Executive Mayor</u> Cllr Siyonzana (Mxolisi Ashford)	ANC	Absent without apology
3	<u>Deputy executive Mayor</u> Cllr Mothibi-Nkoane (Maria Mapaseka)	ANC	
SECTION 79 CHAIRPERSONS			
4	Cllr Mokoakoa (Mpho Isaac)	ANC 29	
5	Cllr Nhlapo (Ntombi Anna)	ANC	
6	Cllr Qai (Alfred)	AIC	
7	Cllr Seleke (Puseletso Leticia)	ANC	
MEMBERS OF THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE(SECTION 80 CHAIRPERSONS)			
8	Cllr Titi-Odili (Lulama Magdeline)	ANC	
9	Cllr Morake (Molefi Andries)	ANC	
10	Cllr Matsoetlane (Maditaba Joyce)	ANC	
11	Cllr Mogotloane (Thabo Joel)	ANC 39	
12	Cllr Tladi (Motshewa Martha)	ANC	
13	Cllr Mosala (Motlhokung Theodorah)	ANC 11	
14	Cllr van der Ross (Kevin Etienne)	PA	
15	Cllr Twala (Pani Sidney)	ATM	
16	Cllr Jonas-Malephane (Vuyelwa Eunice)	ANC	

PR COUNCILLORS			
#	NAME	PARTY	LEAVE
17	Cllr Campher (Zaandre MC)	DA	
18	Cllr Davies (Maryke)	DA	
19	Cllr De-Huis (Dikeledi Jane)	EFF	
20	Cllr De Kock (Valerie Belinda)	FFPlus	
21	Cllr Denner (John Henry)	FFPlus	
22	Cllr Dennis (Magdalene Elizabeth)	DA	
23	Cllr Ferreira (Thomas Ignatius)	DA	Absent without apology
24	Cllr Klaasen Raynie Sarah	DA	
25	Cllr Letsoko (Mantwa Sanah)	EFF	
26	Cllr Lipale (Gopolang Jeremiah)	EFF	Absent without apology
27	Cllr Makau (Pitso Elias)	EFF	
28	Cllr Malebo (Deliwe Lettia)	EFF	
29	Cllr Maliela (Motiki Edwin)	DA	
30	Cllr Masoeu (Thapelo David)	DA	
31	Cllr Mogotsi (Mamahlope Elias)	EFF	Absent without apology
32	Cllr Mohlamme (Lebohlang Lerato)	DA	
33	Cllr Mokoena (John Itumeleng)	AASD	
34	Cllr Mongale (Mojalefa William)	AASD	
35	Cllr Monyakoana (Ntwa Patrick)	ANC	
36	Cllr Moreeng (Kabelo Christopher)	DA	
37	Cllr Mtshakazane (Eunice Xoliswa)	EFF	
38	Cllr Njiva-Lebajoa (Mamotse)	DA	
39	Cllr Phupha (Ntsoaki Agnes)	PA	
40	Cllr Phohleli (Tsholwane Eddy)	EFF	Absent without apology
41	Cllr Ramatlama (Mpho Joseph)	EFF	

42	Cllr Rampai (Pule Joseph)	ACDP	Absent with apology
43	Cllr Rasoou (Lempe Ernest)	DA	
44	Cllr Sebolao (Jankie Elisha)	EFF	
45	Cllr Shale (Nkahiseng Reginah)	EFF	
46	Cllr Snyman van Deventer (Elizabeth)	FFPlus	
47	Cllr Terblanche (Arthur Phillip)	DA	
48	Cllr Thomas (Johannes Beleme)	EFF	
49	Cllr Thompson (Mare-Lize)	FFPlus	Absent with apology
50	Cllr Thwala (Zwelinjane Jonathan)	DA	
51	Cllr van Rensburg (Corize)	DA	
52	Cllr Viviers (Benhardus Jacobus)	DA	
53	Cllr Vorster (Braam)	FFPlus	
WARD COUNCILLORS			
54	Cllr Sefaki (Samuel)	ANC 1	
55	Cllr Mokgothu (Tona Kenosi Wilfred)	ANC 2	
56	Cllr Machachamise (Tshepiso Oudious)	ANC 3	
57	Cllr Supi (Mahoko Harold)	ANC 4	
58	Cllr Lecoko (Lehlohonolo Nathaniel)	ANC 5	
59	Cllr Moilola (Tshidiso Petrus)	ANC 6	
60	Cllr Rampai (Chabeli Frank)	ANC 7	
61	Cllr Nyaphudi (Likeleli Julia)	ANC 8	
62	Cllr Tlhakung (Betty Masetlhabi)	ANC 9	
63	Cllr Setlai (Teboho Lesley)	ANC 10	
64	Cllr Hashatsi (Rafedile)	ANC 12	

65	Cllr Siteo (Nombulelo Dorcas)	ANC 13	
66	Cllr Lekgetho (Lebogang Winston)	ANC 14	
67	Cllr Mohibidu (Pulane Martha)	ANC 15	
68	Cllr Kruger (Caprice Logan)	ANC 16	
69	Cllr Mohatle (Mampone Sally)	ANC 17	
70	Cllr McKay (David Mark Campbell)	DA 18	Absent with apology
71	Cllr Peter (Seth Qondile)	ANC 19	
72	Cllr Pretorius (Werner)	DA 20	
73	Cllr Lotriet (Pieter Adam)	DA 21	
74	Cllr Leech (Dulandi)	DA 22	Only from 11h10
75	Cllr van der Walt (Tjaart Botha)	DA 23	
76	Cllr Kotze (Gerhardus Dirk Petrus)	DA 24	
77	Cllr Botes (Francois Rossouw)	DA 25	Absent with apology
78	Cllr van Niekerk (Hendrik Johannes Christiaan)	DA 26	Absent with apology
79	Cllr Banyane (Zachous Nechodemus)	ANC 27	
80	Cllr Nikelo (Vumile Edwin)	ANC 28	
81	Cllr Tukula (Teboho Daniel)	ANC 30	
82	Cllr Mabena (Mere Joel)	ANC 31	
83	Cllr Menyatso (Thabang Victory)	ANC 32	
84	Cllr Mohono (Tshidiso Augustine)	ANC 33	
85	Cllr Tshwane (Kabi Daniel)	ANC 34	
86	Cllr Fantisi (Teboho Samuel)	ANC 35	
87	Cllr Makoloane (Itumeleng Justice)	ANC 36	
88	Cllr Ramolele (Mmota Simon)	ANC 37	

89	Cllr Matsoso (Molahloane Florenciah)	ANC 38	
90	Cllr Pholoholo (Ntebaleng Petunia)	ANC 40	
91	Cllr Dintlhwane (Mantja Agnes)	ANC 41	
92	Cllr Mothupi (Maqoma Lazarus)	ANC 42	
93	Cllr Nkiane (Mpho Elizabeth)	ANC 43	
94	Cllr Pretorius (Selmé)	DA 44	
95	Cllr Mathe (Lisiwe Jeanette)	ANC 45	
96	Cllr Majoro (Mpho Samuel)	ANC 46	
97	Cllr Kganakga (Mokgadi)	DA 47	
98	Cllr Pretorius (Johannes Christiaan)	DA 48	
99	Cllr Moqolo (Lehlohonolo Joseph)	ANC 49	
100	Cllr Lelala (Makoa Cristophel)	ANC 50	
101	Cllr Mohulatsi (Mamoorosi Margaret)	ANC 51	

PRESENT

NATIONAL INTERVENTION TEAM

1. NCR
2. Service Delivery Specialist

Ms G Malaza
Mr E Ngomane

OFFICIALS

1. Acting City Manager
2. Acting Chief Financial Officer
3. Acting HoD: Human Settlement
4. Acting HoD: Corporate Services
5. Acting HoD: Waste Management
6. General Manager: Committee Services
7. Secretariat officer
8. Secretariat Officer

Mr T Motlashuping
Mr L Denge
Ms NR Mosehana-Dumisile
Adv N Mpangane
Mr F Nel
Mr Motete Mothekhe
Ms R Mamatela
Ms M Morakabi

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) (Leave 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 (Leave 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)**

**11.
OPENING
(MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION FOR MEDITATION AND PRAYERS)**

The meeting commenced at 10h05 allowed all to arrive and be seated.

The Speaker welcomed the National Cabinet Representatives, the Executive Management Team and all officials, Councillors and guest and Facebook viewers.

NOTED.

**12.
NOTICE OF THE MEETING**

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

Cllr JC Pretorius stated that not all Councillors received their documents.

**13.
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 pages of the minutes.

NOTED.

**14.
ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA**

On a point of clarity, Cllr GDP Kotze asked whether Rule 29 of the Standing Rules and Orders was scrapped as the DA had submitted a motions were submitted to the Office of the Speaker however no mention of the following motions tabled in the Council, namely:

1. Motion of no confidence against the Executive Mayor
2. Ombudsman
3. Establishment of Steering Committee for Mangaung Municipality's water crisis
4. Performance Management
5. Framework to be a member of the Centlec Board

That as the DA, as these motions were urgent matters, and thus demands that the Speaker call for a Special Council meeting to deal with these matters and that this matter would also be referred to their member of Legislation Ms Leona Kleynhans to bring the matter to the attention of the Premier.

The Speaker responded and read Rule 29.12 that the Speaker may disallow a motion on points as mentioned in the Standing Rules and Orders. Therefore on the Centlec Board, Companies Act prescribed a framework for appointment of Board members, the Ombudsman served twice in Council has already been dealt with and some are even operational like the performance management dealt with by the Deputy Executive Mayor. That she had prepared comprehensive answer on how these motions should be dealt with. That the main challenge in the Municipality is implementation.

Cllr BJ Viviers stated that the Speaker should have put what she said in writing. He then asked who would then deliver the reports if the Municipality does not have the Executive Mayor.

Furthermore that as the Standing Rules and Orders were amended for Council to receive notice and documentation of the meetings within 48 hours now, hence it was possible to receive notice on Friday afternoon for a meeting scheduled for Monday. That in all Section 79 and 80 Committees, it was communicated that this meeting will be scheduled for 28 February 2023, and therefore why was the meeting scheduled for 27 February 2023?

Cllr E Snyman van Deventer stated that where in the Standing Rules and Orders does the Speaker have a discretion to decide on motion brought by Councillors because when the motion is submitted 10 days before Council meeting, it must then serve in the Council meeting.

The Speaker responded:

- That she has not received a letter of resignation from the Executive Mayor.
- That indeed the rule on the 48hour notice did not make practical sense and Council was also under pressure to approve the adjustment budget and already on Thursday the adjustment budget was not yet ready for printing and Council had to approve it by end of February. Therefore the issue on the period for notices will be dealt with during the Policy review.
- That with regards to reports that were not signed, Council had resolved to not accept such reports and thus leave that area to Council to decide what to do when dealing with such items.
- That the Deputy Executive Mayor will present the reports in the absence of the Executive Mayor.
- That Rule 29.12 in the Standing Rules and Orders referred to the Speaker's discretion.

In responding to Cllr BJ Viviers on whether the Speaker received application for leave from the Executive Mayor as well as Cllr MW Mongale on the item of election of Council Whip respectively, she indicated that the Executive Mayor indicated that he might be late and the item will be dealt at the next Special Council meeting

Cllr VE Nikelo moved for adoption of the agenda and was seconded by Cllr MH Supi.

NOTED.

15.

ANNOUNCEMENTS**The Speaker announced:**

- That interpretation services were available
- That she circulated correspondence from the Minister received the previous day late at night.
- That the IDP processes had started the previous week on Wednesday and it would be at JB Mafora for the present day at 5pm.
- That on Tuesday, 28 February 2023, there will be State of the Province Address (SOPA) at Vista Hall at UFS tabled by the new Premier Honourable Mxolisi Dukwana.

NOTED.

16.

MOTION OF SYMPATHY AND CONGRATULATIONS

Councillors were then afforded an opportunity to convey their messages of sympathy and congratulations as follows:

Cllr M Kganakga: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. We as the Democratic Alliance would like to congratulate MEC Mxolisi Dukwana in his new role as the Free State Premier. A couple of weeks ago, there was a video that was trending about his predecessor, mme o ko video are “Mme Mantobela re mmona fela he bare ngwana o wetse ka letamong or pitbull e lomile motho, re kopa fela motho wa ho ba le mafolofolo. Ke batla hore ho moetapele Ntate Dukwana, I hope ba o rometse video eo hore o be le mafolofolo kahobane ke wena Premier ya di laas ya ANC mo Free State.

Also what we missed in that video is that, us as the community we missed the previous Premier`s presence. As highlighted in one of Premier Dukwana`s addresses so many people and especially in this administration they were sitting at home, praying for jobs, promising God all sorts of thing`s and when they get those jobs, they just don`t care. Ba dutse ko di-office with closed doors. How do you close your office door in a service based institution? Di corridor tsa Maspala ho nkgadijo fela from 9am until 4pm, lunch e start from 9am to 4pm...”

The Speaker interjected to ask Cllr M Kganakga to stick to the item and congratulate Honourable Dukwana and not speak about his predecessor. Cllr M Kganakga continued and indicated that what Honourable Dukwana said was relevant to all spheres of government as the problems experienced at Legislature are the same as Local and National level.

She continued: “I want to congratulate him to say, we as the people that were voted for and not doing what we are supposed to be doing. Just as easy as we are voted in, we can be voted out. The people at administration were sitting at home looking for jobs, they are now in their offices, bakwetse mabati, they are not delivering any services and that is the problem that we have.

I want to clarify and stamp on what Honourable Dukwana said and I agree with him, we are brought here by the people, what is it that we are doing? If you have a service based institution, why is your door closed, I don`t get it? Ba rapetse hore Modimo mfe mosebetsi...”

The Speaker interjected that Cllr M Kganakga's motion of congratulation was noted.

In closing Cllr M Kganakga wished Cllr MA Siyonzana the best in all his future endeavours, as he was always nice to her.

Cllr LL Mohlamme: "Madam Speaker, allow me to honour this great giant who has departed to be with the Lord, Mr Moeketsi Molelekoa. Madam Speaker our hearts are still bleeding and this is the wound that will never heal because, we have lost one of our talented individual, the son and pride of Botshabelo when it comes to professional soccer match, officiating as the lines man. He was the son of the dusty street of Botshabelo. Madam Speaker, through his persistence, vision and never die spirit, he managed to achieve what majority of us could only dream of.

We are hurt because he was like the rose that grew from the concrete, the odds were against him, surrounded by poverty in all direction of his township of Botshabelo, only having a dream and zeal to pursue his dream until his departure. Madam Speaker, he was the inspiration and proved that we cannot be chained by our circumstances, but we should chase our dreams no matter what.

Mr Molelekoa began his career at a dusty ground of Botshabelo in 2008. He sharpened his skills at the annual Ba2cada Soccer Tournament in his hometown of Botshabelo. He was a linesman in Premier Soccer League when he met his death.

Through his dedication and professionalism the later Mr Molelekoa made his refereeing debut in the Premier Soccer League in 2016. It is this breakthrough that proved that the sky is the limit, no matter how poor you might be, dreams do come true, hence we are deeply hurt because his life was an inspiration to many who were born in the same circumstance as he was. He officiated in big match such as Soweto derby, Orlando Pirates and Kaizer Chiefs in 2022.

The year was 2021, when the late Mr Molelekoa made his international appearance, at African Cup of Nations qualifier between Zambia and Algeria. In 2022 he officiated COSAFA cup in Durban.

On behalf of Democratic Alliance, we would like to convey our deepest condolence to his family and to thank them for sharing his life with us especially the residents of Botshabelo. May the good Lord comfort you and give you strength.

To the late Mr Moeketsi Molelekoa, we salute you Sir, even though you are no longer with us but we thank you. Thank you for proving the universe wrong that if you are poor you amount to nothing, you had a dream, lived it departed from this world chasing it. Thank you for being an inspiration to the people of Botshabelo and you never denied them when you become famous but proudly lived amongst them, with them. May you soul rest in peace, we honour you, rest in peace the jewel of Botshabelo Mr Moeketsi Molelekoa.

The Democratic Alliance will also like to congratulate the matric class of 2022, who overcame covid and loadshedding and still performed. The Free State Matric is once again number 1 in South Africa. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Cllr E Snyman van Deventer: “Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Freedom Front Plus wishes to congratulate the South African Women’s Cricket Team, the first team ever to make the world cup final, they did not win but they played the great game. Secondly, the Bloemfontein born and bred, Jovan van Vuuren who won the bronze medal last year at the Commonwealth and he is now the Sportsman of the year, for both the University of Pretoria and Gauteng. The Free State is showing the people of Gauteng how it is done. Thank you, Madam speaker.”

Cllr SQ Peter: “Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor in absentia, Deputy Executive Mayor, fellow Councillors, NCR Team and the community of Mangaung. Molweni.

As the ANC we would like to send our deepest condolences and sympathy to the people of Turkey and Syria for the tragedy cost by an earthquake at the beginning of February 2023 which claimed over 50 thousand lives and 110 sustained injuries. Among those who lost their lives, is a prominent Ghanaian football star Christian Atsu whose body was found laying inside the rubble. The aftermath is so tremendous as people who lost their homes and loved ones are still trying to pickup the pieces.

Not forgetting the tragedy we saw in our Country, the recent loss of famous rapper Kenan Forbes, the staunch support of the ANC, due to gun violence. We call upon law enforcement agencies to bring to book, the perpetrators and ensure that justice is served.

Lastly we want to congratulate the smooth transition of electing the new Free State Premier, Mr Mxolisi Dukwana and of course comment the discipline and the good conduct of ANC MPLs during this process. Indeed the ANC leads. I thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr CL Kruger: “Madam Speaker, allow me to congratulate Tatum Williams, a young lady from Heidedal, an aspiring Radio DJ who participated in the OFM audition competition. She was one of 400 participants over four provinces and today she is one of the top 5. We wish her well and asseblief Tatum, bring vir Heidedal die beker terug.

The ANC will also like to wish and congratulate the South African Women’s T20 team for reaching the finals in the ICC Women’s T20 World Cup for the first time. yes, they might have lost in the final of this prestigious event, yesterday but this team kept the national flag and our beloved Country until the last moment and we salute them.

Fellow Councillors, my next point relates to the extreme violence, blood shed and murders that have become our daily bread and of course it is against our will. This reminds me of the wise saying by Allan Paton in the novel Cry our beloved Country: *“Cry our beloved country for the unborn child that is our inheritor of our fear. Let him not love the earth too deeply, let him not love too gladly when the water runs through his fingers, no stand too silently when the setting sun makes red, the veld with fire. Let him not be too moved when the birds of the land are singing, nor give too much of his heart to a mountain of a valley for fear will rob him if he gains too much.”*

How we love too much this beloved Country of ours if women and children are slaughtered on a daily basis and how can we be silent today. Last week in Mpumalanga the police officers found the bodies of a 47 year old single mother, 11 year old twins and 6 year old daughter at home in Phola Park and this is because of the wicket hand of a man who belong nowhere else but in jail.

We also heard that in Mangaung, Thandi Mitchel, a single mother who collected her twins from the nanny who stays in Phase 2, also accompanied by her mother, was carrying her twins, the perpetrator shot and killed her in brought daylight and she also leaves behind four boys. May their souls rest in peace. I thank you, Madam Speaker.”

NOTED.

17.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. **Special Meeting: Friday, June 3, 2022 (initially scheduled for May 31, 2022)**
Cllr R Hashatsi move for the approval of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr MS Mohatle.
2. **Special Meeting: Wednesday, June 15, 2022**
Cllr LW Lekgetho move for the approval of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr TD Tukula
3. **Special Meeting: Wednesday, June 22, 2022**
Cllr ZN Banyane move for the approval of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr NP Pholoholo
4. **Ordinary Meeting: Thursday, June 30, 2022**
Cllr MJ Mabena move for the approval of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr MH Supi
5. **Special Meeting: Friday, July 22, 2022**
Cllr MJ Mabena move for the approval of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr MH Supi
6. **Ordinary Meeting: Friday, July 29, 2022 (Virtual)**
Cllr IJ Makoloane move for the approval of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr TA Mohono
7. **Special Meeting: Friday, August 19, 2022**
Cllr LN Lecoko move for the approval of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr MS Majoro
8. **Ordinary Meeting: Wednesday, August 31, 2022**
Cllr VE Nikelo move for the approval of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr E Snyman van Deventer.
9. **Special Meeting: Monday, October 31, 2022**
Cllr ND Siteo move for the approval of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr LJ Moqolo

Cllr GDP Kotze asked whether the Acting City Manager went through the minutes and was aware of the decisions taken and on a point of order Cllr E Snyman van Deventer requested that Cllr Kotze to withdraw and Cllr GDP Kotze stated he withdraw the words but not the truth.

Cllr E Snyman van Deventer indicated that it was unacceptable for minutes to take long before confirmation and adoption.

RESOLVED that the set of minutes as set out above, copies of which had been furnished electronically to members, be taken as read and confirmed.

Cllr ZMC Campher raised concern that the Executive Mayor was still not in attendance and there were processes to follow when a Councillor was going to be late for the meeting and that the same Rule should also be applied to him. The same concern was raised by Cllr JB Thomas and the Speaker responded that not all Councillors were following the rules as per the code of conduct on application for leave hence she is not making a “big issues” nor being strict on it as the Application of Leave Policy is still with the Rules Committee. Furthermore, this matter should have been addressed under item 13.

Cllr JE Sebolao reminded the Speaker that she said she would make available the records of what transpired in the previous meeting. The Speaker confirmed that it will be added in the next Council agenda.

The Deputy Executive Mayor, was then afforded an opportunity to present the items to Council as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, the Executive Mayor in absentia, Honourable Councillors, the intervention team under Honourable Minister, Mr Godongwana, the administration team from various National Departments, Acting City Manager and your team under Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma and most importantly, the communities and those streaming from Facebook and other social media platforms.

Madam Speaker, let me take this opportunity to present this item on behalf of the Executive Mayor before us and before I do that, let me for a brief moment remind each other that exactly 142 years ago about the Battle of Majuba 27 February 1882, this can be classified is the real battle of the resistance from the colonial masters who came to take on our land. That battle took place near Volksrust, in what we call today, Mpumalanga.

I am reflecting upon this because our struggle continue even after 1994 breakthrough because we realized that our greatest enemy is poverty and inequality; that is why every item presented within this August house must talk directly to how we improve the lives of many of our people especial who make sure they vote and those who wanted to vote but did not have the opportunity. No item must pass here, if it does not meet the processes currently undertaken under review IDP, which in terms of the legislation it must meet the public participation process and we are thankful for the officials who are assisting with that. Madam Speaker, thank you for that process together with your staff, including our administration. I thank you, Acting City Manager and your entire team as well. Job well done. Our battle this generation must push harder like our forefathers in Majuba. I therefore present these items with that background in mind let us all take hands and push South Africa, Mangaung, the City of Cheetahs, the City of Pitsi e tshweu (Die wit perd).”

Honourable Speaker, as a woman standing here, I will be failing if I don’t thank the former Premier, Mme Sisi Ntombela for leading the Free state with humility that she has presented to the Free State and let me also congratulate the newly elected Premier, Mr Mxolisi Dukwana and we wish him well as this Council.

I am presenting these items in the back rock of the budget presentation done by the Minister Godongwana, let us go back and reclaim the City of Roses. I thank you, the Honourable Speaker.”

The Deputy Executive Mayor thereafter tabulated the items as outlined on the agenda index, page 4.

Cllr JI Mokoena raised a concern that the first three items were not signed by the NCR as per the gazetted TORs for the Intervention Team.

The Speaker then explained that none of the items were signed and no reasons on why they were not ratified. There should be a note why the ratification was not done. Unfair why it is not signed. Furthermore that the EMT, Section 80 Committees sits and by the time items comes to Council, all reports should have been checked by all relevant persons/Committees.

Hereon Councillors then debated whether to continue with items not signed by the NCR taking into account the notes she had written on those reports for not ratifying.

The Speaker then allowed 30 minutes break for copies of those reports to be with NCR's notes to be circulated to Councillors.

NOTED.

1.

REPORT ON SELECTION PANEL: THE RECRUITMENT, SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER (CITY MANAGER) FOR MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY (MMM) IN TERMS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT: MUNICIPAL SYSTEMS AMENDMENT ACT, ACT 3 OF 2022 READ TOGETHER WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT: REGULATIONS ON APPOINTMENT AND EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS OF SENIOR MANAGERS

After the reports were circulated to Councillors, the Speaker then allowed Councillors to speak on these items not signed by NCR.

Cllr MT Mosala stated that at the Council meeting held on the 13th of February 2023, Councillor BJ Viviers called the ANC Councillors "*homo sapiens*" of which Cllr BJ Viviers on a point of order explained that when he said when God created homo sapiens meaning "human being" and that she should not give the communities wrong impression.

As Cllr MT Mosala continued she indicated the statement made by Cllr BJ Viviers insinuated that the ANC Councillors behaved like homo sapiens of which Cllr BJ Viviers called for a point of order. The Speaker then order both Councillors to stop referring to the matter.

Cllr MT Mosala continued: I want to remind all of us that once again in this August house on the 31st of August 2022 I was removed from being a panel member and replaced. Today, we are receiving a report that says to us that what Council has done was illegal by appointing two (2) Councillors to become panel members.

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Madam Speaker, this situation of my removal even went to the extent that it was alleged that I must be charged for breach of code of conduct of Councillors. Madam Speaker even today, I'm still awaiting to be charged and if you remember Council doesn't have power to charge me but the MEC of CoGTA. I am also surprised that Mr Motlashuping even allowed himself to be part of the illegal selection panel that was appointed by this Council, whilst we are told that he is the drafter of the Acts and Regulations..."

Cllr E Snyman van Deventer interjected on a point of order that the MMC Corporate Services, Cllr MT Mosala was misleading the Council because at that time it was in terms of the Regulation that was not changed yet, therefore that appointment was not illegal.

Cllr MJ Ramatlama asked the Speaker why was the report not ratified by the NCR, and therefore why was Council debating an incomplete report?

The Speaker then responded that the Deputy Executive Mayor presented the report to Council as is despite Councillors receiving the reports with NCR notes and she is the one to either withdraw or allow discussions. As the Speaker allowed Cllr MT Mosala to continue, Cllr E Snyman van Deventer raised a concern on whether Council was continue with discussion on the item or whether to allow those items not ratified to serve in Council? The Speaker then requested that Cllr MT Mosala be allowed to finish her address.

Cllr MT Mosala continued: "Mr Motlashuping even allowed himself to be part of the illegal selection panel that was appointed by this Council, whilst we are told that he is the drafter of the Acts and Regulations. At what point did he, Mr Motlashuping realised that he was not supposed to be a panel member? Mr Motlashuping is our seconded employee hence as a municipal employee is not allowed to be part of the panel.

Now that the time of appointment has long past and the Municipal Systems Acts tell us that any appointments made, that is not inline with the Act and Regulations, it is null and void, meaning that we don't want to be in the wrong side of the law and even the community will be surprised that, how did it happen when we have many of people even sitting here, who should have given this Council free airtime by providing advice including Mr Motlashuping. I still believe that Mr Motlashuping should have objected when his name was nominated.

Madam Speaker, what we are trying to say is that, we support the presentation of the Deputy Executive Mayor as is that we readvertise the position of the City Manager on the basis that the time has long lapsed ..."

At this point, Councillors raised point of orders by interjecting Cllr MT Mosala and raised concerns that, how can Council continue with items which are not ratified by the NCR taking into account the notes she drafted on the reports.

The Speaker then summarised that the Deputy executive Mayor tabled the item as is and supported by Cllr MT Mosala and proposal that Council should not discuss the item as they are not ratified by NCR by Cllr JI Mokoena and seconded by Cllr M Davies, therefore the matter should be put to a vote.

Cllr MW Mongale on a point of order indicated that Council cannot vote on a matter of principle when the reports were not ratified as there are clear directives from the Ministers relating to Section 139.7 on the role of the National Cabinet Representative (NCR), that all the decision relating to the Financial Recovery Plan must be ratified by the NCR and that it should not have served before Council.

Cllr E Snyman van Deventer thereon raised a concern that, it meant that the Municipality would again not have the City Manager and HoDs should item 18.3 not be dealt with and therefore there must be a solution to deal with that.

Cllr M Davies then referred to the letter received from the Minister that the Acting period of the City Manager be extended for three months as well as that of the HoDs, which technically meant that item 18.3 was ratified.

Cllr JE Sebolao encouraged that Council must exercise its powers by allowing the Acting City Manager and HoDs to run the administration until Friday, i.e. the next scheduled Council meeting.

Cllr M Kganakga requested a caucus and further stated that as the Municipality was a legal entity, it would not be right to just approve reports for the sake of approving and if the correct legal document were not submitted, Council would be risking litigation.

The Speaker then approved the request from Cllr VE Nikelo for a 5 minutes ANC caucus.

The Deputy Executive Mayor gave feedback as follows from the ANC caucus: that they agreed to withdraw items 18.1 to 18.2 and on item 18.3 to extend the acting of the seconded interim management team until the next Council meeting.

The item was thereupon

WITHDRAWN.

2.

READVERTISEMENT OF VACANT POSITIONS OF HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AT MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY IN ACCORDANCE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT MUNICIPAL SYSTEMS ACT AS AMENDED AND REGULATIONS

As discussed above under item 18.1.

The item was thereupon

WITHDRAWN.

3.

EXTENSION OF SECONDED INTERIM MANAGEMENT TEAM AT MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

The Deputy Executive Mayor proposed that Council to extend the acting of the seconded interim management team until the next Council meeting and she was seconded by Cllr VE Nikelo.

The Acting City Manager and NCR were requested to advise the Council on the letter by the Minister as well as the proposal as per the Deputy Executive Mayor. The Acting City Manager explained that the legal status of the Municipality still stands as in the Municipal Structures Act meaning that Council was not dissolved but under intervention with whole powers to make decisions. Therefore the decision to be taken by Council would be within the law as the Council has the legislative authority to make decision within the ambit of the law and the NCR concurred.

The Council the voted as follows on proposal of Deputy Executive Mayor: 60 voted in favour, 0 against and 27 abstained.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that the Municipal Council approve the extension period of the Acting City Manager and Heads of Department *until the date of the next Council meeting.*

4.

MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY : ADJUSTMENT BUDGET FOR FEBRUARY 2022/2023

Cllr LM Titi-Odili remarked:

- That the adjustment budget was informed by the mid-year assessment reports on how the Municipality performed on spending in terms of Departments.
- That the operational revenue was decreased by R8.81 billion approved by R163.37 million to the revised amount of R8.65 billion for 2022/23 financial year.
- That the nett decrease was due to the downwards adjustment of electricity revenue and increase in transfers and subsidies received.
- That additional income in terms of grants were received by way of discretionary grants from National Treasury. The one received after the Municipality applied for roll overs because it was not spent, but they only approved R125 million and left with R377 million and on adjusted budget managed to pay R249 million on it. Therefore left with R128 million and suppose to pay R42 million per trench that the Municipality would receive from the USDG.
- That on the capital budget, Council approved R1.28 billion to the revised amount of R1.31 billion 2022/23 financial year, an upwards adjustment of R28.80 million.
- That the R125 million grant from national is also conditional and state that the Municipality must purchase fleet, refurbish wastewater treatment works and resealing, repairing of roads.
- That on own funding, the Municipality budgeted R303 million and now decreased to R203 million and amount of R99.82 million saved.

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- That in terms of employee costs from R2.1 billion decreased by R150 million. That the Municipality was at 91% vacancy rate as indicated by the Auditor-General (AG) and therefore the Municipality must take a robust decision to appoint capable people who would take the Municipality forward and therefore supported the adjustment budget as submitted.

Cllr M Kganakga addressed the Council: “Honourable Councillors and Honourable Speaker. The biggest farce ever told in this Council is that her excellency Minister Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma left Mangaung with a team of experts. This adjustment budget is not much different from the many versions we have been receiving from non-experts that we have had in this Municipality, so I really don't get it? I simply don't get it.

During the budget process in 2022, the Executive Mayor, to acknowledge all our differences told Council that he would table an adjustment budget by August 2022. The biggest difference we had with that budget was the unrealistic collection rate that forms part of the projected income. Last week when the Executive Mayor was purging, he eluded that the tabled budgets do not belong to Mangaung but to the NCR, the team of experts and Treasury. Thus the budgets are not those of Mangaung.

I guess today is August because the adjustment budget is being tabled. As an explanation before any individuals, household and or business can determine their expenses they first look at the amount of money they have or their income. The amount of money they have will determine what can and cannot be afforded. That is why a realistic collection rate is so important, because it determines if we can afford some of the line items or votes. The only income adjustment that is being made was by Centlec, meaning either the people that drafted this is living in clouds, they are taking us for a one or people don't know what they are doing.

Just based on the unrealistic income according to me, this whole budget is a waste, because the money we say we will be getting in is not coming. The delusion still continues and thank you to Oom Rossouw for pointing it out, with water losses of between 45% - 48% this Metro has increased water sales from R1,1 billion to R1,9 billion, the math is not mathing. If you are losing almost 50% of your water, how do you have an increase in revenue?

This Municipality with no HoD's and a City Manager and with the ghost workers apparently not being on our shores anymore, only has a saving of a R150 million. The math again is not mathing. The capital expenditures is to increase with R28,8 million to R1,31 billion, nna, myself, I have not even seen any capital projects in this Municipality, we understood the capital projects in form of ANC congresses but that is over now. What capital projects are we talking about?

What is insane is that with all the water leaks, pipe leaks and water losses this ridiculous document presents a saving in all water projects of R23 million. This saving should be used to mitigate water losses. Why would you want to present that saving with almost 50% water losses does not make sense.

During Ward 19, 21 and 47, IDP feedback meetings the acting HoDs said that the Metro has no contracted services yet this document has an upwards adjustment of R61,7 million in contracted services. This is a significant increase for only four (4) months for people that are not there or do not exist.

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This past week every single one of us, went back to our respective communities with the IDP feedback meetings and the biggest message we send to them is that there is no real money and yet we come and present a document with contradictory evidence. The DA cannot support this, and documents like this are misleading and it's not right especially if they presented by so-called experts.

Lastly, the salary increases for Councillors, if we only got R300 on cellphones increase, what is the million of rands for. You are putting Councillors in such a difficult situation as everybody is saying that Councillors are getting so much money and now the adjustment budget and we only got R300 cellphone increases. Now, we have to go and explain to the communities that we are not getting that money and you are saying we are getting it and that is not right. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Cllr D Leech addressed the Council: “Thank you, Madam Speaker. Just a correction, MMC Finance, it is not between R600 and R700 thousand, it is between R600 and R700 million, it is a bit of a difference and that is in water losses.

Madam Speaker, the DA takes note of the adjustment budget as tabled with a decrease of R163.37 million in operating income, as well as a decrease in operating expenditure of R76 million. There is a bit of a difference there, the income that has been decreased is a lot higher than the expenditure decrease. We welcome the increase of R28.8 million in capital expenditure budget and sincerely hope that Mangaung Municipality can manage to spin the grants received from national. It is alarming that Mangaung Municipality had to pay back R500 million due to grants not spent of this R500 million, we received R125.9 million as a roll over grant. According to the acting CFO we had to pay back R377 million off which to date only R249 million was paid.

Mangaung could not pay back the rest, as the money was used to pay Bloemwater and salaries. They may say to us to make payment arrangement to pay back the outstanding money over three trenches, taking this into account, the DA would like to know where Mangaung Municipality will obtain the revenue, in order to pay the further outstanding debt amount at Bloemwater as well as next month's salaries? Furthermore, there is no indication within the adjustment budget of a payment agreement in writing, from either national or provincial government who owes Mangaung Municipality a staggering R1.4 billion, and yet their lights are still burning.

A payment agreement will at least assist us to budget accordingly, especially keeping in mind that debt impairment has increased with R34.96 million also due to aligning the actual collection rate to the budget, not to be nasty, but we told you so. We said that even though the budget looked to be funded on paper, it wasn't and it most certainly wasn't sustainable. We commend you for altering it now, but would still like to indicate that your expectation of 78% collection rate is ambitious, as it was a mere 52% in September 2022.

With regards to the additional R125.9 million, it is indicated that the money is earmarked for specific projects and may only be used for the resealing of roads, the refurbishment of wastewater treatment works and the acquiring of new fleet and even though this is truly welcomed, the DA is weary of the fact that no additional compaction vehicles will be obtained. The money will only be used for wastewater treatment works and not for dilapidated infrastructure such as sewer pipelines that have disintegrated.

Mangaung Municipality currently has 42 compaction vehicles of which only nine are operational. The DA also welcomes the increase of contracted services by R61.77 million, in order to address key service delivery issues such as refuse removal, repairs and maintenance on sewer and water infrastructure as well as fleet repairs and indigent registrations, but now we want to add to what my colleague has said, unfortunately the mid-year report for this financial year already indicated that Mangaung Municipality underspent on contracted services by R150 million. We are yet to see whether this will remain a 'we have a dream budget' versus a 'we have a strategic implementation plan budget'. Hopefully this money will not also be used to pay salaries.

Employee cost have however been decreased by R150 million due to the reduction in political staff but also due to the fact that we still have not appointed the municipal manager, CFO and relevant HoDs. There are also numerous unfilled vacancies of people on the ground, specifically responsible for service delivery. This phenomena creates a culture of not only uncertainty but also a lack of responsibility and account.

Overtime on the other hand, has been increased from R107 million to R140 million. The Mangaung Municipality overspent on overtime with R50 million and this was only during the first six months of the financial year.

With regards to Centlec, bulk purchases has decreased with R44.76 million, this is a clear effect of loadshedding and consumers buying less electricity, considering the other side of the coin, it means that there is now less money to tend to deteriorating electrical infrastructure. Loadshedding has put a huge burden on our infrastructure with the continuous switching of breakers. The irony is that the very thing causing the infrastructure to deteriorate, is also the cause of a reduction in income...

Madam Speaker, even though you are clearly moving into a better direction, the DA must consider the most recent AG report which clearly brought the financial statements of the Mangaung Municipality into question. The history of simply reallocating funds are not providing sufficient documentation to support it also plays a significant role, unfortunately we are not yet prepared to put our names next to this budget. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Cllr B Vorster address the Council: "Honourable Speaker and all protocols observed. It is with great concern for the Freedom Front Plus that the adjustment budget is mainly needed due to the decrease of operating revenue and not due to additional revenue that have become available over and above those anticipated in the annual budget. The Executive Mayor during the deliberations for the approval of the annual budget and thereafter indicated that this budget is his budget and that the judgment budget would have been presented to this Council by August of last year after the matter will receive additional funds. Honourable Executive Mayor, my question is, where are these additional funds?"

The operating revenue has now been adjusted downwards in amount of over R163 million mainly due to a down adjustment of electricity revenue of over R175 million. It now became very clear that the revenue in the annual budget was inflated and that the annual budget was never funded. The Freedom Front Plus warned this Council that the annual budget was not funded. It is highly unlikely that the adjustments to the annual budget will result that the adjustments budget will be funded.

According to the mid-year report, the actual revenue was just over R4.3 billion for the first two quarters leaving the Metro already with a deficit of almost R250 million. If this state is continuing, then the Metro will only probably have a total revenue of around about R8.6 billion by the end of this financial year. Even with the proposed cost cutting measures, there is no way that the Metro will have a projected surplus of R540 million on the operating budget. The actual expenditure for the first two quarters, was already over R4.2 billion and if this state is continuing, the actual expenditure will likely be around R8.5 billion and not R8.1 billion as projected in the adjustment budget; that gives the Metro a possible surplus of around R100 million, this is also highly unlikely because, it will be unlikely that the interest revenue as projected on outstanding debtors of R300 million will be collected.

The Freedom Front Plus welcomes the decrease of expenditure especially in relation to employee related costs and bulk purchases however the decrease in expenditures should be done correctly, so that it doesn't have a negative impact on good and effective service delivery. The downward adjustment of employee related costs of over R150 million will not have a real effect if there was already an overspending on overtime, in the first two quarters in the amount of over R54 million. The adjustment budget must also now have an upward adjustment for remuneration of Councillors by R4.5 million and R890,000 for salaries for senior managers because this was approved by this ANC led Council. It is further unacceptable that there is an upward adjustment for expenditures for the Metro Police of over R11 million, these funds could have been allocated to Finance, Social Services and Planning to minimize the downward adjustments in these Departments.

The Freedom Front Plus welcomes the discretionary roll over grant of R125 million by National Treasury however, will the permanent city manager and CFO be appointed in time seeing that these appointments are one of the conditions for the rollover? Honourable Speaker, the adjustment budget is a fruitless attempt to rectify the underfunded and unrealistic annual budget. The budget making process is a continuous process and this process cannot be successful if it is managed by Acting City Managers and acting CFO's. One acting CFO cannot oversee the starting process and another acting CFO draft the budget and another acting CFO have to implement the budget.

Where will the consequence management be applied, if the current situation continues? It is a recipe for disaster and failure and the continuous infighting within the ANC in this Metro and the inability of the ANC to govern, is to blame and even worse Honourable Speaker is that all of this is happening under the watchful eyes of the National Intervention Team that is still not provided this Council with the Financial Recovery Plan. The Freedom Front Plus therefore cannot support this adjustment budget and therefore will not vote for the approval thereof. I thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr NA Nhlapo addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker and all protocols observed. Today, we share with the residents of Mangaung, how as a City we went back to adjust the budget that will directly be speaking to burning issues of service delivery within their communities.

This adjustment budget however it is tabled during a time when the City is still placed under Section 139(7) of the Constitution of South Africa, where inevitably it is also mandated to handle its finances in a manner that will lead to the financial recovery of the institution.

So, residents may ask what informs the special adjustment budget? As Cllr LM Titi-Odili has reiterated, it is informed by the mid-year assessment report of the Municipality, moo re ileng ra tlameha hore re hlahlobe hore na, budget eo re ileng ra e fetisa selemong se fetileng ka July, a na e entse mosebetsi oo re neng re o lebelletse wa ho tlisa ditshebeletso setshabeng sa Mangaung? Ka ho hlokomela hore tse ding tseo re neng re di lebelletse, ha di so phethahale, le ho mamella feedback ho tswa baahing ba Mangaung, adjustment budget ena e ikemiseditse ho bea pele tse latelang.

Madam Speaker, a discretionary roll over grant of R125.9 million was allowed by the National Treasury to be used for the following specific purposes:

1. purchasing of new fleet, the reality is that the City has been operating with minimum fleet which has made it very difficult for us to collect waste as per the respective schedules. So, as the City, we are also embarking in the middle of IDP review with public participation meetings and residents have been raising these concerns on this matter and so this allocation specifically of purchasing a new fleet, is entirely to respond to the delayed collection of waste throughout the City.
2. The discretionary roll over grant will also prioritize maintenance and resealing of streets. Our Engineering Service Department is tasked to ensure that we move towards the vision of safe and reliable roads.
3. The Department will also be prioritising the rehabilitation of wastewater treatment works from the discretionary grant.

Madam Speaker, it is also important that the residents of Mangaung to note the following adjustments as alluded; that we are adjusting down our salary and allowances of the municipal staff from R2.39 billion to R2.24 billion resulting in a variance of R150.37 million which is the same.

Secondly, Madam Speaker, as the City we are adjusting down our operating expenditure by R56.27 million from the R8.16 to R8.10 billion. In terms of our operating revenue, we are decreasing it by R163.37 million which is from R8.81 to R8.65 billion. We are also increasing our adjustment on inventory consumed by R19.87 to enable key service delivery items like fuel and maintenance materials. These have been some of the obstacles that have been there for effective and efficient service delivery.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, with the latter said, as the ANC we look forward to seeing our residents of Mangaung satisfied with service delivery, as we tirelessly continue to strive towards ensuring that our people get services that restore their dignity and that of the City to its former glory, with the latter said Madam Speaker, as the ANC we support this adjusted budget. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Cllr JI Mokoena addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. As we go through the motions that I intended to give confidence to the people of Mangaung, that we are managing the affairs of providing service to them in a responsible manner. However, there are things that I just want to make in general. One of those is what has been alluded to by fellow Councillors.

As the Executive Mayor indicated in the last Council meeting, that the budget has passed, is more of an austerity budget that was imposed and I think its needs to be clear, that inability of the people of Mangaung through this Council to work with citizens, to get them out of the morass that this Municipality finds itself, it is part of the bigger problem, because the numbers you can suck as much out of you thumb as possible and make projections and estimates. If they are unrealistic and unreasonable, they will never be realised and at the end of the day, what we intended to do, to serve our people, will not materialise as it is happening at this moment.

I think all of us as Councillors, we are on the WhatsApp group that is so ably led by the Centlec staff, relating to where they share with Councillors and where Councillors are able to post any service breakdown in terms of electricity, how I wish other departments could also have such WhatsApp group that is so ably managed and that is so responsive to the Councillors and the community.

However, it is evident that from what has been presented here that Centlec revenue will be decreased by R175 million and that might be relating to loadshedding which we need to factor into it, other than the loss in terms of transmission. However, I also see that Centlec is reducing its expenditure by R44 million and in discussion with some of the staff of Centlec, at some point and the issues relating to the breakdown in the infrastructure and the need to reinvest in upgrading the electrical infrastructure of Mangaung, we have seen in our WhatsApp groups how normally there are issues that are either stolen as one of the scourges we are facing today, but more than anything else, of the aged infrastructure that Centlec in many times, had asked for additional money, even in terms of the intergovernmental grant, to be able to can upgrade the system. So, that is one major problem that we see, in terms of potential for revenue collection. As my other colleagues have said, the water losses also comes into the picture.

The other issue, Honourable Speaker, that we need to understand in terms of revenue is that the projected interest earned from people that can't afford, where we have to write debts of millions, it is also another issue that we might not be able to collect the interest earned of R302 million that has been so projected. So, at the end of the day, this Municipality is deeper and deeper getting into a mess where it needs to go to bow to others, to be able to can assist it out of the mess that it is in.

However, I think one of the Councillors mentioned that this Municipality and this budget is not strategic and as a result there is nobody who's going to be able to can see that the path to get Mangaung out of the mess that it is in, is this particular path and how they can assist in that regards. And one of the problems that relates to that, is the fact that we need to engage our people, we need to engage businesses around payment, but more than anything else, we need to have a strategic budget that can be able to can be shared with our people, about the difficulties that we face and how we need to tighten our belt but how the future looks much brighter than it is at the moment.

As a result Honourable Speaker, because we, as Afrikan Alliance of Social Democrats says we are here to assist in fixing the mess that Mangaung finds itself. It is insufficient what we see here, but we still avail ourselves to work with all compatriots that are in this Council to get Mangaung out of the morass that it is and this is the reality here. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr TI Thomas addressed the Council: “Thank you, Madam Speaker, honourable Councillors and baahi ba Mangaung ka kakaretso.

Madam Speaker, maybe I must firstly start registering my concern, on the quality of this critical document. Ha o bona tokomane ena, tsela eo e entsweng ka yona, ha hona le mokgwa wa hore o e bala jwang ha ho ngotswe ka mogolo ona. One wonders which fond is this? And what propelled the staff to use it? Because it is not clear. The truth is that, our people are not interesting on figures. They are only interested on implementation.

Madam Speaker, as the EFF we are reality disappointed that even now in this adjustment budget the issue of formalization of informal settlement is still not included. It is evident that the ruling party is taking our people for granted. The Executive Mayor on record, in this Council said everything that was raised as a concern by opposition parties will be catered for in the adjustment budget, he went further by calling multi party meeting where he was going to get everything that was supposed to be in the budget and promised that he will personally make sure that those thing are included in this adjustment budget, but none is included.

Motsamai wa dipuisano, ho hlakile hore le kajeno baahi ba Van Stadensrus, Wepener, Dewetsdorp le Soutpan ba ntse ba sa tlo bona ditshebeletso tseo esale ba kena ka hara Mangaung ba di tshepiswa.

Madam Speaker, the former Naledi residents and Soutpan residents, do not enjoy being part of the Metro, instead they are regretting why they accepted to form part of this Municipality because before they became part of this Metro, they were receiving services, they never experienced water problems, sewer spillage and potholes.

Madam Speaker, we as the EFF previously said we will never support any budget that is not speaking to our cardinal pillar no 1, which is expropriation of land without compensation. The people of Gatvol, Baipehing, Serope sea benya, Khayelitsha and Matlharantlheng are still landless and the ruling party is saying nothing about that, instead they budgeted for things that are going to benefit their friends through tenders.

In conclusion Madam Speaker, the priority list on this adjustment budget looks very rosy but any sane person will ask himself what kind of thinking is this, where you speak of a storm water in an informal settlement where there is no roads. I encourage the MMC of Human Settlement to take a tour to Matlharantlheng and see where we dumped our people in a pretext of formalisation, nothing moves when it is raining in that area.

You know what Madam Speaker, problem is that we are harbouring non thinkers in this institution whom their duty is very simple, is to advise us empa ba hloleha. Why should an employee drive all the way from Van Stadensrus to Botshabelo just to pure petrol in a Municipal vehicle, while we have petrol station in Wepener and Dewetsdorp, is it not common sense to use the nearest petrol station to cut expenses?

We are speaking of registration of indigents year in year out, but our people are not getting anything from this Municipality.

7H

Lastly Madam Speaker, this adjustment budget says nothing about disaster management. Motseng wa ne wa Van Stadensrus, di beke tse pedi tse fetileng, hona le lelapa mo ho dulang ngwana a le mong, mo ntlo e nkilweng ke moya ka nako ya dipula, taba eo ke ile ka e report empa ha ho letho le entsweng except hoyo ho nkuwa dinepe, le today ha ho letho le entsweng. The EFF is therefore not in support of the approval of this adjustment budget. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Cllr JE Sebolao addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. As the EFF, it seems like the ANC has no intention of saving this City and are further trying to destroy the last hope that our community has for a better life. Who is in his rightful mind will approve such a high level of reduction of an operational budget unless it cuts in acting and overtime. We are faced with dongas, potholes and sewer that runs in people’s homes, business that goes bankrupt as a results of blackouts, no rubbish collections due to broken vehicles and lack of sustainable fuel supply, inaccessible graveyards and total collapse of infrastructure. But this says a lot about pro ANC intervention team that has been sent as a destructors. It is a pity that this has been link to the extra funding obtained from Treasury to assist with some of our already destroyed assets as a results of corruption and incompetency from political leaders.

Maybe, the new Executive Mayor will come with more competent Mayoral Committee members that will at least be able to chair meetings and call committee sittings and are capable of speaking and answering in Council. Some are just salary drawers, because with all due respect, the are either near here or there, in other words, dololo. It is a pity that this has been linked to the extra funding obtained from National Treasury to assist with some of the refurbishment for our sewerage plants as announced by the Acting City Manager, on the contrary, we have returned R255 million as a result of underspending. This is clearly an indication of ANC failure including weak cadre deployment.

Lastly, why not dissolve Council and let us show you how to properly govern. You cannot even adhere to your own legislation, that employees cannot occupy leadership positions in political parties, that is a sign of political bankruptcy. We are not supporting the adjustment budget. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

On a point of clarity, Cllr E Snyman van Deventer asked if the adjustment budget is part of the definition of a budget and if so, referred the Council to Section 160(3).b of the Constitution of South Africa that requires 51 votes, the majority of Councillors and not just majority of Councillors present in Council meeting?

Cllr BJ Viviers requested the Speaker to allow the MMC of Finance to give feedback on all questions especially on Councillors’ salaries because by now, he should then have received R3802 per month additional of which it was not the case and thus causing serious doubts about the credibility of the report.

Cllr LM Titi-Odili, the MMC of Finance responded that issues of salaries of Councillors, are issues of Corporate Services and that the matter was raised at budget conference, the MMC of Corporate Services together with the Speaker and the acting HoD must bring the report to Councillors.

That Corporate Services submit to Finance in terms of salaries of Councillors and employees and Finance process that as per the code of Corporate Services. That other matters were covered in the report and there was no new money changing the approved budget and those issues would be considered during the processes of the budget.

Cllr D Leech remarked that it was not with regards to money worked out incorrectly, not in terms of the 3% increase, but the adjustment budget were it was indicated that an additional R4.5 million would be budgeted for Councillors salaries and the Minister did not indicate that Councillors received an increase nor even gazetted. That there was a serious challenge as money has been budgeted for Councillors salaries, which were not received by Councillors and were going somewhere else and as Council, they would like to know where? Therefore, the adjustment budget was not credible and MMC Finance was lying through her teeth.

Cllr M Kganakga raised a concern that the MCC send out a statement saying Councillors are getting a lot of money, that they were not getting and now, the adjustment budget was proving what they were saying, but Councillors were not getting the money.

The Speaker reiterated that the concern was on the R4.5 million on the adjustment budget on Councillors' salaries which was not reflecting on their side. Cllr LM Titi-Odili then indicated that she reserved her right not to comment on this matter. The Speaker then advised that it be treated as Rule 38 question and hopefully they would receive a response within the prescribed time.

The Speaker thereon responded to question raised by Cllr E Snyman van Deventer, by referring to Section 160(3)a of the Constitution which stipulates that: *majority of members of Council must be present before a vote can be taken on any matter.*

That Section 160(2) the prescribe votes on:

- (a) passing of by-laws,
- (b) approval of budgets,
- (c) imposition of rates and taxes , levies and duties
- (d) raising of loans

The above items needed majority and in the case of Mangaung Municipality, majority is 51 Councillors to approve the item.

She then read Section 28 of the MFMA, Act 56 of 2003 on Municipal adjustments budgets together with references to Section 22, 23 and 24 of the MFMA. Therefore the provisions of Section 160 of the Constitution above, also applied on adjustment budget. Therefore, the approval of adjustment budget, needed a majority of 51 Councillors.

On a point of order, Cllr D Leech indicated that if what the Speaker had said was her decision on the adjustment budget then the previous adjustment budget approved by Council last year, was null and void as the same question was raised and the Speaker's ruling was different.

Councillor BJ Viviers then indicated that Council has 101 Councillors therefore majority is 52 and further concurred with Cllr D Leech on the ruling of the Speaker when Council adopted the adjustment budget the previous year.

The Speaker thereupon requested that it be corrected that majority was 50% plus 1 (i.e. 52 Councillors) and then she made the same ruling as in this meeting.

The Speaker announced the voting results as follows: 48 were in favour, 26 against and 12 abstained.

Therefore the report on adjustment budget was not approved by Council due to the fact that the item did not receive majority votes as per the Constitution of South Africa, Section 160(3)b.

The item would therefore be dealt with within seven (7) days of the Council meeting.

NOTED.

19.	REPORTS FROM THE SPEAKER
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1.

RESIGNATION AND REPLACEMENT OF COUNCILLORS

The Speaker mentioned that this report was also not ratified by NCR therefore it would not be dealt with.

Cllr M Davies raised that there were no financial implications on this items as it was a replacement of a Councillor.

The Speaker explained that on principle matter, no report would be consider which is not signed by either Executive Mayor nor NCR and it is not indicated why the NCR was not included to ratify the report as all reports that comes to Council must be ratifies even though it is only for noting.

WITHDRAWN.

20.	REPORTS FROM THE AUDIT COMMITTEE
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None.

NOTED.

21.	REPORTS FROM THE MPAC
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None.

NOTED.

22.	MOTIONS
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None.

NOTED.

23.	QUESTIONS
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QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF RULE 38 OF THE STANDING RULES AND ORDERS

None.

NOTED.

24.	IN COMMITTEE REPORTS
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None.

NOTED.

25.	CLOSING OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
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The Speaker officially closed the meeting at 14h29.

SECRETARIAT UNIT
COMMITTEE SERVICES