

THE NEWS DISPATCH

01-31 AUGUST 2022 | ISSUE 12

THE HANGOUT SOCIAL MARKET



The Msunduzi Municipality's Local Economic Development (LED) successfully hosted The Hangout Social Market at the Imbali Youth Enterprise Park (IYEP). This event provided a platform for young entrepreneurs to showcase their businesses. In attendance were the municipality's LED officials, Cllr Sokhela who is the Chairperson of the Sustainable Development and City Enterprises portfolio committee, and also Cllr Ngwenya of Ward 19.

Cllr Sokhela acknowledged each and every individual that was involved in ensuring that the event was a success. She encouraged the youth to come forward with business ideas and approach the municipality for assistance. "IYEP does not belong to the municipality but the facility is yours to utilize."

Cllr Ngwenya said that he appreciates this project which was initiated by the LED for youth empowerment and development. "It is our responsibility as the community to safeguard this IYEP facility for the benefit of our youth".



SM Mthobisi Khumalo said that the LED unit will continue to provide necessary resources to entrepreneurs at IYEP. He also acknowledged Cogta for its financial assistance towards the implementation of IYEP.

PROTEST AT SUKUMA COMPREHENSIVE HIGH SCHOOL

Deputy Mayor Mxolisi Mkhize joined the MEC for Education, Kwazi Mshengu, today at Sukuma Comprehensive High School where the pupils embarked on a protest, complaining about the lack of water at the school among other issues.

The water supply at the school was disconnected due to non-payment. The Municipality is compelled to implement credit control measures in order to ensure that service delivery continues.

A payment arrangement has been agreed upon between the Municipality and the Department of Education. The water supply will be reconnected. Consumers are encouraged to keep their accounts up to date to avoid disconnections and if they are not able to do so, they are encouraged to approach the Municipality to make payment arrangements.





SENIOR CITIZENS TOOK TO ATHLETICS TRACK FOR GOLDEN GAMES SELECTIONS

The Golden Games selections took place at Msunduzi Athletics Stadium and on AB Jackson's sports ground. The selections were to find members to represent Msunduzi at the District selections that were held on the 15th and 16th of August. The Golden Games are for senior citizens aged over 60 years and aim to promote wellness and healthy living among senior citizens. This was the first games since their closure due to the Covid19 pandemic.





MUNICIPALITY TOP OFFICIALS OFFER MORAL SUPPORT TO TOP SWIMMERS

Mayor Mzimkhulu Thebolla and Deputy Mayor Mxolisi Mkhize attended the South African Short Course Swimming Championships.

The annual event attracts the countries top swimmers who compete by swimming in a 25 meter pool at GC Jolliffe Swimming Pools, Pietermaritzburg.

The Mayor also did the honor of presenting a gold medal to Pietermaritzburg's own Matthew Sates (Seals Swimming Club) who currently holds the World Cup for best time in the men's 200m freestyle. He also qualified tonight for this years World Championship with his performance during the men's freestyle 200m final.



MSUNDUZI MUNICIPALITY CELEBRATES WOMEN IN ART



Msunduzi Municipality's Tatham Art Gallery hosted a Women's Tea and Talk in celebration of Women's Month and explored the W.O.M.A.N. Exhibition.



BUSINESS LICENSING UNIT AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

The Msunduzi Municipality's Business Licensing Unit held an awareness campaign at Mpumuza Traditional Administration to educate and provide clarity on issues concerning business licensing. This awareness campaign was also to urge business owners to come forward and legalize their businesses.

"We covered all aspects of business licensing including its importance, benefits, penalties of not having a business license, and requirements to obtain a business license", said Business Inspector, Nomfundo Mdladla.



THIS MONTH'S BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT VISITS

1. KWAKHANYA CLEANING SERVICES

Date of visit: 21 July 2022

Located at 277 Boom street PMB, this business specializes in residential and commercial cleaning, high-pressure cleaning, window cleaning, post-construction cleaning, and upholstery cleaning. They currently have 11 employees.



2. H&M ROLLER'S TECHNOLOGIES

Date of visit: 21 July 2022

H&M Roller's Technologies is located at no. 55 Portland Road, Mkondeni, PMB. They are a holding group for an extensive network of engineering companies that serve the roller and associated industries of South Africa. They have 40 employees.



3. TROY MANUFACTURING

Date of visit: 11 August 2022

Troy Manufacturing is a steel fabricator business located at Roycol Park, Mkondeni, which was established 34 years ago. They have 20 employees. This business was indirectly affected by COVID-19 and the July 2021 civil unrest thus resulting in them retrenching 4 employees and being closed for 3 weeks due to the Civil unrest. The major challenges or problems that Troy Manufacturing has are:

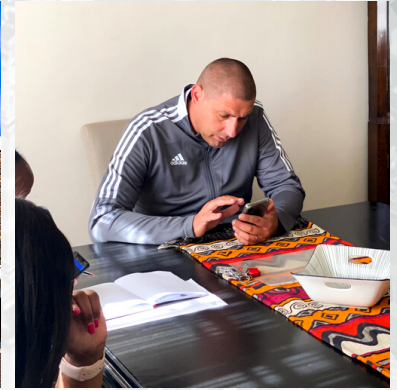
- Litter in the Mkondeni area
- Potholes in Mkondeni roads
- Drainages near their operating business place

THIS MONTH'S BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT VISITS

4. HVE WOOD PELLETING

Date of visit: 16 August 2022

HVE Wood Pelleting is located at no. 43 Yarborough Road Mkondeni. It is a family operating company with 3 generations of experience in the wood pellet industry. The business has been operating for the past 15 years and has a total number of 20 employees. During the visitation the business indicated that they don't have much challenges but their major challenge is of service delivery is their major concern especially the potholes and water outage.



5. DICK WHITTINGTON SHOES

Date of visit: 16 August 2022

The Business Development unit together with the office of the Mayor and some of the relevant municipal departments visited Dick Whittington shoes to take notes of their challenges and assist them where possible. The departments that were part of the visitation include Waste, Communications, Water & Sanitation, Community Service, and Electricity department.



Dick Whittington is a shoe company located at 31 Old Main Road, Plessislaer.

The company is a very niche business that manufactures and sells genuine leather and high-quality shoes. It has a total number of 350 employees and produces about 40 000 pairs of shoes a month that boasts a well-earned reputation as being the leading manufacturer and marketer of genuine Goodyear welted, branded men's formal footwear and uniform/industrial footwear. They import some of its branded lines through its licensors in the USA and have been the prime contractor to the state.

During the visitation, Dick Whittington representatives highlighted some of the challenges that they encounter and requested municipal intervention. Current challenges that they encounter are:

- Poor service delivery which includes water and potholes
- Underground water or water pipe leaking onto their company premises
- Unattractive working environment



CONTRIBUTIONS FROM VULINDLELA AREA-BASED MANAGEMENT



Photo 1: The office of the Ward 40 Councillor along with the Vulindlela ABM office coordinated a much-needed programme targeting the unemployed graduates within the ward. This informative workshop was jointly presented by the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) in partnership with Umzansi Youth in Business (UYB). The graduates were equipped with labour market skills such as CV writing and handling interview questions. The Ward Council office also compiled a database of graduates to advise them to apply when vacancies arise.



Photo 2: Ward 40 Councillor, Ms. Jabu Ngubo motivates the group of participants that attended a fruitful workshop facilitated by the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) in partnership with Umzansi Youth in Business (UYB).



Photo 3 and 4: the Ward 40 Councillor collaborated with civil society organizations to commemorate the 67 minutes of the late Nelson Mandela by initiating a cleaning project within the ward. The campaign is at its teething stage since it began by removing undesirable shrubs at Sweetwaters stadium. The programme is intended to escalate to other areas to keep the ward environmentally clean with no litter and unnecessary shrubs.



Photo 5 and 6:

As a preventative measure, the Health Systems (HST) held a three-day program entitled *My Future, My Youth* to promote wellness and a healthy lifestyle among youth. Today's youth is vulnerable to drug abuse, HIV AIDS, teenage pregnancy, high crime rate, and other social ills. In a concise form, the presenters tackled almost all the core issues raised recurrently in war rooms and those that featured in the community-based planning sessions held at the beginning of the year. Participants will be provided with Certificates of Attendance, and it's expected that a more intensified programme to run for 13 weeks will resume soon.

THE MUNICIPALITY STRENGTHENS TIES WITH BUSINESSES FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC GROWTH

Mayor Mzimkhulu Thebolla, Speaker Eunice Majola accompanied by the Local Economic Development officials visited the Dick Whittington Shoes (PTY) LTD.

The Municipality aims to demonstrate appreciation for the business' contribution to the local economic growth and job creation in the city, as well as to intervene on the challenges the business faces.

This is part of the Local Economic Development Unit's Business Retention and Expansion program. The Municipality aims to increase local business sustainability through this strategy.

The CEO of Dick Whittington Shoes welcomed the municipal visit and highlighted that illegal dumping along with the erection of illegal structures are on-going challenges for the company.

"We are delighted by the visit from the municipality and it is our sincere hope that the municipality will take our various concerns to heart." said Arveen Boodhoo.



MSUNDUZI MEETS WITH PMB MIDLANDS CHAMBER OF BUSINESS



Mayor Mzimkhulu Thebolla and Deputy Mayor Mxolisi Mkhize had a business engagement with the Pietermaritzburg Midlands Chamber of Business. Among the matters discussed were downtown issues of illegal parking, crime in the City and people living on the streets. The Municipality has intensified its efforts to address the issues of bylaw flouting in the City.

The leadership raised serious concerns about the organized crime that has become entrenched in the City, stating that as part of the Municipality's regeneration programme, 15 illegal businesses have been shut down for illegal dealings and 50 illegal immigrants have been arrested. The two sectors agree that more significant and impactful Public-Private engagements and partnerships particularly on vital projects and programmes are critical in addressing socio-economic challenges, achieving economic growth and creating job opportunities in the City.

The Msunduzi leadership is committed to actively engaging and having open discourse with the business community on the Municipality's programmes and initiatives. Together with the Business Chamber, they encourage other businesses to actively participate in rebuilding the City's economy.





UMGUNGUNDLOVU DISTRICT GOLDEN GAMES SELECTIONS 2022

Day 1 of uMgungundlovu District Golden Games selections 2022, held at Msunduzi Athletics Stadium.

The Golden Games are for senior citizens aged over 60 years and aim to promote wellness and healthy living among senior citizens.



ENGAGEMENT WITH UMNGENI MUNICIPALITY



The Infrastructure Services Portfolio Committee met with uMngeni Mayor Christopher John Pappas to discuss electricity supply. Msunduzi Municipality is committed to being transparent, taking accountability, and having a proactive approach to electricity supply challenges.

The engagement yielded positive results as Msunduzi Municipality was able to better understand the needs uMngeni Municipality's residents. The Msunduzi Municipality's Business Licensing Unit held an awareness campaign at Mpumuza Traditional Administration to educate and provide clarity on issues concerning business licensing. This awareness campaign was also to urge business owners to come forward and legalize their businesses.

"We covered all aspects of business licensing including its importance, benefits, penalties of not having a business license, and requirements to obtain a business license", said Business Inspector, Nomfundo Mdladla.



MAYORAL HIGH SCHOOLS SYMPOSIUM

The Msunduzi Municipality held a Mayoral High Schools Symposium today at the City Hall.

Management officials from different schools in the City and Chief Education Specialist, Mr. Simelane from the Department of Education attended this meeting which discussed issues concerning schools in Pietermaritzburg.

Msunduzi Municipality's Office of The Mayor continues to adopt schools to offer assistance as it advocates for quality education.

The Deputy Mayor Mxolisi Mkhize said that Msunduzi is known to have the best schools and the municipality wants to make sure it maintains that status.

"We will be visiting each school to meet with management and we want parents to come on board so that we can discuss the challenges that our schools face and they can give us an indication of what assistance they require from the municipality."



YOUTH INDABA & CAREER EXPO

The Office of The Premier in collaboration with Msunduzi Municipality held a Youth Indaba and Career Expo in Tamboville on Friday, 26 August 2022. Various stakeholders were in attendance including Msunduzi's Youth Centre office to educate youth in attendance about various programs and opportunities on offer within the office.

Councillors Gorman Dlamini and Roy Ram of Wards 38 and 34 respectively were also in attendance and offered words of encouragement to the youth to utilize the opportunities and resources available to them.





THE UMGUNGUNDLOVU OPEN BOXING TOURNAMENT

The Umgungundlovu Open Boxing Tournament was held today at Sweetwaters Zayeka Hall in Ward 2 where junior boxers from UMgungundlovu District participated. The aim was to select junior boxers to represent the district in the Provincial Junior Championships. UMgungundlovu Olympic Style Boxing Organisation thanked Msunduzi Municipality for hosting the tournament as well as the Department of Arts & Culture for providing food and refreshment for participants. Ward 2 Councillor Mr. Phumlani Gabusa was also in attendance and applauded those who came to support as well as the participants for the manner in which they have represented their respective municipalities



HANDOVER OF SPORTING EQUIPMENT TO PRE-SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES

Msunduzi Municipality's Mayoral special programmes hosted a handover of equipment by The Department of Sports, Arts, and Culture of Sporting equipment to pre-school representatives.

The equipment given to the selected Pre-schools is aimed to develop the love of sport in children from a young age. The Municipality encourages its communities to come forth and seek assistance with anything they might need help with.





THIS MONTH'S SERVICE DELIVERY EFFORTS



THE NEWS DISPATCH

01-31 AUGUST 2022 | ISSUE 12



Mayor Mzimkhulu Thebolla met with local business owners to discuss issues affecting them and to build a relationship with them in-order to be able to work together to find solutions.



95TH COMRADES MARATHON



The Msunduzi Municipality Mayor Mzimkhulu Thebolla came to support the Comrade Marathon 2022 runners after a two year long break following the Covid19 outbreak.

