

**MAYORAL ADDRESS TO BROAD MANAGEMENT ON THE  
INTRODUCTION OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED  
MUNICIPAL MANAGER**

**03 AUGUST 2020**

**WDM COUNCIL CHAMBER**

Senior Management Team and  
Divisional Managers,

Good Morning,

We are converged here today as we face one of the world deadliest pandemic in our lifetime, the Covid-19 virus. Since March this year when the State of National Disaster was pronounced by President Cyril Ramaphosa, we have made a number of public notices to inform the people of Waterberg to observe and practice Covid-19 regulations and protocols in order to save lives.

The number of infections is increasing at an alarming rate in our district and we should therefore continue to intensify awareness and education campaigns for our community members to change their behaviour so that we flatten the curve of the spread of this pandemic.

Let me take also this opportunity to applaud the work done by our Environmental Health Practitioners in educating and monitoring compliance of the Cobid-19 regulations and protocols.

Covid-19 pandemic has also affected the smooth running of many institutions, including our municipality. As management we are obliged to discharge our responsibilities during this difficult time in delivering services to our communities.

I have convened this meeting to inform you officially of the appointment of Mr. Preciousstone Raputsoa as the new Municipal Manager of the institution

Mr Raputsoa has a vast experience in Local Government as he has worked in a number of municipalities in various capacities.

Mr Raputsoa, like any other municipality, we have a number of challenges as well. Some of the challenges at a strategic level include amongst others:

- Financial sustainability given our grant dependant status,
- Pilot municipality for the District development Model – which need us to restructure our capabilities to equal the task of implementing this massive development
- Providing unfunded mandates with limited resources at our disposal –which is fire-fighting and environmental health
- Restoration of our pride in obtaining the Clean Audit status as we used to be ambassadors in this regard.

One of the mandates given to management by council is to ensure that the municipality obtain Clean Audit Opinion during this current audit period – we not putting you under pressure but is the directive that was on the table and has to be realised given your new leadership.

It is unfortunate that you come at a time when council has taken a decision to deploy in the form of secondments, three of our Managers to assist the local municipality of Mogalakwena, however we have capable men and women appointed to fill the gap and act on their positions until the secondment lapse.

I am told most of the junior officials are still operating from home and some coming on a rotational basis due to the outbreak of COVID19.

We have been acknowledged as the Centre of Good Governance and clean administration in the past. Let`s strive by all means to preserve and restore our pride.

We will be going to local government elections sometime next year and need to approach our communities with **“Good Stories to tell”**. The time to construct those good and success stories should start now on the foundation already laid by your predecessors so that we are not caught napping when the time arrives.

Let us all welcome Mr. Raputsoa and give him the necessary support he deserves to deliver services to our communities. I further thank Mr. Namate for the sterling work during the duration of his acting period. It was not easy but had to be done through those difficult circumstances.

We all need to accelerate speed and double our efforts in building an effective and efficient district during the course of this year regardless of the challenges we are always confronted with.

Hard work always pays.

I thank you.