

CONFIDENTIAL

**MINUTES
of an
ORDINARY MEETING**

**MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

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

**WEDNESDAY
JULY 12, 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
WEDNESDAY, 12 JULY , 2023
at 10:00**

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

POLITICAL LEADERSHIP			
#	NAME	PARTY	LEAVE
1	<u>Speaker</u> Cllr Davies (Maryke)	DA	
2	<u>Acting Executive Mayor</u> Cllr Nthatisi (Gregory Mosala Solomon)	ANC	
3	<u>Acting Council Whip</u> Cllr Nikelo (Vumile Edwin)	ANC 28	
SECTION 79 CHAIRPERSONS			
4	Cllr Nhlapo (Ntombi Anna)	ANC	
5	Cllr Qai (Alfred)	AIC	
6	Cllr Mokgothu (Tona Kenosi Wilfred)	ANC 2	
INTERIM MEMBER OF MAYORAL COMMITTEE			
7	<u>Economic Development and Spatial Planning</u> Cllr Jonas (Vuyelwa Eunice)	ANC	
8	<u>Waste and Fleet Management</u> Cllr Letawana (Manthuse Maria)	ANC	
9	<u>IDP and Performance</u> Cllr Morake (Molefi Andries)	ANC	
10	<u>Infrastructure and Engineering</u> Cllr Soqaga (Vusumzi Simon)	ANC	
11	<u>Finance</u> Cllr Titi-Odili (Lulama Magdelina)	ANC	Absent with apology
12	<u>Human Settlements</u> Cllr Tladi (Motshewa Martha)	ANC	
13	<u>Public Safety</u> Cllr Tsoleli (Sibongile Pearm)	ANC	
14	<u>Rural Development</u> Cllr Twala (Pani Sidney)	ATM	
15	<u>Social Services</u> Cllr Mosala (Motlhokung Theodorah)	ANC 11	
16	<u>Corporate Services</u> Cllr Kruger (Caprice Logan)	ANC	

PR COUNCILLORS			
17	Cllr Campher (Zaandre MC)	DA	
18	Cllr De-Huis (Dikeledi Jane)	EFF	Absent with apology
19	Cllr De Kock (Valerie Belinda)	FFPlus	
20	Cllr Denner (John Henry)	FFPlus	
21	Cllr Dennis (Magdalena Elizabeth)	DA	
22	Cllr Ferreira (Thomas Ignatius)	DA	Absent with apology
23	Cllr Klaasen Raynie Sarah	DA	
24	Cllr Letsoko (Mantwa Sanah)	EFF	Absent with apology
25	Cllr Lipale (Gopolang Jeremiah)	EFF	Absent with apology
26	Cllr Makau (Pitso Elias)	EFF	Absent with apology
27	Cllr Malebo (Deliwe Lettia)	EFF	Absent with apology
28	Cllr Maliela (Motiki Edwin)	DA	
29	Cllr Mathae (Bongani Lawrence)	ANC	
30	Cllr Masoeu (Thapelo David)	DA	
31	Cllr Matsoetlane (Maditaba Joyce)	ANC	
32	Cllr Mogotsi (Mamahlope Elisa)	EFF	Absent with apology
33	Cllr Mohlamme (Lebohlang Lerato)	DA	
34	Cllr Mokoena (John Itumeleng)	AASD	Absent with apology
35	Cllr Mongale (Mojalefa William)	AASD	Absent with apology
36	Cllr Moreeng (Kabelo Christopher)	DA	
37	Cllr Mtshakazane (Eunice Xoliswa)	EFF	Absent with apology
38	Cllr Njiva-Lebajoa (Mamotse)	DA	Absent with apology
39	Cllr Phohleli (Tsholwane Eddy)	EFF	Absent with apology
40	Cllr Phupha (Ntsoaki Agnes)	PA	
41	Cllr Ramatlama (Mpho Joseph)	EFF	Absent with apology
42	Cllr Rampai (Pule Joseph)	ACDP	Absent with apology

43	Cllr Rasoeru (Lempe Ernest)	DA	Absent with apology
44	Cllr Sebolao (Jankie Elisha)	EFF	Absent with apology
45	Cllr Shale (Nkahiseng Reginah)	EFF	Absent with apology
46	Cllr Snyman-Van Deventer (Elizabeth)	FFPlus	
47	Cllr Terblanche (Arthur Phillip)	DA	Absent with apology
48	Cllr Thomas (Johannes Beleme)	EFF	Absent with apology
49	Cllr Thompson (Mare-Lize)	FFPlus	
50	Cllr Thwala (Zwelinjane Jonathan)	DA	
51	Cllr van der Ross (Kevin Ettienne)	PA	
52	Cllr van Rensburg (Corize)	DA	
53	Cllr Viviers (Benhardus Jacobus)	DA	Absent with apology
54	Cllr Vorster (Braam)	FFPlus	Absent with apology
WARD COUNCILLORS			
55	Cllr Sefaki (Samuel)	ANC 1	
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 Nyaphudi (Likeleli Julia)	ANC 8	
61	Cllr Tlhakung (Betty Masetlhabi)	ANC 9	
62	Cllr Setlai (Teboho Lesley)	ANC 10	
63	Cllr Hashatsi (Rafedile)	ANC 12	
64	Cllr Siteo (Nombulelo Dorcas)	ANC 13	
65	Cllr Lekgetho (Lebogang Winston)	ANC 14	
66	Cllr Mohibidu (Pulane Martha)	ANC 15	

67	Cllr Mohatle (Mampone Sally)	ANC 17	
68	Cllr McKay (David Mark Campbell)	DA 18	
69	Cllr Peter (Seth Qondile)	ANC 19	
70	Cllr Pretorius (Werner)	DA 20	
71	Cllr Lotriet (Pieter Adam)	DA 21	
72	Cllr Leech (Dulandi)	DA 22	
73	Cllr van der Walt (Tjaart Botha)	DA 23	
74	Cllr Kotze (Gerhardus Dirk Petrus)	DA 24	
75	Cllr Botes (Francois Rossouw)	DA 25	Absent with apology
76	Cllr van Niekerk (Hendrik Johannes Christiaan)	DA 26	
77	Cllr Banyane (Zachous Nechodemus)	ANC 27	
78	Cllr Tukula (Teboho Daniel)	ANC 30	
79	Cllr Mabena (Mere Joel)	ANC 31	
80	Cllr Menyatso (Thabang Victory)	ANC 32	
81	Cllr Mohono (Tshidiso Augustine)	ANC 33	
82	Cllr Tshwane (Kabi Daniel)	ANC 34	
83	Cllr Fantisi (Teboho Samuel)	ANC 35	
84	Cllr Makoloane (Itumeleng Justice)	ANC 36	
85	Cllr Ramolele (Mmota Simon)	ANC 37	
86	Cllr Matsoso (Molahloane Florenciah)	ANC 38	
87	Cllr Mogotloane (Thabo Joel)	ANC 39	
88	Cllr Pholoholo (Ntebaleng Petunia)	ANC 40	
89	Cllr Dintlhwane (Mantja Agnes)	ANC 41	

90	Cllr Mothupi (Maqoma Lazarus)	ANC 42	
91	Cllr Nkiane (Mpho Elizabeth)	ANC 43	
92	Cllr Pretorius (Selmé)	DA 44	
93	Cllr Mathe (Lisiwe Jeanette)	ANC 45	
94	Cllr Majoro (Mpho Samuel)	ANC 46	
95	Cllr Kganakga (Mokgadi)	DA 47	
96	Cllr Pretorius (Johannes Christiaan)	DA 48	
97	Cllr Mohulatsi (Mamoorosi Margaret)	ANC 51	
98			
99			
100			
101			

PRESENT

NATIONAL INTERVENTION TEAM

1. NCR
2. Governance Specialist

**Ms G Malaza
Ms T Cibane**

OFFICIALS

1. Acting HoD: Corporate Services
2. Acting HoD: Waste and Fleet Management
3. Acting HoD: Transport, Economic and Rural Development
4. Acting HoD: Social Services and Public Safety
5. Acting Chief Financial Officer
6. Chief Executive Officer: Centlec
7. AGM: Committee Services
8. Secretariat officer
9. Secretariat Officer

**Adv N Mpangane
Mr F Nel
Mr XC Manyungwana
Ms MA Mafisa
Mr L Denge
Mr M Sekoboto
Ms X Qilo
Ms R Mamatela
Ms K Nakanyane**

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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6
MINUTES
(OPEN COUNCIL)

104.

OPENING

(MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION FOR MEDITATION AND PRAYERS)

The Speaker confirmed that 66 Councillors were in attendance and thus forming a quorum to continue with the meeting. She then requested all present in the Chamber to observe a moment of silent for meditation and prayers.

NOTED.

105.

NOTICE OF THE MEETING

The Speaker read the notice as on page 3 of the agenda.

NOTED.

106.

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.

107.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Councillor GDP Kotze requested that it be minuted that several Rule 38 questions from the DA were not answered and that they knew that the previous acting City Manager was not fit for purpose and thus asking/pleading the current Acting City Manager to respond to all outstanding Rule 38 questions. Furthermore that the DA would be writing a letter to the Acting City Manager regarding the outstanding Rule 38 questions and would appreciate if those questions would be answered at the next Council meeting.

The Speaker indicated that there were a few Rule 38 questions that had been answered however, could not be included in the agenda of the Council meeting, however she would ensure that they will be included in the next ordinary Council meeting.

Councillor ME Dennis moved for the adoption of the agenda and was seconded by Councillor ZMC Campher.

NOTED.

108.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker made the following announcements:

- That translations services were available.
- That Councillors would have received forms regarding declaration of interests for the 2023/24 financial year which are also available from Committee Services and therefore, the forms be completed and submitted directly to the office of the Speaker.
- That Ward Councillors must take note that meetings would be scheduled with all Ward Committees in conjunction with the Ward Councillors for the functioning of Ward Committees.

Cllr TB Van Der Walt remarked: "Madam Speaker, it is now fifteen (15) months that the intervention haave been ongoing and the DA asked the question in Parliament to the Minister of CoGTA about the government debt and we at the moment still have R1.4 billion outstanding from government debt and the Minister answered that the debt agreements would have been signed by the 30th of June 2023. We would like just to inform Council that we will make a follow-up on that and if the agreements were indeed signed, we want the details of the debt agreements and if they are keeping up with the payments of the debt as well as the current portions of the Municipal accounts.

Secondly, Madam Speaker, last night there was an accident of a truck that burned on N1 and that closed parts of the road and it is still closed at this moment as far as I understand, between myself, my Ward, Councillor D Leech's Ward, we just wanted to thank the community members and leaders, patrollers, especially from Langenhoven Park, Universitas Ridge who were the first responders on the scene and the security groups who called the fire brigades as far as I can understand. Specifically, in this case VRmed was very prominent and assisted a lot and then the Fire Brigade staff, I don't know if the disaster management staff were also involved last night but really there was a good response by the fire brigade officials. We know they are on a lot of pressure, they don't have resources, they don't have staff and they are really working under a lot of pressure and very little to work with, but we are very thankful for the responses we got from them. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

NOTED.

109.

MOTION OF SYMPATHY AND CONGRATULATIONS

Councillor R Hashatsi delivered his motions as follows: “Greetings Honourable Councillors, Honourable Speaker, Majoro, NCR and media who is present in the house. Madam Speaker, let me start firstly by as we close June 16th month, last month, let me firstly start by remembering and honouring youth of 1976 that fought against the backdrop of racial inequality that was persuaded by the South African government policies in the uprising of Soweto in 1976. Today as we celebrate the lives of this young people who died on that day, South Africa Youth under ANC led government as democratic rights are equipped with plenty of fruitful economic opportunities since 1994. Honourable Speaker, today we have youth who have access to free education, business opportunities, youth empowerment programmes with significant various government agencies and organisations such as the NYDA the NSFAS, SITA etc. Madam Speaker, today there is no more “*skop en donner*”. A black child is now able to become a doctor...”

The Speaker requested the Councillor to withdraw the statement and Councillor R Hashatsi withdrew the phrase “*skop en donner*” and continued as follows:

“Honourable Speaker, a black child is now able becoming a doctor and even able to become a pilot, even the president of the Country. Therefore black child forgive them but never forget them.

Madam Speaker, as we move let us also congratulate and give honour to the President and other African leaders on their mission of peace keeping between Russia and Ukraine on the 18th of June last month. This initiative has also underline the importance for telling the true vision of this war, and is not only for Europeans, but also have an impact on African and global world generally. We are hard deep by this increase of cereal prices and increasing investor risk invasion that Callisto capital outflow and rent deprivation in the near future. Our economic scale is at risk and higher implication rates and interests will hike in. We needed to act as a Country. Our President has showed bravery and leadership to act on our behalf as South Africans. Therefore we thank you Ntate President Ramaphosa.

Madam Speaker, we would like to send our sympathy to the community and family of the two (2) young boys who was shot and injured at the landfill site in Suidpark last month. The Municipality and other law agencies are currently working hard on ground to embark such not to ever happen to anyone in the near future. Sixteen (16) people were arrested during a raid by Police on site and this clearly raised a wake up call for Mangaung Metro Municipality to reinforced and striven our by-laws as the Municipality. We wish to the family and friends an effective speedy recovery to the two (2) young boys as Mangaung.

And lastly Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Councillor ZN Banyane from Ward 27 and his team as a National of Head coaches representing South Africa in African National Karate Teams against Botswana, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Zambia, Angola and Mozambique. The tournament was held on the 9th of June 2023 until the 11th June 2023 and they came home with a total of 149 medals which include 56 gold, 37 silver and 56 bronze. The tournament was held in Zimbabwe and further move to Africa in Indonesia, where they took eight (8) athletics and all of them won.

Fellow Councillors, Councillor “Shine” ZN Banyane has shown commitment and passion in serving our community through skills development and youth fight against drugs, and gangsterism in our communities. This simply shows that here in ANC we put and appoint the best candidates to present our communities. Councillor “Shine” ZN Banyane is doing what is best for our kids and community at large. We therefore congratulate you, Councillor “Shine” ZN Banyane and say “keep up the good work you are doing to the community of Mangaung and South Africa in large”. I therefore thank you. Madam Speaker.”

Councillor S Sefaki passed his motions as follows, namely: “As I start Madam Speaker, with my speech, I would like to congratulate the Ward Committee of Ward 1. On the 29th of June 2023 we held a Youth Development Programme which was successful and was attended by almost 250 young people from different wards where all the stakeholders from different departments of government were in and shared information with most of the young people, so I would like to congratulate the Ward Committee of Ward 1.

Madam Speaker, please allow me to pass the following motion of congratulations and sympathy. I would like to congratulate our Free State Rugby Team, the Toyota Free State Cheetahs for their 7th Currie Cup win. I believe I speak on behalf of entire Free State, more so the community of Mangaung, when I say that our boys indeed made us proud. Madam Speaker, just when we are in jovial mood after the Cheetahs, we notice the sadness the recent national disaster in form of a tornado that effected some parts of KwaZulu-Natal. We therefore wish to pass our sincere and heartfelt condolences to the families who lost their lives and love ones in the natural disaster. We further sympathise with those who lost their homes, belongings to the same disaster.

We want to call all the relevant government departments and agencies to fast-track all efforts to provide with necessary aid to all those who were affected by the disaster. And lastly Madam Speaker, I would like to pass condolences to one of the Police Official from my Ward he was killed yesterday as well. I would like to pass condolences to the family and all men and women who work at the Batho Police Station.”

Councillor JH Denner delivered his speech as follows, namely: “Thank you, Madam Speaker. It is with deepest sympathy that the Freedom Front Plus offer their sincere condolences to the love ones of Betsie Kruger, her daughter Jenine Thorne and her son-in-law Christie were brutally murdered at their home in Van Heerdenstreet, Wilgehof, fourteen (14) days ago. Hierdie sinnelose moorde het die gemeenskap van Bloemfontein geruk. Ons doen ’n beroep op die polisie om alle moontlike hulpbronne in te span om hierdie gewetenlose moordenaars vas te trek en uit die samelewing te verwyder.

The Freedom Front Plus would like to thank the Fire Brigade for speedy and professional response last night on the N1. We would also like to wish Councillor Rossouw Botes well with his recovery after a major operation. We trust that he would be in good health soon. On a lighter note, the Freedom Front Plus would like to congratulate the Cheetahs with their fantastic win over the Pumas in the Curry Cup final, making it no 7 since 1982.”

Councillor PM Mohibidu passed her motions as follows, namely: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Acting Executive Mayor, Honourable Acting Chief Whip, fellow Councillors, community at large, Ladies and Gentlemen, morning to you all.

Madam Speaker, as we observed Africa day on the 29th May 2023 to celebrate our unity as Africans and also to remind ourselves of the responsibility we all shared to bring about Africa that is peaceful. Madam Speaker, Africa has given so much to us and the world and Africa fought relentlessly with us against apartheid. As South Africans we will be forever indebted to the continent and its people. Ladies and gentlemen the theme of this year was “Our Africa, Our Future” the theme serves to remind all Africans that the continent belongs to Africa. The celebration is an opportunity to celebrate African diversity and success and also to highlight the cultural and economic potential that exist in the African continent. It also symbolizes Africa unity commitment to peace, democracy and economic development.

Madam Speaker, in South Africa, Africa Day holds a significant importance as a nation that has experienced its own remarkable journey towards democracy and transformation. Africa is still on a path to rediscover itself and reclaim the self-worth, identity and dignity that are ingrained in its culture and religion. We must also use a day to reflect on challenges that affect the contemporary world.

Ladies and gentlemen, for those who belong to our novel movement, the African National Congress (ANC), the sentiment of African solidarity and unity are deeply ingrained in our psyche and always finds expression in matters concerning our continent. Together we will succeed.

In closing, Madam Speaker, allow me to congratulate our champion runner, Caster Semenya who won a potential landmark legal decision, for a sport on Tuesday, when a European court of human rights decided she was discriminated against by rules in a track and feels sport to medically reduce her natural hormones level to compete in a major competition. And also Madam Speaker, it is an important win for Caster Semenya and also a wider victory for allied athletic around the world. It means that the sport bodies government around the world must finally recognise that women rights law and norms apply to the athletic they regulate. A victory for a woman is a victory for all. I thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor GDP Kotze delivered his motions as follows, namely: “Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Democratic Alliance (DA) would also like to congratulate the Cheetahs Rugby Team on winning the Curry Cup. They really did us proud and we wish the captain Victor Sekekete, Ruan Pienaar and the team good luck for the rest of the season. *Haak Vrystaat!!* At the end of July the World Cup for ladies soccer and netball will start. The DA would like to wish all the ladies competing with their coaches and support staff good luck and we know they will make us proud. The DA would also like to congratulate Federal Leader, Johan Steenhuizen for scheduling the moon shot pack convention that will start on the 16th of August. We are looking forward to working with other opposition parties to unseat the ANC in 2024.

Madam Speaker, the Mangaung Metro was put under administration in early 2020 and every year the budget was approved by the ANC and the alliance partners were terrified that were unaffordable for the Mangaung Metro residents.

6E

Two (2) weeks ago they did it again, the DA voted against the budget. We sympathise with the residents of Mangaung and we ask the question: "Where is the service delivery with all these tariffs hights for the past three (3) years?" Crime is killing the spirit of democracy, the DA sympathise with all victims of crime in South Africa. Two weeks ago three (3) family members were killed in their home and over the weekend a teacher was killed when he was run over several times with his own car that was hijacked. We hope that family members and friends who suffer because of crime, find peace in God our Saviour.

The big reality is that we cannot trust the police service to protect after seeing this past weekend how police officers assaulted members of the public. Now we would like to thank AfriForum, Security Companies and Neighbourhood Associations that were trying their best to keep the community safe.

To conclude Madam Speaker, Chief Justice Raymond Zondo, the DA would like to congratulate and sympathise, with you for what you have done for South Africa. Thank you for taking a stand against the corruption that is taking over South Africa, the ANC. I second your statement that the ruling government, the ANC will not be able to stop state capture 2.0. The signs are visible with "Phala-Phala", along with Mashatile and the Alex Mafia". I thank you, Madam Speaker".

NOTED.

110.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. Special Meeting: Monday, November 7, 2022

Cllr ME Dennis moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Councillor ZJ Thwala

2. Special Meeting: Monday, December 19, 2022

Councillor ME Dennis moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Councillor VB De Kock

3. Special Meeting: Monday, February 13, 2023

Councillor TD Masoeu moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Councillor RS Klaasen

4. Ordinary Meeting: Monday, February 27, 2023

Councillor HJC Van Niekerk moved for the adoption of minutes and was seconded by Councillor C Van Rensburg

5. Special Meeting: Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Councillor ME Dennis moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Councillor ZMC Campher

6. Special Meeting: Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Councillor SQ Peter moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Councillor VE Nikelo

7. Special Meeting: Tuesday, May 2, 2023

Councillor BL Mathae moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Councillor MJ Mabena

The Speaker then informed the Council that the minutes of the meeting held on March 6, 2023 would be dealt with at the next ordinary Council meeting.

111.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

NOTED.

The Acting Executive Mayor, Councillor GMS Nthatisi tabled the items as follows, namely:

“Thank you, Madam Speaker, Fellow Councillors, Chief Whip. Madam Speaker the first item deals with the introduction of the district development model one plan. In accordance, Madam Speaker with the Constitution of the Country, the three (3) spheres of government has to corporate in the development of our Country, our Province and our municipalities. To this end, the cabinet adopted the District Model in 2019 and now been regulated in the IGR Act requires to join and collaborate the three spheres of government to work around the realisation of one plan and ensuring that the resources of the Country and government are congregated and ensured that the development in the area of our existence realises product that can benefit our people, particularly in our Metro. I therefore, Madam Speaker, tabled before this Council a document that at some point we withdrew and has been worked on and I think it would actually serve us.

On Item 112.2, Madam Speaker deals with Audit Action Plan of the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality. It should be remembered, Madam Speaker, that we obtained a qualified audit opinion in 2021/22 financial year. The response to this issue identified by the Auditor-Generals required and demanded upon our management and Centlec and the Municipality to look upon corrective actions and plan in response to the findings by the Auditor-General in accordance to Section 121(3)(g) of the MFMA. I also present the Audit Action Plan to Council for our review and monitoring.

The next item will be the Proposal of the deferment of the definitive agreements between Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality and Centlec. Madam Speaker, 2021 the Council gave approval to the plan, but due to legal impediment and accounting discipline the agreement could not be implemented in accordance and therefore on 2022/23 financial year progress have not been made to any extent. Consensus not to be reached between Mangaung and Centlec to finalise the agreement. It is therefore proposed that the agreement be deferred until such a time that there is an agreement between parties and consultative processes have been followed including National Treasurer and the Auditor-General.

On Item 4(4) Madam Speaker, motivation for MLM 171 Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality Centlec SOC LTD Municipal Debt Relief Application. National Treasury Madam Speaker issued an MFMA Circular 124, on 31 March 2023, regarding the application for the municipal debt relief for bulk electricity. The purpose of this application is to apply for write-off of debt areas as well as changing the payment patterns from 15th to 30th days. The intension of this application is to assist the municipality to relief the burden whilst a culture of good governance and effective revenue management processes are implemented and maintained. This application therefore requires the approval of the Council as one of the requirements. Madam Speaker if you go to page 5, item 116 (In Committee reports) item 2 and 3 Madam Speaker, will be dealt at that level. It is my humble plea Madam Speaker. Thank you.”

Councillor D Leech on a point of clarity: “I would just like to enquire or understand correctly through you, Madam Speaker, the Acting Executive Mayor, those two (2) items, Item 2 and 3 are they going to be discussed In Committee in other words, we are going to excuse the media and officials is that the idea and what is the reason for discussing the items In Committee. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

The Acting Executive Mayor explained : “My humble request is to deal with item 116.2 and 116.3 In Committee, as those reports are internal matters. I know they are intense, they entail and have their own history that I have to deal with Councillors, outside media and other sources involved.”

The Speaker also indicated the reason why Item 116.2 and 116.3 are In Committee as they also deal with personal information of employees and members of the public.

NOTED.

1.

APPROVAL OF MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT MODEL PLAN

Councillor SP Tsoleli delivered her speech to the Council as follows, namely: “Thank you, Madam Speaker. The District Development Model Plan initiated by President Cyril Ramaphosa in his policy statement in 2019, it was then adopted by the Cabinet. The President’s speech highlighted a pattern of operating in sight laws as a challenge which led to lack of coherence in planning and implementation. District Development Model bills on a white paper on Local Government of 1998, which seeks to ensure that the Local Government is capacitated and transformed to play a developmental role and responsive in findings sustainable ways to meet social, economic and material needs and also improve the quality of lives of our people.

This model is a practical intergovernmental relations mechanism to enable all three spheres of government to work together with communities and stakeholders, to plan, budget and implement in unionism. The model will turn service delivery challenges into local level development opportunities, true localise procurement and job creation which support local businesses and involves the communities. Honourable Speaker, the one plan will also bridge a gap of reporting on EPWP programmes, job opportunities created in our Metro and in return we will get more job opportunities from both Province and National. The African National Congress (ANC) supports and endorses the Mangaung Municipal District Development Model One Plan. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor LN Lecoko delivered his speech as follows, namely: “Greetings Honourable Acting Executive Mayor, Ntate Gregory Nthatsi, Chief Whip of the Council, Councillor Vumile Nikelo, Acting HOD`s and the Community of Mangaung.

7B

As the President has found the “pattern of operating in silos” as a challenge which led to, “to lack of coherence in planning and implementation and has made monitoring and oversight of government program difficult”.

A draft One Plan was developed and submitted to National CoGTA on the 31st of March 2021. There was a Council submission and resolution on the draft One Plan on 29 June 2021 with the resolution for noting of the one Plan submitted to National CoGTA.

The Council adopted the One Plan in its sitting of the 30th of June 2022. The One plan was then shared with National CoGTA, FS CoGTA, and FS Office of the Premier by the (OTP) DDM coordinators.

In the Discussions, there were areas and gaps identified in the One Plan Submitted that needed to be addressed, and these areas are:

Statistics and Demographics: It is true that some of the statistics that were in the submitted One Plan were outdated and , as such, were not useful for planning purposes, with the help of National CoGTA, STATSSA, and FS OTP, recent stats were provided, and MMM could update the stats information.

Consultation with Stakeholders: Members of the National DDM Quality Assurance concern was that the One Plan submitted omitted inputs from several stakeholders, and the MMM DDM office rectified this by engaging these stakeholders accordingly.

- They we`re engagements with Association of the Society with people with Disabilities.
- Meeting with Institutions of Higher Learning.
- The Council has since approved the strategic establishment of relationship with these institutions.
- A soft copy of the One Plan was shared with the government sector departments to make further inputs.
- A meeting was held with the Barolong Boo Seleka Traditional House in Thaba Nchu. It is worth mentioning that Kgosi Moroka is well enthusiastic with the government DDM approach and is committed to working with MMM.
- Meetings were held with Ward Committees in Thaba Nchu, Wepener, Botshabelo, and Bloemfontein.
- The engagements were successful in so far as receiving new inputs for the One Plan.
- Members of the community were also engaged via the local Community Radio Station.

The last meeting of the MMM DDM Technical Team was held on 17 November 2022, this is long overdue Madam Speaker. With that said, we as ANC support Mangaung Metropolitan District Development model one plan and its recommendations. I thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor TD Tukula delivered his speech as such, namely: “Let me start by saying all protocol observed and send some invitations and praises to all in the August house, and community of Mangaung by giving me this opportunity of presenting this item of Executive Mayor.

7C

Giving The Background, Mangaung District Development Model/One Plan/One Budget/One District. It is a Joint One Plan in relation to 52 development spaces across the Country. It has followed all phases and stages of democratic process since Cabinet approved the DMM in August 2019.

On 31 March 2021, A Draft one plan was developed and submitted to National CoGTA.

On 29 June 2021 council made submission and took resolution on the Draft one Plan.

On 30 June 2022 Council in its sitting adopted one plan.

And it went to National CoGTA, Free State CoGTA and office of the Premier as previous speaker has already stated. It consultate all stakeholders for the inputs.

Six Transformation focal areas of Mangaung DDM:

- Economic positioning
- Spatial Restructuring and Environmental sustainability
- Infrastructure Engineering
- Integrated service Provisioning
- Governance and management

In conclusion, the DDM is going to root out the seed that was planted by apartheid system of separate score, encore. Development and install a working mechanism that will improve and deepen the implementation of coherent inter-governmental relation for all of government to jointly plan, and implement government program in line with the expected outcomes of National Development Plan and the Development Constitutional Mandate.

The role of the private sector, community stakeholders traditional leadership and for nations is key in ensuring that the one plan is grounded and implemented with the people for the people. As ANC we support this item so that this August house can make history and approve it. I submit Madam Speaker.”

Thereafter voting, the Speaker announced the results as follows: 46 voted in favour, 21 against and 2 abstained.

RESOLVED

It is accordingly submitted that the One Plan has been updated as per the guidelines stipulated and as per the guidance received from National CoGTA, FS CoGTA and the FS OTP.

It is recommended that:

- I. The Council endorsed the MMM DDM One Plan submitted.
- II. The Council should receive quarterly reports on the implementation of the One Plan.
- III. The DDM One Plan should be submitted to FS CoGTA and the FS Office of the Premier.

2. 2022/23 AUDIT ACTION PLAN - MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY

Councillor TD Masoeu delivered his speech as follows, namely: “Madam Speaker, what is happening in Mangaung Metro Municipality is by no means unexpected or even surprising. We need to understand that since 2018 during the time when Mangaung Municipality was downgraded by Moods, twice, to the times of provincial intervention, in 2019, up until now 2023, during National Intervention, we are still sitting with worse service delivery issues ever in Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality.

Only last month we were for the first time since the start of intervention by National Government, presented with the NCR report which after almost two (2) years, was presented to Council. It was not surprising that the NCR report presented to Council depicted a horror story that is playing out in Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality political turmoil that one can only describe as well orchestrated by political leadership and administrative leadership that has no interest at heart to observe the yarn and mandatory expectations of the residents of Mangaung for service delivery that they so voted for, in fact paying for those services.

1. In that NCR report, I still remember on page 5, the NCR identifies the problem/key issue with audit action plans as no clear mechanism in place to monitor implementation of AG Action Plan by EMT and MPAC. Really! That statement smacks of someone who deliberately was attempting to either having not being aware of what is happening in MMM or deliberately misleading Council or knowingly attempting to worsening an already worse situation in Mangaung also knowing that when everything falls apart, they will happily get on the plane laugh and say “mission accomplished to destroy Mangaung and its residents”,
2. Why am I saying this? Number 1, on MPAC`s role and responsibilities is clearly defined in legislation. MPAC is an Oversight Committee of Council. It is a Committee that reports directly to Government. Which later decided to abdicate its responsibility by calling it quits that as provincial government they were unable to handle political squabbles and factions in MMM from the governing party.
3. Enter National government and its now not so knowledgeable NCR and officials. First of all this Council has been requesting when NCR would submit a tangible Financial Recovery Plan (FRP) and inform Council of progress made to remedy the situation. Well now suddenly having awaken NCR has suddenly now observed that one of the root causes of problems in MMM is that, hear this now, “Role of MPAC is not clear’ and that the strategy to solve is to Conduct training of both MPAC and Internal audit. What?
4. Madam Speaker, listening to all of these one can only arrive at one decision that perhaps that the NCR together with its intervention team must admit that it has failed to bring about expected changes in MMM in fact as we speak the situation is worsening rather than improving.

5. Item 112.2 2022/23 AUDIT ACTION PLAN-MMM says the following:

- The Municipality has developed an Audit Action Plan detailing the corrective measures and actions geared towards resolving the remaining Audit-General's finding and most importantly ensuring that they do not recur.
6. I want to conclude by asking the two following questions: 1. Previously there were officials appointed and serving as Audit committee. They developed measures and actions to resolve AG's report concerns. Does this mean that with new leaders of the new Audit committee, new Audit Action Plan, will be developed? 2. Why table this report now when oversight committee, MPAC, still has to be roped in. Well we all know what is going to happen. Yet another cadre will be appointed incapable of performing duties as expected. I thank you Honourable Speaker."

Councillor SQ Peter presented the report to Council as follows: "Greetings Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor, fellow Councillors, NCR, that are gathered here today. I think Madam Speaker, the Executive Mayor have said a mouth full but I must indicate with regard to this item, but I must also indicate that this item was informed by Section 121(3) of the MFMA to develop correct actions to be implemented in response to the issues identified or raised by the Auditor-General for the new financial year 2021/22. National Treasury has however developed a template which guide all municipalities on how to go about implementing these actions.

I should also indicate that the Municipality has therefore established a task team and project leaders under the stewardship of the acting City Manager to assist with the implementation and monitoring of the proposed corrective measures which should be undertaken as raise by the Auditor-General. I must also indicate that all the Municipal departments or directorates have played an pivotal role in terms of submitting their inputs that are definitely informing the current action plan that we are about to note as Council. So we therefore request that Council should note this audit action plan. I thank you, Madam Speaker."

Councillor M Thompson were asking clarity seeking questions, namely: "Honourable Speaker, all protocols observed. Seeing that this item is for noting, the Freedom Front Plus are asking that following clarity questions:

- (a) When will the corrective action be taken in the audit action plan in response to the issues identified in the Auditors-General report?
- (b) When will the Overtime Policy be finalized, and tabled before this Council for consideration and approval?
- (c) Should the department responsible for the drafting of the policy put in some overtime to finalize this policy?
- (d) When will the investigation team and fraud unit be established to conduct investigations on the payment of overtime?
- (e) When will the review of the recruitment policy be finalized?
- (f) Will the report with regards to the disciplinary action against the former HOD of Corporate Services be concluded and tabled before Council within the next three (3) month as indicated.

- (g) Will this report include information if disciplinary action was taken or will be taken against the
- 14 employees that were appointed where the vacancies were not advertised.
 - 14 employees that were appointed where no documentation was provided, that interviews were conducted.
 - 17 employees where no appointment letters or contracts were provided and so on
- (h) Are these employees still employed by the Municipality?
- (i) When will management effective internal controls to ensure that requested information is submitted to the Auditor-General in time?
- (j) When and will internal controls be implemented in the Department of Human Settlement to ensure the quality of reporting on their projects?
- (k) When will the checklist in the Finance department be concluded to avoid payments for the contracted services where:
- Payment vouchers do not have reference for the supply data base, copy of the order quotations agreeing to the invoice and delivery note.
 - The Finance Department does not even have confirmation of whether the goods were delivered or service delivery was actually rendered.

Honourable Speaker on a nutshell will consequence management ever be implemented in the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality. How can corrective actions and consequences management be implemented if this Municipality does not even have a permanent skills qualified City Manager, CFO and HOD's. I thank you, Madam Speaker.

Councillor LW Lekgetho delivered his speech to Council, namely:

"The Speaker
Acting Executive Mayor
Acting Council Whip
Councillors
Intervention Team
The Community of Mangaung

Section 131 of the Municipal Finance Manager Act (MFMA) indeed stipulates that a municipality is obligated to address any matters raised by the audit report, this section reinforce the accountability and oversight mechanisms in place for local government financial management.

According to Section 131 of the MFMA, when the Auditor-General identifies any issues of concerns during an audit of a municipality, the municipality must take appropriate action to address and rectify those matters, the municipality is required to respond to Auditor-General's findings and recommendation within a specified timeframe.

In conclusion, the Mangaung Municipality has developed an audit action plan detailing the corrective and action of resolving the Auditor-General funding as Section 12(3)(g) of the Municipal Finance Management Act No.66 of 2023, asking the municipality and if entity to develop a corrective action plan and implement it. As ANC we ask Council to note the audit action plan and I thank you, Madam Speaker."

The Speaker indicated that Council take note of the Audit Action Plan of the City and that there will be no voting on the item as it was for noting.

Councillor GDP Kotze on a point of clarity indicated the following, namely: “Madam Speaker, through you, there is a lot of questions always been asked on these items for noting but we never received answers from the Executive Mayor or his Mayoral Committee. Can you just maybe give us guidance on when we will receive answers on these questions.”

The Acting Executive Mayor requested that questions be received in writing, because they did in fact track on some of the questions that were posed but could not make progress on some of the answers, but will gladly give answers as required.

Councillor D Leech in responding indicating that she is not sure what point it is but surely the Executive Mayor can read the minutes, because the questions asked in Council are minuted.

The Speaker indicated that *all questions be in writing for Councillors to get responses as soon as possible and also to submit it to the Executive Mayor’s office.*

As the item was for noting, Councillors did not vote.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council takes note of the Audit Action Plans of the City.

3.

PROPOSAL OF THE DEFEREMENT OF THE DEFINITIVE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY AND CENTLEC

Councillor SQ Peter delivered his speech to the Council, namely: “Madam Speaker, I must just indicate that the formation of Centlec was during the IDP Process when we were forming the original electricity distributors wherein the Municipality been combined with Eskom to form regional distribution company. In the mist of it all, this sale of business agreement was signed indicating the selling price or the amount that the Municipality was selling Centlec, however the entire exercise did not materialise due to many reasons including amongst other institutional instability. Subsequent to that a number of Council resolutions were taken in order to remedy the situation, but the status quo remained the same.

There is a current draft available Madam Speaker that needs to be discussed by all relevant stakeholders to look amongst others the legal and accounting treatment which seems to be in contradiction and therefore and practical to implement. We must also remember that in one of the resolutions of Council, there was a stage whereby a certain contractor was appointed to deal with these issues, if so through the report you will see that there is a number of recommendations that have been made, to survey both Centlec as well as the Municipality, but giving the fact that the matter was not realised in the prescribed time period.

7H

We therefore request Council should consider deferring the Council Resolutions of both the 4th of June 2021 and the 31st of August 2021 until both Centlec Board and Mangaung Council agree on the best accounting and legal treatment for both entities. The reason is that we must sort out this issue between Centlec and Mangaung. I thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor E Snyman-Van Deventer delivered her speech to the Council, namely: “Agbare Speaker. Hierdie tiepe goed maak my verskriklik kwaad. There was a Council Resolution taken in June and then on the 31st of August 2021, now almost two (2) years later we are deferring this item again. I am tired to hear Council does not do its work, Council does not apply its mind. Council is responsible for the failure of the Metro. It is Council’s responsibility to deliberate to take decisions resolutions to guide the Metro, but it is the administration and officials to adhere to Council’s decisions. The failure of this Metro is squarely on the shoulders of management and the officials and the ANC Executive Mayor and Mayco members. To bring this back to Centlec, on page 4 there is reference to EMS Draft report. That report should serve before Council and relevant Section 80 Committees.

There is a whole lot of issues mentioned in the report, including the following have not been concluded. We should investigate why not, we should investigate who is responsible for this. Looking at the recommendation I see there is no reference to any timelines. There is nothing except that we are deferring this back again. Good governance refer to implementation to legal accounting practices that leads to good governance to make us able what we are supposed to do. At the moment we cannot do that. The previous Council refer to that Centlec Board, the Mangaung Metro cannot agree because there is no Board of Directors at Centlec and that is one of our biggest problem and I want to ask the Council, the NCR are so proud of everything they accomplished, yet we have a SOC of which Mangaung is the sole shareholder without a Board of Directors. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor D Leech delivered her speech to the Council, as follows: “Thank you Madam Speaker. Before I begin my speech, I would just like to enquire through you Madam Speaker to the Executive Mayor. The MFMA Circular 124, specifically indicates under point 3.4 “Councils approves plan to monthly monitor and report the municipality’s compliance. This is one of the things that must be included in this document that needs to be send through. I don’t see a copy of this plan and clearly says, Councils approve plan. So before one can approve this item we need a plan. Now for example the names of the officials that are responsible including alternative officials, the contact details, the specific monthly deliveries and reporting dates, internal to the Municipal Manager and Council as well as to report the National Treasury and the Provincial Treasury. None of these are included in this item. After I delivered my speech maybe the Executive Mayor can just give us clarity where that document is and if it is indeed not here I strongly suggest that it must be referred back once again.

Madam Speaker, this is a catch 22 situation, obviously it will be favourable for Mangaung Metro to have its Eskom debt written-off. Although it is mentioned that it is part of the Government Debt Relief package for Eskom, it does raise the question of how this will solve Eskom’s dilemma; was the idea not to assist Eskom to be in such a position to upgrade its infrastructure and to eradicate loadshedding, not to further take away from their funding. This rather looks like a case government bailing out its little brother and sisters.

Does the taxpayer has to bear the cost for government funding. Eskom for only for these funds ultimately to be used to fund mismanagement and financial irregularities of municipalities. The taxpayer will not benefit from this in anyway. Tariffs paid by residents will still increase by 15.1%. Eskom infrastructure will again not be upgraded and loadshedding will further have die effects on the economy. Government will again raise taxes and fuel prices and interest rates will continue to increase in attempt to curve inflation.

So let me put in simple terms, National Government are taking taxpayer money and pension fund money to bail out Eskom. The reason being they are funding Eskom to upgrade the infrastructure to get rid of loadshedding. Now it is indicated that the money that come from National Treasury to Eskom is now being used to write off the debt of the municipalities to Eskom. You see where I am going with this. This is not to upgrade infrastructure. Madam Speaker, there is only one way to end loadshedding and to curb inflation and that is for voters to remove the ANC from office. Voters not only have an obligation to themselves but every other person in South Africa who is subjected to this abuse. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor MH Supi delivered his speech to Council, namely: “Madam Speaker, good morning and thank you for allowing me to submit my view as a community member of Thabure. Madam Speaker, not to say much. For purpose of understanding there are number of issues who have been conducted on this particular item, or recommendations, for the purpose of the community of Mangaung, I will refer to the bolded items/sentences.

Meaning of the deferment-the action or putting something off to a later time, postponement, (deferment of the decision).

Definitive Agreement: incorporating the alignment of effective in 2021/2023. I wonder if all of us were there in August 2021. This is impossible Madam Speaker because there is no conclusion on the accounting and legal treatment.

This is impossible as valuation of the asset were need to take place before decision is made whether the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality takes the asset of Centlec retains that. There is no conclusion on the legal treatment, which make the accounting treatment impossible to implement. Madam Speaker there is no conclusion made on the Senior Management or advise on the accounting and legal treatment. Madam Speaker there is no conclusion made and National Treasury has not been given the change to go through the report for comment or advice the city on the best legal and accounting treatment. Whilst the definitive agreement is talking about, is there a binding contract that records the final terms and conditions between two (2) companies in this case Mangaung Municipality and Centlec.

Section 12 of the local Government Municipal Structures Act of 1998 as per the establishment notice Published in the Free State Provincial Gazette, No 147 of 28 March 2011.

Section 86 B-deals with kinds of Municipal entities which are as per the following:

A private company

Established by one or more municipalities in terms of Part 2, or in which one or more municipalities have acquired or hold an interest in terms of part 2; read together with Part 3 and 4.

Note Madam Speaker, no municipality may establish, or participate in the establishment of, or acquire or hold an interest in, a corporate body, including a trust, except where such corporate body is:

- a) A private company, service utility or multi-jurisdictional service utility referred to in subsection (1); or
- b) A fund for the benefit of its employees in terms of regulation pension or medical aid schemes.

Madam Speaker, the ANC support and the ANC stands for deferring this item and I thank you."

The Acting Executive Mayor responded on questions asked as follows: "I think it should be acknowledged that what I am seeking today is the approval of the plan, and the consideration of the plan does not rest with the Council to serve, it does also go further levels and the National Treasury also have to apply its mind on it, and only then the necessary requirements would be tabled before the Council. I do not think it is advisable to score points, because once your mind is framed in that direction you turn to read what you prefer and can actually made a compelling statement without looking into other parameters of the involvement of the issue that we are dealing with and that tend to plan the thinking of an individual.

I think it is quite dangerous and it is not helping and I don't think it makes complete, if one thing is in that line. That is the first take that I will make Madam Speaker. The second would be a consideration of extending an olive branch in any normal society is the best weapon that could make MMM win. Remember we are one. We might be trying to see the other way around from our political divide, but we will be law. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Councillor BL Mathae made his speech and indicating the following, namely: "Madam Speaker, I would like to act on what the Executive Mayor was saying. I think Councillor D Leech must get her ducks in a row. Centlec is not indebted to Eskom. Centlec for over a period has been able to service its current account. It was only on the basis of the expectations between Centlec and Eskom that certain interests were accrued. On a normal basis Centlec will pay accounts towards the 30th or the end of the month. Eskom would insist that such an account should be paid mid-month. And it was only on the basis from that, that Centlec interests were generated. So please Councillor Leech get your ducks in a row. National Treasury has made a provision to all municipalities including municipalities that are run directly by the DA."

Councillor D Leech raised her point of order as follows: "I would like the Councillor to withdraw his comment. It is insulting and just on a clarity basis, if Centlec is not owing Eskom, why are they not on debt relief?"

The Speaker requested Councillor BL Mathae to withdraw his statement of "*getting your ducks in row*", because Councillor D Leech found it insulting.

Councillor BL Mathae withdrew his statement and further stated: "National Treasury made provisions to all municipalities including those run by DA to make direct applications with debt relief. Eskom is also making that provision to all municipalities. Unfortunately you were not there yesterday, Madam Speaker.

We were supposed to receive a briefing at the level of the Provincial Exco, where the Minister of Electricity was going to make this presentation, including a programme to extend Olive Branch to municipalities in terms of their debt relief. So when I say that Councillor D Leech must get her facts right.”

Councillor E Snyman-Van Deventer refer to Councillor BL Mathae through the Speaker sitting very comfortably on the Deputy Mayor’s position where he would not be sitting for long.

Councillor BL Mathae raised a point of order with regard to what Councillor E Snyman-Van Deventer has indicated and felt that it was insulting, whereupon Councillor E Snyman-Van Deventer was requested to withdraw her statement of which she indeed withdrew.

Councillor E Snyman-Van Deventer continued by referring to the Standing Rules and Orders: “Madam Speaker, there is a rule that says, ‘*conduct that is unbecoming of a councillor*’. When you refer to a Councillor like the previous Councillor did, that is “ *a conduct unbecoming of a councillor.*” So even if there is other reasons, that is straightforward a reason why you can ask him to withdraw.”

After the Speaker announced the voting results, Councillor GDP Kotze requested that it be minuted that the DA voted against the item.

It was thereupon, with 48 votes in favour, 23 against and 0 abstained.

RESOLVED that the Council resolution taken on 4 June 2021 on the implementation of the new sale of business and the resolution taken on 31 August 2021 requesting deferral on the implementation be deferred until both the Centlec Board and MMM Council agree on the best accounting and legal treatment for both entities.

**4.
MOTIVATION FOR MLM171 MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY CENTLEC (SOC)
LTD MUNICIPAL DEBT RELIEF APPLICATION**

Councillor SQ Peter delivered his speech to Council, namely: “Madam Speaker, let me put it properly, it is clear that what is a bit confusing now at some point, the very same speakers were relating to the very same item to combine it, but I must indicate one of the other reasons are that, we know very well that Centlec owing Eskom R500 million plus interests so far as indicated.

So we are taking advantage as Council in terms of Circular 124 of National Treasurer to say can we also apply to get this relief as we speak. Centlec has already drafted a request in line with that, but we must also indicate that among other residents whereby we are owing Eskom this much is because one would remember that between 2021/22 financial year and 2023/24 we got a huge difference in terms of the tariffs hike of Eskom whereby at some point for the 2021 we might have had a 1.9 shortfall in terms of the percentages as well as 2022/23 round about 3.5.

So as a result of that we are to take advantage of this briefer from National Treasury so there is no need for us to argue to say the story of loadshedding is not going to assist us. Amongst all the municipalities in the Free State we are also one of those be identified to submit your plan or request. I think we are only four (4) municipalities in the Free State. I think it is only fair that we approve this as Council in order to submit to National Treasury and grant us permission. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor E Snyman-Van Deventer delivered his speech to Council, namely: “Honourable Speaker, I really do not know who to believe now. Councillor SQ Peter said we owe Eskom and Councillor BL Mathae said we don’t, but according to the report in front of us, R400 million over three (3) years, R40 million per year, conditions to be met. For the Freedom Front Plus, this is a very difficult situation. The Freedom Front Plus is worried that due to the poor and bad management in Centlec and Mangaung, Centlec would not be able to keep to the conditions.

Clear indication of bad management is when you manage your payments, debts and interests to get to a debt of R400 million. I agree with everything that Councillor D Leech said referring the issue concerning Eskom when we spoke on the previous item. It is worrying when government owes government and then government uses tax payers money to get out of government own debts.

However we will vote for this item as it on the best interests of the residents of Mangaung but as long as Centlec is monitored to ensure that he keeps to the conditions and that is the important thing there should be measures in place to ensure that Centlec does what they are supposed to do. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor LW Lekgetho delivered his speech to the Council: “Madam Speaker, I think this is a straightforward item. All municipalities government introduced this government relief packages for all entities like Centlec, which will contribute to your twenty financial stability. At the same time as well known that the growing of debt will be written-off against this background. National Treasury municipal debt relief plan contained in MFMA Circular 124, it is a positive development of writing-off all the areas that are own by municipalities.

Now in return it will comply with the list of requirement which means that Centlec will continue to prioritise payment of bulk electricity, to ensure from the sale of service goes to the payment of Eskom so that we don't end up in the municipal debt situation. In this motive to apply for the National Treasury to qualify for Centlec for their relief it is set out in MFMA Circular 124, be provided by the Council as per application criteria and stipulated in Condition of Municipal Debt Relief, I therefor submit it Madam Speaker."

Councillor D Leech delivered her speech to Council: "Thank you, Madam Speaker, my colleague from the ANC is indeed correct in my apologies, I did jump the gun, and in fact combine the two items, but this bring me back to my point, madam speaker through you, Executive Mayor, If you can just clarify for me because I do not quite understand the recommendation clearly says *"the motivation to apply to National Treasury to qualify for the relief as set out in the MFMA, Circular No 124, be noted and approved by Council as per further application criteria;"* and if I then go look in that circular at point 3 it says: "Municipal Debt Relief Application Merit Based". Then on the first point it says: "The application must include the following minimum information." Copy of the Municipal Manager etc. and then 3.4 Council's approved plan to monthly monitor and report the municipalities compliance with the conditions.

So, I understand it must go to different departments and sections, but if you want this Council to approve a Council Plan in line with the requirements then it must include the information as stipulated within this document. So one cannot make decision and submit an application if all documents did not serve before Council. That basically give you a blank check to write into this document whatever you feel like and submitting it to National Treasury binding this Council to all decisions made in the documents, because this is a plan that must be implemented and if we don't act according to this plan then we can be held responsible. So, I for one would like to know what I am agreeing to submit to National Treasury. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The Acting Executive Mayor indicated as follows: "A complete product, we must also acknowledge what is subjected, in terms of seniority, and I don't think I have the energy Madam Speaker to be dealing with operational matters at the level of the Council. I have satisfied the Council with regards to what the document must contain, and I know this is not limited to. So, that is my answer, I thank you, Madam Speaker."

The Speaker announced the results as follows:

After the Speaker announced the voting results, Councillor GDP Kotze would like to be minuted that the DA voted against the item.

It was thereupon with 50 votes in favour, 20 votes against and 0 abstained.

RESOLVED to be within the compliance with the stipulated conditions as outlined in the MFMA Circular No. 124, CENTLEC (SOC) Ltd hereby recommends that:

1. The motivation to apply to the National Treasury to qualify for the relief as set out in MFMA Circular No. 124 be noted and approved by Council as per the application criteria.

5.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR THE RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF CENTLEC AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cllr E Snyman-Van Deventer delivered her speech as follows, namely: “Dankie Agbare Speaker. The biggest risk of Centlec is that there is no Board of Directors. The Audit Risk Committee is a committee of a board, how can you appoint a Board Committee if you do not have a board. I am sorry that the mayor is not here now. The Freedom Front Plus warned in this Council several times that the Board of Directors must be appointed as a matter of urgency. It must be a matter of urgency It must be a priority, Centlec for more than a year does not have a functional board of directors.

Just in view of that, it is clear that neither Centlec nor Mangaung will again have a qualified audit. Council cannot appoint the committee of the board in absence of a board, a shareholder does not have that power, and the Mol of Centlec does not provide for that. Let us do things right, let us start with the appointment of the Board of Directors. That must be our priority. The Executives and officials can do the day-to-day running of the business, but not the decision making. If we look at legislature the *Companies Act Section 66 and Section 70* deals with Board of Directors and with vacancies on the Board. It deals in *Section 72* with Board Committees and then the most frightened thing of all *Section 94* deals with the Audit Committee of Centlec.

Unfortunately, Centlec cannot have a functioning audit committee at the moment because there is no board, there must be three (3) directors serving on the Audit Committee in terms of Section 94 and it is a must. So, not only does Centlec not have a board it does not have a social and ethics committee. It does not fulfil the requirements of the companies act. A social and ethics committee requirements for SOC which is Centlec. I do not understand why this is before Council we cannot do anything regarding this, before there is a Board of Directors appointed for Centlec. And please keep in mind that is a responsibility of this Council to ensure that we have a Board of Directors appointed for Centlec and again I want to ask the NCR who’s focusses so much the pillars on which they base their work one which is governance. It is just good governance to ensure that the state on company you are responsible for has a Board of Directors. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor ME Dennis delivered her speech to Council, namely: “Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am fully covered by what Councillor E Snyman-Van Deventer said, but just for the sake of saying it, we are really putting the car before the horses. We cannot have a audit committee without a Board. I mean every person in business will tell you that is the proper way to do it. So, I just want to irritate what Councillor E Snyman-Van Deventer said and tell Mangaung Metro to get their ducks in a row.”

Councillor TM Mosala on a point of order stated: “Madam Speaker, Councillor ME Dennis may not have referred to anybody by name, but the fact that the speaker said the same words Councillor ME Dennis repeated, that even if she did not mentioned a name meaning she was talking to all ANC Councillors and that is highly unacceptable. Therefore I insist that Madam Speaker must ask Councillor ME Dennis to withdraw her statement like you did when you asked Councillor BL Mathae. Thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor ME Dennis then withdrew her statement.

Councillor CL Kruger delivered her speech to the Council, namely: “Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor, and all Councillors present, also the beautiful community of Mangaung. I cannot believe we are fighting over ducks today, but never dull day in South Africa.

Madam Speaker, you know its interesting when the opposition speak, they always speak from a place of superiority, as if we as the ruling party lacks common sense. We know that you can't appoint the audit committee for Centlec in the absence of the Board of Directors for Centlec. That is common sense because we all can read, maybe people must also adjust to the fact that we are not products, we are not matriculants some of us in this August house. We also when the doors of learning opened we used that opportunity, some of us do not like the leaders of the blue train who only come with Grade 12, some of us took it very further to qualify ourselves.

So I must say when you do your research as the opposition party please do it thoroughly. You will see that in the City Press we have advertised for the Board of Directors for Centlec and the advert is closing on Friday, and we are seeking approval now for the advertisement and not for the appointment, which means once we do the shortlisting, once the advert closes for this Committee we would have appointed the Board of Directors for Centlec. Honourable Professor you need not asked where is the Executive Mayor, because the Mayoral Committee is an extension of the executive mayor. We are dealing with Corporate Services, I am here and it is enough. So I am saying honourable speaker, let me just reiterate it again. The advert is closing on Friday, for the Board of Directors,

I think you should note that some people loves chaos in Mangaung, because chaos provides relevant for some people, but you must understand some of us have come to deliver on our mandate and not to become popular, we are rectifying these loose ends in Mangaung and we are moving forward and we must stay abreast with the developments please read thoroughly. Like we have alluded and like my councillor prof already alluded, that this becomes a board committee of the board of directors of Centlec, so that one is already thoroughly explained.

Therefore we as the ANC fully support this motion now we are closing range and we are showing the Mangaung residents that we are serious about power and we are closing range and we will never take it for granted. Nobody said is the fact that no amount of slander from the opposition will ever result in votes if Mangaung do not want you, they don't want you. We are here as the governing party as the ruler of society to fulfil our mandate. We as the ANC support this. I thank you.”

It was thereupon with 64 votes in favour, 6 against and 0 abstained.

RESOLVED that approval is granted for placing an advertisement calling applications to fill the vacancies that have arisen as a result of resignation and contract expirations of the erstwhile members.

6.

SALARY PACKAGES FOR SUPPORT STAFF AT PUBLIC OFFICE BEARERS (POBS)

Councillor MM Letawana delivered her speech to Council: “Thank you, Madam Speaker, Acting Executive Mayor, Acting Chief Whip, Honourable Councillors and community of Mangaung at large.

Madam Speaker allow me to first indicate that Section 151(2) of the Constitution of the Republic gives the Council the powers to make decisions relating to functions of the Municipality, and recognising that a municipal council’s decision making authority is limited to matters that are expressed by law or the council itself and matters reasonably necessary for and incidentally to those assigned matters.

The African National Congress would like to support the remuneration of political staff, inline with the SALGBC. We are supporting that with the understanding that rules establish must apply to everybody and by extension the remuneration of the political employees staff as well. And furthermore Madam Speaker, allow me to further indicate that the Municipal Staff Regulation of 2021 Section 5(4) indicates that the municipality upon boot good cause shown may derive some of their establish rules after considering factors such as among others the financial capacity of the municipality with the salary bill not exceeding financial norms. A good cause in this case Madam Speaker is to ensure that the Mangaung communities receive services as expressed in the constitution.

Secondly, is to make sure that we take interest by way in ensuring that the personal development is taking care of and such will include their help as well as their exit packages. Total cost to employer, Madam Speaker meant that employees are given discretion to restricting their salary according to their needs and this has proven over years that many ex-employees of this municipality did not benefit as envisaged. And bringing in the SALGBC package Madam Speaker will mean that we actually taking care of their social welfare and in line Madam Speaker conclude by saying as we support the SALGBC package let me also further indicate that in this as the ANC we are also taking interest of those employees that are working specifically in those political offices that belongs to the DA. We are also saying that they must also been taking care of and we support the item. I thank you.”

Councillor JH Denner delivered his speech as follows, namely: “Honourable Speaker. It is a sad day in Mangaung, not a single Council or can confidently agree that by looking at our services groups and the amount of tickets logged and complaints of infrastructure failing is at all at an acceptable level. This is not due to the competence of the teams tasked to attend to these problems and to close these tickets, but rather to a shortage of teams and resources. Yet we are discussing how many and at what exorbitant rates we are going to appoint more political staff.

Mangaung urgently needs engineers and artisans, not researchers and more secretaries at salaries that would shock the private sector. This state, especially on local government level must be an employment creator by stimulating and supporting the local economy through proper service delivery and never a sole employment provider. Mangaung is probably the worst managed metro in South Africa.

Keep in mind this is a Country with very little management success stories in the municipal space, and Mangaung is the worst. Mangaung can surely use this R10 million plus to appoint experienced and knowledgeable engineers.

Madam Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus visits repair sites be it water or electricity on a regular basis and it is clear that the workers on the ground are more than willing and able to service these tickets and we thank them for that, but they are unable to do their jobs because they don't have necessary tools and resources. This is a management problem and proves the lack of proper management in this Metro. Political appointments with huge salaries do not improve service or improve management. The ANC has failed us all. The people of Mangaung will sort you out at the ballot box next year. Julle sal sien."

Councillor PA Lotriet delivered his speech, namely: "Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just want to take up of what the previous speaker said. I agree with him to the point that the problem we have in Mangaung is a political problem, not clearly a administrative problem. The political structure must be strong enough to support the political, cause ultimately we keep the political arm responsible. There is no point for running around at your ward and write down how many sewerage are blocked, because that is the job of the municipality and we should keep the politicians accountable.

They have to see that the Municipality do their work. We are not building a structure outside the structure. The structure has worked in the past, sometimes better, sometimes worst, but what we need to do is to get the structure work. I hear what the ANC says honourable speaker, they are full of provado in terms of the next election. I don't think the people believe you anymore. I am sorry to say that but I don't think they believe you. Honourable Speaker, back to the point as I said I have been covered more or less. I just need clarity and before I do that I know that the department responsible for this work has done this under difficult circumstances like hurry up and wait but appreciate the work that you have done. We need clarity on this thirty percent (30%) extra on the structure and if I do quick sums of that 10 million extra 10 – 12 million extra. What are they going to do. How much bail they going to get. Thank you speaker."

Councillor CL Kruger delivered her speech, namely: "Agbare Speaker, dit gaan my verstand te bowe. Ja Afrikaans is eerste taal. Dit gaan my verstand te bowe hoe die opposisie menigte klagtes gerug het in terme van die salarisse van die political staff, en nou is die opposisie nou so in skok in dat die ANC neem dinge in ag voordat ons besluite neem. You know it is strange that opposition made a fuss of the salary scale of the political staff and now they are in shock because the ruling party under the leadership of the Executive Mayor in this Council took into cognisance all factors, because it is not about wright or wrong anymore t is about the citizens of Mangaung, and the main is wisdom, advise and let reverse it.

We have legitimately Madam Speaker, approved the resolution in Council for that salaries. As the ruling party it would be to our benefit if we could have stick to the previous salaries, because we will be the most affected because we dominate in terms of your political staff as per amount of votes we got and I know we have people that do their maths from the opposition and they know what I mean by that.

From saying Madam Speaker, now we come back and we say as the ruling party we will be mostly effected financially if we re-struct it like this, but it is not for us and we are not doing the politic of stomach anymore, we are doing the politics of saving Mangaung for the residents of Mangaung.

As for the advice of the National Cabinet Representative in terms of the financial recovery plan cost containment becomes a reality and a priority and we must do business in accordance to that. That is why we want to rethink that resolution that was legitimately taken last month. We want to change from the cost to employer to the SALGBC. That is the one that we are proposing. I must comment the Executive Mayor in his wisdom for guiding us in that direction and for showing the residents of Mangaung that money is not a priority for the ruling party.

Your wellbeing is, because let me do the basic calculation, because I heard the previous speaker did another calculation as it is contained within the documents we received on the last page. The previous salaries would have acquitted to R54 million on a yearly basis but if we take from the new salary scale as this house today, it will accumulate to R31 730 232, which means it is a saving of R22 998 297, and I hope the residents of Mangaung take cognisance of this move from the ruling party to say, "lets change the salary scale we are not move or motivated by money anymore, we are servants of the people and we are guided by what is needed for the residents". I support what my previous councillor has said from the ANC, we support this and we cannot wait to show the residents of Mangaung when you vote next week just remember you are our priority. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

The Speaker indicated as follows:

- **That on June 2, 2023 there was a Council meeting, where certain resolutions were taken and that the item seeks to review those decisions, because the salary package structure was already approved, but it had to be amended.**
- **That according to the Standing Rules and Orders, to amend or rescind a Council decision within three (3) months, Rule 47.1 then dealt with the suspension of Standing Rules and Orders which indicate that *"no standing order shall be suspended without the votes of the majority of members of the Council present which must be at least 60% members present and a motion duly seconded to suspend the standing orders shall be put without debate"*.**
- **That, if the Council would want to amend the Council Resolution of June 2, a councillor needed to make a motion to suspend Rule 29(5) of the Standing Rules and Orders for this item to be seconded and then 60% of the Councillors need to vote for the item to be continued."**

The Acting Chief Whip indicated the following, namely: "Madam Speaker, thank you. I think I am not going to repeat what everybody has said. I think Councillor CL Kruger has represented us very well, because this item is in the best interest of the Financial Recovery Plan.

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It is in the best interests of the citizens of Mangaung and it is unfortunate Madam Speaker that it will never be in the best interest of other people in other side of the benches because after today they will never have something that they will go and talk about us wherever they go about the salaries of the public of his bearers in Mangaung, because that matter the ANC would have dealt with it.

So meaning the worst losers after today would be the opposition benches and the ANC will remain the champion of the people, the only leader of the society in Mangaung and as Councillor CL Kruger has correctly indicated someone said in the Council that the people will reject us next year. I am saying some were already been rejected come the 19th they will see it.

I therefore move Madam Speaker to request the Council to suspend **paragraph 29.5 of the Standing Rules and Orders of the municipality** which read and indicates that we have to amend or rescind a resolution that was passed by the Council on the preceding three (3) months to ensure that we effect the changes in the salary packages of the political office bearers officials so that it be reduced to what Councillor CL Kruger has indicated so that we can have for the people of Mangaung a saving of more than R20 million all in all. As a result of that Madam Speaker, I so move. Thank you.”

The Speaker announced the results as follows for the suspension of *Rule 29.5* for the item: 50 voted in favour, 20 against and 0 abstained.

Councillor CL Kruger indicated and also to be noted that the very same opposition parties raised complains about the absorbent salaries are the ones who did not want the committee to change to other salaries and hope in this instance that the report from Volksblad Me Marike would also highlight that and also that the salaries are not thumb suck but regulated and work according the law.

It was thereupon with 50 votes in favour, 3 against and 17 abstained.

RESOLVED

that Council:

- (a) Review the decision of 02 June 2023 – Council Resolution 83.11- staff establishment at public office bearers as it relate to salary packages.
- (b) Amend and approve cost effective salary package (SALGBC) and simultaneous internal and external advertisement of the positions to fast track filling of the positions.
- (c) Policy on recruitment and employment of support staff at public office bearers be developed and tabled to Council within 2 months.

1.

REPORT ON COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS FOR THE FOURTH QUARTER OF THE 2021/2022 FINANCIAL YEAR AND THE FIRST & SECOND QUARTER OF THE 2022/2023 FINANCIAL YEAR

Speaker presented the report as follows, namely: “These are the Council resolutions that we have taken in Council. This report is only for noting. I think it is self-explanatory. The report also state which council resolutions have been implemented, which have not been implemented and reasons for it not been implemented.”

She also indicated that the NCR did not sign of the report. The reason been that the NCR, Ms G Malaza only joined from November 2022 and could not sign on the 2021/22 financial year resolutions because she was not the NCR by that time, as Mr P Maseko was still the NCR.

Councillor TM Mosala delivered her speech to Council, namely:

“Let me greet the Acting Executive Mayor, the Council Whip, the Provincial Chairperson of SALGA, the Councillors, the residents of Mangaung at large.

Madam Speaker, first and for most Council sitting dated November 7, 2022, Council agenda Item 187.1 Tabling of Council resolution for the period November 2021 until June 2022. The Council resolution in question reads as follows, (a) Under resolution it says that the Municipal Council takes note of the register of Council resolution report (b) that the Municipal Council takes note of the progress made on the implementation of Council resolutions; (c) that the management is instructed to implement all outstanding council resolutions and (d) that the Acting City Manager is required to submit progress report on the implementation of Council resolutions quarterly.

Madam Speaker, the same item, the resolutions for the fourth (4th) quarter of the 2021/22 financial year was dealt with on the 7th of November 2022 as Item 187.1. As a result there is no need for this August house to re-open the item as it was resolved. Speaker a resolution is a formal statement of opinion or decision to take action hence individual proceedings. Resolution means a judgement or decision of the court. I want to question this Council. We should disseised from wasting community of Mangaung's time by being so lazy to read the resolution which leads us to bring the same items more than ones. I also want to question this Council to take note that failure of this Council to implement the resolutions on time may result in the Council being litigated and may also force us to lose the authority to implement some of the resolutions due to not adhering to timeframes.

Madam Speaker, when we look at this report under implementation/comments column on your resolution registry there are some items where you did not indicate whether the resolutions are implemented or not. We do not even have comments Speaker. On the column as I indicated honourable speaker, please enlighten the community of Mangaung how do we note a half made report. Firstly your report on this item in question has already been dealt with. The fourth (4th) quarter of 2021/22 on the 7th of November.

Secondly, you submitted an incomplete and false report to this Council. Let me make an example of what I am referring to. When you check No 12 of the Council dated November 7, 2022 on your report, Item 187.1 Tabling of Council resolutions dated November 2021 until June 2022, under the column, you did not indicate whether this item was implement or not. You even failed to give us a comment as the Council.

Madam Speaker when you go to Council meeting dated Wednesday, 15 June 2022 under Item 114.1 Tabling of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipal Integrated Development Plan as well as Sectoral Plan 2022/27 for approval, under resolution column it says:

vote in favour = 66,

against = 0,

abstain = 25, and yet you bolded not approved did not get majority vote, but it says in favour = 66. Under implementation/comments you say it is implemented. It is implemented and yet it did not get majority votes. How do you implement something you say did not get majority vote and yes the votes says 66 in favour of.

As if that is not enough we have 114.2 it says: vote in favour = 66 under the comments it says implemented. When you turn the page it says against = 0, abstain = 25, you also go further to say not approved, did not get majority votes. Clearly somebody is not doing his work right in your office, Madam Speaker.

You go to Friday, June 3, 2022 under item 107.1 it still say the same thing in favour = 66, against = 0, abstain = 25, not approved did not get majority vote. I am beginning to question if we have issues of calculations of something. When you say it did not get majority of votes and yet in favour was 66 and you continue to implement.”

Councillor VE De Kock delivered her speech as follows: “Madam Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus would like to thank the office of the Speaker for the register of resolutions. This register will hopefully serve as the conscious of the Council and those of the metro officials. Since the item is for noting, I only have a couple of questions:

- When will the appointment of the permanent City Manager be finalised?
- The entire report is riddled with execution letters not been signed by the Acting City Manager and the City Manager must give the report to Council. When will this happen? On May 12, 2022, Council resolved that Council adopted the recommendations of the external investigators which amongst others included, that the allegations the MMC: Corporate Services been investigated in terms of the Council’s Code of Conduct. Sixteen (16) months later and the only step follow was the handing over the file to the Independent Committee enforcing this code of conduct on 30 June 2022 be referred back. When will this investigation be concluded?
- What happened to the investigations against Mr Mpele, Mr Maswabi and the Chief of Staff. Were civil processes initiated to recruit money, if not, why not? How can we as Council keep officials accountable if certain councillors show disregard for our own resolutions.

A comprehension timetable of all committee meetings were to be concluded and incorporated. This item was again deliberated on the meeting of the 29th of July 2022 with turnaround times for when committee meetings date should be submitted.

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This Council is still waiting for these meeting dates. How does some of the Section 80 Committee meetings advise the Executive Mayor if they only had one (1) meeting in twenty (20) months? Indigencies, 19 August 2022, what happened to the resolution that this Council took that the Indigent Register serve before Council every three (3) months. Again, 19 August 2022, filling of vacancies in the Municipal Planning Tribunal. Almost a year later and the vacancies were not filled yet. Advertisements to go out by month end.

- Which month of which year? How many more selection panels will be approved before the City Manager will eventually be appointed.?
- Can we have a breakdown of reasons for staff members hampering this process? It seems like the process followed into a certain point and dies a quite death. Everything must start all over at whose costs? What or shall we ask who is standing in the way of the process here.
- Funeral group scheme for Mangaung Councillors, 19 August 2022, a process that can safe this Metro millions of rands, and it is still not finalised, due to admin challenges. 7 November 2022 community safety forums, implemented but level of implementation still to be reported to Council. When can we expect the report from the Acting City Manager on this?

We hereby do take note of the register of Council resolutions. We also with great concern take note of the progress made on the implementation of certain Council resolutions. Council resolutions not implemented are proceed that Council disregard, disrespected and Council's power of oversight are been undermined by such negligence and ill-discipline. Through you, Madam Speaker, a note to Councillor TM Mosala, Council does not implement so it is imperative to go back time and time again until Council resolutions are implemented. Thank you. Madam Speaker.”

Councillor GDP Kotze delivered his speech to Council: “Thank you, Madam Speaker. Before I start my speech, I would just like to assist Councillor TM Mosala that you were only been the Speaker since March and Councillor Stefanie Lockman-Naidoo was then the Speaker.

This submission is to provide feedback on Council resolution on progress made from the date the intervention team was appointed by COGTA. Many times in this Council an appointed administrator would use a statement that Council is not doing its work or is not doing enough oversight. I would like to highlight a few resolutions that prove this statement wrong. On the 12th of May, Council unanimously voted for the appointment of the Municipal Ombudsman. This motion was not implemented because the previous Acting City Manager needs to report back to Council to sign the execution letter. More than a year later and Council are still waiting for the report.

Can we please get an explanation why! Council also voted unanimously to implement an action plan to resolve refuse collection and a negative environmental impact cause to the metro in a sustainable and feasible manner. This was not implemented because the Acting City Manager needs to report back to Council within thirty (30) days. Residents of Mangaung this is why your refuse is still not collecting regularly for the increase tariff of eight (8%) percent.

External investigations around the then HOD: Corporate Services, Mr DSR Nkaiseng, Council voted for a motion but parcel implemented the Acting City Manager dragged his feet and then Nkaiseng already was re-deployed as a cadre, caught out at the Municipality. On the 29th of July, Council voted unanimously for the establishment of the Section 79 Portfolio Oversight Committees.

The Acting City Manager and NCR should have reported back to Council within thirty (30) days. Today mark 341 days later and Council still have not received the report. On the 7th of November, Council voted for the establishment of a Community Safety Forum now everybody ask is Mangaung still a safe place. *“No it is not because the ANC and its cadres, cannot implement resolutions taken by this Council.”* Madam Speaker, Councillors are voted in by members of the public and the residents are our first priority. On the 7th of June the NCR stated that they received a very hostile welcome from Council and the Municipal Manager. Through you, Madam Speaker, NCR needs to take note that services in Mangaung is not delivered since 2016. Residents suffered under Motlashuping, Ntate Mea and his corrupt HOD's.

I must reiterate that Councillors are doing the job of the call centre working everybody for services be delivered while the General Managers and HOD's are getting big salaries.

I conclude it with the following, *“Trust is earned, Respect is given and Loyalty is demonstrated. A betrayal of any of these is to lose all three”*. I thank you, Madam Speaker.”

Councillor TB van der Walt delivered his speech as follows: “Baie dankie Speaker. Agbare Waarnemende Burgemeester en Waarnemende Stadsbestuur, Nasionale Kabinet teenwoordig, die Raad en mees belangrik die inwoners van Bloemfontein. I just want to raise a few points from the report. In the first instant a number of motions were served before Council. Most of which were unanimously supported and referred to the City Manager for implementation and still have not been done, for example the Section 79 Committees that are oversight committees over the different departments or functions or important priorities of the City.

This aligns 100% with the National Practices and the Financial Recovery Plan, recommendations to ensure proper good governance transparency and stability in governance. Council ordered the Office of the City Manager to bring these items back to Council within thirty (30) days, however this has still not happened. This is unacceptable for me and just as an example that for a long time we did not have Section 80 Committees that could do Oversight over the different Chairperson over the different departments even if there is no Mayoral Committee, then refuge collection, my colleague touched on it, but residents do not want to pay for a service which is not delivered and you must expect that there will be challenges increasing rates with worse service delivery as we see now in Johannesburg happening.

Lastly there was a resolution on the Ward Committee stipend. There is no indication of the reason why this is not implemented. Sometimes the only people in our wards for weeks who get some sort of payment from Mangaung and are present and working in our wards doing the work of Officials are the Ward Committee Members and the Councillors. So I still believe this is important, the resolution that needs to be implemented.

Then regarding the Municipal Planning and Tribunal Spatial Plan (MPT), firstly we have massive vacancies and it is now been fifteen (15) months and these vacancies have not been filled. A lot of them have been identified as critical vacancies in different departments including town planning which have a 16% vacancy rate. Town Planning we have a handful of officials that are supposed to do transport planning, engineering services, township development, informal settlement, upgrading (there is one official who is responsible for that).

In City of Cape Town, they have more than one thousand three hundred (1300) officials who do the transport planning department. If you want to know why the roads look different in Cape Town as compared to the rest of the country, go and look at the amount of officials which are appointed in their Planning and Development Offices. They've got fifty (50) managers in Development Management. Each with two (2) different job descriptions and who are responsible to do their little bit in conjunction of all the different managers. In Mangaung we are working silos and there are no people to do their work anyway. As far as I understand there is an item that were supposed to come to Council, regarding the vacancies and also the vacancies of the MPT that has not come to Council. These are critical items, why are they not coming to Council and why are they being blocked?

Secondly, the quarterly report we are in non-compliance of laws and by-laws by not even bringing to Council reports on the decisions and the applications that the MPT have handled. There was one quarterly report and a bit further back at one meeting was presented to Council every month there were supposed to be decisions made by Council and residents must be informed and this must be brought to Council. In terms of Spatial Planning, cordially, fair and responsive planning can grow our economy and create jobs which raises municipal income. Bloemfontein can either become a shrinking city like Detroit or a growing city. The difference will be how are we able to attract talent to Bloemfontein, will we be able to grow our workforce and our economy. Thank you Speaker.”

The Speaker stated that the Committee have to keep in mind that the resolutions have been taken prior to her being the Speaker of the Council. It is not her prerogative to go and change documents but the Council is supposed to check the resolutions if it is a true reflection of what has been decided by the Council. The Speaker decided that the item be withdrawn to work on the mistakes on the report and bring back the correct document to Council.

WITHDRAWN.

2.

PROGRAMME SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS OF THE MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY FOR THE 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR (JULY 2023 – JUNE 2024)

Councillor NP Pholoholo delivered her speech to Council as follows: “Honourable Acting Executive Mayor, Honourable Acting Council Whip, Honourable Councillors, Honourable Community of Mangaung at large.

9E

Honourable Speaker it is stipulated in Municipal Structures Act as well as Rule 4 of the Council Standing Rules and Orders: *“that the Speaker is responsible for the schedule of ordinary council meetings for a period of twelve (12) months”*.

It is regrettably to mention that in the past years that Municipal Council did not adhere to that as a result the Council embark on many special meetings which is also a very serious problem on the smooth running of the Municipality.

Functional Committees of the Council are very critical components in making sure that the oversight responsibilities are assisting the Municipality to realise its goal, le toro eo ANC e nang le yone, ya go direla setshaba sa Mangaung.

Fa ke feleletsa Madam Speaker, ga ke itse, a ke molato o tsamyang le mogatisi, gone, on annexure B 2022/2024 financial year 2024, ya re 28 February 2023 and 27 June 2022. Kealeboha.”

Councillor MA Dintlhwane delivered her speech to Council as follows: “Thank you, Madam Speaker. It is a privilege to support this item. Madam Speaker it is wise for the Council to approve the draft programme Schedule of the meeting of Mangaung Municipal Council. As we are Councillors, we must improve in coordination of Council. Can we stick to the dates of the Council sittings.

As the Committees always prepared themselves to watch Council, as we are Councillors, we have prepared the meetings in our communities, so if sometimes we change the dates, it is not right at all. I am pleading with Councillors to be professional and as ANC we support this item. Thank you Madam Speaker.”

It was thereupon unanimously

RESOLVED

- (a) That Council approves the *amended draft* program schedule of meetings of the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipal Council for the period July 2023 to June 2024,
- (b) That Council approved programme schedule of meetings be uploaded on the Municipal website and (relevant media platforms) of the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality and
- (c) That Councillors and administration diarize the dates as per the schedule attached to the report.

3.

APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERIM CHAIRPERSON FOR SECTION 79 A: MUNICIPAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (MPAC)

The Speaker indicated that there was not much to explain on the item, that it was brought to Council due to the dysfunction of the MPAC Committee at this stage, because there was no Chairperson for the Section 79 A: Municipal Public Accounts Committee. MPAC Committee needed to report back to Council with regards to the Oversight report on the Annual Performance Report. Therefore because there were still court cases going ahead where the MPAC Chairperson was also involved and that at that stage a permanent Chairperson could not be appointed to overcome these impasse, Council needed to elect an interim chairperson for the Section 79 MPAC so that the committee can commence with their work and bring back the report to Council regarding the Oversight on the annual report, because the Municipality was not complying.

Councillors nominated as follows:

Cllr GDP Kotze nominated Cllr D Leech and was seconded by Cllr S Pretorius whereupon Cllr D Leech accepted the nomination.

Cllr TA Mohono nominated Cllr IJ Makoloane and was seconded by Cllr TS Fantisi whereon Cllr IJ Makoloane accepted the nomination.

The Speaker allowed voting by show of hands and thereafter announced results as follows, namely:

Councillor D Leech = 15

Councillor IJ Makoloane = 48

Abstained = 1

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that

- a) The Municipal Council take note of this report.
- b) The Municipal Council elected ***Councillor IJ Makoloane*** as interim Chairperson for the Section 79A: Municipal Public Account Committee (MPAC)

114.	REPORTS FROM THE AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE
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None.

NOTED.

115.	REPORTS FROM THE MPAC
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None.

NOTED.

116.	IN COMMITTEE REPORTS
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Prior to dealing with the In Committee items, the Speaker requested all HODs, officials, media and the public in the gallery to be excused from the meeting and that the live streaming be switched off.

Prior to continuing with In Committee items to confirm a quorum, the Speaker indicated that 49 Councillors were present in the meeting including herself. She then suspended the meeting for 20 minutes.

Thereafter, the Speaker indicated that in accordance with Rule 16 of the Standing Rules and Orders 16.1: *“if during any sitting of the Council or any Committee, the attention of the Speaker or chairperson is called to the number of members present, he/she shall count them, and if found they are not a quorum present, the matter shall be dealt with in accordance with 12 above”*.

Rule 12.2: In the event of no quorum for a meeting, the meeting must be suspended for no more than 20 minutes, and if at the end of the said period there is still no quorum, the Speaker or chairperson may suspend the meeting for such a period he/she deems fit and thereafter adjourn the meeting to another date, time and/or venue.

As these items are dealt with In Committee, the discussions are minuted separately and only the voting outcomes and the resolutions of the Council are outlined below.

NOTED.

1.

CONFIRMATION OF IN COMMITTEE MINUTES

- i. Special Meeting: Thursday, April 25, 2023

Not dealt with as there was no quorum.

NOTED.

**2.
REPORT BY THE SELECTION PANEL ON THE RECRUITMENT, SELECTION AND
APPOINTMENT OF SENIOR MANAGERS**

Not dealt with as there was no quorum.

NOTED.

**3.
ACTING APPOINTMENT OF THE HOD: ENGINEERING SERVICES**

Not dealt with as there was no quorum.

NOTED.

**4.
REPORT OF THE SPEAKER TO THE COUNCIL OF MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPALITY ON THE APPOINTMENT OF AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE
MEMBERS**

Not dealt with as there was no quorum.

NOTED.

117.	QUESTIONS
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**1.
QUESTIONS SUBMITTED IN TERMS OF RULE 38 OF THE STANDING RULES AND ORDERS**

Cllr JC Pretorius mentioned that there was a typo, it was Cllr JC Pretorius not Cllr W Pretorius and further that he will respond in writing.

NOTED.

118.	MOTIONS
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None.

NOTED.

119.	CLOSING OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
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The meeting adjourned at 16h03.