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CITY SEES IMPROVEMENT AT LANDFILL SITE

Municipality's New England Landfill Site was visited by the Institute of Natural Resources (INR) who have received funding from the United Kingdom for pollution related work.

The organisation is engaging with the municipality to exchange ideas and resources and to gain an insight into the challenges and recent successes of the landfill site's positive turnaround. Municipal Manager Mapholoba welcomed the organisation as well as the UK delegation and hopes for a mutually beneficial relationship moving forward.





SCHOOL UNIFORM HAND-OVER

MEC for Social Development Nonhlanhla Khoza was joined by the Speaker Cllr Majola and Ward 24 Councillor Cllr Nkabini in a school uniform hand-over at Grange Primary School.

MEC Khoza said that the Social Department and Sassa have been successfully working together to identify underprivileged learners to provide them with school uniform. "We do not only give them uniforms but we go as far as visiting their homes to assess their living conditions, for any necessary intervention", said MEC Khoza.

Cllr Nkabini acknowledged the efforts by the department to assist children especially those from poor backgrounds. "On behalf of this school, we are honoured to have been identified by the department as one of the schools within Msunduzi that the government has also prioritised". Nkabinde urged learners to focus on their studies and to remember that education is the key that opens many doors.





INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE RESPONDS TO BURST WATER PIPE

Deputy Mayor Mxolisi Mkhize, joined by members of the Infrastructure Portfolio Committee, visited Esigodini, where a burst pipe was reported resulting in water supply interruption in the area. Mkhize together with committee members, received reports of a burst water pipe, and upon arrival at Esigodini, the team made a shocking discovery that the affected house was built on top of the municipal water pipe.

Cllr Mkhize expressed his concern over the negligence of most residents living in Esigodini. "We have been warning residents not to build on top of the infrastructure, there is no easy way to resolve this issue, people cannot stay without water that is why this house needs to be demolished to fix the pipe and restore water supply".

He said that the Municipality will not be held accountable for damage to property, should it be found that residents have erected structures on top of municipal infrastructure. The Municipality vowed to continue urging and educating people about the dangers of building structures on top of the municipal infrastructure.





INFRASTRUCTURE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE INVESTIGATES ILLEGAL WATER CONNECTIONS

The Infrastructure Portfolio Committee Chairperson Deputy Mayor Mkhize accompanied by Ward 14 Councillor Sibusiso Mkhize and Msunduzi Infrastructure officials visited schools in Willowfontein to investigate water related issues with regards to supply reaching the schools. It was also found that schools are also involved in the illegal bypass, and residents have managed to conduct illegal water connection into the reservoir. The committee noted the findings and resolved to launch an investigation of the illegal water connection so that proper action can be taken against those involved.





DUSI CANOE KICK-OFF IN BISHOPSTOWE

The Honorable MEC Sports, Arts & Culture Ms. Amanda Bani-Mapena together with Mayor Cllr Thebolla kicked started this year's Dusi Canoe Marathon at Bishopstowe, Pietermaritzburg.

The race has established a reputation as a breeding ground for the next generation of paddling stars. More people of colour are participating in this race and many skilled paddlers use this Marathon as a chance to race.

The 2023 Dusi Canoe Marathon took place from 16-18 February



CONTACT CENTRE AND NEW SKILLS CERTIFICATES ISSUED

Certificates for contact centre support and new venture creation skills were issued by Makhophila Training together with Msunduzi Municipality and uMgungundlovu District Municipality at the Bessie Head library.

Several employees from Msunduzi participated in this training sponsored by SETA. Upon completion of the training, they were encouraged to continue upskilling themselves for better opportunities.

Makhophila Training expressed its gratitude to everyone who assisted in making the training a success, and expressed its pleasure in their collaboration with the Msunduzi and uMgungundlovu municipalities.





MUNICIPALITY ENGAGES WITH THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT

City Manager led an engagement with the Department of National Treasury and that of Public Service (DPSA) as part of a two day programme on its 2022/23 Mid Year Budget and Performance Assessment at the Council Chamber, City Hall.

The purpose of these engagements was to evaluate the municipality's performance in its Institutional Arrangement, Financial Health, Financial Governance and Service Delivery. These engagements are conducted every six months to assess how municipalities are currently performing and how they had performed on their previous financial audit.

The Municipality is working to eliminate threats to its stability which includes fighting fraud and corruption, political instability, and the possibility of a negative audit, as well as making sure the necessary resources are available. It also reviewed its organizational structure to make sure it is in compliance with its regulations.



MUNICIPALITY PARTICIPATES IN FOCUS-WEEK

The Municipality attended the uMgungundlovu District EPWP Focus Week hosted at the Athletics Track Stadium.

The Programme which was attended by officials from Cogta, EDTEA, including EXCO members from other municipalities aimed to discuss issues in relation to the EPWP Programme.

According to the KZN Public Works, the EPWP Focus Week program is an initiative implemented by the government which acts as a benchmark for municipalities on the progress of the EPWP Programme.

The Focus Week also seeks to build a relationship amongst the EPWP team with the aim of finding solutions as a collective to challenges faced.





INFRASTRUCTURE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ASSESS WARDS PROJECTS

Deputy Mayor and Chairperson of Infrastructure Committee Cllr Mkhize with his team visited Madiba Ward 34 community hall construction site, in which the project began on November 15, 2021.

The team discovered that about 42 % of the work has been completed and a number of challenges have prevented the completion of the project within the required time.

The committee noted issues highlighted including the construction company abandoning the project, poor building structure, wet land that compromise the building foundation and poor workmanship.

Mkhize said, "The residents of the community insisted that the project be completed within the community. The construction of this project was based on the pressure that was applied by the community. The ward councillor should always assess the project to ensure that problems like these don't occur, and they should keep us updated about challenges encountered during projects".



WARD PROJECT ASSESSMENT CONTINUES...

Deputy Mayor led the Municipality's Infrastructure Portfolio Committee on a site visit in Eastwood, Ward 38, Thembalihle.

This project is handled by NAP Holdings (Pty)Ltd with the help of Makhatse, Narasimula and associates (PTY) LTD. It has included members of the community of ward 38 by hiring more than 17 people, which was done through the communities database, granting 10 students the opportunity to be included in the project. The community hall building project started in November 2022 and is currently making great progress.

In order to ensure that the project is a tremendous success, Deputy Mayor stated that while they are pleased with the work that has been achieved, they must be able to meet deadlines start and finish within the time frame established by the project management team.



LOCAL BUSINESS VISITATION

The Business Development and the Local Economic Development unit officials visited Home and Beyond, which is a linen business based in the city centre.

This is part of the business retention and expansion strategy by the Municipality that seeks to establish and maintain close relationships with local businesses. the Municipality uses this strategy to also engage with entrepreneurs to learn their challenges, and have meaningful discussions on how the Municipality can intervene.

The Municipality continues to conduct these local business visitation, as it has discovered a number of challenges highlighted by local entrepreneurs including the infrastructure, other business owners not following city bylaws and crime. The Municipality looks to have an ongoing relationship with local businesses as it believes working together the City will be able to retain these businesses as they contribute largely on local economic growth.





LOCAL BUSINESS VISITATION CONTINUES...

The Municipality visited Darroz Accessories and Components, this is part of the business retention and expansion strategy that seeks to build a solid relationship between the municipality and local businesses.

Darroz Accessories and Component is amongst a number of other local businesses that the municipality has visited to have an engagement with, in order to learn the challenges that these businesses face in their operations within the city. The Municipality looks to note these issues which includes infrastructure challenges that was mentioned during the engagement.

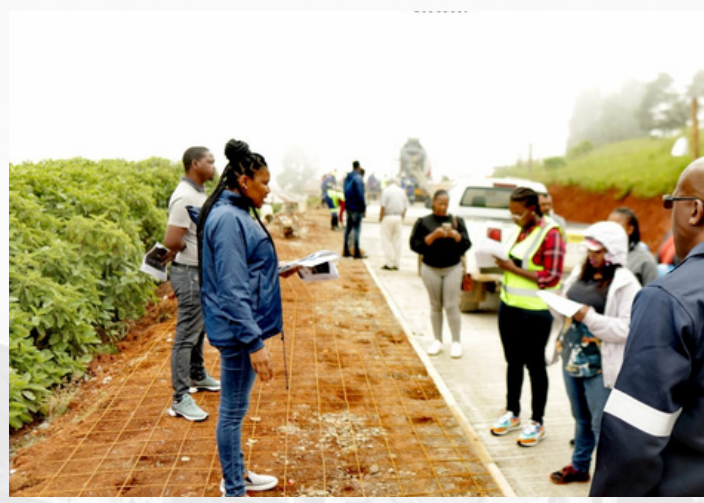
The City aims to continue with local business visitation so that it is able to retain such businesses given that they largely contribute to local economic growth



ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT ASSESSMENT



The Department of National Treasury, the Department of Public Service, and the Municipality conducted a site inspections of a road construction project in Elandskop Ward 8.



PROJECT ASSESSMENTS CONTINUES...

The proceeded to Imbali phase 4, Ward 17 where the Wire Wall Rectification housing and water meters project is underway. The Municipal Manager was satisfied with the progress of the project.



EASTWOOD SUBSTATION PROJECT

The delegation's last stop was at Eastwood, ward 34, where the construction of the Eastwood sub station is underway. There were some issues mentioned, but the Municipal Manager also noted significant progress, and the municipality promised to address these issues to ensure the project's success.



MUNICIPALITY AND SASSA HANDS-OVER SCHOOL UNIFORM

His Worship the Mayor, Thebolla together with SASSA handed 21 school uniform packages to the learners of Khwezi Primary School, ward 35 as part of the social relief of distress program.

In his address, Thebolla stressed the importance of levelling the plain ground of opportunity for learners across all schools in the Msunduzi municipality, by investing in foundation phase learners of schools in need such as Khwezi Primary School. "You have a caring government that is involved from conception, it is our job to make sure that you are also academically positioned to make our municipality better", emphasised Thebolla.

The parents and teachers at Khwezi rejoiced in song as their children received a full uniform set. The school management thanked Mayor Cllr Thebolla together with SASSA for their extravagant charity to the learners of Khwezi Primary School.



MAYORAL SPECIAL PROGRAMMES TO CATER FOR MOST VULNERABLE GROUPS

Mayor Thebolla, DM Mkhize, and the mayoral special programs had an engagement to discuss the creation of temporary structures for the most vulnerable groups, including senior residents, people with disabilities, and gender relations.

The meeting was facilitated by Cllr Ntshangase in order to explain its goals and provide an opportunity for introductions and networking.

Each group was given the chance to nominate people who will work with the office, and for each group there will be a coordinator and convener to form a structure to work with over the course of five years.

"The aim of these programs is to help the municipality reach out to everyone. We wish everyone success in working cooperatively", said Thebolla



INAUGURATION OF WARD 28 COUNCILLOR SINGH





MUNICIPALITY HOSTS UN DELEGATION

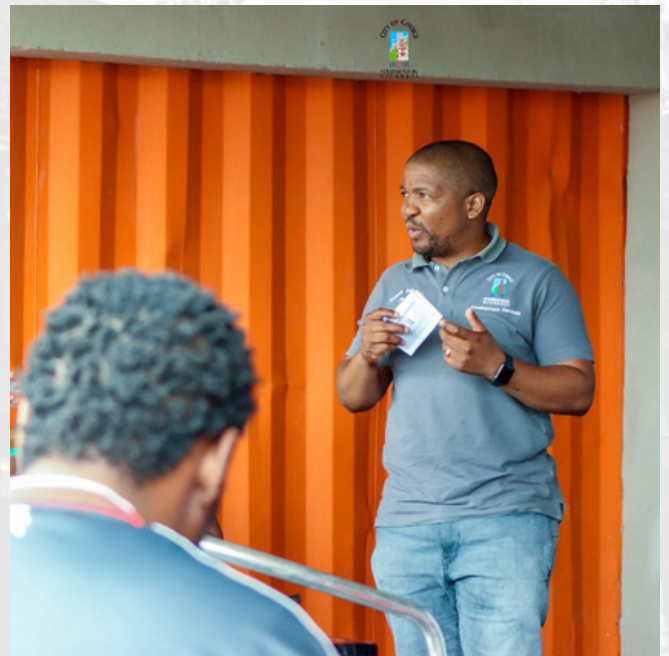
Msunduzi Political leadership led by DM Mkhize along with Speaker Majola, hosted a delegation from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in a meet and greet. The purpose of the meeting was to establish a relationship between the two entities, along with the Pietermaritzburg Council of Churches who were also present so as to engage on issues of refugees who are in the City. It was agreed that a clear differentiation between refugees and those who are in the country illegally needs to be established so as to aid the refugees in the proper manner. Programmes are also to be collectively put in place to deal with illegal immigrants who abuse the system and break city bylaws.





MSUNDUZI COLLABORATES WITH MANDENI MUNICIPALITY

The Imbali Youth Enterprise Park (YEP) hosted a benchmarking workshop between Msunduzi Municipality and Mandeni Municipality. Mandeni Municipality is in the process of launching a similar enterprise as IYEP and has collaborated with Msunduzi to benchmark and get an insight into the challenges and processes of launching such an entity.



BUSINESS LICENSING PROGRAMME

Msunduzi Municipality's Business Licensing Unit kicked off its first business talk for 2023 joined by the Premier's office and First National Bank (FNB) at Georgetown Library, Ward 12, Edendale.

This programme is aimed at educating business owners as well as aspiring entrepreneurs on the importance of owning a business license.

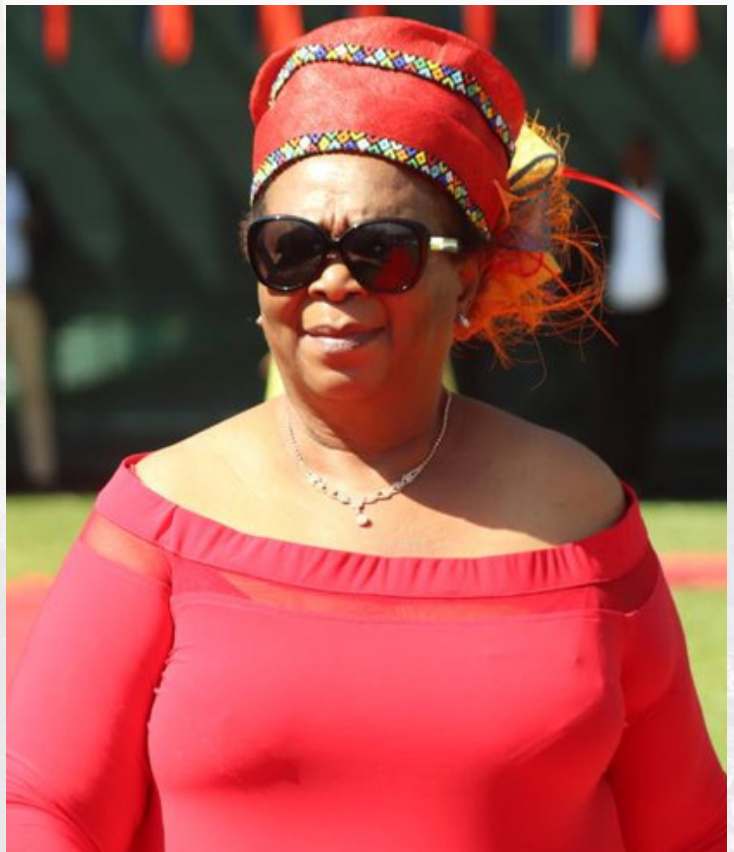
A few documents required for business license application are:

- A Lease Agreement or written consent from the landlord
- A copy of an ID or Company Founding Statement (CC or CK1)
- Approved Building Plans
- Town Planning Approval (rezoning or special consent)
- COIDA Certificate (Compensation for Occupational Injuries and Diseases Act)
- UIF Certificate (Unemployment Insurance Fund)

To get more assistance, visit the AS Chetty Building on 333 Church Street, Lower Ground Floor. Office 9B, 14 or 17.



DAY 1 AND 2 OF SOPA 2023



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BUSINESS LICENSING PROGRAMME

The Municipality's Business Licensing unit together with First National Bank(FNB) held a Business talk at KwaPata Hall, ward 10.

This programme is aimed at educating business owners as well as aspiring entrepreneurs on the importance of registering their businesses and how to obtain a business license.

The Municipality plans on conducting operations from the beginning of March to inspect if businesses are abiding to the municipal bylaws. Businesses without licenses will be charged.

Get your license today, for more information visit the AS Chetty Building on 333 Church Street, Lower Ground Floor. Office 9B, 14 or 17





BUSINESS RETENTION AND EXPANSION PROGRAMME

The Municipality visited Enormous Investments CC, a business enterprise located in Mkondeni, which has been running for 17 years.

The business was a victim of the unrest that happened in 2021 where it was looted and burned. Enormous Investments CC has since opened at a new address but still in Mkondeni and is in the process of expansion to create more jobs for local residents.

Challenges of waste collection, and road maintenance by the municipality were relayed by the Managing Director Sugeshnee Naidoo, who is also the PMBC champion entrepreneur of the year 2022, and the Municipality will be providing assistance and support with regard to these issues.



#OURPROMISETOYOU #SERVICEDELIVERY #CITYBEAUTIFICATION



Above: Contractor working in Golf Road preparing to lay asphalt



Above: SOS Park- Alien vegetation removal



Above: Bharambra Ekhoneni - Removal of waste resulting from illegal dumping