

CONFIDENTIAL

**MINUTES OF A
SPECIAL MEETING**

**MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPAL COUNCIL**

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

**THURSDAY
28 AUGUST 2025
AT 10:30**

**MANGAUNG
METROPOLITAN
MUNICIPALITY**



**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
of the
MANGAUNG METROPOLITAN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL
held IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR, BRAM FISCHER BUILDING
BLOEMFONTEIN
on THURSDAY, 28 AUGUST 2025 at 10:30**

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	
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	
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	Absent with apology
28	Cllr Klaasen Raynie Sarah	DA	Absent with apology
29	Cllr Letsoko (Mantwa Sanah)	EFF	
30	Cllr Lipale (Gopolang Jeremiah)	EFF	Absent with apology
31	Cllr Makau (Pitso Elias)	EFF	
32	Cllr Malebo (Deliwe Lettia)	EFF	Absent with apology
33	Cllr Maliela (Motiki Edwin)	DA	
34	Cllr Matobole (Mosala Abel)	DA	
35	Cllr Matsoetlane (Maditaba Joyce)	ANC	
36	Cllr Mogotsi (Mamahlape Elisa)	EFF	Absent with apology
37	Cllr Mohlamme (Lebohang Lerato)	DA	
38	Cllr Mokoena (John Itumeleng)	AASD	
39	Cllr Mongale (Mojalefa William)	AASD	
40	Cllr Moreeng (Kabelo Christopher)	DA	
41	Cllr Mtshakazane (Eunice Xoliswa)	EFF	Absent with apology
42	Cllr Njiva-Lebajoa (Mamotse)	DA	
43	Cllr Phohleli (Tsholwane Eddy)	EFF	
44	Cllr Phupha (Ntsoaki Agnes)	PA	
45	Cllr Ramatlama (Mpho Joseph)	EFF	Absent with apology

46	Cllr Rammile (Tumelo Kingsley)	DA	
47	Cllr Rampai (Pule Joseph)	ACDP	Absent with apology
48	Cllr Sebolao (Jankie Elisha)	EFF	
49	Cllr Shale (Nkahiseng Reginah)	EFF	Absent with apology
50	Cllr Snyman (Pieter Adriaan)	DA	
51	Cllr Snyman van Deventer (Elizabeth)	FFPlus	Absent with apology
52	Cllr Terblanche (Arthur Phillip)	DA	Absent with apology
53	Cllr Thomas (Johannes Beleme)	EFF	Absent with apology
54	Cllr Viviers (Benhardus Jacobus)	DA	
55	Cllr Vorster (Braam)	FFPlus	Absent with apology
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 Moilola (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	
65	Cllr Setlai (Teboho Lesley)	ANC 10	
66	Cllr Hashatsi (Rafedile)	ANC 12	
67	Cllr Siteo (Nombulelo Dorcas)	ANC 13	
68	Cllr Lekgetho (Lebogang Winston)	ANC 14	
69	Cllr Mohibidu (Pulane Martha)	ANC 15	
70	Cllr Mohatle (Mampone Sally)	ANC 17	
71	Cllr Van Noord (Gregory Owen)	DA 18	

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	Absent without apology
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	Absent with apology
95	Cllr Mathe (Lisiwe Jeanette)	ANC 45	
96	Cllr Majoro (Mpho Samuel)	ANC 46	Absent with apology
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	CHIEF OF STAFF	MR ZOLILE MANGCOTYWA
9	HEAD OF MPAC	MR DIPHOKO SEKAKANYO
10	GM: COMMITTEE SERVICES	MS XOLISWA QILO
11	ACTING MANAGER: COUNCIL SUPPORT	MS RINA MAMATELA

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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**MINUTES
(OPEN COUNCIL)**

138.

OPENING

(MOMENT OF SILENT CONTEMPLATION FOR MEDITATION AND PRAYERS)

The meeting commenced at 10h37.

The Speaker in officially opening the meeting, he requested all to observe a moment of silent contemplation for meditation and prayers. He then announced that 68 Councillors were present in the Chamber and thus constituting a quorum.

The Speaker acknowledged the Executive Mayor, Deputy Executive Mayor, Council Whip, Members of the Mayoral Committee, Chairpersons of Section 79 Committees, Whips of different political parties, Councillors, City Manager and HODs, media and the community of Mangaung Metro Municipality, those watching the Council proceedings on live platform and seated at designated area.

NOTED.

139.

NOTICE OF THE MEETING

The Speaker read the notice as outlined on page 2 of the agenda. Furthermore, that the meetings held had been consistent with the adopted calendar of the Council meetings for 2025/26 financial year.

NOTED.

140.

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 consistent with provisions of the Council's Standing Rules and Orders, Rule 22.2 which read as thus: *All applications for leave must be submitted at least 12 hours before the starting time of the meeting.*

NOTED.

141.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

The Speaker stated that after consultation with the Executive Mayor and the Deputy Executive Mayor, they agreed to withdraw the following items from the agenda, namely:

Item 141.9: Unauthorised, Irregular, Fruitless and Wasteful Strategy to be referred to MPAC.

Item 141.12: Appointment of debt collectors and their debt category.

Item 141.14: Report on the hosting of the inaugural Mangaung Metro Municipality's inaugural investment summit.

- That item 141.4 and 141.5 as well as item 141.7 and 141.8 would be discussed simultaneously.

The Executive Mayor confirmed what the Speaker has stated whereafter Cllr BJ Viviers requested the reasons for the withdrawal of the items.

Cllr PA Snyman asked whether it was necessary to deal with item 150.1 as it previously served in Council In Committee and whether it should serve In Committee again or rather be dealt with as a regular item in the agenda.

Cllr Van Niekerk: Mister Speaker, I have to mention the indigent register again as it is not part of the agenda again. Through you Speaker, we have to ask the Executive Mayor in the previous meeting on 31 July 2025 you instructed very clearly that the MMC for Finance, Cllr CL Kruger, to get the house in order, to prioritize the process of the indigent register to serve in Council.

Nou Burgemeester, presies 'n maand later, het ons nog steeds nie hierdie dokument nie en daar buite in Bloemfontein sit eerlike inwooners wat met minimum vloei van water tevrede moet wees. Geen mense kan op so 'n manier 'n behoorlike lewe handtaf en ons moet hoor vandag by U self Burgemeester, do you have any clarity by when we can expect it and by when will it serve here so that we can finalise and get it over and done. It is coming from months and months now. Thank you, Mister Speaker."

Cllr JM De Bruin brought to the attention of the Speaker that the City Manager said he would answer Rule 38 question in 21 days and yet it has not been answered and thereafter requested a 5minutes caucus with all whips of political parties.

Cllr MJ Matsoetlane supported the proposed agenda with amendments as outlined by the Executive Mayor.

Cllr M Davies asked whether they would be afforded four (4) Councillors to speak on item that have been combined as there was no whippy meeting to communicate such changes to the agenda and Speaker confirmed that all Councillors will be granted the opportunity to speak.

Cllr BJ Viviers asked why there was no whippy meeting and why was the Council Whip not in attendance especially when there are numerous items withdrawn and Councillors had already prepared to speak on those items.

The Executive Mayor responded as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. on item 144.9, subject to the meeting I had with MPAC and on understanding that this area of a program that must unfold, impact much more on the work and activities of MPAC. It is MPAC that must reflect and develop a program that should serve before Council. By so doing, I indicated to the team that I think this could serve as overreach if we are not careful, and we have since compared notes and believe that it is a matter that must be before MPAC.

Item 144.12, we brought to the Council in terms of the principle and the policy that would be followed with regards to how it would be generated, but I do not think we need to set a precedent where we would bring SCM matters before the Council then it means we shall have to bring it all. It is on basis of that, we do not think it belongs.

Item 144.14 is an ongoing request that was before us, and we thought we should bring it to the Council. There are two things that are ensuited:

1. The responsible MMC who was supposed to be industrious in terms of information at the level of Mayoral Committee was not well and the information could not flow as the HOD was assigned elsewhere.
2. We indicated that there are processes unfolding with regards to the investment summit mainly on strength that those companies have expressed interest on number of products that came out of the investment summit, and we then requested that the officials should help us bring a report not in piece but in total hence the matter has to be withdrawn.

On In Committee, the Councillor has a point that the matter served before the Council and there was a blueprint given to us, but I think there was a rider that for any step that we take, we must from time-to-time alert the Council. What is involved is that the proposed name that must serve before and on strength of that, is those that we want to alert the Council as a matter of keeping Council informed.

On indigent, although a number of topical issues from time-to-time quench on the issue of indigent, I want to believe that the program that has been agreed by Mayco, which is more operational than what we can bring before the Council, is to authenticate and make sure that program is followed to the fullest. It is quite an involved challenge that the Municipality must work upon. If you could remember, I did acknowledge as the matter was raised, I referred to senior citizens of which I still do that officials must go out and as a result, at an operational level we have decided to resuscitate Regional Offices and local offices wherever our people could be reached to even ensure that we go to their localities and ensure that out of this need of having an authentic, people driven indigent register and policy, be taken at that level. It is not at a point I can bring it to the Council but hard work on it is done Honourable Speaker. I think it is one of the aspects that could address our collection discipline which is one of the greatest parts. It is the item that we say should not serve before Council and touch base with what the Councillor said but, I must indicate it is work in progress. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr BJ Viviers remarked: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. It is not for the Executive Mayor to give reasons, but I am stating, firstly, Mayco did not sit yesterday or the Executive Management Team. We are now told, through you Honourable Executive Mayor, the Council Whip that three (3) points are withdrawn from the agenda. I think that should have been known a long time ago and unfortunately through you, Honourable Speaker to the Council Whip, all the other Councillors maybe, barring the ANC, others have prepared on those items, and so the question is, you being Council Whip, why could you not just notify the Whips of other political parties not to prepare on items 9, 12 and 14? It is lot of hours that Councillors must utilise to go through everything and today we are told, you have done all the hard work but items are withdrawn. I am respectfully again saying, Mayco most probably sat much earlier this week, all these was known before hand, Council Whip if you have just notified whips, you would not have wasted Council’s time. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

The Council Whip responded as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Good morning Honourable Councillors. Indeed, let me appreciate what has been indicated by Cllr BJ Viviers in relation to the information that should have at least reached the multiparty whippery.

The items that the Executive Mayor have withdrawn are the items of the Executive Mayor. I do not have authority over the items of the Executive Mayor, whether he withdraws or not. And maybe there are some other underlying factors that the Executive Mayor may have done so. In relation to the preparation that the multiparty whippery could not sit, of which it is something that I can give account on it, I would also want to apologise to the house because we caucused until very late yesterday and immediately after that, I had other emergencies that I had to attend to. Unfortunately, that affected the sitting of the multiparty whippery. As per the discussion we had in our groupchat, it was expected that the meeting will sit yesterday, and I apologise for that. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

On a point of personal clarification, Cllr BJ Viviers indicated that the Executive Mayor has given reasons for withdrawal and further that they had also caucused the previous day and a lot of Councillors had to write their speeches in the early hours. That perhaps the Executive Mayor should respond why he did not notify the Council Whip that Councillors should not prepare on items withdrawn.

The Speaker stated that Cllr BJ Viviers concerns were noted that in future, proper communiqué be extended to parties so that they do not waste time on an item which will not be considered and further ruled that the items will be withdrawn as indicated by the Executive Mayor as they were his items.

In responding to Cllr PA Snyman with regards to withdrawal of item 144.14, the Deputy Executive Mayor stated that the Executive Mayor has withdrawn the item and the Speaker already ruled on it.

Cllr LJ Mathe moved for the adoption of the agenda with amendments and was seconded by Cllr MJ Matsoetlane.

After the Council has voted, Cllr JM Debruin raised a concern with regards to the responses to the Rule 38 questions, that the Speaker at the previous meeting ruled that the City Manager to respond to the questions within 21 days and to date, they had not received their responses.

Cllr R Hashatsi raised a point of order to indicate that as a member of Section 79 Committee: Petitions and Motions, Cllr JM Debruin was not present at the meeting when the Committee concluded on the question he was raising.

The Speaker requested Cllr JM Debruin to confer with the Chairperson of the Section 79 Committee: Petitions and Motions as the Whip of the Committee confirmed that the matter was discussed, however, his concern has been noted.

The Council voted as follows for the adoption of the agenda with amendments: **54 voted in favour, 0 against and 25 abstained.**

The agenda was duly accepted with amendments.

NOTED.

142.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker announced that Cllr TS Fantisi was involved in a terrible accident, as the road was closed by stoned and they were being chased after by whoever closed the road and the car overturned. He had broken ribs and was admitted at Botshabelo hospital. The Council therefore conveyed thoughts and prayers to him. The Speaker stated that every citizen had a right to protest and raise their concerns however, condemned the barricading of roads as it endangers not only Councillors but ordinary citizens who uses the road. The Speaker thereafter afforded Councillors to make announcements as follows:

Cllr JE Sebolao congratulated Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development, Ms. Mmamoloko Kubayi, on implementing consequence management especially when one has been directed to discharge and do not do that. Furthermore,

- That Mangaung had been doing well in terms of waste removal, all of a sudden, waste has not been removed and therefore need an explanation in that regard.
- That there were allegations on social media that an inmate had been getting salary, that such information should be communicated by the relevant Department and not just keep quiet about it as there is a Sub-Directorate responsible for communication.
- The issue on sale of cricket stadium, also on social media that it has been sold, but by who. Therefore, plead with Council and Speaker, whether the information on social media, true or false, the spokesperson of the Municipality need to deal with such issues like it is done at National level.

Cllr PM Kotze: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, fellow Councillors, and colleagues. I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and thank the teams who worked tirelessly to restore water during the recent major interruption affecting the entire southern Mangaung. This was a large-scale challenge, involving extensive sections of pipeline and multiple reservoirs that ran dry. The dedication, expertise, and long hours put in by the operations, maintenance, technical teams, and the Vaal Central Water teams were crucial in bringing the system back online and restoring supply.

I also want to extend my special commendation to Cllr Vusi Soqaga, the Department and staff, for his outstanding communication throughout the incident. The regular updates on social media, including visual updates, ensured that residents were informed and aware of the progress being made. So, thank you for that. This level of transparent and consistent communication is not the status quo, but an example of what we as Councillors have been asking for and advocating for over many years. It demonstrates clearly what accountability and service delivery can look like when executed correctly.

As Councillors, it is our responsibility to recognise the efforts of those who work behind the scenes to ensure that our community’s essential services are maintained. Today, I publicly express my appreciation for all those involved in this operation. Let this serve as a reminder that effective infrastructure management requires both technical excellence and clear communication, and in this case, we saw both working together to serve our community. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr JM Debruin: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. I just want to bring this to your attention, one of my Rule 38 questions had been answered, but through you, I want to give this document over to MPAC to give me a full oversight report by next month. I can see that the Chairperson of MPAC is not here, but I want to hand over to the Deputy Chairperson to acknowledge the file. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

The Speaker corrected Cllr JM Debruin that he wants to place it under record that he wants to hand over something to MPAC but directed it to Council. That as Speaker, he will hand it over to MPAC. That for Cllr JM Debruin to prescribe a period of response was not fair, but he should allow the Committee to look into matters and they would duly advise if the matters required substantive time. Therefore, the relevant Committee would look into the matter.

Cllr JM Debruin stated that the report was already submitted to the Committee for five (5) months hence he requested a timeframe as it was already delayed.

On a point of order, Cllr DJ De-Huis requested that the Speaker ensures Councillors stick to the item at hand, i.e. announcements.

The Speaker thereafter overruled Cllr JM Debruin remarks and sustained the point of order by Cllr DJ De-Huis. Cllr JM Debruin can submit a matter through proper channels, and his point is noted and will be taken up.

Cllr A Qai: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker and all protocols observed. The Mangaung Metro Municipality is pleased to announce and welcome a series of sporting and cultural events that will take place within our City. These events are not only to celebrate sports, music and culture but also positioning Mangaung Municipality as a leading hub for entertainment, tourism and community engagements. The following events are scheduled:

- ✓ International friendly matches:
 - Lesotho vs South Africa
 - South Africa vs Nigeria
- ✓ Cultural and Lifestyle festivals
 - Macufe
 - Cufa
 - Lemo festival
 - Solo excursions

We extend our support to all stakeholders, event organisers and community members who continue contributing to the growth and vibrancy of Mangaung. These events are expected to boost the local economic activity, showcase our cultural diversity, and create a platform for social cohesion. Mangaung calls upon the residents to participate responsibly and support the local businesses and ensure that Mangaung remains a safe and welcoming environment for all. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr T Van Der Walt: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. firstly, I think many Councillors would remember I have spoken many times about the absence of cranes in Mangaung. We do not have cranes building big projects. It is a bit of bittersweet moment for me, in Ward 23, we see that there are massive cranes constructing student accommodation there. One is excited about development in Mangaung, and it is 1198 beds for students and that assist with student housing crisis that we have. However, I just want to mention that there are concerns that remains since 2018 regarding, traffic, sewerage and water implications of this development. There was a question about the decision taken to reduce the parking from 600 to 70 without notifying the community and this was done without proper traffic impact studies being done and I am very concerned that in future we will have trouble and the Executive Mayor would have to help me when there are traffic problems.

I want to mention, Campus Key and Educata student development are struggling to daily with water pressure because they get water from a 150pipe, and we need to construct a 300pipe from DF Malherbe Avenue towards Arndt Street along with Stellenryk retirement village to ensure that they get water.

Mister Speaker, in 2022, Council sent a motion that we have submitted regarding Section 79 Oversight Committees, which I believe it is crucial for governance in Mangaung, no matter who governs. We sent it to the Municipal Manager to report back to Council and it has not happened.

There was also a request that I sent to the MPAC Chairperson, the Speaker and the Executive Mayor for hearing of MPAC regarding Bloemwater, Department of Water and Sanitation and Mangaung Bulk Water specifically regarding things like: Maselspoort, Gariiep and all other issues regarding bulk water provisions and nothing has happened since then.

I really hope that this matter would either be taken by MPAC or the Executive Mayor. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

The Speaker asked the Chairperson of Section 79 Committee: Rules, Cllr TWK Mokgothu that, it has been nine (9) months since Council adopted and resolved to amend the Standing Rules and Orders. Ordinarily, even after nine (9) months, a substantive period of gestation, a baby is born; why has this baby not yet born? When is Council expected to use the new amended Standing Rules and Orders?

The Chairperson of Section 79 Committee: Rules, Cllr TWK Mokgothu responded: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, it is not intentional for the baby not yet to be born after so long. Let me greet the entire house, Councillors and HODs.

Let me bring this to the Council attention, even though I wanted to bring it formally because after the Standing Rules and Orders were approved there were some issues around the rules that we passed that has a legal implication. It was brought to my attention by our internal legal office, and I requested them to produce a report in that regard.

The report is available Honourable Speaker, however I could not yet bring it to Council, because first we need to deal with as a Committee. After receiving the report, I was satisfied however the Committee has not yet met. Above that, there is an issue that we need to seek for external legal advice on that. The main issue was legality, and I could not bring item to Council without having the confidence of it and making sure that we bring Council into confidence. In the next coming week, the Committee will sit and would be brought before Council and apology for the delay. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

The Speaker thereafter ruled that the Chairperson of Section 79 Committee: Rules must present the report at the next Council meeting.

NOTED.

143.

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

None.

NOTED.

As Executive Mayor was about to present his items to Council, Cllr AP Snyman on a point of clarity requested the list of dates of events that would be taking place in the City and asked whether Mangaung Municipality was a shareholder, furthermore whether item 150 will be dealt with In Committee.

The Speaker stated that the issue on item 150 was already dealt with and with regards to dates of events, the City Manager would expeditiously attend to it.

The Speaker then afforded the Executive Mayor an opportunity to present the items as follows: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker and fellow Councillors. You have really made my work easy by having an extensive debate even before I could table the issues.

Item 144.1: Proposed interim measure on the review of close protection officers' allowances: it is a work directed towards ensuring that we address, but not limited to, some of the concerns that were raised by the Portfolio Committee with regard to all matters that relate to overtime. This is one of those areas of trying to deal with issues of overtime.

Item 144.2: Tabling of the 2026/2027 IDP and Budget process plan for approval: the relevant MMC (Member of the Mayoral Committee) would present the item in depth.

Item 144.3: Tabling of the 2025/2026 Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) and performance agreements of Municipal Manager and Heads Of Departments for noting.

Item 144.4 and item 144.5: would be combined (i.e. discussed simultaneously): *Performance assessment for Municipal Manager and performance assessment for managers accountable to the Municipal Manager.*

Item 144.6: Councillors and employee's salary deductions due to arrears on municipal accounts. The matter served previously before the Council.

Item 144.7 and 144.8: would be combined (i.e. discussed simultaneously): *Report on asset verification 2024/2025 and Asset Management Policy.*

Item 144.10: Submission of an agreed action plan to deal with matters raised by the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee of COGTA And SCOPA that visited Free Government on the 24th of July 2025.

Item 144.11: Noting of interest write off by Vaal Central on overdue amounts in respect of bulk water supply.

Item 144.13: mSCOA roadmap implementation progress report.

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As you ruled Honourable Speaker, item 150, moved from In Committee to *item 144.15: Recommendations for the appointment of an Interim Board Of Centlec*. Those are the items I am putting before the Council.

Honourable Speaker, can you allow me to echo the sentiments on the challenge that speak to water faced by our communities. Our Councillor was able to articulate on the rapidness with which the matter was attended to.

I must indicate to the public of Mangaung that the challenge was insurmountable in nature and could not allow us to operate within the set turnaround time given that we have to source all the necessary pipes and equipment that could help facilitate water was resorted timeously.

We profusely would like to apologise to our communities on some of these challenges that we are facing, but at the same time, we would like to celebrate their cooperation and support during these trying times. We wish that the example set by those communities that were affected, would serve and go a long way in influencing the attitude towards the support that we so need as the Municipality. We will work hard to realise that some of these challenges are attended in time. We would like to thank those that gave us the support. Those are the items that I am tabling before the Council. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

NOTED.

1.

PROPOSED INTERIM MEASURE ON THE REVIEW OF CLOSE PROTECTION OFFICERS ALLOWANCES

Cllr PA Lotriet addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. I acknowledge the Executive Mayor; it is his items we are going to discuss.

We had a Section 80 Committee on this matter and an opportunity to deliberate what was on the table.

1. The intention with curtailing uncontrolled overtime spending is good, we acknowledge that. It could also bring certainty to the work conditions of the incumbents. How this will affect the professionalism of the incumbents, we do not know. I would have wanted to have a reliable and representative feeling among roll players.
2. I would have asked the sponsor to provide me with a mini budget and perhaps a graph that would highlight potential savings against actual spending history. I would have made sure to use this document as a control instrument to monitor expectations. Cannot consider something without actual figures
3. I would have also wanted a full and comprehensive legal opinion on compliance with the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, other related Acts as well as possible conflicting aspects in the collective agreements.

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4. I am not sure if we currently are paying danger pay. There is no reference in this proposal and nor did it form part of the benchmark study that was done. That the work is dangerous and stressful is indeed the case. They basically sign for the lives of those they protect.
5. To submit this recommendation through the LLF processes is indeed a legal requirement and will indeed provide certainty pertaining to legal compliance as mentioned earlier. I trust that a full report pertaining to this matter will indeed form part of the final proposal to Council to consider.
6. Perhaps the Mayor can provide clarity from the floor pertaining to the envisaged saving on overtime and the other uncertainties as raised by the DA.

This is perhaps a step in the right direction. I thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr M Wewege addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker, fellow Councillors. The Freedom Front Plus have carefully considered the item: the proposed interim measure on the review of Close Protection Officers' allowances. While we recognise the importance of ensuring safety and security, we cannot support this recommendation for the following reasons:

1. *Excessive increase in allowances:*

The proposed adjustment amounts to R10,437.44 per employee, broken down into a personal allowance of R8,000, a uniform allowance of R1,410.63, and a danger allowance of R1,026.80. This is a significant additional financial burden on the Municipality, at a time when our communities are struggling with service delivery backlogs, failing infrastructure, and economic hardship.

2. *Misplaced priorities*

Our residents are asking for basic services: reliable water, electricity, refuse removal, and safe communities at large. Instead of addressing these core issues, we are being asked to approve special allowances for a select few officers. This does not align with the urgent priorities of our citizens.

3. *Lack of transparency and sustainability*

The report indicates that these allowances are "linked to collective agreement annual increases." This means the costs will continue to rise year after year, without any clear plan on how this Municipality will sustainably fund them. We risk creating yet another long-term financial commitment that will drain our already limited budget.

4. *Process concerns*

While the recommendation suggests that the matter still be subjected to LLF processes, we believe it is premature to approve any interim measures without a full, transparent review and a proper financial impact assessment. Council should not be pressured into rubber-stamping increases before due process has run its course.

Mister Speaker, for these reasons, the Freedom Front Plus cannot support these recommendations. We stand with our communities who demand fairness, accountability, and responsible spending of public money. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr JE Sebolao addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. The EFF wants to state categorically that it does not to reject the recommendations outright, but to interrogate them thoroughly, for the people of Mangaung deserve nothing less than accountability, transparency, and fairness in how public funds are allocated.

At the outset, let us remind ourselves of the wise words of Frantz Fanon, who said: *“Each generation must, out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, fulfil it, or betray it”*. Our mission as this council is not to betray the trust of the people, but to guard their resources jealously.

We note the proposed adjustments to Close Protection Officers (CPOs), personal allowance of R8 000, a uniform allowance of R1 410.63, and a danger allowance of R1 026.80, bringing the total of R10 437.44 per officer per month. We are not against ensuring that workers, including CPOs, are fairly compensated for the risks they face. In fact, the EFF has always stood firmly for workers' rights, dignity, and safe working conditions.

However, we cannot ignore the pattern of this Municipality always wanting to loot, even via the most basic services, and now even via security guards and their allowances. We are concerned that this process may once again open the door for exploitation of Municipal resources under the disguise of protection and allowances.

Furthermore, Honourable Speaker, the benchmarking exercise referenced in this report raises serious questions. Why benchmark Mangaung against Johannesburg, eThekweni, Cape Town, and Ekurhuleni? These metros are structurally, economically, and financially in a completely different league from Mangaung. Their dynamics cannot be equated to ours.

We expected to see Nelson Mandela Bay Metro included in this benchmarking. That is a metro that, like Mangaung, shares similar developmental challenges, financial constraints, and service delivery backlogs. By excluding it, the benchmarking exercise is both incomplete and misleading. It risks inflating expectations and misdirecting Council to adopt allowances not aligned with our local context.

As the EFF, we must be clear:

- We support fair remuneration for Close Protection Officers.
- We reject any attempt to use this process as another avenue to drain Municipal coffers.
- We call for benchmarking that is realistic and relevant, including municipalities of similar size and capacity, not just the country's wealthiest metros.

Honourable Speaker, we urge this Council to approve allowances only if they are in line with Mangaung's financial realities and only after proper benchmarking that includes Nelson Mandela Metro and other municipalities with comparable dynamics.

To quote Nelson Mandela: "*A critical, independent and investigative press is the lifeblood of any democracy.*" In the same spirit, the EFF takes up that role in this Council to question, to expose, and to prevent any form of looting disguised as development.

Let us not betray the people of Mangaung. Let us ensure that every cent of their money is used with integrity and accountability. I thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr ME Nkiane addressed the Council: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. let me acknowledge the presence of Executive Mayor, Cllr GMS Nthatisi, Deputy Executive Mayor, Cllr LM Titi-Odili, Council Whip, Cllr VE Nikelo, honourable Councillors, media and community of Ward 43. Dumelang!

The necessity of Close Protection Officers to have personal allowance, uniform allowance and danger allowance, it is because they play a crucial role in protecting high risk individuals. It is also important for them to get justifying additional compensation packages whereby they face difficult situations and the risks they sometimes undertake. By giving them the allowances, it would improve and boost their morale and performance on how they do their duties daily. It would also enable them to provide better security services.

In conclusion, Honourable Speaker, I urge fellow Councillors to approve the recommendations as they are. I thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr SP Tsoleli, MMC Public Safety and Transport responded as follows: "E re ke lebohe Honourable Speaker. Ke ise hlomphe ho Executive Mayor, letsoho la haye, Deputy Executive Mayor, MMCs ka kakaretso, Ma-Councillor a Mangaung kaofela, ka kakaretso.

E re ke qale ke hlalose dipotsong tsa Cllr PA Lotriet, o botsa ka hore, a na re le Masepalawa Mangaung re patala danger allowance na? Yes, currently we are paying danger allowances to the general workers in Technical Services, Law Enforcement, Fire and also Traffic. It is not something that is new, hence we are bringing it. For those in the VIP Protection Unit, we were not paying danger allowance and they are working under extreme conditions of danger hence the introduction of danger allowance.

Let me also welcome your contribution on the issue that we really need to monitor, the spending of this Unit and we will definitely do that. We will monitor and we are going to report back. In the Section 80 Committee: Public Safety and Transport meeting, we have made a commitment that every month we are going to be submitting a report in terms of the total spending of overtime in the whole Department of Public Safety and Transport. Because the total spending is not only affecting these ones, but with the VIP Protection Unit, it was more than any other Unit in the Department, due to the hours that they are working, depends on the programme of the person they are protecting at that time. So, we find ourselves paying a lot of overtime to them.

By bringing personal allowance, e etsa hore re seke ra hlola re patala tshelete e ngata, jwalo ka ha re ne re hlola re patala tshelete e ngata Honourable Speaker. E re ke etse mohlala; ka kgwedi, ho nale VIP Portector mohlomong o sebeditse 60 hours, ka kgwedi re ne re patala

tshelete e kaba R22 000 to R30 000. So, now that we are going to pay these allowances, e kgona hore tlisetsa tshelete back to the institution other than re sebedise tshelete e ngata. Actually, there savings in terms of us implementing this because we were paying a lot of overtime depending on how many hours that the incumbent has worked in that month.

Yes, it is in line with the Basic Conditions of Employment. We have consulted thoroughly. It is in line with what they supposed to get. We have also consulted with them, with the relevant stakeholders that are affected and even those that are not affected but can contribute in making sure that we achieve this.

Our intention, as per the instruction of the Executive Mayor is very clear; we need to deal with this issue of overtime. So, the introduction of the shift system that was adopted by this house, it is difficult for them to work on shifts. If they were working shifts, they were going to be in the bracket of 27% of an allowance added in their salaries, but with these introductions, it means they are not shift workers, but there is this flat rate. Whether a person has worked for more than the hours prescribed, but the agreement is, there is this flat rate for everyone.

Cllr M Wewege, it cannot be premature, when we seek to address consequence management, this is the right time where we are addressing the issue of overtime. This is the opportune moment for us as the Department to make sure that the overtime that has been paid, we deal with it decisively and so it cannot be premature. It is not even an additional burden in the fiscus. Actually, it seeks to respond to the huge amount that we are tackling in terms of overtime from the fiscus.

Therefore, Honourable Speaker, some of the questions we are going to respond to them. We really request Council to allow us interimly to implement the measures and we will come back and report to the Council once it has gone to LLF (Local Labour Forum). I thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

In responding to the point of personal clarification by Cllr BJ Viviers whether the item was for noting, Cllr SP Tsoleli responded that it was for approval.

The Speaker announced that the majority voted in favour.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council approved:

1. The outcomes of the assessment and benchmarking findings undertaken in respect of the allowances for Close Protection Officers (CPO).
2. That proposed interim measures be subjected to the LLF processes subsequent to Council approval.
3. The adjustment of the Close Protection Officers Allowance be as follow:

Allowance type	Recommended adjustment per employee
Personal Allowance	R8000,00 linked to collective agreement annual increase
Uniform Allowance	R1410,63 linked to collective agreement annual increase
Danger Allowance	R1026,80 linked to the collective agreement annual increase
TOTAL	R10 437,43 linked to the collective agreement annual increase

2.

TABLING OF THE 2026/2027 IDP AND BUDGET PROCESS PLAN FOR APPROVAL

Cllr JE Sebolao addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, Councillors, and the People of Mangaung, Honourable Mathae, the EFF engage this IDP document with the seriousness it deserves. Year after year, we sit here and are presented with the same kind of paperwork polished for compliance with the Municipal Systems Act and the MFMA, but empty of true progress. These documents follow the same format, with the same recommendations, the same language, and the same promises. This is not governance; it is a ritual of recycling.

Yes, the laws are followed. But laws are not an end in themselves they are a framework for transformation. What the people want is not an annual cut-and-paste IDP, but proof that last year's commitments were honoured. Where is the evidence of measurable progress on previously identified priorities? The EFF insists that every IDP must include a section that reports outcomes and impact from the previous cycle. Otherwise, we are simply ticking boxes while the people remain without water, housing, and jobs.

We note that the recommendations approval, submission to MECs, publication is purely procedural. But Mangaung is drowning not in procedure, but in failure. Communities must not only be consulted; their inputs must shape the final plan. The EFF proposes that the Municipality produce a Feedback and Response Report after consultations, so residents can see exactly how their voices influenced the budget and IDP. Without this, consultation is nothing but a performance.

On legislation, the MFMA requires strict timelines, a schedule at least 10 months before the new budget year. Yet, year after year, these deadlines are not enforced, delays pile up, and service delivery collapses. It is useless to quote the law if the law is never lived. The EFF demands quarterly compliance monitoring reports, not only to tick off milestones, but to expose failures early and prevent end-year chaos.

We also note the section on alignment with the NDP, the Medium-Term Strategic Framework, the FSGDS, and the SDGs. This sounds impressive on paper, but where is the measurement? How much of Mangaung's budget directly advances poverty reduction, water access, or sustainable infrastructure? The EFF calls for a Crosswalk Table each IDP priority must be linked to a specific NDP and SDG target, so we can monitor actual alignment, not just rhetoric.

The document speaks of Performance Management Systems (PMS), yet these reports are hidden inside Municipal offices. The EFF demands that PMS reports be published quarterly on the Municipal website for all residents to track. This would not only build accountability but also end the culture of secrecy.

On community participation, the Municipality claims compliance. But how many residents participated, from which wards, and through what platforms? The truth is participation remains narrow and selective. The EFF proposes hybrid consultations, in-person and online – so that youth, informal workers, and those excluded from formal meetings can shape their Municipality.

Year after year, this IDP arrives with no innovation, no fresh thinking, no reflection. It is the same skeleton with a new date. That is why we say: the IDP has been reduced to a compliance exercise, not a strategic tool. The EFF demands a "*Lessons Learned*" section in every IDP, where the Municipality reports on failures, admits mistakes, and shows how the plan was adapted. Only then will this document stop being an annual photocopy of the past.

Honourable Speaker, our overall contribution is clear: the IDP and Budget Process Plan must shift from compliance to transformation. It must drive strategic delivery by linking budget to outcomes; it must guarantee transparency with clear reporting; it must empower communities by showing that their voices matter; and it must introduce innovation by reflecting and adapting, not cutting and pasting.

The people of Mangaung deserve leadership that moves beyond paper compliance and into tangible change. Anything less is betrayal. And the EFF will never allow betrayal of the people's trust. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr JH Denner addressed the Council: "Thank you, Mister Speaker. The Freedom Front Plus thank the administration for tabling this 2026/27 IDP and Budget process plan on time and in line with the relevant legislation.

However, Mister Speaker, while the process plan is important, what matter is the implementation of this plan and too often in this Metro process plans becomes nothing more than a compliance exercise, a copy and paste job with little connection to the real challenges facing our residents. The administration must go back to the drawing board and ensure that the IDP and Budget are not just documents but living tools that address the Metro's most pressing issues:

1. Turnaround of our financial situation.
2. Restoration of basic service delivery in our communities.

Mister Speaker, the financial recovery and adequate service delivery will never be achieved without proper realistic and sustainable budget and IDP.

Public participation is another area where this Metro fall short. It cannot simple be one meeting per ward towards the end of the process, as a tick box exercise. Public participation must be real, ongoing and meaningful. Proper communication with residents, and business is essential especially when it comes to proposed tariffs and policies that directly affects them.

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Only then can the public contribute positively and raise their concerns in time to make a difference. Mister Speaker, this will be the last full IDP and Budget process unto the current Council. Let us treat it with the seriousness it deserves; let us follow due process so that the next Council inherits a proper credible budget and IDP, the one that can take Mangaung forward and not hold it back. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr TO Machachamise delivered his speech as follows: “Thank you, Motsamaisa wa mosebetsi, Majoro wa sebaka, Deputy Executive Mayor, Chief Whip, Balekgotla kaofela, baahi ba Mangaung, baahi ba Ward 3. E re ke lebohe monyetla ona.

Tabling of the 2026/27 IDP and Budget Process Plan. The IDP and Budget Process Plan mandates that all involved parties, including communities, have an important part in every phase of planning.

This process is not only intended for compliance purposes, but to ensure that, the guidance provided by the Executive Mayor and this Council achieves the desired outcome of a credible IDP and Budget.

The process plan not only focuses on IDP and Budget, but how this strategy and funding source will be implemented and monitored. The key dates of the process plan are segmented into five (5) IDP phases and includes all milestones that accommodates engagements with different stakeholders such as business, civil organizations, and government.

Hake kwala Motsamaisi wa Dipuisano, ke hlalosa hore lenane tsamaiso len, le hopole kela hoqetela la lekgotla lena leo releng ho lona, mme ha re kgutla, re tla nne re tswelepele ka morao ha dikgetho tse tlang, lemong tse hlano tseo redi dutseng. Jwale re tlamehile ho sebetsa ka thata le ho feta mona. Katseo, ke tshaela monwanwa tokomane ena ya Majoro le dinhla tsa teng. Kealeboha.”

The Deputy Executive Mayor remarked as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Okokuqala ndifuna ukuxhasa uCllr TO Machachamise kwintetho yakhe yangaphambi, athe wacacisa banzi ngale nkqubo yale nkqubo yale ntlanganiso yana mhlanje ekokuba siqhubeleke phambili sibonise inkathalo ngokokuba sibakhathalele abahlali base Mangaung kwanye siyabacingela simele sibenembono yokokuba siqala phi, siphela phi.

I just want to indicate Honourable Speaker, that this is the responsibility of the Executive Mayor as designated by the policies to provide political guidance on the budget process and the associated priorities that must guide the development of the annual finances. A process for developing these plans and strategies for Council consideration is also intended to be outlined and provided by IDP and the process plan. A single overall steering committee will serve as the central coordinator and guide for all processes, thanks to the process.

The plans emphasised is to promote alignment between the IDP, the budget and the SDBIP which is the tool of monitoring of whatever is happening. As the Council indicated that, if this document can be implemented, definitely Mangaung Municipality would go far of which it is essential for the Municipality to provide services effectively.

All stakeholders including communities must play a crucial role in all planning stage according to the IDP and Budget process plan. Elected leaders will be at the centre of the process that is intended to provide the necessary political stewardship and create a social contract between the City and its residents.

I therefore, Honourable Speaker support the approval of this plan and urge those who supposed to implement to do that, but definitely the Section 80 Committee of IDP would advise the Executive Mayor correct in terms of the implementing this document and will always sit for assessing and monitoring the implementation. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

The Speaker announced that the majority voted in favour.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED

that the Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality’s Council:

1. Approved the 2026/2027 IDP and Budget Process Plan set out in the body of the report and as attached, in compliance with the provisions of the Municipal Systems Act and the Municipal Finance Management Act.
2. Noted that a copy of the approved 2026/2027 IDP and Budget Process Plan will be submitted to the Free State MEC of Cooperative Governance as well as submission to National Treasury.
3. Noted that the 2026/2027 IDP and Budget Process Plan will be published on the Municipal website.

3.

TABLING OF THE 2025/2026 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SDBIP) AND PERFORMANCE AGREEMENTS OF MUNICIPAL MANAGER AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR NOTING.

Cllr SM Swartz addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, the Executive Mayor, Deputy Executive Mayor, fellow Councillors and the community of Mangaung at large.

The Patriotic Alliance rises to address the SDBIP, and performance agreements presented to us here today. While we are asked to simply note these documents, the Patriotic Alliance finds it unacceptable to do so without serious scrutiny.

The SDBIP is meant to be our performance contract with the public outlining how we will spend every rand and deliver every service. Yet the history of our Municipality, Mangaung shows a consistent failure to meet these plans. Often with dire consequences such as the 2024/2025 fourth quarter MFMA report highlighting underperformance in the revenue collection with only 74% of the targets were met alongside weak internal controls and governance failures that contributed to R278 million in irregular expenditure. These shortcomings have direct budget implications exacerbating financial pressures under the 2025/2026 MTREF budgets emphasis on cost containment.

The Patriotic Alliance proposes a commitment to tighter and more stringent measures for implementation and oversight this year. Including independent audits of SDBIP progress to elevate beyond internal monitoring only. For too long Honourable Speaker and the house, these plans have been tabled and then forgotten.

The Patriotic Alliance’s questions are simple yet critical to ensuring the accountability.

- What specific quantifiable matrix will be used to monitor the SDBIP’s progress of the quarter on a quarterly basis beyond just simple noting of the report?
- How will we ensure that performance agreements of the Municipal Manager and Heads Of Departments are not just signed documents but are directly linked to the achievements of the SDBIP targets with the real consequences for failure?
- Given that the SDBIP and performance agreements are to be published on the Municipal website, what proactive steps will be taken to make this information easily accessible and understandable, if I can use the word streetwise for the public who are the ultimate stakeholders in our performances?

We must Honourable Speaker and the House move beyond more bureaucracy and towards genuine accountability. I thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr TD Tukula addressed the Council: “Let me start by thanking the party that has deployed me here, which is ANC to give me an opportunity of presenting this item in this August house. It is really a privilege to stand here and present the item of the Executive Mayor.

Tabling of the 2025/2026 service delivery and budget implementation plan (SDBIP) and performance agreements of Municipal Manager and Heads Of Departments for noting. The purpose of presenting this item, is for Council to note that this item has legislative framework

and also, general information regarding the SDBIP and performance agreements. The Municipal Finance Management Act, No 56 of 2003, Section 53.1c of the National Treasury and Circular 13 on service delivery and budget implementation as well as Circular 88 on reporting reforms requires that the municipality prepare SDBIP indicating how the budget and strategic objectives of the Council would be implemented.

Therefore, this contract between administration, Council and community would help to give us an opportunity to express our goals and objectives set by Council as a contractual measured targets that could be implemented by the administration in 2025/2026 financial year. It provides link between the Executive Mayor, Council and administration to implement a monitoring tool that will assist the Executive Mayor, Council, Municipal Manager and senior managers and community to monitor municipal performance on a quarterly basis.

So, when it comes to the Municipal score card, the top player of SDBIP contained the consolidated service delivery targets in the year ...such as your top management. It is only the top player that would be made public and table before Council as part of the SDBIP, the towns and areas information particularly the key expenditure in terms of the capital projects and service delivery.

When it comes to the recommendations, we recommend that:

- Note the attached Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan for 2025/2026 financial year as approved by the Executive Mayor within 28 days after approval of the budget.
- Note the signed performance agreements of the Municipal Manager and Municipal Manager with Heads of Departments.
- Note the 2025/2026 SDBIP is submitted to National Treasury.
- Note the 2025/2026 SDBIP and Performance Agreements are submitted to Provincial COGTA for record.
- Note the 2025/2026 SDBIP and Performance Agreements are published on the municipal website.

Thank you, the Chairperson of the August house.”

The Speaker afforded Cllr TD Tukula to greet the people of Botshabelo Tau Nameng and Cllr TD Tukula remarked: “Let me take opportunity to say to batho ba Ward 30, Section H1, H2, H3, di-G le industrial park, hello!”

Cllr MW Mongale addressed Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae. Cllr TD Tukula made me to have flies in my stomach when he said he thanked the party that sent him here. I am sitting next to the President. If I do not say I would like to thank the party that sent me here, I am in trouble.

From Afrikaan Alliance of Social Democrats, we would always say, we would like to thank the community that has voted us to come to this Council and we would also want to emphasize that this SDBIP, which is a link between Council, the administration and the community should serve the interest of the people of Mangaung.

The beginning of this IDP for the year 2025/2026 which is this financial year we are entering, we should only smell Mangaung from the beginning up until the end. A failure to that is a betrayal of the votes of the people of Mangaung. We hate nobody, we love ourselves and also believe that charity begins at home. It is not hatred, it is not an exclusion, it is a constitutional imperative endorsed by Section 153.1c of the Constitution. I am using that as a reference that communities who are listening, they can go to that reference, those who are having protest so that protest can be laid to rest. We hate nobody.

There is not even a single village in South Africa that does not fall under a municipality. Even a house that is having only one citizen, it is having a municipality that is falling under. So, we are not discriminating, we are saying all municipalities must look after the interests of their people, it is not hatred. I needed to emphasize that; even if my time was up, I will be happy that I emphasized that issue because it is important.

The other issue that this SDBIP must address, is the issue that we have been told that there is the money that is coming from Development Bank of South Africa that is going to help us where we lack i.e. with leakages etc, but we seem not to be getting progress to that effect. Maybe there is a report, but it has not been provided to the Council so that we can be able to know what the update report with regard to that intervention is that was supposed to be capacity building.

The issue of two (2) fire stations that are in Bloemfontein, that are not working, both of them. One has even become a church. The reality is, those two fire stations have been built but have become white elephants and we have not yet accounted to Auditor General why re the two fire stations not working? Portfolio Committee has failed to pick up those two things when they were at Windmill Casino to say what is happening with the two fire stations that are not working in Mangaung?

The issue of the old fire station, the one at Ward 19 is slowly dying. I am always passing there and watching. I do not see any activity that shows that it is a fire station, and I am afraid that it will end up dying and we will start to see batho ba entseng eka ba dula moo, hothwe, its vandalised. I do not know what is happening with this Municipality, the same thing happened at Klein Magassa Hall, Arthur Nathan swimming pool even though we were promised heaven and earth, but nothing is happening there, Joe Solomon Stadium in Heidedal, there is a crisis, Clive Solomon is dilapidating. You go just behind Twin City Mall up until the industrial site of East End, the area is so dirty, it is like there are no people that are staying there, but there seems to be no plan in trying to fix that crisis. The road of studio in Bergman Square where a trench has been dug, but there is no accountability to this day that where is the money? The IPTN where there was a depot next to SPCA, next to Mahungra, but R60 million of the Council has been wasted. So, those are issues that this Council must try to deal with, others I will write them down and then submit them as questions that needs to be answered by relevant committees. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr J Maartens addressed the Council: “Extremis Malis, Extrema Remedia - Desperate Times Call for Bold Measures. Honourable Speaker, Honourable Executive Mayor, fellow Councillors, members of the media, and the community at large.

I want to echo Cllr JE Sebolao and Cllr JH Denner said before me, and I want to take it further. We stand at a crossroads. The time for routine reports and recycled rhetoric is finished. Our Municipality is in crisis, and crisis demands courage. If we are to restore Mangaung to its rightful place as a thriving, functional Metro, we must act decisively and without delay.

Let me be clear, it is a moment for bold proposals and brave leadership and thus, I offer the following recommendations – notwithstanding and recognise the Financial Recovery Plan that we are in and austerity measures that were incorporated, it is not enough. We should consider:

Mangaung as a business in distress: We must approach our municipality as one would a company on the brink of collapse. That means implementing a structured rescue strategy, led by a multi-disciplinary, multi-party committee and should include business leaders with a reputation for proven turnaround strategies.

Cut all non-essential spending: No beautification projects of R1 million. No R6 million for a zoo. We must simply focus on basic services because we cannot afford luxuries.

Call a moratorium on new developments for three years: Focus on rehabilitating existing infrastructure: roads, water systems, electricity.

Establish a Municipality rescue bank account, a dedicated account to ring-fence all funds raised for the rescue effort.

What business do under distress, *dispose of under-utilised assets*

Now, Honourable Speaker through you, I ask the Honourable Executive Mayor briefly to close his ears for the next proposal.

We must sell the land currently occupied by the zoo. This prime property, approximately 150,000 square metres, could be auctioned to attract foreign and local investors for a mixed-use development. Consider this: Loch Logan Waterfront spans 80,000 square metres and would cost R4 billion to build today. A reserve price of R200 million for the zoo is not unreasonable. Imagine the economic stimulus from student housing, commercial spaces, and entertainment hubs. We channel all proceeds from these measures into the rescue account. Lastly, we focus on four areas only with the money.

1. Water Losses – we eliminate the staggering 50% loss in water revenue.
2. Wastewater Treatment – rebuild and upgrade all plants to meet demand and environmental standards.
3. Energy Infrastructure - Modernise CENTLEC and invest in solar because we want to be moving away from ESKOM and don't want to dependent on Eskom the whole time.
4. Roads – repair and maintain our road.

We ring-fence all our revenue from asset sales. Rates and taxes keep on putting it into that money to ensure long-term sustainability.

Honourable Speaker, the residents of Mangaung are bleeding. They are tired of broken promises and failed systems. Through you, I appeal to the Honourable Executive Mayor, this is your moment. Your name can be etched in the history books as the champion of renewal or the caretaker of decline. If you take these bold steps, we will support you. But if you do not, rest assured —the residents of Mangaung will. Thank you.”

Cllr VE De Kock addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, the house and Mangaung residents, hierdie SDBIP wys duidelik dat daar erkenning is vir die kritieke toestand waarin Mangaung se basiese infrastruktuur verkeer. Dit is positief dat die grootste deel van die kapitaalbegroting nou na waterdienste, elektrisiteit en tegniese dienste gaan. Só moet dit wees, want sonder water, elektrisiteit en 'n bruikbare padnetwerk kan geen stad funksioneer nie. Ons verwelkom ook die feit dat daar konkrete kwartaalteikens is – dit maak dit moontlik vir ons as Raadslede om die administrasie verantwoordbaar te hou.

Maar Speaker, ons kan nie net bly wees oor wat op papier staan nie. Hierdie dokument is vol beloftes sonder waarborge. Te dikwels word 100% teikens gestel vir dinge soos minute en agendas, wat niks met werklike dienslewering aan inwoners te doen het nie. En op kritieke terreine, soos menslike nedersettings, is daar eenvoudig geen begroting – dit beteken behuising word weereens afgeskuif na ander sferes van regering.

Ons moet ook eerlik wees: hierdie Metro se finansiële posisie laat nie ruimte vir sulke groot kapitaalbestedings nie. Met 'n skuldmas en swak invordering is daar 'n ernstige risiko dat hierdie projekte bloot droomplanne bly.

And, Honourable Speaker, the biggest problem, this plan says very little about day-to-day service delivery. Our voters are not asking for nice annual plans - they are asking for their garbage to be removed, for sewage not to run into the streets, for potholes to be repaired, infrastructure to be maintained. The SDBIP is almost silent on this, or there are just vague and unrealistic targets.

The Freedom Front Plus will continue to hold this Metro to practical, tangible service delivery, rather than political plans that look good on paper. We ask that the executive focus on what our people experience daily – water in the taps, electricity that is stable, streets that are drivable, and a City that is managed with discipline and accountability.

Hierdie Raad het een vol jaar oor om 'n verskil te maak. 'n Trein kan net as 'n trein funksioneer as al die trokke en lokomotief saamwerk. Sonder enige een van hulle is dit onvolledig, en verloor dit sy doel. Kom ons vat hande en laat die plan werk. Ek dank U.”

Cllr T van Der Walt addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. while I appreciated that the SDBIP does try to comply with the National framework for KPI's, this plan fails to ensure that performance evaluation aligns with the needs on the ground.

While there are some detailed projects, it does not incorporate community satisfaction, real service delivery on the ground and aims at mere compliance and improved audit results. The evidence proposed for KPIs are often weak and unreliable and process driven while it focuses merely on a few specific outcomes without incorporating the experience of residents on the ground.

Our systems need to be professionally digitised and automated in a integrated manner as a matter of urgency, this will already make this type of KPI satisfaction driven easier. It also needs to be more specific without being too extensive. As an example, while it is important to align with national guidelines, our targets need to be aligned with needs, like the closure of the northern landfill site, on which there was a meeting on just the other day, which is a burning point, but is missing on the KPIs of the HOD.

In cities that both have delivery on the ground as well as clean audits, a much better KPI would have been: All actions listed in the 2025/2026 approved Waste Management Plan must have been successfully implemented and that incorporates a number of things you can measure, and you can see if they have been reached or not and it would also improve planning for numerous years. It is specific, it is measurable, it should have detailed actions in the plan that are budgeted and planned to be implemented, and it can be easily assessed, and accountability can happen. Or quarterly meetings and functionality of Waste Management forums for each landfill, that is another example.

Therefore, the DA urges the management and political leadership, specifically driven by the Executive Mayor, to use the IDP Representative Forum that we have just approved in the process plan to ensure that the targets that are set for each department and HOD in the next round of SDBIP are aligned directly with the satisfaction of rate payers and residents on the ground, and that this satisfaction is accurately measured and assessed as part of the KPIs. This is the only way to align the performance of top management with the actual outcome our residents experience on the ground.

Where the DA governs, where Majoro (Executive Mayor) was this week with the Executive Mayor of Cape Town at SALGA, the balanced scorecard approach is successfully implemented and an online dashboard of the evaluation of each top manager is published online quarterly to measure them against very comprehensive, clear and measurable outcomes that include the satisfaction of the residents we serve with key services in the City, including transport, safety, infrastructure, waste management, water supply, pothole repairs, etc.

Lastly Mister Speaker through you, "Majoro" I hope when you met the Executive Mayor of Cape Town you were able to see the kind of support he has from the administration and how easy that can make your job. The Executive Mayor himself is very dynamic and a very hard worker. If you have an administration that support you, makes you even look better much easier. So, I hope you will bring some of the things that are helping them that side to Mangaung. Thank you, Mister Speaker."

Cllr TO Machachamise: “A ke lebohe Motsamaisa wa mosebetsi. The Executive Mayor tabled these items in line with the provision of the Municipal Finance Management Act and the recently approved 2025/2026 IDP and Budget by this Council. As indicated in the previous item of the IDP and Budget process plan, this is the second and last service delivery and budget implementation plan of this Council and hereby request that all identified projects and its allocation be implemented as intended and results must be visible within our communities.

This service delivery and budget implementation plan should not be a document that will later be revised due to non-spending of funds returned. Tshelete e tshwanetse e sebediswe, e sebedisetswe setshaba sa rona, ha re batle tshelete e tla kgutlang.

The communities are trusting this Council especially under the leadership of Executive Mayor with the responsibilities of providing services which are reliable.

As I conclude, the signed performance agreements must not just be a signed document that will not yield results, re batla diphethoho, and as the Whip of the IDP and Performance Committee together with members and Deputy Executive Mayor, I give my full support to our Committee to ensure accountability from those entrusted with serving our communities,

The report of the Executive Mayor is noted and supported. Kealeboha.”

The Deputy Executive Mayor commented as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I just wanted to indicate to Honourable Councillors that we heard what they said, and I think this document tried to deal with those matters. I also want to indicate that it is not easy to sell a historical tourism pride of Mangaung. I really do not understand why Cllr J Maartens came up with that.

To sell land or heritage site of Mangaung is not an easy thing. Remember we are fighting to ensure that the zoo be reopened, and this Council gave the Executive Mayor the mandate to ensure that the zoo is reopened. Now, processes are far, Cllr J Maartens, it is not possible for Council to sell the zoo.

I also want Councillors to understand that in terms of the law, both the SDBIP and the signed agreements must be submitted to Council by the Executive Mayor. To remind Councillors that the SDBIP Strategy, the document does have Circular 88 where it clarifies per department projects that are there. We must not worry because myself and the Committee brought the document, we feel that there is nothing we are hiding. Executive Mayor is not hiding anything.

We need to ensure that everything raised in the SDBIP document is aligned with the agreements, because when assessing HODs of different departments, we assess them according to the alignments of work to SDBIP.

We must understand that Honourable Councillors, that we need to fix issues that are behind as the City. It is not always good that we talk about clean audit and refer to other municipalities that have clean audit theoretically, but in other areas, you do not see the clean audit.

It is better because we are talking about service delivery, and we are pointing areas that need to be dealt with as City. When we have clean audit, but the area in Phelindaba does not show like it is happening in Cape Town, George. If you can go there, you would see that in town it is very clean and beautiful but go where our people are staying, you would cry alone. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

The Executive Mayor responded as follows: “Honourable Speaker, I want to greet the people of Mangaung. Cllr T Van Der Walt, I went to Cape Town, and I indeed met with other mayors. Unfortunately, it was from where I was sleeping to the civic centre to the meeting. The arrangement is similar to this one, not much was exciting except to say it was more or less where we are. Mayors of all equal status and from metros. But in and around the city, I saw where our monies went to from this province. I saw that and I raised it in the meeting. I raised it in a sense that one mayor in Gauteng said he has 360 informal settlements and one mayor asked about opportunities, and I said, there would not be much opportunities in these inland metros because the monies from all those inland metros are one direction.

Unfortunately, I said it before, the mayor of the city where it is the recipient of our monies from our farms, businesses in the cities where we come from and so that we did raise successfully, but I saw that.

I went to Cape Town yesterday, but last week I was also there, but I collided with rugby, so I did not have a place to eat, so they took us to tshisanyama in the township and I ended up not eating. I thought we had sewer spillages, comparatively speaking, our situation and Cape Town is different, completely different. You jump sewer spillages in township in Cape Town; we do not jump that anymore in Mangaung. So, we must compare and contrast and not with regard to inner city. But I saw in town, trucks sweeping with water, cleaning the streets, that was immaculate, but those trucks, I think they should have been converted to deal with sewer in the township first before they can clean the street in town. I saw that in Cape Town and I was so shocked.

Then Honourable Speaker, I asked myself a number of questions and when I was sitting, my big brother was talking about selling the zoo. I remember when I grew up, I was under the impression that the lion could be the size of this room we are in, because I never saw the lion in my upbringings, Cllr JI Mokoena would support me on this one. You know, I never saw a lion, I never thought I will see it and I thought it was a humongous thing. That Cllr JI Mokoena is a pharmacist, I really wonder how he succeeds, he is a genius, I must tell, because the experiment that we were doing during that time, were done through drawings. There were no utensils and equipment as compared to other schools. So, you would draw, if you do not understand those drawing Cllr MW Mongale, you are going to fail.

I remember doing an experiment called the digger dance on agriculture, the mixture of soil and weight of ingredients, from soil to loamy soil etc, there were no utensils, you were told and must understand that the heavier the ingredient, lower it would go and follow one another by the layers. You must master those layers, draw them and pass.

I think at any point Honourable Speaker, when we came across ...at the university level also punctuated and so, some of those black fellows that made it in those space, I really celebrate them. It means they were genius because some of these things were not there.

Now comes a move that we must sell the zoo, despite the fact that the Deputy Executive Mayor says it is historical, Honourable Speaker there's so much in Mangaung that we can utilise to accommodate ourselves. There are empty buildings in town that the Municipality can buy. There are still other lands that is privately owned that we can expropriate. Why take public property and want to use it for one single interest, when so much is in wrong hands as we speak now. I think we need to go that route and understand where we come from. So, I can understand...I hope you are not expressing the entire view of DA, it was your own personal outlook in the Council, but I am also not taking you away from how DA does things because you are business driven; so that was a business outlook and I can understand, but it is quite misplaced.

Honourable Speaker, may I conclude this way, on a lighter note. When I was in Cape Town, I listened to a number of things and there were people that were escorting each other to the airport; kids were going to various places and others were going for matric dance etc and so different people from different culture were singing and cultural expression came to fold. Those coming from township were singing revolutionary songs and you could judge them by the remix, this could be EFF remix...the authentic could be ANC. I listened to those escorting our white kids, only from the Freedom Front Plus I could hear what they may term the revolutionary song, *De La Rey, De La Rey*, but I wanted to hear those escorting greater portion of DA areas, however I could not any, but at some point, they were singing *Johana*. Then I remembered Cllr CL Kruger. It was on a lighter note Honourable Speaker."

Cllr T Van Der Walt on a point of personal explanation remarked: "I am glad the Executive Mayor listened to what I said, but it is clear he was listening with a political ear and how he can be defensive and try to defend the indefensible. He did not engage with the positive proposal we tried to make that is why we don't always make positive proposals to improve things because he does not listen to them.

I can tell you, I have been in Lotus, one of the densest areas in Cape Town, and the situation there is dire, we all know that because there is a lot of people moving to Cape Town, because the economic is growing, there is jobs and people want to be there whereas people in the past used to move to Cape Town, leave their families and now they can take their families with them. But Mister Speaker there is a massive difference in Lotus Park, those people have hope that the people in Caleb Motshabi do not have.

There is an ECD Centre, that is a community development centre developed by a non-profit company, but in partnership with the Western Cape government, Cape Town government and with National Treasury and international funding. That centre produces through local labour paving stones that the city buys for the parks department. They produce compose from the waste that they pay local people to go and collect the waste from different houses and they make compose and have a food garden. They have a massive ECD centre.

Just a few weeks ago the Minister of Education, she told us how important the education of the children from zero to five and seven is for the future of our Country in five or ten years. But it is very clear that Mangaung does not care about those kinds of things. Every time we talk about digitisation, people say but Thaba Nchu will be excluded if the SCM becomes digital. But if you simply create a job centre in Thaba Nchu, you create Wi-Fi activity, you create an ECD centre all in one and you partner with the private sector. You are developing those people and that is the difference of what happens in Mangaung and what happens that side...”

The Speaker stated that he heard Cllr T Van Der Walt and referred him to a point of personal explanation which should not constitute a speech of which it was what Cllr T Van Der Walt was doing and that the comments were duly recorded. That Cllr T Van Der Walt went beyond the two minutes which was against Rule 37.2 of the Standing Rules and Orders.

Council did not vote as the item was for noting.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council:

1. Noted the attached Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan for 2025/2026 financial year as approved by the Executive Mayor within 28 days after approval of the budget.
2. Noted the signed performance agreements of the Municipal Manager and Municipal Manager with Heads of Departments.
3. Noted the 2025/2026 SDBIP is submitted to National Treasury.
4. Noted the 2025/2026 SDBIP and Performance Agreements are submitted to Provincial COGTA for record.
5. Noted the 2025/2026 SDBIP and Performance Agreements are published on the municipal website.

4.

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Note by Secretariat: Items 144.4 and 144.5 were discussed simultaneously.

Cllr MA Matobole addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker and Honourable Councillors.

Today I stand before you, not to cast blame but to raise a vital question that strikes at the heart of governance. How can a City Manager be awarded high percentage on performance assessment while the Departments under his leadership continue to falter? This is not a technical inconsistency; it is a moral contradiction.

The reality on the ground, in Mangaung, our communities are crippling with, inconsistent service delivery, financial mismanagement, infrastructure decay, administrative instability and maladministration. These are not isolated issues, they are systematic failures that affect every household, business and future plans in our Metro. Yet, the very individual tasked with steering this ship, our City Manager has been assessed as having performed flawlessly.

Leadership is not a solo scorecard, leadership is not measured in isolation, not about ticking the boxes in a performance agreement, it is about outcomes, the lived experiences of our people. If Departments are failing, a high percentage score in the face of widespread disfunction, it is not a badge of honour. The need for transparent evaluation, we demand transparent independent performance evaluations, alignment between departmental outcome and executive assessments, accountability mechanisms that reflects realities and not rhetoric.

If the Departments under City Manager are under performing, then the assessment must reflect that, anything less is a betrayal of public trust. Let this moment be a turning point, let us advocate for governance culture that values truth over optics, substance over form and accountability over convenience. We owe it to the communities of Mangaung to ensure that leadership is not just reward, but end. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr KC Moreeng addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, colleagues and residents of Mangaung,

Honourable Speaker, today, I rise not to recite polite platitudes, but to deliver a truth that has been buried under bureaucracy, excuses, and glossy reports.

We have before us a performance assessment that tells two stories:

- One, a self-congratulatory tale of 100% KPI achievement in the Office of the City Manager. While the City Manager received a score of four (4), performance is significantly higher than the standard expected in job/ strong application of competency for policy conceptualisation and implementation. However, the City Manager fails miserably to adhere the Council Standing Rules and Orders.
 1. Rule 38 Questions are not answered.
 2. Motions are not tabled in Council and proposers are not informed as to why.
 3. Council resolutions are not implemented like the establishment of the Ombudsman/ recommendations from MPAC’s annual report/ the IPTN forensic report from National Treasury and the list goes on.
- The other, a lived reality of collapsing infrastructure, dry taps in Dewetsdorp, Van Stadensrus, Wepener, Botshabelo, Soutpan and Thaba Nchu, broken fleet, overflowing pit toilets that has worms, uncollected refuse for the past few weeks and communities are abandoned to fend for themselves...”

The Council Whip on a point of personal explanation asked where in Botshabelo there are dry taps?

The Speaker indicated that point of personal explanation can only be raised at the end of the speech and therefore allowed Cllr KC Moreeng to continue as follows:

“Thank you, Honourable Speaker. in the very same place where the people have blocked the road with stones...”

Council Whip on a point of order stated: “Honourable Speaker, the honourable Councillors is misleading the Council, there are no dry taps where the people have blocked the roads. There is water there, you can go there even now, even yesterday. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr KC Moreeng to continue as follows: “If the City Manager’s office is scoring 100%, yet the citywide performance limps at 63%, then either our metrics are a lie, or our leadership is disconnected from the ground. Either way, the people are being deceived. This document is either a confession by ANC to inform the residents of Mangaung of their evident failure to run this Municipality. We need to look under the following points:

Governance Failure: For the first time in ten (10 years, and I am very thankful that it happened, HOD performance assessments were conducted, this is not progress; it is an indictment.

Service Delivery Paralysis: We are told about “weekly management meetings” and “micro-structures approved.” Yet in our own townships, water leaks run for weeks, if not certain Chief Whip, ask Councillors of Ward 39 and 49, they will attest to this. Refuse piles up, ask them, they will attest, toilets overflow, the so-called VIP toilets, and the fleet meant to serve our people is parked, broken, or missing. It takes almost five (5) weeks for a tyre to be fixed. Meetings do not fix potholes. SOPs do not deliver water.

Financial Mismanagement: The Financial Recovery Plan is waved like a magic wand, but without transparent quarterly reporting to this Council and the public, it is nothing but a political prop. Supply Chain Management remains a choke point where urgency goes to die.

Empty Promises: We are told procurement is “underway.” Underway is not delivery. Underway does not quench thirst, it does not empty pit toilets. Underway does not restore our people’s dignity.

The DA’s demand Honourable Speaker:

- SMART KPIs for every department should be in place and be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and time bound. They need to be tied directly to service delivery outcomes.
- Quarterly public progress reports on the Financial Recovery Plan must be tabled in this Chamber.
- Emergency procurement for water, sanitation and fleet in the towns that I have mentioned should be done with proper oversight.
- A moratorium on bonuses...”

The time allocation for Cllr KC Moreeng to address Council ran out.

Council Whip on a point of personal explanation remarked: “Honourable Speaker, I think the Honourable member was just happy to make a speech in this august house. The reality of the matter is, there is water all over Botshabelo and it is not true that there is no running taps where people are staying.

Secondly, it cannot be true that people closed the road yesterday because of the water. We were there on site yesterday; we spoke to the community and none of them mentioned that. In fact, people who closed the streets yesterday were faceless individual who could not even be identified. So, we must be factual when we are addressing the august house. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr JH Denner addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. Today I sit here amazed. For the first time in many years, the Municipality’s management team is not receiving performance bonuses and yet the service to our people has not been no better nor worse than before when bonuses were still happily being handed out.

Year after year, this Municipality has been marking its own homework, patting itself at the back while our communities suffer. So, I must admit that for once we used common sense and not agreed on marks that pays the management team bonuses.

Further down in the document, mention is made of full competency and scores of 73% and 100% and I must ask, how can a Municipality in a state of collapse still produce a 74% and higher rating for any manager? What kind of system declares competency while service delivery falls every single day? Most importantly, who exactly benefits from the scoring because it is certainly not the people of Mangaung.

Honourable Speaker, this Council owes the public accountability, real accountability. The score of this managers’ KPIs performances should be directly reflected in the service delivery the people of Mangaung receives. We all know, we are not receiving mid to high percentage on service delivery. So, even these marks are still not on power. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr DJ De Huis addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker and honourable Councillors. Ntho tse ding ha di le ntle, di tlameha ho jwetswa hore dintle. Let me take this opportunity Honourable Speaker to acknowledge the work that has been done by HOD Public Safety and Transport, Mr I Kgamanyane and MMC, Cllr SP Tsoleli. Botshabelo and Thaba Nchu the streets are clean. They were saying City is in the house. Keep doing the job that you are doing officials, thank you very much.

Honourable Speaker, the results of the first quarter 2024/2025 once again confirm what the people of Mangaung already know that Municipality is in a deep governance crisis. Corporate Services limping at 51% and Finance collapsing at 48% are not just statistics; they are a direct reflection of an administrative paralysis that directly undermines service delivery and the financial health of Mangaung.

The EFF has always warned that the failure to enforce accountability will reduce the Municipality into a state of permanent dysfunction.

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The Auditor-General has repeatedly said that the performance information is unreliable, targets are not met, and money is spent unmeasurably. Quarter 1 results prove that those warnings were not taken seriously.

The performance inequality across departments is very strong, Honourable Speaker. Public Safety and Transport at 88% and Technical Services at 78% showing that leadership, planning, and resources can produce results. Yet Finance, Community Services, and Corporate Services all below 55% continue to drag this Municipality into collapse. The absence of uniform accountability systems across the administration suggests misallocation of resources, weak oversight, and a deliberate culture of neglect in critical service delivery to the masses.

The reality Honourable Speaker is that the communities of Mangaung continue to live with uncollected refuse, like Cllr JE Sebolao has earlier alluded, water pipes bursting, potholes, and now and then loadshedding. The residents of Mangaung do not care about percentages on a spreadsheet; all they care about is service delivery, they want clean water.

As the EFF, we come before this august house for the following clear recommendations:

1. *Corrective Action Plans:* Every underperforming department must take a detailed corrective plan to Council within 30 days, with clear timeframes and measurable outputs.
2. *Quarterly Reports:* Heads of Departments performing below 60% must appear before Council and account for their failures in every quarter.
3. *Strengthen Finance and Corporate Services:* These are the backbone of functioning municipalities. Treasury report and administrative reinforcement must be prioritised immediately.
4. *Community Involvement:* Ward Councillors and Committees must be given access to performance reports. Service delivery monitoring must take place in the ground where people live.
5. *Learning from Best Practice:* The success of Public Safety and Transport and Technical Services must be replicated across weaker departments. If some departments Honourable Speaker can perform at 88% and 78%, then why are others not reaching the same percentage! What could be the problem?
6. *Escalation to Higher Authorities:* Chronic underperformance cannot be tolerated in this Municipality. The MEC for COGTA and National Treasury must intervene when departments repeatedly fail to do their jobs.

Thank you, Honourable Speaker, the EFF will also not allow Mangaung to remain as a symbol of failure. We will continue to expose underperformance, we will continue to demand accountability, and we will continue to stand with the people who suffer daily from the incompetence of this administration.

It is not enough to draft documents and present it glossy Honourable Speaker. We demand results, we demand accountability, and we demand service delivery.

The time for excuses is over Honourable Speaker and now is the time for consequence management. I thank you.”

Cllr MW Mogale addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae. On this performance assessment, I got some shocks when I was reading the document especially the document that deals with a panel that is evaluating the HODs. I saw a name of a person who was grilled by a Portfolio Committee, the Municipal Manager of Lejweleputswa who confessed about mismanagement and who could not provide an answer except to say, “we are a special municipality”. He is in the Committee, maybe when Mangaung put him in the Committee, he was seen to be one of the flagships of this Province. But for now, I would humbly advice Executive Mayor to consider taking the name out and get a name from CUT or the University of Free State just to give this process credibility.

The two universities are in Mangaung, they can be able to pick up when services are provided and when City Manager is performing and when HODs are performing. They are living here; they are with us, and it is easy to monitor services. Remember, once you say you have delivered a service, the Executive Mayor would not be able to go to HOD and say: you said you have provided a new road, but the Executive Mayor can go to that street that has been flagged in the SDBIP and say, the road has been finished. To say: where is the road here, I expected it here, to see a finished project.

The issue I am raising here is that I have seen people getting good points, starting with City Manager, and the impression created here is that he is performing, but the impression that the reports of Council has given us, they said, there is a problem with overtime that is presiding over; there is a new problem of Cricket stadium that has been sold. It is an allegation of R100 million, worth more than R100 million but sold with R3.5 million. Here, I am calling the Executive Mayor to say, if people are setting you up, you must stand up and be counted. An action must be taken. Remember, if you see anything that is wrong and we keep quiet about it, you are an accomplice.

On the issue of labour peace, there is no labour peace in Mangaung. There is always the issue of protest. Sometimes they have closed the entrance and Councillors cannot even enter the place. There are also marches, people are not happy. It means there is no labour peace and trust relationship has been broken and the political structure is the one that can be able to restore that trust if the administration is failing to do it.

The issue of ghost employees, there have never been consequence management up until this day. The prisoners that have been paid, being honoured for serving sentence in prison, saying we are going to honour you more than the people who have not broken the law and there are no consequence management for that effect. Indeed, we are in the gangster state where gangs are being honoured more than ordinary people.

The failure of departments to work together, is in the report of the Council that we received last time but Municipal Manager has been rewarded. Municipal Manager is litigating without Council Resolution; in such instances he is overreaching because you cannot litigate without getting a Council Resolution. The failure to deliver services, this one, we know. We know there is an argument that wena Executive Mayor said ho o so o tlola sewer, rona re tlola every day. Akere rona re dula township, eseng ka toropong, re tlola every day. Sometimes, I wish e kabe e le kae kae pela Mimosa. Ha le re le kena Southern Sun, le kopane le yona, le e tlole le lona or kolo e stuck ka hara yona.

Failure to comply with mandatory Financial Recovery Plan is part of the things that shows that the Municipal Manager is failing. Failure to appoint the ombudsman even though there is a Council Resolution, reflects a failure. A failure to control the assets of the Council, Klein Magassa Hall, Arthur Nathan swimming pool, part of that evidence. Failure to trace R100 million, flagged by Acting CFO, Mr Sediti, till this day, it is part of your failures. You do not deserve to be the City Manager of this Municipality; this Metro deserve a City Manager.”

Cllr T Van Der Walt addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. it really is an indictment that this is the first time in at least 10 years that performance assessment reports have served in Council or at least provided to Councillors. That explains exactly why our staff performance is where it is. However, we must acknowledge that the fact that it serves now is a very small step in a the right direction. Once again the timing of the report and the date of the assessment, 19 August is very suspect and this leaves me under the impression that this is at least in part due to the pressure that has been placed on the political leadership by the parliamentary committee, the questions the DA asked about the municipal managers assessment on the SDBIP in the last Council meeting as well as a statement we issued in this regard, and lastly some very pointed question MPAC asked regarding the evaluation report, panel and scoring. The questions asked in MPAC on 12 August 2025, and this assessment report states that the evaluation took place on 19 August 2025, 7 days later and in record time after that, it is submitted to Council, I am not used to that, it is suspect. We will leave that.

We can and must build and improve on the format, content and accuracy of KPIs and assessment criteria. We need to ensure that the scoring of our EMT is aligned much closer with what our clients experience on the ground day to day, our residents.

The evaluation panel must ensure that their evaluation provides each senior manager with pointed, root cause actions that need to be taken to drastically improve our systems and start having a real positive impact on the experience our city of service delivery on the ground.

Lastly, our President has asked all South Africans to ask themselves questions, and we want to propose to Mangaung residents ask themselves very important questions such as:

- how can the top paid 7 senior managers of Mangaung get assessments of mid-70 to over 100% when we drive through potholes, have water running down our streets, we have uber driver and taxi wars in our wards, and shopping centres, our sewage infrastructure is collapsing, our call centre is not working, the wrong meters are cut off for debt collection and broken meters are not replaced for more than two (2) years.

How can our political leadership allow that, and when they get these still very average scores, Why are they not under performance improvement plans with consequences for failure? Will these top managers now step up and ensure their line managers and the lower managers are also performance assessed because it is not mentioned in the report in a way that reflects the everyday realities of our residents on the ground failing which they must be shipped out with urgency. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr SM Swartz addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. on a lighter note, Honourable Speaker, there is an Afrikaans wording that says: *as ons almal net kan saam werk, hoe lekker sal dit wees want jou werk is my werk, en onse werk is God se werk*”. In this case, if every one of us just put our hands into the plough, then everything that we are complaining about today, in this Council, it is all of us work to see to it that we achieve the desired results.

Then I want to say, it was my first time in the Section 80 Committee with MMC, Cllr SP Tsoleli and HOD: Public Safety and Transport, Mr I Kgamanyane where we drove into the streets going to check out the stores with expired goods. I want to applaud them and say thank you very much, it was an exercise well done for teamwork. The meeting that we even had concluded on a couple of things of which an item was moved, was very fruitful and I do believe that if we stand together and work together that we will yield positive results at the end of the day.

On the item, Honourable Speaker, it is with grave concern that the Patriotic Alliance addresses the performance assessment of our Municipal Manager. This agenda item highlights ongoing non-adherence to performance management and systems flagged in the Auditor General’s report where internal scores often fail to align to external audits.

The Municipal Performance Regulation requires a minimum of 130% for bonuses and yet assessments have fallen short indicating a systemic problem in our governance. What does this tell us about the state of our Municipality, Mangaung. It points to a leadership failure; targets are not met, and performances are sub par by the Municipality’s own measures.

The Patriotic Alliance has a few critical questions that warrants answers:

1. What are the specific areas that led to our Municipal Manager achieving a score below the required 130%?
2. Beyond simply withholding bonuses, from him and the HODs, what consequence management has been implemented for this underperformance?
3. The report notes that all recommendations of the panel will be monitored and implemented, can our City Manager provide an action plan with specific timelines on how these recommendations will be implemented to prevent future failures.

Coming to HODs, this is not a point of celebration, it is a stark admission of failure with collective score averaging below 130% thresholds prescribed by the Municipal Performance Regulations resulting no bonuses paid to. Our leadership cannot achieve the AG report alignment because their performance falls short of the very regulations meant to guide them, amid broader issues like, accountability and governance failure.

To address this Honourable Speaker, the Patriotic Alliance proposes adopting the best practice such as balance score cards from successful metros. Honourable Executive Mayor, Cllr GMS Nthatisi, I did not want to say successful metros like Cape Town, because I did not want to venture into that discussion again.

With a 50% of appraisal weight on the AG alignment metrics for service delivery and financial compliance, the Patriotic Alliance has few critical questions that demand answers of which I have alluded to in the City Manager's report, point 1 and 2. I then conclude with, how will the recommended skills audit and training programs for HODs be rolled out, with timelines, risk capacity gaps identified in their performance agreements. I thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr NL Lecoko addressed the Council: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor, Councillors, le batho ba Mangaung, ke a le dumedisa.

We are here today to confront the hard realities of our departments. The recent assessment results which are brought to the Council for the first time and almost every time in my presentation I would say, we have to always reflect back where we come from, it is not everything that started yesterday but we are running the race that has been ran before. To continue with that, the assessment has revealed a significant challenge that requires our collective attention and the introspection thereof.

As we stand at the crossroads, I am reminded of a wisdom *Proverbs of 29:18*, "*where there is no vision, the people perish*", without a clear vision, direction and leadership, our departments will continue to struggle. But I am also pleased to report that our Section 80 Committee had robust discussions involving all parties, where we demonstrated leadership and willingness to acknowledge the challenges we are facing for once. We have come together to recognise that we need to support our City Manager and HODs in their roles. We realised that it is essential to meet with the City Manager and all the HODs to identify areas where we can assist to remove obstacles that hinder their performance.

The African National Congress guiding principles of transparency, accountability and people centred governance, are not just ideals, they are the foundation upon which was built on our administration. By embracing these principles, we can create an environment where our Departments can strive and deliver results that benefits our communities.

There is a song: "*We are the one we have been waiting for. We are the change we seek*". Let us embody this spirit of collective responsibility and work together to address the challenges we are facing. Let us draw inspiration from the philosophy of '*ubuntu*', which remind us that I am because we are. Our success intertwined by supporting one another, we can achieve greatness.

To our HODs, I urge you to reflect to your role as servant of the people. Remember that leadership is not about power, but it is about responsibility. The great philosopher, Nelson Mandela once said: *leadership is not about titles, positions or flow chats, but one life influencing another*.

Let us embark on a journey of transformation where we prioritise the needs of our community, strive for excellency and we hold ourselves accountable for the actions. Let us draw inspiration from the words of Micah 6: 8 what does the Lord require of you but to act justly, to love kindness and work humbly with God.

As we navigate these challenges, let us remember that every moment is a blessing from God and in the mist of adversities, we must appreciate that we are important to the universe; without us the world would not be complete.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to the IDP and Performance Team, particularly Mr M Mothekhe for the efforts...”

The Speaker interjected to announce that Cllr LN Lecoko speech time ran out.

The Executive Mayor explained as follows: “Honourable Speaker, in a meeting called by SALGA, a benchmark was proposed, and an analysis was given on what we are from and where we are.

The Councillors who is more African than some of us, was on point to make an observation of the situation we are in. but the unfortunate thing is that, when we started, he was not here. I found a number of Councillors but some of those that came after me has little to say with regard to where we were, when I came here.

But for the share of information Honourable Speaker, Councillors were afraid to come to the Council. The situation was unbearable, lives of people were threatened; the movement was limited, and the centre was not holding. The centre is holding today. There is a law of nature that describe what we are in, from quantity to quality. We moved from a quantitative arrangement that was here, we are progressing towards quality. There is a milestone in that, you do not just arrive at quality, that built up must be taken into consideration. You assess and judge people on the basis of that progression.

The benchmarking that was proposed, was based on Councillors who do well in their occupation either as Mayors, MMCs etc, but we had to raise a very telling concern, situations are not the same. When you do benchmarking, what do you say about a Councillor in Botshabelo in Ward 34 as compared to a Councillor somewhere in town who lives in opulence and acclaimed community, you cannot benchmark them the same. The yardstick must be based on the strength on what is obtained on the ground.

Generally, what I am saying to the Council is that we might be expecting more, and the unfortunate is that the reality does not obtain the same. But the periods also are not in similar situations. There is an acknowledgement by Councillor to say at least for the first time we are assessing the officials; we are beginning to acknowledge that at least there is progression. Why should I make an assessment on a tail end based on progression? You judge people on basis of what progression speaks to you at the particular time.

Having said that Honourable Speaker, we probably might be here, but we must remember where we come from. When I looked at the books when I became a Councillor, there was an adverse background of Mangaung with regards to the Department of Finance. When I look at Mangaung where it stands now, you are at the low risk and certainly that is progression. At least as far as I am concern, there is a movement of somethings...

It is my take Honourable Speaker, that I take the criticism around the assessment, the truth is, if scientific enough, one would realise that at any ticking of the clock, at any moment where processes are unfolding, an assessment must be made which must be equivalent to the happenings of the time. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

On a point of self-explanation, Cllr GDP Kotze asked that with the challenges of refuse removal whether the Municipality was going forward and that the Executive Mayor enlighten the Council why at every end or beginning of the month there are challenges with refuse collection.

On a point of order, Cllr MW Mongale requested the Speaker to direct the Executive Mayor that he must respond to questions Councillors asked and deal with issues raised.

The Executive Mayor responded as follows:

- That the assessment was not done just for this Council, it was done some time back. It is an involve process and it has been concluded. What was happening now, was an assessment for the next coming assessment process.
- That there were challenges that were operational and experienced on a daily basis and those issues whether resolved or not, if they need the attention of the Council, they would be brought before the Council.
- That, in addressing the issue on overtime, and the balancing systems to ensure that the Municipality is accountable, part of what would happen is that change is not easy and not adopted easily by those at which it would apply to them, there would be resistance somehow, especially when it taps on their tomorrow.
- That what the Municipality was now experiencing in impacting change, experience some hiccups which are necessary. The Municipality is experiencing some contradictions in the strive to ensure stabilisation of financial resources with regards to work ethics and overtime.
- That should they become alarming, the Executive would seek attention of the Council.
- That urge Council to focus on applying their minds on what is on the ground and if an issue is raised, it must indicate where so that he is able to instruct on the issues raised but if it is a general statement to excite a situation against the hard work they were doing, and he would certainly come gun blazing.

Cllr BJ Viviers raised a concern that for the month of August 2025, overtime was standing at R21 million and should Council continue on what has been budgeted for on R85 million, there was only three (3) months left and therefore urged the Executive Mayor to look into the matter.

Council did not vote as the item was for noting.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council:

1. Took note of the evaluation report.
2. Took note that the City Manager achieved below the minimum of 130% mark as prescribed on section 32 (2) (a) of Local Government: Municipal Performance Regulations and no performance bonus will be paid.
3. To take note that all the recommendations of the Panel to City Manager will be monitored for implementation.
4. To note that the report will be submitted to the MEC responsible for Local Government.

**5.
PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT FOR MANAGERS ACCOUNTABLE TO THE MUNICIPAL
MANAGER**

The item was simultaneously discussed with item 144.4 above.

Council did not vote as the item was for noting.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council:

1. Took note of the evaluation report.
2. Took note that Heads of Departments achieved below the minimum of 130% mark as prescribed on section 32 (2) (a) of Local Government: Municipal Performance Regulations and no performance bonus will be paid.
3. To take note that all the recommendations of the Panel to Heads of Departments will be monitored for implementation.
4. To note that the report will be submitted to the MEC responsible for Local Government.

**6.
REPORT ON COUNCILLORS AND EMPLOYEE'S SALARY DEDUCTIONS DUE TO
ARREARS ON MUNICIPAL ACCOUNTS**

Cllr M Wewege addressed the Council: "Mister Speaker, fellow Councillors, we note the report on Councillors and employees' salary deductions for arrears on Municipal accounts.

As the Freedom Front Plus, we want to stress that this cannot replace personal responsibility. Every Councillor and every Municipal employee must lead by example when it comes to paying their accounts on time, just as we expect from the community we serve. It is just as important that current accounts remain up to date. Otherwise, we will find ourselves back in the same position again, dealing with arrears that could have been avoided.

While the system of deductions may provide a way to recover outstanding amounts, it should never become a norm or an easy way out. Accountability and good financial management must remain the standard.

We therefore note the report, with the reminder that leadership starts with setting the right example. Thank you, Mister Speaker."

Cllr JM De Bruin addressed the Council: "Thank you, Mister Speaker. Firstly, we just want to say, charity begins at home. We want to thank the Executive Mayor for taking steps. We must start with the Executive Mayor, the Speaker, then the MMCs for deductions in our salaries for any outstanding accounts. Thank you, Mister Speaker."

Cllr JE Sebolao addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, Members of Council, and the Finance Committee, we would like to address the matter of salary deductions imposed on Councillors and Municipal employees for arrears on their Municipal accounts.

Firstly, let us remind this House, no municipality is above the law. While Section 96 of the Municipal Systems Act obliges municipalities to collect all revenue due, and Section 64 of the MFMA requires reasonable steps to recover monies owed, these provisions do not give the municipality a blank cheque to raid salaries without consent, process, or affordability checks.

The Basic Conditions of Employment Act is crystal clear: *no deduction may be made without written agreement by the employee, or unless authorised by law or a collective agreement*. Anything else is unlawful. If this Municipality is enforcing unilateral deductions, it is not debt collection it is wage theft.

We ask directly:

- Has the Municipality aligned its deductions with its own *Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy*?
- Does this policy require written consent, prior notice, or a means test?
- When was this policy last adopted, and was it ever tested against the BCEA and Labour Relations Act?

Honourable Speaker, the numbers themselves raise alarm bells. The 2023/2024 Financial Performance Report shows arrears climbing from R2.4 million in quarter 2 to over R3.5 million in quarter 4 despite these very deductions. Either this method is failing, or the reporting is flawed. We demand a category breakdown: councillors, employees, and external debtors. Without that clarity, this Council is operating in the dark.

We also remind this Chamber that a previous Council resolution stated debt would be recovered *through agreed-upon, affordable deductions*. Where is that resolution now? Were affordability tests conducted? Or was a blanket deduction imposed, disregarding household realities?

Colleagues, the legal risk here is immense. Unauthorised deductions expose this Municipality to CCMA disputes, Labour Court challenges, and SALGA interventions. We cannot govern by violating the very labour rights we are sworn to uphold.

The EFF therefore demands the following from the Finance Committee:

1. A written legal basis for these deductions, citing specific laws and policies.
2. The tabling of the latest Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy, alongside the MTREF provisions.
3. A transparent arrears breakdown, category by category.

4. An immediate halt to deductions without written consent, prior communication, and a fair affordability test.

Honourable Speaker, debt recovery cannot be pursued through unlawful shortcuts. The dignity and rights of Councillors and workers must be protected. Anything less is not governance it is abuse. I thank you.”

Cllr SQ Peter responded as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker and the house at large. Allow me Honourable Speaker to assist Cllr JE Sebolao on issues he raised. He mentioned two legislations, Systems Acts and MFMA and when he reads those, it must be together with Code of Conduct for Councillors which is explicit to say, *that a Councillor cannot owe the municipality for more than 90 days*. Therefore, at no stage that Finance Department is doing to recover whatever due to the Municipality is incorrect, that narrative, we must put aside.

Secondly, in an event whereby Finance Department has deducted more than what you can afford, you are at liberty to approach the official or the Office of the CFO so that it can be addressed. We do not encourage where deduction is more, and people suffer as a result. I plead that if you have that encounter visit Finance Department so that you can be assisted.

This is a quarterly report that we normally submit to Council to indicate the gains that we have collected from both Councillors and Municipal officials as stated by both acts that have been mentioned. We must also indicate that we have been doing better in collecting, we have reduced arrears significantly thus far and we hope we will continue doing that. Through the assistance of Councillors and officials, we will try our best to reduce the percentage.

We must also indicate Honourable Speaker that we are almost at conclusion with Centlec personnel to form part of this exercise. In the previous term, we could not do that for a number of reasons, but we had several meetings with them. Probably our next report to be submitted to Council, we will be having both Mangaung Metro Municipality and Centlec, as I submit. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

The Speaker remarked: “You are right Cllr SQ Peter, Schedule 8 of Local Government Gazette of October 2022, deals broadly with Councillors who are in arrears with municipality in terms of their rates and service charges. Sub-section 4 states: *a councillor who is in arrears with the municipality for rates and services charges for a period longer than three (3) months is in breach of the code of conduct*.

However, Cllr JE Sebolao is right, no unilateral deductions shall be made, a Councillor will approach administration to make an arrangement in writing which is economic with what is owed to the Municipality. But it cannot be tolerated that Councillors are in arrears as that is a direct breach of the Code of Conduct.

Council did not vote as the item was for noting.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council noted the salary deductions report.

7.

REPORT ON ASSET VERIFICATION 2024/2025

Cllr PA Lotriet addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. I am going to read a four paragraph from opinion piece. After that, we can decide if this information is reliable, or it is valid. Please bear with me.

“The Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality's policy on asset maintenance is somewhat implicit, but there are references to the importance of maintenance in ensuring the longevity and effectiveness of municipal assets.

According to a briefing by the Auditor-General of South Africa, the municipality has been criticized for its inadequate asset management and lack of essential policies for infrastructure maintenance. This suggests that asset maintenance is an area that requires attention and improvement within the municipality.

Additionally, a report on the municipality's performance notes that a lack of proper maintenance has been identified on key projects, which inhibits the service potential of these projects for the community. This highlights the importance of asset maintenance in ensuring that municipal projects and services are delivered effectively.

While these references do not provide a detailed policy framework for asset maintenance, they do emphasize the need for the municipality to prioritize maintenance in order to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of its assets”.

This is a question that I cannot summarise it better, but it is my narrative and that of my party. The good news is, I think it is low hanging fruit. While we address our policy with regards to asset management, maybe we should put new glasses on and focus and concentrate on maintenance aspects of things. My last sentence is the message I want to bring about, are we sure that we are properly geared to manage our maintenance. Let us go to my ward, Ward 21. There are a couple of low hanging fruits there:

- Hamilton Gardens: that used to be immaculate grass where people could have picnics, if you drive past there now, its long grass with refuse all over.
- Orchard House. It has been stripped; the roof is off. I did write a Rule 38 question to the Executive Mayor and the Municipal Manager, and I hope they will answer me soon. It is sad, but Orchard House is something we can fix and if we do not want to use it as orchard house, we can look at some other use for it. It is terrible to drive from main road coming in Bloemfontein and this Orchard house stands there. It is an asset that we do not maintain.

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- Arthur Nathan Swimming Pool, we have already spent about R10 million just to decide what to do and in the meantime, it has been stripped. You can drive pass it now, it is a place where cable thieves can go and burn off their plastics for wires. The fact is, say we decide to spend about R90 million and that would probably be R150 million now and we refurbish that swimming pool... the decay will start if we have no maintenance plans. Look at Heidedal swimming pool, there is a couple of sports facilities that are... because of maintenance.
- Oliwenhuis: The grass there, is full of weeds, you cannot take off your shoes there or sit on the grass; maintenance.
- The Edge restaurant. I wrote a Rule 38 question a couple of years ago and there is another one coming. We have spent on a building that should have cost R2 million and we spent R20 million, and we have nothing for our investment, and it is busy falling apart.

Thank you.”

Cllr TK Rammile addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Executive Mayor, Members of the Council, and the people of Mangaung, we stand here today confronted by a truth that is as stark as it is unacceptable.

In the 2024/25 financial year, this Municipality could only physically verify 45.5% of its assets. That means 29 688 movable assets worth R6.65 million and 38 intangible assets worth R818, 000 are unaccounted for. Let us be clear: these are not just numbers in a ledger. These are the chairs our officials sit on, the tools our workers need, the software that runs our systems. When they vanish, so does our ability to deliver services.

Batho ba Mangaung, ga re ka se bone dithoto tseno, re lathlegetswe. Re latlhegelwa le ke tšepo. This is a cost of neglect.

This report proposes writing off R7.47 million in public assets. That is money that could have fixed water leaks in Thaba Nchu, repaired our broken fleet, or equipped our clinics. Instead, it is gone swallowed by weak controls, poor record-keeping, and a culture of impunity.

The Democratic Alliance demands accountability and decisive action. We demand

1. A public asset recovery tracker updated monthly, accessible to every resident.
2. Departmental accountability, each head of department must explain, in writing, the fate of their missing assets within 90 days.
3. Disciplinary action, negligence must have consequences.
4. Quarterly verification updates, no more waiting a year to discover losses.

We cannot ask our communities to pay rates and taxes while we fail to safeguard what they have already paid for.

We cannot preach transparency while hiding asset losses in committee reports.

We cannot deliver dignity without discipline.

Re tlameha ho busetsa boikarabelo le botshepehi mmusong wa rona.

Honourable Speaker, this is not just about assets. It is about the soul of this Municipality. Let us act now decisively, transparently, and in full view of the people we serve.

Inclosing, Honourable Speaker I would like to pose the following questions:

1. Will the Municipality at least get insurance money on assets that are missing?
2. What was the costs of the external service provider that was appointed, should we not have received a better report and written off less. I thank you."

Cllr BJ Viviers supported the recommended proposal by Cllr PA Lotriet that the policy be worded properly so that we can properly maintain our assets.

Cllr JH Denner addressed the Council: "Thank you, Mister Speaker. the Freedom Front Plus cannot support the recommendation before this Council to write off more than R7.4 million worth of Municipal assets. Keep in mind this is a depreciated rate, replacement value is probably 10 or 15 times more than this value. This is a lot of money we are talking about, not just R7.4 million.

This is an alarming figure. According to an external audit, more than 29 000 movable assets could not be verified. I took a couple of items on this list, it includes approximately 2000 laptops and desktops, approximately 5000 chairs, 22 generators, 437 toolboxes, 258 brush cutters, 14 ride on lawn mowers, 72 manual lawn mowers to name a few. How do you lose a ride on lawn mower, 14 of them? There must surely be consequences for this.

Section 63 of the Municipal Finance Management Act is clear, the City Manager as an accounting officer is responsible for managing, safeguarding and maintaining all Municipal assets, yet this report exposes a total breakdown of governance and internal controls. Less than half of all recorded assets were verified. Departments ignored the very Asset Management Policy adopted in this Council.

Acquisitions movements and loses of assets were not tracked. Mister Speaker, what message do we send to the people of Mangaung if we quietly approve this. That millions of rands can disappear into thin air and nobody is held accountable.

The residents of Mangaung are already carrying a heavy burden, rates and taxes increase year after year, service delivery continues to decline. Now we are asked to write off missing assets worth millions. Every item on this list was bought with taxpayers' money.

The Freedom Front Plus insist that there can be no write off until there is accountability. We will not support this recommendation until each Department conducts a full investigation into the missing assets; a comprehensive report is table before Council with responsible officials; disciplinary action is taken where negligence or misconduct is proven and finally, the City Manager provides a detailed recovery plan to strengthen internal controls to prevent future losses.

Honourable Speaker, the people of Mangaung deserves better. They deserve transparency and accountability and responsible management of public money. The Freedom Front Plus rejects these recommendations. Thank you, Mister Speaker."

Cllr VE De Kock addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, the report on Asset Verification 2024/2025 highlighted it unmistakably: assets with a book value of R7.46 million were written off, R6.6 million in movable assets and more than R800,000 in software. This is a huge loss for Mangaung and for those residents who pay their rates and taxes every month.

Now we have before us a new Asset Management Policy. On paper, it looks stronger:

- Write-offs are more clearly regulated,
- Approval processes are stricter,
- And record-keeping is linked to GRAP standards.

This is positive, and the Freedom Front Plus welcomes it. But we must be honest: if this document ends up gathering dust in a drawer, nothing will change.

The Freedom Front Plus insist that, this policy must be a working tool. Management and officials must use it to enforce accountability, and Council must provide oversight. Every write-off of a vehicle, computer, or any other asset must be understandable and explainable to the taxpayer.

We simply cannot afford paid-for, usable resources to disappear without accountability. This policy must therefore be a living document - not just another policy gathering dust in an inaccessible office.

Honourable Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus will support this policy, but we insist that implementation be strictly monitored. Otherwise, in a year's time, we will again be faced with a verification report full of lost assets and a budget still out of balance.

I will join Cllr MW Mongale and also sound like a scratched CD. Let us not only adopt a policy today but establish a culture of accountability and discipline. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr MH Supi addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Ke kopa ke seke ka nna morongwa o lonya. I grew up in a city called Malay Kamp Bochabela, ko Semi-road; ka tloga ka ya ko Tlhobelo, mme le ntate ba mpepile re tsamaya ka thoto re ya go dula ko 4740 ko Tlhobelo. So, Malay Kamp a ntirile motho today. Ke eme moo, as a product ya Bochabela.

Honourable Speaker, my colleague from the DA, I am not sure how does he read this document which says that in terms of what supported these assets in terms of item 4.4, Section 7, the assistance of external service provider, Infratec was sourced, with consulting fees of R647 866. This is what the external service provider was paid.

The problem is, we do not want to read the historical point of the asset of where we are coming from. I am sure the Executive Mayor said something about the progression. Go nale ko re tswang teng, go nale koo re yang teng.

Section 63 of the Municipal Finance Management Act of 2003, sub-section 1 determines that the accounting officer of the municipality is responsible for the management of the asset including the safeguarding and maintenance of those assets.

The verification was embarked on for movable assets as prescribed in paragraph 3.1 of the Asset Management Policy. During the financial year 2023 to 2024, the Municipality undertook to verify the asset which due to limited capacity of staff and made it possible for assessment to be made available for Council perusal. In that regard, the Municipality resolved with the commencement for 2024/2025 verification on the 10th of February 2025 and concluded on the 7th of July 2025. The problem encountered due to lack of access to offices which were locked, and offices not located by immovable assets/intangible assets.

Based on the outcome of the verification process, there are reports to consider by this Council notwithstanding the omission of movable assets which are situated at a total of 2289 located at the following areas in Mangaung, Botshabelo, Thaba Nchu and former Naledi areas.

In conclusion, Honourable Speaker, a total of 54 488 assets as disclosed in the Council's Fixed Asset Register for the 2024/2025 financial year which are divided into categories are recommended thereof. The recommendations are supported as they are. We support also the policy as submitted, item 144.8. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr MW Mongale addressed the Council: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae. The issue here is, we are asking that re seke ra omanyetswa ho bua nnete. If you have given us a report and you are blaming us for interpreting what is written in the report, then there is a problem with the report.

If you put an assessment to say, there is a couch in the office of the Executive Mayor which seats three people then you say ha hona sofa, then o ska re omanyetsa sofa. In fact, sofa di tshwanetse ho tsamaya ka di office, mona re tlile ho sebetsa, ha re batle di-sofa...

The other issue is, there is furniture at the basement of this building, and it is new unused stuff and still covered with plastics to show that they are new. When a new manager comes to an office, they want to source new material, they want a chair comfortable, it is there in the basement, why buy another one...stop-ang ntho ya hore o batla furniture e ncha, le ropa community ho fumana service delivery...

The reality is, the Municipality loses a lot of money, but the biggest loss is failure to maintain the assets of the institution, amongst them is those that I reflected on in the previous discussion, such as Arthur Nathan swimming pool when in the IDP it appears that it is going to be refurbished but ended up not being refurbished. In the new financial year, ho ba le budget for yona hape. Tshetele e ya kae, e ya nyamela, ha e fihle moo e tshwanetseng e fihle teng. Ho nale Ward Councillor ha e sale e emela di-service, community e ho emetse, e emetse di-service empa ha di fihle ho wena. O thotse empa wa tseba hore wa failiwa...Ke a leboha Motsamaisa wa Dipuisano."

Cllr SM Swartz addressed the Council: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. The Patriotic Alliance is deeply troubled by this report. The recommendation to write off movable assets with a carrying value of over R6.6 million and intangible assets of over R818 thousand is not a routing administrative task.

It is a sign of a critical breakdown in our financial controls echoing national trends where municipalities wrote off R50.96 billion in debts in 2023/24 due to weak internal controls. The report also recommends that assets located during the investigation be reinstated and that the Departmental Assets Controllers be assigned and this show that a basic function of a well-run municipality knowing what assets you have is not being performed. We need to strongly address the root cause of this negligence Honourable Speaker and the house.

The Patriotic Alliance demands a commitment to the best practises for performance to prevent such loses from happening in the first place, such as implementing digital asset tracking system per the national guidelines and compiling a GRAP compliant asset register, therefore the Patriotic Alliance's questions are:

1. What is the total of assets that have been lost or unverified in the last five (5) years including cumulative, unauthorised expenditure of R1.34 billion in 2023/24 and what has been the financial impact on our Municipality?
2. What measures will be implemented immediately to ensure that this does not happen again?
3. Assigning an Asset Controllers is a good start, but what oversight will be in place to ensure that they perform their duties diligently?
4. Has the disciplinary action been taken against the officials or departments responsible for these significant losses of public assets?

The taxpayers of Mangaung, Honourable Speaker, deserves to know what their money has been used for; is it used wisely, and that public property is being protected and not lost or written off.

The Patriotic Alliance will support the report on condition that the Asset Management Policy be implemented, evaluated and monitored. I thank you."

Cllr CL Kruger responded as follows: "Baie dankie Agbare Speaker. Laat my toe om vir Opkoms eerste te groet vant Opkoms gave birth to the Councillor. Then I move to Ashbury dan gaan ek Gatvol, Rykmanshoogte and dan se ek vir Ward 16, halala!

Honourable Speaker, I definitely as MMC for Finance take note of some of what the previous speakers have said, definitely we will inculcate what they have proposed because some of it make sense. But, equally Honourable Speaker, some of the things they had mentioned, are already contained in the document or as part of the recommendations.

I just need to clarify Honourable Speaker, when we deal with write offs, we must first ascertain what does write off mean and when do you apply it. Write off does not necessarily mean things were stolen, but it can mean somethings were stolen, it is not the absolute interpretation of it. The write off of assets happen when the assets are damaged, stolen, or could not be accounted for during the physical verification. Not writing it off will cause an overstatement of assets. Equally Honourable Speaker and Councillors, every item that we purchase has a lifespan, even your car and depreciation is a reality. So, in many times, as much as we can still use the table, the problem is, it has reached its five years lifespan.

It is imperative Honourable Speaker, to have a true reflection of our actual assets base because it has an impact on our liquidity. So, I am asking Honourable Councillors, if you can check on recommendations ...and I love what Councillor from Freedom Front Plus said on mentioning the amendments on the policy and if you can check what informed those amendments and why was it necessary to do the amendments.

The proposed amendments on the Assets Management Policy are based on the recommendation made by the Office of the Auditor General, but also to align the policy with the Supply Chain Management Policy because there was a misalignment. I take cognisance of that. Action for people who could not account, you could see in our recommendation, some of the assets that we could not verify, those user departments must account for them, and a list of accountabilities should be done, and losses should be reported to the EMT on a monthly basis.

I am saying, the reason we are doing this in terms of the recommendations and what gave rise to the amendments is because we have seen the loopholes before. They say, *if you do what others did, you will get what others got*. If you want to change results, change the enabling environment and this has given rise to what we are proposing in terms of the amendment of the policy and equality in terms of the recommendations to Council, as I submit. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr PA Snyman seconded the proposal by Cllr TK Rammile on item 144.7.

The Executive Mayor responded as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I was listening to my fellow Councillors, and I can understand some of the critical concerns relating to assets. This is not isolated to an earlier question asked with regard to the Cricket Stadium which I will touch base as I flow with my contribution.

I thought Councillors would acknowledge some related terms when dealing with assets that would speak to wear and tears, depreciation of assets but also take into consideration the kind of situation that we dealt with in the recent past where most of our assets were not in good working condition, subject to other related issues of pilfering, collusion with private sector by way of hurting the asset base of the Municipality.

I thought all of those things would come to the fore when we deal with assets. That, emanating from there, we are trying to balance the assets of the Municipality and whether they are in working condition, they are not liabilities when it came to our resources.

One of the Councillors -Ward 21, mentioned the railway, some of the assets are immovable whereas we are talking about movable.

The movable assets were quantified by Freedom Front Plus in terms of what they could be, but I made reference to say depreciation, and wear and tear must also be taken into consideration. But there is another aspect I must bring, compatibility to the period of how technology evolve from one stage to the other. So, some of those things cannot be kept, but need to be disposed of and that is one part of disposal.

The second part of disposal is that critical components may not be accessible to revitalise some of these assets to good use when we are supposed to be providing services excellence. Equally so, the document does display that, whilst we are sourcing endorsement by Council, that does not serve as alpha and omega. The officials will ensure that some of those be brought to book in terms of whereabouts, the disappearance of Municipal assets. Consequence management must take shape as Councillors have proposed and that would be the case.

Honourable Speaker, let me say, we have instructed the officials to go to the Deeds office because critic asset belonging to the Municipality was transacted by either the official/s and some political instruction over and above those assets; that may not have enjoyed the Council Resolution and either or an illegal transaction. So, we have instructed that they must go touch base with the Deeds Office to establish the whereabouts of our assets and whether they were properly transacted.

According to some flimsy records, the Municipality commands so much enormous portion of lands from all the plots that were acquired from Bainsvlei, Shannon to elsewhere, but when you establish where those plots are, you do not understand. But what Councillor from Bainsvlei said from what we have there is the Clinic and Police Station if I am not mistaken. These are some of the things we must track and check who did what with what asset.

The issue of the Cricket Stadium is a hot cake, in a sense that what we are first doing is to ensure that we work towards reversing whatever illegal transaction that might have taken shape. That is part of the apartheid deals that were there in 1993, just before the advent of democracy. Mischief makers and thieves assigned themselves assets of the Municipality and decided to take them away from the institution. The chickens have come home to roost that some of them could not observe those transactions. Those that did, have got away with murder and some of those who could not have money could not do so. It has now come to a point where people want to do all those old and outdated transactions. So, we are up to make sure that we safe the properties that belong to the Municipality, because along the way certain principles were not followed, but the matter in itself, for now, I will call it sub-judice in a sense that is in the court of law. I cannot come and speak with authority to where the matter is, safe to say, we will do our best to ensure that the properties of the Municipality are protected..."

On a point of order, Cllr JM De Bruin stated that he was happy to hear what the Executive Mayor said because he did ask him at the meeting of the 12th that they must stop enriching one person in hiring security company but employ own people to look after the properties and thus creating jobs.

The Executive Mayor continued: "Honourable Speaker, I am trying to be diplomatic as I could to relate to the Cricket Stadium and for that, I have established a team of MMCs to work harder to dig deep into the officials and look at..."

Cllr BJ Viviers raised a point of order on an issue of relevance that the report on assets had nothing to do with immovable properties.

The Executive Mayor responded that the same issue of movable and immovable assets was raised by the same party and furthermore responded to the point of order raised by Cllr TK Rammile that if he listened to the issues raised by Cllr PA Lotriet, he mentioned immovable assets such as swimming pools etc and the DA should have stated that Council was discussing movable and not immovable assets.

The Speaker requested Executive Mayor to continue as a point of personal explanation as requested by Cllr BJ Viviers would only be heard at the end of the debate. The Executive Mayor continued: "Honourable Speaker, I said when I started that I noted with respect the issue the Councillors were raising on what we have put before the Council and that we would do our best to ensure that we do as a buildup that one makes reference to, really work hard to establish what the Council would pride itself asset based in all discipline and in all respect because at the end of the day, it is a matter of accountability that a Council must have a very well developed and authentic asset register. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr BJ Viviers stated that as the items were dealt with combined, Cllr PA Lotriet made reference to the Asset Management Policy with regards to maintenance of immovable assets and had nothing to do with asset register.

Cllr PA Lotriet reiterated that the Council should take a fresh look at the policy in terms of maintenance of the assets and not necessarily opposing the recommendations as contained in the report.

The Executive Mayor responded as follows: "Honourable Speaker, I regard that as a separate matter. Maintenance of our assets properties deals with operational matters that has to do with Council budgeting enormously when it comes to sustainability and maintenance of our assets. Currently, our maintenance budget is less than 2% which is far less than what we can utilise to maintain what we have. The proposal as I understand, it says could we look at how much resources we can redirect in ensuring that our properties are properly maintained and properly utilised which is a separate and operational issue that the Council say we need to do it and I agree with that. There is no crisis. It does not really impair or impact on proposal as set before Council."

Cllr PA Lotriet emphasised the importance of revisiting the policy on maintenance and thus wanted it minuted as a crust of the matter.

The Speaker thereon allowed Council to vote on the proposal as raised by Cllr PA Lotriet. The Speaker announced that the majority of the Council agreed with the proposal which would be carried.

Council voted on recommendations as set out in both items.

It was thereupon unanimously

RESOLVED that

- 1) Movable Assets with a carrying value of R6 648 534 and Intangible assets (software) with a carrying value of R818 164 be written off as of 30 June 2025.
- 2) The list of unverified assets be made available to the relevant Departments by the 8th of August 2025 to further investigate losses and to report back to the City Manager **within ninety (90) days** from receiving the list.
- 3) All Assets located by the relevant Departments during the investigation process, be re-instated on the Fixed Asset Register of the Municipality.
- 4) The duties of Departmental Asset Controller be assigned to officials to monitor the acquisition, movement, custodianship (Responsible official in control of asset) of assets and to report on losses as prescribed in the Asset Management Policy of Council.
- 5) Internal control measures be implemented to ensure compliance with the Asset Management policy and procedures.
- 6) Losses be reported to EMT on a **monthly** basis.

8.

ASSET MANAGEMENT POLICY

The item was concurrently discussed and voted upon with item 144.7 above.

It was thereupon unanimously

RESOLVED that the proposed amendments to the Asset Management Policy is approved by Council.

9.

UNAUTHORISED, IRREGULAR, FRUITFLESS AND WASTEFUL STRATEGY

WITHDRAWN.

NOTED.

10.

SUBMISSION OF AN AGREED ACTION PLAN TO DEAL WITH MATTERS RAISED BY THE PARLIAMENTARY PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE OF CoGTA and SCOPA THAT VISITED FREE STATE GOVERNMENT ON THE 24th OF JULY 2025

Cllr M Davies addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. As Council the buck stops with us, and as Councillors we are responsible for oversight, transparency, accountability and integrity reporting to the communities of Mangaung. We cannot delegate this oversight obligation to executive committees. It is the core responsibility of Council.

Therefore, on recommendation (3) of this report, we recommend that it read as follow: *That MMC’s and Councillors that comprise the Section 80 committees exercise oversight on matters relating to portfolios and report to Council on progress and imminent risks in realizing the targets.* Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr LL Mohlamme seconded the proposal made by Cllr M Davies and thereafter addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, Members of Council, and Fellow Residents of Mangaung. Today DA stand not merely to respond to the submission made to SCOPA and the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee but to speak truth to power.

The Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality is in crisis. The latest reports reveal a staggering R470 million spent on overtime, including payments to individuals who were not only absent, but in some cases, incarcerated. This is not just mismanagement it is a betrayal of public trust. We are told that disciplinary action has been taken. We are told that new systems are being introduced. But we ask: Where was the oversight? Where was the leadership? And most importantly, where was the political will to prevent this rot before it spread?

The Auditor-General's findings paint a bleak picture: Mangaung is technically insolvent, with liabilities exceeding assets by nearly half a million rand. Conditional grants meant to uplift our communities, R235 million worth have been returned to Treasury unused. That money could have built homes, repaired roads, or restored dignity to thousands. Instead, we see raw sewage flowing through our townships, pit toilets still in use, and water interruptions that make daily life unbearable. Our people deserve better. This submission to SCOPA must not be another document filed and forgotten. It must be a turning point.

We demand full forensic investigations into all irregular expenditures. Criminal prosecution of those who enabled and benefited from corruption. Immediate reforms to payroll, procurement, and project management systems. Transparent reporting to this Council and the public. Let it be known Mister Speaker, the DA will not be silent. We will not rubber-stamp budgets built on broken promises. We will not allow Mangaung to be a monument to misrule.

We stand here today not just as critics, but as custodians of accountability. And we will fight, with every tool at our disposal, to restore integrity, dignity, and service to the people of Mangaung. I thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr MW Mongale addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae. I will not say much on this report as I have consulted extensively during lunch, and I have been

informed that the report has been given to the Province. I am excited because the people sitting at MPAC are happy about the report. I am only worried that you disappointed me at Portfolio Committee, you the Speaker that you said there was never a report sent to this Council and that was withdrawn with this Council, which was taken back, the one of Ntate wa Lehlohonolo, our orator. There was a report that was removed from this Council on the basis that Cllr VS Soqaga was arguing that there is another report from another Committee that is contradicting that report. I am saying there was a report of MPAC that was taken out of Council even though it was supposed to be here. One of the challenges that we have, we have an MPAC that is led by a member of the ruling party instead of the opposition party so that accountability can be fair.

There is an issue that you also raised with the Portfolio Committee with regard to MPAC where you said you made a presentation of IPTN which was not true because on the 24th of July, you have not yet made a presentation of IPTN to MPAC, it was a misrepresentation of facts to the Portfolio Committee of which before you spoke, you took an oath. When you have taken an oath, it means whatever you have said that is not true, it is tantamount to you of being charged because you have not been truthful with the Portfolio Committee unless MPAC say, no he did make a presentation to MPAC with regards to the report of IPTN. But the information I have from almost all members of MPAC, they are denying that you ever made a presentation with regards to IPTN prior to you going to Windmill Casino on the 24th July 2025 and making a presentation to the Portfolio Committee. That is the issue I wanted to raise, if the Portfolio Committee can pick it up, you can be in trouble.”

Cllr JM De Bruin addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, the Patriotic Alliance is glad to see this action plan on the agenda. It is a direct response to the oversight visit by the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee of COGTA and SCOPA in July 2025 which follows up on the Auditor General’s reports and address the state of municipalities including poor financial health, unauthorised expenditures and service delivery hampers.

However, Patriotic Alliance main concern is that the plan will become another piece of paper gathering dust. The report recommends that the City Manager’s report monthly and that the MMC exercise oversight. The Patriotic Alliance questions are as follows:

1. What are the specific matters raised by the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee of COGTA and SCOPA that this action plan is meant to address, can we have a high-level summary including governance failure and financial pressures?
2. How will the oversight by MMC be structured to ensure that it is effective and not just a formality with the urgency with monthly report and timelines as per the financial recovery plan.
3. What mechanism is in place to ensure that the action plan is not just an administrative exercise that led to genuine improvement and accountability by our Municipality including public reporting on progress.

We must ensure that this plan is executed with urgency and seriousness it deserves. I thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr JE Sebolao addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. We note the importance of today's submission of the agreed action plan, in direct response to the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on COGTA and SCOPA, who visited the Free State on the 24th of July 2025. Their visit was not a formality; it was an intervention born out of concern for the collapsing state of governance and accountability in Free State municipalities, with Mangaung at the centre of this crisis.

The message from Parliament was clear: municipalities must urgently improve audit outcomes and strengthen governance. We cannot pretend that we do not know what the Auditor-General has said about Mangaung. The AG has consistently highlighted weak internal controls, irregular expenditure, fruitless and wasteful spending, and the mismanagement of key programmes such as the Integrated Public Transport Network. The AG has further warned that Mangaung continues to operate in a manner that undermines transparency and accountability, and that is precisely why this action plan must not become another document gathering dust.

The recommendations before Council are straightforward but critical:

1. That Council approves the Action Plan because without collective commitment, there will be no implementation.
2. That the City Manager reports progress against the action list on a regular basis, this is about accountability, not once-off reporting. The AG's findings demand constant monitoring.
3. That Members of the Mayoral Committee exercise oversight on their portfolios and that they engage their councillors proactively on progress and risks. Oversight cannot be symbolic; it must be real, it must be corrective, and it must be results-driven.

Honourable Speaker, the oversight exercised by Parliament is a reminder that Mangaung is not operating in isolation. The eyes of the nation are on us, and failure to act on these matters will not only prolong service delivery failures but will also deepen the mistrust between this Municipality and the very people we claim to serve.

The IPTN project is a painful example. Billions have been spent, yet buses remain idle and infrastructure incomplete. The Auditor-General has pointed to this as a prime case of fruitless expenditure. It is projects like these that SCOPA and COGTA want fixed-not tomorrow, but now.

Parliament has done its part by diagnosing the failures and demanding a way forward. The question is whether Mangaung has the political will to fix itself. The EFF insists that Council must move beyond rhetoric. Every recommendation of the Auditor-General, every red flag raised by Parliament, must be actioned with urgency.

The people of Mangaung deserve municipalities with clean audits, functioning services, and leaders who take oversight seriously. If we fail to implement this action plan with discipline and transparency, then we are effectively telling the residents that their suffering will continue. That cannot and must not be allowed.

Honourable Speaker, the EFF will hold this Council accountable for the commitments made today. The era of empty promises must end, and the era of real delivery must begin. I thank you.”

Cllr JH Denner addressed the Council: “Thank you, Mister Speaker. the Freedom Front Plus once again wants to iterate that we accept the action plan to address the issues before us. But, once again we must ask, why do we get the action plan after we have already been slapped on the wrist? The City Manager recently felt the need to write in an internal newsletter trying to explain to all the employees what unauthorised, irregular, fruitless and wasteful expenditure is.

If you are appointed to deal with public funds, and you sit in a senior position, you should know this. You should not read this in a company’s newsletter, this is standard operating procedure. This shows us how deep the problem runs in this Municipality when basic financial discipline is treated as new information. This is not new ideas that basic financial SOP must always be followed. Yet now it suddenly becomes news to us, and we thought to implement a plan.

Let us be clear, this is no new plan, new policies. Our biggest problem here, is not lack of plan but lack of implementation. Be as it may, we will agree, let us implement this plan because the real test will be not in words, newsletters and promises, it would be whether we finally see actual progress. The people of Mangaung deserve to see their monies managed responsibly and not lost. Thank you, Mister Speaker.”

Cllr CL Kruger remarked as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. We are honourable Councillors in this Council; we are here for something very specific and very simplistic. I do not know maybe because of grant standing or maybe because elections are approaching that fellow Councillors must abuse the platform and also try to mislead here and there but let us stay woke residents of Mangaung.

What we have in front of us, we were called to account in front of the Portfolio Committee from national in terms of COGTA as well as SCOPA on items that was highlighted by the Auditor General. These two Committees also raised additional issues. Then Mangaung was called to account and secondly to draw up an action plan on how Mangaung is going to correct the wrong behaviour that transpired.

If fellow Councillors, you are asking why we still need an action plan because even if you are called to order you must be given the opportunity to correct your behaviour. Honourable Cllr JM De Bruin if you say we must highlight the issues that were raised and the issues that the action plan will address, if you read the action plan, you will see that it is written there.

What I love about the action plan, there are timeframes attached and person accountable because we want consequence management to follow if they fail to meet the targets. It is how you redress things that were done incorrectly. It cannot just be a plan on paper, because this one, after being adopted by Council ...we are not just accounting to Council, but to the province and to national. So, whoever though they can hide and that this is just an exercise, it cannot be.

Lastly, we have said, there is almost 19 items highlighted on that list that emanates from various user departments that is why the recommendation stipulates that the MMCs will extrapolate ...”

Cllr JM De Bruin raised a point of order that the MMC must not mislead the community and as a member of MPAC they still need to give a report of 90 days to GOGTA.

The Speaker explained that the Council was dealing and focusing on the action plan arising from the visit and would still welcome the report from MPAC. That his point was ok however the focus should be on the report from issues raised by the Portfolio Committee of COGTA as well as SCOPA.

Cllr CL Kruger continued: “In conclusion, we have said there is an action plan and the issues that have been raised. The recommendation says, every MMC must extrapolate the issues on the action plan that pertains to their portfolio. For example, there is an issue regarding the indigent register, which means MMC for Finance with Section 80, that becomes the focus area in terms of oversight. It is not only MMC, buy extension it is the Section 80 Committee. That is why we said, we are tightening controls, but at the end of the day, the only thing that would reign supreme of this exercise is consequence management. As I submit.”

The Executive Mayor appreciated Councillors who had applied their minds and endorsed the item. Further commented that things that the Municipality could not do before, has been done and it is a sign that the Municipality was getting somewhere and it is the hard work that the Municipality was doing. He responded as follows:

“Cllr LL Mohlamme, when I came here, the best I did was to go back to all the resolutions and decisions that were taken because I was getting embarrassed at each and every Council especially the decision taken from 2021 when this administration started ,helped me to understand but I still could not resist to be embarrassed because some of the decisions were taken 2014 and now there is 1993 on the stadium, I still get embarrassed on a regular basis. I am going to say to you, before you allow anyone to prepare a speech for you, please refer back, because if you don’t do so, we will tear you apart and it would not be nice...”

Cllr GDP Kotze on a point of order remarked: “Through you, Mister Speaker. The Councillors did not deliver the speech that was written on her behalf. I just like to mention something, if you look at the action plan, I wonder if the MMC did not receive it from ChatGPT. Thank you.”

The Executive Mayor continued: “If I may round up what I was saying to the Councillor, I am doing this firstly as a colleague and equally so as a father. The reason I am raising this is that, if you talk about people being paid in prison ...”

Cllr MW Mongale raised a point of order that they were all in Council in one ticket of them to be called public representatives, of being Councillors, which is the correct title...

As Councillors were calling for point of order and point of personal explanation, the Speaker then explained as follows:

“When another Councillor has interjected through a point of order, I must listen to the point of order until the Councillor finish speaking and then I will acknowledge another point of order. After that, I will have an obligation to make a ruling whether to sustain or overrule it.

Point of personal clarification can only be acknowledge once the speaker on the podium has concluded his/her point. Councillors tend to use point of personal explanation and point of order interchangeably and those points are distinct.”

Cllr MW Mongale continued that they were not expected to be addressed as children in the meeting, they were there as Councillors. That he might be carrying a name and surname however the primary function why he was there is because he represented the interest of the community and not his even if he is talking to someone older than him, when there is an issue that he must raise on behalf of the community, he must raise it sharply as representative of the people.

Cllr CL Kruger on a point of order stated that when addressing issue of principle, one must also comply with the same principle imposed in the Council as at times Councillor would be addressed as “Prof” but not as a sign of disrespect. In the context the Executive Mayor used it, it did not make sense and in the principle that he was trying to enforce.

The Speaker thereafter made the following ruling: “I have heard the point initially raised and carefully examined what the Executive Mayor said, he did not make any belittling comments. The Executive Mayor simply said, he is speaking as a father. It was only correct for Cllr MW Mongale to say Executive Mayor we are all Councillors, there was no demeaning statements attributed to Cllr LL Mohlamme, so I would like to sustain that. But I would also like to sustain a point raised by Cllr MW Mongale to stick to the decorum of the house and refer to others in our different capacities.

When the Executive Mayor speaks, Councillors would raise a point directed to the Executive Mayor, we would like the Executive Mayor to respond to the following questions. If an MMC have replied on a matter, any member of the house who wishes to make a point, he/she may refer to that person in that capacity, the MMC responsible for this item has presented a false route, equally when the other replies, he/she will reply making reference to your capacity as a Councillor, not a child, a friend, a comrade or a fighter. We carry one title, Councillor, but others are Executive Mayors, Deputy Executive Mayors, MMC’s, Whips and Chairpersons of Section 79 Committees. That is why at the beginning when I acknowledged all members here, I referred to everybody in their respective official capacities. That point is sustained.”

The Executive Mayor continued: “Let me conclude what I was saying fellow Councillor, I went back to compare my notes and I had to ensure that I am on point because you would be torn apart in this Council if your facts are not on point.

The issue of prisoners was a discovery of a ruling party and not a whispering from someone. We discovered, dug deep into it and we went public and brought it to the Council. It is a stale information. When you rise on it, it is a sign of backwardness.

It means you are not on point because factually, it is on record and public and with Law Enforcement Unit. You are referring to something that we personally cannot tell you where it is because the police are the ones that have to tell us how far they are with the matter. If you were informed, you would understand that that is stale information hence Councillors would say you are grandstanding, and I don't like that. It is equivalent to the money that was returned. You are still talking about R230 million, and you hardly understand what happened to the R1 million on IPTN. You should have got the information correctly and your figures should have been on point. All I am saying to you is that, please before you dwell on the matter, refer..."

On a point of order Cllr BJ Viviers indicated that the way the Executive Mayor was speaking was belittling and why were they not respecting each other. Further states that it was not how the ethical leader conducted himself.

The Speaker indicated that he thought he had made a ruling on the matter.

The Executive Mayor continued: "Honourable Speaker, let me deal with the issue of MPAC. Cllr MW Mongale might also feel belittled, but he is belittling people. But I am not intending to belittle him but to give him factual realities so that he must also be at power with whatever he says because he likes making all the howling in public and saying wrong things.

Cllr MW Mongale, MPAC wrote me a letter and invited me to their offices, and they demanded a report from me. I prepared and sent them a report electronically and took my hardcopy and went to their offices. I met the Chairperson of MPAC, the Whip of MPAC, the HOD and two other people (The Researcher, Mr Japhta Nongonyama). I met them physically and I sat down with them. I gave my report to them. Whether you send them or not, to me it did not come that way. I was invited by an official letter from MPAC, and I honoured the letter and went to where the meeting was...They subjected me to a formal meeting. What else should I have said that I should have met with the entire MPAC or are you not respecting your Chairperson?

If I call someone as the Executive Mayor for and on behalf of the Mayoral Committee, authority must be respected. The Chairperson of MPAC is an authority. Even if it was just the two of us, I would still say I have met MPAC, because he represents MPAC. Authority works that way, when a person is given a responsibility, you must respect that person. Now you are saying because he comes from the same political party...I went to that meeting and I did not see any political party, but I went to a meeting where MPAC officially invited me. I did not mislead nor grandstand on any issue and for that you have your little problems in MPAC, don't bring them to my office. You have never reported to me that you have picked up a hiccup around me meeting with the Chairperson of MPAC. If you have, deal with it there and come see me organised because I always see organised.

I went again to MPAC, and I met, and I reported again on other related issues including what we are discussing now as an item. I take serious exception that members of a particular portfolio committee would come and grandstand in this Council and want to subject me if they do have differences, they bring that to my doorstep. I want to work with organised formations, and I am honestly fed up with that. Thank you, Honourable Speaker."

Cllr JE Sebolao raised a point of personal explanation: “Honourable Speaker I am surprised, and I do not want to say to the Executive Mayor what he is saying to the Council is not correct, but the manner in which he is addressing this thing, he should not have involved MPAC, but just to say he met the Chairperson and the staff of MPAC and not members of MPAC. We were not there, we do not know anything about this, and I do not have a problem with that, but just to put things in context. Thank you.”

The Executive Mayor reiterated that he was invited by MPAC.

The Deputy Executive Mayor on a point of order stated that Council cannot continue discussing MPAC as the Executive Mayor received a letter with the logo of MPAC. The Chairperson and the Whip of MPAC would then bring the report to the Committee. The Executive Mayor was giving clarity to what Cllr MW Mongale was saying. The Chairperson and the Whip of MPAC would have to respond to the MPAC at their meeting.

The Speaker stated that the point of order was sustained.

On a point of order, Cllr MW Mongale indicated that the Council has Section 79 and 80 Committees and if the Executive Mayor went to Section 79 Committee, then it was fine however, he wanted to state that Section 79 Committee did not recognise the Executive Mayor going to them. The Executive Mayor correctly indicated that he only met the Chairperson and the staff which is not MPAC.

The Speaker commented as follows: “If the Executive Mayor had received a formal invite from your Chairperson; whether the rest of members decided not to honour the meeting, it is not his responsibility.”

The Speaker ruled that the Council would not proceed with debates on the matter. He then afforded Councillors to vote on the proposed amendment to recommendation (3) by Cllr M Davies.

Cllr CL Kruger stated that it was just semantics, the proposed amendments were the same with what was outline on recommendation (3) and Speaker concurred.

Cllr GDP Kotze raised a point of order that approximately two (2) months ago they had sent a letter as DA to Cllr CL Kruger and the MMC for Corporate Services requesting oversight and the request was never recognised nor replied therefore they rather have the amendments as proposed by Cllr M Davies to be included because MMC do not engage with Councillors when oversight is requested.

On a point of clarity Cllr CL Bouwer stated that MMC to excise oversight then come back to engage Councillors, the issue was context.

The Council Whip concurred that the proposed amendments by Cllr M Davies was the same words that were written on recommendation (3). That if MMC preside over something ultimately the Section 80 Committee must know about it.

Cllr JI Mokoena commented as follows: “What is happening in my head Honourable Speaker, and you can correct me. The Portfolio Committee heard the Executive Mayor as a delegate representing Council and the Portfolio Committee has made a determination, has given Council the ultimatum to correct and do an action plan and has placed it in Council. I am trying to think in my head logically whether the Executive Mayor is the one responsible for the action plan and can delegate it to whoever. It is this Council that does not get equitable share. I am not sure whether that was the right report we got at MPAC about the action. This action plan is for Executive Mayor with his team to try and ensure that he monitors and implement so that this Council is not under any duress or risk. Thank you.”

The Council voted as follows for the proposal raised by Cllr M Davies: 26 in favour, 44 against and 2 abstained. The votes for the item as submitted: 44 in favour, 26 against and 2 abstained.

On a point of personal explanation, Cllr JC Pretorius raised a concern that Council meetings took long and thus requested that Troika consider allowing the Executive Mayor to respond to all questions after each item has been discussed.

The Speaker responded that the point was noted and furthermore indicated that Council must take time to read the house rules, that when a vote is taken, the Speaker/Chairperson is not allowed to take a point of order nor a point of personal explanation and requested members not to abuse the courtesy he is giving.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that:

1. Council approved the action plan.
2. That City Manager reports progress made against the action list on a monthly basis.
3. That MMCs exercise oversight on matters relating to portfolios that they preside over and engage Councillors of their committees on progress and imminent risks in realizing the targets.

11.

NOTING OF INTEREST WRITE OFF BY VAAL CENTRAL ON OVERDUE AMOUNTS IN RESPECT OF BULK WATER SUPPLY

Cllr VE De Kock addressed the Council: “Honourable Speaker, the Freedom Front Plus takes note that Council is asked to acknowledge the write-off of R192 million in interest on overdue bulk water accounts, as approved by Vaal Central Water. We welcome this relief but let us be clear: this does not mean that the debt itself has disappeared. The Metro still owed R1 billion to Vaal Central Water as of June 2024 and it is the taxpayers who ultimately had to carry the cost of this mismanagement. Accountability must follow write-offs. This cannot just be another policy document gathering dust. It must be used as a tool to enforce accountability.

Fruitless expenditure cannot become business as usual. The fact that R192 million has already been declared "fruitless and wasteful expenditure" is a damning indictment of financial discipline. This must lead to investigations and consequences, not just a note in a report.

Voorsitter, ons inwoners kry daaglik swaar onder wateronderbrekings, swak dienslewering en onherstelbare infrastruktuur. Daarom kan die Vryfront Plus nie net stilbly en dit aanvaar asof dit "normaal" is nie.

We therefore insist that:

1. Monthly progress reports must still be submitted to MPAC and Council, as was recently implemented. Thank you for that.
2. Any future write-offs of interest or debt must be conditional on strict compliance with repayment plans.
3. Officials responsible for this fruitless expenditure must be held accountable.

Chairperson, the message from the Freedom Front Plus is simple: No further write-offs without consequences. Performance before forgiveness. I Thank you.”

Cllr DJ De-Huis addressed the Council as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Today we gather to deliberate on an issue that strikes at the very heart of governance, accountability and financial sustainability for Mangaung. The matter before us is the report of interest written off by Vaal Central Water Board in respect to the overdue bulk water applied account amounting to R192 million. It is only after entering in negotiations with the Vaal Central Water that the repayment plan of R35 million instalments was agreed upon alongside the commitment to pay the current account as they failed to do so.

Now, although the intervention of intergovernmental framework coupled with debt repayable agreement, Vaal Central Water has approved the write off of R192 million in interest, an amount previously recorded as a fruitless and wasteful expenditure.

Honourable Speaker why did Mangaung fail to such deep arrears in the first place. The Municipality of our size with revenue base cannot continue to plead poverty while mismanagement and poor collection rate remains the order of the day.

11A

Why systematic changes are being introduced to prevent a repeat of this crisis, how many will restore physical discipline. The MFMA Section 52 oblige us to account to fruitless and wasteful expenditure.

Honourable Speaker the report notes that personnel implications are none but is this true? The implication is profound, the residents of Mangaung continue to suffer the consequences. We must also emphasise the political will required to turn this Metro around. We therefore note the write off of R192 million as we call for a review of our Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy, transparency on a quarterly basis, consequence management and a comprehensive revenue enhancement strategy.

In conclusion Honourable Speaker, let us acknowledge this relief but let us not make mistakes if for victory. The truth is victory will come when Mangaung is no longer on the brink of collapse but instead stand as a model of good governance, physical prudence and service delivery. We owe it to our people to ensure that never again shall we celebrate write off of our own failure, but rather build the sustainable and prosperous City. I thank you."

Councillor CL Kruger explained as follows: "Honourable Speaker, it is like I am in a different Council seating, I do not understand. Councillor said we are on the brink...no! Let me clarify. I had to double check with CFO because I thought my notes were misleading.

Since 2017/2018 we started to fall into arrears with our water account. In March 2023 we stood at R798 million in old debt. In February 2024, the City entered into a payment agreement that stated the following Honourable Speaker:

- Mangaung Municipality must pay R35 million in July, R35 million in November and R35 million in February subsequent year.
- Mangaung Municipality must also pay current account.

Our current account Honourable Speaker, we pay between R92 million and R101 million per month. It means Honourable Speaker and the residents of Mangaung, the write off we received was not just because someone felt sorry for us, no! It is because we have honoured an agreement. It simply said, we pay three trenches of R35 million, and we have paid with that arrangement, R1.1 billion on our current account. I know you are opposition, but it does not mean you must mislead the very same community that elected you.

We received the R292 million write off because the promise we made is the promise we kept. R35 million times 3 is R105 million and R100 million times 12 is R1.2 billion and only after we have paid that, we qualified for a R292 million write off and that one Honourable Speaker we will celebrate unapologetically. I thank you."

Council did not vote as the item was for noting.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that:

1. That Council noted the write off on overdue amounts in respect of bulk water supply.

11B

2. That the matter be referred to Municipal Public Accounts Committee for noting.

12.

APPOINTMENT OF DEBT COLLECTORS AND THEIR DEBT CATEGORY

WITHDRAWN.

NOTED.

13.

MSCOA ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION PROGRESS REPORT.

Cllr AF Bothma addressed the Council: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Through you Honourable Speaker, to the Honourable Executive Mayor. The Municipality has made progress with certain financial modules, yet major integration and compliance challenges remain. The rollout of the Municipal Standard Chart of Accounts (mSCOA) is hindered by reliance on third-party systems, missed deadlines, and slow adoption of available tools. October 2025 and July 2026 are key milestones for compliance.

1. Core: Financials

A critical dependency persists on third-party modules such as ArcGIS, Payday, and Caseware. Contracts, integration costs, and duplication risks are under review with BCX, the primary vendor. The SOLAR ERP system has been deployed, but rollout, training, and support are incomplete. Gaps exist in the General Ledger (GL) and Billing areas, particularly with credit control, debt collection, indigent registration, and free basic services allocation, which are pending ICT Steering Committee approval. Financial statements are still produced in Caseware, not yet integrated with the GL, with full integration planned only for the 2026 Annual Financial Statements (AFS).

2. Key Operational Modules

The procurement lifecycle, including SCM, contracts, bidding, and project accounting, is available but not yet integrated with the GL. The planned 1 July 2025 go-live was missed, exposing risks of unauthorized, irregular, fruitless, and wasteful (UIFW) expenditure. Enterprise Asset Management is scheduled for October 2025 but faces possible delays, requiring BCX support for transitional arrangements. Inventory and stores management is minimal, as the Municipality uses direct purchasing, but functionality activation is still needed. Human Resources and Payroll currently rely on Payday, with partial interfacing to SOLAR. Full integration is pending, but replacement with a BCX solution is recommended to align with the principle of one vendor and one system.

3. Governance, Reporting and Oversight

Several modules exist but remain unadopted. Audit Management is available, yet the planned July 2025 go-live was missed. National Treasury's web-based Audit Action Plan is recommended. Performance Management is earmarked for 2025/26 but not yet activated. Electronic Data and Records Management is licensed but unused; implementation is expected under the automation and e-signature initiative. Reliance on fragmented systems hampers corporate governance, reporting, and oversight.

4. Roadmap and Priority Issues

High-priority items include integration of third-party modules, SCM rollout, HR and Payroll alignment, and full financial statement integration with SOLAR. Missed deadlines for SCM and looming delays for Asset Management threaten compliance. Several critical modules require ICT Steering Committee approval before activation, further slowing progress.

5. SOLAR Upgrade

A SOLAR upgrade is a critical dependency. Due diligence completed in May 2024 confirmed compliance with Treasury Circular 126. The upgrade, targeted for October 2025, will unlock additional modules at no extra cost, including Budget Management, Treasury, and Assets. Post-upgrade, SCM will become the highest compliance priority.

6. Corporate Governance and Performance

Fragmentation continues across governance tools. No dedicated systems exist for IDP, SDBIP, Performance Management, or indigent registration. The PMS rollout is planned for 2025/26, while other governance areas remain unaddressed.

7. Financial and Asset Modules

Core financial accounting is fully implemented, but Municipal budgets, costing, and project accounting show no progress. Treasury and cash management exist within GL but need training. Grant management is available but unused. Asset lifecycle management is delayed to October 2025, while real estate management is not planned for 2025/26.

8. Revenue and Customer Systems

Billing is operational but lacks GIS integration. Customer care, credit control, and debt collection modules are available but not live; October 2025 is the revised target. The indigent households register remains outstanding despite being critical for compliance and audit resolution. Valuation roll management, essential for equitable billing, is targeted for July 2026. Land use and building control via ArcGIS must also integrate with billing and GL by June 2026.

The key challenges we have include:

1. Persistent integration gaps between third-party and SOLAR systems.
2. Missed go-live deadlines across multiple modules.
3. Compliance risks due to missing SCM, indigent register, and valuation roll.
4. Heavy reliance on BCX for systems and integration.
5. Underutilisation of available tools such as Grant Management and Document Management.

Honourable Speaker, I will conclude to say, where I came from, whenever mSCOA is implemented successfully, there was a clean audit. We have one qualification which is the overtime, but all other emphasis, if we apply what I just mentioned, maybe we can move towards sustainability. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr D De Huis addressed the Council: “Thank you, again Honourable Speaker. The EFF rises on the matter of the mSCOA Roadmap Implementation Progress Report because this is not just a technical accounting reform.

Comrades and Fighters, let us remind ourselves that National Treasury first introduced mSCOA in 2017. Honourable Speaker, the Auditor-General's reports for years have stated weaknesses in mSCOA implementation: incomplete transactions, data integrity issues, and Municipal accounting problems.

Honourable Speaker, the Financial Recovery Plan also identified poor adoption of mSCOA as one of the root causes of weak internal controls. As the EFF, we are clear, implementation delays are not technical, they are political.

As the EFF we would like to make the following recommendations:

1. Full integration of systems
2. Capacity and skills training
3. Executive accountability
4. Public transparency
5. Audit alignment
6. Recovery Plan integration

Speaker, this Council must understand: mSCOA is not just compliance for Treasury it is a political commitment to the people.

We demand strict enforcement, clear deadlines, and consequence management. The people cannot be asked to trust Municipal finances when the very tool meant to protect them is undermined.

Honourable Speaker, the EFF is clear: implement mSCOA fully, or admit openly that the City has chosen corruption over transparency. There is no middle ground on this one. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr SQ Peter responded as follows: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I must just indicate few things that Cllr AF Bothma probably did not indicate. Some of the delays that made some of the modules to be delayed for a complete financial system or integration was because before you can do that, you have to go through the ICT Steering Committee. If the Committee does not sit, we would not have the right to continue however, I need to indicate that the ICT Steering Committee sat a week ago and so we are hopeful that by the 1st of October, most of those modules would go live as planned.

11E

However, we need to indicate there are a number of strides made despite those few we could not make. I must emphasise that as the City, we support the idea and the notion from National Treasury that we need to implement mSCOA fully and so as a result, we are on a right track. By the 1st of October most of the modules especially those outstanding seven (7) should be live, up and running. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.”

Council did not vote as the item was for noting.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that the mSCOA roadmap implementation progress report is noted.

14.

**REPORT ON THE HOSTING OF THE INUAGURAL MANGAUNG METRO MUNICIPALITY'S
INUAGURAL INVESTMENT SUMMIT**

WITHDRAWN.

NOTED.

15.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN INTERIM BOARD OF CENTLEC

The Executive Mayor presented the item and referred to page 2 of the report, and highlighted the names of the recommended Interim Board as well as the recommendations to Council:

- ✓ Two Councillors, Members of the Mayoral Committee (MMCs).
- ✓ Mr Johan Daniel Snyman, a well-known Bloemfontainer and an abridged background attached.
- ✓ Ms Maureen Judith Ntshudisane, served as the last Intervention City Manager of Mangaung before the appointment of Mr S More.
- ✓ Ms Nomathamsanga Sitishi from the Finance Department.

The Speaker reiterated that the Executive Mayor at the previous Council was mandated to constitute an Interim Board for not more than three (3) months and for the Board to report on constant basis i.e. within a prescribed period. That Council resolved that within 30 days after the dissolution of the Board, the Executive Mayor must report to Council on constitution of the Board.

Cllr BJ Viviers posed a question to the Executive Mayor through Speaker that in terms of the MFMA, a Councillor cannot serve in the Board. Therefore, strongly advice against it even though it is an Interim Board.

The Speaker stated that the item was placed under open discussion, however for purposes of the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), Councillors after the matter has been concluded must give back the document as they contain personal information.

Cllr JE Sebolao asked that if the Board is disbanded, why then retain people who were in the Board and which criteria has been used to select the names? Furthermore, raised a concern that it is constantly shown as if there are no educated and qualified people in Mangaung and therefore how did the Executive Mayor identify the particular individual?

Cllr JI Mokoena stated that he wanted to clarity about the three months as the recommendation did not include it as well as the two Councillors as the MFMA did not allow that.

Cllr CL Kruger supported the proposal as indicated by the Executive Mayor.

The Executive Mayor responded as follows: "Thank you, Honourable Speaker. First, the period under review is three (3) months. When we talk about appointment of the Board, it is a separate matter altogether. I will use an encompassing term, as we do so as Council, the proposal that we will bring will be a positive discrimination in favour of the Free Staters, not Bloemfontainer of Mangaung per se. I am saying positive discrimination in favour of the Free State based individuals and that does not exclude any extra knowledge economy that could be accessed from outside. I merely trying to be within the Constitution of the Country and observe the policy as outlined.

The Memorandum of Incorporation (MOI) so dictate that in any existing board, the initiator, the shareholder must always have a representative. In the previous Board, that could not perform we had the representatives from shareholder. But the Councillors are literally and not necessarily Board members as in appointment, but they are there representing the interest of the shareholder and that is how those Councillors were there.

For institutional memory, I felt compelled to ensure that we do not lose what the shareholder would want to realise what the Board would be doing for a period of three (3) months. Once the Board has been appointed, we would come back but with the understanding that the shareholders interest would always be represented in that Board and that would also need an endorsement of the Council. It is on the basis of that; just to make sure that we do not lose on the discipline of the Board.

However, I like a scenario where we should be in power keeping with the law. So, there is reference to MFMA, but also the Memorandum of Incorporation. I must also put it in Council that going back to drawing board, I would also ensure that, with the cautioning that one has received, are we not traversing and trampling the law because that is key and critical for us to be always in power with what the law requires and demand of us. So, I submit Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr JI Mokoena thanked the Executive Mayor for the response and asked whether the Executive Mayor was saying he would look at it because the two (2) MMCs still need to be coopted as members of the Board however, the only challenge was that the Board make decisions that are binding the company and the corporation and later if a member was inappropriately appointed the decision can be challenged and reversed and that could cause problems for Council as they would be voting members.

The Speaker explained that the two (2) MMCs would be representing the shareholder as explained by the Executive Mayor and for the past years in existence of Centlec, the Municipality had always had the right to second two (2) non-voting members. That they do not take decision but to simply advice and provide guidance in terms of fiduciary responsibility of the Board in general.

The Speaker afforded the DA a 5 minute caucus session as requested by Cllr BJ Viviers. Cllr BJ Viviers reported as follows after the requested caucus: “Thank you Chairperson, if it is in order with you, I will give feedback and if you can also allow Cllr PA Snyman a portion, I will go as fast as I can.

Through you, Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor, there is a lot of contradiction here and I do not know if you have looked at that article of Incorporation of Centlec being a private company, but logical sense tells me that you will have a major problem again with reference to the councillors who will serve so that the first bit of legislation that is really troublesome. Secondly, you can have a look at Section 93(J) of the MFMA, disqualification of the direction municipal entities. Of course, I must try and read this little bit that you may have a representative which is throwing it around – the problem is at the end of the day if we really think about this clearly, it is to safeguard the Councillors we want to second there.

11H

The problem is if in these 3 months that will make such a lot of havoc as the previous one, it will be impossible to a large extent, to keep the Councillors that you are sending there on certain bits of legislation responsible in their own capacity but on the other side, it can also cause that. I will caution you very strongly Executive Mayor that you should seriously reconsider that, then maybe it is a good time to continue further, I will not say its rude but impractical to first say this matter is for In-Committee then later it is now open.

But then we do not have the opportunity beforehand to properly work through the report, there is a lot of other decisions on the previous report we have received that I have not went through but there are other resolutions/decisions that must still get done, there is certain descriptions of what knowledge these directors must be. But then again, I am not criticizing, as I would have also decided to have this report in-committee due to the CV's attached due to POPI Act, I understand that which is why we are going to give the documentation back. But now again at this time, after all the interesting things that occurred in this Council; to now throw in this report and we are expected to make this very important decision that can come back to haunt us, I do not think it is well advised.

Maybe let us refer this report back, go and do the homework properly then we can engage in this regard again but to take a decision today – I do not think will be wise. In conclusion, the report clearly states, again it is irrelevant who those Councillors are - that the Councillors who will represent or be members of the board or directors, go and check the statue of incorporation of the private company, will now receive additional remuneration and they are already MMC's, just does not make sense. It is not safe, kind advice is referred back, bring it to this council later and we can take an informed decision, otherwise if it must be pushed through, we will vote against it. Thank you.”

Cllr PA Snyman made the following inputs: “Thank you, Mister Speaker, through you to the Executive Mayor, I can actually get everyone’s attention to the annexure at the back, page 2 where the resolutions of the councils taken in the previous meeting, its just 2 number 1 being that the boards gets dissolved, number 2 that the Executive Mayor comes to us within 14 days with a suggested interim board. That is the only 2 that were actually decided upon. If you go to page 18 of the same annexure, there is a total of 7 other resolutions that were tabled in the report as well, number 1 Board be dissolved, interim caretaker management team consisting of political office bearers, as well as The City Manager, HOD's and CFO infrastructure of MMM be appointed, not all of those are on the interim board and we don't know if they were considered as well.

The Council adopts an interim delegation of powers empowering the caretaker team, and we have not done that as we are not sure what powers the interim team will have. Ensure that the members to be appointed as directors in future are to have certain specific and specialised skills – engineering and/or electrical engineering or alternative energy resources, none of the suggested board members have those either. Members to be appointed to be well experienced and conversant in energy matters – also do not have that; 2 members of the community – we have that. On page 19, adopt proper remuneration and allowance policies for board members to ensure the most skilled and competent members are attracted to apply for the vacant positions.

If we go to the current recommendations – the identified names be approved, interim board members identify gaps and Executive Mayor reports consistently to the Council, but we have not decided upon many things of this board. If we say that we approve the board and they go forward, they will have no direction and just purely because I saw a lot of members shaking their heads when Cllr BJ Viviers mentioned the financial implications. Right there above the recommendations – an interim board members will be remunerated at the rate and scale that was applicable to the previous dissolved members of the board in line with National Treasury determined tariffs for members of the board of government institutions. That implies that there will be no financial implications on the municipality whether it is greater expense or saving money on board members. Clearly indicating that councillors assigned to the board will be paid, if that can be changed, we will be saving. Thank you.”

Executive Mayor responded: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Perhaps let me finish with page 18 that my fellow Councillor made reference to – it is not limited to specialised disciplined, it says either/or. That is how it must be interpreted when talking to individuals that are suggested. The consideration on the individuals is that if you look at their CV and their past engagements, you cannot devoid them from happenings of what the municipality has been doing, one having acted as an acting municipal manager, knowledgeable about the activities of the council. That is not why I brought this document, I think if you look at council resolutions, that is where our focus should be. I want to answer by making reference to the memorandum of incorporation of Centlec Board.

If you go to section 12.6.2, it reads: *“the council must designate a councillor or an official of the shareholder or both as the representatives of the shareholders which must comply with section 93(D) of the MSA, a councillor needs to adhere to the code of conduct of schedule 1 of MSA. Then 12.6.3 says “ unless directed otherwise by the shareholder, the municipal representative shall have a non-participating observer status at the meeting of the board. Then 12.6.4 says “ the meeting of the board and board committee must be open to the official’s representative of the shareholder from time to time.*

I wanted to bring that element that this is what you find the memorandum of incorporation of the Centlec board in terms of how you construct your directors and board members in this case. The period under review is a period that should there be some immediate attention that might be needed, Centlec must not be left hanging for purpose of smooth running, however this period is according to the council and instructions, It is subject to leaving this council, advertising and subjecting whole matter to adverts, now appointing the Board.

When we appoint the Board, the memorandum of incorporation does demand specialised individuals in terms of their expertise however I did indicate when I was making a submission that it would be prudent that at some point when you appoint the board – public interest which was never accommodated in the MOI must be looked into because those sentiments were not there. Some of the part why the board is not in line and in tune of what is happening is that public interest, public participation or public representative does not see the light of day when it comes to the level of how we then generate member of the Board.

There was a point raised by Cllr JI Mokoena from AASD, that would it not be litigious to then say the same councillors who were representing us at a point when the board was disbanded, pre-empt the decision we are taking moving forward so far as should the municipality face any form of litigation and that remains what I thought would be the bone of contention and I also consulted with the Speaker on that one and the Deputy Executive Mayor and I thought maybe that issue must not be left hanging, it should be in accordance with the MOI, you have the right as a council to assign Councillors as representatives in the interim arrangement until otherwise, for now, until we advertise for the new Board, would you not consider others than those that were there.

I do not see any danger in what we are doing, and I see it not bringing us into any disrepute. The issue that was raised with regard to MFMA got defeated on the strength of the MOI because its only us and the city of Joburg that has an entity like this and obviously we have to have an interest in the Centlec Board as first the initiator and the shareholder. It is a matter that has to do with what is enshrined in the MOI. I am not a legal guru, but I applied my mind to a great extent around this and I want to say that I do not know whether you googled the MOI.

I want to thank the DA for applying their mind to this extent because it is only in that line that we can make the best decisions.”

The Speaker requested clarity from the Executive Mayor if he was replacing the 2 resolutions with the other 2. And he also wanted confirmation if the representatives will not receive additional benefits?

The Executive Mayor responded by indicating the following: “I want to propose it that on the recommendation that we are making and on the advice of council with respect to what Cllr JI Mokoena raised, we cannot overlook the representative of the shareholder, however the observation made suggests which impress upon me to say we shall replace the councillors that were recommended but it be handled administratively because I cannot do it whilst standing here but if the understanding takes that line, I am happy with it.

It is standard procedure and based on treasury and financial discipline, any person at any level of any board unless it is a different board but at this level, there is an element of remuneration. What is at par with the content of remuneration is that it must not be anything as the prescript as defined by the law, the discipline of how board members are treated shall have to apply here and that is also administratively conducted based on a set of principles that are legislated and driven by regulations. MMC’s and officials are not subject to that, only people that are coming from outside will be regarded as board members, the ones that are prescribed by the MOI coming from the shareholder are already in the employ of the shareholder, it is their duty to ensure that the interest of the shareholder are not trampled but they are not subject to remuneration.”

Cllr PA Snyman raised the following questions: “Thank you, Mister Speaker, not a point of personal explanation, just two (2) questions, will it be possible to just declare by the representatives or by financial impact that they will not be paid?

Executive Mayor you answered the majority of my questions, however 1 remains – on page 18. C – delegation of powers, empowering the caretaker team, what is that delegation of powers? Where will their authority begin and where will it end? I feel like we cannot implement if we do not know that bit.”

The Executive Mayor indicated as follows: “We should focus on the recommendations on the second page – this specific one to enforce my previous, this empowers the board to identify gaps and recommend remedial action in Centlec but not actually be there for Centlec when they need them. Thanks, Honourable Speaker.”

Cllr MW Mongale remarked: “Thank you, Honourable Speaker, Dr BL Mathae. The issue I wanted to check with the Mayor, I am happy that you are considering changing the two (2) Councillors which were there which is Cllr VS Soqaga and Cllr CL Kruger so that the integrity can be protected from the mess that happened when they were there. I do not want to be misinterpreted. I am saying so that integrity can be protected, you removed them from the crime scene until the matter is properly established, that is what I am saying.

I am not fighting, just that, I Mongale, speaker there are comments. The issue I wanted to raise is regarding Ms Judith Ntshudisane who happens to be a former Municipal Manager of Sekhukhune District Municipality and was flagged by MPAC of that Municipality to have committed wasteful expenditure of R480 million. If this Municipality without vetting a person, and appointed, you are committing a crime, it might have not been deliberate that le mo appoint'etse ho senya moo, le batla specialist sa boshodu, o lo enka jwalo ka ha le e batla but if it is a human error, go and check her profile and if it is not clean let her be removed and let there be no crisis because Mangaung must be clean from any elements that want to destroy the integrity of this institution. I do not think this Council wants to go down to be the ones that condoned corruption; it is an ensure of integrity. Majority does not count.”

Councillor BJ Viviers on a point of personal explanation: “It is very important before we vote, through you to the Executive Mayor, the predicament I foresee is the declarations of interest, if it remains Cllr CL Kruger and Cllr VS Soqaga, I do not think they should have voted because they have personal interest. We have the predicament and I note everything that is said but now it will possibly be two (2) other ANC Councillors. If that is the case, I do not know who they are but let us assume it is my Chair, Cllr TKW Mokgothu (Cllr Tona) now he will vote for this, but he will be the representative and I just think it will be wrong if it is then my chair and he is voting, I am just mentioning that little discomfort that I have. Thank you.”

The Speaker summarised as follows: “It is not discomfort then, the council has the right to appoint anybody that person does not represent himself, he acts on the jurisdiction of this council, I think the Executive Mayor has explained it that the 2 members which were in the previous will not form part of this interim board, alternatively, he will deal with this matter administratively to identify consistently with the resolution that political office bearers should form part of the board and I think that suffices, it really explains other than that I do not think the debate is taking us any further.”

Executive Mayor replied as follows: “Let me reply on the delegation, in an acting capacity, the other thing would not be involved because of the period under review. But once you are appointed in an acting capacity, you assume responsibilities that are enshrined in that space, you cannot isolate items so that speaks to delegation so I would not really want to prescribe, to be honest, it has been the case, we have so many people acting capacities. We did indicate that in this metro that from 2021 till 2023, we were close to 9 that acted as City Managers and all of them acted in terms of titles, but you treat them as that particular person.

I think you have summarised the administrative part of it, it does cover Cllr MW Mongale to say we will handle it administratively but for purposes of not allowing. I am more worried of any form of litigation, it must find us ready, and Cllr MW Mongale is right, until the dust is settled, we can re-assign people, but this does not condemn those that were board members, it says there was a jigsaw puzzle that led to some difficulties, and we are going back to the drawing board. Perhaps what we could include is what the Speaker said, I should allow the Speaker could summarise and I am quite happy.

There is a critical aspect that was raised by Cllr Mongale regarding Ms J Ntshudisane, we do vet Cllr MW Mongale and when he came here, he went through that process. I must warn councillors, I want to use my personal example, when I came to this council I was declared insolvent. If you search on google you will find that and a number of things that you will find about many of us. If you do remember, we had the CFO that had been appointed and she withdrew on the strength of what was contained in her profile but when you go to law enforcement units there were no cases noted and their records are as clean as any other aspect that relates to them.

So normally, this is perhaps something that would need a strong legal guru that when a journalist has written something about and it does not hold, it must be expunged from social media because it stays there and once it stays there, the next persons who opens, it comes up and it says you are this and that, when you are not. I take what you are raising, these are things that are said, look at the HOD in KZN, he has just been paid 20 or 22 million rand for unlawfully being fired when you look at what they were saying and doing, could not prove, he went to court and won. Some things can be said about an individual, but when they have to be proven, it is impossible. It is the limitation of social media that when they have written about you, it does not get expunged. I want to find a way of expunging such things, even on me because I am trying to be as old as I am going to the grave clean, but they will mud you with these things.”

The Speaker put the matter to vote, and Councillors voted as follows with amendments:
46 in favour, 26 against and 4 abstained.

After the Speaker announced the voting results, the following Councillors requested that their voting outcomes be noted as such, namely:

Cllr GDP Kotze that the DA voted against.

Cllr DL De-Huis that the EFF abstained.

Cllr MW Mongale that AASD voted against.

Cllr JH Denner that FFPlus voted against.

Cllr JM De Bruin that PA abstained.

Cllr PA Snyman remarked: “Can I just say that I have not been a Councillor for long. Regarding earlier points and some discussions held in the meeting, I feel like there was a lack of understanding which was not present in this last point. As a new member, I request that the TROIKA consider the success of this last point, how smoothly it went regarding understanding the Executive Mayor what we are raising and what we are asking. Regarding other points, it was not precisely followed as such, it is to improve the council as a whole. Thank you.”

The Speaker responded and indicated that the point is noted and will be recorded as such, he further indicated that TROIKA took note of the concerns.

It was thereupon

RESOLVED that Council noted and resolved on the following:

1. That the identified names be approved as an interim board of Centlec.
 - Mr JD Snyman
 - Ms MJ Ntshudisane
 - Ms N Sitishi
 - ***Two Members of the Mayoral Committee who did not serve at previous Board of Centlec.***
2. That the interim board identify gaps and recommend remedial action at Centlec.
3. That the Executive Mayor reports consistently to Council on the work and mandate of the interim board until a permanent one is duly constituted.

145	REPORTS FROM THE SPEAKER
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None.

NOTED.

146	REPORTS FROM MPAC
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None.

NOTED.

147	REPORTS FROM AUDIT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE
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None.

NOTED.

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

NOTED.

149	REPORT ON SALGA ACTIVITIES
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None.

NOTED.

12A

150	IN COMMITTEE REPORTS
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Note by Secretariat: Item 144.15 was initially submitted to be dealt with In Committee however, the Executive Mayor moved the item from 150.1 to 144.15.

NOTED.

151	MOTION
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None.

NOTED.

152	CLOSING OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
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The Speaker officially declared the meeting closed at 18h26.

**SECRETARIAT UNIT
COMMITTEE SERVICES**