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CITY OFFICIALS TAKE PART IN MARITZBURG FUNDRAISING GOLF CHALLENGE



Maritzburg Fundraising Golf Challenge took place at the Maritzburg Golf Club. The fundraising event is an initiative between The Mayoral Special Programmes and Uthingo Golf Club in a bid to raise funds for school children to assist in purchasing uniforms and stationery for those that need it and do not necessarily have the means to attain it themselves. The challenge saw participants from various business sectors take part in the golfing challenge with the idea that participants should pledge to sponsor at least one child to the value of R600. The participants pledged various amounts of money which resulted in a sum total of R50 000 raised on the day. Mayor Cllr. Mzimkhulu Thebolla, on behalf of Mayoral Special Programmes, thanked all those that pledged money to the initiative and ensured that the money will be used in the service of assisting school children in need.

ENGAGEMENT TO ASSESS EFFECTIVENESS OF WARD COMMITTEES



A four (4) day ward committee workshop with Zone four (4) took place, with Mr. Madlala, Manager of the Speaker's office, welcomed thanking attendees for their joint efforts at prioritizing the need to know how to be proactive in their respective wards. The workshop also proved to be a platform where stakeholders were able to exchange valuable information and view-points with one another.

The municipality continues to prioritize ward committees as one of its crucial additional support structures towards efficient service delivery.



MSUNDUZI HOLDS PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT TO DISCUSS SERVICE DELIVERY

Mayor Cllr Thebolla accompanied by municipal officials from various departments attended a service delivery engagement with the Northern Areas Ratepayers Association (NARA) at Truro Hall. Basic service delivery issues were discussed, with NARA Chairperson Mr J Naidoo acknowledging the Municipality's stance on the issues affecting northern areas residents.

The engagement highlighted that there has been improvement in some of the issues discussed in previous meetings with NARA, with one of them being the operation of the crematorium. Management also stressed the importance of applying for indigent status, adding that the city will continue to process all applications so that residents receive uninterrupted basic service delivery.

"I appreciate this engagement with NARA as it is a body that represents residents from all wards. I invited the management so that we can account and be able to answer questions regarding service delivery", said the mayor.

Mayor Thebolla further stated that these engagements foster a relationship between residents and the Municipality, and they prove that management has the responsibility to have action plans where the municipality falls short.



SPEAKER MAJOLA JOINS LTT TO DISCUSS COMMUNITY CHALLENGES



A Local Task Team (LTT) meeting took place at the Ashdown Community Hall, in attendance was Speaker Cllr Majola, Snr Manager Political Office Mr Zondi, Ward 23 Cllr D. Phungula, government departments, non-governmental organisations, officials from the municipality's human settlements unit and other relevant stakeholders.

These meetings which take place monthly, invite all stakeholders who work closely with the municipality to address social ills affecting communities.

"I am impressed with this engagement as it shows that the LTT structure is active, and that our war-rooms are addressing challenges affecting our communities", said Speaker Majola.

The speaker encouraged the local task team to go beyond having discussions, instead work towards implementing recommendations and ensure that the Municipality is able to deliver services to change people's lives.



MSUNDUZI DISASTER MANAGEMENT REACHES OUT TO VICTIMS OF SEVERE WEATHER

The 03 November 2024 Severe Thunderstorm disaster related incident caused moderate to extensive damage to property, infrastructure, and livelihoods. Among those affected was Siyazama Mboni crèche (Early Childhood Development Centre) in Imbali unit 14, ward 41.

In efforts to restore a sense of human dignity and normalcy, Msunduzi Disaster Management Centre in collaboration with the South African Red Cross Society, and uMngungundlovu District, handed over new toys, learning & eating material, sponge mattresses, along with blankets.

In efforts to reach as wide as possible within its municipal footprint, the Msunduzi Disaster Management Centre is continuously seeking not only

to be efficient in service delivery but to also impact lives for the good whilst doing so. This collaboration with the South African Red Cross Society has made an impactful relief to those affected.



CHILDREN BENEFIT FROM BACK TO SCHOOL CAMPAIGN



Deputy Mayor Cllr Mxolisi Mkhize, accompanied by the ward councillor of Ward 20 Cllr. S. Phungula, visited Siyamu Junior Primary, Caluza Primary School and Smero Secondary School in Caluza to donate school shoes as part of his annual initiative to give back to the children.

"Education has played an important role in shaping my life, and I believe that planting a seed in children today will ensure they become tomorrow's leaders," said Cllr. Mkhize.

The program also provided schools with the opportunity to highlight the challenges they face, both in the local area and within the schools. Deputy Mayor and the councillor expressed their heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for the hard work and dedication shown by the schools.



CITY OFFICIALS ATTEND UMKHOMAZI WATER PROJECT PHASE 1 INTRODUCTION SESSION



The district and local municipal delegates, including Msunduzi Municipality, engaged with the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), uMngeni-uThukela Water (UUW), and the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA). This session aimed to introduce the project team and provide updates on the progress of the uMkhomazi Water Project Phase 1 (uMWP-1).

The project involves the construction of the Smithfield Dam and an advanced water conveyance system, which includes a 32km transfer tunnel and a 5km pipeline, along with supporting infrastructure such as resettlement housing and environmental rehabilitation.

With a five-year implementation period, the project is expected to enhance water security, drive infrastructure development, and create economic opportunities. Local Mayors, including Msunduzi Mayor Cllr. M. Thebolla, alongside Deputy Mayor Cllr. M Mkhize welcomed the projects implementation and emphasized the importance of thorough public consultation throughout its development.



DEPUTY MAYOR ATTENDS MATRIC CLASS 2024 AWARD CEREMONY



The Deputy Mayor Cllr Mkhize joined Inkosi Zondi of Inadi, Ward 3 in the Inadi Matric 2024 Awards Ceremony. This event was graced by the presence of Inkosi Zondi of KwaMpumuzi, including all dignified traditional, religious leaders and representatives from the Department of Education, the South African Police Services, educators and other social partners.

In his welcome address, Ward Cllr Makhaye extended gratitude to the deputy mayor and the traditional leadership for playing a pivotal role in improving education in local schools.

DM Mkhize reiterated that it gives him honour to be part of a celebration of the Matric Class of 2024 within the Sweetwaters circuit. "The Pietermaritzburg pass rate and achievement cannot be compared to other schools from other regions, our learners are faced with a number of challenges, other issues further affect their learning environment but they pushed themselves and rose above those challenges", said DM Mkhize.

The mayor further advised the matric class of 2024 top achievers to acknowledge traditional leaders for prioritising education and offering programs designed for learners and teachers who put local schools on the map through hard-work and determination. "We thank our educators for dedicating their time in ensuring that our children achieve top results".

Educators of different subjects also received awards as recognition of their hard-work.



YOUTH EDUCATED ABOUT THE POWER OF 'X'

Having done his welcoming remarks at the IEC Youth Activation function held at Msunduzi Athletics Park Stadium, Deputy Mayor Cllr. Mxolisi Mkhize engaged with stakeholders and the youth in a robust discussion around the significance of casting one's vote.

IEC touched on the importance of understanding the country's politics, and for the youth to have the desire to be knowledgeable of matters of the country, and to ask questions or seek answers from policy makers in government.

The youth in attendance were also taken through the process of voting, highlighting that participating in political dialogues and elections assists leaders who are decision makers to make policies that will benefit the youth.

Learners, ward assistants and members of the audience further engaged with the panel of stakeholders discussing challenges they encounter in and around voting. The function was greatly appreciated by those in attendance and youth were encouraged to participate in the development of their country through casting their vote and making their voices heard.





MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR CONGRATULATES 2025 CAPITAL CITY MARATHON WINNERS

The 2025 Capital City Marathon ended off with a prize giving ceremony for all the top runners with Mayor Cllr. Mzimkhulu Thebolla, and other representatives from different stakeholders handing out medals to the winners.

Congratulations to all the winners in the 2025 Capital City Marathon.





ILIMA KHUCULULA OPERATION TAKES OVER CITY



the Deputy Mayor led the Ilima Khukulula operations in downtown Pietermaritzburg, specifically on Pietermaritz Street. This operation focuses on demolishing illegal structures, reclaiming public spaces, and disconnecting illegal electricity and water connections.

As we celebrate the Year of Massive Service Delivery and mark the 70th anniversary of the Freedom Charter, our goal remains to serve our people with purpose. A thorough assessment of the city has shown that there is still much work ahead.

Deputy Mayor engaged with the vagrants living on the streets, offering them the opportunity to relocate to the homeless shelter on Doul Road in Pietermaritzburg (PMB). The Deputy Mayor invited them to the shelter on (2 March 2025, Sunday) where they will be welcomed and provided with support.

The Deputy Mayor highlighted the importance of helping the homeless and assisting them in returning to a clean and healthy state.



CITY OFFICIALS, NATIONAL TREASURY DELEGATION CONDUCT PROJECTS ASSESSMENT



While efforts to restore the city continue, Msunduzi Municipality's leadership guided the National Treasury delegation through critical service delivery projects aimed at improving infrastructure and transforming communities.

As part of the 2024/25 Mid-Year Budget and Performance Assessment Visit, the delegation visited:

- The Darvill Sewer Project, which enhances wastewater treatment and reduces environmental pollution.
- The Ezenketheni Electrification Project, bringing electricity to previously unconnected households.
- The Upgrading of Khumalo Road in KwaMpumuza (Ward 1), improving accessibility and road infrastructure.

During the visit, municipal officials provided an overview of the projects' progress, funding allocations, and expected impact on service delivery. The engagement allowed National Treasury to assess how grant funding is being utilized to strengthen infrastructure resilience and ensure long-term sustainability.

The visits also form part of broader efforts by the municipality to drive service delivery improvements, demonstrating a commitment to restoring the city and ensuring that infrastructure projects directly benefit the residents of Msunduzi.

These site visits provided National Treasury with firsthand insight into the municipality's progress, challenges, and the impact of infrastructure investments on residents' daily lives.



MAYOR ATTENDS OPENING OF THE KZN LEGISLATURE

Our His Worship, the Mayor Cllr Thebolla, joined the opening of the KZN Legislature and address by His Majesty King Misuzulu kaZwelithini at the Woodburn Rugby Stadium.





MAYOR MEETS WITH THE CHINESE CONSULATE

Msunduzi Mayor Cllr. Mzimkhulu Thebolla accompanied by officials from the mayor's office as well as the office of the municipal manager, honoured an invite to a meeting at ANEW Hotel in Hilton with the Chinese Consulate led by the Consul General of China's honourable Mr. Li Zhigong.

The Chinese Consulate is currently invested in various projects in Kwa-Zulu Natal, primarily in Durban, and is looking to invest in the Capital City through the manufacturing industry which will grow the economy and create job opportunities as well.

Mayor Cllr. M. Thebolla was pleased to have been invited by the Chinese Consulate to discuss these opportunities of growth for the city and emphasized his wish that "whatever shape or form of growth this relationship will yield that the people of Msunduzi should be involved and be the ones to benefit the most".





SERVICE DELIVERY EFFORTS





OPERATION ILIMA KHUCULULA CONTINUES

The Msunduzi Municipality, through the Ilima Operation under the Khuculula Campaign, is intensifying efforts to combat electricity and water tempering, dismantle illegal structures, and restore order in downtown Pietermaritzburg. This collaborative initiative aims to protect law-abiding residents and businesses while promoting accountability and transparency.

