

CONFIDENTIAL

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING

**MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

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

**THURSDAY
30 OCTOBER 2025
AT 10:00**

**MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPALITY**



MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING
of the
MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
Held
IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR,
BRAM FISCHER BUILDING, BLOEMFONTEIN
on THURSDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2025 at 10:00

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	
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	
6	<u>MPAC</u> Cllr Makoloane (Itumeleng Justice)	ANC 36	Absent with apology
7	<u>Petitions and Community Liaison</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	Absent with apology
MEMBERS OF MAYORAL COMMITTEE			
10	<u>MMC: Corporate Services</u> Cllr SP Tsoleli	ANC	
11	<u>MMC: Community Services</u> Cllr A Qai	AIC	Absent with apology
12	<u>MMC: Economic Development</u> Cllr MM Letawana	ANC	
13	<u>MMC: IDP and Performance Management</u> Cllr MT Mosala	ANC 11	
14	<u>MMC: Planning and Human Settlements</u> Cllr NA Nhlapo	ANC	
15	<u>MMC: Public Safety and Transport</u> Cllr CL Kruger	ANC 16	
16	<u>MMC: Agriculture and Rural Development</u> Cllr PS Twala	ATM	
17	<u>MMC: Technical Services</u> Cllr VS Soqaga	ANC	
18	<u>MMC: Waste & Fleet Management</u> Cllr VE Jonas	ANC	

PR COUNCILLORS			
19	Cllr Bothma (Andries Francois)	DA	
20	Cllr Bouwer (Chadwine Lyle)	DA	
21	Cllr Davies (Maryke)	DA	Absent with apology
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	Absent with apology
27	Cllr Ferreira (Thomas Ignatius)	DA	
28	Cllr Klaasen Raynie Sarah	DA	
29	Cllr Letsoko (Mantwa Sanah)	EFF	
30	Cllr Lipale (Gopolang Jeremiah)	EFF	
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	
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	
42	Cllr Njiva-Lebajoa (Mamotse)	DA	Absent with apology
43	Cllr Phohleli (Tsholwane Eddy)	EFF	
44	Cllr Ramatlama (Mpho Joseph)	EFF	
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	Absent without apology
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	
56	Cllr Wewege (Mare-Lize)	FFPlus	
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 Moiloa (Tshidiso Petrus)	ANC 6	
62	Cllr Sehloho (Siza Clement)	ANC 7	
63	Cllr Nyaphudi (Likeleli Julia)	ANC 8	
64	Cllr Tlhakung (Betty Masetlhabi)	ANC 9	Absent without apology
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	Absent without apology

70	Cllr Mohatle (Mampone Sally)	ANC 17	Absent without apology
71	Cllr Van Noord (Gregory Owen)	DA 18	
72	Cllr Peter (Seth Qondile)	ANC 19	
73	Cllr van Rensburg (Corize)	20 DA	
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	Absent without apology
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	
99	Cllr Lekhwele (Mohanuwa Julia)	ANC 49	
100	Cllr Monare (Thabo Nicholas)	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	HOD: PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY	MR ISRAEL KGAMANYANE
7	HOD: COMMUNITY SERVICES	DR T THINDA
8	CENTLEC CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER	MS ZOE WILLIAMS
9	CHIEF OF STAFF	MR ZOLILE MANGCOTYWA
10	HEAD OFFICE OF DEPUTY EXECUTIVE MAYOR	MS BONGA MNCUBE
11	HEAD OF MPAC	MR DIPHOKO SEKAKANYO
12	GM: COMMITTEE SERVICES	MS XOLISWA QILO
13	GM: COMMUNICATIONS	MR QONDILE KHEDAMA
14	GM: INTERNAL AUDIT	MR GAUTA NTSALA

15	GM: IDP AND ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE	MR MONYAKE MOTHEKHE
16	ACTING REGIONAL GM: FORMER NALEDI	DR B MDHLULI
17	ACTING REGIONAL GM: BLOEMFONTEIN	MR M BERENG
18	MANAGER: INTERNAL AUDIT	MS A SCHMIDT

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 name-plates 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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6
MINUTES
(OPEN COUNCIL)

153.

OPENING

(MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION FOR MEDITATION AND PRAYERS)

The meeting commenced at 10:05 to allow all Council members to be seated.

The Speaker requested all to observe a moment of silent contemplation for meditation and prayers. He announced that 75 Councillors were in attendance and thus constituting a quorum.

The Speaker acknowledged and welcomed the Executive Mayor, Deputy Executive Mayor, Council Whip, Members of the Mayoral Committee, Chairpersons of Section 79 Committees, Whips of different the political parties, Councillors, Chairperson of the Audit and Performance Committee, the City Manager and the HODs from both Centlec and Mangaung, Council Secretariat, media and the community of Mangaung Metro Municipality.

The Speaker remarked as follows: “As I open this Ordinary Council sitting, we meet here today at the time when the Constitutional Court of our Republic is seized with a matter of profound national importance, the alleged manipulation of the Rand/Dollar exchange rate.

This case brought before the highest court by the Competition Commission has revealed unsettling claims that some of the world’s most powerful financial institutions conspired to distort the value of our currency. It is a sobering moment of our democracy, reminding us that economic justice is as vital to the life of our nation as political freedom itself.

It is alleged that international banks together with local banks have conspired to manipulate the exchange rate in respect of the US Dollar and the rand. At the centre of this matter, lies a critical question of jurisdiction, whether South Africa has the legal authority to hold foreign banks accountable for conduct that took place beyond our borders but whose effects were felt right here at home.

The Competition Commission has rightly argued that when global financial players manipulate the value of the Rand, they are interfering directly in the South African market and therefore fall within our jurisdiction. This principle is fundamental. Our laws must protect our people from harm, no matter where the wrongdoing originates.

Currency manipulation is not an abstract market issue, it is a direct assault on our Country’s economic wellbeing and sovereignty. Our sovereignty extends beyond geography, it includes the right to defend our economy from external harm. If decisions made in foreign trading rooms affects the livelihood of South Africans, then the jurisdiction of the South African law must be asserted. This is not only a legal question, but also a matter of national dignity and self-determination. No country should stand in idle while its currency and its people’s prosperity are trolled with in distant boardrooms.

6A

This developing story is not just an economic story, it is equally a human story. It is a story of how the invisible hands of greed operating in the global financial market may have reached in the pockets of ordinary South Africans, the workers, the poor and the struggling families in our townships and villages. It robs them silently of their dignity and purchasing power.

Fellow Councillors, when banks, institutions entrusted to safeguard our financial integrity collude to manipulate the value of the Rand, they are not merely fixing numbers on a screen, they are in truth tampering with the price of bread, cost of transport, price of electricity, accessibility of education, mortgage, personal loans, vehicle finance, stability of jobs and with a value of every pensioner lifetime savings. Such manipulations represent a betrayal of public trust and an assault on daily lives of ordinary South Africans, the workers, the poor and struggling families across our townships and rural communities.

The manipulation of the Rand/Dollar exchange rate between 2007 and 2013 may seem distant in time, but its consequences have echoed through the years. In 2024, the World Bank noted that the Rand should have traded at R7.00 to the Dollar, whilst the actual exchange rate was R18.03 to the Dollar. The net results of manipulation of our currency, have resulted to inflationary pressures.

Inflation as we would know, is a sustained rise in the prices of commodity that leads to a fall in the purchasing power of the Country's currency. It is a sustained deterioration in a purchasing power of our people therefore, we are rapidly losing a sustained momentum on improving the quality of life of the people. Ka potlako, re lahlehelwa ke lebelo le tsitsitseng la ho ntlafatsa boleng ba maphelo a batho ba rona. The ideal for a better life for all has been dealt with a serious blow. Sepheo sa bophelo bo "betere" bakeng sa bohle, se thefohle haholo.

The decline in the global demand for commodities has significantly increased fiscal deficits in most part of the world including our very own Country. Ho fokotseha ha hloko ya lefatshe ya thepa ho ekeditse kgaello ya ditshetele haholo dikarolong tse ngata tsa lefatshe ho keneletsang naha ya rona.

Our borrowing as a Country has dramatically increased such as our debt sheet has grown bigger exponentially. Kadimo ya rona le ya naha, e oketsehile haholo mme kahuna leqhephe la rona la sekoloto le se le le haholo ho feta tekano.

The need to cushion inflationary pressure in the consumer pricing index has compelled us to revise our GDP growth rates. Hlokeho ya ho fokotsa kgathello ya inflation ya ditheko tsa bareki, e re qobelletse le ho lekola sehlwahlwa sa rona sa kgolo ya GDP.

The sharp rise in the commodity prices especially oil is presenting a huge challenge. Ho phahama haholo ha ditheko tsa thepa haholo oli, ho hlahisitse phephetso e kgolo. Food, clothing, housing, transport and other regular expenses have gone up in greater proportions. Dijo, diaparo, bodulo, dipalangwa le ditshenyehelo tse ding tsa ka mehla, dinyolohile ka tekanyo e kgolo.

A sustained rise in the prices of commodities has led to a fall in the purchasing power of our Country's currency.

6B

Ho phahama ho sa feleng ha ditheko tsa thepa, ho lebisitse theoho ya matla ya ho reka ha tshelete ya rona ya naha.

This continues to challenge and threaten the role of our South African Reserve Bank and by extension our fiscal policy. Sena se tswella pele ho alotsa tshebeletso ya banka ya Reserve le ho oketsa leano la rona la ditshetele.

The ripple effects of an unstable currency are felt in Mangaung Local Economy, in the stalls of our informal traders, in the budgets of our households and in the planning rooms of this very Municipality.

Our fellow Councillors, we must express our sympathy and solidarity with all South Africans, particularly the poor and working class who bear the barn do such acts of economic betrayal while those who engaged in collusion enjoyed eliciting profits. It was these ordinary citizens who suffered quietly from rising prices and eroded livelihoods.

We therefore commend the Competition Commission for its vigilance and courage in confronting some of the most powerful banking institutions in the world. In doing so, they have stood up not only for the Rand, but for the sovereignty and the dignity of South Africans in general.

In conclusion Honourable Councillors, as representatives of the people, we must echo a clear and firm message from Mangaung; let no institutional manipulate the destiny of our people and escape accountability. Let us also take this moment to reaffirm our Municipality's commitment to ethical governance, financial transparency and economic justice. Just as we demand integrity in the banking sector, so too we must ensure integrity in our local administration for corruption whether in high finance or in local government, it eats away in the same foundation of public trust.

Let this Council record this empathy with the victims of economic manipulations, its support for ongoing investigations, legal processes and its commitment to stand with all South Africans who call for fairness, transparency and accountability in the economy. May the lessons of this scandal remind us that the fight for social justice does not end at the gates of Parliament or the courts, it continues here in every municipal chamber, in every decision we take for the people we serve. Let justice be done and let the Rand reflect the true value of the hard work of our people and not the greet of a few.

To the Competition Commission, I want to implore your good work by quoting from the Bible, the Book of Proverbs 31: 8 – 9 which reads as thus:

"speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves.

Ensure justice for those who are being crushed.

Yes, speak up for the poor and helpless and see that they get justice."

I know officially declare this Council sitting to be in session."

NOTED.

154.

NOTICE OF THE MEETING

The Speaker read the notice as outlined on page 2 of the agenda. The Speaker furthermore stated that the notice was also posted on the Municipality's Facebook page.

NOTED.

155.

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.

156.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Cllr GDP Kotze remarked as follows: "Thank you, Mister Speaker. just a comment on your conclusion of the speech, I refer to Exodus 20, the 10 commandments: you may not steal".

Mister Speaker, the Democratic Alliance formally requests that item 162.4, Motion of No-Confidence, be relocated from the reports section under the Speaker to the subsection on motions. Please note that the motion of no confidence pertains to your position, which may constitute a conflict of interest.

The DA has observed that the City Manager has not yet responded to all outstanding Rule 38 questions or tabled all pending motions. Councillors are advised that the DA recently met with the City Manager, who assured that all motions will be tabled today.

Mister Speaker, the Executive Mayor has once again not tabled the outstanding..."

The Speaker interjected and requested Cllr GDP Kotze address the Council specifically on the acceptance of the agenda.

The Council Whip on a point of order requested that Cllr GDP Kotze confine himself to the agenda and not deliver a speech. Furthermore, that some of the issues he raised, are issues that should have been reported to his caucus as discussed at the Multiparty caucus which was held the previous day and agreed in principles on the issues.

After Cllr GDP Kotze confirmed that the acting Party Whip was in attendance of the Multiparty caucus, although he did not vote on acceptance of the agenda, the Speaker reiterated that Cllr GDP Kotze should stick to the item on the agenda whereupon he indicated that he would try, but he should not be interrupted.

Cllr MA Morake raised a point of order concerning the conduct of Cllr GDP Kotze, who was not in accordance with the rules of the house and thus urged the Speaker to put his foot down.

The Speaker referred Cllr GDP Kotze to Rule 31 of the Standing Rules and Orders which stipulate that the Councillor must address the Council on the matter at hand.

The Speaker afforded Cllr GDP Kotze to continue where he indicated that at the previous meeting the Speaker promised that the outstanding indigent register would be approved at the next Council meeting and therefore does not appear on the Council agenda. That he requests that the Executive Mayor give responses on that as he presents his items.

Cllr PM Kotze seconded the proposal by Cllr GDP Kotze.

Cllr BJ Viviers reiterated what Cllr GDP Kotze said.

The Speaker thereupon put the Council to vote on the proposal as raised by Cllr GDP Kotze to move item 162.4 to item 168: 25 in favour, 43 against and 16 abstained.

The Speaker declared that based on the voting outcome, the proposal falls off.

The Executive Mayor requested that item 161.5 be withdrawn, and Cllr BJ Viviers requested reasons for the withdrawal.

Council Whip in his response requested that the Whip of Democratic Alliance be the one to respond to the question asked by Cllr BJ Viviers as this matter was discussed and clarified at multiparty whippy meeting. That the Executive Mayor was formally withdrawing the item as it was already circulated.

The DA Whip, Cllr KC Moreeng stated that they had their own caucus, however Cllr BJ Viviers question was posed to the Executive Mayor requesting an in-depth reason whereupon the Executive Mayor reiterated that the item is withdrawn for the same reasons stated at the multiparty whippy meeting.

Cllr ME Nkiane moved for the acceptance of the agenda with amendment to withdraw item 161.5 and was seconded by Cllr LJ Nyaphudi.

The Council voted as follows: 56 in favour, 0 against and 26 abstained.

The agenda was duly accepted and adopted by Council.

NOTED.

157.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr GDP Kotze made an announcement as follows: “Mister Speaker and residents of Mangaung.

Today, the Democratic Alliance is taking a firm stand for road safety. Too many lives have been lost on our roads because of reckless driving, speeding, drunk driving, and the collapse of road maintenance, from potholes to broken traffic lights and faded markings.

The DA is submitting a motion to Council to adopt a Road Safety and Enforcement By-law, a by-law that will:

- Impose harsher fines and penalties for reckless and drunk driving.
- Allow the Municipality to impound unsafe and unlicensed vehicles.
- Enforce zero-tolerance for cell phone use while driving.
- Introduce mandatory community service for repeat offenders; and
- Ring-fence all traffic fines and impoundment revenue for road repairs, traffic light maintenance, and appointing more law enforcement officers.

This by-law also calls for automated speed and red-light cameras, digital ticketing, and transparent public reporting on how fine money is used so that enforcement becomes fair, efficient, and corruption-free.

Fellow residents, this motion is about saving lives and restoring accountability. Every accident, every life lost, is one too many.

The DA is launching a petition to make this by-law a Council priority, and we are asking every resident to support it. Sign our petition, add your voice, and help us make Mangaung’s roads safe again. Together, we can stop preventable deaths, repair our roads, and bring order back to our City. Let us make road safety a priority and not a promise.

To conclude and through you, Mister Speaker, Cllr MA Morake, as the Chairperson of the Motions and Petitions Committee, please note that this announcement will be recorded in the Council minutes, and you are obliged to ensure that this motion is tabled at the next Ordinary Council meeting. I thank you.”

On a point of order, Cllr MA Morake called Cllr GDP Kotze to order and explained that there is a procedure for submission of motions and not through Council debate. Therefore, Cllr GDP Kotze was then advised to submit the motion accordingly.

The Speaker thereon sustained the point of order.

Council Whip explained that they had developed a system as the multiparty that the party whips must submit names of speakers on items to minimize lengthy discussions and further agreed that on items for noting, no discussion other than questions for clarity. The political parties were also requested that once the agenda of the Ordinary Council meeting has been circulated, to submit to the Multiparty caucus a list of Rule 38 questions that have not been answered.

Cllr JE Sebolao made the following announcements:

1. That on the 23rd of October 2025, he attended a Memorial Service of Ntate George Moleme at Ward 2, who was an athlete. At the funeral, there was a request from an organisation called “Maoto Mpepe” to the Executive Mayor to fast track the repairs at the Bloemanda swimming pool.
2. That on the 25th of October there was a “Fun Walk” at Boikhuco Old Age Home to raise funds and they had paid to get traffic control from traffic officers; however, the service was not provided. Therefore, on behalf of the Old Age Home, they be refunded as soon as possible.

The Speaker thereupon requested the City Manager to follow-up on the second announcement.

Cllr GDP Kotze on point of clarity asked the Council Whip through the Speaker on why some items were debated on and some noted, and the Speaker responded that it is the standard of the agenda of Council meetings, that other items required approval by Council and some for Council to take note.

Cllr T van der Walt raised a point of personal explanation that the ruling of the Speaker on request by Cllr GDP Kotze on the review of the by-law was illegal in terms of the policy for the reviews of by-laws. That any person internally or externally can request the City Manager to review the by-law.

That the Speaker explain where in the Council’s Standing Rules and Orders it is stipulated that the item for noting cannot be debated and read Rule 33.1 as follows: *“time allocated to each political party or interest group will be determined by the Speaker, provided that all parties represented in Council have a right to speak on each item on the agenda relative to their representation in Council.”* And that it was their constitutional right to debate on the items.

On a point of order, the Deputy Executive Mayor stated that the Council had moved from the item where the matter was supposed to be dealt with.

Council Whip requested 3 minutes caucus with party whips and the Speaker prior granting the caucus, urged Councillors to follow the Standing Rules and Orders if they wanted to respect the Rules of the Council and the agenda has been structured to deal with items requiring approval by Council and for noting. That Councillors were never denied a right to speak.

Cllr SM Swarts stated that she was disappointed by the unruliness of Councillors as they were making noise as the Speaker was addressing the Council. She then advised them to respect each other.

After the Speaker granted the Council Whip multiparty whippery caucus, he gave feedback as follows:

- That they were reminding each other that in terms of the discussions they had a multiparty whippy and further agreed that the issues that were discussed the previous day must not be viewed in a context that they were depriving some individual Councillors from participating in the Council.
- That on every legislative issue, there is a standard operating procedure, and they were assisting the proceedings of the Council.
- That going forward, whatever had been decided at the multiparty whippy would be respected.
- That the community of Mangaung is more interested in the decisions taken by the Council and how those decision would benefit them.

Cllr SM Swartz made the following announcements: "Thank you, Mister Speaker. Last week Tuesday, we had a memorial of a Van Wyk young man, who is now...more than 50 people who were removed from quarry of death in Heidedal. I want to thank the community at large of Heidedal and Mangaung who supported the Pastors of Heidedal who came up with the initiative so that we can have the memorial service there.

Mister Speaker, I must mention that the quarry of death is a real problem and also a huge challenge for us in Heidedal. It is not only today or yesterday that the deaths has happened. We request that, because the Municipality of Mangaung is a custodian to see that our people are living and has necessary security of which we as the Municipality have failed the people of Heidedal.

I remember in QwaQwa we had the same incidents and the whole government ran there to go and assist the people in QwaQwa. My question this afternoon is to the Mangaung Municipality, does the lives in Heidedal not matter? Can there also not be any assistance be sent or anything be done about the quarry of death in Heidedal.

I am requesting Mister Speaker that the swimming pool be opened in order for our children to have a safe place to go and swim instead of running to the quarry of death which is a huge problem. I thank you, Mister Speaker for the opportunity."

NOTED.

158.

MOTION OF SYMPATHY AND CONGRATULATIONS

Cllr LL Mohlamme remarked: "Honourable Speaker, today I rise to table a motion of congratulations in light of recent remarks by President Cyril Ramaphosa, who publicly acknowledged that some of South Africa's best-performing municipalities are governed by the Democratic Alliance. This admission, made before thousands of ANC Councillors, underscores a critical truth: excellence in governance is not a partisan achievement, it is a constitutional obligation.

We commend the President for his rare moment of introspection and urge all political formations to emulate practices, regardless of party affiliation. His recognition is not just a political moment, it is a national milestone. It affirms what millions of South Africans experience daily: that where the DA governs, communities thrive. Clean audits, reliable services, and transparent leadership are not slogans, they are standards we uphold.

We commend the President for encouraging ANC Councillors to study DA-run municipalities and adopt best practices. This is the kind of leadership South Africa needs, one that prioritizes results over rhetoric, and collaboration over division. The DA remains committed to building a capable state, rooted in accountability and excellence. Let this be the beginning of a new chapter, one where good governance is celebrated, regardless of political affiliation and where every South African benefits from leadership that works.

We also celebrate remarkable achievement. We extend our warmest congratulations to a woman whose grace, intellect, and compassion have captured the hearts of a nation.

Qhawekazi, your journey from the Eastern Cape to the national stage is a powerful reminder of what is possible when talent meets opportunity. You embody the values we hold dear: freedom, fairness, and opportunity for all. You have already dedicated yourself to empowering others. Now, with that crown, you carry the hopes of millions especially young women who see in you a reflection of their own potential. Your commitment to education and youth upliftment aligns with our vision for a South Africa where every child has the tools to thrive, regardless of background. We believe that leadership comes in many forms and today, you lead by example. You remind us that beauty is not just seen, but lived through service, empathy, and courage.

To the Miss South Africa organization, thank you for nurturing voices that inspire and unite. And to Qhawekazi: may your reign be filled with purpose, progress, and pride. You make South Africa shine. Your advocacy for education and youth empowerment is exactly what South Africa needs, a beacon of hope, a champion of change. To you, Qhawekazi, we say: wear your crown with pride, walk your path with courage, and lead with the grace. You are more than a title, you are a symbol of what South Africa can be when we believe, when we rise, and when we stand together. Congratulations, Queen. Your reign begins, and we are behind you every step of the way. The DA salutes you. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr AP Terblanche remarked: “Mister Speaker, Mister Executive Mayor and the Community of Mangaung. Mister Speaker, ons van Heidedal het n seer twee weke gehad, n baie seer twee weke. Jong man het sy lewe verloor by die gwarrie. Hy is 20 jaar-oud maar niemand gee om nie, want dit is nie n vriend of n familie lid van ons nie.

Mister Speaker, as U weet dit is ommebyend 54 mense van die gemeenskap wat vermoor of verdrink het. Steeds word daar niks gedoen met die gwarrie nie. Dis n baie groot mislukking vir die gemeenskap en vir die van Wyk familie, juis wil die DA n hartlike innegemegevoel gee aan die familie en mag sy siel in vrede rus.

Mister Speaker, ons sit met n groot probleem want elke jaar is daar nie toegang vir die Heidedal swembad nie. Selfs ook in ander gebede. Die swembad is veronderstel om die 1ste September oop te maak, maar hy is nogsteeds nie oop nie. Elke jaar, elke jaar en as ons kyk na daai fooi...

Ek, myself, het toevoering gegee aan hierdie kwessie aan die Ward Councillor, die mayor en die chieff-hoof. Die fooi van R21 is onregverdig, dalk kan ek en U dit bekostig maar as iemand met drie kinders basies R60 moet betaal. Boon-op, n ouer met seuns want as hulle klaar hulle tyd geniet het by die swembad, as hy raasend honger na die tyd. Hy kan omtrent twee loaves klaar eet. Hoe moet iemand wat minder bevoorreg is dit bekostig. Die Chieff-hoof en die Executive Mayor het saam gestem dat dit nie regverdig is nie. Die fooi is te duur, ons saal daaraan iets doen. Tot met die skokkende nuus verlede jaar Junie... Ons gaan nou weer hoor Januarie gaan hy verhoog met n R2 want dit dan R23 sal maak. Waar gaan die mense van die gemeenskap die kan finansieel by hou. Daar is nie genoeg lewensredders nie.

Vorige jare was die swembad se pompe gesteel. Nou is daar weer n probleem want daar is nou pompe maar geen kloor nie. Daai jong man, Mister Speaker, wou maar net gaan afkoel in die water, maar waar kan hy dit doen want die swembad is dan buitewerkend of nie bekosbaar is nie. As ons nie iets gaan doen voor kersfees nie en die skole wat oor n maand sluit. Moenie verbaas wees as ons op nog n lyk afkom nie want die kinders en mense van die gemeenskap gaan swem in die gwarrie, as gevolg dat nie almal dit kan bekostig nie. So ek doen n beroep op Munisipaliteit, laat ons die swembaddens nie net in Heidedal, maar ook in die swart-woonbuurte sal herstel en subsideer. Dit sal moet gesubsideer word want dit is onsetlik duur.

Laastens, ek vat wat nou gebeur het, wat my mede raadslid nou gesê het van Qwa-Qwa. Alle lede van die provinsieel was daar, die premier was daar, en hoeveel andere. Hulle het huise gaan bou vir die mense wat hulle gaan simpatiseer het vir die wat verdrink het. Maar niks gebeur in Heidedal want dis seker mos maar nou net weer Heidedal. Maar as verkiesing tyd kom dan, doen hulle alles in hulle mag om stemme te werf maar in hierdie gevalle, het nie een van ons plaaslikke raad iets aan die saak gedoen nie want hulle voel niks vir Heidedal nie. Dis regtig onaanvaarbaar en ek doen weereens n beroep aan die u en almal wie teenwoordig is. Die DA se Raadslid is mee MSC van Finance nie, so laat ons tog daardie swembad subsideer en herstel voor die skole sluit. Laat die kinders gaan kan swem. Ons as kind, het 30 jaar gewag vir daai swembad en nou kan dit nie eers onderhou word nie. Soos ek al gesê, daar is nie lewensredders nie en niemand sorg vir die saak nie.

Mister Speaker, Mister Executive Mayor, Chieff-hoof, Ward Councillor, kom ons kyk dat ons die fooi en die swembad sal herstel want ons wil nie graag nog n geliefde verloor nie. Dit kan met enige een van ons gebeur en ons naastes. Ek wil net n danksegging gee aan almal wat die diens bygewoon het van die oorlede en die familie ondersteun het. Ons waardeer dit en die familie waardeer dit, baie dankie.”

Cllr DL Malebo: “Kealeboha Motsamaisa wa Dipuisano. Greetings to the house and the community of Mangaung at large. Honourable Speaker, the EFF caucus proudly congratulate the South African Women’s team for their emphatic and historic victory over England in the World Cup, securing their place in the final. This triumph is not only a sporting achievement, but it is a moment of national pride and a powerful statement of women’s excellence, resilience and determination.

Our heroines have once again proven that South African women are unstoppable when given the platform, the respect and the opportunity they deserve.

Through courage, unity and sheer talent, they have carried the hopes of a nation and inspired millions of young girls across the Country who now see themselves in their success. In a world where women sports are often overlooked, and underfunded, this victory sends a clear message, South African women can and will compete and win on a global stage.

As you march to the World Cup final know that the entire nation stands firmly behind you. You have already made the history. Now go and make destiny. I thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr TS Fantisi: “E re ke lebohe Honourable Speaker. Ke nke monyetla ona ho dumedisa, Dr BL Mathae, Speaker sa rona mona Mangaung, seo re ntseng re se thabela, re se rata, re se utlwisisa. Boteng ba hao ka hara Council ya Mangaung, bo tlisitse botsitso.

Ke dumedise Executive Mayor, Deputy Executive Mayor, Council Whip, HOD tsa rona, Councillors tse teng tsa Mangaung; se ke itse kgotso!

Honourable Speaker I rise today to extend my warmest congratulations to two outstanding teams that has made us proud.

Firstly, the young athletes of Mangaung who represented us with excellence at OR Tambo games in Welkom last week winning four trophies. As ANC we say well done, you have demonstrated a remarkable talent, dedication and teamwork.

Honourable Speaker, I would like to express my gratitude to coaches, trainers and support staff who had worked tirelessly to develop and nurture these young talents. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed, and we appreciate your contribution to the growth of sports in our Municipality.

To our young athletes, as ANC we say, well done! You have made Mangaung Metro Municipality proud, and we celebrate your success.

Honourable Speaker, ke nke monyetla ona hape ho isa tlotla le diteboho ho HOD ya rona Dr Thinda ya ileng a escort bana ba rona bosiu ka di-bus tse pedi ho fihla ka hara lefatshe la Welkom mme a be a drive back ho kgutlela Mangaung. Re re, tshwara jwalo HOD.

Re lebohe le Council Whip ya rona e bontshitseng boiphihlelo ba ho bona hore bana ba Mangaung ba nale tshireletso e matla ka hara Welkom. Re a leboha Council Whip.

Honourable Speaker, tsatsing lena moifo o kopaneng mona o tshwanetse hore o tsebe *mohale o tswa maroleng, thupa e kobollwa e sale metsi*. Sports ke sona se ka ntshwang drugs ka hara metse le metsana ya rona.

Secondly Honourable Speaker, to Bafana Bafana who qualified for the Soccer World Cup. This achievement is a testament to hard work, skills and passion for the sport. They have made South Africa proud, and we celebrate their success. As ANC we say, well done Bafana Bafana! Amerika ke moo re yang teng. Honourable Speaker, ke batla ho hatella fela taba ena, ha re bua ka Bafana Bafana, ke sehlopha sa naha. He ke bue ka Orlando Pirates or Sundowns, ke bua ka sehlopha sa naha under coach Hugo Broos.

Mme ka mantswe ao Honourable Speaker, ha osa buelle batsha ba Mangaung ba nnang le talente, ke kopa fela hore all Councillors tsa Mangaung, ba opele bana ba Mangaung matsoho, I want to see something.”

Cllr JE Sebolao stated that Cllr TS Fantisi should have mentioned the names of those who should be congratulated.

Cllr DE Matsephe: “ Kealebaha Motsamaisi wa Dipuisano. Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae, Executive Mayor, Cllr GMS Nthatisi, Deputy Executive Mayor, Cllr LM Titi-Odili, Council Whip, Cllr VE Nikelo, MMC`s, Chairpersons of Section 79 Committees, City Manager, Mr S More, Chief Executive Officer of Centlec, Mr Malefane Sekoboto in his absence, HOD`s, fellow Councillors and the community of Mangaung Metro Municipality at large.

Allow me, Honourable Speaker to greet you in the name of Jesus Christ Amen.

This month, we are commemorating the life of President Oliver Reginald Tambo, the longest serving President of the African National Congress, whose leadership, integrity and dedication for the liberation struggle continues to inspire generations.

As the African National Congress and the people of South Africa, we are celebrating uMama Albertina Nontsikelelo Sisulu who was a political activist. A nurse and a community activist and also one of the high-profile leaders of anti- apartheid resistance in South Africa. She was born on the 31st October 1918. The kind of justice she fought for ensured those she was fighting for were taken care of their well-being placed above all else, earning her the tittle “*Mother of the Nation*”.

Honourable Speaker, a month ago, we laid to rest our former South African Ambassador to France, Comrade Nathi Mthethwa. We will remember his active role in the olden days of the African National Congress Youth League and the leadership he provided within Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) structures.

Let me congratulate our National teams who has made us proud on continental and international level. Bafana Bafana qualified for 2026 FIFA Soccer World Cup, Banyana-Banyana qualified for 2026 Women`s Cup of Nations AFCON. Woman`s cricket team are through to the World Cup final after defeating England by 125 runs. We wish them all the best in the final match on Sunday, bring the trophy home. The men`s cricket team in June this year, won their first ICC trophy in 27 years.

The Late Former President Mandela once said: “*Sports has the power to change the World. It has the power to inspire, to unite people in every way little as that. it speaks to youth in a language they understand.*”

Honourable Speaker, as we conclude the transport month, we urge all motorists to remain vigilant especially at night during rains as we already entered the rainy season. The festive season is around the corner, let us not drink and drive.

South Africa as the current President of G20 from 22 – 23 November 2025, will be hosting G20 Summit under the theme: *Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability*. This is indeed a milestone for our Country's democracy. This marks the first time an African country has held a G20 Presidency. G20 has provided the Country an opportunity to grow the economy in different sectors of economy and strengthen our relations with international community whom some have invested and some show interest in investing in South Africa. During the Summit, South Africa will hand over G20 Presidency to the United States of America.

Honourable Speaker, the recent roll call of the African National Congress Councillors throughout the Country led by the ANC Comrade President Cyril Ramaphosa, intended to accelerate service delivery, focused on strengthening local municipalities and restore public trust.

The six points plan as outlined by the ANC Secretary General, Comrade Fikile Mbalula will be our daily talk to achieve better life for all. ANC leads, and ANC lives. Kealeboha Motsamaisi wa Dipuisano."

Cllr MW Mongale: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae. I also send my greetings to the honourable community of Mangaung. I need to acknowledge excellence where there is excellence. Council Whip, you did well today. I am happy about it. When you do wrong, you know I will always "shout" at you.

Cllr Fantisi, re mmoho. Every success of ngwana wa mo Mangaung, it is a success of Afrikan Alliance of Social Democrats, we celebrate it.

We also like to congratulate and celebrate Marumo Gallants on their victory yesterday, which secured their place in the semi-finals despite the rainy conditions at Dr Rantlai Molemela Stadium. We also acknowledge Siwelele sa Marumo is putting Mangaung on the map.

Honourable Speaker, I need to emphasise this, Marumo Gallants...about the place called Mangaung. I want to re-emphasise, there was a time there was an interview on television when someone in Gauteng was asked a question, what is the capital of Free State Province, and that person bravely said Welkom. I could see the ignorance of Gauteng people, but I could also pardon the person to say, it might be the ignorance of the rest of South Africa not knowing Mangaung because we are not doing much for people to recognise that we are here. I wanted to emphasise that Marumo Gallants and Siwelele, are not just soccer teams, they are also helping to put Mangaung on the map and also ensure that one day, one of the big events in the World would come to Mangaung because people would know about it. I think the World does not know much about us and once they know about us, they would not choose Gauteng, eThekweni, Cape Town, they would choose Mangaung because of its unique nature and historical significance.

I also want to congratulate the Matriculants, Class of 2025 for their milestone and wish them well. We also need to acknowledge that there are challenges to Matriculants that need to be taken into consideration. The school disruptions happening during exam time, and I raised it with MMC of Public Safety and Transport and I am shocked that they have been reshuffled. I want to say it properly, they have been recycled, while the right word is recycling. One was moved to the other, but no one was replaced.

The issue I want to raise, we have already spoken to MMC about the need for Mangaung Safety Forum to be active in making sure that the kids write the exams without any disruptions of gangs which is a serious matter in the township. It needs to be confronted and we should not deny the fact that part of the problem in Mangaung is existence of initiation schools. Some of them are not regulated and they create a catastrophe in the City. I don't understand what kind of initiation school is that if people graduated from it, they become a problem to the society when we know the historical perspective, when you are from an initiation school, you become a better person, a protector of the community and not the one who attacks the community without any provocation.

We are also shocked about the silence of the Police on this matter, and I do not want to talk about the Hawks, because I think they are on honeymoon, maybe we need characters like Nhlanhla Mkwana because in the Free State Province, there are no Hawks. I know they want to claim office, but office is not existence. Existence is when you are active and doing something for your people.

The Matric camps are expensive as most of the parents are unable to pay for their kids. We do not say camps are not important, but they are very expensive, and we need to do something to fix that problem. Something needs to be done Honourable Speaker. Thank you for the opportunity."

Cllr JM De Bruin: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor and all protocol observed. I want to thank our Mighty God for this opportunity to address the Executive Mayor with regards to Pelonomi Hospital.

We are sitting with a big problem, like I said at the last few Council meetings that we must establish an Ad-Hoc Committee to visit Casualty at Pelonomi Hospital. Our people are dying daily there. Our people have to wait for more than 48 hours to get assisted and within those hours, they die like cockroaches. Can we please establish an Ad-Hoc Committee as soon as possible..."

Cllr JE Sebolao raised a point of order that Pelonomi Hospital is not competency of Mangaung Metro Municipality as it belongs to the Free State Province and therefore the relevant MEC is supposed to deal with that and not Mangaung Municipality in terms of jurisdiction.

The Speaker ruled that the point of order was sustained.

Cllr JM De Bruin continued: "Honourable Speaker, I think our Executive Mayor can use his powers to deal with this matter by involving the Free State Legislature if possible.

Secondly, I want to give my gratitude to Law Enforcement, Rural Development Department and excavators, to go with me to do an inspection at the back of Jacaranda in Ward 16. We cannot allow illegal foreigners to have land. I heard from them; in front of Law Enforcement that our Executive Mayor said he recognised eight of them to give them land as people of Lesotho. So, we will not allow that as Council of Mangaung.

I just want him to address that as he did with service delivery, and I am happy to see what our Executive Mayor is doing for service delivery.

Honourable Speaker, I think we have a ...that we have put a lot of money in, about R150 million. I am passing every day there; and there is no security, they are stealing things one by one. Paving is stolen already at the new bus depot. Can we please get some security there.

Our stadium, Billy Murison, is being vandalised and falling apart. Please send a security or rather give us an opportunity to look after our own properties as the community. I thank you."

The Speaker indicated that he wanted to make changes in the order of business to allow the Chairperson of Audit and Performance Committee to first virtually present the report to Council prior to dealing with the items of the Executive Mayor.

NOTED.

159.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

1. Special Meeting: Friday 28 February 2025

Cllr MF Matsoso moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr MS Ramolelle.

Council voted unanimously for the adoption of minutes.

2. Special Meeting: Friday 28 March 2025

Cllr TV Menyatso moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr MS Majoro.

Council voted unanimously for the adoption of minutes.

3. Ordinary Meeting: Wednesday 30 April 2025

Cllr NP Pholoholo moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr ML Mothupi.

Council voted unanimously for the adoption of minutes.

4. Special Meeting: Friday 9 May 2025

Cllr MJ Matsoetlane moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr MJ Mabena.

The majority of Council voted unanimously for the adoption of minutes.

Cllr PJ Rampai indicated that he was absent at the meeting and therefore requested that his abstention from voting be minuted.

5. Special Meeting: Tuesday 27 May 2025

Cllr LJ Mathe moved for the adoption of the minutes and was seconded by Cllr ME Nkiane.

Council voted unanimously for the adoption of minutes.

The sets of minutes as outlined above were duly adopted.

NOTED.

160.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

NOTED.

The Executive Mayor presented the items on the agenda as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. let me greet all colleagues.

Honourable Speaker, it is quite interesting when you are listening to colleagues deliberating on issues publicly. We would want to score points and sometimes we say things that are interesting in trying to redeem ourselves and the party we belong to and even distorted certain happenings.

Honourable Speaker, in giving an answer to the perception that the President suggest that we need to learn from the DA. I took part of my savings, and I sent a team to 2 areas, Cape Town and Durban. The team started in Cape Town and that is out of my own volition because I wanted to report to the President personally on the interpretation he said and the happenings on the ground. My team was able to gallivant in town and what they picked up a scenario where there is money for honey suckers.

My team then said to me, it is difficult to go to black localities. I want to define black localities for you, Cllr AP Terblanche. In the Constitution that governs you, blacks include anything but not White i.e. Coloureds, Indians, Africans and so your neighbourhoods are Africans, not blacks. My team going to the black localities reported to me that they cannot go there as there are number of obstacles on the way. They were experiencing potholes as in other localities across the Country even worse, sewer spillages, cannot freely walk, and the type of sewer is more faecal more than just water. Then they said that they cannot go deeper because of the gangsterism in the area did not allow them to go deeper to film and demonstrate to those that would want to know, what were the conditions at those areas. They have not even gone to KZN at the Metro.

I am saying to the Council, I am tempted to bring a proposal before the Council that would leverage on my little savings because the team then said to me, in order for us to pierce the valiant to go to the localities particularly in Cape Town, we would need to be covered by the Police. In order to expose the good or the bad in the localities where our people are living. So, the preliminary report that I would be taking to the President is that I tried to go and learn what you said we must learn from, if that was the case, Honourable Cllr MW Mongale.

In our efforts to experience some of the life that he said it is worth living, we cannot even enter by the gate that lead to the localities of the townships. You should remember Honourable Speaker; all townships are designed in such a way that the entrances are either limited or one. My team says they cannot even enter to Langa, Gugulethu or District 6 and other related areas. I still have to navigate on how best that team will go there. That study we would do, but I am now putting it before the Council, the study we are not going to do it in order to impress the President of the ANC, either or. I think it is a necessary study that the Council must commission a team so that we should also learn what others are doing, the good and the bad.

I am proposing that the two cities that we must engage in terms of the expertise and the experience, let it be Cape Town and Durban. Let us go and see what is happening at the two cities so that this Council can satisfy itself; so that I should not be interpreted abusing the money

of the Council. I will bring the type of expenses needed so that Council must release the team and get the results. Perhaps we would talk on strength of what the results would say, using effective trucks in town but yet the township is experiencing sewer spillages and that is the case of what the team indicated to me. I would take it further as and when I bring the report to Council.

Honourable Speaker, I also acknowledge, and I want to embrace the report, but Councillors you have full rights to criticise, I have good shock absorbers for any anecdote. I would like to walk in criticism whilst absorbing others that would take us forward, sometimes necessary, outdated, from howlers and hacklers, it is allowed. After all, we are living in a democratic dispensation; people have the right to say whatever they want to say as long as they are not insulting anybody but focusing in making sure that we turn around the Metro remains the order of the day. I get criticism even from those I work with. I am immune from wanting to trying to adopt an attitude when people are saying whatever they feel like saying, it is their right. But focusing on the mandate of the African National Congress, and the people of this Country Honourable Speaker, it would remain my resolve.

Can I remind the meeting that this year, it is our 30th year of democracy, a stride in ensuring that the nature of the Country should be what it should be are glaringly showing despite difficulties that we are all experiencing. The unfortunate thing that we did not know is that democracy would have fortune seekers, mischief makers, opportunist, corrupt elements; we did not know that. Part of what is a challenge before us, is also to handle those things as we pierce the veil of our better tomorrow today.

This year again Chairperson, it is the 70 years of the Freedom Charter. In the Freedom Charter, which was banned in the heydays, there are 10 clauses and as I introduce the items of today, I want to indicate that, we are also in this month celebrating a man who the Constitution of this Country can be traced from his intellectual capability but taking into account the content of the Freedom Charter to shape what we are saying, is the Constitution of this Country. If people want to challenge what I am saying, I want to refer them to clause 5 and 6 of the Freedom Charter:

- *All shall be equal before the law*
- *All shall enjoy equal human rights*

Take clause 5 and 6 and go to Chapter 2 of the Constitution of this Country and look at what is contained in the Bill of Rights, you would realise that it derives its strength from the content of the two clauses of the Freedom Charter Chairperson. It is just but to demonstrate how the people of this Country, determined their destiny by coming up with the document called the Freedom Charter turning 70 years today, that is still relevant in shaping a better South Africa for all of us.

Oliver Tambo in his DNA, you would find the Constitution of this Country. He led those that led the negotiations of this Country to be where it is today from the side of the liberation forces and through that, they enforced the will of the people of South Africa to shape the Constitution to begin to embrace the will of the people of this Country as enshrined in the Freedom Charter. If you look at the preamble of the Constitution of this Country, and that of the Freedom Charter, you can never go wrong to say they are similar, and common in content in terms of guiding this Country to be what it should be today.

We live under that image and, let all of us, criticise one another knowingly that we have an origin. Fortunate enough, I want to agree with you Cllr MW Mongale, Mangaung is imbued with a rich history. One of the histories is that, in the history one is talking to, you cannot dispel Mangaung out of it. We are the embryo of what we are today. Where an organisation determines a South Africa that we are all living in, was born in this town, in Mangaung. So, all of us even if we would want to be oblivious of the history of this Country, let us not forget that we have an origin.

I must also Chairperson, indicate that one of the stalwarts who represent women when they marched in 1956 to tell Strydom that the rights of the people in this Country, people in particular are women, are enshrined; it is Albertina Sisulu. She was born in this month, and I also want to echo the sentiments to celebrate the two, the hero and heroines of our struggle.

Today, I am tabling items before you Chairperson, item 161.1 – 161.8 with the understanding that we have taken out 161.5. Honourable Speaker, the people from Facebook say we do not indicate the items we are discussing, and it makes it difficult for them to be part of the deliberations.”

The Executive Mayor thereon readout items as outlined in the agenda.

Cllr MW Mongale stated that he thought the Executive Mayor would highlight issues to focus on as Councillors or give a summary on items on the agenda and not just reading out the heading of the items.

On a point of order, Cllr BJ Viviers referred to Rule 31 with regards to relevance. That what the Executive Mayor has raised had not relevance in the items for discussion.

The Speaker ruled that the Point of order was dismissed.

NOTED.

1.

SDBIP SECTION 52D REPORT FOR FIRST QUARTER 01 JULY – 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

Cllr T Van Der Walt addressed the Council as follows: “Mister Speaker, colleagues, and residents, the Executive Mayor is required by law to report in the SDBIP on the actual progress of the municipal administration of implementing the budget and meeting performance targets for the key performance indicators that they set for themselves. This report must be submitted to council for oversight by council over the executive.

This report highlights that there are two Mangaung's, deeply divided. One shines in glossy reports and PowerPoint slides and lives in the hearts and minds of top management and while the other stinks of sewage and smoke experienced daily by residents and Ward Committees. This City exists in reality, from Universitas to Caleb Motshabi to Thaba Nchu and Botshabelo. One claims 70% achievement and the other lives 100% indignity and frustration.

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In one City, graphs rise with lavish meals provided to overpaid management at millions of rands for festivals, sports games and presidential visits. In the other, sewage floods erven and rivers, in people's streets, in their yards, in their homes. From the students at 4 Benedictus Kok Street to informal settlements without any sewage management.

The Executive Mayors report calls it progress.
The Ward Committees call it decay.
The emperor calls it 100% achievement.
But the emperor is naked, for all to see.
Die keiser is kaal.

Twenty-four wards without working water.
Twenty-two drowning in sewage.
Twenty-one dodging potholes and broken tar.
Twenty without lights because Centlec is in the dark.
Eighteen surrounded by burning refuse.

And still the reports declare: "on track."
On track to where, Speaker? To collapse?

These ward reports are not paperwork — they are the people's voices.
Their frustration is the truest performance indicator this city has.
Forget consultants. Forget compliance.
This is the only customer survey that matters — and it is shouting failure.
Even ANC Councillors now write what residents have screamed for years:
No ward meetings. No feedback. No materials. No response.
It's not opposition propaganda — it's the system's own confession.

Mister Speaker, the SDBIP has become a fairy tale with spreadsheets instead of magic.
Every quarter, the emperor parades in new graphs while the people still walk barefoot through sewage.

If we truly want one city, not two, we must stop dressing failure in statistics.
Let ward reports become the mirror that guides our recovery.
Measure truth and not excuses.
Do not evaluate the Project management Unit at 100% performance while their report clearly states that they are unable to assist departments and projects due to lack of capacity.
Do not report 70% performance in the City while Ward Committees complain that they cannot even successfully report or escalate complaints in their wards, neverminded resolving them.
Track dignity, not percentages.
Report what people feel, not what departments imagine.

Only then can we clothe the emperor again — not with spin, but with service. Until then, the people will keep shouting the words we know all know:
The emperor is naked.
Die keiser is kaal
This report should not be voted on, because it is for oversight."

CIlr ME Maliela addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, Honourable Executive Mayor, Chief Whip, Members of the Mayoral Committee, Fellow Councillors, Officials and Residents of Mangaung.

The SDBIP, Section 52(d) report for the first quarter of the 2025/2026 financial year raises a number of some red flags and fails to meet the expectations of the people of Mangaung. This report is meant to be a tool of transparency, accountability and service delivery measurement. Yet, what is presented to this Council today is largely superficial. The residents of Mangaung don't experience progress as reflected in the report - they experience frustration. They see piles of uncollected waste, pothole - riddled streets, water leaks running for days and overflowing sewers.

Honourable Speaker, refuse collection in some places in Mangaung has deteriorated to unacceptable levels. The entire neighbourhoods are facing irregular or completely halted waste removal services, and this result in illegal dumping which is now spreading like wildfire across our Metro Municipality. This not only undermines the dignity of our communities, but also poses a serious health risk. A municipality that fails to collect its waste cannot claim to be delivering basic services. What was wrong with the previous HOD for Community Services, Mr. Francois Nel's planned refuse collection and collection rate reporting, which is no longer happening?

Honourable Speaker, the roads across Mangaung have become a symbol of this administration's failure to implement its SDBIP. In some places you will find potholes so large they could qualify as trenches or pools. Residents and motorists are forced to navigate these dangerous roads every day, risking damage to their vehicles and even their safety. This clearly indicates that the municipality is failing to implement its own plan, and this renders some performance levels of some Heads of Departments questionable. What can be so outstanding about putting a fence to deserve a level 5 scoring?

Honourable Speaker, this report in its current form, does not reflect the reality of what's happening in Mangaung. It is a reflection of an administration that has lost touch with its own commitments and with the daily struggles of ordinary residents. The SDBIP report should not be accepted as business as usual. It is a wake - up call to act, to deliver and to restore dignity to the people of Mangaung.

The DA cannot therefore, in good conscience, endorse this report. Baahi ba Mangaung ba lokelwa ke ditshebeletso tse phethahetseng, eseng ditshepiso tse sa phethahatsweng. Ke a leboha. Thank you. Baie Dankie.”

CIlr GJ Lipale addressed the Council: “Thank you, Chairman. The report is a reflection of how this Municipality is translating its budget and Integrated Development Plan into real change for our communities. Financial reports are not just administrative exercises, but they are moral and political instruments that show whether the Municipality is fulfilling its constitutional duty to provide decent, reliable and equitable service to our people.

The first quarter results again expose serious structural weaknesses in Mangaung financial management and revenue collection is unstable. Expenditure and cash flow pressures continue to threaten service delivery.

The EFF demands that financial discipline and consequence management to become non-negotiable. Oversight must not only track spending but ensure that every cent spent produces results for the people. We urge the Municipality to strengthen cash flow management, pay service providers on time and eliminate irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure. These are not technical issues; they are matters of justice and fairness for the residents and small businesses that depend on Municipal performance.

Service delivery continues to lack behind, commitments made in the IDP and SDBIP must be more than compliance tool, it must be a living instrument of accountability. Persistence delaying in infrastructure, water, sanitation and housing projects carries a direct human cost for our people.

The EFF calls on stronger alignment between the IDP, Budget and SDBIP ensuring that every rand spent delivers a measurable benefit. The communities must also be part of the quarterly review so that public funds reflect public priorities. Institutional weaknesses, poor coordination and unreliable data remains serious concern. The Internal Audit Unit and the Audit and Performance Committee must place a stronger role in verifying results and holding managers accountable. Accountability must be both administrative and political. Officials who preside over poor performance and mismanagement cannot continue unchecked.

The EFF further calls for modern transparent monitoring systems such as digital dashboard to strengthen oversight and improve public trust. The first quarter report must serve as both warning and an opportunity warning against weak governance and the opportunity to correct the cause early.

In conclusion, Honourable Speaker, the financial and performance reporting must never become ceremonial paperwork. It is a mirror through which our people see whether this Municipality truly serves them. The EFF caucus reiterates that the residents of Mangaung deserves more than compliance, they deserve delivery. We urge both the IDP and Finance Committees to treat this report as a tool for urgent corrective action. The fight for clean governance, efficient spending and dignified service delivery continues, the EFF would remain the unwavering voice of the people until the Municipality delivers on its promises. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr MW Mongale addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae. all protocol observed.

Honourable Speaker, we are sitting with a challenge here, on page 4 of the report, it says that there is unacceptable performance or unsatisfactory performance of about 32% on projects. That is very disturbing on a Municipality that is under recovery plan, but we continue to underperform when we are expected to excel because we are under the radar of national leadership; where they say we should perform at a particular standard, but we seem not to be where we are expected to be. We seem to be struggling and I don't know if it is because our minds are all over.

There is a project that was identified in the previous SDBIP, Nalis View cemetery on the road to Reddersburg. There was supposed to be a cemetery there so that our people cannot go to

cemeteries far from where they are staying, but there seem to be no plan in ensuring that the cemetery end up working. We know, there were some irregularities regarding the cemetery because when it was sold to the first person it was at R800 000 but later on the person sold it for about R8 million which is unacceptable. Because we don't know how the price shoots high except if someone come to a conclusion that they were "washing money" ho ne ho tlhatswa tshelete. Ke story tsa bo Cat Matlala.

On page 9, there is an item on strategic priority and its aim is to reduce poverty and tackle high cost of living. But when you look at it, what is it that has been done by Mangaung to tackle high cost of living, it is by putting high mast light.

The issue on apartheid spatial planning, metlha ena ha le bua, Majoro o re hopotsa how bad apartheid was, but he seems to be the one who embraces it because high mast, ne di kengwa ka nako ya apartheid, because that was the only light fit and proper for black people because it would cover a bigger area. In town they would put streetlights. Even today, le ntse le etsa budget ya high mast Majoro ho bontsha hore wa e haka, wa e suna, o e thabetse. You are in love with this system, even though you swear at the same system. It shows how ungrateful you are.

The Southern landfill sites, we have been putting fence at that place. Every SDBIP shows that a fence is going to be erected at that place. We are putting fence again for another R1.5 million. Why? Kapa ke ntho ya rona hore re batla ho ba diskhotani, ho apara hempe ya sleeves tse tharo. These are public funds tseo re bapalang ka tsona. Le kwetse gate engwe, le inconvenience batho when there is a funeral. All cars must go out at one gate because another gate, at eastern side of the landfill site is not working. I wonder who a town planner in the City is, maybe he/she is in honeymoon, like the Hawks.

The issue on replacement of fence at Botshabelo, hothwe e cost R5 million. Would we ever get value for money for the fence at Botshabelo because next to the same graveyard, there is another quarry there which threatens the same fence which might not last long in that area.

The issue on zoo, re qadile ka diphofolo hape. Zoo is budgeted R8.8 million hothwe ho ile ho purchase the animals with R1.8 million but we don't know it would end up...thank you Honourable Speaker for the opportunity."

Cllr M Wewege addressed the Council: "Honourable Speaker. This report is not just numbers on a page, it is a report card on our promise to deliver basic services to every resident of Mangaung.

There is some good news and credit must be given were its due. The City achieved 88% overall performance across 142 KPIs with 121 projects on track. This seems like a good start for the 2025/26 year. The City Manager's office got a full 100%, Public Safety and Transport came in at 86% and Centlec at 83% meaning service, power and service reliability are improving in most areas. But, Honourable Speaker, that is where the good news end.

Finance Department scored only 52%. Finance Department is a heartbeat of this Metro and if revenue is not collected, the suppliers are not paid and if budgets are not managed properly, everything else falls apart and that is exactly what we are seeing, or even worse.

Some of the figures in this report do not line up. We are told Corporate Services achieved 80% but the breakdown on key targets are only in the sixties. How can the public trust the report when the numbers don't even match. This is not transparency; it is confusion, and it hides the cracks. Let us look down on what is really happening:

- 21 projects, 15% has not even started.
- 19 projects scored below 49%,
- water and sanitation sit at 67%
- while roads and stormwater still struggle with backlogs and delays.
- Planning and Human Settlements cannot keep up and housing delays are hurting our poorest residents the most.

In Annexure A, the story is clear, delayed refuse removal, missed stormwater targets and uneven electricity connection and the reasons are the same old ones; budget constraints, SCM delays and weather. Excuses we heard for years. Let us be honest Honourable Speaker, the root of this problem is Finance. When money is not collected, or spend properly, service delivery collapses.

The Freedom Front Plus warned that this would happen, we did not vote for the 2025/26 budget because it was unfunded and poorly structured and not in the best interest of the Mangaung people. The ANC led coalition forced through a budget that protects inflated salary and politically connected projects while basic services are starved of funds. That is why residents of Thaba Nchu are still waiting for water, while refuse piles up in Botshabelo and why Finance sits at 52%. An overall of 88% means nothing when the foundation is broken. Our residents do not live in percentages, they live with potholes, broken lights and dry taps.

Mangaung is a Metro, it should be world class; that can only happen when budgets are honest, departments are accountable and service delivery come first. The Freedom Front Plus cannot vote for this item. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr TO Machachamise addressed the Council: “E re ke lebohe Motsamaise wa Dipuisano, Mojoro wa sebaka, Deputy Executive Mayor, officials kaofela le Makhanselara a teng kaofela. Ke lebohe MMC o motsha wa rona wa IDP, Cllr TM Mosala (Mme Theo).

Honourable Speaker, the SDBIP as define in terms of Section 1 of Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act, No 56 of 2003. We are providing the first quarter report as part of the commitment we made when we adopted the IDP and Budget process plan which was done throughout consultation with various stakeholders.

Today, we can witness the overall performance of the City and we are at 68. This performance needs us all to put more efforts by putting measures on implementation of the indicators but adhering to the procurement plan by monitoring processes of implementation of the projects and determine whether the spending budget align with the action or performance as reported.

Honourable Speaker, we are in the right direction because we are led by a committed Executive Mayor and his team, hence we see changes in our communities and Council.

This SDBIP would be monitored by all of us especially Section 80 Committee: IDP and Performance which deals with IDP and performance management by going to the sites and visiting projects.

Motsamaise wa Dipuisano, re le Makhanselara a ANC, re utlwile mona ba bua hore re tshaba ho bitsa meetings. Re bitsa meetings, maybe ke bone bao ba sa bitseng meetings.

2. Ho nale developments tseo etsahalang di-Ward tsa rona because of our Executive Mayor and Council.
3. Ho nale changes tse ngata, le tla hopola hore, ho ne honka nako e telele metsi a tswa a senyeha, but the HOD: Technical Services and other MMCs are responding. Le a di bona ntho tsena. Empa le iphaphanya tsona hobane le ka letlhakoreng le ka thoko.

Re a ho leboha Majoro, le ha hole thata jwang; le nako e fetileng ho ne ho le thata, but under your leadership we see, and we saw many changes hence even today, le comfortable jwalo ka ha le le comfortable. Today re nale HODs ha ne re sena tsona. Seo e ne ele purpose ya lona hobane le opposition. Majoro re a ho leboha. Re le ANC re a e support item ena. Kealeboha.”

Cllr NL Lecoko addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Cllr Gregory Nthatisi, Executive Mayor, Cllr Lulama Titi-Odili, Deputy Executive Mayor and Council Whip, Cllr Vumile Nikelo.

Ke tlile ho present Mangaung SDBIP, from 1st July 2025 to 30 June 2026. It is driven from progress with 121 of 142 projects underway: at an overall performance of 68%. The IDP Office consolidates reports from different departments because we like to paint the picture as the community out there do not understand where we are, what we are doing and what we are reporting on. So, I think it is important that we put it clearly.

As Hosea 4:6 - “my people are destroyed for the lack of knowledge”. By empowering citizens with knowledge, we can foster a culture of participation, collaboration and collective problem solving ultimately leading to better outcomes for all. But the key areas shown in the SDBIP are in Planning and Human Settlements and we know we have been struggling in this regard however, now we are sitting at 80% performance. Public Safety and Transport at 86%, Centlec at 83%, however we have noted that the Economic and Rural Development is at 50%, because this is a true reflection. Finance is at 52%, however we know that the Finance performance relies on the departments submitting required information on time. Therefore, on stormwater and sanitation with have now engineers that should improve the previous struggle in this area.

However, we must not only talk because monitoring strategies including quarterly review assessments, project process, tracking the metrics of economic development, public safety, finance, roads and water services. Project Management Unit should track the progress of projects on the ground. The project tools monitoring timeously, budget outcomes, stakeholder engagement, gathering community feedback, transparent reporting, publishing the performance report. Caution, sustained efforts required to address the underperforming areas. These strategies help to identify the areas needed to improve and inform the adjustment of the optimal service. We therefore support the recommendation:

- that Council approved the MFMA Section 52D SDBIP 1st quarter report (01 July 2025 – 30 September 2025) and

- we note that the report will be published on the Municipal website and be submitted to the National Treasury. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

After announcements of the voting outcome, the Speaker acknowledged and welcomed back Cllr JB Thomas to the Council after recovering from an accident.

The Council voted as follows: **41 in favour, 23 against and 15 abstained.**

It was thereupon

RESOLVED

- That Council approved the MFMA Section 52D SDBIP 1st quarter report (01 July 2025 – 30 September 2025).
- Noted that the report will be published on the Municipal website and be submitted to the National Treasury.

2.

MUNICIPAL FINANCE MANAGEMENT ACT (MFMA): PRELIMINARY BUDGET AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT REPORT IN TERMS OF THE MFMA, SECTION 52(D), FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025

Cllr AF Bothma addressed the Council as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, members of the house and all protocols observed.

The Section 52(d) is a compulsory report, and we are glad it could be added in the first quarter, but we just hope that the tables as required by National Treasury is already being submitted to them because the recommendation on the item says we should actually send the report to National Treasury.

The executive summary of the results

Year-to-Date Revenue	R3,230,000
Year-to-Date Expenditure	R5,855,000
Net Result (Deficit)	(R2,625,000)

This is something we need to address when do the adjustment budget that R2.818 billion was write-off for bad debt and that has a significant impact on the face value of the income statement.

Honourable Speaker, I have few remarks on water revenue.

- Water Revenue is unfavourable due to billing etc as explained. But the problem I have is that we have more than 50% of losses which may culminate into water trade account that would not show the surplus that we must have.
- The same with Wastewater Management Charges not far behind, about R18 million under the budget.

- On fines (traffic), I must complement the administration traffic department for clamping vehicles etc. There was a significant surplus of R9.98 million. We must just remember that we need to up on other fines especially on road safety that we are trying to promulgate from the DA's site. Remember, the SAP is a national priority and not a national function. Our traffic officials must enforce the law.

Category	Variance	Comments
Water Revenue	R42.794m – 10%	Unfavorable variance due to billing and collection inefficiencies. Page 2 of 5
Waste Water Charges	R18.687m	Below target, linked to consumption trends and billing delays
Fines (traffic)	+R9.983m +76%	Favorable variance due to improved collection of traffic fines

Overtime: Overspending of R30.258 million (Budget: R21.127m | Actual: R51.385m) has resulted in unauthorized expenditure across several votes. Corrective Actions and remarks:

We acknowledge and take note of filling of vacant posts and implementation of shift systems (which we knew will come with extended resistance). We should have been more proactive. But tighter overtime control and approval processes must be introduced. Clear Standard Operating Procedures are needed. And non-compliance must result in disciplinary action, i.e. consequent management.

Bulk Purchases – Electricity: Unfavourable variance of R187.606 million (25%), reflecting increased consumption and cost pressures. This is a recurring budgeting problem. The system must also allow for “season budgeting”.

Description	YTD Budget (R'm)	Actual (R'm)	% Spend
Capital Projects (All Sources)	335. 997	130 771	38.92%
Annual Approved budget	1.344.000	130 771	9.74%

The CFO mentioned in the Section 80 Committee Finance meeting that all grand funding will be spent by 30/06/2026. I will be most grateful Councillor, and I will make myself available in any way possible to achieve this.

Cash Flow Position

- Closing Cash & Cash Equivalents (30 Sept 2025): R1.564 billion
- Previous Month (31 Aug 2025): R1.794 billion

This reflects a net decrease of R230 million, largely due to increased operational spending.

Outstanding Debtors

- Total Debtors (30 Sept 2025): R10.414 billion (*incl. unallocated credits of R145.763m*)
- June 2025: R12.632 billion (*incl. unallocated credits of R1.159 billion*)
- Decrease: R2.218 billion (17.56%), primarily due to irrecoverable debt write-offs.

Aging Analysis:

- 1 year and older debt: R7.049 billion (↓ R1.664 billion from June 2025)
- Households: R6.217 billion (↓ R1.220 billion). But here we need to gain our leverage that we had to cut electricity for non-payers.

Concerns and recommendations:

- Debt collectors recovered only 1% of the R9.2 billion books allocated.
- Recommendation: Update Credit Control Policy to explicitly cover Government Departments (R2.067 billion) and strengthen collection mechanisms.

Outstanding Creditors

Description	June 2025	July 2025	Variance
Total Creditors	R400.441 m	R393.158 m	↓ R7. 283 m

Main Creditors:

- Eskom: R257 million (Debt relief under Circular 124: R257.223m)
- Vaal Water (formerly Bloem Water): R466 million (under payment arrangement approved by Council)
- Eskom payment arrangement total: R239.490 million
- Employee deductions – Current portion of Pension Funds

The bulk of the expenditure was regarding Electricity Powe Plants and Sanitation Treatment Plants. We are extremely grateful that we are now spending money on repairs and maintenance

Conclusion And Recommendations

The Municipality continues to face liquidity and revenue collection challenges, despite positive trends in debt reduction and capital project initiation. The following actions are recommended:

1. Strengthen revenue management and enforcement of the Credit Control Policy, including government debt.
2. We must regain the leverage we had by cutting electricity of arrear accounts.
3. Tighten control over overtime and unauthorised expenditure.
4. Accelerate capital spending to meet grant performance thresholds.
5. Prioritise cash flow management and maintain compliance with MFMA cost coverage norms.
6. Improve the collection rate through active follow-up and improved billing accuracy.
7. As requested in the Section *0 Finance Committee, we need to constantly monitor the following standing items:
 - Audit Action Plan (AAP)
 - Financial Recovery Plan (FRP)
 - Progress implementation of Municipal Standard Charts of Accounts (mSCOA) and
 - Debt Collectors Progress Report

Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr BJ Viviers addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, through you Executive Mayor. I will use another angle of incidence today. I will alert you to certain major concerns and the solutions to that.

Debtor’s standing on R10 414 billion and please note that the decrease rather than increase as from June is due to the writing off of irrecoverable debts. Unfortunately, debt older than a year remains at over R 7 billion. Executive Mayor one of the major concerns is the performance of the Third-Party Debt Collectors (TPDC).

They are standing on only 1 % of the monies handed over to them collected. In addition, they received payment of 8,2% commission on the monies collected as reward for their bad performance. In addition, even if money is paid directly to MMM for example for Rates Clearance Certificates on amounts that were handed over to the TPDC, they are even further rewarded for their bad performance by receiving their 8,2% commission on these amounts also.

TPDC still only do soft debt collections and do not follow formal litigation processes as described in section 24(2) of the Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy. Executive Mayor, if this continues there will be now other way, but to see the TPDC scheme as a scheme for the ANC connected Debt Collectors and Legal Practitioners, to make a lot of money for doing near to nothing.

Solutions:

- Actively engage with TPDC to dramatically perform better.
- If the performance does not increase dramatically end the TPDC Scheme.
- Then capacitate MMM to do their own soft debt collections and utilize the Legal Department of MMM to collect debtors in terms of Section 24(2) of the relevant policy.
- Alter the relevant policy so that Section 24(2) of the relevant policy will also be applicable on Government Debt.

Capital Expenditure Budget: Only 61% of the budget was spent on Infrastructure and Service Delivery by end June 2025. Unfortunately, after three months in this financial year only 9.74% was spent, while it should have been nearer to 25%.

Solutions: Spent the Capital Expenditure Budget and please note that only 9.45% of MMM, S National Treasury Grants are spent so far. If MMM don't spend them they lose them.

Overtime: Previous Financial Year-Budgeted R109 million, spent R245 million. R136 million overspent.

Sho far this financial year, only three months, R24,1 million overspent.

Solution:

- Proper control over overtime payments, keep the City Manager accountable and receive a report on the implementation of the SHIFT system.
- Fix overtime.

Not all is doom, MMM had a good return on fines due to impounding of vehicles, so a little gloom, but on the doom side Executive Mayor it is clearly stated that MMM is not able to pay its current or short-term obligations.

It was clearly mentioned during the Section 80 Committee Meeting to the administration that they must take responsibility because Councillors attending to their oversight role cannot keep on singing the same tune, but the administration takes no responsibility.

We were enlightened that matters are referred to MPAC for consequence management.

Respectfully, MPAC is ineffective and not functioning properly.

Solution:

- Fix MPAC.

Through you, Mister Speaker, Executive Mayor, I pray that the new angle of incidence will bear fruit. Thank you."

Cllr B Vorster addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker and all protocols observed. The Freedom Front Plus would ask the following clarity seeking questions because this item should only be for noting.

On the operating deficit, the Metro spent its operating budget by over R3 billion mainly due to the irrecoverable debt write off supported by the majority of this Council resulting an operating deficit of R2.6 billion. The question now is:

1. Did this Council make the right decision to write off the so-called irrecoverable debt?
2. Despite the write off, why did the departments overspend R132 million on operating budget in the first quarter?

With regards to employee related costs:

3. Why was over R51 million again being paid on overtime?
4. Who authorised the unauthorised expenditure of R24 million on overtime for the first quarter?
5. Is overtime being paid to employees who are working under the shift system at the moment that was implemented in August or was it not implemented in all the departments? Is there any political will in this Metro to bring this ridiculous employee related costs to an end?
6. How is it possible that the Community Services department paid over R50 million of overtime in the first quarter while the Metro’s dumping sites are in chaos and dysfunctional and irregular refuse removal is the order of the day?
7. Is the HR or Payroll department IT systems and information in line with each other?

Honourable Executive Mayor and City Manager, through you Honourable Speaker, except for reports on overtime that must be submitted to National and Provincial Oversight Committees and to the Audit and Performance Committee:

8. When will the full report submitted to this Council as representatives of the people of Mangaung? How is that the tax paying citizens have no right to know why their moneys is spend in excessive overtime?
9. With the liquidity of 0.1%, how is this Municipality continuing to fund its daily obligations?
10. With regards to outstanding debtors, will the government debt of over R2 billion ever be collected by this Metro?
11. What action would be taken to increase the collection rate from 55.36% to the national benchmark of 95% particularly in high-risk areas?
12. Why are water services becoming the larges contributors to debt standing at over R4 billion and how will this be rectified?
13. What corrective actions are underway to reduce 50.64% water loses for the first quarter and R76 million electricity loses and by when should Council expect measurable improvements in these areas?
14. Will anyone be held accountable for the R12 million in fruitless and wasteful expenditure and R1.1 million in irregular expenditure reported for this quarter?

On capital expenditure Honourable Speaker:

15. What are the main obstacles causing the capital spending to sit only at 9.74% instead of the 25% target?

16. Which critical service delivery projects are now at risk and what is the revised implementation plan?
17. Why can this administration overspend on the operating budget, but it is unable to spend the conditional grants?

Lastly Honourable Speaker, will corrective measures and consequence management ever be implemented by this administration even when the same financial problems reoccur year after year, quarter after quarter. I thank you Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr DL Malebo addressed the Council as follows: “Kealeboha Motsamaisa wa Dipuisano. This report marks the end of the financial year and reflects how effectively this Municipality has managed public funds, implemented its budget and translated its commitments into real service delivery outcomes. The EFF maintains that financial performance must always be measured against the lived realities of our people not just against spreadsheets and compliance reports.

A budget that fails to deliver water, electricity, sanitation and decent roads, it is a budget that has failed its people regardless of technical compliance. The Municipality’s financial affairs continue to reflect instability and inefficiency. Revenue collection remains inconsistent while key expenditure items deviate significantly from approved plans. Liquidity challenges persist and the late payment of suppliers remains a recurring problem that cripples small businesses and local contractors.

The EFF calls for strict financial discipline, consequence management and monthly cash flow monitoring to prevent fiscal slippage. Expenditure must reflect priority needs and underperforming departments must be held accountable through a comprehensive financial recovery plan.

We also note the need for accurate forecasting for grant management particularly for conditional grants such as MIG and Industrial Development Cooperation Funding(IDC)/ Interim Housing Assistance Program(IHAP). Finance, funds intended for infrastructure must never be rolled over or forfeited administrative failures.

Honourable Speaker, the EFF observed that the service delivery performance remains below expectation particularly in infrastructure development. Many capital projects remain incomplete while others are progressing at the slow pace due to weak contract management and delayed procurement. The EFF demands stronger alignment between the IDP, Budget and SDBIP ensuring that every rand spent, directly improves the lives of the residents.

The Municipality must prioritise timely implementation, quality control and community involvement in all infrastructure projects. The link between financial expenditure and service delivery outcomes must be strengthened because financial performance without impact is meaningless. Governance and internal controls remain weak across several departments. The EFF is deeply concerned that irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure continues to occur despite repeated recommendations from the Auditor General and the Audit and Performance Committee. It is time that consequence management is enforced without compromise. The officials responsible for mismanagement or non-compliance with the MFMA must face disciplinary and when necessary legal actions.

Internal Audit function must fully verify all performance reports before they are submitted, ensuring that achievements are backed with credible evidence and only then can Council exercise genuine oversight.

Institutional weakness remains a major barrier to performance. The lack of coordination between Finance, Technical Services and the IDP Office results in late spending, poor project execution and incomplete reporting. The EFF calls for improved inter-departmental collaboration Honourable Speaker ensuring that financial decisions are driven by service delivery priorities. Senior managers must sign and be held to performance agreements aligned to the SDBIP and IDP. Accountability must be institutionalised and not negotiated.

Honourable Speaker, the quarter report is not just a closing summary, is the diagnosis of the Municipality's capacity to govern effectively, it must be used to correct weaknesses before the next budget cycle. Kealeboha Motsamaisa wa Dipuisano."

Cllr MW Mongale addressed the Council: "Honourable Speaker, as Afrikan Alliance of Social Democrats, we are not happy about the current budget deficit of R2.6 billion. We think something needs to be done earlier than that because the actual budget was R91 million. So, when the budget exceeds and goes to R150 million, someone could have picked up that things are falling apart. We need to stand up and do something. And try to save the situation except when the budget deficit is caused by standby overtime because those are emergency issues. But we cannot have such a situation whereby the budget just balloon to an uncontrollable level deficit. We are still struggling in terms of property rates, water revenue, service charges, rental from fixed assets and sale of goods and services.

Page 7 outsourced services, we have overspent with R3.387 million which is also unacceptable. I hope that Deputy Executive Mayor, now that you are deployed to Finance, you are going to save the situation, remember you have been here, we found you here. Your experience must be able to steer the ship out of this crisis.

We were told that we should move away from overtime and move to shift system which would be able to help the Municipality to save, but the 2 departments that have introduced shift system which is Community Services and Public Safety have overspent with R29.7 million. Another department, Waste Management have overspent with R72.466 million. What is the benefit of the shift system if it is making the situation worse than overtime system.

So, someone did not do the research properly when they introduced the shift system and now it has come back to haunt us. This calls for all of us Honourable Speaker without any political affiliation to have some kind of an "indaba" where we would sit around the table to discuss whether is the shift system feasible or the old system feasible but need staff to be complemented by hiring full complement of the staff and doing away with overtime than this crisis we found ourselves at.

Page 13 says capital grants and subsidies have dropped by 18.23%. This one, we saw it coming. When you do not spend your money, you will be end up sitting with a crisis.

Now, the elephant in the room, the government failing to pay the Municipality; provincial and national government, sitting with a debt of over R2 billion and that needs to be fixed as a matter of urgency.

Let me demonstrate, R2 billion could have created jobs in the Municipality for an employee earning R10 000 per month, 16 000 jobs could have been created for that R2 billion or 33 000 EPWP jobs could have been created and this is the money laying there in the accounts of the province bragging that they are running the province much better than the Municipality while we know they are worse than us.

Unspent grants: it is a crisis because it denies our people job opportunities. If R332 million was spend as part of the grants given to the Municipality, it could have created 1500 jobs. But that could not happen because someone chose to sleep on duty. The Auditor General's report is going to reflect again that we have not spend on our grants. It is another audit query, and we should not take Auditor General for granted to say they keep on complaining but nothing is happening. You check the cost coverage ratio; it is sitting at 0.3% which indicates that the City is unable to meet its financial needs. We do not know when someone says things have improved, o bua ka eng. Things have not improved, the Municipality is in the worst condition than ka nako ya no Ntate Motlashuping, tsietsi ere tthaetse banabeso, we need someone to safe us. At the moment titanic is sinking with us.

The current ratio of current assets liability, it was supposed to be 1.5 to 1, but it is standing at 2 is to 1. It means we are spending more than the way we supposed to spend. Our assets, we are owing more than the assets that we have, and it is unacceptable. Our liquidity ratio leaves much to be desired. Thank you, Honourable Speaker for the opportunity."

Cllr SQ Peter explained as follows: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Firstly, let me indicate the following:

Revenue performance for the quarter exceeded expectation by an amount of R320 million with an actual performance of R3.23 billion as compared to a target of R2.9 billion for the year to date. Expenditure exceeded expectation by total of R3 billion with an actual amount of R5.8 billion as compared to the target of R2.8 billion.

It should be noted that Council at the end of June 2025 authorised the write off of about R2.8 billion as indicated by Cllr AF Bothma which impact significantly on the performance of the expenditure for the year to date. If the write off was not considered, an expenditure would only have exceeded by an amount of R132 million. If this is considered with the gains of revenue, the total surplus would have been R188 million.

I need to indicate Honourable Speaker; indeed, the report is not glossy, but it has some few issues that we need to deal with. The EMT has introduced the shift system and we have not yet received the report indicating how it works against the employee costs which is overtime. As soon as we get the report, we would be able to make a determination to ascertain if the piloting of the shift system if it is working or not. There was an indication that our debtors' companies that we have appointed are only collecting

1%. Yes, it is true. There are a number of reasons, as discussed in the Section 80 Finance, that some of the data we have provided to them needs to be cleansed in order to enable them to

collect what is due to the City. As a result, as they collect, they would find that some of the people are indigents or have applied for indigency and therefore, it is a futile exercise for them to collect. Remember, we pay them as per the actual collection. The 1% must not shake us because we are monitoring them.

The drop of the revenue collection, for the past quarter it is below the 60% it is because of certain issues that we have introduced. If the Honourable Speaker recalls, for the previous 6 months we had a debt incentive program which had actually boosted the City. In this case, we were doing things ourselves to see how best we can collect except on those 7 or 9 appointed debtors' collectors.

I need to indicate that, today at least there is something that I have seen amongst Councillors that we need to find the best amicable way to improve the performance of the City which is exactly what we needed from the Section 80 Finance. Going forward we will meet again to find best possible solutions to improve on the current report on expenditure and the revenue. With those words Honourable Speaker, I submit. Thank you."

The Deputy Executive Mayor commented: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Firstly, I want to applaud the members of the Section 80 Finance Committee who alluded to the august house on the discussions taken place at the Section 80 Finance Committee. I want to applaud Cllr AF Bothma because he analysed the report exactly as is and also give advises on what should be done to deal with issues. You are not negative instead give positive remarks because the decisions to take the Council forward is not only taken by the ANC. We are a multiparty Council and not only ANC Council.

I want to say Honourable Speaker, it does not mean when we see that overtime is higher, we are happy, we are not. If we were happy, we were not going to have a plan to introduce a shift system. We did introduce shift system as Cllr SQ Peter indicated that we should wait for the report to ascertain whether the shift system is working for us or not before we decide to call another summit where we will spend on expenditure and then come back to the Council to talk about the expenditure.

Honourable Speaker on contracted services, yes, we have overspent on consultants and those were the issues that were raised by Auditor General to show that we are going somewhere. As the City, we are trying to ensure that we deal with the recommendations of the AG and deal with all issues.

This is a first quarter where we start to check for red flags or green flag. Where there is a red flag, we must start now to deal with those issues.

Honourable Speaker, I also want to comment on Centlec where they said we owe R300 and something million. Remember we entered into debt relief program and with Centlec, I know we are adhering to payment program. We are from winter where electricity consumption was high, and the amount would not be the same as now in summer.

Honourable Speaker, I want us to ensure that the finances of the City...definitely the person talking about financial management pillar to ensure that as Section 80 Finance Committee we discuss what we could do, and we have recommendations to guide us on how to advise the Executive Mayor correctly on this matter.

If you check the issue of spending Executive Mayor, in terms of grants under the capital expenditure, the City spent about R131 million of the allocation of R134 million. It shows that we are going somewhere, and it translate to 9.74% of our spending in terms of capital budget.

Honourable Speaker, I also want to indicate that in terms of the Public Transport Grant, we spent 1.54% and Informal Settlements we are in 17.37% and USDG we are at 7.8% of which there are still invoices that have not been paid which we believe it would take us to 40% in the second quarter. There are green flags happening, but we are saying, we would consider the advises raised by Councillors but together with Section 80 Finance Committee we must advise the Council properly and start doing our oversight.

In Finance Department Honourable Speaker, in terms of ensuring that we maintain creditors payment, to still be below 30 days, of which we work with 28 days. Although other Councillors were saying we are not paying creditors. Previously we were paying around 120 days but now, it has been 28days.

In terms of servicing debt of Vaal Central Water, we are still at R466 million, and this shows that we are dealing and adhering to our commitment as Council. Yes, we know that Technical Services is working hard to ensure that they deal with water losses sitting at 50.64% and using interns for plumbing to deal with water leakages. We know that Human Settlements is working on the 62 informal settlements ensuring that there are no water leakages at those areas. The budget did not cover everything.

I understand we are talking about collection, but are we encouraging our people to pay their services? If we want to collect, we must have a plan on what to do to encourage the people of Mangaung to pay services. Where would we collect if people are not paying including companies and Councillors, hence today we have 7 debt collectors. Yes, we understand they collect 1%, but we would ensure that the debt collectors are collecting the monies.

I am saying, we should work together to make sure that we shift the finances of this institution and fight to ensure that we work on pillar 3: financial management so that we are out of Section 139. The problematic pillars for the Municipality are financial management and service delivery. Together, if we ensure that we strategies and plan, we would definitely be out of Section 139. I support this item. Thank you, Speaker."

The Executive Mayor commented as follows: "I echoed the same sentiments as Deputy Executive Mayor, much as there is progress in what we are doing, much still has to be done. I do not want Councillors to be oblivious of where we come from, behind what we are doing, there is history and that history, we are guilty as charged in terms of understanding the difficult past of the same Metro that we are trying to build.

I am not going to begin to sing a praise song, and want to say because there is relative stability, in the field of governance and institutional stability, as well as semblance of service delivery at the level of our communities with a discipline of ensuring that we guard against our finances and begin to rise and shine and talk the language unexpected. We are on a shifting sand colleagues. We are in this together.

When people talk as if they come from Jupiter, it disturbs colleagues. When you behave like you are from another planet, it really shocks me to say, were you not one of those I came to join? If I came to join you, why are you of a sudden radical against things that you could condone in the recent past?

On the issue of informal settlement raised, in it, the high mast mentioned linked to apartheid past as if we are embracing it and some of the issues raised. It is informational what I am doing.

In the informal settlements, when settlement is not formalised, you cannot provide authentic electricity because nobody can account to who should pay or take care of the property that would have been installed by Centlec. We start from people holding PTO, to the people who have title deeds. Those are the people we install system for. But in the informal settlements we have and are anywhere in the Country, people who go there, they are mainly seeking to be given a place to stay. But that does not exclude and not limited to thugs, mischief makers and some horrendous happening in those areas. Even though they may not be entitled to access electricity, we are responsible for the security that must happen there. As a results, high mast lights on solar, as a temporary arrangement are provided to ensure we see each other and avoid a situation where peoples' properties would be destroyed and killed in the morning. We would be dealing with elements of security. To this house, we have installed high mast lights for security purposes, and we are bound to do so and if we don't there would be problems Chairperson. I must say, they are armed with solar and not wired.

The informal settlements that you are talking about, that must be formalised are a subject of resistance from this house. The former Cllr McKay, Honourable MP now, was in the forefront of fighting people from going to Lourierpark. But in this house from the same party, we find people saying we must create a settlement of one South Africa, one City because the City is in two portions. But when you try to bring people closer to the City so that it must be one, the same party resist. Now, you ask yourself exactly how do you satisfy Councillors that belong to other political parties? Was that point raised for political point scoring or does the party hold meetings and adopt a particular position with regard to services that must be provided to the people, because mix signals that come to me, leaves me asunder. So, EFF understand me, ha ke lwane, I need your support so that I bring people closer to where life is. I am merely saying, some of these issues must be understood..."

Cllr MW Mongale raised a point of order, that page 9 talks about strategic priority 2 which says: *reduce poverty and tackles high cost of living and down refers to public lighting high mast* and that was the issue he was talking to. That he was not saying high mast cannot address issues of security, and he is aware of that. The item where it is placed is wrong, it should be about safety.

On a point of order Cllr PA Lotriet indicated that the Executive Mayor cannot say he is new anymore. The business world would give 3 months and if one is not moving in the right direction, they would fire you. But prior to that they would expect you to fall in own sought, to act gracefully and resign. Secondly, policing is a national competency. Thirdly, there were so many literatures done on informal settlements at Cape Town, all have different demographic reasons. The Executive Mayor should not do own narrative which stood on nothing as there were people listening out there.

In responding to Speaker Cllr PA Lotriet indicate that Council should not allow one individual to ramble on and talk nonsense all the time, he would draw and that what the house has come to.

The Speaker ruled that what Cllr AP Lotriet raised was not a point of order. Thereafter sustained a point of order raised by Cllr MW Mongale.

Cllr MA Morake raised a point of order that there were Councillors who were trying to degenerate the Council and when Speaker allowed Executive Mayor to make closing remarks, that is what the Executive Mayor was doing and that was not for discussion. If any Councillor has a suggestion, or whatever contribution to the Municipality, the Office of the Executive Mayor was always opened. Council cannot be run unprofessionally. That Councillors have been afforded a chance to speak however when the Executive Mayor respond and provide clarity on issues, there is always a disruption in the house and there are Councillors who are consistently doing that.

The Executive Mayor continued: "Honourable Speaker, if you don't respect people's event and occasion, you come late and not that well informed around issue on the table. Because of difficult past and adamant to change and transformation and come to insult people it is such an understatement..."

The Executive Mayor requested the Speaker to ask Cllr PA Lotriet to stand and apologise for saying Councillors were talking nonsense.

The Executive Mayor continued: "On the issue raised by Freedom Front Plus of the R2 billion owed to the Municipality. I want to link it to about R12 billion in our books categorised by 3 areas: *residents, business and government*. The residents have a bulk of this...We came to this Council and request to unbundle the collection discipline mainly to ensure that we hit all the nodal points and make sure that the money come into the Council.

We must indicate that we are collecting money not from inanimate objects, we are collecting from people in themselves have the culture of not paying in all the disciplines that I have mentioned. So, going to them, we must work in building the culture of payment. It is easy when we are sitting in this Council and talking about going to collect, but it is another thing of collecting because you need to develop appointment modalities of ensuring that you get people belonging to the Municipality out of people's pockets and that in itself involves a number of things, *litigation, persuasion, and also explanation beyond recognition* to ensure we reach out diligently and seamlessly.

That task, does not only involve officials alone, but it also has in itself political discipline by us as politicians and leaders to reach out and encourage communities that we live in. I must indicate that we managed to unbundle the collection rate, but we have looked at whether this work effectively for us and we reached a stage where we need to reach to regions and take services closer to our people by way of reviving and ensuring that regions are properly armed.

What colleagues need to know, we are working hard to deal with issues of overtime, but the truth is, on the other side there are workers who command conscious on their need and somehow who cannot be bulldozed into the system. They belong to unions, and they fight for their rights. In implementing any other system, those rights and interaction into the system must also be taken into consideration. Implementation yes, whether it is seamless, no, difficulty, it has been handled and there are challenges. Please do understand that change in itself, it is a challenge. It is an obstacle, people who should traverse a new road that they do not know, turn to resist. So, in any piercing into a new arrangement, you would always come across serious challenges and we are at that point Honourable Speaker. Thank you."

The Council voted as follows: 64 in favour, 4 against and 11 abstained

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that, in compliance with Section 52D of the MFMA

1. That Council approved the report on the implementation of the budget and financial state of affairs of the Municipality for the first quarter of 2025/26 ended 30 September 2025.
2. That the report be submitted to National Treasury and be published on the Municipal website.

3.

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025 – 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR

Cllr AF Bothma asked whether this item was for clarification questions or were Councillors allowed to deliver their speeches whereupon the Council Whip, Cllr VE Nikelo indicated that the item was submitted for noting.

Cllr AF Bothma stated: that the received legislative framework report was positive and comparable to previous municipalities. He requested clarification regarding the roles and involvement of adjudication vs. evaluation committees, specifically regarding their commitments. Noted the number of sittings: 8, 16, and 5, respectively, for special case evaluation and adjudication committees. Raised concerns about the 73 panel procurements, particularly catering expenses, in light of the municipality's financial recovery efforts.

Formal competitive bids and processed quotations were acknowledged and found satisfactory. Raised a point about 19 BBBEE (Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment) service providers.

Noted that the DA proposes replacing current race-based empowerment policies with a model focused on poverty alleviation, in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

He further stated that the mSCOA process is not fully integrated into supply chain management and needs attention for regulatory compliance. Improvements needed in planning, demand management, and shortening procurement timelines (noting some processes currently take up to 17 months). He placed emphasis on strengthening planning, specification evaluation, digitalisation, accountability, use of framework agreements, pre-award readiness, and contract management. Highlighted the link between improved processes and the ability to spend capital expenditure efficiently. Five deviations were listed in the report; all were found acceptable after review. Some exceptions were noted as "a little bit dodgy" but still considered well executed overall. Inventory count on September 30 showed no surpluses, which is positive. Noted minor slacking in store stock and order turnaround time, suggesting improvement is needed.

Lastly, he stated that Municipal Finance Management Act and Supply Chain Management regulations are being followed. Ongoing initiatives focus on boosting compliance, efficiency, and reducing supply chain turnaround times. Continued advocacy for mSCOA digital integration to support transparency and better management."

Cllr VB De Kock addressed the Council: "Honourable Speaker and the house and residents. The Freedom Front Plus wishes to raise several clarity-seeking questions on this quarter's Supply Chain Management report.

- Quantities missing. Many of the listed procurements show only total amounts without indicating quantities. For instance, heavy-duty garden knapsack sprayers are reflected at a cost of R22,000, but nowhere does it say how many units were supplied. These suppliers fall between R300,200 each. Can Supply Chain Management please clarify, and can future reports include both units and quantities so the council can assess value for money? Cut off on items, page 18. Items four and seven are cut off. We can't read the full description or amount. Can administration confirm what those lines, line items were and provide full details?
- Deputy President cleaning campaign. The report shows the expenditure of R54,000 for a visit and cleaning campaign for the Deputy President visit. Chairperson, surely our Metro Municipality should always be clean and ready for visitors, whether it's a Deputy President or ordinary resident of Bloemfontein. Why did we need a special R54,000 cleanup for one visit?
- Memoriam and other cemeteries fencing. We do wish to thank the Metro Municipality for constructing the fence around the memoriam and other cemeteries. Can we please hear whether a proper cleaning and maintenance program will now follow? Many families are still struggling to access graves due to overgrowth.

- Farai Management payments. Two payments are listed for Farai Management, one for R81,500 and another for R106,000. What specific services were rendered under these amounts?
- Commissioner of Oath stamps. There is also a line item for Commissioner of Oath stamps totalling R24,000. How many stamps were procured and for which offices, and is this consistent with normal marketing pricing?
- Office groceries for the City Manager's office. The supply and delivery of office groceries for the City Manager's office totalling R29,000 for three (3) months. What exactly falls under office groceries? And why was this outsourced instead of handled internally?
- Event catering. Lastly, the report reflects 20 catering events totalling R535,000 an average of almost R180,000 per month. Is this fair to the residents of Mangaung, especially for a Metro Municipality under intervention?

Honourable Speaker, transparency in quantities, justification, and value is what residents expect and what this Council must insist on. I thank you.”

Cllr GDP Kotze addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. Mister Speaker, I only have four (4) questions, so my speech is going to be short, but at the end I would just like to assist the Executive Mayor with something, through you Mister Speaker, when I went through this report, I took it with a pinch of salt and I want to go back to the speech of Cllr JC Pretorius on how much irregular spending there was in the audit report that we received today. But this report is getting, a bit smaller, every time it serves. And then you ask, "where is all the payments going?"

So, with this, Mister Speaker, I'm asking the question, if we go through that list and the payments that's being made, I was wondering, with the current politics in South Africa with the Madlanga Commission, the Parliamentary Ad-hoc Committee on Police misconduct and the Zondo Commission, I must ask myself, who is the Vusimusi “Cat” Matlala, the Katliso Molefe and Morgan Maumela in the Mangaung Metro? I believe the secret lies in the Supply Chain Management report. I just quickly want to refer to a few payments.

Crock Group (Pty) Ltd, PFMIgnite (Pty) Ltd, Bene-Tech, and Dela Casa Trading 701 were paid R2,4 million for vacuuming, pit and VIP toilets. Why can this money not be used to replace VIP toilets. Every year we hear, no, we are going to replace VIP toilets, but we have R10 million to spend for vacuuming VIP toilets.

Then another one, I also want to refer to the Deputy President. Why do we need R56,000 for catering when the Deputy President is visiting? Just remember there's allegations going around that he is part of the Alex Mafia. I wonder if we cleaned up his private jet or maybe his mansion in Cape Town?

How can we justify the celebration of the IPTN, R28,000 for social media the stage set-up, a PA system, microphones, while concerns persist about the Executive Mayor continuing to protect those responsible for wasting R2.2 billion of the IPTN project?

In conclusion, Mister. Speaker, I would like to inquire about the remainder of the R6 million that was budgeted for the COSAFA Cup. Only R96,000 was mentioned in the previous report.

Where is the other R5.9 million? Can the Executive Mayor, answer that question. Thank you, Mister Speaker."

Cllr MW Mongale raised concerns about the capacity building for Supply Chain Management staff. There is an outstanding issue about whether individuals are supposed to be trained by the National Treasury have actually received training. He inquired if the training has been completed or if it is still planned for the future. Furthermore, asked what percentage of supply chain management related economic benefits have been allocated to local people. He clarified on the definition of "local" which mean Mangaung.

Cllr SQ Peter requested that the questions be responded to through as a Rule 38 question. The Speaker granted the request.

The Deputy Executive Mayor, Cllr LM Titi Odili remarked as follows:

- Raised concerns about bringing political statements into the Council and the appropriateness of such remarks during Council discussions.
- She argued that previous comments were not relevant to Supply Chain Management issues but were political in nature.
- There were accusations that certain municipalities led by the Democratic Alliance are unable to account for a missing R2.6 billion, which impacts services like housing in Cape Town.
- Emphasised the need to discuss important issues that benefit the people of Mangaung, rather than focusing on political grandstanding.
- She insisted that Councillors should come prepared with facts and not make unfounded claims in the Council.
- She demanded that Cllr GDP Kotze apologise for suggesting that the Executive Mayor, Cllr GMS Maharishi should go to Cure Care, which was deemed inappropriate.
- Reference was made to Supply Chain Management allocations, specifically regarding requirements for inclusion of females, young people, and women. That policies must be revisited, or guidelines related to supply chain management allocations to ensure proper implementation.
- She proposed that further questions should be addressed by the administration through the appropriate formal channels, following the route of Rule 38 questions.

The Speaker ruled as follows:

- He requested that Cllr GDP Kotze withdraw a statement attributed to the Executive Mayor, insisting on compliance with Rule 35.1 regarding unsavoury language in the house and
- That Cllr GDP Kotze apologise in relation to the statement made.

Cllr GDP Kotze sought clarification on what was considered an unsavoury comment whereupon the Speaker read the rules of order to clarify the matter. Cllr GDP Kotze withdrew his statement.

The Speaker thereafter remarked:

- He announced the intent to formally write to the MEC regarding Cllr GDP Kotze's behaviour, citing it as a deliberate attempt to tarnish the image of the Council and a breach of the code of conduct.
- Cllr GDP Kotze was advised to familiarise himself with the Council's code of conduct if not already aware.
- That the consequences of such behaviour could be severe, including possible termination from the Council by the MEC, pending investigation.
- Further clarified that this action would be taken on behalf of the entire Council as a formal record.
- A report will be sent to the relevant MEC requesting an immediate investigation into Cllr GDP Kotze's conduct.

Cllr MW Mongale commented as follows:

- Raised concerns that their question regarding the benefits for the people of Mangaung was not fully heard or addressed.
- He emphasised that while legislation specifies a 30% benefit, it does not set this as a maximum and could allow for up to 100% benefit without being in violation.
- The main issue was flagged as a misinterpretation of the law, urging for a proper and clear response now that all parties are present.

Cllr PA Lotriet remarked:

- Requested to hear directly from the Deputy Executive Mayor regarding her previous statement. Sought clarification on the phrase, "they" possibly referring to the ANC or individuals experienced with politicians.
- Asked whether this interpretation was correct and requested further elaboration if so.
- Specifically inquired about what actions the Deputy Executive Mayor would be able to take.

As this item was for noting, the Council did not vote on it.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council took note of the report on the implementation of Supply Chain Management Policy for the quarter ended 30 September 2025.

4.

PROPOSED EXTENSION OF THE EXISTING CONTRACTS BEYOND THREE (3) YEARS PERIOD: MMM/BID 622:2021/2022: CONSTRUCTION OF NEW FIRE STATION IN BOTSHABELO – KHANYA LESEDI (C703) AND MMM/BID 622:2021/2022: CONSTRUCTION OF THE COMMUNITY CENTRE IN THABA NCHU – RAKITLA CONSTRUCTION (C705)

Cllr PA Snyman addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. We appreciate the report, another reminder that the ANC is not just out of ideas, they are out of their depth. You do not need the DA to expose your failures; you do it yourselves. You are digging your own grave, one failed project at a time. We simply cannot keep up with your self-destructive pace.

Now, to the matter before us. Firstly, Section 116 of the MFMA is clear, any contract amendment or extension must come to Council before being implemented and the public must be notified. You did neither for the first extensions in May and June of this year. So why now? Why bring them to Council this time if the first extensions were done illegally and without transparency? Let us be honest, these extended contracts already expired on the 9th and the 19th of October. There have been at least two Council sittings since the previous extensions. Why wait until now for transparency?

Secondly, the department waited a full year to intervene after the PSP teams contract expired. This delay crippled progress and wasted resources.

Thirdly, contractors were appointed without verifying whether their compliance documents would remain valid for the full duration of the contract. We are also told there were cash flow issues from contractors. After having been paid R36 million and R29 million respectively. I have seen the sites, there is not R 55 million worth there, not even close. That begs the question: where is the due diligence on the bids before they are approved? Where is the money going? Probably the same place as the investment summit pledges.

Then the contradictions begin. Your own report cannot agree with itself. Point 9 of your own report claims both projects are at 69% completion and yet Annexure D shows the Fire Station sitting at only 55%, and no record at all for the Community Hall. When your own documentation contradicts itself and lacks the required information, how can you expect Council or the public to believe a word of it? The Executive Mayor claims completion dates of 26 January and 28 April 2025, yet you want to extend contracts to September and December 2025. Why the eight (8) month cushion? Haven't these projects suffered enough delays already at the cost of the very people you are meant to serve?

Furthermore, the department failed to comply with SCM Policy provisions. They varied the scope without City Manager approval, and they made contractors commit financially without formal authorisation. So where are the consequences? Who was held accountable? Even the

contractors accelerated their efforts to avoid penalties. Is it not amazing what a little accountability can achieve Mister Executive Mayor? This is not project management, it is chaos. There is no accountability, no discipline, no contract management and another R17 million in wasteful expenditure brushed aside like its pocket change.

In closing Mister Speaker. The DA will support these extensions but let us be clear, we do so not because we trust this ANC administration, but because the communities of Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu desperately need these facilities.

The Fire Department needs anything and everything they can get to protect the residents you are willing to sacrifice for a new BMW. The DA stands for service delivery, for accountability, and for progress. Even when this ANC administration stands against it. The ANC has failed these projects through corruption and incompetence. The crucial difference is simple, while you harm the people, we protect them, while you ignore policies and procedures of good governance the DA upholds it. Like the President said, learn from us, we are right here giving you all the guidance and help in the world, but you refuse to listen out of spite. Because you know, as the people know, the DA is not just the alternative, we are the inevitable future of this municipality. We eagerly await the response from the Executive Mayor. Thank you.”

Cllr TK Rammile addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker and Honourable Councillors. Today we are asked to approve the extension of two contracts the Botshabelo Fire Station (C703) and the Thaba Nchu Community Centre (C705) beyond the legislated three-year limit. But let us be clear: this is not merely a procedural item. It is a test of our institutional integrity, our commitment to fiscal discipline, and our duty to the communities we serve. Let me begin with the facts. Both projects are funded through the Urban Settlements Development Grant (USDG). Both are currently 69% complete. And both have suffered delays due to expired PSP contracts, contractor compliance failures, disruptive weather, and cash flow constraints. These are not minor setbacks they are systemic governance failures.

The Fire Station contract, originally valued at R43.2 million, has ballooned to over R50 million. The Community Centre has grown from R46.7 million to R55.3 million. Variation orders totalling R7.9 million have been approved yet the Supply Chain Management (SCM) Policy was breached. No prior approval from the City Manager. No formal ratification. And now, we are asked to rubber-stamp irregular and fruitless expenditure. This is not oversight. This is abdication. Section 116(3) of the MFMA is clear: any amendment to a contract must be tabled before Council and subjected to public comment. Yet we are only now being asked to authorise that process after the fact. This is governance in reverse. Honourable Speaker, I do not oppose the completion of these projects. Our communities in Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu deserve dignified infrastructure. But I do oppose the culture of retrospective justification, where non-compliance is normalised, and accountability is deferred.

Therefore, the Council can approve the extension, only on condition that all irregular expenditure is recorded, investigated, and reported to MPAC within 30 days. That the City Manager tables a full SCM compliance audit on both projects, including PSP appointment delays, contractor compliance lapses, and variation order breaches. That monthly progress reports be published publicly including expenditure breakdowns, milestones, and risks. That the extended contracts

include enforceable penalty clauses for further delays, and that site security costs be transparently accounted for. That Council commits to institutional reform, no contract shall be extended without prior public notice, multilingual engagement, and forensic justification.

Honourable Speaker, we cannot build fire stations on foundations of irregularity. We cannot empower communities through wasteful expenditure.

And we cannot restore public trust without radical transparency. Let this be the moment we choose accountability over expediency. Let this be the moment we govern with courage.

Honourable Speaker, I would like to ask the following clarity seeking questions:

- i. Has the City Manager formally ratified the prior variation order breaches as required by SCM Policy 16.2.8.6?
- ii. What disciplinary or remedial steps have been taken regarding the unauthorized scope expansions flagged in the SCM memo?
- iii. Were any internal audit or legal reviews conducted before recommending these extensions to Council?
- iv. Can the CFO confirm whether the R7.9 million flagged as irregular and fruitless expenditure has been recorded in the financial statements and reported to National Treasury per MFMA Circular 68?
- v. What is the projected final cost (including escalation and risk buffers) for each project, and how does this compare to the original budget?
- vi. Has the USDG funder been formally notified of the delays and variation orders? Is there written confirmation that funding will not be withdrawn?
- vii. What specific mitigation plans are in place to prevent further delays beyond the new completion dates?
- viii. What penalties have been applied to contractors for non-performance, and how are these being enforced?
- ix. What is the contingency plan if contractors fail to meet the new deadlines even with the 8-month cushion?
- x. Will the Municipality publish monthly progress scorecards and financial updates for public scrutiny?
- xi. Have the contractors submitted updated compliance documents, since their previous expiries? I thank you."

Cllr PJ Rampai addressed the Council as follows: "Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor, honourable Councillors, Bomme le Bontate, all protocols observed.

The ACDP has taken note of the reports from the Executive Mayor, and we comment as follows:

1. With reference to point 161.4 of his report, the ACDP is concerned that the reasons given for the contractors not being able to finish within the original timeframe, once again points to insufficient supervision, oversight and management of the project. There is no really acceptable reason why these projects could not have been finished on time.
2. On the other hand, it is clear that the vandalism at the sites will continue if it remains unchecked, so it is important to finalize the projects at the best possible speed.

3. It is also unclear at this stage if a system of fines was included in the relevant contracts, and if so, if such fines were being claimed because the due date for completion of the contracts were not honoured.
4. The ACDP therefore agrees to extend these contracts as requested, on condition that sufficient security must be provided as to safeguard the materials on site; and secondly that regular oversight sights should be done on both sites with a monthly report to this august house. The contractors should also be encouraged to finalize their projects at the best possible speed. The ACDP also contends that the relevant contractors should be fined if they do not keep to their respective time frames. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr JM De Bruin addressed the Council as follows: “Agbare Spreker, Mede-Raadslede. Ek staan vandag op om kommer uit te spreek oor die verlengings wat toegestaan is aan twee belangrike infrastruktuurkontrakte— naamlik die Botshabelo-brandweerstasie (Khanya Lesedi) en die gemeenskapsentrum in Thaba Nchu (Rakitla Construction). Hierdie verlengings, goedgekeur deur die Finansiële Hoofbeampte op 6 Junie 2025, het intussen verval op onderskeidelik 9de en 19de Oktober.

Die redes wat aangevoer is—vervalde nakomingsdokumente, aanstelling van nuwe konsultante, en die onbeskikbaarheid van die professionele span—dui op ernstige tekortkominge in projekbeplanning en uitvoering. Dit is nie geringe administratiewe foute nie; dit verteenwoordig sistemiese mislukkings wat dienslewering vertraag en openbare vertroue ondermyn het.

versoek dus:

1. 'n Volledige prestasieverslag na die verlengings vir beide projekte, insluitend finansiële rekonsiliasie en kontraknakoming.
2. Openbaarmaking van enige boetes, kosteverhogings of regstellende stappe wat geneem is.
3. 'n Tydlyn vir finale voltooiing en 'n kommunikasiestrategie om die betrokke gemeenskappe in te lig.
4. Dat MPAC gemagtig word om terreininspeksies te doen en die konsultante-aanstellingsproses te hersien.

Ons moet verseker dat hierdie projekte nie monumente van wanbestuur word nie. Ons gemeenskappe verdien deursigtigheid, aanspreeklikheid en tydige dienslewering. Ek dank u.”

Cllr SQ Peter highlighted the following:

- Council must decide between extending the current contract or advertising for new tenders to complete the project.
- Extending the contract helps avoid issues, including extra costs and project delays.
- Advertising new tenders would likely increase costs beyond the 20% variation currently proposed, as new rates or tariffs would apply.

- Not extending could also lead to problems such as vandalism and potential loss of grant funding.
- Legislative guidelines were acknowledged, but practical concerns were emphasized over legal citations.
- He advocated for contract extension to prevent additional complications and costs.
- Council to vote on whether to extend the contract or re-advertise for tenders.
- Prepare an analysis of anticipated costs for both options, including potential for increased rates and risks of vandalism.
- Clarify risk of losing grant funding if the project is not completed promptly.

Cllr GJ Lipale addressed the Council: “The EFF acknowledges that the delays in large scale infrastructure projects sometimes occur due to the unforeseen, technical environment or funding, constraints. However, repeated extension, particularly those that are not properly justified or supported by transparent documentation, documentation reflect systematic weakness in project planning and supervision.

The Municipality must ensure that any project extension, complies fully with the Municipal Supply Chain Management Regulation 2005 MFMA singular 62, which require detailed motivation, cost implication and council oversight. Extension should never be used to conceal poor, contractor performance, cost overruns or political, favouritism. We have witnessed too many projects in Mangaung being delayed under the same reasoning, additional scope, unforeseen conditions or budget real-realignment.

The project of Khanya Lesedi at Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu are not interested in bureaucratic excuses. They are, waiting for tangible results, clean water, functioning infrastructure and completed projects that improve their daily lives. Many SCM extension lack clear time frames and cost justification, undermining financial accountability. Project delays translate into service delivery delays, particulars, particularly in water sanitation and road maintenance. The same service providers often benefit from repeated extension without measurable performance improvement. Communities remain uninformed and excluded from oversight process affecting, projects in their own areas. These patterns directly, contradict the MFMA principle of transparency, cost-effectiveness and fairness. Council must approve extension only when supported by credible evidence verified by internal audit unit and the Performance Audit Committee.

The SCM unit must table a detailed report linking each project extension on the IDP and budget priorities showing real development or developmental impact. Consequence management must apply where extension must result from poor contract supervision and mismanagement. And finance and IDP committee must jointly monitor progress and all extended project and publish status updates quarterly. The Municipality should develop a contract performance register to track the delivery record of all service providers before considering any further extension.

Honourable Speaker, in conclusion, the EFF remain committed to ensuring that every red spend delivery delivers value to the people. Project extension must never become a tool of wasteful and spending or corruption. They must serve development, accountability and service delivery. We call on the Council to approve only those extensions that are justified, transparent and performance-based, ensuring that the people of Khanya Lesedi, Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu finally see the development they were promised. EFF will continue to demand accountability, clean governance and development. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Executive Mayor, Cllr G Nthatisi responded to the questions raised as follows:

- That his office had inherited the ongoing projects, along with other officials, finding processes already underway.
- There is a standard 20% markup included in project expenditures, considered a normal part of budgeting.
- No variation orders (like those for dolomite or geotechnical assessments) were issued for this project, in contrast to another project called Maselspoort which had more complex requirements.
- Key concerns are raised about why the project extension occurred before certain steps were completed.
- Consequence management and unauthorised expenditure are highlighted as important issues that need addressing.
- Delays in the project are attributed to employment demands, as well as social, political, or other community wrangling.
- Such community issues are said to significantly slow project progress.
- There is a remark about financial management, noting a mismatch between payments (100% paid) and project realisation on the ground (only 10% completed).
- The importance of ensuring certificates and paperwork reflect real progress, not just formalities, is emphasised.
- A distinction is made between politicians who make popular statements and revolutionaries who take tough, sometimes unpopular but necessary decisions.
- Encourages making effective decisions rather than focusing on public impression

The voting outcome were as follows: 75 voted in favour, 4 against and 0 abstained.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED

1. That Council took note of the contents of the report.

2. That Council approved extension of the proposed extension of contract beyond three years.
3. That Council authorized the City Manager to invite public comments in line with Section 116(3)(b)(i) and (ii) of the Municipal Finance Management Act No. 56 of 2003.
4. That Council authorized the City Manager to conclude contract amendments after receiving public comments.
5. In line with above, the contract of Rakitla Construction be extended until 30 September 2026 and that Khanya Lesedi be extended until 31 December 2026.

**5.
PROPOSAL FOR THE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL PROPERTY CATEGORIES IN THE
2026/27 RATES POLICY AND VALUATION ROLL 2026 TO 2030**

WITHDRAWN.

6.

REPORT ON THE ENGAGEMENT WITH ABSA REGARDING THE FEASIBILITY OF MANGAUNG METRO MUNICIPALITY HOSTING THE ABSA "RUN YOUR CITY SERIES"

Cllr PA Snyman addressed the Council: "Thank you, Mister Speaker, The DA welcomes the ABSA Run Your City Marathon coming to Bloemfontein it will be good for the city, for tourism, and maybe, just maybe, it will force this municipality to do something about our water availability. Unless the private sector will be expected to handle that again.

But Speaker, a few questions must be asked: Mangaung representatives were invited to Cape Town for a so-called benchmark, under DA governance this of course sets an unrealistic standard this ANC-led municipality could only dream of reaching post 2026. Yet not a single word here tells us what that trip cost. Public funds are not private wallets. Where are the figures? Then we see plans for three more benchmarks: Durban, Tshwane, and Johannesburg, yet again, no confirmations, no costs, no transparency. Are we benchmarking governance or benchmarking corruption? Or did they just not happen and yet you are still asking this house to approve them nearly 3 months after the fact? Follow-up engagements on financial support considerations are mentioned but no details are provided.

Mister Speaker, it seems the only marathon being run here is on a treadmill. And as for the October Launch there's one day left in the month. Should we expect to see you, Mister Speaker, in a red ABSA runners' outfit after council to commemorate the occasion? This report is outdated, vague, and frankly, embarrassing. For future reference Mister Executive Mayor. These are the kind of items you should withdraw from the agenda last minute, not motions of no confidence and our right to freedom of speech. If the ANC can't even organise or report on engagements for a marathon on time, how can you remote believe you can manage a municipality?

Let us be realistic, change these recommendations to reflect what this ANC Administration is actually capable of... which, judging by this report, really isn't much. We as the DA propose:

- (b) Approve an actual report which highlights actual details of the outcomes of an engagement with ABSA Run Your City officials to bring it to Mangaung.
- (c) No need to waste public funds on further benchmarks, especially three (3) of them of which the dates are already long past. Remove this recommendation.
- (d) The consideration of the launch of the Mangaung ABSA Run Your City series in October 2027. (Depending on the Election Date, or if the Speaker is wearing running shoes) Without these changes, the DA simply cannot take this approval request seriously and since one of them is impossible to provide now, we reject it out right.

Just on the lighter side of life, to the ANC caucus, please prove that you also do not understand how the human brain functions by voting in favour of these recommendations as they are. It will truly just be a nice laugh throughout the festive season if you approve these recommendations as they are and showing everyone, how far behind you are not just with excuses but with time itself.

Cllr M Wewege addressed the Council as follows: “Honourable Speaker, this report is not just about hosting a marathon. It is about unlocking a world-class opportunity for Mangaung — an event that comes at zero cost to the Municipality yet promises massive economic benefits for our City.

Refreshments: ABSA covers it all: the shirts, medals, timing systems, entertainment, water points, refreshments transport logistics — every detail. That means no burden on our Municipal budget, only benefits for our people.

Fifteen thousand runners. Thousands more supporters. That is hotel bookings, restaurant tables filled, and local shops buzzing with business. This is tourism, job creation, and small business growth in action - millions flowing into our local economy. But, Honourable Speaker, we must also be honest with ourselves. Our Free State Athletics Stadium - once a proud symbol of sporting excellence - now stands as a painful reminder of neglect. Years of poor maintenance under ANC governance have left it with leaking roofs, broken tracks, and failed drainage. Because of this, the stadium lost its World Athletics accreditation in December 2023, and with it, our ability to host major international events. That is not just embarrassing it's economically damaging.

The ABSA Run Your City Series is hosted in world-class metros like Cape Town, Johannesburg, and Durban - cities with infrastructure that inspires confidence. If Mangaung wants to stand alongside them, our facilities must meet that same standard. Every road, every park, every venue must be safe, clean, and functional.

So yes, if this initiative is part of the ANC's attempt at redemption, then let's welcome it. But let's also make it count. Fix what is broken, restore pride in our city, and deliver properly this time. Because if we get this right, Mangaung doesn't just join the series — we lead by example. But if we don't, we risk national embarrassment and another lost opportunity. The choice is ours. Let's choose progress, performance, and pride. Thank you.”

The Council voted **unanimously**

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that the Council approved

- a) The collaboration of the FS Destea and the Municipality in engaging with ABSA Run your City management
- b) The report and the outcomes of the engagement with the ABSA Run Your City to bring the series to the Free State and in particular to Mangaung.
- c) The further follow up engagements with ABSA management that will be facilitated with the Provincial Destea.
- d) The consideration of the launch of the Mangaung ABSA Run Your City series in ***December 2025***

7.

REPORT ON DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED BY THE MANGAUNG PLANNING TRIBUNAL (MPT) JULY 2025 TO SEPTEMBER 2025

Cllr CL Boucher addressed the Council as follows: “Mister Speaker, we note the decisions taken to approve, decline, or defer specific applications which is said to be in accordance with the requirements outlined in the Building Control Report. Could the relevant department please indicate where the complete inspection reports from the teams that carried out site visits for these applications can be reviewed? Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr MA Matobole addressed the Council as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I would like to pose the following clarity seeking questions.

In terms of governance & process integrity:

1. What mechanisms are in place to ensure that deferred applications do not become indefinitely stalled, especially those repeatedly lacking BCO reports?
2. How does the MPT track and report on compliance with public participation protocols, and what corrective actions are taken when procedural errors (e.g., Bayswater case) are identified?
3. Can the Planning Directorate confirm whether all rezoning approvals align with the Mangaung Spatial Development Framework and Integrated Development Plan?

In terms of student accommodation oversight:

1. What is the cumulative impact of approved student accommodation applications on infrastructure capacity in Brandwag and Universitas?
2. Has the City conducted any audit on compliance with approved building plans for existing student communes, especially those flagged for internal renovations?
3. What penalties have been issued for non-compliance with BCO requirements, and are these penalties consistently enforced?

In terms of township establishment & bulk services:

1. For large-scale township approvals (e.g., Farm Bloemfontein 654, Outspan 1960), what is the status of bulk infrastructure readiness including roads, stormwater, electricity, and sanitation?
2. Were community consultations conducted for these township applications, and can the City provide summaries of public feedback received?

In terms of transparency & reporting:

1. Why is there no public-facing dashboard tracking MPT decisions, deferrals, and compliance status by ward and applicant?
2. Can the Planning Directorate commit to publishing quarterly performance scorecards for MPT decisions, including turnaround times and compliance rates?

And regarding appeals & legal review:

1. What is the current backlog of appeals against MPT decisions, and how long does it take to resolve them?
2. Is there an independent panel or ombud mechanism to review contested MPT decisions, especially where legal services are involved? Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr MJ Mabena addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker and all protocol observed.

- That the legislation compelled the Municipality to establish the MPT.
- The MPT went through a lot of applications submitted and some were declined, approved and also deferred back due to some technical issues.
- Council needs to applaud the work done by MPT
- There are no appeals in this regard meaning the MPT had done what they were appointed to do.

We take note of the report. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr M Wewege addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, through you, I would like to ask clarity seeking questions regarding this report on the 36-land use applications processed by the Mangaung Planning Tribunal between July – September 2025.

Firstly, the report before Council it is only few pages long, 1 signature sheet, 1 cover, 1 erf numbers and 1 where decisions are provided to approve etc. May I ask:

1. Why is the report not includes any details such as applications motivations, conditions of approval or public objections?
2. Does this comply with Section 108 of the Land Use Management by law which requires detailed quarterly reporting to Council.

Secondly, could the administration clarify where are the full application files and the MPT minutes available for Councillors to review? Did any traffic, environmental or bulk service assessments conducted particularly for student housing or business uses in residential zones? If so, where can these reports be accessed?

Thirdly the report notes financial implications; *none*, how was that conclusion reached? Has the Finance Department confirmed that rezoning residential properties to business or student use has no impact on the rates income, service costs or infrastructure capacity.

Furthermore, I would like to know, why was this report not first discussed at the Section 80 Planning and Human Settlements Committee meeting as it is a standard procedure for oversight? Were Committee members given any supporting documentation or briefings.

Finally Honourable Speaker, for transparency and proper governance, can the City Manager indicate when can Councillors receive the full documentation including motivation reports, public comments, and HOD recommendations for these 36 items and would future reports include the necessary GIS maps, objection summaries and service impact statements as required by the by-law. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr NA Nhlapo responded as follows to questions raised:

- The item did serve at the Section 80 Committee: Planning and Human Settlements and members were given information and had ample of time to ask questions in terms of the applications approved, declined and deferred.
- Items written deferred was to request the Building Control Officer for the report.

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- The MPT has been asked or sanctioned that as they receive applications, they must undertake site visits to ascertain if there is something different from what has been planned. It is then that a report is requested from Building Control Officer from the build environment for them to can take a decision.
- That what served before Council was a quarterly report from the MPT, who were appointed by Council to do the work.
- That the request of documentation by Councillors, such as mentioned by Councillors, might be an opportunity for the Section 80 Committee: Planning and Human Settlements members to be provided with such information, however for some information such as GIS maps etc, it is the work that the Council has delegated to MPT to do.
- That the Department must add a column where an application has been declined, so that more information be provided.
- That in terms of approved applications, Council appointed MPT members with expertise at the various build environment to legal services to make such decision on behalf of Council.
- On student accommodation, the City acknowledge that there is limited infrastructure capacity however some are declined and in other areas approved.
- When the application is declined, it would go to MPT Appeals Committee chaired by the Executive Mayor.
- On financial implications, the report does not request Council for any monies hence it is indicated that there are no financial implications on the item.

The Executive Mayor explained as follows:

- That the Councillors from the DA would be furnished with a copy on how the MPT is structured, duties and their functions.
- That on student accommodation, Cllr NA Nhlapo, the MMC responsible dealt extensively with student accommodation.

The they did discuss how best can the City accommodate the students and take care of them hence the proposal on safe and security indaba. The issues to be addressed would include but not limited to the safe city, and the student accommodation. This would the require all to participate and out of that, issues raised would enhance the by-law on student accommodation and enforcement thereof.

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

It was thereupon

RESOLVED

- a) That Council took note of the report from the Municipal Planning Tribunal.

8.

REQUEST TO EXTEND THE TENURE OF MPT AND MPT APPEALS MEMBERS

Cllr CL Bouwer addressed the Council as follows: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. It looks like I was not at the Section 80 Committee meeting. This item as well as the previous one served at the Section 80 Committee meeting, and we asked relevant questions but the answers we were given. Today is not the answers we were given then; it is like we were not there. We asked just for reporting.

Upon review of the documentation, it is noted that the report was prepared and signed off on 1 October 2025 by the General Manager, the Head of Department, and the City Manager. However, the item was only presented to the Planning and Human Settlements Committee on 23 October 2025, despite the fact that the term of the MPT members was due to expire on 27 October 2025.

Council is now being asked, on 30 October 2025, to approve an extension of the MPT tenure that has already lapsed. This situation is unacceptable. This pattern of delayed submissions appears to be recurring within the Department of Human Settlements. I therefore, urge the Head of Department to address this matter as a matter of urgency, noting that this concern has been raised on multiple occasions before. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr MW Mongale addressed the Council:

- That whether vetting was done on the two names provided on page 2 of 3, namely:
Prof Yandisa Mashalaba
William Nqguqu
- That whether the two were from Mangaung as there is a tendency that anyone outside Mangaung was an expert by virtue of an address while the Municipality have two Universities in its jurisdiction.

In responding to the Speaker on why request vetting now when they are current members, Cllr MW Mongale stated that due diligence was not done by Council when the members were initially appointed.

The Executive Mayor commented:

- That he worked with the members who have been mentioned as he was part of MPT when he came in the Municipality and some members were local.
- That he has said it before, what has been raised by Cllr MW Mongale did not embrace the spirit of the Constitution of the Country.
- He noted that the point raised carried positive discrimination in favour for the people living in the Metro. However, Council should also note that Africans have been disadvantaged in terms of resources as they would be found in stagnated areas with not much movement. Whereas other nationalities were nomadic and having properties everywhere in the Country.

Council should note that the Constitution has taken that into consideration and thus no need to emphasise on systems that are impediment for Council.

- Section 80 Committees are mainly established to advise the Executive Mayor and therefore expect those Committees to do what they are supposed to do.
- As the Executive Mayor, he took a deliberate decision that no item should serve in Council without going through the Section 80 Committee process.

Most debates ensued in Council on issues served at the level of Section 80 Committees, he expected that members to brief their own organisations. Should they not agree at that level, then they come and debate in Council which stalled progress.

Cllr CL Bouwer stated that the Section 80 Committee agreed on issues he raised whereon the Executive Mayor raised a point of order that if the Section 80 Committee discussed and agreed on a matter why would the matter be raised in Council and therefore expecting progress from Section 80 Committees.

On a point of order, Cllr BJ Viviers indicated that it is not always that they agree at Section 80 Committee hence they raise it at Council.

The Speaker ruled that concerns raised have been noted and the relevant Chairperson of the Section 80 Committee has noted the concerns raised where clarity was not provided. However, should an individual viewpoint not be supported at Section 80 Committee, subsequently the member does not agree with other members in the Committee, the member is then bound by collective decision of the Committee.

Cllr MW Mongale stated that it be noted that he did not say discrimination against the people whilst talking about economic benefits for the people of Mangaung and thus request the Executive Mayor to read Section 152 and 153 of the Constitution of the Country.

The Speaker asked at what Rule was Cllr MW Mongale standing on as he already ruled on the matter. Thereafter put the item to a vote.

After the Speaker announced the voting results, he responded to the concern raised by Cllr MW Mongale on some Councillors who are not respecting the decorum of the House and that the matter was also raised by Cllr SM Swartz. Councillors were expected to honour the Rules of the Council which applied to all Councillors.

The Council voted unanimously with the exclusion of one Councillor.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED

- a) That Council granted permission that the MPT members continue to serve for a further four months from the date of expiry 27 October 2025.

As External Members

Prof Yandisa Mashalaba	Member
Mr. William Nqguqu	Member

Internal Members:

HOD – Planning

HOD – Engineering

GM: Legal Services

GM: Centlec Engineering Wires

- b) That Council granted permission that the MPT Appeals members continue to serve for a further four months from the date of expiry 27 October 2025.

Chairperson	Executive Mayor
Secretary	Municipal Manager
CFO	Member
Mr Makiso Khumalo	Member

- c) That the process of advertising for new members of the MPT and MPT Appeals be actioned.

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REPORTS FROM THE SPEAKER

1.

IN RE: COUNCIL RESOLUTION (ITEM 11.1 – 31/01/2025 ON REVISED STANDING RULES & ORDERS, 2025// SECTION 41 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT: MUNICIPAL STRUCTURES ACT NO. 117 OF 1998, AS AMENDED

Cllr TWK Mokgothu as Chairperson of Section 79 Rules Committee presented the report as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker and good evening Honourable Councillors. Allow me to ride on the protocol that the Speaker has established at the beginning of the meeting.

Honourable Councillors, in this honourable seating this evening, let me draw your attention to page 6 of 6, under recommendations. On behalf of the Committee, I would like to make a correction under recommendation 5.2 that if Council *rescind*, it was not the resolution of the Committee. The Committee does not rescind but ***amend***.

The item before the Council was in the seating on the 31st of January 2025, therefore it is important to give background on it.”

Cllr TWK Mokgothu thereafter read the report as submitted to Council to allow deliberations so that Council can decide and give direction.

Cllr BJ Viviers addressed the Council as follows: “Honourable Speaker, through you Executive Mayor. Cllr E Snyman van Deventer said this is a storm in a teacup and maybe that is the best explanation. The Democratic Alliance will propose as follows:

Alter recommendation (b) as follows: That Council rescinds the resolution by effectively deleting the addition to Rule 19 which reads that the Speaker may appoint any Councillor during council proceedings to act as Chairperson of Council proceeding during emergency and that the thus amended revised Standing Rules and Orders of 2025 be promulgated hopefully before the end of this year. Thank you.”

Cllr CL Boucher seconded the proposal by Cllr BJ Viviers.

Cllr MW Mongale commented as follows:

- He now understood the delay on the review of the Standing Rules and Orders.
- That there was a need to persuade Parliament to amend Section 41 of the Municipal Structures Act
- That as things stand, there was a gap that cannot be fixed and believed that the resolution made, was made with good intentions to ensure that in the absence of the Speaker, what must Council do.
- The Council is aware of the legal prohibitions some captured in Latin word "***Delegata potestas non potest delegari***" meaning, you cannot delegate, delegated authority.
- The request to amend Section 41 was not only for the Speaker, but also for him to engage with SALGA and that all parties that has representation at Parliament to do as such.

Cllr DE Matsephe concurred with the Cllr TWK Mokgothu that what he presented is what was concluded at the Committee meeting. He has been covered by Cllr MW Mongale in terms of pleading to parties to lobby their members in ensuring that Section 41 is amended. He further raised a concern on the proposal by Cllr BJ Viviers and sought clarity on the level at which it was being proposed, noting that as Committee the expectation was to recommend that Council approve the Committee's report.

Cllr BJ Viviers provided clarity and further said that it is not always that the Committee reach an agreement on every matter and that the reason for the proposal is to remove the addition to Rule 19 taking into account the urgency of approving the Rules which are anticipated to be promulgated next year.

The Speaker remarked that the matter raised by Cllr BJ Viviers did not form part of the Committee's report as presented by the Chairperson and, therefore, falls off. That Councillor cannot present an individual view in place of, or in addition to, the Committee's report, as the report reflects the collective decision of the Committee. It was done in the same manner at the previous Council meeting whereby MPAC would present its collective report.

Cllr GDP Kotze read the proposal raised by Cllr BJ Viviers and was seconded by Cllr CL Bouwer.

Cllr SQ Peter proposed an addition to Rule 19, *that the Speaker can assign functions and responsibilities to Section 79 Chairperson/s and must announce it in Council.* He further remarked as follows:

The reason for the proposed amendment is to provide for circumstances where the Speaker is required to disclose or declare an interest in a matter before the Council. In such instances, it may necessitate the election of an Acting Speaker just to preside over that specific item, resulting in unnecessary delays and prolonged election proceedings.

The proposed amendment provides that the Speaker in Council nominate Section 79 Committee Chairperson as they report directly to the Speaker/ Council, which then seeks to avoid the need for electing an Acting Speaker in such circumstances.

Cllr S Sefaki seconded the proposal by Cllr SQ Peter.

The Speaker after announcing the voting results commented:

- Not for the first time that the Standing Rules and Orders are amended.
- It was for the 3rd time, which was in January 2025 and now on the 30th October to allow Speaker to assign functions and responsibilities to Chairpersons of Section 79 Committees as and when the Speaker is incapacitated in a meeting. However, if the Speaker is not available, Council reserves the right to elect the Speaker for the day.

The Council voted as follows:

Proposal by Cllr GDP Kotze: 24 in favour, 52 against and 2 abstentions.

Proposal by Cllr SQ Peter: 54 in favour, 0 against and 27 abstentions.

The item as is with amendments proposed: 70 in favour, 0 against and 5 abstained.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED

- a) That the Council amend the Council Resolution, item 11.1 – 31/01/2025 by removing or deleting the addition made to Rule 19 of the adopted Draft Review Version, 2024 of the Standing Rules and Orders By-Law so that the By-law becomes compliant with the relevant legislative authorities as mentioned in this report under the heading 3.
- b) That if Council amend the Resolution, that the published Amendments to the Revised Standing Rules and Orders of 2025 be served before the last Council meeting to be held in December 2025.
- c) Further that, Council resolves to request the National Parliament to amend Section 41 of the Structures Act in order to accommodate for the creation and election of a position of Deputy Speaker.
- d) *That Speaker must allocate functions and responsibilities to the Section 79 Committee Chairpersons excluding MPAC Chairperson, this includes presiding over certain section or items of the Council agenda if for whatever reason the Speaker is incapacitated to do so.*

2.

HIGH IMPACT OUTREACH PROGRAMME REPORT

Cllr PM Kotze remarked:

- Noticed that the report focused on certain community groups around Mangaung Municipality.
- Will this program continue to other Wards, will the remaining Wards be assisted by the 5 mentioned departments?
- Indeed, more than 80 residents attended that day, they were promised housing electricity and other services.
- How will the Municipality's housing assist in this regard
- Where does the budget comes from that has been allocated for the outreach program.

Cllr MW Mongale requested that the program also includes social development to encourage young people to participate in the election.

The Speaker indicated that the program was suggested by Ward Councillors however they should provide dates to enable to canvass the 5 or more relevant departments to can participate.

- That it was indeed high impact, as beneficiaries of Sassa, were able to register, some people given temporary IDs, labour and spaza shops issues addressed by relevant departments
- That there were no financial implications as the program was done through the DDM One Plan.

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

RESOLVED that Council took note of the report.

3.

WARD DELIMITATION PUBLIC MEETING REPORT

Cllr KC Moreeng addressed the Council as follows: "Honourable Speaker, Members of Council. I rise today not to rubber-stamp a report but to challenge its complacency. The Ward Delimitation Public Meetings Report tabled before us is a textbook example of procedural participation masquerading as democratic engagement. It lists venues, dates, and attendance figures. It notes that "feedback was collected." But it fails to answer the most critical question: what did the people say, and what are we doing about it? 554 voices were heard but not listened to.

The report offers no demographic breakdown, no geographic analysis, no indication of how boundary proposals were shaped by community input. It acknowledges requests for more sessions in underserved areas yet proposes none. It mentions youth but does not engage them. It cites red tape, but names no one responsible. This is not oversight. This is evasion.

Honourable Speaker, we cannot afford to treat public participation as a tick-box exercise. Section 37(k) of the Municipal Structures Act demands functional participation. What we have here is a façade. I therefore will like to request the following: that the Speaker's Office publish a comparative matrix showing original boundary proposals versus community-suggested changes with clear justifications.

1. Underserved Outreach Mandate: That additional sessions be scheduled in wards with low turnout or historical exclusion — within 30 day.
2. Public Feedback Tracker: That a dashboard be launched showing feedback received, status of incorporation, and final boundary decisions ward by ward.

Honourable Members, democracy is not a meeting. It is a commitment. And if we are serious about radical accountability, then we must institutionalize it — not just applaud it. Let us not merely “note” this report. Let us interrogate it. Let us improve it. Let us honour the voices of our citizens. Because participation without impact is betrayal. I thank you.”

Cllr AP Terblanche addressed the Council as follows: “Mister Speaker and Mister Executive Mayor, hoe is dit moontlik dat hulle Joe Solomon VD? Hulle vat Joe Solomon VD weg van wyk 16 af. Wyk 16 het net 5 VD's. Wyk 2 het 7 VD's. At the end of the day, Mister Speaker, Heidedal

is bigger than Batho en Phase 6. How is it possible that they have 7 VD's and Heidedal only has 5 VD's. Mister Chairperson, how is it possible that they had the participation meeting in ward 2 and not in ward 16. Since they VD'ed Joe Solomon from Ward 16 to Ward 2.

Ons moet dit nou noem, want die groot rede, hoekom Joe Solomon VD weggevat word uit wyk 16, is omdat die ANC nooit weer wyk 16 sal wen nie. Nog n rede is die bust stop wat gebou word en val onder die VD van Joe Solomon, ons weet dat daar groot geld gebruik word vir die bou van hierdie bus stop, so hulle is te bang verloor hulle die wyk, dan is daar nie n vinger in die pie nie. Nog n rede is die Fly-over wat gebou word wat al 6 jaar terug goedgekeur is. Wat daar geen proses aan gemaak is so ons weet die geld word vir verkeerde doeleindes gebruik. Mister Chairman, dis hoekom die mense van Heidedal dit wil graag he dit moet gedoen word. Soos u see through to you, dis rumors en rumors word die waarheid. Want dit is die hoof rede en dit gaan eintlik oor die bus deport en die fly-over by Jakaranda. Want daar is groot geld! Dan weet ons die party wat die wyk gaan wen gaan kan gebruik van die situasie.”

Cllr MW Mongale raised a concern that the submitted document created the impression that the community was satisfied with the consultation process. He stated that residents questioned why their wards were being changed and on what grounds the proposed ward demarcation was based. The response provided was that the changes were informed by submissions from individuals to the Municipal Demarcation Board (MDB). He expressed the view that this undermined the democratic principles of the Country, which require that the will of the majority should prevail.

Cllr CL Kruger raised a point of order that this was a normal process conducted by MDB and it occurred ever 5 years.

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

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council took note of the report.

4.

REPORT FROM SECTION 79 COMMITTEE ON THE MOTION OF NO CONFIDENCE AGAINST THE SPEAKER OF COUNCIL: COUNCILLOR BL MATHAE

Cllr TWK Mokgothu, Chairperson of Section 79 Rules Committee presided over the discussions.

The following Councillors deliberated on the matter

Cllr R Hashatsi

Cllr JE Sebolao

Cllr GDP Kotze

Cllr B Vorster

Cllr BJ Viviers

The Executive Mayor

The Council voted as follows: 55 in favour, 2 against and 23 abstained.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED

- (1) Council noted and approved the report from the Section 79 Motions and Petitions Committee on the motion of no confidence brought against the Speaker of Council: Cllr BL Mathae, by the Democratic Alliance (DA).
- (2) Council acknowledges that the allegations raised in the motion of no confidence against the Speaker of Council, Councillor BL Mathae, are misdirected and irrelevant.
- (3) The City Manager be directed to attend to the allegations raised by the Democratic Alliance (DA) and be dealt with Administratively.

163	REPORTS FROM MPAC
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None.

NOTED.

164	REPORTS FROM AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE
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1.

SUBMISSION OF THE AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE REPORT TO COUNCIL FOR QUARTER 1 OF THE 2025/2026 FINANCIAL YEAR

The Chairperson of Audit and Performance Committee, Ms DP Semppe was afforded an opportunity by the Speaker to make a presentation to Council on Quarter 1: 2025/26 report.

The Speaker thereafter allowed Councillors to make inputs and raise questions of clarity, if there are any.

Cllr JC Pretorius: "Thank you, Mister Speaker. The Audit and Performance Committee (APC) has tabled its first-quarter report for the 2025/26 financial year, and it raises *serious red flags*. This is not a political opinion; these are facts presented by an independent oversight body that reports to this Council.

One of the key issues raised is the Auditor-General's engagement letter and the newly issued Material Irregularity (MI) determination report is shocking, but I'll return to the MI shortly. I have a few questions.

On unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure, we are looking at unauthorised expenditure of R934 million, almost a billion rand in first quarter of the financial year. I want the Chairperson to give us a little bit of details; that is a lot of money, and it is alarming.

Frankly, Mister Speaker, it seems like a spaza shop owner could run this Municipality better than what we are doing at this stage if you are looking at this report. I hope all of you are shocked about the report as we are as the DA.

The Annual Financial Statements for 2024/2025 that is only 90% completed and was supposed to be completed on the 31st of August 2025. Is it now completed and sent to the AG because we are already at end of October?

Once again, on the unspent conditional grants, the *Informal Settlements Upgrading Partnership Grant* and the *Integrated Public Transport Network Grant*. Why is it not spent? I will answer for you, because the Accounting Officer and senior officials are not doing their work. When will the ANC leadership learn that if you appoint incompetent, lazy, and politically connected cadres, you will never get the work done?

The excessive overtime expenditure, we see this year in year out. What is the reason for this and why Departments are sitting with this overtime? If she can just mention those Departments for us.

Our ICT systems are collapsing. There is a resident who received R1.5 million with an account that was not in arrears in a month, how is it possible that a resident can get an account like that?

On the Material Irregularity, it is issued to the Accounting Officer. City Manager, you are liable for that debt. You have to pay back. The question to the Chairperson, do not you think Council must act on this? Should we not act on the Accounting Officer and use Section 32 of the MFMA and Section 171 and 173 of the MFMA? Final question to the Chairperson, do you think we need to fire the Accounting Officer? Is the City Manager worth sitting in that chair of this Municipality? I do not think so.

I just want to make a final remark, mister Speaker, the people of Mangaung deserve competent, ethical leadership — not incompetence, not laziness, not cadre deployment, not corruption. Until we fix that, this Municipality will remain in crisis. Thank you.”

CIlr GJ Lipale: “Thank you Chairman. I will not dwell much because it is same old story of capacity, non-expenditure of grants, overtime etc. What I want to talk about is the vacancies of the audit team. Last year, they spoke about the vacancies, why have they not been filled up?

Secondly, I want to appreciate what the Chairperson has said about personal liability of officials. At least this time, people would know that if they do not do their job, they will be personally liable in terms of their incompetence.

There is approximately R934 million...really...seriously! Ke leqe leqe leqe. Go a jewa...ai! Tse ngata ha re sa tlhola re di bua. Re buile e bile we have turned purple. Thank you, Chairman.”

CIlr MW Mongale: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae. This is a chilling report. I don’t know whether the Chairperson of the Audit and Performance Committee would be able to assist us.

On what needs to be done by Council to ensure that there is no repeat of another R934 million on unauthorised expenditure. The challenge is that you complained that documents are sent to you, but they are incomplete and that you are given documents two days before the submission date. Is that not a recipe for corruption, when an institution big as Mangaung, a Metro for that matter only provides documents to you two days prior to submission? Is it not a deliberate act for you not to do a thorough analysis on the documents so that certain things can go unchecked? Are they not incapacitating your duty as Audit and Performance Committee?

The issue on consequence management, where we have heard that you are likely to charge the City Manager for non-implementation of recommendations of AGSA. We welcome it but also worried that are you also not on a talk shop to make us feel good as Councillors that something needs to be done come 12 March 2026; nothing is done by Audit and Performance Committee, by AGSA and the culprit is not charged, and the situation is still the same.

As for us Councillors, we cannot wash our hands to say we are innocent, and officials are guilty. When an official fails to perform, the ball lies in the court of Councillors. We are the ones who must be blamed if we fail to put a motion of no confidence on the Executive Mayor for failing to play an oversight and ensure that the City Manager implements the decisions of AGSA.

It is the fault of Councillors. We are not going to the community and speak nice English to say, our powers are limited. No, they are not, we have the power to appoint, and we also have the power to remove. We rather be defeated with a motion and the public would decide in the elections of 2026/27 whether do they vote for a party that embraces corruption or vote for Councillors that fight corruption. We cannot flirt with danger; corruption steals from the poor. There are orphans in this Municipality, who don't know where their next meal will come from and now here, about R934 million disappears and it is like R10 e wele ka phokotong ya motho. It is like business as usual. It is public funds, that is why we are here as Councillors. If we fail to perform this duty, it means we are weak Councillors. We should not try to speak nice English to say we have capacity, there is no capacity if we cannot remove the Executive Mayor for failing to remove the not performing City Manager. It is our fault as Councillors.

Let us go to the streets with our heads put in shame this time to say we have failed to remove the Executive Mayor and maybe in the next sitting of Council, there would be a motion of no confidence against the Executive Mayor where we are removing him for failing to perform. I am talking about other issues, but public funds...tshetele ya setshaba Majoro, ha se ya rona; ke ya setshaba.

Chairperson of the Audit and Performance Committee is there no other way of saving the situation whereby when the funds had been chowed like this, and it reaches the level of R200 million, we are able to come up with an intervention that could help us...than to allow it to reach R934 million. Even if we catch a person, we are not going to get R934 million back, which is a crisis. Thank you, Honourable Speaker for the opportunity."

Cllr B Vorster: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker and all protocols observed. The Freedom Front Plus wants to thank this Committee and its Chair for the work as well as the report. Unfortunately, the Audit and Performance Committee's report before us today, exposes once again the depth of our governance and financial challenges as a Metro. These findings are not simply administrative concerns but directly affects the people of Mangaung who are already suffering under collapsing services.

Honourable Speaker, the Committee has highlighted serious financial performance deficits. We are confronted again with R934 million of in preliminary unauthorised expenditure that can grow if the financial statements are done and tens and millions more in irregular, wasteful and fruitless expenditure. This is money that should have been delivered for running water, safe streets, functional waste removal and proper sanitation. Instead, it has proof failures in internal controls and accountability lost.

The Freedom Front also notes with alarm the 84-debtor impairment rate, a clear indicator that revenue recovery is collapsing. When we fail to collect debt that is owed, we fail to maintain our services. The City cannot function on an equitable shares and overdrafts.

The Committee also warns about unspent funds especially in the ISPUG and IPTN grants. These grants are intended to bring development to the most vulnerable residents. Underspending is denying dignity and progress to the people who need it most.

The Freedom Front Plus will also make a suggestion to the Committee that they also request a full report from the City Manager, and all concerned to be brought before the Committee on why the unconditional grants are not spent because Council is not getting any answers.

Honourable Speaker excessive overtime continues to drain resources and feed irregular expenditure. The Freedom Front Plus support the Committee to demand a full report on corrective measures to ensure that this practice is controlled and no longer abused. We will however request the Committee that if they receive this report, it should also be tabled before Council through the Committee because yet again, this Council does not get answers about overtime.

The Committee has flagged a serious concern on unresolved Material Irregularity No 6 of 2023/24. The City Manager must comply, there is no other option.

Honourable Speaker, none of the above can improve without strengthening of our oversight structures. The Internal Audit Unit already overburdened is operating with critical vacancies without ICT auditors, project auditors, internal controls will continue to fail. Recruitment must be prioritised, not blocked and not delayed but prioritised.

We also have a vacancy in Audit and Performance Committee dating back almost a year now. The Freedom Front Plus supports the recommendation that the suitable candidate with the required legal requirements and expertise be appointed urgently.

The revised Internal Charter aligned with Global Internal Audit Standards requires Council to approve. We support this as stronger system or key foundation for accountability. But at the end Honourable Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus will always support measures that strengthen transparency, financial discipline and clean governance. But we must be clear, reports and recommendations mean nothing without consequences. We have been here before many times. The residents of Mangaung deserves more than continuous crisis management. They deserve a Municipality that can plan, implement and deliver. We therefore call on the City Manager and the Executive to treat each recommendation of this Committee and to report back to Council on progress made on the recommendations. I thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Deputy Executive Mayor: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I also want to appreciate the Chairperson of Audit and Performance Committee for the clear report that is assessing what is happening in the institution. It is also giving the administration and Council advise on what they have to attend to on implementing what is supposed to happen.

As the African National Congress, we appreciate the Internal Audit Unit for working together with different Departments in the institution. Previously, the AG indicated that the Audit and Performance Committee and Internal Audit are weak, but if one check the report, it indicates that the Audit and Performance Committee and Internal Audit are doing their work.

The Chairperson of the Audit and Performance Committee would always brief the Section 80 IDP and Performance of what is happening. Most of the issues Honourable Speaker, as the meeting was on the 29th of August 2025, the issue on the submission of the financial statements, they did submit in terms of the legislative framework to the AG as we speak.

There are audit processes happening and we are awaiting the outcomes of the audit. I know that the Municipality is working with AG and are cooperative.

I am also happy Chairperson when you emphasised the MI No6 which must be investigated. The Executive Mayor of Mangaung, Cllr GMS Nthatsi and also the AG said to him, he must monitor the implementation of the recommendation of the Audit and Performance Committee and that of the AG as well. The Executive Mayor is doing exactly that. At the meetings held on Tuesdays, we assess the implementation of recommendations not only of AG, but also of other Committees. But some of the issues already indicated have been done.

I wanted to remind Honourable Councillors is that the Audit and Performance Committee has to alert Council on control environment where it is functioning well or not so that Council can make its own informed decision based on facts.

Honourable Councillors, we heard the first quarter report of the Audit and Performance Committee. Chairperson, continue to do the good work and we will continue, under the leadership of the Executive Mayor, Cllr GMS Nthatsi to monitor and make own oversight to ensure that your recommendations are implemented as such. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Chairperson of Audit and Performance Committee responded:

3. On the draft AFS, the amounts stated on unwanted expenditure, UIFWE covers the entire financial year presented by management at that stage, its not figures representing quarter 1, but for the entire financial year.

That what does unauthorised expenditure mean in terms of the MFMA, the City has spent more than the allocated budget. Irregular expenditure mean, proper procedures were not followed in procuring those services. Fruitless and Wasteful expenditure means the City could have done better in preventing the expenditure from happening example interest charged.

The City still needs to undertake a determination whether there was value on the amount or not. It did not necessarily mean it is money that went down the drain. The City still had to undertake the exercise and if there were any wrongdoing, then consequence management had to be implemented. The Committee was emphasising that these issues should not be occurring if controls were in order.

4. On incomplete AFS, at the time the Committee reviewed the AFS, it was indicated that they were 90% completed and therefore does hamper on the oversight of the Committee. That the version submitted to AG must be closer to what the Committee have assessed thus enabling the Committee to provide inputs on how to improve on quality of documents to be submitted for audit purposes.

As stated by the Deputy Executive Mayor and confirmed by CFO that a complete final set of AFS were submitted to AG for audit purposes on time and AG was busy with audit. In the next weeks, they would table their audit outcome based on financials and APR they are reviewing.

5. In terms of the overtime, the Committee had requested the City Manager and CFO to submit a detailed report to indicate where the actual challenges are, root causes and why this excessive overtime. The Shift System would address some parts of overtime, which would be on the technical side, but what about the rest of overtime? It was easy to come up with remedial action once one understood the root causes. Once the Committee receive the report, it would be submitted to Council.
6. The question on what Council should do with the report and whether the City Manager should be fired? The Audit and Performance Committee is a Committee of Council which is there to advice Council. These issues are brought to Council so that it can be able to take action against management on issues that are not done correctly.
7. On MIs, the Deputy Executive Mayor has indicated that the Executive Mayor is monitoring the implementation of recommendations. As a Committee, they also felt that it was crucial that they brought such important issues to the attention of Council. That one of the adverse consequences was that the Accounting Officer might be charged in his own capacity. The AG when they present their findings, would address the implications of the MIs.

At the meeting held on Tuesday, the Accounting Officer did give an assurance that he was addressing the MIs and implementing the recommendations of the AG. Progress thereof would be expected at the next ensuing meeting on the implementation thereof. The stance taken by the Executive Mayor on monitoring the implementation on a weekly basis was good and would steer the City in the right direction.

8. On consequence management, needs to be applied where it has been identified that there should be consequences. If the City did not apply consequence management, such issues would be perpetuated now and again. Thus urge the executive Mayor, Accounting Officer and HODs that consequence management is key.
9. In terms of vacancies, the Deputy Executive Mayor assured that it would be addressed.
10. On unspent conditional grants, the area where the people of Mangaung supposed to be benefitting and if unspent, it has an adverse impact on economic development for the City.
11. On ICT, based on reports presented by the CTO, there is progress made although it would take time and that majority of staff at ICT Sub-directorate did not have the relevant qualification and therefore would ensure that staff is capacitated to be able to close the gap. The CTO presented good action plans put in place and the Committee is continuously monitoring.

The Speaker asked the Chairperson how often they met with MPAC to share advice especially on issues picked up by AG?

The Chairperson explained that they met once a quarter and at those meetings, management was required to present the audit action plans.

The Speaker after announcing the voting outcome, thanked the Chairperson of Audit and Performance Committee on the report and inputs made. The Council would continuously monitor the implementation of the recommendation and follow-up with City Manager on the appointment of the legal person to assist the Committee in doing its work.

The Chairperson was excused from the meeting.

The Council voted unanimously

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council approved that:

4.1 AGSA MIS issued

The Committee is concern regarding Material Irregularity (MI) No. 6 of 2023-24 (which relates to overpayments made to suppliers that were written off without sufficient recovery efforts by the Municipality.) and recommends that management prioritise the implementation of AGSA's recommendations on this MI before the deadline of 12 March 2026 as failure to act may result in serious consequences, including referral for investigation or the issuing of a certificate of debt. Management should further resolve all other outstanding MIS as a matter of urgency before AGSA escalate them. Council through MAYCO and MPAC, to monitor the implementation of AGSA recommendations by the City Manager in this regard.

4.2 Unauthorised, Irregular, Fruitless and Wasteful Expenditures

The Committee recommends that management continue to reduce unauthorised, irregular, and fruitless and wasteful expenditure through improved internal controls and accountability mechanisms. Council through MAYCO and MPAC to monitor progress on regular basis (at least quarterly).

4.3 Excessive Overtime

A comprehensive report on excessive overtime, which has been a significant contributor to irregular expenditure, should be tabled by the City Manager at the next APC meeting. The report must detail corrective actions taken and planned to address and reduce the excessive overtime claims.

4.4 Grant spending

The Committee recommends that management improve grant spending and performance and compliance by ensuring timely submission of rollover applications and full spending and utilisation of conditional grants, particularly ISUPG and IPTNG. Grant spending should be monitored closely to avoid future underspending.

4.5 Performance Management and Evaluation

4.5.1 The Committee supports the City's efforts to institutionalise quarterly performance assessments for the HODS and City Manager and, recommends that this practice be sustained.

4.5.2 The Committee supports the planned POE workshop by the IDP Unit and recommends that capacity-building initiatives be rolled out across all departments to improve and strengthen delivery of services and municipal performance in general.

4.6 Internal Audit Plan for 2025/2026 – 2027/2028

46.1 Council take note and adopt the 2025/2026 - 2027/2028 Internal Audit Plan that is aligned with the new Global Internal Audit Standards (GIAS) for implementation by the Internal Audit Unit as approved by the Audit and Performance Committee.

46.2 The Committee recommends that Council prioritise the budgeting and recruitment of critical Internal Audit positions, including ICT auditors, Projects Auditors to ensure successful implementation of the approved Internal Audit Plan and to strengthen internal audit capacity.

The 2025/2026 — 2027/2028 Internal Audit Plan is hereto attached as Annexure A for easy reference.

4.7 Revised Internal Audit Charter

Council take note and adopt the revised 2025/2026 Internal Audit Charter that is aligned with the new Global Internal Audit Standards (GIAS) for implementation by the Internal Audit Unit as approved by the Audit and Performance Committee.

The Revised Internal Audit Charter 2025/2026 is hereto attached as Annexure B for easy reference.

4.8 Revised Audit and Performance Committee Charter

Council to approve the revised 2025/2026 Audit and Performance Committee Charter that is aligned with the new Global Internal Audit Standards (GIAS) for implementation. The revised Audit and Performance Committee Charter 2025/2026 is hereto attached as Annexure C for easy reference.

4.9 Audit and Performance Committee vacancy

Council to prioritise the filling of the vacancy with preferably a person with Legal background, qualifications, and experience.

4.10 2025/26 Audit and Performance Committee Work Programme and Schedule of meetings

Council to take note and approve the 2025/26 Audit and Performance Committee Work Programme and Schedule of meetings as adopted by the Committee. The schedule is hereto attached as *Annexure D* for easy reference.

165	REPORTS FROM WARD COUNCILLORS/CONSOLIDATED REPORT ON WARD COMMITTEE
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1.

**QUARTERLY REPORTS RECEIVED FROM WARD COUNCILLORS FOR QUARTER 1
ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2025 – 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR**

The item was not discussed.

NOTED.

166	REPORT ON SALGA ACTIVITIES
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None.

NOTED.

167	IN COMMITTEE REPORTS
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1.

CONFIRMATION OF IN COMMITTEE MINUTES

Special meeting: Thursday 20 February 2025

The Speaker requested all HODs, officials, media and the public in the gallery to be excused from the meeting and that the live streaming be switched off as the items would be dealt with “In Committee”.

As these items are dealt with In Committee, the discussions are minuted separately.

NOTED.

168	MOTIONS
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None.

NOTED.

169	QUESTIONS
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1.

QUESTIONS ASKED IN TERMS OF RULE 38 OF THE COUNCIL’S STANDING RULES AND ORDERS

The item was not discussed.

NOTED.

170	CLOSING OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
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The Speaker declared the meeting official closed at 21h10.

SECRETARIAT UNIT
COMMITTEE SERVICES