

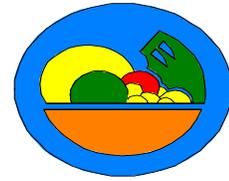


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**GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY
GROTER TZANEEN MUNISIPALITEIT
MASIPALA WA TZANEEN
MASEPALA WA TZANEEN**

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Tropical Paradise

**MINUTES OF THE FIRST INAUGURATION COUNCIL MEETING OF THE
GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY HELD AFTER THE 2021 LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS IN THE TZANEEN IVORY TUSK LODGE,
(NEXT TO MEDI CLINIC) 75 DUDLEY STREET, TZANEEN, ON MONDAY
22ND NOVEMBER 2021 AT 10H00.**

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

As per attached attendance register (Annexure Z)

OFFICIALS

The Acting Municipal Manager And
The Director Community Services
The Director Corporate Services
The Director Electrical Engineering
The Director Engineering Services
The Director PED
The Chief Financial Officer
The Manager Admin and Council Support
The Internal Audit Manager
The Legal Adviser
The Manager IT
The Manager Mayor's Office
The Manager Communication
The Manager Disaster
The Manager Assets
The Manager Stores
The Manager PMU
The Manager Parks
The Manager Library

Mr HA Nkuna
Mr W Shibamba
Mr MS Lelope
Mr W Molokomme
Mr MB Mathebula
Ms P Makhubela
Mrs MW Baloyi
Mrs H Manyike
Mr T Mampana
Ms A Mailula
Mr F Rammalo
Mr N Ndlala
Mr M Rabothata
Mr T Ramokgano
Mr A Le Grange
Mr T Maila
Mrs X Gala
Mrs CJ Owen Hamman

**The Manager Projects
The Acting CEO GTEDA
The Committee Clerk
The Committee Clerk
The MPAC Researcher**

**Mr BM Senwayo
Mr V Mulaudzi
Ms MB Maake
Mrs FS Makhubele
Mrs MM Sekopane**

TRADITIONAL AUTHORITIES

**The Maake Traditional Authority Representative
The Muhlava Traditional Authority Representative
The Bathlabine Traditional Authority Representative
The Mankweng Traditional Authority Representative
The Modjadji Traditional Authority Representative
The Valoyi Traditional Authority Representative
The Nyavana Traditional Authority Representatives**

**None
Mr E Nkhwashu
Mr MW Mogoboya
None
Mr MC Modjadji
Mr VR Mhlongo
None**

OPENING

The meeting was opened with a Musical National Anthem.

The Presiding Officer and the Acting Municipal Manager, Mr HA Nkuna welcomed all present in the meeting for attending the 1st Council Meeting of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality for 2021, and further read the notice of the meeting and the Agenda.

1. SIGNING OF THE ATTENDANCE REGISTER AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ATTENDANCE OF MEETINGS

As per attached attendance register (Annexure Z)

LEAVE OF ABSENCE –

The following councilors resignations were announced during the meeting:

- Councillor C Machimana
- Councillor SN Ngobeni

RESOLVED

That the resignations of the councilors be noted as follows:

- Councillor C Machimana
- Councillor SN Ngobeni

2. INTRODUCTION OF COUNCILLORS AND OFFICIALS

The Director Corporate Services, Mr W Shibamba introduced all present during the meeting.

3. OATH OR SOLEMN AFFIRMATION BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

All (67) Councillors swore / solemnly affirmed before The Chief Magistrate Adv. David Shikwambana of the Lenyenyé Magistrate Court accompanied by

Magistrate Rifumo Baloyi from Ritavi Magistrate office, that they will be faithful to the Republic of South Africa and will obey, respect and uphold the Constitution and all other laws of the Republic and solemnly promise to perform their functions as the Councillors for the Greater Tzaneen Municipality to the best of their ability.

4. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

The Presiding Officer (Acting Municipal Manager), Mr HA Nkuna indicated that the Councillors are compelled to complete the Declaration forms in line with Item 6 of the Code of Conduct in Schedule 7 of the Municipal Structures Act 117 of 1998, and submit to the Secretary of Council at Office 109 at Municipal Offices.

5. ELECTION FORMS

The nomination forms for the elections were attached in the agenda to serve as information to Councillors.

6. ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER

The Presiding Officer (Acting Municipal Manager), Mr HA Nkuna read Sec 36 of the Municipal Structures Act, No 117 of 1998 and explained the process of electing the Speaker and then called for nominations.

One nomination for the election of the speaker was received from the African National Congress.

The nominated candidate, Councillor Muhlvasi Sani Tiba who accepted the nomination was declared the Speaker of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality.

The Speaker, Councillor Muhlvasi Sani Tiba swore before the Chief Magistrate, Adv. David Shikwambana that she will be faithful to the Republic of South Africa and will obey, respect and uphold the Constitution and all the laws of the Republic and solemnly promise to perform her functions as the Speaker of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality to the best of her ability.

NB: Upon the election, the Speaker, Councillor Muhlvasi Sani Tiba took over with the proceedings of Council as the Speaker.

7. ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY THE SPEAKER

The Acceptance Speech by the Speaker of the Council of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality, Councillor Sanie Muhlavasi Tiba on 22 November 2021 at Ivory Tusk Lodge was presented to Council as follows:

Fellow Councillors

The incoming Mayor

The incoming Whip of Council

Leaders of opposition parties

Our Traditional Leaders

Representatives of the Independent Electoral Commission

Representatives of Coghsta

Members of the Media

fellow South Africans

Ladies and Gentlemen

I am humbled by the responsibility that this new Council of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality has bestowed upon me.

I am gratefully accepting this responsibility and promise to do my utmost best in the execution of my constitutional duties and functions as the Speaker.

I am fully aware of the enormity of the responsibilities of the Speaker of Council and the expectations thereof.

I am prepared and with the support of this Council and the administration, I do not doubt that this Council will effectively render its legislative and oversight functions.

Municipal Councils are very critical structures in our Democratic dispensation and as the highest decision-making structure in local government, their role cannot be overemphasized.

As the chairperson of Council I promise that this Council will run professionally, and whilst maintaining the decorum accorded to this sacred institution, I vow never to stifle debate.

This Council must be vibrant, and engagements must be robust yet respectful and done within the parameters of Ubuntu, dignity, and professionalism.

As a speaker of the Council, I have a constitutional mandate to foster meaningful public participation in municipal affairs.

We cannot make decisions about people without taking into account their views and contributions.

We will therefore intensify our public engagements efforts and strengthen our public participation process by incorporating digital communications into our traditional methods to ensure optimal participation.

Fellow Councillors

Our public consultation processes were adversely affected by the pandemic which restricted public gatherings and denied our communities the opportunity to effectively input into our budgets, IDP and PMS.

In the not-so-distant future, we will commence with the process of electing members of ward committees in all the 35 wards of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality.

We will collectively ensure that the process runs smoothly and transparently and that inclusivity is catered for.

For local government to work, all levels must be run by passionate, capable and knowledgeable people.

Communities must therefore recruit and elect the most dedicated and active members of their communities for the benefit of all of us.

My speech will not be complete without expressing a word of gratitude to the previous speaker, Cde Dikeledi Mmetle who has laid a very strong foundation for us to build upon.

The previous council established and maintained a very strong decorum that I wish that the new Council will take forward.

This Council must and will hold both the executive and the administrative component of the municipality accountable.

Fellow Councillors

We must take a zero stance on the non-implementation of Council resolutions. Failure to implement resolutions is failing our people who have unequivocally granted up a mandate to lead them in the next 5 years.

I would also like to congratulate each one of you for your election into this Council.

Finally let me express my gratitude to my political home, the African National Congress for affording me the opportunity to be the Speaker of this Council. The ANC has entrusted me with various responsibilities in the council of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality for 15 years and this term will be my fourth.

I promise to serve the people of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality with diligence, commitment, and honesty.

I thank you

8. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Speaker, Cllr Sani Tiba outlined the process of electing the Executive Committee in line with section 43 of the Municipal Structures Act, and thereafter invited nominations for the election of the Executive Committee.

Council resolved that the executive committee shall consist of ten (10) councillors.

Therefore, the following were nominated to serve as members of the Executive Committee of Greater Tzaneen Municipality:

- African National Congress with the following candidates:

- 1) Councillor Richard Shingange
- 2) Councillor Maria Mmola
- 3) Councillor Sophy Rakganya
- 4) Councillor Renny Mabuza
- 5) Councillor Thabo Maunatlala
- 6) Councillor Constance Ramothwala
- 7) Councillor Gerson Molapisane
- 8) Councillor Maggie Makwala

- Economic Freedom Fighter (EFF) with one candidate

- 1) Councillor Clifford Letsoalo

- Democratic Alliance (DA) with one candidate,

- 1) DA indicated that the name of the Executive Committee member will be submitted to the office of the Speaker within 7 days.

All (9) nominated candidates from both the African National Congress, the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) were declared members of the Executive Committee for the Greater Tzaneen Municipality.

The members of the Executive Committee, are therefore the following:

- 1) Councillor Richard Shingange
- 2) Councillor Maria Mmola
- 3) Councillor Sophy Rakganya
- 4) Councillor Renny Mabuza
- 5) Councillor Thabo Maunatlala
- 6) Councillor Constance Ramothwala
- 7) Councillor Gerson Molapisane

- 8) Councillor Maggie Makwala
- 9) Councillor Clifford Letsoalo

All councillors were sworn in/ solemnly affirmed before the Chief Magistrate, Adv David Shikhwambana, that they will be faithful to the Republic of South Africa and will obey, respect and uphold the Constitution and all the laws of the Republic and solemnly promise to perform their functions as the Executive Committee Members of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality to the best of their ability.

9. ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

One nomination form for the election of the Mayor was received from the African National Congress.

The nominated candidate, Councillor GP Molapisane who accepted the nomination was declared the Mayor of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality.

The Mayor, Councillor GP Molapisane swore before the Chief Magistrate, Adv. David Shikhwambana, that he will be faithful to the Republic of South Africa and will obey, respect and uphold the Constitution and all the laws of the Republic and solemnly promise to perform his functions as the Mayor of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality to the best of his ability.

10. ACCEPTANCE OF SPEECH BY THE MAYOR.

ACCEPTANCE SPEECH BY THE NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR OF GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY ON THE 22 NOVEMBER 2021

Honourable Speaker, the Chairperson of this august Council;

Executive Committee Members;

The Acting Municipal Manager; Directors and the entire administrative component;

Members of Council;

Media houses;

Members of community;

Traditional Leaders;

Representatives from other municipalities;

Leaders from various political parties present;

Ladies and gentlemen

Thobela; Goeie more; Avuxeni; Good morning

I, Gerson Phetole Molapisane, rise to accept the responsibility bestowed on me by this Council and the organization I hail from, African National Congress. This responsibility as Vladimir Lenin says, is not measured by the work that one does, rather, it is measured by what can better be executed by a collective.

I want to register a point that alone I will not deliver. My organization says together let us build South Africa. I say “together let us build Greater Tzaneen Municipality”.

We are rising today, 21 days after the recently held local government elections. Members of the public were allowed space to make their choices and they indeed responded. We are here today because of the election outcome. Political parties, political analysts, media houses and every concerned member of society have already reflected in their different capacities on the elections. They have even started prophesying about the next elections. Whether they are right or wrong, ours is to ensure service delivery to the people.

A question is, what is our next move? What do we have for these electorates? How ready are we to bring the much needed changes to our communities?

The democratic local government has gone through various stages since its advent in 1995. For example, Transitional Local Councils from 1995 – 2000; Project Consolidate in 2000 – 2006; Five-year strategic agenda in 2006 – 2011; Turn around Strategies and Back to Basics in 2011 – 2016; Back to Basics and District

Development Model in 2016 – 2021. Given all these, ours is continue from the pedestal laid by our predecessors. And that will be our next move.

On the same wave length, we wish to unreservedly extend a word of appreciation to our predecessors, all former Mayors, Alderman O.J Mushwana; Cllr Dikeledi Mmetle; and Cllr Maripe Mangena. We are standing on your shoulders and are able to see when tomorrow comes. Your efforts will not go unnoticed. I am reminded of t-shirts worn by Burkinabe (citizens in Burkina Faso), bearing the face of former and late African Revolutionary, Isidore Noel Thomas Sankara, written “I am still here”. To me you are still here.

Honourable Speaker and colleagues, there is no need to look back. The voters are still here. I am certain that we have men and women of valor, of energy, of passion to work, committed to make a difference, councillors who will not shelve anything for tomorrow because tomorrow may never come. The Germans say “Vaulenzen menschen zagen immer morgen morgen.” The work to be done is still here. Let us do it.

There are tools already prepared for us. The IDP/SDBIP/Budget were adopted by the previous council. These are tools we will use to deliver services. The quick fixes must be attended to. We cannot afford to delay the services.

We commit to walk and work with everyone in this journey. All stakeholders are as relevant today as they were yesterday. My office will be unleashing a program in no time to engage with these partners.

Of particular importance, we also wish to thank our Traditional Leadership,

Maapara-nkwe a rena, ba ka difokeng, bona baka mafateng a matelele, for their ever-presence and readiness to work with us. We commit to walk this journey with you.

The municipality has been working and producing favourable audit opinions. We will work with administration to ensure that we do not regress. We also appreciate the fact that SALGA will be embarking on a capacity building session to ensure that our councilors are equipped with all mental tools to be effective.

Honourable Speaker, from the election outcomes, I have read two things which voters have silently demonstrated. They are reacting either to our attitude or non-commitment to deliver. In case my reading cannot be doubted, it means therefore, that, we need to embark on individual revival. We need to continue protect our democratic gains. Otherwise we will contribute in pushing them to the doldrums.

In his literature titled "How democracies die", Steven Levitsky writes that democracies do not survive because of political complacency.

Democracy is quite delicate, you want it, you get it, and you either lose or keep it. William Gumede writes about the restless nation and he says democracy cannot be kept in such an environment. I wholly agree with him. The 2021 local government election results have some elements of restlessness. We have to do something to restore that which is lost or eroded. It can even mean doubling our efforts. It includes bridging down the perceived social distance between government and communities.

Honourable Speaker, we need to remind ourselves that Covid-19 is still with us.

We have to abide by the rules, regulations and protocols to protect ourselves including those around us. The Local Command Council meetings should still take as per the ratified itinerary.

We thank everyone in advance who is ready to walk and work with us. We will be unleashing our 100 days' program in no time. This program will be updated on regular basis and shared with all relevant stakeholders between now and end of 100 days.

Honourable Speaker, I wish to mention on behalf of the executive committee that, there are three things to be done:

- 1. To do our work*
- 2. To do our work; and*
- 3. To do our work, because our people are still here.*

Graag verseeker ons u" van ons'n diens. Agter os sal ook in die kraal kom, natuurlek. Baie dankie. Thank you very much. Ha khensa. Re ya leboga.

AMEN

11. APPOINTMENT OF WHIP OF COUNCIL

One nomination form for the election of the Whip was received from the African National Congress.

The nominated candidate, Councillor G Malatji who accepted the nomination was declared the Whip of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality.

12. FULL TIME COUNCILLORS

Section 18 (4) of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act, 1998, provides for the designation of full time councillors. The said sub-section provides as follows:

(4) A municipality has the power to designate councillors determined by the MEC for local government as full time. An MEC's determination must be in accordance with a policy framework as may be determined by the Minister after consulting the MECs for local government.

The MEC has determined 8 full time councillors as contemplated in section 18(4) and section 12 of the Municipal Structures Act and Provincial Gazette number 3208 dated 22 October 2021 who may be designated as full-time, as follows:

- Mayor
- Speaker
- Chief Whip
- EXCO members to a maximum of 4; and
- Chairperson of MPAC Committee established in terms of Section 79A of the Municipal Structures Act as amended.

The following EXCO members were nominated to be the full time councillors as follows:

1. Councillor Thabo Maunatlala - Responsible for Finance Committee
2. Councillor Conny Ramothwala – Responsible for Infrastructure
3. Councillor Richard Shingange- Responsible for Corporate Governance
4. Councillor Sophy Rakganya – Responsible for PED

13. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SERVE ON MOPANI DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

On Behalf of the Municipal Electoral Officer of the Greater Tzaneen Municipality, Mrs NH Maake outlined the purpose of conducting the District Council representative's elections.

Mrs NH Maake stated the rules of the Election of representatives to the District as follows:

- Only political parties are entitled to submit nomination forms, the name of a councillor may only appear on one list and that the nominated candidate must sign the nominated form as acceptance of nomination.
- The names on the nomination form must be evenly distributed.
- The Proportional Party Basis Method for election will be used.
- That in case of a tie, the political party with the highest number of votes be given a seat.

(3) Nomination forms were received from the following parties:

1. African National Congress (ANC)
2. Economic Freedom Fighter (EFF)
3. Democratic Alliance (DA)

All councillors agreed with the nominations received from the political party of their choice and the results were as follows:

$$\text{Quota} = \frac{\text{Total number of Councillors} + 1}{\text{Total Number of Seats}} = \frac{69 + 1}{11} = 7,2 = 11$$

The MEC of COGHSTA gave the IEC permission in terms of regulation 3 under the election of the Municipal Office bearers and representatives to District Councils; to determine the results by a lot in case the scenario envisaged in item 16 and /or item 20 (2) of the schedule 2 of the Municipal Structures Act of 1998 occurs in the process of election of the representatives of a local council to its district council.

All the political parties accepted the nominations to serve at the Mopani District Municipality.

The following Councillors were nominated to serve at the District Council:

1. Councillor Maripe Mangena
2. Councillor Collen Stoltz
3. Councillor Judith Mashele
4. Councillor Moore Sarah Baloyi
5. Councillor Willy Maake
6. Councillor Giyani Mkhabele
7. Councillor Conny Morwatshehla
8. Councillor Betty Ramoshaba
9. Councillor Clement Ramathoka
10. Councillor Clifford Letsoalo
11. Councillor Lebeus Ramalepe

14. ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES

It was Resolved that:

That the establishment of committees be deferred to next Council Meeting.

15. APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF MPAC

Councillor NG Maunatlala was appointed as the Chairperson of the Municipal Public Accounts Committee (MPAC) of the Greater Tzaneen municipality.

16. ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SALGA STRUCTURES

It was resolved that:

That the election of the representatives to SALGA Structure be deferred to the next Council Sitting.

17. HANDOVER REPORT BY THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

The Speaker, Cllr SM Tiba indicated that Councillors should familiarize themselves with the documents that were handed to them since they contained important information, procedures and reports of Council.

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE ACTING MUNICIPAL MANAGER

18.1 The Acting Municipal Manager, Mr HA Nkuna requested all the newly elected Councillors to visit the Human Resources Division (HR) to submit their personal information by Tuesday, the 23rd November 2021.

18.2 The Acting Municipal Manager, MR HA Nkuna further indicated that the Communication Office will take a photo for each Councillor and a group photo for all Councillors after the meeting.

18.3 The Municipal Manager, MR HA Nkuna announced that lunch will be served for all present in the meeting.

19. CLOSURE

The Speaker Councillor MS Tiba expressed her word of thanks to all present in the meeting and further indicated the all is invited to the next Council Meeting which will be held on Wednesday 24 November 2021 at 12H00 at Lenyenye Community Hall.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 14:12

APPROVED AND CONFIRMED

CHAIRMAN