

March 2022



Dipaleseng News



VISION

*“Centre of quality, affordable service,
good governance and
sustainable economic opportunities”*



**Acting Municipal Manager
Mrs. Busi Khanye**

From the Editor.....

The municipality continues to face enormous challenges, compounded by financial constraints and heavy reliance on grant administration from national government.

The municipality is also not immune to internal structural inconsistency obstacles that also pose other threats to institutional advancement.

With all this challenges, the municipality continues to strive towards inspiring service delivery, continues to building a responsive and people centered local government institution.

Our success will be founded by strong public participation, inter-governmental relations political will in pioneering programs of social cohesion, education, economic development and all other important aspects of local government.

Executive Mayor's Maiden Speech



**Executive Mayor
Cllr. Khethiwe Moeketsi**

Honorable Speaker, Whip of Council, MPAC Chair and fellow Councillors.

Representation from the provincial legislature Cogta/Salga
The Administration led by the Acting Municipal Manager
Distinguished guest
Leadership from the ANC

All party representatives present
Ladies and Gentleman

Sanibonani, Dumelang, Good morning

Perhaps, it is befitting, that on an occasion such as this that I greet you all in the name of Jesus Christ, Lord our savior.


I wish, from the outset, to share with you the joy I have on being elected the Executive Mayor of Dipaleseng Local Municipality. Allow me to express my sincerest heartfelt gratitude on this important occasion. This occasion marks the passing of the baton from one leader to another, from one Administration to another.

I do this mindful of what comrade Thabo Mbeki has said that: "Gloom and despondency have never defeated adversity. Trying times need courage and resilience. Our strength as people is not tested during the best of times, and what we should never become despondent because the weather is bad, nor should we turn triumphalist because the sun shines".

I am humbled, Hon Speaker, to have witnessed the period leading to the first of November and ultimately today, as to some it seemed a matter of life or death when it was just a simple painful democratic process.

I stand here today as a living testimony that it does not matter how horrible your today maybe but if God for chosen you, tomorrow will be better since great leaders make it through a baptism of fire. I am honoured to stand before you as the Executive Mayor of Dipaleseng Local Municipality.

I duly accept the responsibility and vow to serve the people of the Municipality with humility, respect and fairness. To the African National Congress, I wish to state that I am more than humbled by your faith and unwavering confidence. I know that my election today is not a personal feat, but a call to action, a call to change the lives of our people for the better.



I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate you Hon Speaker on your election to this high office. Your election is proof of confidence that this Council has in your abilities to Chair this Council and provide leadership to all its oversight structures.

A critical responsibility to ensure good Governance and put into practice our basic political principle that says the people shall govern. In the same vein, allow me to congratulate our Hon Chief of Council for her election into this very important responsibility of ensuring order through the multi-party whipper mechanism.

Let me also congratulate all parties for being elected to be part of this Council.

I also wish to extend a hand of friendship and willingness to work together with all opposition parties, for the common course of serving our people.

Through robust debates and diverse opinions, we will build a better and prosperous Dipaleseng. After all, we are all brought together by the common objective of building a better community.

Let me express my appreciation to the IEC for their role in conducting free and fair elections in South Africa generally, in Dipaleseng in particular.

Most importantly we acknowledge and appreciate members of the community for exercising their civic duty by participating in the voting process.

Speaker, the people of Dipaleseng, have spoken, at the polls on November 1st, they overwhelmingly gave the nod and renewed the mandate of the African National Congress.

They voted for us after having listened to our Manifesto. Because ours was not a list of promises but that of commitments.

Our people said while today is better than yesterday, tomorrow must be even better than today.

Speaker we committed ourselves during the door to door campaigns, guided by our manifesto that we will build better communities together.

We remain committed to developing and strengthen the local economy, create jobs and promote job placements, especially for the youth.

We understand that the actual role of local government in job creation, is to create an enabling environment for business to establish themselves, flourish, and thereby create permanent jobs. Because it is a means to dignity and self-improvement in a way that can never be achieved by a social grant.

Small businesses create jobs. They have an abundance of potential waiting to be unlocked and they have the ability to expand into employers of our people. That is why small businesses development will be the focus of my term in office.

The days of tendering for life by our people will have to come to an end.

The bidding system we have must be used to generate capital that must promote entrepreneurship and produce black industrialists.

Therefore, those wishing to do business with our municipality must demonstrate an appetite and take practical steps to own means of production.

Speaker, our success is delivering quality services to our people depend on the capacity of our internal human and financial resources.

We have committed ourselves as African National Congress to choosing the best people to run our municipality.

By ensuring that the municipality staff that are appointed have the necessary competence, experience, and support.

By subjecting mayors and senior managers to lifestyle audits to limit the scope for corruption.

Requiring mayors and councilors to sign performance agreements with agreed targets against which they will be measured.

Changing the composition and mandates of ward committees to overcome the problems they have experienced and enable residents to play their part as active citizens to build communities and hold councilors and staff accountable.

Speaker, Che Guevara teaches us that it is easy to govern when one follows a system of consulting the will of the people and one holds as the only norm all the actions which contribute to the wellbeing of people.

Our councilors will account to the communities as required by the legislations.

This, we said is a chance to turn local government around so that it can be a more effective instrument of building a better life for our people.

Ladies and gentlemen, as we all know that we are still faced with the Covid-19 pandemic, let me take this opportunity encourage everyone in this august house and the community at large to get vaccinated, so that we may reach the intended herd immunity and avert the restrictive lockdown regulations.

Let me also wish you a restful festive season, as we prepare for the holidays. Let all drivers and pedestrians obey the rules of the road.

Let us all condemn and fight gender based violence

Speaker, today is better than yesterday and I have no doubt that tomorrow will be even better than today.

I thank you!

DIPALESENG'S NEW POLITICAL LEADERSHIP



Dipaleseng Local Municipality has new political leadership which was sworn in at the Inauguration held at the Council Chamber on Tuesday, 23rd November 2021, post the latest local government elections held last year.

The sitting was graced by amongst other representatives from the Provincial Department of Co-operative Governance & Traditional Affairs, the Local Audit Committee with the Balfour Magistrate, Mr. Moldenhauer officiating the oath taking of councilors.

Cllr. Khethiwe Moeketsi was elected as the new Executive Mayor; Cllr. Xolani Shozi is the Speaker of Council, while the Chief Whip position is occupied by Cllr. Tryphina Shabalala and the MPAC Chairperson is Cllr. Kent Nyamade.

Cllr. Mojalefa Miya is the Member of Mayoral Committee responsible for Community Services & Public Safety as well as Corporate Services, while Infrastructure Services and Planning & Economic Development are under the political stewardship of Cllr. Ahmed-Nazir Carrim.

The Executive Mayor was also elected as the Council's representative to the Gert Sibande District Municipality.

Dipaleseng comprises of six wards and its Ward Councilors for this new term are:

Ward 1—Cllr. Xolani Shozi

Ward 2 —Cllr. Deon Makhoba

Ward 3 —Cllr. Ahmed-Nazir Carrim

Ward 4 —Cllr. Mojalefa Miya

Ward 5 —Cllr. Kent Nyamade

Ward 6 —Cllr. Tryphinah Shabalala



Proportional representative councilors representing African National Congress are Cllr. Khethiwe Moeketsi and Cllr. Zakhele Maya, Cllr. Sbongile Nhlapho and Cllr. Koos Dladla represent the Economic Freedom Fighters while the Democratic Alliance is represented by Cllr. Refiloe Motakane and Cllr. Karel Pienaar is the representative from the Freedom Front.

As we were crisscrossing the wards, VD to VD wall to wall, doing door to door engaging the electorate:

We pledged to do more and better as we move forward

We pledged to do and be better

We pledged to deploy honest and competent local leaders

We pledged to deploy tacton-orientated men and women who are committed to service delivery

We pledged to deliver services promptly and consistently

We pledged to rebuild safer and healthier communities

We pledged to stimulate local economies

We pledged to be available to our people

We pledged to listen to and have open channels of communication

We pledged to remain accountable

We pledged to form and sustain working partnership with communities, civic religious and all community organisations, NGOs and the private sector to benefit local communities.

We pledged to spare no effort in rooting out corruption and all forms of nepotism and malfeasance our organisation and all levels of government.

DIPALESENG EMBARKS ON STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION



Dipaleseng Local Municipality commenced its strategic planning session on Wednesday, 09th February 2022 in an attempt to define a direction to be taken with proper allocation of the limited resources to achieve strategically set goals.

The day's proceedings included the valued inputs from relevant stakeholders like; Mpumalanga Office of the Premier, South African Local Government Association, Provincial Department of Cooperative Governance & Traditional Affairs, Provincial Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land & Environmental Affairs as well as the Audit Committee.

The stakeholders shared key fundamental strategies of local government, roles and responsibilities while also highlighting set expectations in terms of core role of the institution in the local government sphere.

Post the strategic planning session, the municipality aims to come out with structured, attainable and sustainable development programs that will yield positive or enhanced results in service delivery and efficiency in municipal functions.

The day was rounded off by the house breaking up into commissions for more detailed deliberations based on the five key municipal priorities being;

- Good Governance & Public Participation
- Financial Viability & Financial Management
- Institutional Transformation & Organizational Development
- Local Economic Development & Spatial Rationale
- Infrastructure & Basic Services





BACK TO SCHOOL FOR DIPALESENG SCHOOLS

Government embraced the re-opening of inland schools by visiting schools across the country.

Nthoroane Secondary School is one such school that was visited by a delegation to assess the status of the school as well as teaching and learning at the school.

The delegation comprised of Member of Parliament, Honourable Thoko Malinga, Dipaleseng Local Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Khethiwe Moeketsi accompanied by





Whip of Council, Cllr. Tryphinah Tshabalala as well as GSDM MPAC Chairperson, Cllr. Noliqwa Nhlapo and the Acting Municipal Manager, Mrs. Busi Khanye. Honourable Thoko Malinga addressed at length issues pertaining to the school and what is expected of them as principals, school management teams as well as school governing bodies.



She reiterated the importance of education and the role schools have in modeling children and adults of the future. She further cited the deteriorating state of the school and requested the Department of Education to follow-up on all issues raised through this monitoring process on an annual basis.

Dipaleseng Local Municipality's Speaker of Council, Cllr. Xolani Shozi together with Member of Mayoral Committee, Cllr. Mojalefa Miya and Cllr. Refiloe Motakane visited Setsheng Secondary School in Siyathemba on the same mission.

Ward Committee Induction Workshop

ward Committees are the structures that make it possible to narrow the gap between the local municipality and the community, since ward committees have the knowledge and understanding of the citizens and the communities they represent.

Dipaleseng Local Municipality has launched the ward committees' structures during January and February 2022.

The coordinator facilitated a Ward committee induction workshop in partnership with Cooperative governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA) from 15 to 16th March 2022, consisting of all newly elected ward committees (60), and the workshop was conducted in the presence of ward based councillors according to their respective wards.

The workshop sought to enable ward committee's members to apply the relevant competences required for proactive participation as a Ward Committee member in order to effectively achieve municipal objectives, and further build connections between governments, ward committees, citizens and communities on a range of policy, program and service delivery issues.

Ward Committee induction workshop had the following presentation as part of capacity building for ward committees on interrelations

between ward committees, municipal departments and Community development Workers roles and responsibilities.

The last segment of the workshop was to afford councillors and ward committees to develop a 5 year plan that will guide both ward committees and councillors in executing their duties in service delivery issues.





SECTION 106 REPORT



The municipality acknowledges the media enquiries received from various media houses and hereby responds in this manner.

The municipality refutes any suggestions that Council sat on the Section 106 report since October 2021 as previously reported or otherwise insinuated.

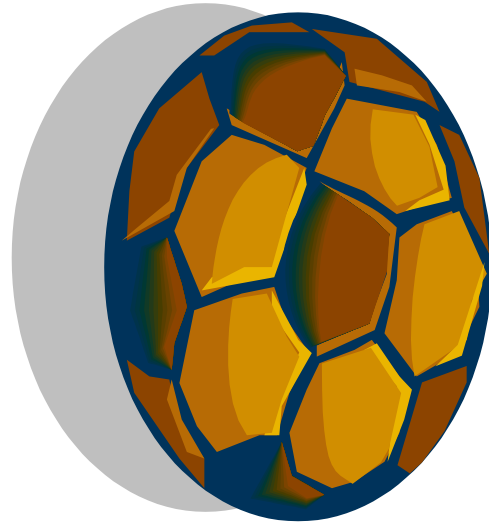
The MEC of Cogta in Mpumalanga only presented the report to Dipaleseng Local Municipality council on Thursday, 10th February 2022.

Dipaleseng Local Municipality then convened a Special Council meeting on Monday, 28th February 2022, wherein it resolved inter alia in committee that a committee of council be established to monitor the implementation of the action plan as directed by the recommendations of the report and report to Council as well as the MEC of Cogta.

This council committee will work jointly with the MEC's multi task team that is already in place to serve on this matter.

MRS BUSI KHANYE
ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER

SPORTS COUNCIL RE-LAUNCHED



Municipal youth, sports, arts and culture desk is developed for all inhabitants of Dipaleseng particularly young people. The desk was established to remain mindful of socio-economic challenges affecting our inhabitants. The high rate of drug dependency, crime, violence, sexuality, unemployment and poverty comes as a result of marginalised people primarily manifested in racial segregation, rural based youth, high scarce skills, minimal economic active participation and job scarce environment which work against job seekers particularly young people.

The desk sought to develop a comprehensive context specific to lack of competitiveness in sports, arts and employment skills that poses a serious threat to the municipal long-term socio-economic growth should it not be efficiently addressed.

The unit is embarking on a strategy to reposition youth, sports, arts and cultural programmes of action for social cohesion, creation of sustainable jobs and skills development and economic emancipation.

The significance progress builds on the strategic framework that sought to enhance maximum economic participation, development and social cohesion for our community.



A sports council relaunch meeting convened on the 19TH February 2022, inclusive of Siyathemba, Nthoroane and Grootvlei teams. Moreover the meeting sought to allow the previous Sports council executive committee to present progress reports, disbanding of the current executive council and electing new members that will serve in the new term of office.

The process of sports council election was facilitated by Department of Culture, Sports & Recreation (DCSR) and the department implemented a democratic election process guided by terms of references which presented the following portfolios to be filled: Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Secretary, Deputy Secretary, Treasurer, Public Relation officer and four Convener portfolios:

Convener for Sports Development, Women in Sports, People with Disability, Facility and Youth.

A platform to discuss domestic sports and recreational activities affecting the sports community was created, and the meeting sharply raised the following issues as matters of concern and should be attended with speed:

- Dipaleseng Local Municipality must appoint a person who will specifically coordinate community sports affairs of the municipality.
- The institution must make efforts to allocate sports and recreational budget.
- Provide temporary measures to Siyathemba stadium for the community to utilize the stadium, while outsourcing/ seeking funds to finish the stadium renovations.
- The MIG percentage meant for sports infrastructure must be allocated to upgrading of Sports and recreational infrastructure in Dipaleseng.



SPORTS COUNCIL RE-LAUNCHED

DIPALESENG NEWLY ELECTED SPORTS COUNCIL MEMBERS

NAME AND SURNAME	STAKEHOLDER/ DEPART/ SPORTING CODE	SPORTS COUNCIL PORTFOLIO
Dorcas Maleka	DCSR official	Ex officio
Oupa Cindi	Dipaleseng Local Municipality	Ex officio
Ntate Dhladhla	Takatso Sports Foundation	Chairperson
Mafete Mahlangu	Netball	Deputy Chairperson
Moipone Makhubu	Netball	Secretary



Thokozane Mhlambi	Soccer	Deputy Secretary
Nathi Makhubu	Soccer	Facility Coordinator
Robert Mabelane	Soccer	Public Relations Officer
Matshidiso Bodibe	Netball	Convener: Sports Development
Dibuseng Tsotetsi	Netball	Convener: Women in Sports
Dieketseng Motloun	People with Disability	Convener: People with Disability
12. Mponakae Pinky Se-biloane	Netball	Convener: Sports Facilities
13. Thabo Mphuthi	Boxing	Convener: Youth



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Find us on the web at
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