



MSUKALIGWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

MSUKALIGWA



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A BEACON OF SERVICE EXCELLENCE



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MR. M.A.J ZWANE

Msukaligwa Local Municipality enhanced citizen engagement through social media and contact centre

In the recent quarterly report on contact center operations, several key metrics illustrate the performance and responsiveness of municipal services.

Contact Center Operations Overview

The contact centre received a total of 16 365 calls during the last quarter. Calls Responded to and/or answered: out of these, 11 291 calls were responded to, demonstrating an effective response rate that aligns with service standards. Official Complaints Management, by official complaints we mean complaints directly lodged with the municipality through the Contact Centre and a reference number was issued to the caller.

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Complaints Logged; the contact center logged 2488 official complaints in line with the municipal service charter. The complaints logged per service are as follows: Electricity Services logged one thousand seven and six (1706), sewer services four hundred and fifty two (452), water

services two hundred and twenty nine (229); roads and stormwater five (5) and others ninety eight (98), of these complaints, 2040 were addressed, which made up of 82%, complaint resolution rate and ensuring that the municipality remains accountable and responsive to citizen concerns.

Social Media Engagement

The use of social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter have become increasingly vital for updating the public about municipal service interruptions. These platforms serve as effective channels for real-time communication, allowing the municipality to:

- Provide timely updates on service disruptions.
- Engage with citizens directly to address inquiries and concerns.
- Foster transparency and trust within the community.

Importance of social media: Utilizing social media not only enhances communication but also improves customer satisfaction by keeping citizens informed. It allows for a more interactive relationship between the municipality and its residents, facilitating quicker resolutions to issues raised.

In conclusion, the contact center's performance metrics indicate a strong commitment to customer service and responsiveness. The integration of social media into communication strategies further enhances public engagement and satisfaction with municipal services.

On the 25th of November 2024, the National Campaign known as the 16 Days of Activism Against Women and Children was launched by the National Government. This annual campaign is aimed at combating Gender-Based Violence and Femicide. Although it is acknowledged that the campaign officially concludes in December, the need to observe its principles throughout the year is emphasized. It is urged that all residents of Msukaligwa, especially women and children, report any form of gender-based violence to the nearest police station without hesitation.

Moving on to matters concerning water conservation, attention is drawn to the ongoing issue of unpredictable weather patterns, resulting in insufficient rainfall. Residents across the Municipality are requested to continue using water sparingly. Water restrictions have been implemented by the Municipality as a measure to extend the availability of water, and it is expected that management will enforce the restrictions that have been put in place. On October 4, 2024, an on-site inspection of the Douglas Dam was conducted by the Deputy Minister for Water and Sanitation, Honorable David Mahlobo, who gave his insight on the water challenges we are currently facing in Msukaligwa.

In a related development on economic growth, the Municipality has welcomed the announcement made by His Excellency, President Cyril Ramaphosa, on township economic reforms. Public comments and representations on the draft by-law for township economies have already been initiated. It is believed that this initiative will ensure the legalization of township businesses, support both formal and informal enterprises, promote township enterprises, and enforce compliance with applicable standards.

Turning to the issue of municipal compliance, gratitude is extended to all residents who have registered their electrical meter boxes before the rollover date of 24 November 2024. Those who have not yet registered are strongly encouraged to do so.

Shifting focus to community engagement, a successful Mayoral Imbizo was conducted by the Office of the Executive Mayor on the 15th of October 2024 at Ward 15 in Lothair. The event provided an opportunity for the community of Ward 15 to engage with the Municipality, raise community challenges, and propose solutions. It is reported that this engagement allowed for the identification of issues and the proposal of collaborative approaches to address them.

On the topic of service delivery enhancement, the official unveiling and handover of the new yellow fleet took place on October 14, 2024. The fleet consists of five (5) Tractor Loader Backhoes (TLBs) and a 22-seater minibus. The fleet is expected to enhance service delivery, reflecting the Municipality's commitment to improving operational efficiency.

Focusing on leadership and governance, the appointment of the new Director of Corporate Services, Mr. MS Dlamini, has been officially welcomed. All management and officials are called upon to provide the necessary support to Mr. Dlamini during his tenure as Director. It is anticipated that his contributions will further strengthen the Municipality's administrative capacity.

On matters of financial accountability, a commitment is being reiterated to ensure that management addresses any issues raised by the Auditor General in the audit report. Management has been directed to prepare action and audit plans to resolve these issues and to incorporate them into the Municipality's annual report, in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) 131(1)

Lastly, on a note of gratitude and appreciation, appreciation is extended to all employees of Msukaligwa Local Municipality for their unwavering dedication and hard work throughout 2024. Their efforts in providing quality services to residents are sincerely acknowledged.

In closing, seasonal greetings are being conveyed to all residents and employees of the Msukaligwa Local Municipality. May this season bring joy, peace, and prosperity to every household within the community.

The oversight visit underscored the municipality's commitment to transparent governance and the delivery of essential services to its residents.



ALDERWOMAN MP NKOSI
EXECUTIVE MAYOR



**ALDERWOMAN
M.P NKOSI**
EXECUTIVE MAYOR



**ALDERWOMAN
C.E MSEZANE**
MMC FINANCE



**ALDERWOMAN
T.C MOTH**
MMC TECHNICAL SERVICES



CLLR T.J MADLALA
MMC
CORPORATE SERVICES



CLLR B.G MOTH
MMC PLANNING &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



CLLR S.E NGOVENE
COMMUNITY & SOCIAL
SERVICES

EXECUTIVE MAYOR

The primary functions of the Executive Mayor among others is to promote the image of the municipality, Preside over Mayoral Committee meetings, leads and promote social and economic development in the municipality, Promote intergovernmental and inter-institutional relations.

MAYORAL COMMITTEE

The primary functions of the Mayoral Committee, are to render assistance to the Executive Mayor in exercising of his/her authority. To identify the needs of the Municipality; review and evaluate those needs in order or priority. To recommend to the Municipal Council strategies, programmes and services to address priority needs through the Integrated Development Plan and estimated revenue and expenditure taking into account any applicable National and Provincial development plan; and recommend or determine the best methods including partnership and other approaches to deliver those strategies, programmes and services to the maximum benefit of the Community. Mayoral committee is appointed by the Executive Mayor and dissolve if the Executive Mayor ceases to hold.



CLLR N.S XABA
SPEAKER



**ALDERWOMAN
P.T SIBEKO**
WHIP OF COUNCIL



CLLR M.A NZIMANDE
MPAC CHAIRPERSON

SPEAKER

In terms of Section 37 of the Municipal Structure Act as amended the functions.

The speaker of a municipal council:

- presides at meetings of the council;
- performs the duties and exercises the powers delegated to the speaker in terms of section 32;
- must ensure that the council meets at least quarterly.
- must maintain order during meetings;
- must ensure compliance in the council and Council committees with the Code of Conduct set out in Schedule 5: and
- must ensure that council meetings are conducted in accordance with the rules and orders of the council.

WHIP

In terms of Section 41B of the Municipal Structure Act as amended the functions of the Whip of a municipal council:

- liaises with the different political parties to ensure representation in council and council committees;
- maintains sound relations between the various political parties;
- informs the whips of all parties on important matters on the council agenda;
- assists the speaker to count votes in the council meeting;
- facilitates the interaction between the executive and legislative oversight structures in the municipality; and
- resolves disputes between the speaker, mayor or executive mayor, or members of the mayoral committee.

MUNICIPAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (MPAC)

In terms of Section 79A Subsection (3) of the Municipal Structure Act. The municipal council must determine the functions of the municipal public accounts committee, which must include the following:

- review the Auditor-General's reports and comments of the management committee and the audit committee and make recommendations to the municipal council.
- review internal audit reports together with comments from the management committee and the audit committee and make recommendations to the municipal council;
- initiate and develop the oversight report on annual reports contemplated in section 129 of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act;
- attend to and make recommendations to the municipal council on any matter referred to it by the municipal council, executive committee, a committee of the council, a member of this committee, a councillor and the municipal manager; and
- on its own initiative, subject to the direction of the municipal council, investigate and report to the municipal council on any matter affecting the municipality.

(4) Reports of the municipal public accounts committee must be submitted to the speaker who must table such reports in the next meeting of the municipal council.



MR M KUNENE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

I am both humbled and encouraged by the progress we have made, the challenges we have faced, and the strides we continue to take to serve the people of Msukaligwa.

Reflecting on the 2023/2024 financial year, the municipality received a qualified audit opinion. For clarity, a qualified audit opinion indicates that while much of the municipality's financial reporting is sound, there are specific areas that require improvement or clarification. In contrast, an unqualified audit opinion represents a clean bill of health, with financial statements presenting a true and fair view. We are committed to addressing the identified areas of concern to ensure improved outcomes in future audits.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to serving you diligently and ensuring that Msukaligwa continues to thrive as a community that supports and uplifts all its residents.

The municipality has also made significant progress to enhance the quality of life for our residents. We welcomed a number of new recruits into our public service. These individuals are eager to contribute to our communities, gain valuable experience, and enhance their employability, strengthening both their futures and our collective service to residents.

In addition to investing in human resource development, we have prioritized infrastructure development. Several new structures, facilities, and roads have been completed and are now open for public use. I encourage all residents to take pride in these developments, report vandalism, and join us in safeguarding the infrastructure that improves our lives. Vandalism and intentional tampering not only harm essential services but also hinder the progress of our communities.

Water and electricity losses remain critical challenges. These losses, often caused by vandalism, illegal connections, and tampering, directly affect service delivery. Our municipality has launched robust initiatives to mitigate these losses and ensure that resources are managed responsibly for the benefit of all.

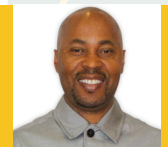
This year, Msukaligwa faced significant water shortages due to insufficient rainfall. Despite these challenges, the municipality has worked tirelessly to provide water to all residents and has erected infrastructure to bring water closer to every household. We deeply appreciate the patience and resilience of our communities during these difficult times.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to every municipal official who has gone above and beyond in serving our residents. Your dedication and hard work do not go unnoticed. To the people of Msukaligwa, thank you for your understanding and support as we navigate these challenges together.

We remain steadfast in our commitment to serving you diligently and ensuring that Msukaligwa continues to thrive as a community that supports and uplifts all its residents.



MR M KUNENE
MUNICIPAL MANAGER



MR MS DLAMINI
DIRECTOR:
CORPORATE SERVICES



MS H MAGANYA
DIRECTOR: PLANNING &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



MR K NHLABATHI
DIRECTOR: FINANCE / CFO



MS PZ DUMA
DIRECTOR:
TECHNICAL SERVICES



MR MS LUKHELE
DIRECTOR: COMMUNITY
& SOCIAL SERVICES

MUNICIPAL MANAGER: OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

The purpose of the Office of the Municipal Manager is “To coordinate and manage the provision of service delivery in accordance with the legislation governing local government.” and the functions are as follows:

- Manage technical services;
- Coordinate the provision of community services;
- Coordinate municipal planning and economic development;
- Manage financial matters;
- Manage corporate services;
- Manage communication, IGR and contact centre services
- Render internal audit services;
- Render risk management services;
- Manage integrated development plan and organisational performance management system; and
- Manage and coordinate the provision of municipal services in the service delivery units.

DIRECTOR: COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES

The purpose of the Department is “To coordinate the provision of community services” and the functions are as follows:

- Render disaster, security management and law enforcement services;
- Coordinate waste management and environmental services;
- Coordinate the maintenance of parks, sports and cemeteries;
- Render traffic management services;
- Render fire management services; and
- Render library and information services.

DIRECTOR: CORPORATE SERVICES

The purpose of the department is “To manage corporate services” and the functions are as follows:

- Render human resource management and development services;
- Render legal services;
- Render secretariat and records management services;
- Manage information and communication technology services;
- Provide maintenance to municipal buildings;

DIRECTOR (CFO): FINANCE

The purpose of the department is “To manage financial matters” and the functions are as follows:

- Manage municipal budget and financial reporting;
- Manage municipal assets, insurance and fleet management services;
- Manage expenditure services;
- Render supply chain management services; and
- Render revenue, credit control and cash management services

DIRECTOR: PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The purpose of the department is “To coordinate municipal planning and economic development” and the functions are as follows:

- Render spatial planning and land use management services;
- Render sustainable and integrated human settlements planning and property management; and
- Promote local economic development services.

DIRECTOR: TECHNICAL SERVICES

The purpose of the department is “To manage technical services” and the functions are as follows:

- Render vehicle and plant mechanical services;
- Manage municipal infrastructure development programmes;
- Manage roads and storm water services;
- Manage water and sanitation services; and
- Render electricity services.

MSUKALIGWA MUNICIPALITY APPOINTS SEASONED PUBLIC SERVANT AS DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

Masukaligwa Local Council appointed Mr. Mandla Stanley Dlamini as the director of Corporate Services at the Special Council Meeting held on October 09, 2024. The appointment is in terms of section 56 of the Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 as amended, on a permanent based, after a meticulous selection process by the Municipality. Msukaligwa welcomes the new director. Msukaligwa Local Municipality has bolstered its leadership with the appointment of Mr. Mandla Stanley Dlamini as Director of Corporate Services, a move aimed at strengthening governance and administrative efficiency. Dlamini brings over a decade of expertise in local government, including a proven track record in financial management and institutional transformation.

Dlamini holds a Bachelor of Administration (Public Administration and Industrial Psychology) from the University of Zululand, complemented by advanced qualifications: a Master of Business from Queensland University of Technology (Australia), a Master of Management (Public and Development management) with the University of Witwatersrand (incomplete) and a Certificate in Municipal Finance from Wits Business School. His academic foundation is matched by extensive experience, including roles as Audit Committee Member (Msukaligwa, 2010), Municipal Manager at Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality (2017–2022), and General Manager: Corporate Services at Gert Sibande District Municipality.

During his tenure as Municipal Manager at Chief Albert Luthuli Municipality, Dlamini spearheaded a financial turnaround, elevating the municipality's audit opinion from qualified to unqualified—a status maintained from 2016/2017 to 2020/2021. His tenure also included roles such as Senior Manager: Human Resources Management and Manager: International Relations and Intergovernmental Relations at Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, where he honed skills in strategic planning and intergovernmental collaboration.

Msukaligwa Municipality, currently under Section 139 administration since 2018, faces challenges in service delivery and financial sustainability. Dlamini's appointment aligns with efforts to stabilize governance and align operations with legislative mandates, including the Municipal Systems Act and Municipal Finance Management Act. His expertise in audit compliance and financial recovery positions him to address systemic issues, such as cash flow challenges and infrastructure gaps highlighted in recent reports.

the appointment of Mr. Mandla Stanley Dlamini as Director of Corporate Services, a move aimed at strengthening governance and administrative efficiency

As Director of Corporate Services, Dlamini will oversee critical functions, including human resources, legal services, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and secretariat and records management, while supporting the municipality's broader goals of equitable service delivery and community engagement. His secondment by Mpumalanga's Department of Cooperative Governance to Mkhondo local Municipality accentuates provincial confidence in his ability to drive institutional renewal.

With Dlamini at the helm, Msukaligwa Municipality aims to rebuild trust and advance its vision of "Beacon of Service Excellence" amid ongoing administrative reforms.



[FLTR] MUNICIPAL MANAGER MR M KUNENE, THE NEW DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES MR MS DLAMINI AND EXECUTIVE MAYOR ALDERWOMAN MP NKOSI AT THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING (OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF APPOINTMENT)

THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR WELCOMES THE REVISED FINANCIAL RECOVERY PLAN FOR MSUKALIGWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

On the 4th of November 2024, The Msukaligwa Local Municipality convene a special council meeting wherein the Member of Executive Committee (MEC) in Mpumalanga Province responsible for Finance Mr Bonakele Majuba hand over the revised Financial Recovery Plan (FRP) to Msukaligwa Local Municipal Council.

The Executive Mayor, Alderwoman Mapulane Nkosi received the revised FRP on behalf of the Municipality. She welcomed the report and committee the municipality that it will comply with the revised FRP.

Msukaligwa Local Municipality underwent intervention under Section 139(5)(a) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa and Section 139 of the MFMA. The first Financial Recovery Plan (FRP) was handed over to the municipality in November 2019.

Despite positive progress, challenges remained. Provincial Treasury and Financial Recovery Services reviewed the FRPs to make necessary amendments for consideration by the MEC of Finance. The review involved extensive consultation with all stakeholders. The number of activities has decreased from 242 in the previous FRP to 136 in the revised or new FRP.

The revised FRP will be used as an instrument to guide the municipality in addressing the financial crisis in the municipality as well as to ensure that the municipality regains its financial health within the shortest timeframe whilst ensuring that all issues which adversely affect the financial health of the municipality are comprehensively addressed.

The FRP adopts a strategic, focused approach which is time-bound yet comprehensive enough to ensure that the underlying causes of the crisis are adequately addressed. To achieve this objective, the FRP presents a phased approach to recovery, differentiating between issues to be addressed in the short, medium and long term.

The FRP is divided into three distinct but interdependent phases. These include a Rescue Phase (Phase 1) which focuses primarily on cash and restoring the cash position of the municipality, followed by a Stabilisation Phase (Phase 2) which expands on the financial indicators to be monitored and emphasizes key governance and institutional issues which must simultaneously be addressed and finally, a Sustainability Phase (Phase 3) to ensure that indicators are developed that will give effect to the long-term financial sustainability of the municipality.

The approach is designed to ensure that financial recovery is not only achieved, but more importantly, that progress is institutionalized and sustained within MLM.

Despite positive progress, challenges remained. The number of activities has decreased from 242 in the previous FRP to 136 in the revised or new FRP.



[FLTR] MUNICIPAL MANAGER MR M KUNENE, EXECUTIVE MAYOR ALDERWOMAN MP NKOSI, MEC IN MPUMALANGA PROVINCE RESPONSIBLE FOR FINANCE MR B MAJUBA AND THE MFMA COORDINATOR MR. IDP STRAUSS

PROJECT OVERSIGHT VISITS HIGHLIGHT PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES

On 13th December 2024, The Executive Mayor of Msukaligwa Local Municipality, Alderwoman Alderwoman MP Nkosi, accompanied by members of the Mayoral Committee, Councilors, and the Municipal Manager, Mr. M. Kunene, embarked on a comprehensive project oversight visit in Ermelo. The visit aimed to assess the progress of three key infrastructure projects critical to the community's development and well-being.

The oversight visit underscored the municipality's commitment to transparent governance and the delivery of essential services to its residents.

The delegation's first stop was at Extension 34, where they inspected the newly installed 1-megaliter (1ML) steel tank and the accompanying booster pump station. This vital infrastructure project, which has been completed, is set to significantly improve the water supply to the area. The Executive Mayor expressed her satisfaction with the progress and confirmed that the facility would be officially handed over to the public in the near future. This project represents a significant milestone in the municipality's efforts to enhance water security for the community.



EXECUTIVE MAYOR ALDERWOMAN MP NKOSI, DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES MR MS DLAMINI AND MUNICIPAL MANAGER MR M KUNENE DURING AN ONSIGHT INSPECTION OF THE BOOSTER PUMP STATION.

The second project on the oversight itinerary was the rehabilitation of a 0.56-kilometer road at Nomdeni Extension 18. The project is progressing as scheduled, with visible improvements in road infrastructure expected to boost mobility and accessibility for residents. The Executive Mayor commended the project's timely progress, noting that improved road networks play a crucial role in supporting local economic activities and enhancing the quality of life for the community.

The final stop of the visit was the Mabuza Bridge, located near Mthonjeni Clinic. Unlike the other two projects, the reconstruction of this bridge has faced significant delays and is currently behind schedule. The Executive Mayor acknowledged the setback and pledged to engage with stakeholders to identify and resolve the causes of the delays. The Mabuza Bridge project is critical for ensuring safe and efficient transport links in the area, and efforts will be made to expedite its completion.

The oversight visit underscored the municipality's commitment to transparent governance and the delivery of essential services to its residents. While significant progress has been made on the water supply and road rehabilitation projects, the delay in the Mabuza Bridge reconstruction highlights the challenges faced in large-scale infrastructure development. Msukaligwa Local Municipality remains committed to addressing these challenges and ensuring that all projects are completed to benefit the community. Further updates will be provided as new developments arise.



THE NEWLY INSTALLED ELEVATED STEEL TANK IN WARD 16.



THE REHABILITATED 0.56 KM ROAD IN ERMERLO, WARD 8.



[FLTR] SPEAKER OF COUNCIL COUNCILOR NS XABA, DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL SERVICES MS. PZ DUMA AND DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MS. H MAGANYA DURING THE OVERSIGHT OF MABUZA BRIDGE.

THE MUNICIPALITY TAKES FIRM ACTION ON NON-COMPLIANT BUSINESSES

Masukaligwa Local Municipality took firm action to enforce accountability and sustain service delivery by disconnecting electricity supply to over twenty (20) businesses in Ermelo and Wesselton.. These businesses were found to have failed to comply with payment arrangements, engaged in illegal connections, or continuously evaded payments for municipal services.

The municipality's decision, though difficult, is essential for maintaining its ability to provide critical services to the broader community. By addressing non-compliance, the municipality aims to reduce electricity and water losses, ensuring that resources are effectively utilized for the benefit of all residents.

Executive Mayor Alderwoman MP Nkosi emphasized the importance of collective responsibility, stating, "We understand that this decision may seem harsh, but it is necessary for the sustainability of our community. Every business and resident must play their part by honoring payment commitments to ensure continuous service delivery."

Msukaligwa Local Municipality encourages all businesses to honor their commitments, adhere to payment plans, and avoid illegal connections. Compliance with these obligations will contribute to a more sustainable and equitable community for all.

For further information or assistance with payment arrangements, businesses are encouraged to contact the municipality's customer service centers. Together, the community can build a stronger, more resilient Msukaligwa for future generations.

Msukaligwa Local Municipality encourages all businesses to honor their commitments, adhere to payment plans, and avoid illegal connections



DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR ALDERWOMAN MP NKOSI ACCOMPANIED THE MOBILISED ELECTRICAL SERVICES TEAM.



ELECTRICAL SERVICES TEAM WHILE THEY WORKED DILIGENTLY TO DISCONNECT ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO NON-COMPLIANT BUSINESSES.



THE ELECTRICAL SERVICES TEAM ALSO ENLISTED THE USE OF A CHERRY PICKER TO CUT SUPPLY FROM THE ELECTRICITY DISTRIBUTION POLE TO PREVENT TAMPER.



THE OPERATION ALSO EXTENDED TO TAUTE STREET.

MSUKALIGWA FACES WATER CRISIS AMID CLIMATE CHANGE AND POPULATION GROWTH

In recent months, Msukaligwa has endured an unprecedented water crisis, brought about by the twin challenges of climate change and a growing population. Prolonged periods of drought significantly reduced water levels in our municipality's reservoirs and dams, including Jericho, Douglas, Torbanite, and Brummer. As these water sources fell below safe abstraction levels, the municipality was legally and ethically bound to halt abstraction to protect aquatic ecosystems.

Adding to this challenge, the 2022 census revealed that Msukaligwa's population has grown to 199,314, an increase of approximately 50,000 since 2011. This growth has placed additional strain on our already limited water resources. Current infrastructure was not designed to accommodate such a rapid increase in demand, prompting the municipality to embark on numerous infrastructure projects to meet the needs of our expanding community.

DURING THIS DIFFICULT PERIOD, THE MUNICIPALITY PULLED OUT ALL THE STOPS TO ENSURE THAT RESIDENTS HAD ACCESS TO WATER:

Water Distribution: Water tankers were deployed around the clock to supply affected areas.

Stakeholder Collaboration: Partnerships with various stakeholders enabled supplementary water supplies to reach residents.

Infrastructure Improvements: Projects included the installation of a 1-megalitre elevated steel tank in Extension 33, drilling 18 boreholes in Ermelo/Wesselton-Chrissiesmeer/KwaChibikhulu, swift repair of the emergency pipeline that transpots water from southern water treatment works to Douglas water treatment works and the use of eight (8) water tankers with a capacity of up to 18000 litres.

Water Conservation Efforts: Residents were urged to use water sparingly, and water restrictions were implemented to prolong the availability of the limited resource.

Communication: Regular updates through the municipality's social media platforms and contact center kept the public informed about water availability and affected areas.

Repair and Maintenance: Burst pipes and damaged infrastructure were promptly addressed to minimize water losses.

National Support: The municipality sought expert guidance, with Deputy Minister for Water and Sanitation, David Mahlobo, conducting an on-site inspection at Douglas Dam.

Prolonged periods of drought significantly reduced water levels in our municipality's reservoirs and dams



TORBANITE DAM IN DECEMBER 2024 WHILE THE WATER LEVEL WAS CRITICALLY LOW.



BRUMMER DAM AT 10% WATER LEVEL.

MSUKALIGWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY'S MAYORAL IMBIZO AT LOTHAIR (WARD 15) SPORTS GROUND

On 15 October, 2024, Executive Mayor, Alderwoman MP Nkosi joined by Members of the mayoral committee, Cllr NS Xaba (Speaker) Alderwoman PT Sibeko (Whip of Council), Ward councillors, Msukaligwa local Municipality (MLM) Administration leadership and officials, as well as stakeholders and government officials held the mayoral Imbizo at Lothair sports grounds.

The chilly weather did not deter the community of Lothair from coming out in numbers to attend, as this was a platform for the executive Mayor and stakeholders to address the community on service delivery issues, and for the residents to voice out their concerns, and share their inputs.

Executive Mayor Alderwoman MP Nkosi expressed her gratitude for the community's active participation in the Imbizo. She stated "It is heartening to see the community come together to discuss important issues that affect us all. Your Input is crucial in shaping the future of our municipality". A stakeholder who was part of the event emphasized the importance of collaboration between the community and local government he said "By working together, we can achieve great things and ensure that service delivery is effective and efficient".

One community member shared her thoughts on the coming together "I am pleased to see that our voices are being heard, and that concrete

action is being taken to improve service delivery in our community".

During the Imbizo the Municipality also handed over one of the five (5) Branded TLBs (Tracker loader back hoers) that was deployed to Lothair, the 22 seater that would assist onsite officials to ensure fast phased service delivery. In addition 15 community members were given farming equipment to support local Agriculture, and a stove was donated to Thusong Centre.

Overall the Msukaligwa mayoral Imbizo was a resounding success, with the communities' active participation and the commitment of the municipality and stakeholders to improving service delivery.

"I am pleased to see that our voices are being heard, and that concrete action is being taken to improve service delivery in our community".



[FLTR] MMC FINANCE ALDERWOMAN CE MSEZANE, EXECUTIVE MAYOR ALDERWOMAN MP NKOSI, AND MMC TECHNICAL SERVICES ALDERWOMAN TC MOTHJA IN A CELEBRATORY MOMENT AFTER ADDRESSING THE COMMUNITY OF LOTHAIR.



COUNCILLOR VJ MASEKO OF WARD 15 (LOTHAIR), DURING HIS WELCOME ADDRESS AT THE MAYORAL IMBIZO.



THE BRANDED 22 SEATER MINIBUS, THE TLB DESIGNATED TO WARD 15 AS WELL AS FARMING EQUIPMENT DONATED IN SUPPORT OF LOCAL AGRICULTURE.



CHIEF OF STAFF IN THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR MR MM THABETHE, AND THE COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO RECEIVED THE FARMING EQUIPMENT AND SEEDLINGS.

OFFICIAL HANDOVER: YELLOW FLEET AND 22 SEATER READY TO ROLL

October 14, 2024, at Msukaligwa local municipality (MLM), main entrance parking area, Executive Mayor Alderwoman MP Nkosi with the Mayoral Committee, ward councillors, Administration leadership and mlm officials handed over the new Msukaligwa yellow fleet, which includes five (5) branded TLB (Tractor loader backhoes), for the five selected towns within Msukaligwa: Davel, Breyten, Chressiesmeer, Lothair, and Ermelo, as well as a branded 22 seater for efficient and fast phased service delivery. The fleet has acquired to improve service delivery and meet the needs of community's in a timely manner.

"It is important that we work together to ensure that they are well maintained and used responsibly to best serve our residents"

During the handover ceremony, the executive mayor expressed her enthusiasm for the new fleet, stating that it will greatly enhance the municipalities' ability to respond to the needs of the community. She emphasized the importance of maintaining the fleet and ensuring that it is used responsibly to serve the residents of Msukaligwa.

"All vehicles are to be used solely for official purposes and in accordance with the municipality's policies and guidelines. Any employee found using the fleet for personal gain or inappropriately will face disciplinary action. It is imperative that all staff members respect the proper use of municipal resources, and any instances of misuse will be thoroughly investigated to ensure accountability and maintain the integrity of the organization" the Municipal Manager added.

The Municipal Manager, Mr. M Kunene also spoke at the ceremony, highlighting the safety regulations that must be followed when operating the machinery and vehicles, "I echo the Executive Mayors sentiments and I am grateful for the opportunity to oversee the management of this new fleet. It is important that we work together to ensure that they are well maintained and used responsibly to best serve our residents".

The handover ceremony was a celebratory moment and a pathway to better serve the community. The municipality asks the community to work together with onsite officials to ensure timely and efficient service delivery.



[FLTR] MMC COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES CLLR SE NGOVENE, MMC TECHNICAL SERVICES ALDERWOMAN TC MOTHA, EXECUTIVE MAYOR ALDERWOMAN MP NKOSI AND MUNICIPAL MANAGER M KUNENE DURING THE HANDOVER OF THE FLEET.



THE 22 SEATER MINIBUS FOR SERVICE DELIVERY AND THE FIVE (5) TLBS FOR THE FIVE(5) SELECTED TOWNS WITHIN MSUKALIGWA.



[FLTR] MMC FINANCE ALDERWOMAN CE MSEZANE, MMC COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL SERVICES CLLR SE NGOVENE, CLLR PH SIBIYA, WHIP OF COUNCIL, ALDERWOMAN PT SIBEKO, CLLR VJ MASEKO, EXECUTIVE MAYOR ALDERWOMAN MP NKOSI, SPEAKER CLLR NS XABA, CLLR TJ MADUNA, MMC TECHNICAL SERVICES ALDERWOMAN TC MOTHA. AT THE BACK: CLLR KJ MAKHUBU.

MSUKULIGWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY MAYORAL OUTREACH AT WARBURTON (NGANGA) WARD 12

On 4 November, 2024 Msukuligwa local municipality held a mayoral outreach at Warburton (Nganga) ward 12. The event was led by Alderwoman Executive Mayor MP Nkosi, who was accompanied by the political, Administrative leadership of Mlm as well as officials, and sector departments. Aimed at addressing service delivery issues within the community the outreach focused on informing the residents about the services provided by Msukuligwa and encouraging a culture of paying for those services.

Various government officials and representatives from different department sectors were present to provide information on the range of services offered by Msukuligwa.

The event was well-received by the community, with many residents expressing gratitude for the opportunity to voice their concerns and interact with local government officials.

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The mayoral outreach at Warburton (Nganga) ward 12 was a successful initiative that helped bridge the gap between the local municipality and the community. It provided a platform for open communication, collaboration, and mutual understanding. Moving forward, it is essential for both parties to continue working together to address service delivery challenges and promote a culture of accountability and responsibility.



MUNICIPAL MANAGER MR M KUNENE AND EXECUTIVE MAYOR ALDERWOMAN MP NKOSI AT THE SOUTH AFRICAN POLICE SERVICES STALL.



REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (PES) DEPARTMENT.



A COMMUNITY MEMBER OF WARBURTON INTERACTING WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.



COMMUNITY MEMBERS DURING THE HANDOVER OF FOOD PARCELS

[IN PHOTOS]



WARD SEVEN HAS A NEW WARD COUNCILLOR



Alderwoman Z Breydenbach
(Former Ward 7 councillor)



Cllr. JJ Scholtz
(Ward 7) DA



Cllr. SW Crompton (Proportional
Representative Councillor) ACDP

In a recent by-election held in Msukaligwa Local Municipality, Jacob Johannes Scholtz of the Democratic Alliance (DA) has successfully retained seat in Ward 07 for DA. The election, which took place on October 23, 2024, was necessitated by the resignation of former Councillor Zelandra Breytenbach. Councillor Jacob Johannes Scholtz left his position as an African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP) proportional representative to join the DA, where he later ran in the by-election.

On October 24, 2024, the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) officially declared the results of the by-election. Jacob Johannes Scholtz of the Democratic Alliance emerged victorious and was announced as the new ward Councillor for Ward 07. The DA managed to secure 51.95% of the total votes cast, showing a significant increase from their 40.90% share in the 2021 Municipal Elections. However, voter turnout for this by-election was notably low at 19.77%.

The by-election was conducted in accordance with Section 25 of the Municipal Structures Act 117 of 1998, which governs the filling of vacancies in ward representation. As per the Electoral Act, Councillor Scholtz's position became official upon the IEC's announcement of the results on October 24, 2024.

However, voter turnout for this by-election was notably low at 19.77%



Cllr. Jacob Johannes Scholtz is replaced as an ACDP proportional representation councillor by Cllr. Steven Wyatt Crompton.



CLLR. JJ SCHOLTZ TOOK AN OATH OF OFFICE, OFFICIATED BY MAGISTRATE. T MAKHUNGA.



CLLR. SW CROMPTON TOOK AN OATH OF OFFICE, OFFICIATED BY MAGISTRATE. T MAKHUNGA.

MSUKALIGWA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WELCOMES 49 NEW RECRUITS UNDER EPWP

On the 29th of November 2024, forty nine (49) new recruits joined Msukaligwa Local Municipality's workforce under the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). This initiative is a joint venture aimed at providing employment opportunities and equipping participants with practical, hands-on experience.

The Municipality commenced its recruitment process by publicly advertising posts in August 2024, inviting interested individuals to submit their applications. The municipality conducted a thorough shortlisting process to identify the most suitable candidates, who were subsequently invited for interviews. Successful applicants were offered temporary employment for up to 12 months.

These recruits have since been placed within various sections of the municipality, including Roads and Stormwater, Waste Management, Parks, and different service offices within the institution and its external branches. This strategic deployment ensures that recruits gain diverse experience across multiple areas of municipal operations.

The goal of this initiative is to create meaningful employment while fostering skills development that will benefit both the participants

and the community. By providing participants with exposure to real-world work environments, the municipality seeks to enhance their employability and support broader community development.

49 new recruits joined Msukaligwa Local Municipality's workforce under the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP).

This recruitment drive under the EPWP is a reflection of the municipality's commitment to addressing unemployment and building capacity within the communities in Msukaligwa. Msukaligwa Local Municipality remains dedicated to promoting inclusive growth and sustainable employment opportunities. Through initiatives like the EPWP, the municipality is taking active steps toward a brighter future for its residents.



OFFICE BASED NEW RECRUITS WHILE THEY PERFORM THEIR DUTIES AT THE CIVIC CENTER.



THESE RECRUITS STATIONED UNDER SPORTS, PARKS AND CEMETARY SECTION DOING ROUTINE MAINTANANCE AT THE CIVIC CENTRE.



MSUKALIGWA

By-Law for Township Economics

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



Objective of the standard draft By-Law

Purpose: Empower and support township businesses for inclusive economic growth.

Focus Areas: Legalizing and supporting formal and informal businesses, promoting township enterprise, ensuring compliance with standards.



Hygiene and Safety Standards

Health Compliance: Businesses must ensure a clean, safe environment.

Waste Management: Proper waste disposal and recycling practices are mandatory.

Public Safety: Ensure business areas are free from obstructions and pollutants.



Key Rights and Permissions

Right to Trade: Business licenses allow operations in designated areas.

Freedom for All: Township residents can operate businesses in approved zones with the required permits.

Empowerment Through Compliance: Support for businesses to meet legal and operational standards.



Restricted Zones and Prohibited Activities

No-Go Areas: Some public spaces, including parks, heritage sites, and sidewalks near certain buildings.

Activity Restrictions: Municipal bylaws dictate where and how trading can occur to avoid public inconvenience and safety risks.



Designated Business Areas

Purpose of Designation: To foster economic hubs within townships.

Municipal Responsibility: Mark areas for specific business activities and manage permits.



Penalties for Non-Compliance

Warning System: First offense receives a written notice.

License Revocation: Repeated offenses can lead to the suspension or permanent cancellation of the business license.

Appeals: Businesses have a 21-day period to contest decisions.



Registration and Permits

Registration Process: Easily accessible at municipal offices and online.

Requirements: Proof of legal business activities and adherence to health, safety, and zoning regulations.

Permit Duration and Renewal: Managed by the municipality; clear process for new or transferring owners.



Municipal Support Programs

Skills Development: Training workshops and mentorship programs.

Access to Resources: Assistance with infrastructure and market access.

Compliance Support: Municipal support for businesses to meet regulations and grow sustainably.



"Municipalities to adapt the standard draft by-law and thereafter adopt it in council for implementation"

f X YouTube in @NationalCOGTA

Theme: "Every Municipality must work"



CHECKLIST FOR WHISTLEBLOWING

The Special Investigating Unit (SIU) was set up to investigate allegations of corruption and maladministration in the affairs of government departments, municipalities, and state-owned entities.



Allegations

- What are allegations about? i.e., tender fraud, irregular procurement, corruption, collusion, fronting etc.
- What happened?
- How did it happen?
- When and where did it happen?
- Who was involved/who is implicated?
- Who did what?
- How much money was involved?
- What is the result of what happened? e.g., loss suffered by the state institution, irregular expenditure, failure of a project ect.



Supporting documents

- Tender committee
- reports/submissions
- Appointment letter (if available)
- Investigation or audit reports
- Correspondence (letters, emails, or minutes)
- Payment information



Scan Hotline Code

#SIUSTRONGERWITHYOU



QUALITY OF OUR DRINKING WATER

Municipality jurisdiction area. The report is generated from the monthly water results received from Gert Sibande District Municipality water quality laboratory. Msukaligwa local municipality serves as the water service authority (WSA) as well as water service provider (WSP). The municipality provides access to clean water for the communities within its jurisdiction in accordance with the Constitution of the republic of South Africa Act 108 of 1996, the municipal structures (Act 117 Of 1998).

Approximately 35% of the population of Msukaligwa local Municipality reside in rural areas (farms or villages). The municipality uses both the internal and external expertise and capacity to provide water services to the communities within the six supply schemes, namely Ermelo/Wesselton scheme, Davel/kwaDela scheme, Breyten/kwaZanele & Chrissiesmeer/kwaChibikhulu scheme, Lothair scheme, Sheepmoor scheme and rural scheme.

ERMELO/WESSELTON SCHEME

The Ermelo water supply scheme abstract raw water from Jericho, Douglas and Brummer Dams for the treatment in two water treatment works namely Southern treatment plant (Jericho Dam) at 13 Mega litres per day and Northern treatment plant (Douglas Dam & Brummer Dam) at 14 Mega litres per day with a combined capacity of 27 Mega litres per day and distributed to 155 351 of the populations which covers areas like the whole of Ermelo.

BREYTEN/KWAZANELE & CHRISSIESMEER/KWACHIBIKHULU SCHEME

The Breyten/kwaZanele & Chrissiesmeer/kwaChibikhulu scheme water supply scheme abstracts raw water from the Torbanite dam and Usutu – transfer pipeline via the upper Komati pipeline for treatment in Breyten treatment work with a design capacity of 3 Mega litres per day and distributed to a population of over 26 177 in Breyten / kwaZanele and Chrissiesmeer / KwaChibikhulu.

DAVEL/KWADELA SCHEME

The Jericho scheme/Usutu pipeline water supply scheme abstracts raw water from the Jericho dam for treatment in Davel water treatment plant with a design capacity of 1 Mega litres per day and distributed to a population of 5 711 in Davel and kwaDela.

LOTHAIR SCHEME

The Lothair water supply scheme abstracts raw water from Impuluzi River for the treatment in capacity of 1 Mega litre per day and distributed to over 8 435 population in Slindile and Lothair.

SHEEPMOOR SCHEME

The Sheepmoor scheme abstracts raw water from Jericho dam for the treatment in Sheepmoor water treatment works with the capacity of 1 Mega litre per day distributed a population of 3 886. RURAL SCHEME Drinking water is provided to farms and villages through the maintenance and operation of over 100 boreholes and 8 water tankers for fifty-two farms and villages.

RURAL SCHEME

Drinking water is provided to farms and villages through the maintenance and operation of over 100 boreholes and 8 water tankers for fifty-two farms and villages.

WATER LABORATORY IN USE

Water samples are collected by Gert Sibande District laboratory samplers for analysis once a month at all our water treatment plants to be tested at their accredited laboratory. The results are then sent to the municipality to be analysed by the technician & water quality supervisor for compliance SANS 241: 2015.

WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS

The following Water quality parameters are taken into consideration when analysing the quality of drinking water: Microbiological properties (presence of bacteria, viruses and pathogens); Physical properties (conductivity, PH and turbidity) Chemical properties (fluoride, chloride, nitrate, sulphate, iron, manganese, dissolves salts, metals etc.)

WATER QUALITY OVERVIEW

During the 3 months period from October – December 2024, 233 water samples were taken. The samples were taken from different locations of water supply schemes which include the treatment works, reservoirs, household’s taps, schools and boreholes, etc. 233 analyses were done from those samples to determine physical, chemical and microbiological compliance of final water.

Month	No. of samples	Chemical failures	Percentage chemical compliance	Microbial failures	Percentage microbial compliance
October	80	3	96%	12	85%
November	69	3	97%	24	65%
December	75	2	97%	25	67%

No. of samples	233 samples and/or represent
Microbial failures	61
Chemical failures	8

61 (Sixty one) samples (Microbial) points failed to comply with class 1 SANS 241: 2015 and thus equated to 74% compliant.

8 (Eight) samples (Chemical) points failed to comply with class 1 SANS 241: 2015 and thus equated to 97% compliant.

CONCLUSION

The municipality remains committed in safeguarding public health through continuously and consistently monitoring of drinking water quality.

The municipality is confident about the quality of drinking water supply at each and every tap. Clean and drinkable water in line with SANS 241:2015 the municipality will ensure the following:

- That all unacceptable sample result at various points will be monitored weekly until they improve.
- Gert Sibande District Municipality will take samples once every month for all water treatment plants to be analysed at their accredited laboratory.



THE PHOENIX

The rebuilding of Ermelo after the destruction of almost all buildings during the 1899 to 1902 war.



THE UNIFORMED BLACK AND WHITE TRIANGLES

The mining and coal industry in the immediately vicinity of Greater Ermelo and the integration of the two towns.



THE CROSSED SHOVEL AND SHEEP SHEARS

Representing the two most important farming operations - horticulture and sheep farming.



THE MOTTO

"Stabiliter Progrediens" which means stable progress.