

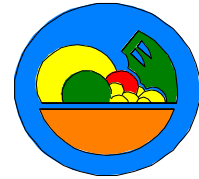


**GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY  
GROTER TZANEEN MUNISIPALITEIT  
MASIPALA WA TZANEEN  
MASEPALA WA TZANEEN**

Tel: 015 307 8000  
Fax: 015 307 8049

P.o Box 24  
Tzaneen, 0850

Tropiese Parady's



Tropical Paradise

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY HELD ON TUESDAY, THE 18<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020 AT 14H00 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL OFFICES, TZANEEN.**

**PRESENT**

**The Speaker**

**Councillor DJ Mmetle**

**COUNCILLORS**

As per attached attendance register (Annexure "X")

**OFFICIALS**

**OFFICIALS**

**The Municipal Manager  
The Chief Financial Officer  
The Director Corporate Services  
The Acting Director Planning & Eco Dev  
The Acting Director Engineering Services  
The Director Electrical Engineering  
The Manager Legal Services  
The Manager Admin and Council Support  
The Manager Strategic Support  
The Council Secretariat**

**Mr BS Matlala  
Ms MP Makhubela  
Mr W Shibamba  
Mr H Phakula  
Mr L Mahayi  
Mr MS Lelope  
Mr T Mampane  
Mrs MW Baloyi  
Ms MM Mabetwa  
Ms MB Maake**

**TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES**

**The Batlhabine Traditional Authority Representative  
The Maake Traditional Authority Representative  
The Nkuna Traditional Authority Representative  
The Nyavana Traditional Authority Representative  
The Valoyi Traditional Authority Representative  
The Modjadji Traditional Authority Representative  
The Mamabolo Traditional Authority Representative**

**Mr W Mogoboya  
Mr MN Moagi  
Mr EJ Nkhwashu  
None  
Mr V Mhlongo  
Mr MC Modjadji  
Mr RA Sehlapelo**

**1. OPENING**

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Councillor Jonas Maake.

**2. WELCOME**

The Speaker, Councillor DJ Mmetle welcomed all present including the Mahasha family members in the meeting.

**3. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND THE SIGNING OF THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER**

**The applications for leave of absence were received from the following:**

- Councillor S Tiba
- Councillor D Malemela
- Councillor M Prinsloo
- Councillor DG Mkhabela
- Councillor G Malatji
- Councillor N Nkhwashu
- Councillor JM Ratopola
- Councillor CT Shinsinga
- Councillor MM Sekhwela
- The Director Engineering Services, Mr. W Molokomme
- The Director PED, Mr BM Mathebula
- The Nyavana Traditional Authority Representatives, Mr. P Mabunda

**RESOLVED**

**That the applications for leave of absence from the meeting be granted as follows:**

- Councillor S Tiba
- Councillor D Malemela
- Councillor M Prinsloo
- Councillor DG Mkhabela
- Councillor G Malatji

- Councillor N Nkhwashu
- Councillor JM Ratopola
- Councillor CT Shinsinga
- Councillor MM Sekhwela
- The Director Engineering Services, Mr. W Molokomme
- The Director PED, Mr BM Mathebula
- The Nyavana Traditional Authority Representatives, Mr. P Mabunda

### **3. ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEATH**

The Mayor, Councillor Maripe Mangena announced the demise of the Chairperson of Chairpersons Councillor Moses Mahasha who died in the early morning of Thursday, 13 February 2020.

The Mayor, Councillor Maripe Mangena indicated that Councillor Moses Mahasha joined the municipality in 2011 as ward councillor for ward 10 and was a PR Councillor from 2016 until he met his untimely death..

The Mayor, Councillor Maripe Mangena further indicated that Councillor Moses Mahasha was involved with the implementation of the following projects in ward 10: Thapane Water Scheme, Relela Community Hall, Morutji to Keshokhole road, Electrifications of village, Library project and etc.

### **4. READING OF LIFE AND TIMES**

The Head of Budget and Treasury, Councilor TT Maunatlala read the life and times of Councillor M Mahasha as follows:

*“Lehu o sehlogo, o shoro gape o legodu la boshego”. You have stolen, robbed, and deprived us the precious gift God gave in the person of the late Cde Ngoako Moses Mahasha. Amongst his comrades and colleagues, he was passionately known as Cde Moss ‘the Guru’. Bagologolo ba boletse bare: “Mogapha mogolo o wele, dithaga di lla boshogoshogo”. The political giant and the Local Government’s guru of Norman Mashabane region has fallen. Cde Moses’ death was unimaginable and left many of us shocked. The lives of our poor rural communities will never be the same again without one of their advocates. In all the meetings, Cde Moss uses to*

*remind whoever present that whatever decision taken should benefit poor people first. Cde Moss contributed immensely in the development of the people of Mopani District, in particular the Greater Tzaneen and Greater Letaba Municipalities.*

*Before 1990, majority of villages in the former Homelands of the then Lebowa and Gazankulu have no access to basic services in general. Cde Moss was instrumental in making sure that the previously marginalized rural communities get access to basic services such as electricity, water and proper sanitation. In 1990, Cde Moss was a Chief Negotiator between ESKOM and the communities of the Bolobedu South for electrification of villages. He was among community members who work closely with Mvula Trust during the development of Thapane Water Scheme and other water schemes around Greater Tzaneen Municipality and Greater Letaba Municipality, long time before he became a councillor. He was actively involved in community development initiative programs which resulted with a massive rollout of infrastructure around Bolobedu areas and beyond. Between 1991 and 1993 many clinics, crèches and community halls were built in various areas such as Relela, Morutji, Khethoni, Motupa, Madumane, and Motlhomeng, just to mention the few. The above-mentioned projects were made possible by various meetings held between the Development Forum and Independent Development Trust (IDT).*

*Cde Moss was an authentic, principled and a servant leader. He possesses the highest competency in mental, ethical and social intelligence. It is very rare to find all these intellectual abilities in one person. Cde Mahasha was one of his own, an extraordinary leader. His personal traits, abilities and actions defined him well and singled him out from the rest of his peers and contemporaries. An altruist who is outspoken and love to share. Cde Moss always displays confidence, hope and resilience in everything he does. He was true to himself and gave priority to develop other people in his community and at his workplaces. He was a leader and a follower at the same time. He led and allowed to be led without contradictions.*

*During his lifetime Cde Moss held various positions in many institutions amongst others. He was an: Organizer of NACTU, Chief Social Consultant in the company called 'In-Touch', Community*

*Liaison Officer in Mvula Trust projects, elected as Ward and later PR Councillor in the Greater Tzaneen Municipality, EXCO Member responsible for Governance and Shared Services, Chairperson of Chairpersons, Member of Ethics Committee in GTM, Local Rep in the District Municipality, Chairperson of Finance Committee, Member of Local Labour Forum in Mopani District Municipality, Chairperson of Balotswi Social and Heritage (NGO) and Chairperson of the ANC Branch.*

*Taken from the above-mentioned positions held and the roles he played in various organizations shows that Cde Moss was a capable and versatile leader. He was a team builder and worked very well with many seasoned leaders of the ANC, Municipalities, Royalties, Government Departments, Civic organizations, Churches, Businesses and many more social formations. He touched so many lives and souls in his journey of life. Cde Moss will be missed by his wife, children, family, friends, relatives, comrades, colleagues, communities of Mopani, Limpopo and the rest of the South Africa.*

*Rest in Peace Dear Brother. You have played your part, you have served your people.*

*Your legacy and spirit will continue to live among us.*

*Long live the undying spirit of Cde Moss, long live!*

## **5. MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCES BY THE SPEAKER**

### **5.1 Tribute by the Speaker of Council, Councilor Dikeledi Mmetle during the Special Council on the death of Councilor Moses Mahasha on 18 February 2020 at Council Chambers.**

The Speaker Councillor DJ Mmetle expressed her message of Condolences as follows:

*Let me from the beginning authoritatively express our sympathies to the Mahasha family on behalf of Council, to his wife, his family, his children and next of kin.*

*We cannot sit here and unquestionably proclaim that we completely grasp the degree of your agony.*

*The passing of a loved one will always be a void that can't be occupied, however through time you will gather the courage and the mental fortitude to soldier on.*

*I cannot disclose to you that all will be well, yet I can reveal to you that God will mend you, God will invigorate you and the astuteness to continue with this journey of life.*

*You will regain the mental strength with the support of loved ones, his confidants and comrades*

*Today the GTM family is poorer, we have lost a fighter in middle of a war, a war against poverty, joblessness, and underdevelopment*

*We will sincerely miss his knowledge, his abundance of experience in community development.*

*Today the Mahasha family is without a spouse, a dad, a sibling and a son.*

*To the Mahasha family we thank you for sharing Mahasha with all of us.*

*It was in fact an excursion worth travelling, we will proceed where he left of, taking forward his legacy for generations to come.*

*His commitment to the general advancement of his people is a heritage that we should honour and safeguard.*

*His vigorous pursuit for the complete liberation of his people remained a portion of his DNA until he took his final gasp*

*Today we don't grieve our fallen hero, in reality we celebrate his life, and we commend his massive commitment to the struggle.*

*Mahasha was a paragon of fortitude, a man of unfaltering standards.*

*He remained determined in the face adversity and animosity.*

*May his soul rest in eternal peace, until we cross path again.*

## **6. TRIBUTE BY POLITICAL PARTIES AND REPRESENTATIVE FROM TRIBAL AUTHORITY**

### **6.1 Tribute by Modjadji Tribal Authority**

*The Modjadji Tribal representative, Mr C Modjadji indicated that the Mahasha and the Modjadji are a family, both protecting the Modjadji dynasty.*

*The Modjadji Tribal representative, Mr C Modjadji indicated that Councillor Moses Mahasha was a leader and that his leadership was in his blood.*

*The Modjadji Tribal representative, Mr C Modjadji requested Councillors to imitate his leadership skills going forward.*

### **6.2 Tribute by Cope, Councillor A Makwela**

*Councillor A Makwela expressed his condolences to the family and the African National Congress (ANC) for the loss of a great leader.*

*Councillor A Makwela indicated that Councillor Moses Mahasha was a trustworthy and a person you can rely on, a strong family man.*

*Councillor A Makwela requested that Council should follow his steps in community development.*

### **6.3 Tribute by DA, Councillor Rene Pohl**

*Councillor R Pohl indicated that she had the privilege to work with Councillor Moses Mahasha for 9 years at Mopani District and GTM.*

*Councillor R Pohl referred Councillor Moses Mahasha as a gentleman, which is rare among politicians in general. He was honest, loyal and dedicated in all he does.*

*Councillor R Pohl further indicated that Councillor M Mahasha earned respect from all his colleagues because of his integrity and outstanding intellectual abilities and the fact that he stayed true to himself.*

*Councillor R Pohl further indicated Councillor M Mahasha had exceptional leadership qualities, whether to lead or be lead. Councillor M Mahasha was also a family.*

*Councillor R Pohl further indicated she will never forget how he followed her in his car, one night after a Finance Meeting in Giyani, to her house and told her that he will only leave after she has locked her door knowing that she is safe.*

#### **6.4 Tribute by EFF, Councillor Mochabela**

*Councillor F Mochabela expressed his condolences to the Mahasha family and the Councillors.*

*Councillor F Mochabela indicated that he received a message on the demise of Councillor Moses Mahasha on the 13 February 2020 when he was attending a Community Meeting and he also informed the Community members in that meeting about the demise of Councillor Moses Mahasha.*

*Councillor F Mochabela further indicated that Councillor Moses was always advising the EFF members when there are issues that needed clarity during Council meetings.*

#### **6.5 Tribute by ANC, the Chief Whip, Councillor C Nhemo**

*We meet here today to Bid fare well to an all-rounder, a freedom fighter and tireless combatant to the end who dedicated his entire life in serving Mark Shope Caucus and the movement of the people, African National Congress.*

*As the African National Congress we know that we are all in this Chamber with mixed emotions, we can't hide the fact that we all have deep sense of sadness and heavy wounds in our hearts.*

*Nor can we hide our anger and frustrations why such a committed soldier could just be taken away from us during this time when revolutionary cadres like him are dearly wanted within our ranks,*



*when there are still lot more things warranting the energy of Comrade Mahasha.*

*Our dear Sister, Comrade Linda Mahasha and the Children we have no doubts that our sadness and sorrows are minimal as compared to the sufferings you endured since Thursday (13 February 2020) when Comrade Mahasha succumbed to the illness.*

*We believe that you have entrusted the special feelings of losing your loved one to the all mighty God because you are his image.*

*With our tears on our eyes we stand proud reporting that the 59 years life of struggle lived by Cde Mahasha is like he has doubled the barometer to more that hundred years. We are saying this because very few amongst us can sacrifice their families to just pursue transformational agenda and the National Democratic Revolution.*

*His outstanding contributions to the Balobedu Tribe and the people of Modjadji Dynasty are immeasurable. His Black 'Mambazo' voice of reason shall be missed by many in council.*

*The best way to describe Comrade Mahasha is in fact to say he has done almost everything in his power to change society.*

*Comrade Mahasha Championed labour politics which many would attest that once you take risk of representing poor workers and proletariat you risk losing favors with the masters and therefore your benefits shall be compromised,*

*You will live like an orphan in the place of work just like was comrade Mahasha in the early 80s when the apartheid rule was so hard on black people.*

*Cde Mahasha was not a coward, to mention just a few I remember in the last caucus which I was chairing, we had a fall out by which he interrupted my presiding and demanded that we listen to him because he has a problem, and undeniably he was able to present his case.*

*At sometimes he will just stage a protest alone demanding adjustment in his package due to the added role as the Chairperson of*

*Chairpersons, in which we could not get concurrence from provincial government.*

*And I must say he was feared by the enemy's camp of the time and loved by his people, who will always give him solace when it gets tough.*

*He was an Educator, Organizer, Unifier, Disciplinarian and Problem Solver.*

*In him we learnt a lot as he was a strategist of note and labour economist that's the reason why as council we preferred to deploy him to represent the employer in local labour forum which is not just an ordinary structure where you will just sleep while talking.*

*To the leadership of council and our administration we must give Comrade Mahasha a befitting sendoff that embraces the life well lived, as we sing struggle songs of which he was instrumental we must remember our key mandate as deployees from the revolutionary movement, and the servants of the people.*

*Surely, we are convinced that in your arrival in heaven Comrade Moss you will be able to give an honest state of the Municipality and that of the Organization, ANC.*

*You will give testimony to our fore bearers who are men and women, who dedicated their lives to fight for the struggles of our black people, and Africans in general.*

*Do not forget to tell them that 2021 is local government election year, all arrangements and preparations must be done without bloodshed.*

*You must tell them that it is not yet 'uhuru' our people still needs water, electricity, housing, land, roads infrastructure, etc*

***Lastly, we are saying to you:***

*You have run your race and you have served your family and the people.*

*This council is here to witness and to usher everybody with good intentions in preparation for your dignified burial.*

*To the Mahasha family and the movement thank you very much for sharing Big Moss with us; His legacy will nourish the struggles of our caucus, council and the people of Greater Tzaneen Municipality under Mopani District.*

*Greater Tzaneen Municipality will miss you a 'peo ya bolobedu'*

*We will be indebted to your selfish sacrifices*

*Fare you well Mahasha*

*Robala ka khutso kulube ya bolobedu*

*Long live the undying spirit of Comrade Mosses Mahasha, long live!*

***May His Soul Rest In peace!***

## **7. RESPONSE BY FAMILY**

Mr Mohale thanked Council for inviting them to be part of the Council sitting.

Mr Mohale indicated that he noticed from the speakers notes that this gathering is the first of its kind for Greater Tzaneen Municipality to honor the Mahasha family.

Mr Mohale further indicated that the family only know that he always attends meetings in different places but they never had an idea of what he was doing.

Mr Mohale expressed his gratitude to the Greater Tzaneen Municipality Council and indicated that what they did to the Mahasha family is really an honor.

## **8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Municipal Manager, Mr SB Matlala indicated that the burial of Councillor will be held on Saturday the 22 February 2020 at 06h00 at

Relela Thusong Centre and the Memorial Services on Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 14H00, Motupa Kgomo School.

The Municipal Manager, Mr SB Matlala clarified that there are protocols need to be observed to put the Municipal flag at high mast and all formalities for the funeral will be followed as per the bereavement policy.

The Municipal Manager, Mr SB Matlala indicated that there is a Preparatory Committee responsible for logistics of the funeral led by Ms Suzan Mantsho and the family should be represented.

The Municipal Manager, Mr SB Matlala lastly announced that refreshments were prepared for the family in the Main Boardroom.

**9. CLOSURE**

A moment of silence was observed by all present in the meeting.

**THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 15H05**

**APPROVED AND CONFIRMED**

**CHAIRMAN**