

Joy in abundance as Executive Mayor delivers furniture to indigent families

Frans Moagi, a father of three children at Maseke village was lost for words when the Executive Mayor, Councillor Pule Shayi delivered furniture to his house in the early hours of Tuesday, 30 June.

“I don't know what to do or say. Maybe I should just kneel down and pray to God to multiply the days for the Executive Mayor,” said Moagi.

The Executive Mayor pledged to buy furniture for the families a few weeks ago when MEC Basikopo Makamu handed over houses to them.

Accompanied by Ba-Phalaborwa Mayor, Councillor Merriam Malatji, the Executive Mayor delivered furniture which included two beds, sofas and wardrobes to the Moagi family before proceeding to Lulekani to deliver at Sefala family.

Rosinah Sefala said she was happy to have received a house, and now the furniture. “I'm happy to finally have my family under the same roof. We had not expected this donation.”

The delivery of furniture only marked the start of a long day for the Executive Mayor as he continued to reach out to the underprivileged, in a day coinciding with his birthday. He proceeded to Nwazekudzeku village in the Greater Giyani Municipality for a sod-turning ceremony signalling the start of housing construction for yet another three indigent families. He also distributed food parcels and blankets to the three families.

The Executive Mayor was this time joined by the mayor of Greater Giyani Municipality, Councillor Basani Shivambu as well as the chief whip, Cllr Martha Maswanganyi and the MMC for community services, Cllr Mikateko Shimange-Fazi.

By mid-day he was back in Giyani where he handed-over 500 blankets to the five local municipalities to be distributed to the elderly, saying “in the absence of the pleasant summer, we needed to frontally engage with the conditions of cold winter. These blankets will go a long way in undermining those conditions.”



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The Executive Mayor completed his day by visiting Maruleng Municipality where he handed over four newly-built VIP toilets (units) to the Department of Basic Education's Makhutswe/Lepelle Circuit office in Mokgahlong (Tickyline). He was notified a few weeks ago during the District's Covid-19 Command Council that officials in that office knock-off early from work due to lack of ablution facilities.

Shayi said "we are doing this in the context of helping the department of education to ensure that the educators are assisted through measures that give them dignity. They will be able to use this infrastructure which must impact in the manner in which they are supposed to give our learners education."

The Manager for the Department of Education's Mopani West, Phillipine Modika said she is impressed with the speed at which the Executive Mayor intervened. "We reported this matter to the District Command Council a few weeks ago. Our appreciation will be seen with the end of the year results."

Jack Mawasha, the Chairperson of Cosas in the district also applauded the effort of the Executive Mayor, saying "this will go a long way in improving the education of a black child. "The Executive Mayor thanked the businesspeople who are making a contribution in uplifting the lives of the poor. "Collectively, we can do more to advance people's power in every community."



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Council adopts a R1,8 billion budget for 2020/21 financial year

A Special Virtual Sitting of Council held on Sunday, 28 June has adopted a R1,8 billion budget for the 2020/21 financial year. In his budget speech, the Executive Mayor Cllr Pule Shayi said that “while we continue to work towards the achievement of the targets clearly set out in the social contract as entered into with our people in 2016, the programme of action adopted in Kliptown in 1955 remains the ultimate yardstick for this government. We work towards the full realization of the Freedom Charter goals.”

The Executive Mayor has once again called on councillors and officials to service their water services accounts with their local municipalities, and also said “we need to honour our repayments commitment on our debts with both Lepelle Northern Water and DWS.”

The municipality has signed a repayment agreement with Lepelle Northern water in which it pays **R180 million** per annum towards the historic debt.

In the 2020/21 financial year, the municipality has budgeted an amount of **R50 million** in which it will repay the historic debt owed to Local Municipalities on losses incurred in the running of water and sanitation function. Furthermore, the municipality has put aside **R53 million** for repayment of Department of Water and Sanitation for the raw bulk water extraction.

An amount of **R500 thousands** has been set aside to assist in preparing for the launch of the district development model later this year. Shayi said “through this model, development will be pursued through a single and integrated plans per district, it means that work must begin now for us to synchronise the work of all these departments with our Integrated Development Plan.

“The model emphasises closer support to Local Government by both National and Provincial spheres, where district municipalities will be properly supported and adequately resourced to speed up service delivery.”



TOTAL BUDGET --- R1,8 Billion
Operational budget --- R1,2 billion
Capital budget --- R567 million

Grants and subsidies:

- Equitable share
R11 billion
- Municipal Infrastructure Grants
R481 million
- Water Services Infrastructure Grant
R45 million
- EPWP
R9,8 million
- Financial Management Grant
R2,7 million
- Rural Roads Asset Management Grant
R2,2 million

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Executive Mayor sends well wishes as second employee tests positive for Covid-19



The Executive Mayor has wished the second employee who has also tested positive for Covid-19 a speedy recovery. The employee has been on leave when he came into contact with a Covid-19 patient.

“We want to thank the employee for his openness and discipline, because upon realizing that he was not feeling well he took a precautionary measure and went on self-isolation. He has assured us that his close family members have tested negative for Covid-19. We want to wish him and all those that have tested positive for Covid-19 a speedy recovery.

The offices of Mopani District Municipality in Giyani have re-opened to the public again and staff members will now report for duty on rotational basis. The offices were closed on Friday, 26 June after an employee tested positive for Covid-19. The official is in self-isolation in line with the established protocols. Her close contacts are also still in self-isolation and counselling has been arranged through the Employee Assistance Programme.

As a precautionary measure, the health and safety committee ensured that all municipal facilities, including the satellite offices were once again disinfected. The municipality will continue to enforce compliance with the COVID-19 preventative measures, which include regular sanitizing, wearing of facemasks and maintaining social distancing.

Four councilors sworn-in



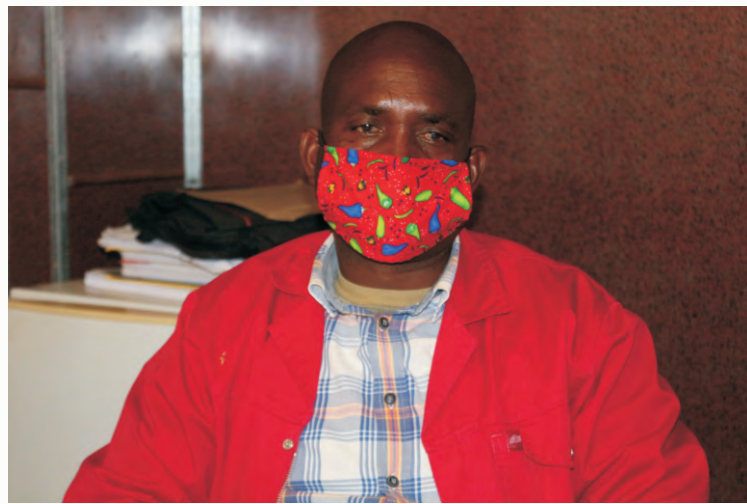
Cllr Phetole Percy Machethe



Cllr Stylish Phetole Moshole



Cllr Reginah Ntsako Sekgobela



Cllr Mokwape Lectum Ramalobela

Council has welcomed four newly sworn in councillors during a virtual special sitting of council on Sunday, 28 June. Cllr Phetole Percy Machethe, Cllr Stylish Phetole Moshole, Cllr Reginah Ntsako Sekgobela and Cllr Mokwape Lectum Ramalobela were sworn-in following the passing away of councilors from the African National Congress as well as resignations from the Economic Freedom Fighters.

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Municipal Manager welcomes new employees

Municipal Manager Quiet Kgatla has this week welcomed the newly appointed Deputy Manager responsible for Public Participation, Refilwe Makhahanisa. His appointment is with effect from 1 July 2020. Other new appointments include that of Odas Ngobeni as Deputy Manager for Communications, Themba Masingi as Deputy Manager for Public Health.

Mashape Condry Kgatle has been appointed as Coordinator Disaster Management in the community services department, Paulina Lion as Employee Assistant Program, Johannes Ramatsi as Practitioner SMMEs in the LED unit, and Bernadine Alice Alternroxel as Coordinator Information Management. Kgatla said "we want to welcome you to Mopani District Municipality, and we trust that you will perform your duties to the best of your ability in serving the people of Mopani."

NEW APPOINTMENTS

1. Refilwe Makhahanisa
– Deputy Manager: Public Participation
2. Odas Ngobeni
– Deputy Manager: Communications
3. Themba Masingi
– Deputy Manager: Public Health
4. Paulina Lion
– Employee Assistant Program
5. Johannes Ramatsi
– Practitioner SMMEs
6. Mashape Condry Kgatle
– Coordinator disaster management
7. Bernadine Alice Alternroxel
– Coordinator information management



Municipal Manager Quiet Kgatla welcomes Refilwe Makhahanisa
Deputy Manager: Public Participation



Refilwe Makhahanisa
Deputy Manager:
Public Participation



Odas Ngobeni
Deputy Manager:
Communications



Themba Masingi
Deputy Manager:
Public Health



Paulina Lion
Employee Assistant Program



Johannes Ramatsi
Practitioner SMMEs



Bernadine Alice Alternroxel
Coordinator information
management



Mashape Condry Kgatle
Coordinator disaster
management