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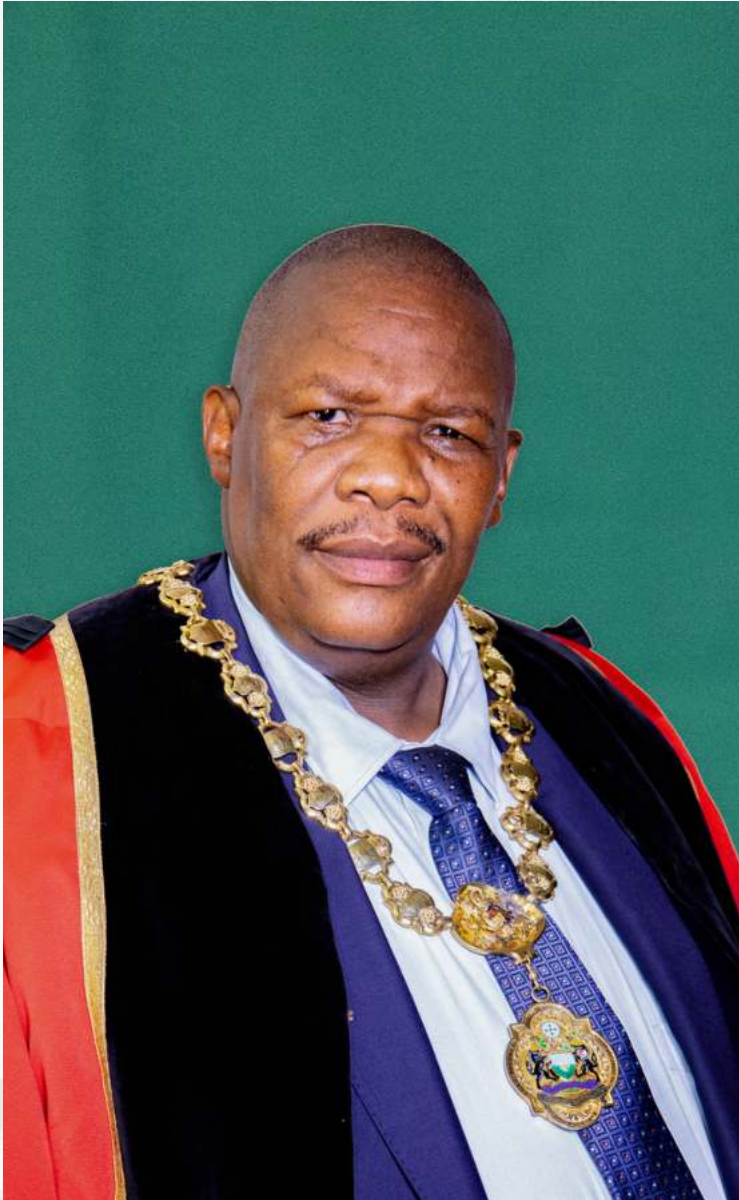
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FOREWORD FROM THE MAYOR



As we close out Heritage Month, Public Service Month, and Tourism Month, I want to take a moment to reflect on the vibrant activities that have taken place in our city this past month. We have celebrated the rich tapestry of our diverse communities, honoring the contributions that each group brings to our shared home.

This year, as we mark 30 years of democracy, it is more important than ever to recognize the unity that binds us together. Our city thrives because of the dedication and passion of our residents, public servants, and the countless visitors who enrich our cultural landscape.

Let us continue to embrace diversity and inclusion, fostering a community where everyone feels valued and celebrated. Together, we are building a beautiful city, one that truly reflects the spirit of togetherness and progress.

Thank you for your commitment to making our city a better place for all.

EFFORTS TO RESTORE LAW AND ORDER IN THE CITY



An infringement operation led by the deputy mayor, joined by the electricity unit employees including the legal services department officials, resulted to a discovery of illegal electricity connections in Raisthorpe, Sukhi Road.

DM Mkhize gave instructions to the team to invade specifically the Privet Road area, where there is informal settlements, with the intention of further conducting more illegal electricity disconnections. Four undocumented foreign nationals were also discovered and detained.

“This operation must yield results, the Municipality is losing revenue due to illegal electricity connections. We are going to work hard to do as much disconnections as possible”, emphasised Deputy Mayor Mkhize.

MUNICIPALITY YOUTH OFFICE HANDS OVER SPORT EQUIPMENT



The Municipality's Youth Office welcomed the handover of aerobics sporting equipment at City Hall. This equipment will greatly benefit the five Pietermaritzburg gym clubs participating in the Active Lifestyle Program. The Active Lifestyle Program aims to foster and promote healthy living within the City of Msunduzi.

This ongoing initiative serves not only to encourage healthier lifestyle choices among the general population, but also provides significant benefits to local aerobics clubs, which can utilize the program to enhance community engagement and physical well-being.



MSUNDUZI JOINS FORCES WITH UMGUNGUNDOLOVU ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (UMEDA)

The Acting Municipal Manager Mr. Hlela, alongside officials from the Sustainable and Development Entities and Business Development Unit, signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Msunduzi Municipality and uMgungundlovu Economic Development Agency (UMEDA) on the 5 September 2024, at the City Hall.

The purpose of the MOU is for UMEDA to work in partnership with the Municipality in terms of local economic stability and growth, to work in partnership with business units within the municipality to achieve socio-economic development objectives of the municipality and implementing strategic sustainable economic projects and programs within the Msunduzi area.

The duration of the MOU is three (3) years. This agreement will assist in fast tracking the implementation of projects, reducing of red tapes and producing efficient service delivery. This agreement falls under the Public-Private Partnership Framework that the municipality had recently adopted which is aimed at creating conducive environment for investment attraction in the city by the municipality working with institutions in the adoption of projects, especially in the infrastructure sector for efficient service delivery.

“While both parties perform their roles and responsibilities and mandates prescribed by the MOU, the city will further benefit on both parties objectives: The City’s sound base for business attraction, retention and expansion. but also the creation of employment through promotion and support of local businesses”

Miss Mandisa Gabuza: Manager Business Development.

The Municipality is looking forward for the implementation of this partnership and hope to form more partnerships with other institutions for a collaborative vision for the city.





CITY BOASTS WORLD CLASS HEALTH FACILITY



The Pietermaritzburg residents can expect world class health care as Midlands Specialist Private Hospital opened a new Intensive Care Unit (ICU). The Honorable Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mkhize, attended this intimate gathering, to celebrate the Midlands Specialist Private Hospital in its advancement as it now will be offering ICU services.

“As the Deputy Mayor of Msunduzi Municipality and Chairperson of the Infrastructure Services Portfolio Committee, which oversees essential services including water, electricity, and road infrastructure, I am delighted to celebrate the opening of the Midlands Specialist Private Hospital’s Medical ICU. This milestone underscores the importance of integrating high-quality healthcare with robust infrastructure. I encourage continued collaboration between the hospital board and our municipal services to ensure that we collectively advance the well-being of our community through effective partnerships and mutual support.” Deputy Mayor added as he ended his message of support.

The Midlands Private Hospital was built in East Street at a time when there were no private hospital care facilities for non-white people and is the largest private hospital between Durban and Johannesburg.

SENIOR OFFICIALS LEAD TEAMS IN OPERATION TO RETURN CITY TO FORMER GLORY





The Mayor led a delegation of leaders and officials in a joint operation targeting hijacked buildings in the city. The Mayor assured residents that the city will return to its former glory. Identity checks were carried out, and individuals without South African citizenship or legal authorization were detained. The Municipality is losing revenue due to illegal connections in hijacked buildings.



Additionally, the deputy mayor led one of the teams involved in an operation where illegal immigrants are being arrested for occupying a building at 104 Masukwane Street.

The CFO Ngcobo including the Revenue Collection Unit, were present to carry out disconnections due to outstanding water and electricity bills amounting to over R16 million owed to the municipality by Ubunye Co-op, which operates as a hostel at 83 Masukwane Street.

"We are here to ensure the enforcement of all our by-laws, working alongside SAPS to thoroughly clean up all hijacked buildings. This operation has been highly successful, and we believe it will inspire confidence and hope among the residents of Pietermaritzburg," said Deputy Mayor Cllr Mkhize.



LIBRARY SERVICES OFFERS INFORMATIVE PROGRAM TO LEARNERS

The Library Special Project Organizing Committee (LSPOC) partnered with stakeholders to host an awareness event on drug abuse and teenage pregnancy at Yemu Yemu Primary School (Kwa-Mafuze) in Etolini ward 39.

Councillor Mkhululi Mkhize warmly welcomed attendees and expressed gratitude to stakeholders, learners, guests, and the community for their support.

The event aimed to educate grade seven learners about the risks of drug abuse and teenage pregnancy, leveraging their curiosity and receptiveness. Through engaging and informative edutainment, the program sought to nurture young minds, promote focus on education, and prepare learners for the challenges they may face in high school.

The local chiefs (Induna) Nxele and Mbandlwa wrapped the event by words of wisdom and thanking everyone.





MUNICIPALITY, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS INVOLVED IN SERVICE DELIVERY AND CRIME IMBIZO

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr Thebolla, joined MEC of Transport Sboniso Duma for a site visit to the Henley Dam Bailey Bridge, as part of the Service Delivery & Crime Imbizo by the Premier Of KZN Hon. Thamsanqa Ntuli happening at Caluza Sports Centre.

This project, initiated in response to the devastating 2022 floods that claimed lives in the area, is being carried out by the Department of Defence in collaboration with Public Works and Infrastructure.

"We would like to thank everyone involved in this project," said Mayor Thebolla. "For the past few years, we have always been concerned about the rainy season due to its impact on Pietermaritzburg, we appreciate efforts by our government to address issues faced by affected areas ."



CITY CELEBRATES TOURISM MONTH



To commemorate Tourism Month, where wonders await and adventure unfolds, the Municipality, in collaboration with Tourism Unity and various stakeholders, hosted a Tourism Acceleration Workshop (Maritzburg CTO) at the Tatham Art Gallery.



BESSIE HEAD LIBRARY HOSTS NATIONAL BOOK INTERSCHOOLS COMPETITION



The Library Special Projects Organizing Committee (LSPOC) and other stakeholders hosted a National Book Interschools Competition, at Bessie Head Library.

The competition consisted of 10 participating schools in the Spelling bee, grade 4 and 5 (enhancing vocabulary)
Book mark, grade 6 (enhancing creativity)
Persuasive speech, grade 7 (enhancing confidence and creative writing).

The event served as a vibrant platform for bringing together young learners from various schools within Msunduzi, celebrating literature, creativity, and encouraging literacy to the young school kids and to also continue supporting libraries in promoting empathy and understanding.

The initiative had engagement between learners and the guests through their encouraging words of wisdom.



TURNING TRASH TO TRASHION

The Municipality Bessie Head Library Services, in collaboration with various stakeholders, hosted a Trashion Show, at the Bessie Head Library Garden, in honor of Environmental Month.

Inclusivity took center stage, with Special Schools from across Msunduzi collaborating to create breathtaking designs from recycled materials. The event highlighted the joy of teamwork and the fusion of eco-friendly fashion, proving that when we unite for a meaningful cause, individual talents shine even brighter.

Certificates and trophies were part of the prize-giving, honoring the exceptional designs and commitment to sustainability. The event demonstrated how eco-friendly practices, inclusivity, and artistic expression can come together to make a positive impact on both our community and the environment.



DEPUTY MAYOR ACKNOWLEDGES THE THEMBA NJILO FOUNDATION



The 2nd Annual Themba Njilo Foundation Primary School Tournament took place at Emvundlweni Sports Field with soccer and netball games being played between various participating schools.

The tournament is sponsored by various stakeholders and aims to promote and grow young talent as well as to educate young children on the importance of participating in sports and also to combat the issue of drugs among youth.

Deputy Mayor Cllr Mkhize was also in attendance in support of the tournament, he said “ We acknowledge the Themba Njilo Foundation for having such an initiative that is dedicated to young people, we need to encourage our children to participate in sport activities to keep them off the streets, in order to deal with criminal activities with our communities”.



The Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), in partnership with various stakeholders including IThala Development Finance Corporation Limited (IDFC) and National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) , hosted the Inkunz' Isematholeni Youth in Business workshop at the Msunduzi Bessie Head Library Auditorium. This initiative aims to empower young entrepreneurs by providing them with essential skills, resources, and knowledge necessary for succeeding in the business world.

After the workshop's interactive sessions, contestants presented their business plans to a panel of local business leaders and investors. Each aspiring entrepreneur pitched their innovative ideas, highlighting market strategies and potential impact. The panel provided feedback, evaluating the plans on creativity and feasibility. Selected pitches are going to receive offers of potential funding and mentorship, setting the stage for future success. The event concluded with networking, inspiring the young entrepreneurs to take their next steps.

MAYOR THEBOLLA PRAISES SASSA FOR A KIND GESTURE



Sassa handed over school uniform to 48 learners from Lungisile Primary School at Imbali Unit 2. The program was attended by the Mayor, Cllr Bhengu (Ward 15) and representatives from Sassa.

“A child is raised by a village, that’s why Sassa being supported by the Municipality have ensured that learners receive full school uniform. The municipality specialises in service delivery, but due to our advocacy for the promotion of education we saw it fit that Sassa receives our full support in this initiative”, echoed Mayor Cllr Thebolla.

Cllr Bhengu thanked Sassa for its contribution towards improving the lives of learners, and called on the Mayor to further support township schools as they are faced with a lot of challenges that compromise the quality of education.

IMEYA IKHUTHAZA UKUZIGQAJA NGOBUNTOMBI



The Municipality hosted a cultural send off ceremony for young women from the Msunduzi area who were to undergo traditional initiation rites at Enyokeni. The event took place at Carbineers Garden. The Mayor encouraged the young maidens to persevere in maintaining their virginity and resist negative peer pressure. He also urged them to take pride in setting a good example in their communities.



DEPUTY MAYOR JOINS MSUNDUZI HALF MARATHON



The Deputy Mayor participated in the Msunduzi Half Marathon, which began at the City Hall and concluded at the Msunduzi Athletics Track stadium.

Organized by Maritzburg City Athletics Club in collaboration with various stakeholders, the event featured athletes from numerous clubs. Such events promote a healthy lifestyle and encourage overall fitness, while also fostering community engagement and showcasing local talent.

MUNICIPALTY DISASTER MANAGEMENT, GIFT OF THE GIVERS, REACH OUT TO FIRE VICTIMS



Msunduzi Disaster Management Centre in collaboration with the Gift Of The Givers handed over relief materials to households impacted by a fire in Northdale.

Following the fire, which displaced seven families living in backyard shacks, the Disaster Management Centre performed an initial onsite assessment and enlisted the Gift Of The Givers to offer humanitarian aid to the affected households.

ABM HANDS OVER MOBILE LIBRARY FACILITY



As part of International Literacy Month, Area Based Management Partnered With MANCOSA and gathered with teachers, parents, and learners for the handover ceremony of the cutting-edge Mobile Library facility to Dindi Primary School in Durban

Area-Based Management (ABM) embarked on this transformative journey to improve literacy rates at Dindi Primary School. Which was through interactive war room sessions, ABM identified significant literacy deficits and sprang into action to bridge the gaps.

To address these challenges, ABM conducted a thorough school profile and analysis, recommending the conversion of a classroom into a fully-fledged school library.



MUNICIPALITY COLLABORATES WITH DUT IN CLEAN-UP CAMPAIGN



Municipality's Waste Management Department has partnered with Durban University of Technology's Indumiso Campus to promote environmental sustainability through a joint clean-up campaign and educational initiative.

The Green Campus Initiative aims to position DUT as a leader in eco-friendliness and climate change mitigation, fostering community awareness and eco-conscious practices.

This collaboration, involving Midlands Student Housing & Residence Life, celebrates the annual Green Campus Initiative (3Rs: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), launched in 2022. The initiative promotes cleanliness, healthy environmental practices, and responsible waste disposal among students, encouraging mindful litter management and maintenance of a healthy environment.



DIFFERENT FASHION DESIGNS TAKE CENTRE STAGE AT UMTELEBHELO HERITAGE CUP

The Umtelebhele Heritage Cup, where fashion meets heritage in a spectacular celebration of style and speed took place at the Hollywoodbets Race Course in Scottsville. The atmosphere was electric as guests revelled in thrilling horse racing and vibrant culture.



PMB GIRLS TEAM FLY CITY FLAG HIGH



The Pietermaritzburg Girls team were crowned the 2024 FNB Football First soccer festival in Johannesburg, Soweto.

MSUNDUZI, ETHIOPIA UNITE IN HERITAGE CELEBRATION



As we celebrate 30 years of democracy and Heritage Day, and Ethiopian nationals celebrate the African New year, an air of excitement fills the city of choice, His Worship Mayor Cllr Thebolla, alongside Deputy Mayor Cllr Mkhize, Acting Municipal Manager Ngcobo, Senior Manager of the Office of the MM Mrs. Wankra, and other Municipality officials, warmly welcomed a distinguished delegation from the Embassy of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Senior diplomats Mr. Getachew Mekebo Wajebo and Mr. Mengesha Yohaness Gebremedhen, brought the spirit of camaraderie and shared celebration.

The engagement continued with a gift exchange, a photo shoot, and further networking. As we celebrate 30 years of democracy, Heritage Day, and the African New Year, we honor our pride and diversity.

FIRE DEPARTMENT HOST A SERIES OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND AWARENESS PROGRAM



The Fire Department, alongside various stakeholders, including Traffic and Surveillance Security, hosted an educational program aimed at enhancing public safety and awareness. Educators from Funtasia Pre-School were present, further enriching the session with their participation. The program covered essential topics designed to inform and protect individuals of all ages, especially the younger audience. Among the key discussions were

- Robot Signs and Road Safety
- Car Safety Basics
- Pedestrian Safety
- Stranger Danger
- Body Awareness
- Drinking and Driving

Overall, the program proved to be an informative and engaging experience, equipping attendees with vital knowledge to stay safe on the roads and in their everyday interactions.

A SWENKA NGEPHINIFA EVENT TO HONOR WOMEN



Madam Speaker Cllr Majola was joined by Deputy Mayor of uMgungundlovu District Municipality Cllr. Sibongile Mabaso and various organization representatives in Ward 21 for a women's public engagement. The event celebrated 30 years of democracy with a focus on women's empowerment.

The event aimed to educate, inspire, and empower women, fostering gender equality and holistic well-being. It highlighted personal growth, independence, and collective upliftment, urging women to support each other and confidently claim their space in all aspects of life.

The Speaker, emphasized the vital role women play in shaping society, highlighting their profound impact on history and their ongoing contributions when united and working collaboratively towards a common purpose.

ON-ON-ONE WITH THE MAYOR



The One on One with The Mayor took place at Ward 22, Poyinandi Hall, where community members came forward with issues affecting them in relation to service delivery.

CORPORATES SERVICES UNIT PROMOTES HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



The department of Corporate Services, in collaboration with various stakeholders, including Planet Fitness, Absa and LA Health hosted a Heritage Wellness Day for elderly employees of the Municipality, aged 55 to 65 at the City Hall, which was aimed at promoting the health and well-being of senior employees within the municipality.

The purpose of the event was to equip elder employees with tools that will enable them to stand up and make a difference in their homes, workplace and communities. Therefore, the aim of this event is to heal them psychologically, spiritually, emotionally and physically.

The event was a great success, combining important health activities such as cancer screenings, chronic disease assessments, and visual acuity tests aimed at encouraging senior employees to take charge of their well-being. Entertainment from singers, dancers, and special guests delivering insightful messages that aligned with the theme of health, wellness and to strengthen adaptability and resilience in the retirement planning . Overall, the event effectively balanced educational health initiatives with entertainment, fostering both enjoyment and a commitment to long-term well-being.



READING, WHERE LITERATURE MEETS FUN



As we wrapped up Literature Month, the municipality Library Services hosted the last day of the 1st Annual Funda Nathi Literature Festival, which featured a book launch by Zamokuhle Xaba at the George Town Library.

This event not only celebrated literature but also engaged young children, fostering a love for reading and creativity. Attendees learned about storytelling and the importance of local voices in literature, inspiring the next generation of writers and readers.



A DAY WITHOUT LAUGHTER, IS A DAY WASTED

Cllr Zethu Sokhela welcomed the Mgungu Comedy Show Heritage Edition founded by Sandile M at the Golden Horse Casino. Her presence highlighted the local government's support for cultural events and community engagement, promoting heritage and entertainment in the City of Choice.





DEPUTY MAYOR WISHES MIDLANDS BOWLING TEAM ALL THE BEST IN CHAMPIONSHIPS GAMES

Deputy Mayor, Cllr Mkhize attended the annual Midlands Ten Pin Bowling Gala Dinner.

Hosted at the Planet X, Platinum Hall in Mkhondeni, the gala dinner was attended by top bowling athletes from the Midlands team, of which 3 seniors, Gita Soorajlal, Ravin Soorajlal and Sheen Bhoola, have been selected to represent the South African national team in the 2025 European Seniors World Championships taking place in Germany, in January 2025.

The deputy mayor was there to hand out special awards and to also deliver a message of support to the team.

“As we look into the future, let us continue to foster a thriving environment to the ten pin bowling in our region. Together, we can elevate this sport even further and encourage more people to take part. Let us continue to foster the spirit of unity and excellence in sports across our continent.”



iMeya Thebolla kanye nesekele lakhe bahole abasebenzi behhovisi lakhe kumgubho wenyanga yamasiko ngokugqoka imvunulo. Kanti nehhovisi lezokuxhumana ku Maspala alizibekanga phansi ngenkathi livala inyanga yezamasiko ngokuvunula, nangokudla isidlo sasemini, kuyi loyo naloyo ephethe ukudla kwesintu.



SERVICE DELIVERY IN PICTURES

