

CONFIDENTIAL



**MINUTES
FOR A SPECIAL MEETING**

**MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

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

**FRIDAY
MAY 9, 2025
AT 15:15**

**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, 9 MAY 2025 at 15:15**

ATTENDANCE REGISTER

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

PR COUNCILLORS			
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	Absent with apology
24	Cllr De Kock (Valerie Belinda)	FFPlus	
25	Cllr Denner (John Henry)	FFPlus	Absent with apology
26	Cllr Dennis (Magdalena Elizabeth)	DA	
27	Cllr Ferreira (Thomas Ignatius)	DA	
28	Cllr Klaasen Raynie Sarah	DA	
29	Cllr Letsoko (Mantwa Sanah)	EFF	Absent with apology
30	Cllr Lipale (Gopolang Jeremiah)	EFF	Absent with apology
31	Cllr Makau (Pitso Elias)	EFF	Absent with apology
32	Cllr Malebo (Deliwe Lettia)	EFF	Absent with apology
33	Cllr Maliela (Motiki Edwin)	DA	
34	Cllr Matobole (Mosala Abel)	DA	
35	Cllr Matsoetlane (Maditaba Joyce)	ANC	
36	Cllr Mogotsi (Mamahlape Elisa)	EFF	Absent with apology
37	Cllr Mohlamme (Lebohang Lerato)	DA	
38	Cllr Mokoena (John Itumeleng)	AASD	Absent with apology
39	Cllr Mongale (Mojalefa William)	AASD	
40	Cllr Moreeng (Kabelo Christopher)	DA	
41	Cllr Mtshakazane (Eunice Xoliswa)	EFF	Absent with apology
42	Cllr Njiva-Lebajoa (Mamotse)	DA	
43	Cllr Phohleli (Tsholwane Eddy)	EFF	Absent with apology
44	Cllr Ramatlama (Mpho Joseph)	EFF	Absent with apology

45	Cllr Rammile (Tumelo Kingsley)	DA	
46	Cllr Rampai (Pule Joseph)	ACDP	
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	Absent with apology
54	Cllr Viviers (Benhardus Jacobus)	DA	
55	Cllr Vorster (Braam)	FFPlus	
56	Cllr Wewege (Mare-Lize)	FFPlus	Absent with apology
WARD COUNCILLORS			
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 Moilola (Tshidiso Petrus)	ANC 6	Absent with apology
62	Cllr Sehloho (Siza Clement)	ANC 7	
63	Cllr Nyaphudi (Likeleli Julia)	ANC 8	
64	Cllr Tlhakung (Betty Masetlhabi)	ANC 9	
65	Cllr Setlai (Teboho Lesley)	ANC 10	
66	Cllr Hashatsi (Rafedile)	ANC 12	
67	Cllr Siteo (Nombulelo Dorcas)	ANC 13	
68	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	Absent with apology
72	Cllr Peter (Seth Qondile)	ANC 19	
73	Cllr van Rensburg (Corize)	20 DA	Absent with apology
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	
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 Petunia)	ANC 40	
91	Cllr Dintlhwane (Mantja Agnes)	ANC 41	
92	Cllr Mothupi (Maqoma Lazarus)	ANC 42	
93	Cllr Nkiane (Mpho Elizabeth)	ANC 43	
94	Cllr Pretorius (Selmé)	DA 44	
95	Cllr Mathe (Lisiwe Jeanette)	ANC 45	
96	Cllr Majoro (Mpho Samuel)	ANC 46	

97	Cllr 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	
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: TECHNICAL SERVICES	MR REVELATION MASOBENG
4	HOD: PLANNING, ECONOMIC & RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS	MS NOKUTHULA CHAKANE
5	HOD: CORPORATE SERVICES	MR MOKETE DUMA
6	GM: COMMITTEE SERVICES	MS XOLISWA QILO
7	ACTING MANAGER: COUNCIL SUPPORT	MS RINA MAMATELA

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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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**MINUTES
(OPEN COUNCIL)**

82.

OPENING

(MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION FOR MEDITATION AND PRAYERS)

The meeting commenced at 15h20.

The Speaker officially declared the meeting opened and confirmed that 59 Councillors were present and thus constituting a quorum.

He requested all to observe a moment of silent contemplation for meditation and prayers.

NOTED.

83.

NOTICE OF THE MEETING

The Speaker read the notice as on page 2 of the agenda. He further indicated the following:

- ✓ That the Special Council meeting is as called as a result of the National Treasury publishing a Government Gazette No. 52381 as per Notice Number 6038, 25 March 2025.
- ✓ That publishing occurred after the assessment of the progress on spending of municipalities in the Country as per Section 71 reporting of month, 6 of the 2024/25 financial year.
- ✓ The gazette has been published as per Clause 18, 19 and 20 of the Division of Revenue. The Mangaung Municipality is mainly affected by Section 18 of the Division of Revenue Act which is the stopping of the allocation of funds as per Gazette No. 50743 of 24 June 2024.

Cllr GDP Kotze stated that the notice was not sent out within 48hrs as stipulated in the rules.

The Speaker noted the concern, however stated that the notice was on time and Councillors received it a minute after, at 15:16 however, noted the point raised.

NOTED.

84.

APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The Speaker stated that he has received a number of applications for leave of absence which has been recorded. Applications were received from EFF Councillors in one letter and therefore cannot be accepted as each Councillor must submit their forms individually. It will be disregarded.

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.

85.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

The Speaker responded to the concern raised by Cllr GDP Kotze that he should be aware that there was initially an agenda which was sent out and later a revised agenda. The early agenda had captured three (3) items from MPAC and was revised after consultation with Programming Committee. The items submitted by MPAC were not brought before the Programming Committee as a result a second revised Council agenda was issued.

Furthermore, that occasionally as a standard rule, he would invite Chairpersons of Section 79 Committee to present in the event that there is something they would like to bring forward within the Council meeting which will be considered in the next meeting.

Cllr VS Soqaga moved for the adoption of the agenda and Cllr MS Ramolelle seconded the adoption of the agenda.

The agenda was duly adopted.

NOTED.

86.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr SM Swartz extended her gratitude for the action taken by the Heidedal Church towards the objective of service delivery in Ward 16 by securing volunteers and trucks to tackle the issue of illegal dumping mending of potholes. However, the Ward 16 Councillor is continuously absent from these initiatives' setup by the Heidedal community. She further stated the conduct of the Ward 16 Councillor and the unfair targeting of the Democratic Alliance (DA) Councillors. That the absence of the Ward 16 Councillor is concerning as the Councillor is incapable of serving the people who elected the Councillor.

Point of order raised by Cllr MM Letawana who questioned whether the Councillor was making an announcement or a speech.

The Speaker ruled that Cllr SM Swartz to proceed, and she stated that it is an announcement. She continued as follows:

- That the community of Heidedal is struggling with the issue of crime. Memorandums for help has been consistently ignored by the South African Police Service (SAPS).
- Furthermore, that the Council engage with the SAPS regarding this issue and demand concrete action in order to restore the safety and security of the members of the community of Heidedal and elsewhere in Mangaung. In closing, she requested clarity with regards to the role of the PR Councillors.

Cllr MM Letawana raised a point of order stressing that the Speaker should communicate the Standing Rules and Orders to Cllr SM Swartz, as Cllr SM Swartz is new and was not a part of the Workshop that other Councillors attended.

Cllr JM De Bruin seconded the final point made by Cllr SM Swartz.

The Speaker stated that he has noted the request made by Cllr SM Swartz and added that this was the same question brought up by Cllr JM De Bruin.

In his response to Cllr SM Swartz the Speaker stated that a PR Councillor cannot call a constituency meeting without the knowledge of the Ward Councillor and that as a PR Councillor himself and resides in Ward 44 and his only role is to support the development.

Cllr BJ Viviers stated that he was answered partially, and the Speaker has said he will reply to him in writing regarding the relevant legislation on whether the meeting will be live streamed on Facebook? The Speaker responded by stating that the livestreaming service providers will be present but will be joining the meeting late.

Cllr MW Mongale posed a question to the Speaker and asked whether it is logical to proceed with the meeting even though the service providers will be delayed as the Council meetings are always streamed live on Facebook.

Speaker responded by stating that Cllr MW Mongale's point has been sustained however, there was no rule that states that when the service providers were not present the Council meeting could not proceed and that the Council meeting proceedings were recorded.

Cllr E Snyman Van Deventer: "Dankie Agbare Speaker, die Vreihiedsfront Plus maak die volgende ankondige gister 8 Mei 2025 het die Afrikaanse taal haar 100ste herdenking gevuur. Dit is positief vir die kultuur. Die Afrikaanse taal was in 1925 as n aflanke taal erken en is so ver gegroei dat miljoene van alle agter gronde en gemeenskape die taal praat. Dit is belangrik om ale amtlike tale te beskerm in Suid Afrika."

5C

Cllr CL Kruger: “Agbare Speaker omdat ons gister die Afrikaanse taal gevuur het in term van 100 jaar is dit vir my n vooreg om die mooiste Afrikaans te praat, ‘n taal is n vorm van identiteit. She added that some of the people during Apartheid did not only lose their land but also lost such as the coloured community who lost their identity, they adopted Afrikaans as their own. NGO’s in Heidedal het bymekaar gekom om Mandela day te vuur dit is n eer om deel te wees van mense wat hulle se skill en vaardighede by mekaar. She concluded that the Ward councillors can be seen as those that want to be heard within the community...”

Point of order raised by Cllr JM De Bruin that he hopes Cllr CL Kruger will last until December and the Speaker dismissed the point of order.

Cllr VS Soqaga thanked the role that is played by all the mothers as they are preparing to celebrate Mother’s Day.

NOTED.

87.

DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

NOTED.

1.**MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY ADJUSTMENT BUDGET – MAY 2024/25**

In tabling the report, Executive Mayor Cllr GMS Nthatisi shared his greetings to all those in attendance. He stated that he would like to extend his condolences to the families of the Police Officers who sadly passed away. The Law Enforcement Unit must find out what has happened to them.

He further stated that the Roman Catholic Church has made a stride with the selection of Pope Leo XVI from the United States of America when the World is under siege by the same Country. The role played by the church in bringing sanity should have considered another candidate for the position as Pope including calling to order the current President of the USA to respect other nations.

Many professors and academics seek to understand the development of Afrikaans and what led to the rise of the language. Karl Marx in his research has sought to define what characteristics a people need to solidify their existence. This includes interaction, socialisation, standards, norms, and traditions that gain firm ground. Which could explain the basis of how a language can come into being.

Afrikaans is a product of interaction between various people of different cultures who put the language together and through interaction. Therefore, it is a product of this Country and be recognised as such. Most Africans and coloured people of this Country speak Afrikaans better and deeper than those who claim the language. As a result of having to be accepted and tolerated to be able to offer their work skills. Some of us are a product of June 16 of 1976 the attitude toward Afrikaans was informed by a number of factors one of them was to teach Afrikaans in Afrikaans, to teach mathematics in Afrikaans, to teach Sesotho in Afrikaans and to teach English in Afrikaans. However, much growth has taken place, and this view has changed.

The Executive Mayor concluded by wishing the mothers a successful Mother's Day.

Executive Mayor went on to state the following regarding the Implementations made by the National Treasury to stop the allocation to the City:

"The stopping of funds followed a define process in terms of the Division of Revenue Act (DORA) where National Treasury and the various votes of National Government assessment asses the reports.

Financial votes of National Government asses the report performance project approval under the various grants as reported on a monthly budget statement. The assessment puts the needs of the country first.

Leading to recommendations to either:

- Stop the allocation of funds.
- Reallocation of the funds.
- Convert grants originally gazetted after a bill is passed by parliament such as the State of the Nation Address and the taking of the budget to parliament.

The Executive Mayor stated that it can be confirmed that the National Treasury has complied with the processes of notifying considering the responsibilities in taking decisions. Consideration is not singling out a municipality it is however, because of the progress of projects in municipalities from the same grant. In as far as the stage progress where projects are ahead of their spending or target. This is because some projects are behind as far as spending is concerned.

This leads to the Section 19 of DORA which deals with allocations, this basically means that national target remains a focus under the grants but the anticipated outcome shift from one municipality to the other so ensure that the annual target is met.

The stopping of funds does not imply that the project should stop but rather should prioritise and accelerate their commitment and implement the projects that are ready.

For the Urban Settlement Development Grant (USDG) there was a reduced allocation for Community Services to the amount of R12.2 million, Planning, Human settlement and Economic Development were reduced by R3.1 million and Technical Services R49.6 million. Informal settlement was reduced as follows: Planning Human Settlement and Economic Development was reduced by R28.9 million, Technical Services by R22.9 million and the operation elements of the grants was reduced by R17.3 million. The Public Transport Network Grants was reduced to R99 million.

Executive Mayor presented the following figures to Council:

- R65 million of the USDG
- R69 million of the ISUPG
- R99.9 million of the IPTN
- R2 million of the NDGP

These are all the funds that have been stopped. Which totals to about R235 million that has been stopped. The budget of the Municipality has been gone to from R1.365 billion to R1.130 billion and prioritisation of the budget is indicated as per the report. The IPTN under normal circumstances should not be a part of the amount that the National Treasury should be referring to as having been stopped literally because the funds came with a moratorium on it. Therefore, the moratorium was not allowing spending of these funds. The moratorium was referring to the implementation of the forensic audit report. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr AF Bothma addressed the Council as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, through you the Executive Mayor, as this is your report.

On the 28th of February 2025 Council approved the 2024/2025 Adjustment budget. On the revenue and expenditure budget additional amounts are now presented to Council for approval. The Adjustment budget of 28 February 2025 showed a total surplus of R1.444 967 billion vs this report showing a R1,235 666 surplus after capital gains are recognized, as reflected on this report. Therefore, we need to approve the net total adjustments on Income and expenditure to an adjusted amount of R209 301 on our total surplus. The amount due to be included in the Adjustment Budget for the Hauweng Bus Service can be supported.

Mister Speaker, we acknowledge the facts mentioned in the report and that this is a compulsory item. This is the result of the municipality being informed by receiving a Circular letter from National Treasury confirming that the DORA has been altered and there had to be amendments made to the allocated amounts made to the Mangaung Metro Municipality. Therefore, as DORA is an act, and we have to comply to the legislation related to this act we must adjust our budget accordingly.

The total amount adjusted in the DORA is R235 058 000.

Urban Settlement Development Grant – R65 million

Informal Settlement Upgrading Partnership Grant – R69.058 million

Public Transport Grant – R99 million

This is compared to the total amount of our own capital expenditure revenue budget for 2024/2025 of R355 019 000! The amount sacrificed is then nearing the total amount for Capital projects funded from our own funds. It is, indeed, cumbersome and depressing that we already have to change and adjust our budget so shortly after we have approved the adjustment budget on 28 February 2025. This was based on the outcome of the Mid-year report. In our previous meeting we mentioned that we are extremely concerned about the performance of our capital expenditure budget. At that stage reaching a completions percentage of only 32%. Where it should have reached 75%. We did indicate that we will definitely have to again sacrifice funds received from government being Conditional Grants. Provincial and National Treasury obviously, by receiving all of our reports and through the mSCOA system, came to the conclusion that we will not have the means to conclude projects through the Conditional Grants allocated. Nation Treasury will definitely pick up things like this. We cannot hide Mister Speaker, as Nation Treasury will closely monitor all of our financial performance.

Mister Speaker, we really need to address this critical issue of performance of the various departments affected by this repeated occurrence of losing funds that is meant for projects to address much needed for infrastructure and maintenance. The community out there is indeed the real sufferers as they are deprived of essential projects they deserve. We need to establish the reasons for this under performance. The following can be mentioned in this regard:

Appointment of contractors to complete projects: The process must not be delayed. The preparation work to appoint these contractors must start even before the budget is approved. Supply Chain Management must put the procurement procedures in place and be vigilant when the final budget is approved. The Bidding Process should never exceed 2 or 3 months. One month is better! Contractors with the ability to execute the project must be appointed! Ordering and delivering of goods: Again, the Supply Chain unit must be vigilant. The bidding process must be accelerated to enable the projects to be concluded.

Contract Management: This is of the utmost importance. Contract management must be performed and reported to Council on a regular basis i.e., quarterly report. If underperformance is identified, the penalties etc. as per contract must be applied.

Where there is Infrastructure programs involved in the funded projects, they must be allocated to Service Departments as they have the capacity to exercise this timeously.

Mister Speaker, my main concern today is that we are not performing on the execution of Capital Projects and therefore it must be addressed in a responsible manner. The most important part after approving the budget is to measure performance. This must be done through the IDP and SDBIP. Therefore, it is imperative that the SDBIP, which is our monitoring tool, be adjusted to ensure that the remaining projects are carried out. If non-performance or underperformance is experienced, it must be reported to Council.

We cannot support this report if the recommended performance measures are not included in the item's recommendations. Therefore, we would like the following recommendation to be included:

4. That Council approves the Adjustment of the IDP and SDBIP in accordance *with the Adjustment Budget items stated in recommendation 1*. Thank you, Mister Speaker."

Cllr BJ Viviers addressed the Council: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I second the proposal of my colleague, Cllr AF Bothma.

Honourable Speaker, through you, to the Executive Mayor, Section 18 of the Division of Revenue Act (DORA) stipulates that the National Treasury may discretionarily stop the transfer of a schedule 4 or 5 allocation or portion thereof to a municipality, amongst other cases, if the National Treasury anticipates that a municipality shall substantially underspend on the allocation in the 2024/25 financial year.

That is why we are here today in March 2025 National Treasury already realized that you will substantially underspend on the Grants allocated to MMM. Just more than a week ago in this same house I told you, "You are the Political Leader within this Metro, amongst other duties, according to Section 56 of the Municipal Structures Act, you must review the performance of MMM in order to improve the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of the Municipality. The efficiency of credit control and revenue and debt collection services and implement MMM by-laws.

You are not attending to these duties and respectfully the old excuse that you have not been long in your position, will not surface anymore as you are almost 2 years in the position already. Start to be the political leader of this Metro, start implementing the budget and Financial Recovery Plan, you only have two months in this financial year to do that and by the look of things if we continue on the path that we are, we will have to pay back much more than the previous financial years amount of R141 000 000.00 to National Treasury regarding grants. Stop talking and start doing.

After that when the Speaker allowed you hours to reply to the excuses for you not attending to your duties just multiply further, like that there were challenges like with the intervention and so forth, to appoint a City Manager. Well respectfully we did have Acting City Managers before that. The one excuse that still baffles me is when you also supplied the excuse, referring to the opposition in this house, of how long it took to appoint the current Speaker. Really, stop underestimating our intelligence, what in the world can the appointment of a speaker have to do with the Financial State of a Municipality? I am not even going to go on regarding your other lame excuses, normally coloured with a subtle racial undertone, otherwise we will hear again today that you have blood on your hands. Sometimes I wonder, noting that the blood bothers you so much, if that blood was obtained, when you had to slaughter animals to prepare meals for your MK comrades.

Nonetheless, due to you not rising to the occasion, the National Treasury has rewarded this Metro by cutting R235 058 000.00 of the grants. Now due to your failures as this Metro's Political Leader the residents are rewarded with a cut of R199 050 000.00 on the Capital Expenditure Budget, which simply means less service delivery, less maintenance of infrastructure and less replacement of failing infrastructure.

Through you, Honourable Speaker, Honourable Executive Mayor, the writing is on the wall. The Residents of this Metro will not listen to your lame excuses anymore and will vote in a new government in the next Local Government Elections. A government of which the Democratic Alliance will be part-off, who will attend to their duties. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr B Vorster addressed the Council: "Honourable Speaker, all protocols observed. The Freedom Front Plus repeatedly advised and warned this ANC-led administration that if the Metro does not implement and finalise the projects, funded by the conditional grants, on time, these funds will be taken back by National Treasury.

But now, yet again, the Mangaung Metro must adjust the budget due to the reduction in our conditional grants in an amount of R235 million, reducing our conditional grant funds from R1.14 billion to only R906 million rand for this financial year. There is a reduction of over R134 million on our Urban Settlement Development Grant and our Informal Settlement Upgrading Partnership Grant. The key uses of these two grants are to fund projects in relation to bulk water infrastructure, roads, stormwater, sanitation, refuse removal, electricity and public lighting, especially in our poorer communities.

These are the basic services that this Metro are struggling to deliver to its people and yet we do not utilize the conditional grants that are given to us on a silver platter. The inability of this administration to utilise the funds received from these conditional grants has a snowball effect.

Firstly, our capital budget, for this financial year, has to be adjusted downwards by over R199 million from R1.3 billion to R1.1 billion.

Secondly, an additional R48 million of our internally generated funds must now be allocated from our operating budget to the capital budget to try to compensate for this downward adjustment. This is putting a further strain on our operating budget and reducing our surplus, that is in any event questionable.

Thirdly, projects have now to be reprioritised and rolled over to the next financial year, creating a backlog in our IDP. These projects now have to, as figure of speech, compete for funds with projects where funds have already been allocated to in the draft budget for the 2025/2026 financial year.

It is truly mind-baffling that this administration can spend our internally generated funds and our equitable share, but they cannot utilize the funds from our conditional grants. By the end of March of this financial year, this administration has already overspent R1.2 billion on our operating budget, which includes overspending on overtime in the amount of R115 million. It is therefore quite clear that this administration knows how to spend.

Unfortunately, Honourable Mayor, through you, Honourable Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus must ask the following question:

Is the reason for this administration not to utilize the conditional grants, not maybe because these funds are conditional in nature, and the administration cannot utilize these funds as they please? What the administration must also keep in mind is that these conditional grants are funded by the taxpayers of South Africa, including the taxpayers of the Mangaung Metro. It is unacceptable to the Freedom Front Plus that taxpayers' money, that is in essence being given back to them, through these conditional grants, are not utilized by the Metro to improve the basic services to our people.

Honourable Mayor, through you, Honourable Speaker, you have to take serious action to address this situation. The City Manager and officials of all relevant departments must provide answers to the relevant committees and this council why these conditional grant projects were not implemented and concluded in time. Up until today this Council did not receive any report from the so-called Project Management Unit. There must be consequence management and if the budget for the next financial year is approved, the administration should immediately begin to implement the projects funded by the conditional grants.

The Freedom Front Plus is adamant that this Metro, in future, should need an adjustment budget, not because of funds that are taken away, but because of additional funds received. I thank you Honourable Speaker."

Cllr MW Mongale: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, I am going to start with a political statement I was provoked by the Executive Mayor when he was analyzing the impact that Afrikaans had on the African people, but I was shocked how he exonerated English and how it damaged the world. If there is a language that has destroyed nations it is English, they were classified as imperialist.

Therefore, the reality is English is more lethal than Afrikaans. They are murderous that committed crimes and they want to provide the nations with aid that they have committed these crimes within. Do not rub shoulders with the wrong people. Afrikaans may have caused a lot of damage to the people, but it cannot compare to the damage caused by English. I knew that there would be those that would react to my speech even though I did not react to theirs.

I do not expect narrow minded people to respect the decorum of this council as I do. On the issue of the adjustment budget there are conditions of compliance that this council has not met that is why the money was taken. Again, English is used the money was taken the budget was refused on the basis of noncompliance it was cut in terms of Division of Revenue Act.

It was advised that hybrid busses should be used as a result of the high price of diesel and other lubricants, but we were taken as if we are populists, and we love the mic. The letter that was written which was reflecting the issue of Hauweng was very clear and outlined where the problem was, but it is not only me that is complaining about this issue even parliament is complaining about us. People laugh at us they say we do not have capacity to govern. The Auditor General has reported this issue to SCOPA.

The Speaker intervened and drew Cllr MW Mongale’s attention to Rule 10.1 that he cannot be making disparaging and degrading remarks and stated that he will not allow that language to be used in the Council.

To which Cllr MW Mongale responded by stating that it was fine, but the Speaker must apply the same rule consistently to other members.

Cllr JM De Bruin remarked: “Thank you Speaker and Honorable Councillors, the Patriotic Alliance fokus vandag op die in verband met informele mederuit besetings opgradeur. Watter infromele meder besetings na op verwys op jou dokumente. Heidedal sit nogsteeds met Gatvol wat gekopieer en plak is en heen en weer gestuur word vir die afgelope 11 jaar.

So raak dit net oor bevolk en oor bevolk met ons se onwettige immigrant sonder enige munisiplae dientse. Daar is twee krane installeer met n budget van ek weet nie hoe veel miljoene rand wat gegee moet word in infromele instellings vir 11 jaar sit die mesnse met twee krane. Almal moet water kry daar is geen daar is geen paie waar n ambulans of n polisie kar op kan ry nie. Mangaung is diep sleg vir die afgelope 11 jaar.

Dit is tyd dat die munisipaliteit nie weer hulle se stemme gan seek nie van hull eke hulle net met die tyd van stem. As hulle klaar hulle se stemme gekry het daan is hulle weer n kopieer en plak een vir een na Vista Park.

Ek wil weet wanner die munisipaliteit die lewens standarde van die mense gaan verander. Hulle moes self-gate grawe om toilette te bou. Daar was nog nooit n burgemeester vir die 11 wat op gestaan het en besluit het om n put toilet in te sit nie. Maar dit is al wat Mangaung ken om put toilets in te sit. Daar is ggen kraag vir die mense nie. Maar vir die afgelope 11 jaar was daar nog nie n ligpaal ingesit in Gatvol nie ek as councilor het die eerste ligpaal voor hulle se geboue in gaan sit. Baie dankie.”

Cllr CL Kruger addressed the Council: “Honorable Speaker, last week we were called overweight as ANC members today we are called narrow minded shallow thinkers; however, we soldier on because that is the price you pay for leadership. Nelson Mandela said the following statement when he entered Robben Island, he realized one thing, those prisoners that could speak Afrikaans were subjected to better circumstances than those that did not command the language. You are correct Honorable Executive Mayor if you wanted employment, it was better for you to know the language...”

Point of order raised by Cllr MW Mongale: “Honourable Speaker there is also a Councilor that called me narrow minded by calling order. You must listen to the tape Honourable Speaker, do not just promise us that you are going to listen. To this day you must listen to it, and I am not a member of the ANC I hate the ANC.”

Cllr CL Kruger remarked: “Honourable Speaker, this follows a refined process in terms of the Division of Revenue Act and National Treasury in the various roles of the national government assessment of performance of projects under various grants as reported in the monthly budget statement as reported in accordance with the MFMA Section 71. Indeed, Honorable Speaker nationally all municipalities were affected by the Division of Revenue Act.

Honorable Speaker, Eastern Cape, Free State and Gauteng in terms of the USDG all lost money when you look at ISUPG movement. In terms of ISUPG, the Eastern Cape were reduced by R69 million, Free State R69 million and Western Cape were reduced by R30 million, so it did not affect everyone nationally, not all municipalities were affected by this. Even if we lose R1 it is R1 too much. However, there's a difference between losing and the difference between stopping Honorable Speaker.

If I can just take you to the following in terms of the ISUPG grant. We have appointments that will be done for 11 projects for contractors that we will have to sign very soon; it will result in an acceleration in terms of what we should do as a Municipality. Now I want to go back to what the Executive Mayor has said in the explanatory memorandum of the Minister, it is quite clear, and I quote, the stopping of funds however does not imply that the project should stop but rather the Municipality should reprioritize commitments and be ready for implementation of projects.

However, it simply says to Mangaung prioritize in terms of readiness of these projects. Yes, we took a reduction a downwards adjustment but like we have said the appointments were done and indeed we will see an accelerated movement. I am just mentioning one Honorable Speaker under the one grant that has also affected the ISUPG grant.

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Now Honorable Speaker, on page 6 of the document that we have received we can see that in terms of the Urban Settlement grants these are the ones that were affected it was Centlec, Community Services, Planning Human Settlements, Economic Development and Technical Services. In terms of the ISUPG it was Centlec again Planning, Technical and those are the things that are highlighted in terms of whether there will be a positive outcome.

Cllr SP Tsoleli addressed the Council: “Mandibulele Somlomo. Somlomo ndizakuthetha ngenteho yabantu. Ndivumele Somlomo xa ndithetha namalungu endlu yowiso mthetho yase Managung, ndixhase intetho egqiba ukwenziwa ngumhlonitshwa uCllr CL Kruger. Apho ethe wabonisa uxanduva esinalo singama “Councilara” ase Mangaung, okokuba kubalulekile sise inkonzo eluntwini.

Somlomo sino xanduva singumbutho wabantu, umbutho we Sizwe ukusa inkonzo eluntwini. Xa usisa inkonzo eluntwini, kwindlela ohamba kuyo uzawudibana nazo zonke izinto, ingakumbi aba bakhonkothayo, akwenzeki ke Somlomo okokuba uToki ayikhonkothe imoto emileyo ngoko ukhonkotha ehambayo.

Nathi singumbutho namalungu eAfrican National Congress siyakuvela ukukhonkothwa, kuba lonto ithetha okokuba asilelanga kwaye asihlelanga siyaqhuba senza oko sasikuthembisile kubantu Mzantsi Afrika nakubantu base Mangaung.

Kumhlonitshwa uMongale, kulusizi xa usithi awuyithandi iANC, ndifuna ukutsho okokuba iANC ayiyomali ayisokuze ithandwe ngumntu wonke.

Okokuba ibiyimali iANC ngeseiyiphelile ngoku, kuba kaloku ibizoxuthwa ngumntu wonke, lombutho awuyiyo mali kuko nkoke oko thina malungu awo siyawuthanda kwaye siwuxabisile, nokokuba kunokwenzeka ntoni sawuhlala sime nawo.

Somlomo xa ujonge olu hlengahlengiso lubalulekile kakhulu ingakumbi kule nkondo yezothutha(iBus) IPTN, ukuba uyawukhumbula iBudget ye IPTN ayikhange idluliswe ngexesha elifanayo ne Budget yezinye inkonzo.

Xa besiyidlulisa siyidlulise sithatha ibaseline yonyaka ka (2021) apho kwagqityelwa khona okokuba kuBudgethelwe i operations yakhona, kuba kwakucingwe okokuba lenkonzo ye Bus iyawube seyingenile ezindleleni isebenza.

Kuthe xa kusenziwa olohlengahlengiso, lokwabiwa kwemali ye IPTN kuye kwabakho imali esilelayo, kwacaca ukuba siyanyanzeleka okokuba sibuye size kulendlu yo wiso mthetho sizokucela okokuba lamali besiyidlulisile sonke.

Kwaye iyabonakala Somlomo intsebenzo ye IPTN nantso igcwele kwindlela saze Mangaung iluhlaza intle ibukeka. Ihamba ngexesha ifike ngexesha kuzo zonke indawo esebenza kuzo lonto ibonakalisa okokuba isetyenziswa ngendlela efanelekileyo lemali.

Siza apha ke sisithi ngokwesi vumelawano sokuhanjiswa kwexi Bus ze IPTN, isivumelwano esithi kwimali ethe yaqokolelwa i2% ize inikezelwe kwi IPTN.

Sime apho kulendlu yowiso mthetho sizokuyicacisa uMhlonitshwa Logan Kruger uyicacise kakuhle. Singathetha sithethe kodwa kona kubalulekile okokuba iinkonzo zisiwe eluntwini.

Kwaye Somlomo ndime kwalapha ndixhasa uSodolophi uMhlonitshwa Gregory Nthathisi kwintetho yakhe xa ebecacisa olu hlengahlengiso kwangena naye uMhlonitshwa uLogan wahamba kwindlela uSodolophu ahambe kuyo.

Nam ngokwesimo se ANC ndihamba kuyo londlela bahamba ngayo.

Senze isithembiso kumzantsundu wase Mzantsi nAfrika okokuba sizakubanika impilo entle engcono, nokuba kunjani na. Ndiyabulela Somlomo.”

Executive Mayor explained: “Honourable Speaker, I wouldn’t want to ignore some of the wisdom as stated by the colleagues I am here with my team we make sure that we do not behave arrogantly. There are certain things that need a little bit of knowledge. I would like to pose a question to the Councillors particularly those that are from the opposition as the Councillors from the ANC these are some of the things we should deal with when we analyze where the council comes from. Speaker in the last council I made reference to say it is prudent that we as Councillors introspect ourselves.

There are some people that have mental flaws but let me demonstrate what I regard as a mental flaw, and I will do such with the respect of the Council when I talk about my history is that I was in a war. I was fighting for something called a just war against people who were fighting against us at an unjust level. You are fighting for your land and your people.

Those that were fighting an unjust war are still suffering under a feeling of terrible regret for what they have done to many people. I am, therefore, a revolutionary not politician there is a distinction between a revolutionary and a politician. A politician only cares about their brand for today a revolutionary is focused on the transformation of the society as a whole.

In response to the statement made by councilor Mongale regarding language. I was not talking about a nation I was talking about a language there is a difference. The British are guilty of being oppressors. In the case I was referring to involved language in the process of oppression and suppression which was Afrikaans. However, do not confuse Afrikaans with Afrikaner as it is a mixture of languages shared between many groups of people.”

Point of order raised by Cllr T van Der Walt as follows: “Mister Speaker, can we please continue with the item, these issues discussed by the Executive Mayor has no relevance to the budget.”

Executive Mayor continued by stating that the point of order is relevant but has come late. It should have been brought up much earlier when people were discussing irrelevant issues. Please consider bringing up your point of order earlier next time.

Cllr BJ Viviers on a point of order remarked: “Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I take note of what the Executive Mayor has said about the Auditor General but respectfully this is not about the Auditor General it's about National Treasury for the 2024-2025 budget.”

The Speaker stated that the debates were concluded.

The Council voted as follows: for the recommendations as submitted by the Executive Mayor: 46 in favour, 28 against and 0 abstained. For the proposal made by Cllr AF Bothma to add recommendation 4: 24 in favour, 46 against and 4 abstained.

It was thereupon,

RESOLVED

1. Based on the details as outlined above, it is resolved that Council approved the Adjustment Budget as contained herein, together with the resolutions as contained here below.
2. That Council approved changes as contained in Table B1 to Table B10 as well as all other supporting schedules for the Adjustment Budget.
3. The adjusted budget of Mangaung Transit Pty Ltd (known as Hauweng Bus Services), Annexure A be approved.

1. RESOLUTIONS

- 1.1 That the original budget as approved on 31 May 2024 be adjusted accordingly. Operating Income be increased by R382,23 million to the revised amount of R11,04 billion. The Operating Expenditure be increased by R839,40 million to the revised amount of R10,59 billion. The Capital Expenditure Budget be decreased by R199,05 million to the revised amount of R1,14 billion for the 2024/25 financial year as set out in the following tables:

		Page
Table B1	Consolidated Adjustment Budget Summary	8
Table B2	Consolidated Adjustments Budget Financial Performance (Revenue & Expenditure by Municipal Vote)	9
Table B3	Consolidated Adjustment Budget Financial Performance (Standard Classification)	10
Table B4	Consolidated Adjustment Budget Financial Performance (Revenue & Expenditure)	19
Table B5	Consolidated Adjustment Capital Expenditure, Budget by Vote and Funding	22

- 1.2 That the financial position, cash flow, backed reserve/accumulated surplus, asset management be adopted as set out in the following tables:

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		Page
Table B6	Consolidated Adjustment Budget Financial Position	23
Table B7	Consolidated Adjustment Budget Cash Flows	27
Table B8	Consolidated Cash Backed Reserves/Accumulated Surplus Reconciliation	28
Table B9	Consolidated Asset Management	29
Table B10	Consolidated Basic Service Delivery Measurement	32

- 1.3 That the adjusted budget of Mangaung Transit Pty Ltd (known as Hauweng Bus Services), Annexure A be approved.

2.

HOSTING OF THE COSAFA GAMES: 4 – 15 JUNE 2025

Executive Mayor tabled the item as follows: “Honourable Speaker, the hosting of the COSAFA Games is a joint venture with the Provincial office. We have the intention to sell the Metro Municipality to a point where it should work towards being a center of activity as well as generating livelihood for our local community and ensuring that the event of a major occurrence like the COSAFA Games would always come our way.

This would be eight (8) teams from different countries playing within our Metro Municipality. They will be engaging in an activity which is soccer which will equally be entertaining for our people, and it will have a major economic spin off for our local businesses in and around the City.”

Cllr KC Moreeng addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Greetings to all the attendees today I stand before you to address a matter of great concern next one that speaks to priorities of this municipality in the well-being of our community. While we acknowledge that it is important to host such prestigious events, we must ask at what cost does it come to our residence.

Section 10 of the Mangaung cost containment policy that is not directly ban the sponsorship or hosting of public events such as the COSAFA cup tournament event clearly restricts spending on events with social intent or staff orientated nature particularly with the value to the residence is negative. If any internal catering and entertainment or staff attendance is planned for COSAFA related events.

Using municipal funds such spending could potentially violate this policy especially if officials benefit more than the public. And remember that this social event is without measurable municipal benefits the Mangaung Metro has allocated an amount of R6,000,000 towards the tournament. Yet there is a crisis that our people are facing basic infrastructure is bad particularly the maintenance of gravel roads continue to go unheard. In areas such as Batho location, Rocklands, Turflaagte, Van Staad, Dewetsdorp, Wepener, Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu.

Residents struggle daily with roads that are muddy in the rainy season and dusty in the dry season. These roads do not connect properly with the public with the public transport routes forcing people to walk long distances. There are two boxes essential services. With the current economic crisis, the government is not going to fill up the stadiums. This means a loss in investment.

People are not going to attend these games as we know Mangaung has got a huge unemployment rate we have seen this in the past with Marumo Gallants people only attend Orlando Pirates, Kaiser Chiefs and Mamelodi Sundown’s games. If you go to the stadiums, then these three teams are playing the stadiums are not full. Let us be honest with one another who is going to pay for a ticket to watch Lesotho and Botswana.

R30 million was budgeted for road maintenance. However, the reality on the ground tells a different story. We have Ward Councillors, but potholes remain unfilled, gravel roads remain bad. It is a complete disaster. Interstate which is a private entity is fixing those roads which shows the lack of service delivery by Mangaung. I urge this Council to work towards sorting this issue out with transparency. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr E Snyman Van Deventer addressed the Council: “Agbare Speaker, die Vryheidsfront Plus maak graag die volgende aankondiging: Gister, op 8 Mei 2025, het die Afrikaanse taal haar 100ste herdenking gevier — 'n merkwaardige mylpaal, nie net vir Afrikaanssprekendes nie, maar vir die ryk taal- en kultuurdiversiteit van ons land.

Die Vryheidsfront kondig verder aan dat Afrikaans in 1925 as amptelike taal erken is, en oor die afgelope eeu het dit gegroei tot 'n taal wat deur miljoene Suid-Afrikaners uit alle gemeenskappe gepraat word.

Die Vryheidsfront Plus kondig met trots aan dat ons Afrikaans geluk wens met hierdie eeufees. Ons vier die taal se veerkragtigheid, skoonheid en voortdurende betekenis in 'n veeltalige Suid-Afrika. Ons gebruik ook hierdie geleentheid om aan te kondig dat dit so belangrik is dat almal streef na die beskerming en bevordering van alle inheemse tale in Suid-Afrika. Taal, alle tale in Suid-Afrika, is nie net 'n vorm van kommunikasie nie — dit is deel van ons identiteit en erfenis

Elke taak maw al die amptelike tale insluitend gebaretaal / sign language in Suid-Afrika moet uitgebou en bevorder word. Dit is daarom so belangrik dat ons in hierdie Raad elkeen ons eie taal praat en dat die tolkdienste optimaal gebruik word. Ek dank u.

However, Honourable Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus raise serious concerns regarding the timing, transparency, and financial prudence of the current request before this Council. The COSAFA games are scheduled to take place from 4 to 15 June 2025, less than a month from today. And yet, it is only now, on the 9th of May 2025, that Council is being asked to approve the allocation of R6 million towards this event. This raises urgent questions:

- Since when has the City Manager and the Mayoral Committee known that Mangaung would host the COSAFA Cup?
- Why was Council not informed or consulted at an earlier stage, when better planning and oversight would have been possible?

The lack of timely communication suggests either poor planning or a deliberate attempt to sidestep democratic accountability. Either way, it is unacceptable. Furthermore, while the financial implications for the Metro have been outlined in general terms, there is no clarity on the contribution from the Free State Department of Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation. Hosting

such a large-scale event must be a shared responsibility, not a burden placed solely on the shoulders of this struggling municipality.

Honourable Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus insists that any application for substantial public spending of this nature must be accompanied by a detailed, professional business plan. A vague list of possible expenses is not sufficient. We need:

A clear breakdown of projected income and expenditure, in rands and cents,

- Identification of potential sponsors and partners,
- An outline of expected economic returns for Mangaung,
- Risk assessments, and
- Post-event reporting mechanisms to evaluate whether the investment delivered real value to our residents.

In times when basic services are under strain, when our infrastructure is deteriorating, and when many of our citizens are living without reliable access to water, sanitation, and safety, we must be especially careful about how we spend public funds. We are not opposed to sport to hosting events, but we are opposed to unplanned, last-minute decisions that bypass expenditure.

Die Vryheidsfront versoek dus groter deursigtigheid, beter finansiële dissipline, en 'n verbintenis tot lang, termyn beplanning wat die rol van hierdie raad asook die inwoners van Mangaung respekteer. Ek dank u.”

Cllr SM Swartz addressed the Council: Thank you, Honorable Speaker. We as the Patriotic Alliance support such events that are adding value to our communities. Which we serve however, we vehemently oppose the proposed outline of capital for this specific event.

With the service deliveries failures staring in our face's mountains of issues hazardous infrastructure when people must jump over sewer spillages as they attend churches and as they come out of their houses. How can we justify these reckless financial tweaks. As this council's inability to on forecast basic needs and its constant reactive approach must be changed.

It just requires the daily struggles of our communities to be recognized. As for our bus service I just want to mention this that serves a small fraction of the people excluding the struggling people in the townships. Then why spend millions on this event Honorable Speaker on an international soccer event. That will change nothing but that will just give fans and players of front row seat to the gossip about how filthy the streets of Mangaung are. This Municipality does not even have money for diesel to pick up rubbish bags in the communities. How do we go about that, in closing I would like to close with the powerful words of Nelson Mandela.

And I quote “it is better to lead from behind and to put others in front especially when you celebrate victories, where nice things occur you take the backline you take the front line when there's danger”. We are in danger now, let us take the frontline Mangaung and confront the dangers we must take action with courage. The time for excuses has long been over now let us all deliver. I thank you.”

Cllr J Cronje delivered his speech as follows: “Thank you, Honorable Speaker and Executive Mayor. I want to do this maybe in a two-part speech the hosting of the COSFA event is seen as a great development for this Municipality and must represent a significant boost to the economy of Mangaung by bringing national and international sporting events. It holds the power of commercial benefit and attract divers' business opportunities.

Sport has the power to bring various opportunities we must make it a mission to bring back international sport events back to Mangaung and the Free State as a whole. We must support bringing international sporting events back to Mangaung in doing so it will develop our economy and create a vast number of opportunities for the residents of Mangaung.

It will bring back the pride and joy of hosting such enormous events associated with hosting such world class sporting events in our City. However, this bill cannot come at the expense of taking accountability. For years now sport has been a powerful driver of tourism placing both the Free State Province and the City of Mangaung on the international stage. It is time to reclaim that position by hosting events that will not only boost our economy but also create much needed employment opportunities that are planned for well ahead.

We must commit as a Municipality to the serious need for upkeep and development of our facilities so that they meet the international standards. Standards that we can be proud of, we owe it to the next generation of Free State athletes who dream of becoming legends in their own right. However, this will only be possible if we as a municipality keep our promises and do our part in the sporting sphere by developing facilities. So that we can excel and achieve greatness here is Part 2. For the City of Mangaung it is critical that a stadium like the Toyota stadium remains a state-of-the-art facility and is properly maintained to host international sporting events. At present this stadium does not meet the international standards and the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. This is a serious concern. It is essential to recognize that both time and financial resources must be allocated towards the upgrading of the stadium.

The allocation of R6,000,000 is a significant amount of rate payers' money. The DA cannot support such an amount in such a short period of time. For a tournament of this magnitude which is now being arranged for in the period of one month. This is of the colleagues we have just learned about the report on the financials no communications or any indication was made that we are in the bidding process of this tournament or in the planning of this tournament.

While our residents are still suffering with the poor service delivery of road conditions, potholes across the municipality. It takes us five years to appoint proper contractors to service our roads, but we can allocate R6,000,000 for project in one month. Water shortages have been going on for months without any plan or any indication on how these problems will be fixed. Secondly, a tournament like this needs proper marketing and planning to make sure of what you put in be recovered through our economy as well as our income from the tournament.

Furthermore, I do not see how much the department of Sports Arts and Culture will invest in this tournament. Does the burden come down on our municipalities. In conclusion speaker we do support the fact that international sporting events must return to the city. But as the DA we cannot support the item as to how much money can be allocated and used. Therefore, we will ensure that the administrators remain accountable to our residents. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr MW Mongale in responding to the Speaker: “Honourable Speaker, I cannot be the last one, speakers raise their hands; with you all trying so hard to call them to order but they are very rebellious. It is in the DNA of the African National Congress. ANC is a rebellious organization that is why its members are rebellious they do not even listen to their own leader. When he says they must keep quiet they keep on gibbering...”

Cllr MJ Mabena raised a point of order: “Honourable Speaker I just wanted to hear on which item are we?”

Cllr MW Mongale continued: “We are on the same item the speaker said he allows political statements and I have also had an observation of the rebellious nature of certain Councillors. I know you are giving me a reason to talk. But if you behave, I will not talk about you I did not come here for you. But you know you must watch your statements because there is nothing better that you can offer. You do not give value. I will continue to quote a soldier without any ideological and political education is a potential criminal. I am paraphrasing it a Councillor without political and ideological education is a potential anarchist...”

On a point of order, Cllr CL Kruger remarked: “Honourable Speaker, firstly, I think it is Thomas Sankara who uttered those words, but I want to ask what we call a political party with no history.”

Cllr MW Mongale continued: “I knew I would make people agitated, and I am so happy to be myself. I am proud of myself. I am going to even look at myself in the mirror because I have done what I am supposed to do. You want the policy resolution just to come and cause disruption. And I am dealing with you today and I am proud of myself.

On the COSAFA matter we are agreeing that sport is important, but our only problem is where are we going to get that R6,000,000. That is the only stress and Councillor, I thank you for supporting me and making me sound like a man with a sound mind.

The meeting that took place on the 5th of May, there was a meeting of SCOPA I did not manufacture it was talking about the recent issues. On the issue that the Executive Mayor brought up regarding English I did not misrepresent the facts. I want to put it in the proper context they know the difference between a language and a nation. However, all I was saying is the English nation is also named after the language.

Now that is the same nation that attacks people of the world even unprovoked amongst them are even South Africans. Maybe you did not know that history, but I need to remind you the English people were in this country they attacked almost everyone, and they colonized they even fought with the Afrikaners. It shows the character of the English wherever they are they will be at war. The only country they could not attack is Russia because Putin has put them in their place...”

Point of order raised by Cllr KC Moreeng that the MMC cannot point at their members, as Cllr MW Mongale was talking about Donald Trump it is unethical. Councillor cannot do that and must not laugh. That racial tendencies have to come to an end.

The Speaker sustained the point of order and ordered Cllr CL Kruger to withdraw.

Cllr CL Kruger withdrew showing off her hand.

Council Whip addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I am sitting here, and I am wondering whether I am in the correct council meeting having to consider the agenda that was tabled today by the Executive Mayor. However, at the same time I realize that sometimes when you are not prepared, and you do not know what to say you are quick to just speak.

To add, you are in the Council meeting. Sometimes it is better just to watch the Council meeting. But on the same breadth Honourable Speaker I just want to also acknowledge the fact that it is so heartbreaking that you find yourself saying things that you do not mean. I wonder if we were talking about the rugby if Cllr KC Moreeng was going to say whatever he has just said. However, it is not rugby, it is not a sport that many of us in this house are associated with.

He has to appease or please his masters and say things like that. But nonetheless Honorable Speaker, I think one of the goals of this metro should be to become a global Municipality that attracts investment and collaboration. I am tempted to get into the issue of the SCOPA Chairperson, but it is not a matter of this Council. Because sometimes you cannot say things that you are reading on the papers. I do not think the Chairperson of SCOPA has ever visited Mangaung. The Chairperson of SCOPA has never spoken to any of the leadership of Mangaung. Honorable Speaker I am worried about our friends on the other side they have also just sponsored a vote of no confidence to the President...”

Point of order raised by Cllr PA De Bruin: “I think we are doing the wrong thing here Mister Speaker that should be rectified, we did not vote against our Sports Minister we voted against the money he wanted to spend.”

Council Whip continued: “That does not change the fact of the vote of no confidence, but Honourable Speaker let me just indicate this. We notice the importance of this sporting event and the positive outcomes it may bring to the society. And also understanding the issue of service delivery serving the interest of the people.

This sporting event is in the best interests of the people of Mangaung. As Mangaung we are known as sporting people and sporting fanatics, because of the fact that we are bringing these important tournaments to Mangaung, we know that when the visitors come to Mangaung there is a potential for investment.

I think the most important thing that we have to consider which was also stated by Cllr J Cronje, he has touched on very important issues, but the only concerning thing is, that this is a black sport if I have to put it that way. Which they cannot support as the majority of them are not going to be attending this event ...”

Point of order raised by Cllr AP Terblanche: “Wat bedoel jy die is n swart sport dit gaan nie oor dit nie van ek myself is bruin ek hou ook van die sport. Ek het famielie wat deel neem in die sport. Kyk wat het gebeur met die Africa Cup die stadium was leeg daar was nie mense nie van die mense het nie geld. Dit is nie n racial ding nie.”

The Speaker ruled that the point of order was sustained.

Point of order raised by Cllr Viviers and referred to Rule 10.1 C iii of the Council's Standing Rules and Orders and requested that the Council Whip must withdraw his statement.

The Speaker ruled that the point of order was sustained.

Council Whip continued: “Honourable Speaker, I will rephrase what I said before because this is a sport that is predominantly dominated by Africans and black Africans. Mangaung hosting the COSAFA games will bring opportunities to the people of Mangaung, will bring potential investors to the people of Mangaung. I think you can remember that around February we hosted the investment summit where we were saying people must come and invest in Mangaung. Tourism and accommodation will be boosted because of the people that will be coming to Mangaung. The very same people we say they are unemployed; they would start generating a form of income for them to be able to live and therefore be sustained beyond the COSAFA games. Therefore, Honourable Speaker, I move for the recommendation as tabled that the Mangaung Council approves that the City Manager enter into SLA with COSAFA in terms of Mangaung hosting these games. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr SP Tsoleli commented as follows: Kealeboha Motsamaisi wa Dipuisano. Ho a swabisa kannete hore e be, e tlare ha Council Whip a bua nnete...ha o ne o ka sheba moo ke dutseng teng, ha bua a re hobane ke dipapadi tsa batho batsho, ha wa bona ntho eo e neng e le ka mane Honourable Speaker. Ho ho bolela hore sehlako sena, se balekane hantle, ha se balekane hantle, ba se rwale...”

Point of order raised by Cllr GDP Kotze stated the Councillor has raised the exact same point that you sustained.

The Speaker dismissed point of order by Cllr GDP Kotze that Cllr SP Tsoleli did not make any utterances.

Cllr SP Tsoleli continued as follows: “Honourable Speaker, we come from a very terrible past that divided this nation. However, sports have been one activity that has always brought this nation together. If you look at the Vision 2030 in the NDP it advocates for collaboration it also advocates very clearly for social cohesion but many times. Honourable Speaker there are those people that think that social cohesion is meant for a certain group of people. And it is not meant for others, you can see by the discussions that are ensuing this house. We are still far in making sure that we achieve this vision. It is therefore important to achieve the vision that will bring everyone in who is South African. We have to rally behind the social cohesion we will solve a lot of problems.

We are also Honourable Speaker, building a more equitable society where opportunities are not defined by what type of sport you really want to participate in. This is a clear indication that our society remains divided. Not long-ago Honourable Speaker, let me remind the house we were in the newspapers because the rugby union decided that they are downgrading us here there was statements that were made in this Council by these Councillors.

The statements that were saying we are losing this because of such and such reasons. We have to acknowledge that this a privilege we will never understand the privilege of hosting these games. We have great responsibility as this Council, the responsibility of building social cohesion also is very important.

We have to develop Mangaung and have a common understanding we must really behind all the activities that are coming to the City. I support the Council Whip.”

At this point as Councillors were raising point of orders, the Speaker called the Council to order.

Executive Mayor commented: “Honourable Speaker, my point was in regard to the Cllr MW Mongale saying who will go and watch Lesotho and Botswana I was expecting him to attend this event. As I tend to identify him with this origin. We do not differ that much when it comes to this sporting event. The issue of race in soccer the councilor seems to lighter than some of whites in the meeting...”

Point order raised by Cllr AP Terblanche: “Mister Speaker, I would like to explain that I am not the white and I am not black I am therefore a colored person in this Country.”

Point order raised by Cllr ME Dennis: “Mister Speaker, we do not appreciate our Executive Mayor using such derogatory language. We are here to discuss this COSAFA event and the money that is required to host this event; we should vote and get it over with. All these political clashes are not taking us anywhere because we are now talking about all kinds of sports.”

Point order raised by Cllr CL Kruger: “Honourable Speaker, I humbly want to advice the opposition they must focus on winning elections then they can tell their Executive Mayor how to run this Council until then they must relax.”

Executive Mayor continued: “As I conclude Honourable Speaker, I think Councillors, you must be alive to the debate please be alive to these debates. Because it is not nice when a DA member say something you do not rise and request a point of order. The constitution of this country defines blackness in the manner that I am trying to define it does not define it with accordance to the councilors’ definition that he feels so strong about.”

Point of order raised by Cllr JM De Bruin: “My apologies Executive Mayor but I think the bushman child in parliament has been brought to everyone's attention. Indian, black and colored will be called Africans from now on let's salute this thank you.”

Executive Mayor: Speaker until we have brought about changes in the Constitution of this Country, you cannot come into this Council because you would actually be in defiance of the supreme law of the Country when the constitution defines you otherwise...”

Point of order raised by Cllr BJ Vivier in terms of Rule 31 on relevance and further asked whether the live streaming of the Council meeting would still going to happen?

The Speaker thereon dismissed the point of order.

The Speaker made the following remarks: “I wish to convey our best wishes to the National Assembly as they will converge on the 21st of May 2025 to reconsider the budget. This comes after the decision by the National Treasury to maintain the Value Added Tax at the rate of 15% unchanged. As opposed to an increase that was first presented on the 12th of March 2025. This will indicate whatever the outcomes are of that session in particular. This extraordinary session by the National Assembly will have far reaching implications. This will have an effect on the Country in general whether you maintain an increase or you keep the rate at 15%. As local government the Municipality, there will be a great impact. I am sure Cllr AF Bothma you would agree with me that our Debt to GDP ratio will pick up at 76.4%. I am sure you will also agree with me our Cost to Service Debt will also pick up at the rate of 24%.”

Council voted for the proposal by Cllr AF Bothma to refer the item back as follows: 24 in favour, 46 against and 4 abstained. The voting outcome for item as tabled by the Executive Mayor: 46 votes in favour, 28 against and 0 abstained

After the Speaker announced the results, Cllr KC Moreeng requested that it be noted that the DA voted against the approval of the item.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED

1. That Council approved and endorsed the Municipality's participation and support of the 2025 COSAFA Cup Tournament to be hosted in Mangaung.
2. That Council approved the financial implications that the Municipality will incur related to the hosting of the tournament estimated at R6 million.
3. That the City Manager has been authorised to sign the Memorandum of Agreement and implement all related administrative actions.

89	REPORTS FROM THE SPEAKER
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None.

NOTED.

90	REPORTS FROM MPAC
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None.

NOTED.

91	REPORTS FROM AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE
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None.

NOTED.

92	REPORTS ON WARD COMMITTEES/CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON WARD COMMITTEE
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None.

NOTED.

93	REPORT ON SALGA ACTIVITIES
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None.

NOTED.

94	IN COMMITTEE REPORTS
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None.

NOTED.

95	CLOSING OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
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The Speaker officially closed the meeting at 18H26.

SECRETARIAT UNIT
COMMITTEE SERVICES