

**Address by Councillor Pule Shayi to Mopani District Municipality Council on the occasion of his election as the Executive Mayor of Mopani District Municipality on Friday, 07 June 2019.**

**Mr Speaker, Ntate Wireless Sedibeng**

**Mayors present here**

**Chief whip, Mme Martha Maswanganyi and all chief whips present**

**Speakers from all our municipalities**

**Executive Committee members present here**

**Our Traditional**

**Leaders, Matswarathamakga, Maaparankwe, Bandabezitha**

**The leadership of the ruling party and all other parties present here**

**Chairpersons of our Section 79 and Section 80 Committees**

**Municipal Manager and senior managers**

**Representatives from sector departments and parastatals**

**Business community and organized labour**

**Civil society organizations and NGOs**

**Members of the media**

**All our esteemed guests**

**Ladies and gentlemen**

**Honourable Speaker**, I wish to confirm that I accept the responsibility bestowed to me by the people of Mopani. I do that with a deeper sense of humility and appreciation. The Masses of our people, mandated the African National congress in 2016 to advance people's power in every community. Such a mandate was premised around the understanding that Local Government as a sphere closest to our people should attend to the problems of our people faster, in a differentiated and responsive manner, in order to mend centuries of scorn, debridation and exploitation.

Few weeks ago, the masses of our people again, building on the past 25 years of freedom, achieved through struggle, determination and great sacrifice, mandated the ANC, to work with everyone to grow South Africa.

During that period, the lives our people have changed for the better. In that Journey, we concede as the ruling party to have made mistake, that we could have moved faster and quality of services could have been better.

Today, we stand at the doorsteps of renewal, which translate into an opportunity to restore confidence to our people. That becomes possible if we could transform the district economy to serve our people, advance social transformation and step up a fight against corruption and safeguard the integrity of the Municipality through provision of ethical leadership. We have an obligation to build safer communities and embrace our diversity in our nation building efforts.

In this journey, the productive activities of our masses need to be unleashed to ensure development of our district. In the revolution, the masses are the real defenders of our country and our sovereignty, for the revolution is their festival.

We will need to be imbued with the bravery of the June 16 detachment and Peter Mokaba's uncompromising spirit of dying to a man than letting the enemy pass. This Youth month should galvanise a new thinking and break with rampant culture of undermining our people.

The challenges ahead of us need selfless men and women who are ready to put the interest of the people of our district ahead of their own. In the words of President Cyril Ramaphosa during his inauguration, I quote: **“The challenges that we face are real, but they are not insurmountable. They can be solved. And we are going to solve. In the face of all these challenges our people have remained resolute, resilient, unwavering in their desire for a better South Africa.”**

**LESWI HI SWI ENDLA HI KU PFUMELA LE SWAKU ,HI RI HEXE,TANI HI MASIPALA ,HI NGE SWIKOTI KO TISA VUKOROKWERI HI NKWABYO BANWINI.NA NGWINA MA SWI TIVA LESWAKU “ RINTIWO RINWE A RI NUSI HOVE”**

It is therefore business unusual. It is BACK TO BASICS. “We cannot solve today’s problems with the same level of thinking that created the problems in the first place” **(Albert Einstein)**.

Infrastructure roll out in relation to water, sanitation and sewerage system should be fastracked to make necessary interventions in our communities. The Intergovernmental Forum and Mayor’s forum are key platforms and catalytic in ensuring provision of such services.

Tightening internal control would give effect to clean governance and usher a new dawn of fighting corruption wherever it rears its ugly head.

Our vision as District should be engrained in programmes that reflect a departure from a culture inconsistent with Batho Pele

**Honourable Speaker.** We are a diverse council in terms of culture, faith and political beliefs, but one united council with a common mandate of “**providing better services to our people**”. I want to insist that we work together as political parties and stakeholders. We should oppose each other in order to unite and help our people to have their summer, lest they die in the frigid cold of winter because of our stubbornness.

We campaigned together in our communities with our differences. Today we are here united in advancing their power through this council. Every party in this council has a lot to contribute for the betterment of our communities and as we do so, let us do it robustly yet constructively.

This we do knowing fully well that “ **It is not the benevolence of the butcher, the brewer and the baker, that we have our dinner, but to their regard for selfish interest**” Adam Smith

At no stage should our people, have a sense that they are fed services which are crumbs from having sorted our selfish interests. Our people must never have a thinking that they are an afterthought in the

developmental agenda of the district. We need to carry each other and travel the distance to ensure a new normal in the lives of our people

My singular honour and sincere appreciation goes to Mme Nkakareng Rakgoale and her Mayoral Committee collective, for both your leadership and stewardship during your tenure, for steering this ship ashore, despite the tidal waves, of such magnitude, you would believe to succumb is the only way out.

On behalf of the people of Mopani, we wish to congratulate Mme Rakgoale for her deployment as MEC of Social Development. Together with other MECs draw from this level, they represent the best the people of Mopani could provide to the province under the obtaining circumstance

We take the baton confident that we represent a generation of go getters, a generation that remain opposed the poetic LUILETTA values of: HOEKOM MY BOETIE DAN NIE GAAN NIE.

In taking the work of this Council forward, we have consolidated a team of men and women, who should lead programmes to deliver services to our people. I wish to pronounce the following Councillors to serve as members of the Mayoral Committee:

**Finance:(Full time)**

**Governance and Shared Services (Full time)**

**Community Services: (Full time)**

**Water Services: (Full time)**

**Economic Development, Housing and Spatial Planning (Local Economic Development): (Full time)**

**Sports, Recreation, Arts and Culture:**

**Infrastructure Development Services:**

**Public Transport and Roads**

**Agriculture and Environmental Management Services:**

I would prefer to congratulate all members of the new Mayoral Committee and implore you to understand that is to serve our people.

Go forth into our communities and make our presence to add value to our people's lives.

I must submit that in the coming ordinary sitting of Council, vacancies created out of this announcement should be attended.

We also know that in the next coming few days, we should be able to table the 2019/20 IDP and Budget with a view to crystallise the aspirations of our people

On behalf of this Council, we wish to thank you for continuing to stand four square behind Council efforts of bettering the lives of our people.

**A re netefatseng gore re busa seriti sa batho ba ga bo rena ka go ba fa ditirelo tsa maleba. A BA TWI HI RAMBU KU TSHOVEKA,KU KOMBA LESWAKU HI THEOKERENI.**

Ga ra tlela Lenana, eupsa gara tla go dula ka dinala.

**HA SWI TIVA LESWAKU “ TINGANA TI KHOMA VAHLALERI”** We prefer not to disappoint.

Khanimamba

Re a leboga