CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES
of a
SPECIAL MEETING

MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

COUNCIL CHAMBER
FIRST FLOOR
BRAM FISCHER BUILDING
BLOEMFONTEIN

FRIDAY
28 MARCH 2025
AT 10:00

MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPALITY

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
of the
MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
held IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, BRAM FISCHER BUILDING
BLOEMFONTEIN
on FRIDAY, 28 MARCH 2025 at 10H00

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

#	NAME	PARTY	LEAVE
1	Speaker Cllr Mathae (Bongani Lawrence)	ANC	
2	Executive Mayor Cllr Nthatisi (Gregory Mosala Solomon)	ANC	
3	Deputy Executive Mayor Cllr Titi-Odili (Lulama Magdelina)	ANC	
4	Council Whip Cllr Nikelo (Vumile Edwin)	ANC 28	
SECTION 79 CHAIRPERSONS			
5	Rules Cllr Mokgothu (Tona Kenosi Wilfred)	ANC 2	
6	MPAC Cllr Makoloane (Itumeleng Justice)	ANC 36	
7	Petitions and Community Liaison Cllr Morake (Molefi Andries)	ANC	
8	Remunerations Cllr Tladi (Motshewa Martha)	ANC	Absent with apology
9	Public Places and Street Naming Cllr Mogotloane (Thabo Joel)	ANC 39	
MEMBERS OF THE MAYORAL COMMITTEE (SECTION 80 CHAIRPERSONS)			
10	Waste and Fleet Management Cllr Jonas (Vuyelwa Eunice)	ANC	
11	Economic Development Cllr Mosala (Motlhokung Theodorah)	ANC 11	Absent with apology
12	Public Safety Cllr Tsoleli (Sibongile Pearm)	ANC	
13	Technical Services Cllr Soqaga (Vusumzi Simon)	ANC	
14	Finance Cllr Kruger (Caprice Logan)	ANC 16	
15	Planning and Human Settlements Cllr Nhlapo (Ntombi Anna)	ANC	
16	Rural Development Cllr Twala (Pani Sidney)	ATM	
17	Community Services Cllr Qai (Alfred)	AIC	
18	Corporate Services Cllr Letawana (Manthuse Maria)	ANC	

PR COUNCILLORS			
#	**NAME**	**PARTY**	**LEAVE**
19	**Cllr Bothma (Andries Francois)**	**DA**	
20	**Cllr Bouwer (Chadwine Lyle)**	**DA**	
21	**Cllr Davies (Maryke)**	**DA**	
22	**Cllr De Bruin (John Matthews)**	**PA**	
23	**Cllr De-Huis (Dikeledi Jane)**	**EFF**	
24	**Cllr De Kock (Valerie Belinda)**	**FFPlus**	
25	**Cllr Denner (John Henry)**	**FFPlus**	
26	**Cllr Dennis (Magdalena Elizabeth)**	**DA**	
27	**Cllr Ferreira (Thomas Ignatius)**	**DA**	**Absent with apology**
28	**Cllr Klaasen Raynie Sarah**	**DA**	
29	**Cllr Letsoko (Mantwa Sanah)**	**EFF**	
30	**Cllr Lipale (Gopolang Jeremiah)**	**EFF**	**Absent with apology**
31	**Cllr Makau (Pitso Elias)**	**EFF**	
32	**Cllr Malebo (Deliwe Lettia)**	**EFF**	
33	**Cllr Maliela (Motiki Edwin)**	**DA**	
34	**Cllr Matobole (Mosala Abel)**	**DA**	
35	**Cllr Matsoetlane (Maditaba Joyce)**	**ANC**	
36	**Cllr Mogotsi (Mamahlape Elisa)**	**EFF**	
37	**Cllr Mohlamme (Lebohang Lerato)**	**DA**	**Absent with apology**
38	**Cllr Mokoena (John Itumeleng)**	**AASD**	
39	**Cllr Mongale (Mojalefa William)**	**AASD**	
40	**Cllr Moreeng (Kabelo Christopher)**	**DA**	
41	**Cllr Mtshakazane (Eunice Xoliswa)**	**EFF**	
42	**Cllr Njiva-Lebajoa (Mamotse)**	**DA**	

43	**Cllr Phohleli (Tsholwane Eddy)**	**EFF**	
44	**Cllr Ramatlama (Mpho Joseph)**	**EFF**	
45	**Cllr Rammile (Tumelo Kingsley)**	**DA**	
46	**Cllr Rampai (Pule Joseph)**	**ACDP**	**Absent with apology**
47	**Cllr Sebolao (Jankie Elisha)**	**EFF**	
48	**Cllr Shale (Nkahiseng Reginah)**	**EFF**	
49	**Cllr Snyman (Pieter Adriaan)**	**DA**	
50	**Cllr Snyman van Deventer (Elizabeth)**	**FFPlus**	
51	**Cllr Swartz (Sophia Mametjie)**	**PA**	
52	**Cllr Terblanche (Arthur Phillip)**	**DA**	
53	**Cllr Thomas (Johannes Beleme)**	**EFF**	
54	**Cllr Viviers (Benhardus Jacobus)**	**DA**	
55	**Cllr Vorster (Braam)**	**FFPlus**	**Absent with apology**
56	**Cllr Wewege (Mare-Lize)**	**FFPlus**	

WARD COUNCILLORS

#	**NAME**	**PARTY WARD**	**SIGNATURE**
57	**Cllr Sefaki (Samuel)**	**ANC 1**	
58	**Cllr Machachamise (Tshepiso Oudious)**	**ANC 3**	
59	**Cllr Supi (Mahoko Harold)**	**ANC 4**	
60	**Cllr Lecoko (Lehlohonolo Nathaniel)**	**ANC 5**	
61	**Cllr Moiloa (Tshidiso Petrus)**	**ANC 6**	
62	**Cllr Sehloho (Siza Clement)**	**ANC 7**	
63	**Cllr Nyaphudi (Likeleli Julia)**	**ANC 8**	**Absent with apology**
64	**Cllr Tlhakung (Betty Masetlhabi)**	**ANC 9**	
65	**Cllr Setlai (Teboho Lesley)**	**ANC 10**	

66	**Cllr Hashatsi (Rafedile)**	**ANC 12**	**Absent without apology**
67	**Cllr Sitoe (Nombulelo Dorcas)**	**ANC 13**	
65	**Cllr Lekgetho (Lebogang Winston)**	**ANC 14**	
69	**Cllr Mohibidu (Pulane Martha)**	**ANC 15**	
70	**Cllr Mohatle (Mampone Sally)**	**ANC 17**	
71	**Cllr Van Noord (Gregory Owen)**	**DA 18**	
72	**Cllr Peter (Seth Qondile)**	**ANC 19**	
73	**Cllr Van Rensburg (Corize)**	**DA 20**	
74	**Cllr Lotriet (Pieter Adam)**	**DA 21**	
75	**Cllr Cronje (Jan-Hendrik)**	**DA 22**	
76	**Cllr van der Walt (Tjaart Botha)**	**DA 23**	
77	**Cllr Kotze (Gerhardus Dirk Petrus)**	**DA 24**	
78	**Cllr Kotze (Paul Mare´)**	**DA 25**	
79	**Cllr van Niekerk (Hendrik Johannes Christiaan)**	**DA 26**	**Absent with apology**
80	**Cllr Banyane (Zachous Nechodemus)**	**ANC 27**	
81	**Cllr Matsephe (Dikololo Elias)**	**ANC 29**	
82	**Cllr Tukula (Teboho Daniel)**	**ANC 30**	
83	**Cllr Mabena (Mere Joel)**	**ANC 31**	
84	**Cllr Menyatso (Thabang Victory)**	**ANC 32**	
85	**Cllr Mohono (Tshidiso Augustine)**	**ANC 33**	
86	**Cllr Tshwane (Kabi Daniel)**	**ANC 34**	
87	**Cllr Fantisi (Teboho Samuel)**	**ANC 35**	

88	**Cllr Ramolelle (Mmota Simon)**	**ANC 37**	
89	**Cllr Matsoso (Molahloane Florenciah)**	**ANC 38**	
90	**Cllr Pholoholo (Ntebaleng Pertunia)**	**ANC 40**	
91	**Cllr Dintlhwane (Mantja Agnes)**	**ANC 41**	
92	**Cllr Mothupi (Maqoma Lazarus)**	**ANC 42**	
93	**Cllr Nkiane (Mpho Elizabeth)**	**ANC 43**	
94	**Cllr Pretorius (Selmé)**	**DA 44**	
95	**Cllr Mathe (Lisiwe Jeanette)**	**ANC 45**	
96	**Cllr Majoro (Mpho Samuel)**	**ANC 46**	
97	**Cllr Maartens (Jan-Rudolf)**	**DA 47**	
98	**Cllr Pretorius (Johannes Christiaan)**	**DA 48**	**Absent with apology**
99	**Cllr Lekhwele (Mohanuwa Julia)**	**ANC 49**	
100	**Cllr Monare (Thabo Nicholus)**	**ANC 50**	**Absent without apology**
101	**Cllr Mohulatsi (Mamoorosi Margaret)**	**ANC 51**	

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

#	DESIGNATION	NAME/S
1	**CITY MANAGER**	**MR SELLO MORE**
2	**CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**	**MS ZUZIWE THEKISHO**
3	**HOD: PLANNING, ECONOMIC & RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS**	**MS NOKUTHULA CHAKANE**
4	**HOD: COMMUNITY SERVICES**	**DR T THINDA**
5	**CENTLEC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**	**MR MALEFANE SEKOBOTO**
6	**CHIEF OF STAFF**	**MR ZOLILE MANGCOTYWA**
7	**HEAD OFFICE OF DEPUTY EXECUTIVE MAYOR**	**MS BONGA MNCUBE**

8	**GM: COMMITTEE SERVICES**	**MS XOLISWA QILO**
9	**GM: COMMUNICATIONS**	**MR QONDILE KHEDAMA**
10	**GM: IDP AND ORGANISATIONAL PERFIOMANCE**	**MR MONYAKE MOTHEKHE**
11	**SECRETARIAT**	**MS KELELLO NZIWENI**

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 humbly 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 humbly requested to please take along their nameplates and to display it throughout the meeting**.**

4. **Apologies during the course of the Council meeting:** Councillors are humbly 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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42.
OPENING (MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION FOR MEDITATION AND PRAYERS)

The meeting commenced at 10h00.

The Speaker took this opportunity to welcome everyone present and observed a moment of silent contemplation for meditation and prayer. He then confirmed that 79 Councillors were present and thereby constituting a quorum.

NOTED.

43.
NOTICE OF THE MEETING

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

The Speaker allowed Councillors an opportunity to comment as follow:

Cllr GDP Kotze: "Mister Speaker I wish to bring to your attention that Councillors from the DA and other parties did not receive their documentation and the item regarding the Zoo was not included in other packs. Furthermore, we experienced difficulties accessing the online documents as the link could not be opened."

Cllr JE Sebolao: "Honourable Speaker, I wish to support Cllr GDP Kotze. I only got my documents this morning during the meeting, which highlights the frustrations regarding the ongoing issue of receiving documents late."

The Speaker apologised for the situation and acknowledged that eight (8) Councillors did not have laptops, which further complicated access to the documents. He noted that the document format was not conducive to easy downloading and assured the Councillors that the matter would be addressed by the City Manager.

NOTED.

44.
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.

45.
ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Cllr M Davies remarked: "Mister Speaker, as the DA we want to request that the Executive Mayor withdraw item 48.6 of relocation of the Zoo as the report we got lacks sufficient reasoning for rescission. We require a detailed report on why the decision was taken in 2013."

Cllr E Snyman van Deventer seconded the proposal by Cllr M Davies.

Cllr JE Sebolao commented: "The item of Investment Summit was not part of the agenda and the pledges that were made on that day was not part of the agenda. When will this item form part of the agenda?"

Cllr NP Pholoholo moved for the adoption of the agenda as is and was seconded by Cllr MJ Mabena.

The Executive Mayor gave a response that before the item reaches Council, it must serve in all the platforms. In regard to the Investment Summit report, he will go back to the team that compiled the report to ensure that it is made available.

The Council voted on the withdrawal of item 48.6 as follows: *20 in favour, 48 against and 10 abstained*. For the agenda as is: *66 in favour, 0 against and 15 abstained*.

The agenda was duly adopted.

NOTED.

46.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker welcomed Cllr SM Swartz and proposed adding two standing items to the agenda: Quarterly reports from Ward Councillors and Ward Committees, and reports from SALGA, as per Rule 21.

The Speaker then allowed Councillors to make announcements.

Cllr SP Tsoleli: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Firstly, as the MMC of Public Safety, I want to acknowledge the mischief that has been happening in the City as we saw on the video that has been circulating whereby people stole people's belongings, as the Department we want to warn those thieves that the law enforcement will fight fire with fire in protecting the City. Our cameras in the City are working and we are going to roll them out to areas which have been identified as hotspots.

We call upon everyone to join in and fight lawlessness in the City, which can be achieved by strongly fighting with the forums. In the next coming month, we will be having a meeting with the security forums on how we can achieve and come up with strategies on how to fight crime and ways in which we can implement our safer campaign that we launched in December. In conclusion we call upon the victims of these crimes to come forward and open cases so those criminals can be prosecuted."

Cllr GDP Kotze: "Thank you, Mister Speaker. An email was sent to the HOD regarding Ward Committee. I want to thank the HOD of Public Safety and Security regarding parking."

Cllr JE Sebolao: "Honourable Speaker, I want to concur on what Cllr SP Tsoleli spoke about. It is disturbing to see such things in the City there is a traffic officer by the name of "City" he brought stability in town however he has limited resources to assist him further in making the City even more safe. Can those security guards who used to wear green uniform be brought back. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr JE Sebolao seconded what was raised by the MMC, Cllr SP Tsoleli.

Cllr MW Mongale: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae. We should continue to fight for heritage sites in Mangaung, for example there was a meeting at Windmill casino instead of having this meeting at Waaihoek. In addition, the issue of great leaders that has been in the City should be reflected, Botshabelo has to be recognized as a heritage site as well. We also have to include the legislature, the museum as a heritage site, and Ramkraal should be revived and be considered as a heritage site."

Cllr MJ Ramatlama: "Last year the EFF in collaboration with informal settlement communities, embarked on a march on the 20th of March 2024 and yesterday marked one year and 7 days without getting any response from the office of the Executive Mayor and the MMC of Human Settlements. Yesterday we were at Lesley Monnanyane to submit another memorandum. I humbly request the Executive Mayor not to mistake the march of yesterday as an EFF march that was in collaboration with communities of informal settlements, we hope that we will get a response. I am going to read the three demands of the community:

1. There should be an establishment of Human Settlements in Bloemfontein which clearly defines the timeframe of the 2025/2026 financial year,
2. We need an oversight and action regarding the 260 individuals in Phomolong who have been improperly housed for the last 4 years due to negligence of Municipal officials.
3. An urgent response to the needs has to be done on the 15th April at 3pm.

A community meeting was held, and young people are crying, and we want to bring to your attention that the EFF has a young command here in Bloemfontein, we are no longer going to allow people to hire people who are not known in the community. We are tired of people being hired through a membership."

Cllr JM De-Bruin: "Mister Speaker, we are faced with a problem in Mangaung whereby prepaid meters are being stolen at night. Going forward, can those meters be installed in our yards."

Cllr IJ Makoloane: "Honourable Speaker, as the MPAC, we are having Public Participation meetings, and we will be discussing the 2022/23 Annual Report as was tabled by the office of the Auditor General of South Africa."

NOTED.

47.
DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

NOTED.

48	REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

Executive Mayor tabled the item as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. As colleagues we are deliberating on a number of items which were mentioned. I am tabling the MMM draft IDP, from items 48.1 – 48.6.

Item 48.1: The tabling of the draft integrated development plan as well as the Sectoral Plan 2025/2026 is mainly for noting purposes.

The IDP means the principle strategic plan is the instrument that distinct local sphere of government from other sphere’s as strategic planning for all other parties to express opinion at a level of its crafting. The IDP enables the Council to provide guidance and strategic orientations. I wish to take this opportunity and strongly urge all councillors, sectors involved, community involved to go an extra mile to get quarterly inputs during the public hearings therefore the Council should take note that the draft review integrated development plan 2025/2026 and the SDBIP including the sectoral plan includes the Mangaung demographic maps, environmental management plan and climate change, adoption and mitigation strategies, integrated waste management plan, water conservation demand strategy, integrated public transport, integrated human development framework, disaster management plan, Centlec energy. This sector plan and SDBIP will be published and submitted according to the website.

Item 48.2: Revised Service Delivery And Budget Implementation Plan Strategic Scorecard (2024/2025):

The Revised SDBIP Strategic Scorecard for 2024/2025 is noteworthy, particularly given the afjustment budget approved in February 2025. This adjustment provides guidance on implementation, and in line with this, the 2025/2026 SDBIP has been passed for noting. Both Centlec and the Municipality’s SDBIPS are tabled for approval. Furthermore, the Council has advised that the process will be made public on the Municipal website and submitted to National Treasury.

Item 48.3: tabling of the annual budget and budget polcies

This is an important occasion of the review of the IDP section 24 of the MFMA which deals with the approval of the annual budget. This then requires the to be approved 30 days before the start of the financial year. This is significant in achieving milestone of the approved budget anticipated in May, I want to assure the Council that the process leading to the date has been a vigorous one and we did not leave any stone unturned. Both the reviewed IDP has gone through the Section 80. The IDP and peformamance together with Finance should be noted and submitted to Public Participation before it is submitted for approval in this Council. The recommendation outlined in the executive summary is to be presented and walked through by MMC, Cllr CL Kruger.

<u>Item 48.4: deals with the issue of Land Swap and the application of seeking Council approval with the proposed Land Swap or Land transaction which is private owned.</u>

The report futher provides the following for consideration and should be accepted in writing by the developer or duly authorised representative:

- A traffic assessment be compiled and submited by a professional traffic engineer and the sole cost applicant taking into consideration the raffic impact of the accepted and diverse trip surronding road.

- The application of Stapelberg must remain open to the general public and be closed only after rezoning and condiseration process that has been finalised and once it has been identified by the traffic assessment.

- The proposal to open Wannenburg Street to Nelson Mandela drive can only be considered by Mangaung subject to a spacing access, reconfigaration, investigation complied by Mangaung, public opinion must be solicicated for the application under review and the approval of the application of Stapelberg Street, Melville drive will be closed and once approved the application must be processed with the accordance of the layout indicated in the diagram in Annexure A&B of the application Town planning.

- Lastly the developer pays an amount of four hundred thousand rand to the Municipality which amount represents the value of the land to be aquired by MMM and the land to be aligned to the developer.

<u>Item 48.5: is the National participation program</u>

This item seeks Council approval for the City Manager to negotiate and finalize a participation agreement with the Development Bank of South Africa (DBSA) for a non-revenue water program. The report provides detail on 10 years water conservation and demand management strategy and related financial implication of the budget required. It is futher seeking approval of the Council to propose a program on the development bank of South Africa on their commitment to assit Municiplaity on the reduction of non-revenue water utlizing performance based contract initiatives.

The focus on water conservation demand management system is motivated by the increased level of the non-revenue water that we are experiencing in the City. We are honored to recongnize that DBSA's support in helping us identify and scale up the water reuse project. This was highlighted at the investment summit emphasising that our success depends on winning the approval of investors. Therefore,it is recommended that Council approves the proposed item.

Part of the responsibility of the HOD Technical Services will be to assemble a team needed to fulfill the related task above and the City Manager should oversee effective implementation of this project upon approval including a presentation or progress report on annual bases. Additionally, the letter to DBSA signed by the City Manager, expressing interest in participating in the Metro and non-revenue water program be approved by Council. I am impressed by the debate that surrounds MMM as a heritage site as alluded by Cllr MW Mongale indeed we are a City with possiblities and we have a rich history therefore a heritage site does not lose its features.

The Zoo unfortunately represents heritage and it speaks to what Councillor's are saying- we should retain it.Moreover the relocation saga presents a three- proned case study in our quest to build clean governance. The original intention of the report as presented to the Council in 2013 was to conduct a feasibility study to guide the relocation of the Zoo to Kwaggafontein. The move of Kwaggafontein farm was not fully complied with by the Council and did not receive regular reports on the due diligence of the relocation project plan or design and related phases or timelines, this are just critical issues of oversight functions and improved monitoring and evaluation for consideration.

After the consideration of governance issues ,we have agreed to rescind the 2013 Council resolution to relocate the Zoo to Kwaggafontein and return it to its initial location. It is further recommended that Council rescind its 2013 decision to relocate. All relevant stakeholders including University of Free State and Friends of the Zoo have addressed the challenges and have signed a memorandum of understanding. This includes legal compliation and sourcing of EPWP staff for the new garden service staff. I am raising this issue for what was raised earlier about the relocation of the Zoo at some point in Council it was indicated that Kwaggafontein would be a feeder to the Zoo and also a sustainance to the animals that are bigger, may I welcome the intiative taken by the MMC of Safety and law enforcement…"

Point of Order was raised by Cllr JM De-Bruin on the issue of EPWP that the Executive Mayor is talking about and stated that it should be clear and further that it should be for the constituency of all and not for only the ANC.

The Speaker indicated that there was no need for the point of order as the Executive Mayor was still presenting his items.

The Executive Mayor continued: "Honourable Speaker, I do not not want to leave issues that were raised as I am presenting because they do touch base with the budget, safe to say the budget that we will be dealing with ,should acknowledged that we have less team at the law enforcement and we are trying by all means to enlarge the team so that any step that must be taken to ensure that the City is safe will table to this Council and it will be taken as a request.

The issue that relates to the march and its demand should be acknowledged that the people of Gatvol, Phomolong and elsewhere are equally looking for homes. We are not going to operate on the strength of preferring of the order of preference of a particular location we are going to deal with informal settlements as they present themselves before use and by their age meaning we have a duty to deal with old people, disablied people and that would be critical. People have to undertand that we will attend to the challenges that are there and we will attend to them fairly. There was an issue raised around the demand for the memorandum to be signed, I want to believe that people who went to receive the memorandum they should have signed the memorandum on the spot. People have the right to march but as I conclude we are gradually approaching the elections as as we approach them there are two things that will happen there will be land maffia's and land opportunisim and when it comes to informal settlement where individuals will abuse the needs of the people. I want to make this declaration that we are not going to allow a situation where we coherce for numbers and never again will we allow people to locate themselves where they are not suppose to or where Municipality has not allowed them."

Cllr BJ Viviers requested clarity on item 48.1 and 48.3 and that it will be tabled. Councillors were going to speak on them and therefore requested to propose an alteration on item 48.3, that it should say, Council should note and not approve.

The Speaker responded that Councillors were allowed to speak on items even if submitted for noting or tabling.

Council Whip stated that they had a multiparty meeting and took note of the fact that there are processes that should follow and therefore, there would not be much of discussions.

NOTED.

1.
TABLING OF THE MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNIICPALITY'S DRAFT REVIEWED INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP) AS WELL AS DRAFT SECTORAL PLANS (2025-2026) AND DRAFT SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SDBIP) 2025-2026 FOR NOTING.

The item was not discussed, and it was for noting.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that the Council:

1) Noted the draft reviewed Integrated Development Plan for 2025/2026.

2) Noted the below mentioned Sector Plans for 2025/2026 (Annexures as Key Components of IDP).

Drafts Sectoral Plans	Annexure
MMM Ward Demographics Maps	A
Environmental Management Plan and Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategy	B
Integrated Waste Management Plan	C
Ten - Year Water Conservation and Water Demand Management Strategy	D
Integrated Public Transport Network Plan	E
Integrated Human Settlement Plan	F
MMM Organogram	G
Technical Indicator Description (TIDs)	H
Spatial Development Framework	I
Disaster Management Plan	J
Centlec Energy Plan	K
Water Service Development Plan	L
Rural Development Plan	M
Roads Asset Management Plan	N
Organisational Performance Management Framework	O
Mangaung Metropolitan Open Space System	P
Informal Settlement Upgrading Strategy	Q
Mangaung Economic Development Strategy and Investment Plan	R
Comprehensive Integrated Transport Plan	S

3) Noted the Draft SDBIP 2025/2026 as contained in Chapter 8 of the draft IDP above; and

4) Noted that the drafts IDP, Sector Plans and SDBIP 2025/2026 will be submitted to both the departments of Treasury and COGTA and further be published on the municipal website for comments.

2.
REVISED SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN STRATEGIC SCORECARD (2024/2025)

The Deputy Executive Mayor addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. We want to emphasize the item and support the noting by Executive Mayor. We must emphasize the work we have done since 2021 when we were elected as representatives of different political parties to come and serve the residents of Mangaung.

We want to emphasize that on May 2022 we did approve the 5-year IDP, and we implemented it on the 1st July 2022, in terms of the legislated requirement. The IDP is subjected annually review as we are about to conclude our representative in this Council as we are on the last review of 2026. The IDP has produced this tabling of the draft 2025/2026 that has gone through its process during the last 7 months that includes the first phase which was the public participation and the report back via print media and the IDP steering committee, IDP forum, CoGTA and National, Provincial Department.

Since the inauguration of Council, we have committed ourselves as the Council and officially made this Municipality great again, we have listed the challenges we are facing and how we plan to overcome them. As we approach the end of our term we want to urge all Councillors, employees and our community and stakeholders to keep up the good work. Our plan is for all of us to work together to make this the best Municipality by means that all the inputs of all sectors into these plans. It is with outmost importance to achieve the goals of having 100% credibility integrated development. In Section 80 Committee, we discussed the issue of planning assessment in our core function as the committee of Section 80 whatever we will be approving for the last years of our term will make a difference in the Community of Mangaung. As this committee we are requesting help and training to the National government on how they are dealing with the issue of monitoring and evaluation for the National strategic plan, it is also our responsibility as the Section 80 Committee to do the same therefore we support the noting of this document."

Cllr GDP Kotze delivered his speech as follows: "Honourable Speaker, the DA will approve this report however we want to bring some concerns to the Executive Mayor, MMC, CEO of Centlec and HOD's.

Centlec: I want to express my gratitude to Centlec for the efforts with assisting residents with power outage despite the limited resources and funding available to them. While progress has been made, the improvement in electricity access was reduced from 2000 to 1500 due to budget constrains however a concern remains of the full implementation of Centlec Credit.

Credit Control Policy :The DA supports the policy but, Centlec must take stronger measures to address corruption in Mangaung, particularly in relation to the tempering of pre-paid meters.Some residents are victims of criminals who promise reductions in electricity usage,only to find out their meters have been tempered without their knowledge. I urge Centlec to revise the policy and include investigagtions into any suspected temparing before removing pre-paid meters.It is essential to ensure residents that are not guilty are not unfairly penalized.

Public Safety: There are currently 22 crime prevention projects underway ,aimed at creating a safer Mangaung. While we are trying our best to make a safer community, we are still not fighting the crime of corruption within the administration.A concern is theft of pre-paid meters . When will we to do something about criminals who walk around our neighbourhoods at night without being arrested.

Finance: Many targets have been set to improve services, and lot of money allocated. Amendments have been made , but the concern is that there is no mention of improving the Indigent Registration process. Many people who have applied for indigent status last year have been without water since November due to the Municipality cutting off their water supply, despite receiving SASSA grants.

Community Services: Several beautification projects are underway, including the beautification of Bram Fischer.However, the Wepener towm hall lies in ruins dispite being included in the intergrated plan for the past 10 years, with no budget allocated for its restoration.

In conclusion, I have noticed that the Bram Fischer building has been displaying the Executive Mayor’s name for a while. This raises a question: could the change of name be on the horizon in the future?”

Cllr MW Mongale addressed the Council as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae.

The issue of SDBIP should be traced back to where its origins. However, its main purpose is to grow Mangaung’s economy and create jobs for our people. I do not see where it addresses job creation. Budgeting for potholes is prone to corruption because how can we verify that it was fixed? We might be told they were fixed when, in fact it rained.

Regarding Centlec, we challenge you on the renewable energy, which they can advise the Municiplaity on.The investment summit was a great idea. There was a gentleman in Botshabelo who makes oil from warn-out tyres and needs of financial support. It seems we lack urgency in finding funders to create jobs for the residents.

The SDBIP should include revitalizing Botshabelo or re-industralisation. These initiatives should be reviwed to create jobs. Our partnership with SANRAL -how far along is the process? We need to utilize this funding to support our SDBIP and avoid repetition.Where is the allocated money for specific tasks?

The N8 corridor requires effort to boost its economy. It needs a start date for agrressive growth, and our SCM policy needs review.”

Cllr E Snyman Van Deventer commented as follows: “Honourable Speaker, I gree with Cllr GDP Kotze regarding Centlec’s performance. On behalf of the FFPlus, thank you for continuing service delivery. Intrestingly, Mangaung does not fix potholes , it is done by a company.”

Cllr JB Thomas delivered his speech as follows: “Honourable Speaker, let me take this opportunity to thank you and acknowledge the residents of Mangaung and the Council at large. It is clear that the strategy that is being used to generate money in Mangaung does not give out the outcome that we expected. If so we need to review it and make sure that the Georgio’s are paying their debt.

Regarding Centlec they are doing well even though we are not that satisfied because they work slow when it comes to installing electricity to the people in the location, the residents are still not happy with the electricity that was uninstalled when they were promised to build them houses at the end of the day those houses have not been build those residents are still without electricity Centlec should pick up their socks.

As the EFF we believe it is important to know which residents have been provided with electricty. In terms of collection of waste we still say what is reflected is not a true reflection because our residents are still complaining. In conclusion it is frustrating to receive documents late because we cannot prepare ourselves for the meeting. Thank you.”

Cllr TO Machachamise delivered his speech as follows: "Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor, Deputy Executive Mayor and the house at large. As the ANC we would like to thank Centlec as it is doing a good job. The revised SDBIP indicates that Managung sits ready to provide support of the approval of the adjustment budget that gives guidence to enable the administration. We call on the administration to continue with their commitment and double their efforts on the individual hard work and teamwork to implement this revised SDBIP and finish the financial year on a positive side. This revised SDBIP will form part of the annual report and urge the City Manager and his team to ensure that all reports and supporting documents are reliable, complete and consistant this will ensure that the City does improve on its outcome of audit I therfore support the item tabled. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Deputy Executive Mayor responded as follows: "Honourable Speaker, I want to indicate that the SDBIP is a monitoring tool to what has been approved in this Council that needed to be implemented by different departments.I am happy that Honourable Councillors raised issues about Centlec, Technical Services about the potholes and as the Committee we have to deal with the issue of monitoring the plan. I want to indicate to the issue of economical revival of Mangaung that during the 21 days Cllr MW Mongale, should raise the issue of the revival of Botshabelo. We should work hard in terms of the unemployement and we need to make sure when we adorpt plan."

It was thereupon with _72 votes in favour, 4 against and 10 abstained_

RESOLVED

1. Council approved the revised Mangaung and Centlec SDBIP 2024/2025 as outlined;

2. Council noted that, the revised SDBIP 2024/2025 will be published on the municipal website,

3. Council noted that, the revised SDBIP 2024/2025 will be submitted to National Treasury.

3.
TABLING OF:
A.
I. ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE 2025-26 MEDIUM TERM REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK
II. MTREF BUDGET 2025-28 PRESENTATION
III. MMM CAPEX BOOKLET 2025/26 – 2027/28
IV. MMM BUDGET RELATED POLICIES

1. **Budget Policy**
2. **Tariff Policy**
3. **Credit Control and Debt Collection**
4. **Grant-in-Aid**
5. **Virement Policy**
6. **Supply Chain Management Policy**
7. **Investment Promotion and Incentive Policy**
8. **Overtime Policy**
9. **Policy On Travel and Subsistence Policy**
10. **Cost Containment Policy**

V. MMM GENERAL TARIFFS 2025/26 – 2027/28

B.

I. CENTLEC MEDIUM TERM REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK 2025/26 – 2027\28

II. ANNEXURES

8. **Annexure A (Service Charges)**
9. **Annexure B (Electricity Service Charges)**
10. **Annexure C (Amended Policy Register)**
    - **10.1. Draft Electricity Connection and Services Policy**
    - **10.2. Draft Electrical Infrastructure Maintenance Policy**
11. **Annexure D (Training Tariffs)**
12. **Annexure E (Grant Funded Projects Application)**
13. **Annexure G (Salaries)**
14. **Annexure H (Bulk Purchases)**

III. CENTLEC BUDGET POLICIES (A-H)

IV. DRAFT CENTLEC (SOC) Ltd INTERGRATED ENERGY PLAN 2024/2025

V. DRAFT SDBIP (APPENDIX C)

VI. DRAFT CENTLEC BUSINESS PLAN 2025 – 2028

Cllr CL Kruger tabled the item for noting: "Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor, MMCs, Councillors, and the community at large, this tabling marks the second-last opportunity to present the budget to Council before the new Council approves the final budget. The IDP strategically focuses on five development objectives: Spatial transformation, Economic growth, Service Delivery improvement, Financial health improvement, and Organizational strength.

The five-year plan guides our decisions on annual IDP reviews and budget allocations. Recently, we successfully hosted an investment summit, and a full report will be submitted to Council for noting. We've identified key areas for property and infrastructure investment, as well as challenges in water, sanitation, energy, and road infrastructure.

This draft budget incorporates community inputs on issues like unplanned water cut-offs, gravel road maintenance, solid waste removal, dumping site clearance, affordability of rates and taxes, traffic and law enforcement visibility, traffic calming measures, rehabilitation of parks and recreation facilities, and sewer spillage mitigation.

The budget allocates funds according to the IDP priorities, ensuring relevance and credibility. Our budget assumptions are based on a stable revenue base and a 1% growth in service demand. We're tabling this budget alongside the Tariff Policy, Credit Control Policy, and Indigent Policy.
Key highlights include:

- A debt settlement incentive focusing on households
- A new Grant-in-Aid Policy effective from July 1, 2025, aimed at improving local community lives.
- An operational budget projecting R11.066 billion in revenue and R10.465 billion in expenditure, with a surplus of R601 million.
- Proposed rate increases: 11% for water, 12% for electricity, and 4.4% for property rates, taxes, and sanitation.

- Significant budget allocations: R35 billion for Centlec (45% of expenditure), R9.6 billion for water and sanitation (27% of budget)
- Additional allocations: R5 million for a visibility study and business plan for the eradication of the pica tree and bucket system, R500 million for urban development grants, and R125 million for roads and stormwater

The City has also allocated funds for informal settlements (R299 million), access road construction (R50 million), refurbishment of the Fresh Produce market (R10 million) and upgrading the Bloemfontein Zoo (R8.8 million). I hereby table this item and the recommendations below, with a correction to be made on number 4. Thank you."

Council did not vote as the item was for noting.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council

1. The Council noted the metro's annual budget for the financial year 2025/26; and projected allocations for the two outer years 2026/27 and 2027/28, and related policies as set out in the following tables and annexures.

    1.1 Noted the tariff increases as set out on page 31-38 of the Executive Summary.

    1.2 Noted that the Consolidated Budget Summary as per Table A1 of A1-schedule Annexure B be.

    1.3 Noted that the Consolidated Budgeted Financial Performance (Revenue and Expenditure by standard classification reflected in Table A2 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

    1.4 Noted that the Consolidated Budgeted Operating Revenue and Expenditure by vote reflected in Table A3 of A1 -Schedule Annexure B.

    1.5 Noted that the Consolidated Budgeted Operating Revenue by Source and Expenditure by type reflected in Table A4 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

    1.6 Noted that a multi-year capital appropriation by vote reflected in Table A5 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

    1.7 Noted that Capital Workbook attached as Annexure A.

    1.8 That Consolidated Budgeted Capital Expenditure by Vote and Functional Classification as reflected in Table A5 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

    1.9 Noted that Consolidated Budgeted Financial Position as reflected in Table A6 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

1.10 Noted that the Consolidated Budgeted Cash Flow Statement as reflected in Table A7 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

1.11 Noted that the Consolidated Budgeted Cash Reserve/Accumulated Surplus as per Table A8 of A1-Schedule B.

1.12 Noted that the Consolidated Assets Management as per Table A9 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

1.13 Noted that the Consolidated Basic Service Delivery Measurement as per table A10 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

1.14 Noted that the Supporting Tables as per of A1-Schedule Annexure B.SA 1-20.

1.15 Noted that Salaries and benefits of political office bearers, councillors and senior officials as reflected in Table SA 22 and SA 23 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

1.16 Noted that the supporting Tables SA 24 to SA 36 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

1.17 That Consolidated Budget tables for the City and Municipal entities (CENTLEC) as reflected.

1.18 Noted that a Revised Consumptive Tariffs, Rates and Basic Charges for Electricity, Water and Sanitation, and Solid Waste Management Services as set out in Annexure C.

1.19 Noted that a Budget Policy as set out in Annexure D.

1.20 Noted that a Tariff Policies as set out in Annexure E.

1.21 Noted a Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy as set out in Annexure 8 (with effect from 01 July 2025) as per Annexure F.

1.22 Noted that an Indigent Households and Free Basic Services Policy Annexure G.

1.23 Noted that Grants-in-Aid Policy as set out in Annexure H.

1.24 Noted that a Virement Policy as set out in Annexure I.

1.25 Noted that a Supply Chain Management Policy Annexure J.

1.26 Noted that an Investment Promotion and Incentive Policy Annexure K.

1.27 Noted that Overtime Policy Annexure L.

1.28 Noted that a Policy on travel and subsistence allowance policy Annexure M.

1.29 Noted that a Cost Containment Policy Annexure N.

2. Council notes National Treasury MFMA Circulars 129 and 132 (Municipal Budget Circulars for 2024/25 MTREF) as set out in Annexure O.

3. Council notes the 2025 Budget and Benchmark Engagement Summary Report issued by National Treasury as set out in page 59 – 60 of the report.

4. Council notes an amount of up to R15 million, to be funded within the Rates account, in support of the City's Charitable and Relief Allocations as per Table SA 21 of A1-Schedule Annexure B.

5. Noted the Budget of Mangaung Transit Pty Ltd (known as Hauweng Bus Services), Annexure P.

6. Noted the template A3 that related to Water and Sanitation Trading Services Reforms, Annexure Q.

7. That Council noted that Entity’s due diligence exercise is underway that will inform the Definitive Agreement outstanding and the Budgeted Balance Sheet.

8. That the Council noted the Centlec (Pty) Ltd budget submissions for the period 2025/26 – 2027/28 as set out below, subject to the limitation of 3.7 above.

4.

LAND SWAP/ LAND EXCHANGE TRANSACTION: ERF 40501 BRANDWAG, BLOEMFONTEIN (OWNED BY PARETO) AND PORTION 1 IF 13020 AND A PORTION OF STAPELBERG STREET BRANDWAG BLOEMFONTEIN (BOTH OWNED BY MANGAUNG METRO MUNICIPALITY)

Cllr C Van Rensburg delivered her speech as follows: “Honourable Speaker of Council, in the spirit of collaboration for economic growth, the DA expresses our support for the proposed land exchange between Mangaung and the Pareto. It is a crucial step for the development and enhancement of the local infrastructure which is essential for the continued growth and prosperity in Brandwag. Economic development in the Metro has been stagnate with projects stalling due to inefficiencies and in contrast DA runs municipalities consistently get things done with set timeframes and budget because they understand the importance of timely action for the benefit of the communities.

We cannot afford to delay progress especially in an area located adjacent to the University, schools, hotels, old age homes and guesthouses the potential growth in this area is a mess and by improving infrastructure we can lock new opportunities for business investors and residents.

The developer requires a portion of the Municipalities land to move forward with a planned development while the Municipality needs a part of the developers' land for the realignment of the surrounding streets, these road realignments are essential for improving traffic flow, safety and accessibility in the area the project will enhance the local road networks, intergrade Municipal services and open a door for future developments.

The land exchange is valued at R3 million for the developers' land and R4 million for the Municipality's land. In order to balance the exchange, the developer will pay four hundred and forty to the Municipality however we want clarity on that amount. This ensure fairness that both parties are receiving equivalent value for the land involved. There are critical conditions tied to the approval of exchange, a traffic impact assessment must be conducted by a professional traffic engineer at the developers' expense evaluating the impact of the development on the grounds. Public access to a portion of Stapelberg street must remain open until necessary upgrades are made, minimizing disruption to local businesses during the development and a public participation will be conducted to allow the Community to provide input before the exchange is finalized ensuring residents have a voice that affects their daily lives.

The land exchange is crucial for improving infrastructure for safety and economic growth, it will reduce traffic conjunction, create jobs and transform the area into a safter and more vibrant hub in Brandwag. By collaborating with the private sector, we can build a bright and more prosperous future for all Mangaung residents if implemented timeously by the Metro and not becoming another project only on paper that does not see execution. I truly hope this development sparks further growth across the Metro with the Municipality reducing red tape to encourage investment. Together we must accelerate development to create more economic opportunities for our residents as they truly deserve it. Thank you."

Cllr MJ Ramatlama delivered his speech as follows: "Honourable Speaker, regrading this item of land swap we as the EFF we have no problem with it because we agree that it will help

the Municipality however on page 5 it talks about residents will be involved regarding this development and we would advise this Council for this report to go back for further consultation with the residents. Thank you."

Cllr VE De Kock delivered her speech as follows: "Honourable Speaker, in theory and transaction that will promote investment must be a positive transaction which could hold a promise for job creation and economic growth, the FFPlus must however highlight the following points taking into consideration the already high traffic volume in the area with a serve traffic conjunction during peak times we fail to see why the traffic impact study has not yet being compiled and submitted.

While this is on a planning and approval stage one cannot ignore the concerns of the future will construction and street changes be delayed for years the same as some other projects. Yet, the Vereeniging extension comes to mind, we have to insist that public participation should be conducted and very well published in all social media and communication platforms.

We still have concerns of the approval of the weed cannabis shop almost opposite of the school taking into account the at the GEPF owned by government is according to the latest available data on their website a 100% shareholder operator are limited we have to ask if the following R40 000 payable by the developer will actually reach the Metro or will it take long to be paid like the outstanding debt owed by Provincial Government. The FFPlus is in favour of the investment, economic growth, job creation and growth something in this report predicts in the future. Can we ask that this does not stay another look good on paper report and that this report will be considered for the wellbeing of the rate payers which are our citizens. Thank you."

Cllr NA Nhlapo responded as follows: "Honourable Speaker, let me greet the august house and the community at large. As it has been alluded, the Metro needed a certain potion for the development for purposes of the road plannings that already has taken place. Cllr C Van Rensburg questioned the amounts on recommendation (h), it indicates that the developer will pay the remaining amount which was R440 000. Once the land swap has been approved there has to be a community engagement on this."

Cllr CL Bouwer point of clarity regarding the amount of recommendation (9), as it does not amount to that; it was R441 000 instead of R440 000.

Cllr NA Nhlapo in response highlighted that the erf number where it was said it would be a material issue, if there is a difference in one number because we could be swapping the wrong land but in terms of the valuation even if we can approve it, if there are discrepancies it will go to the valuation that was done.

After the Speaker announced the voting results, Cllr JB Thomas requested that it be noted that as the EFF, they did not vote because the community was not included.

Cllr NA Nhlapo explained that recommendation (d) states that the Council will perform public participation before any finalisation.

It was thereupon with _71 votes in favour, 0 against and 10 abstained_

RESOLVED

(a) That the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipal Council (hereafter Council) approve the proposed land swap or land exchange transaction involving erf 40501 Brandwag, Bloemfontein which is privately owned by the applicant Pareto Limited, and portion 1 of erf 13020 Brandwag, Bloemfontein, and a portion of Stepelberg Street both owned by the Mangaung Metro Municipality, subject to the following conditions to be accepted in writing by the developer or the duly authorized representative, namely:

(b) That if the application is approved, and as part of the application for rezoning and Consolidation of erf 40501 with portion 1 of erf 13020 and portion of Stapelberg Street, a traffic impact assessment (TIA) be compiled and submitted by a professional traffic engineer, at the sole cost of the applicant, taking into consideration the traffic impact of the expected diverted trips on the surrounding road network.

(c) That the applicable section of Stapelberg Street must remain open to the general public and only be closed once the rezoning and consolidation process have been finalized and any upgrading required due to the expected diversion of traffic, that has been identified in the TIA mentioned under (a) above has been implemented by the developer to the satisfaction of HOD: Technical Services.

(d) That the proposal to open Wannenburg Street to Nelson Mandela Drive can only be considered for approval by Mangaung Metro Municipality subject to a thorough spacing/access configuration investigation complying with Mangaung Metro standards which must form part of the TIA mentioned under (a) above.

(e) That since the properties/businesses along Stapelberg Street, to the west of Wannenburg Street, can currently also gain access to and from the east along Nelson Mandela Drive via the section of Stapelberg Street to be alienated/closed, which distance is currently much closer than it will be once the relevant section of Stepelberg Street is closed, a dedicated public participation process be followed before the finalization of the proposed land swap or land exchange transaction.

(f) That if the application is successful, the existing intersection of Stapelberg Street with Melville Drive be closed permanently and not be used as an access point to the site.

(g) That all land swaps must be done as per layouts as indicated on diagrams in Annexures A to E of the application.

(h) That town planning processes including all the conveyancing and transfer costs be for the account of the developer.

(i) That the developer pays an amount of R440, 000.00 to the Mangaung Metro Municipality, which amount represents the difference in values of the land to be acquired by the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality and the land to be alienated to the developer.

5.
NATIONAL WATER PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME: METROS NON-REVENUE WATER (NRW) PROGRAMME: REQUEST FOR COUNCIL TO ACCEPT THE PERFORMANCE BASED CONTRACT (PBC) APPROACH BY DBSA AND MANDATE THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND FINALIZE THE TERMS OF AND THE TRANSACTION CONTEMPLATED BY THE PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT TO BE CONCLUDED WITH DBSA

Cllr S Pretorius delivered her speech as follows: "I would like to express the DA's perspective on the critical issue of non-revenue water in our municipality. The audited figure for 2023/2024 stands at 49.6%, which is unacceptable. Nevertheless, we are taking proactive measures to address this challenge.

The National Water Program, in collaboration with the Development Bank of Southern Africa, aims to reduce non-revenue water to 20%. This objective can be achieved through a range of measures, including proactive leak detection and repair, pipe replacement projects, and consumer awareness initiatives.

While we support the DBSA's performance-based contract approach, we have concerns regarding the delegation of authority to the City Manager to negotiate and finalize the agreement without Council approval. We believe that Council should have the final say in approving the agreement.

To ensure transparency and accountability, we recommend that the City Manager provides Council with bi-annual feedback meetings, including progress reports, financial updates, and challenges faced during implementation.

In conclusion, we urge Council to approve the National Water Partnership Program and the DBSA performance-based contract, while ensuring that Council retains the authority to approve the agreement. Collaboration is essential to reducing non-revenue water and ensuring a sustainable future for our municipality and its residents.

Recommendations:
1. Council approval of the participation agreement prior to signature and implementation.
2. Bi-annual reporting by the City Manager to Council on the program's progress, to ensure accountability and oversight."

Cllr GDP Kotze read his speech as follows: "Honourable Speaker, I rise today in full support of the water partnership program, this initiative is not only a step in the right direction, but it is a long overdue intervention in addressing the severe water crises in this Municipality. It is a recognition that water has been mismanaged for far too long and while we may say this effort came too late let us remember the saying 'better late than never', for years the people of Mangaung have suffered with poor water management residents in various wards have endured low water pressure, frequent interruptions and in most cases a complete lack of supply for an extended period.

Billions of water has been lost due to leaks, legal connections and failing infrastructure the NRW presents a program a practical results driven approach tackling this crises head on by shifting to a performance base contract we are ensuring that service providers are not just compensated for their work but will be held accountable for achieving real and measurable improvements. We must be honest with ourselves this crisis did not arise overnight nor is it one that could have been prevented by a single project however what has made matters worse is the continued failure of leadership of taking the water issue serious, late last year, the South African Human Rights Commission released a report that details the state of the Municipality infrastructure. That report which the leadership had to respond to in February highlighted many of the same issues that this program seeks to address today, yet the silence from the City Manager in response to the human commission management findings were deafening.

Had the leadership taken the effort to respond as they should have it would have been the first sign that this Municipality was serious about tackling the water crises it would show that we care about the future of our residents instead we are now faced with the situation that we must scramble to implement solutions that should have been put in place long ago however we cannot dwell on the past.

This program offers us a practical accountable way to reduce water loses, improve billing efficiencies and restore trust of our residents, it ensures us that service providers are not merely awarded contracts for the sake of it but are rewarded based on results. To the residents of Mangaung I want to say this help is on the way this program is an opportunity to regain control of our water supplies and to safe guards this precious resource for future generation and to prove that we as the Council are willing to make a tough decision necessary to bring change but this must be the beginning and not the end of our efforts we must continue to demand accountability, transparency and urgency in all matters relating to water security.

I must also stress that while this program is an important step it is only the solution for now, we cannot afford to stop here more programs must follow to ensure that our water infrastructure is not only maintained but also expanded and future proved as the City grows proper planning must be undertaken to guarantee that we are not merely reacting to crises but pro-actively preparing for the future. Sustainable water management should be a long-term priority for Mangaung, and I hope to see investments in this regard, I urge all my colleagues to support this initiative it is not a perfect solution, but it is a necessary one and if we truly care about the future of Mangaung we must take the forward step today. Thank you."

Cllr JH Denner read his speech as follows: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I want to address the National water program a project that we welcome with open arms. This initiative is long overdue, and the Metro should have reached out to National Government much earlier as it is crucial to support any plan that can improve our infrastructure and services especially when it comes to tackling the non-revenue water and all other issues regarding the water and infrastructure and its failures.

We are however concerned about several aspects of this proposed plan, how will this be implemented? as we know in the past, we have not had a success especially when it comes to implementing large scale projects, can the administration provide clarity steps going forward and the resources and timelines that will be involved in executing these initiatives? The matter of the City Manager signing of the documents the FFPlus has raised concerns before about the challenges surrounding this leadership why is his responsibility and why is he doing it alone? We want to propose that we establish a delegation with him maybe three or four delegates perhaps the CFO to oversee this project, if such a delegation is formed will you ensure these decisions come back to Council for approval? It is important as representatives of the people we maintain a proper oversight for such critical projects, and additionally can we agree that this delegation will report back to the Council on a quarterly basis instead of by-annually. A clear and transparent update on the status of the project will allow us to make informed decisions as we move forward.

As the FFPlus we are pleased to see we are at the point where action can be taken as this impacts the people of Mangaung as we cannot continue to waste 50% of our clean drinking water. We fully support this National partnership program, but we must emphasize we do so with caution which we must ensure no further funds are wasted as the Metro financial resources are already stretched and we need to ensure that we are spending money wisely from now on. We need a great team to drive this project to be frank our City Manager’s record is not that good with that in mind I urge this Council to be conscious of the decision that they make today, the people of Mangaung are counting on us to deliver this vial issue. Thank you.”

Cllr S Sefaki read his speech as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me start by greeting the Executive Mayor, Deputy Executive Mayor, MMC’s, Councillors and the community at large. Before I can start with my speech can the house look at recommendation number (8) on the report. It states that the City Manager is mandated to give progress bi-annually, I stand before you today with a critical juncture in addressing the crises that is within our Municipality of non-revenue water.

The figure painted a clear picture of the water rising from 35% from 2016 to 49% in 2023 with projection indicating potentially devastating 59% by 2031 and 2032 if we fail to act decisively. This is not about conservation but it’s about financial sustainability, responsible resource management and ensuring a secure water future for all the residents of Mangaung. What is non-revenue water its water that is produced but not build to our consumers, this comes from various sources including leaks, legal connections, inaccurate metering. The consequence are far reaching reducing revenue for our Municipality, strain on our water resource, increase operational cost, recognising the severity of the situation the Municipality has developed a comprehensive water conservation and demand management strategy.

This ten-year plan outlines a strategy designed to drastically reduce non-revenue water more sustainable to 20%, this is an ambitious goal but one that is necessary for the long-term health of our Municipality. The implementation of this ambitious strategy comes with a significant price tag an estimated R4.319 billion, currently the funding source including the USD grant falls short of this requirement this is where the innovation and strategy partnership becomes vital, therefore we are proposing an intervention a public, private partnership supported by development bank of Southern Africa. The DBSA brings experience in technical, financial project management expertise prissily what we need to drive the initiative forward.

Today we specifically request Council to accept the performance-based contract approached facilitated by the DBSA which will ensure measures resulting to accountability and mandated by the City Manager to negotiate and finalise the term and the transaction contemplated by the participation agreement concluded with DBSA. This agreement will streamline the implementation of the various project and strategy decided to tackle water loss and improve effectively of our water system, this proposal partnership with DBSA is not just about securing funding is about leveraging expertise and implementing best practices to achieve tangible results. The performance-based contract ensures that our investment yields a measurable reduction in non-revenue water, save guarding our water resources and improving our financial stability.

This is not a request, a call to action as we need your support, your approval and your commitment to ensure we move forward to address critical challenges. Thank you."

Cllr MW Mongale remarked: "Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae, we welcome the intervention of the DBSA, and we hope that they will not regard this as a pilot project, but it would be a commitment from them to say we want to be part of the people. The issue of the funding model of National Treasury that SALGA needs to take forward on behalf of the Municipality with regard to all these issues to say Municipality cannot afford the 12% budget of the National fiscus of this country of which it needs to be reviewed as it is not working because it will collapse this institution. The issue of non-revenue water is a crisis however as we get done with this model, we need to establish a model of boreholes for institutions like schools are struggling to pay the Municipality. This matter should have been taken to Section 80 Committee for the terms of reference as it deals with a lot of money and whoever is going to negotiate on behalf of the Municipality will highlight the terms of reference. Thank you."

Cllr VS Soqaga commented: "Honourable Speaker and the house at large, it is important to note that it is not the only initiative that was invented in trying to resolve the issue of water as part of the ten-year strategy of water demand management. We have launched a pressure valve program that seeks to manage the water pressure. This program of DBSA called all Municipalities to participate however DBSA is appointing its own people to do the research here and produce a bankable business plan that says this is how the City can deal with this program, at the construction phase it is when the tenders will be involved but for now it is to help us on how we deal with the situation.

The total value of the project is R10 million therefore cities were expected to pay 20% which was R4 million out of the engagement between DBSA eventually they said they don't need the 20% from Mangaung , it is a 12 month program hence in the Section 80 Committee we agreed that bi-monthly the City Manager must report to Council. All things that are needed is for the City Manager to monitor on whether the DBSA does the right thing and also the recommendation for HOD Technical is to provide support to the City Manager in decision making. Thank you."

Point of Order by Cllr BJ Viviers that there was a proposal that was seconded.

Cllr S Pretorius proposed that a recommendation should be added to say *"the whole agreement should come to Council first then it can be signed by the City Manager,* and it was seconded at the Section 80 Committee.

Cllr VS Sogaqa indicated that as the Chairperson of the Committee and there was no such a recommendation that was amended, and this is an initiative of DBSA therefore they will report to Council for the developments.

Cllr GDP Kotze highlighted that in the Section 80 Committee meeting it was added that the City Manager should not finalise anything before it can come to Council.

Executive Mayor indicated that this should not be a subject of Section 80 Committee and the debate that happened there. He further highlighted that what he tabled to Council will guide the administration and if councillors disagree, they can express their dissent through their vote.

The Speaker indicated that if a member of a specific committee differs with the members of the same committee it makes it difficult for the house.

There was a commotion in the house, the Speaker then made a ruling that Cllr S Pretorius has been suspended from the proceedings of the meeting and requested Cllr CL Bouwer to sit down. He further requested Cllr ME Dennis to be suspended from the meeting.

The Speaker read Rule 15.1 of walking out of Council and requested the Chairperson of Section 79 Committee: Rules to take action on the walking out of Councillors in Council.

DA councillors walked out.

FFPlus Councillors walked out

Cllr SP Tsoleli indicated that it was not the first time that the DA councillors walked out of Council therefore proposed that this matter should be taken to the MEC of COGTA. The proposal was seconded by Cllr SC Sehloho.

It was thereupon with *45 votes in favour, 0 against and 14 abstained*

RESOLVED

1. Approval of the Project, accept the PBC approach to be used on the Project, and support the
2. implementation of the Project.

    2.1. The Council mandates the City Manager to negotiate and finalize the terms and transactions

3. contemplated by the Participation Agreement to be concluded with the DBSA.

    3.1. Upon the conclusion of the negotiation to finalize the terms of, and the transactions.

4. contemplated by the Participation Agreement, the City Manager be authorised and mandated to.

5. sign the Participation Agreement on behalf of the City.

    5.1. The City Manager be authorised and mandated to appoint the HOD Technical Services to be.

6. the key contact point with the DBSA, WPO and the Transaction Advisor in the Bankable Feasibility.

7. Studies (BFS), detailed project preparation, design, and structuring of non-revenue water (NRW).

8. reduction projects and interventions, and to dispatch all documents and notices to be signed.

9. and/ or dispatched by the City under or in connection with the Participation Agreement. Part of.

10. the responsibilities of HOD Technical Services will be to assemble a team needed to fulfil tasks.

11. mention in this paragraph; paragraph 8.4.

    11.1. The City Manager do all acts and things to give effect to the resolutions contained herein and/ or to give or execute all notices, communications, acknowledgements, resolutions or other documents or agreements on behalf of the City in connection with transactions contemplated in the Participation Agreement – The City Manager be mandated to report progress biannually.

    11.2. The letter to the WPO-DBSA signed by the City Manager expressing interest to form part of and participate in the Metros Non-Revenue Water Programme be approved by Council retrospectively.

6.
REQUEST TO RESCIND THE RESOLUTION TO RELOCATE THE BLOEMFONTEIN ZOO.

Cllr A Qai remarked as follows: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I just want to add on what the Executive Mayor has presented that the reason we are rescinding the resolution that was taken in 2013 it was because we are planning on re-opening the zoo and in order for us to open the Zoo in its current location, we need to go back to rescind the resolution which was saying the Zoo will be relocated to Kwaggafontein game farm. In addition to that DESTEA (Department of Small Business Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs) to issue out the permits and Council should have another resolution."

Cllr DJ De-Huis read her speech as follows: "Honourable Speaker, indeed this item served in the Section 80 Committee. As the EFF we did submit our disagreements regarding the issue. As we stand before you to discuss critical issues that has been the forefront of our Community for the past three years the closure and the re-opening of the Zoo. This issue has been in our Council for far too long the Mangaung Zoo once became the beloved tourist attraction for our Community especially for educational purposes however we are pleased to hear that the Zoo will be re-opening again.

Let us be frank the re-opening of the Zoo raises several concerns, it fails to provide us with a detail explanation of how the Zoo plan's going to generate the profit spending of twenty one point nine million, the document states that the income of the Zoo will be R3.5 million via the visitors fees furthermore we are disappointed as the EFF to the lack of financial details in the document however we believe that the poor reflection of the HOD. The re-opening of the Zoo will have numerous disadvantages especially in the Community firstly the distance, you take the Zoo from the CBD then take it to Kwaggafontein number two being we are still waiting for the investigation report on how the Zoo closed. Thank you."

Cllr JI Mokoena indicated that the recommendation does not indicate that Council needs to take a new resolution, however, he was happy about the decision to re-open the Zoo and that the Zoo has always been a jewel of the City. Furthermore, the recommendation, should read: *that the Municipal Council approve, and that Council rescind the decision taken in 2013 and re-open the Zoo where it is currently at.*

Cllr SC Sehloho read his speech as follows: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker, and the house at large. I stand to support with what the Executive Mayor has explained on the item and the recommendations because in 2013 there was a decision, and the same decision is prevailing right now in terms of economical factor and our people cannot afford to look at animals in Kwaggafontein however Kwaggafontein will still be utilised for big animals and small animals will come to the Zoo in town therefore I support the item."

Cllr MJ Mabena commented: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker, and the house at large. It is important for the Council to rescind the resolution and when looking at this Zoo issue there was a court rule from last year September which says Council should rescind the resolution."

It was thereupon, <u>*unanimously*</u>

RESOLVED

(a) That the Council rescind the decision taken in 2013 to relocate the Zoo to Kwaggafontein Farm.

(b) That Council allow and approve the reopening of the Zoo at its current location.

49	REPORTS FROM THE SPEAKER

1.
REPLACEMENT OF PR COUNCILLOR: PATRIOTIC ALLIANCE

The Speaker officially welcomed Cllr Swartz and furthermore highlighted that Cllr SM Swartz has a big responsibility and she is the representative of Mangaung.

Council Whip conveyed sincere welcomed to the new Councillor, Cllr SM Swartz and indicated that the Council would be looking forward to working with her.

RESOLVED That Council take note that Cllr Sophia Mametjie Swartz, being a candidate at the top of the party list for the Patriotic Alliance (PA) has been declared elected as a Councillor of Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality by the Independent Electoral Commission from 25 February 2025.

50	REPORTS FROM MPAC

NONE.

NOTED.

51	REPORTS FROM AUDIT COMMITTEE

NONE.

NOTED.

52	IN COMMITTEE REPORTS

NONE.

NOTED.

53	CLOSING OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

The Speaker appreciated the inputs made by Councillors. He officially declared the meeting closed at 14h40.

SECRETARIAT UNIT
COMMITTEE SERVICES