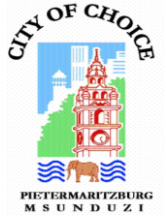


CORPORATE SERVICES BUSINESS UNIT



EXTRACT FROM THE UNCONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL CONTINUATION MEETING HELD VIA MS TEAMS ON WEDNESDAY, 1 JUNE 2022.

REPORT AND ITEMS RAISED BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE MUNICIPAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

OVERSIGHT REPORT 2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR

Undated report by the Chairperson of the Municipal Public Accounts Committee.

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It was

RESOLVED

- (a) That, having fully considered the Annual Report of the Msunduzi Municipality for the 2020/21 Financial Year, the Oversight Report for the 2020/21 Financial Year be approved ~~and adopted~~.
- (b) That the Accounting Officer implements a more effective and efficient revenue collection strategy in order to ensure that the high level of debt be recovered from debtors, that is above R4 billion which has accumulated over the years. That it be noted that MPAC has cautioned the administration year on year about this fact but little has been or seen to ensure that this recommendation is been adhered to.
- (c) That Legal Service investigates and submits a report and a proposal to Corporate Services and then to full council for the courts to increase fines imposed for all by- law transgressions to be in line within inflation.
- (d) That the Accounting Officer resolves as a matter of urgency, all the pending disciplinary matters especially those that have a direct impact on the finances of Council.
- (e) That the Accounting Officer cascades performance appraisal from level 4 employees to all levels below in order to assess productivity of the current staff versus the need to hire new people in posts that can be filled by the current available staff through promotions of current staff.

- (f) That the General Manager: Infrastructure Services and within Chief Financial Officer develops a comprehensive plan comprising of mitigation strategies to be employed by the municipality towards the major contributing financial losses experienced (e.g. Faulty meters and electricity theft) must be tabled in the respective Portfolio Committees and MPAC for oversight purposes and monitor implementation. That Accounting Office must institute disciplinary action upon the respective officials, that have not adhered to this recommendation.
- (g) That Town Planning Sub-unit must be given all the support it requires to implement all mechanisms necessary towards contravening persons of by-laws in the city, in order to eradicate the City of the state of decay caused by the illegal businesses operating in the city central and surrounding areas and to also correct land-uses around the City Central District.
- (h) That a one-stop shop by-law enforcement unit must be established for the purposes of reporting of by-laws by members of the community and the coordination of corrective measures and that council be update monthly on its establishment and functionality of this unit every 3 months.
- (i) That, arising out of the proceedings of the Oversight Committee meetings, it be noted that the Municipal Public Accounts Committee is highly **concerned** about the following matters:
 - (i) That year on year the vacancy rate remains high without it being addressed. During the year under review, we have noted no noticeable change in the high vacancy rate that we have recommended be reduced over the years.
 - (ii) The lack of synergy (operating in siloes) that continues to exist in the Municipal Business Units and also has a negative impact in the work force's ability to deliver services to the community, must be contained. This responsibility be within the office of the Accounting Officer
 - (iii) That instead of hiring vehicles and plant on a monthly basis, the request for purchasing vehicles and plant by the Acting General Manager: Infrastructure Services be considered and a budget is built up over the next two or three years.
 - (iv) That the loss of water from standpipes was noted by the then Acting General Manager: Infrastructure Services and that in the future, management ensures the full implementation of the Credit Policy.

- (v) That the Strategic Management Committee ensure that the top ten risks of the Municipality are prioritized and brought to the attention of Council and that there are effective strategies to mitigate them. Portfolio Committees must regularly monitor the risks and report progress through the correct channels to Council.
- (vi) That the Office of the Speaker updates and verifies on an ongoing basis, gifts and hospitality received by Councillors and Corporate Services must do the same for Officials, guided by the Gifts Policy.
- (vii) That the General Manager: Sustainable Development and City Enterprise brings an audit report detailing the municipal Housing Rental Stock and the current usage to MPAC by no later than September 2021.
- (viii) That the General Manager: Sustainable Development and City Enterprise develops a SMART Plan that should address the problems that have been ongoing for several years and continue without any improvement and outstanding debt continues to escalate. The Municipal Public Accounts Committee is of the view that this matter must finally be brought to conclusion. The plan must be presented to Sustainable Development Portfolio Committees, MPAC and Full Council for consideration by no later than September 2021.
- (ix) The vandalism of Community Halls continues unabated and that the General Manager must bring to Council through the Community Services Portfolio Committee, a comprehensive action plan to bring this act to an end and provide a long term and lasting solution by no later than September 2021.
- (x) That the Accounting Officer and the Chief Financial Officer develop a much more effective and efficient strategy to collect money from the Municipality customers because the strategy used in this financial year 2020/21 has not had a meaningful impact to Council, MPAC strongly resolved that the Municipal Manger ensures that the Councils Credit Policy is implemented full without reservation and reports back to Council every 2 months of this report being adopted by Council.

- (xii) That the Accounting Officer ensures that a tracking tool is developed and an implementation plan of the Auditor General's findings is monitored and evaluated continuously with a view to achieving a clean audit for 2020/2021 Financial year.
 - (xiii) Accounts Committee and Full Council to enable effective oversight on That Council mandates the Accounting Officer to ensure all follow up reports as listed herein in this report, must be submitted to the Portfolio Committees, Municipal Public Council and the executives.
 - (xiv) The Municipal Public Accounts Committee does not support payment of performance bonuses, rewards, incentives as per the approved individual Performance Management System Policy for the 2020/21 Financial year in view of the continued poor performance and that this sentiment be considered during the assessments as per the approved IPMS policy.
 - (xv) That Council approves the Annual Report of the Msunduzi Municipality for the 2020/21 Financial Year without material reservations, however the Municipal Public Accounts Committee requests that all amendments requested are completed prior to the final annual report being published
- (j) That the Oversight Report be made public in accordance with Section 129(3) of the Municipal Finance Management Act 56 of 2003.

Bongiwe Duze

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For GENERAL MANAGER: CORPORATE SERVICES

06 June 2022

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