

**REMARKS DURING MAYORAL ENGAGEMENT**  
**WITH OFFICIALS**  
**18 JANUARY 2022**

The Municipal Manager Mr. Preciusstone Raputsoa,  
The Speaker Cllr. Molokomme,  
Chief Whip Cllr. Monare,  
Colleagues, Members of the Mayoral Committee,  
Senior Management Team and Divisional Managers,

***Good Morning once more,***

It gives me pleasure to once again meet and engage in this kind of a forum during this term of office. We meeting today after a serious of other activities that already unfolded aligned to transitional period of local government. We also meeting after the successful hosting of the ANC January 8 celebrations by the province.

It was during this celebrations where the President of the ruling party who is also the President of the Republic, gave marching order through the January 8 Statement on how municipalities in particular should conduct its own business.

Some the few issues that he emphasised with regard to local government are amongst others:

- To strengthen and reinforce the implementation of the District Development Model in an endeavour to improve the provision of services to our communities.

- To develop, implement and monitor our Local Economic Development (LED) plans in order to contribute immensely to the economy of the country that is currently not impressing.
- Rooting out acts of fraud and corruption in our municipal environment and,
- Constant engagements and provision of feedback to our constituencies.
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We also meeting today after the successful inaugural council meeting preceded by the local government elections.

The Inaugural Council culminated into the election of the leadership you see in front of you with individuals holding various portfolios in line with the operations of this municipality as introduced earlier.

All members already went through a weeklong Induction which was very helpful particularly to councillors who are new in the system in terms of outlining the distinction between powers and functions of political office bearers as well as administration to avoid encroaching in each other`s line of duty.

When I appointed the Mayoral Committee during my acceptance speech, I made it clear that comrades who are deployed to these positions are in possession of the requisite skills, experience and knowledgeable enough to can transform this municipality.

So the time has arrived to commence with what I said during the Inaugural Council. It is therefore the administration`s responsibility to take full responsibility and accountability in supporting the work of these Honourable Members.

Section 56 of the Municipal Structures Act read with Chapter 7 of the MFMA is very eloquent in assigning specific responsibilities to the Executive Mayor which he has to execute professional and effectively in conjunction with his Mayoral Committee.

A summary of those responsibilities include amongst others:

- ❖ Identify the needs of the municipality and recommend to council strategies, programmes and services to address such needs.
- ❖ Identify and develop criteria for the evaluation of strategies, programmes and services implemented by the municipality to address needs of the community.
- ❖ Evaluate progress against key performance indicators.
- ❖ Oversee the sustainability of provision of services to communities,
- ❖ Monitor the operational functions of the municipal entity, but in a way that does not interfere with the performance of those functions.
- ❖ Performing any other powers and duties that may be delegated by council.

These summary of functions goes along with the commitments we made as the ruling party of delivering quality services to our electorate.

Each established portfolio committee headed by a Member of the Mayoral Committee should therefore ensures that the alluded responsibilities are adhered to.

I am therefore, emphasising the request for Management to always avail themselves, offer their full support and commitment and ensure that we together change the lives of our people.

In the period ahead South Africa need a government with full of experience and political will, a government that fully understands what needs to be done to address our apartheid past, a government that puts people first and which has a history working together with people like the ANC led government.

We therefore have to pull up our socks and work very hard as if there will be no work tomorrow.

Municipal Manager we need to ensure that the following are prioritised during this term of office:

- The implementation of the District Development Model
- Focusing on the economic development of the district in line with the developed Economic Recovery Plan
- Strengthening the implementation of the SPLUMA which includes conducting a study on the state of informal settlements.
- Ensuring the prompt finalisation of the future of our Abattoir.
- Centralisation of the fire-fighting service
- Re-engineering of the Organisational Structure to be aligned to the IDP and be synchronised with the demands of the District Development model
- Preservation of the organisational culture to avoid the tendency of turning the municipality into a banana institution in the name of COvid19.
- Most importantly is to maintain our financial management by enhancing revenue through efforts to return the functions of providing bulk services and ensuring that the issue around unfunded mandates or functions is resolved.

In conclusion Madam Speaker and fellow colleagues, i take this opportunity to convey special thanks to all our predecessors, the Municipal Manager Mr Preciousstone Raputsoa, the Chief Financial Officer Mma Muelelwa, Management, the entire staff and the Audit Committee for the sterling work in ensuring that we bring back our glory days.

It is now official that the Municipality managed to obtain the Clean Audit for the financial year 2020/2021. This has indeed put us back to our rightful position

The main task now is fight by all means that we maintain this status. It must not be seen as if we got this by default. We need to work hard, strengthen our system and proof that we indeed deserved it.

The Good work is once more much appreciated MM.

The struggle for better life continues and it needs all of us to work together in our diversity. Let us make a concerted effort to recognise what is good and great about our district in this current term of office and play our part to make Waterberg succeed.

I always live by the wise words of John Maxwell when he said ***“Leaders can give up many things, They can delegate many things. The one thing that the top leader can never let go is final responsibility”***

**I THANK YOU!!**