

UGU DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

MINUTES OF THE 42ND MEETING OF THE UGU DISTRICT MUNICIPAL COUNCIL HELD VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS VIDEO CONFERENCING, ON THURSDAY, 27 AUGUST 2020, AT 11H00.

PRESENT:

Cllr NH Gumede - Speaker

SR Ngcobo (Exco Member), PH Mthiyane (Exco Member), L Mzimela (Exco Member), AD Ngubo (Exco Member), SP Mthethwa (Exco Member), LMR Ngcobo (Exco Member), SN Caluza, S Chetty, K Dladla, Y Nair, NY Mweshe, JJ East, D Nciki, MPL Zungu, SH Cele, S Mngomezulu, HJ Ngubelanga, H Mbatha, MA Manyoni, DMM Hlengwa, SH Cele, BE Machi, B Ntusi, SE Khawula, TA Disane, ZZ Msani, A Rajaram, GD Henderson, and PT Naude.

BY INVITATION:

Inkosi MP Ngcobo
Inkosi EZ Mkhize
Inkosi BS Nzimakwe
Inkosi ZGB Msomi
Inkosi ZR Qwabe
Inkosi EZ Jali
Inkosi B Cele

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr DD Naidoo	-	Municipal Manager
Mr VO Mazibuko	-	General Manager: Corporate Services
Mr S Mbewu	-	General Manager: Water Services
Ms L Sotshede	-	Acting General Manager: Budget and Treasury Office
Mr F Zama	-	Senior Manager: Mayoralty and Communications
Ms F Mbili	-	Senior Manager: Corporate Strategy and Shared Services
Mr A Mbhele	-	Manager: Administration and Auxiliary Services
Ms N Msomi	-	Manager: Policy and Research
Mr K Oduro	-	Acting Manager: Risk and Internal Audit
Ms N Surajbally	-	Administrative Officer: Secretariat Unit
Ms T Kikine	-	Committee Clerk: Secretariat Unit

OPENING

The Speaker welcomed all to the meeting. She then requested Cllr Henderson to lead the meeting in prayer.

C 214/08/20 NOTICE OF MEETING

The notice of the meeting was taken as read.

C 215/08/20 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

It was noted that Cllrs NT Dlamini (*sick*), NCP Mqwebu (*council business*) and TB Cele (*study leave*) had requested leave of absence from the meeting.

It was also noted that Cllrs Y Nair and SN Caluza would join the meeting late due to network challenges.

It was further noted that Inkosi EZ Jali had requested to be excused from the meeting at 13h45, in order to attend to an urgent matter.

From the Management component, it was noted that the Manager: Legal Services (*family commitment*) had requested leave of absence from the meeting.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Cllrs NT Dlamini (*sick*), NCP Mqwebu (*council business*) and TB Cele (*study leave*) be and are hereby granted leave of absence from the meeting.
- (b) That the apology received on behalf of Cllrs Y Nair and SN Caluza for same to join the meeting late due to network challenges be and is hereby **GRANTED**.
- (c) That the request for leave of absence for Inkosi EZ Jali to be excused from the meeting at 13h45, to attend to an urgent matter be and is hereby **GRANTED**.
- (d) That from the Management Component, the Manager: Legal Services (*family commitment*) be and is hereby granted leave of absence from the meeting.

C 216/08/20 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

It was noted that there were none.

C217/08/20 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The Speaker took members through the confirmation of the agenda.

The Municipal Manager requested for the inclusion of the following Items 14.3 and 14.4 under In-Committee Matters:

- Item 14.3 Payment of Councillors in terms of Government Gazette No. 43246; and
- Item 14.4 Extension on the Acting Appointment for the Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the agenda convening the Ugu District Municipal Council meeting be and is hereby **CONFIRMED**, subject to the inclusion of the following under In-Committee Matters:

- Item 14.3 Payment of Councillors in terms of Government Gazette No. 43246; and
- Item 14.4 Extension on the Acting Appointment for the Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

C218/08/20

Minutes of the 41st Meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 30 July 2020

The Speaker took members through the confirmation of the minutes for the meeting held on 30 July 2020.

Following which,

It was

RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the 41st Meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 30 July 2020, be and are hereby **CONFIRMED**, subject to the following amendments being effected to the minutes:

- Page 07, the second last paragraph, the year “2020” be changed to “2019”, and
- Page 08, the first paragraph, the amount of *R1.4 million* be changed to *R14 million*.

RESOLUTION REGISTER

C219/08/20

Resolution Register for the 41st Meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 30 July 2020

The Speaker took members through the Resolution Register for the 41st meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 30 July 2020.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the Resolution Register for the 41st Meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 30 July 2020, be and is hereby **NOTED**.

C 220/08/20 OUTSTANDING MATTERS

It was noted that there were none.

STANDING ITEMS

C 221/08/20 SALGA Monthly Report to Members as of 12 August 2020

The Municipal Manager took members through the SALGA Monthly Report as at 12 August 2020.

He informed members that the report entailed the following:

- SALGA KZN Membership Levies: Early Settlement Discount;
- Extension of Deadline for the Submission of MFMA 2019/2020 Annual Financial Statements (AFS); and
- Upcoming Events.

He apprised members that the end of July 2020, was the final day for the payment of the 2020/2021, contributions to organize the local government (i.e. SALGA membership levies) and for the membership, the municipality was to remain In-Good Standing in terms of the SALGA constitution.

He referred to the table reflecting the members that were not In-Good Standing for the 2019/2020, financial year and pointed out that Ugu District Municipality was owing R4,244.00.

He mentioned that a reconciliation of the amounts owed by the municipality was requested from SALGA given that both the National and Provincial were requesting different payment amounts.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the SALGA Monthly Report as at 12 August 2020, be and is hereby **NOTED**.

C 222/08/20 Monthly Birthday Greetings: Councillors, Amakhosi and Senior Managers

The Speaker conveyed birthday wishes on behalf of Council to the following Councillors, Amakhosi and Senior Management who celebrated their birthdays during the month of August.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the Monthly Birthday Greetings for Councillors, Amakhosi and Senior Managers be and is hereby **NOTED**.

C 223/08/20 Water Supply Challenges

The General Manager: Water Services took members through the current water supply challenges that were experienced in areas within the Ugu District. He pointed out that the report also indicated all the affected communities including the Long-Term Project Plans that were put in place to eradicate the water supply shortage to all the urban and rural areas.

He referred members to page 43 of the report and highlighted the following systems that were adversely affected by the water supply challenges and the remedial action plans undertaken to date, namely:

- Current Water Supply Emergency Plan in respect of (*Area South-West, Area South and Area North*);
- Implementation Plan; Timeframes and Estimated Budget: Upgrade and Refurbishment of Bulk Infrastructure;
- Water Supply Schedule; and
- Water Tankering Schedule.

Inkosi Jali advised members that the Harding area was still experiencing challenges in terms of receiving water. He then enquired if there were any plans that were put in place to ensure that water was supplied adequately. He then suggested that the municipality should also consider using other means of communication methods like the radio stations and the local newspapers to communicate the areas that were experiencing water challenges including communicating the remedial plans that have been put in place. He further enquired on the progress of the proposed boreholes that were supposed to be put in place at Harding.

Responding, the General Manager: Water Services confirmed that communications was being made together with the Communications Unit and the

Office of the Public Participation Unit. He mentioned that the Communications Unit was also using other media platforms.

On the issue of the proposed boreholes, he mentioned that there were certain projects that were reprioritized for the COVID-19, which comprised the boreholes. He cited that the Project Management Unit and the Supply Chain Management Unit recently held a briefing session at Harding to conclude the Rising Main Project. He further confirmed that the said project would be concluded next month.

The Speaker emphasized that communication with the public should be strengthened.

Commenting, the Mayor advised members that the Municipality had started the process of going to the local media to discuss the said issues with the communities through (Izimbizo) including the Ward Councillors.

Inkosi Jali advised members that the public should be informed of any water interruptions using all the communication channels to avoid unnecessary protests.

Cllr Nciki advised members that on Tuesday, 25 August 2020; she had visited the Harding Dam and discovered that there was no water; and yet the General Manager: Water Services reported that the said dam was at 12%. She then pointed out with concern that the said dam was not well maintained to ensure that the water from the rain was retained. She further suggested that the leadership of the Ugu District should schedule a visit to the Harding Dam to witness the concerns that were reported.

Cllr Rajaram enquired on the plans that the Municipality had put in place to address the issue of load shedding, especially at the water plants. He then sought clarity if generators were being used for the said emergencies.

In terms of the communication channels, he emphasized that the information should be shared with all the Ward Councillors in order for same to be able to provide responses to the communities of Ugu District.

He also cited that the officials at the Control Centre should be apprised of all the water issues in order to be able to provide accurate responses to the customers.

Cllr Mthethwa pointed out with concern that the municipality had a problem with the supply of water and that there was no plan that was put in place to address all the issues relating to water challenges.

The Mayor confirmed that there was a plan that Management had put in place, although same was currently not implementable. He pointed out that the only challenge was that when the said plan was failing, the officials were not reporting accordingly.

He advised members that there were meetings that were held weekly with the Mayor, the Speaker, the Deputy Mayor and the Management to attend to all the issues relating to water challenges, and that the entire District was affected.

He then requested that Management should submit a report on the implementation of Boreholes and Spring Protection to all the Local Municipalities.

The General Manager: Water Services noted all the concerns raised by Council and assured members that he would deal with the said issues.

Following discussion,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That report on the Water Supply Challenges be and is hereby **NOTED**.
- (b) That Management be and is hereby tasked to submit a report on the implementation of Boreholes and Spring Protection to all the Local Municipalities.
- (c) That the Municipality also consider using other communication methods like radio stations and local newspapers to communicate the areas that were experiencing water challenges including communicating the remedial action plans that would be put in place.
- (d) That the leadership of the Ugu District schedule a visit to the Harding Dam to witness concerns that were reported.

SECTION 79 REPORTS

C 224/08/20 Report from the Chairperson of the Audit Committee

It was noted that there were none.

C 225/08/20 MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

It was noted that there were none.

EXTRACTS FROM COMMITTEES

**C 226/08/20 Extracts from the meeting of the Executive Committee held on 19 August 2020
Project Preparation Grant Funding Approval from Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) for Umbango and Melville WWTW.**

The Municipal Manager took members the item.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report on the Project Preparation Grant Funding Approval from the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) for Umbango and Melville WWTW be and is hereby **NOTED**.
- (b) That the Municipal Manager be and is hereby **AUTHORISED** in his capacity as the Accounting Officer to conclude the acceptance and enter into a Grant Facility Agreement with DBSA for the Project Preparation Grant Funding of Umbango and Melville Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW).

C 227/08/20 Unauthorised Expenditure relating to the Ugu District Municipality Insurance Services Cover for 12 Months

The Municipal Manager took members through the item.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report on the Unauthorised Expenditure relating to the Ugu District Municipality Insurance Services Cover for 12 Months be and is hereby **NOTED**.
- (b) That the Unauthorised Expenditure relating to the Ugu District Municipality Insurance Services Cover for 12 Months be and is hereby **CONDONED**.
- (c) That the Municipal Manager be and is hereby **AUTHORISED** to approve the said expenditures.

MINUTES FROM COMMITTEES

C 228/08/20 Minutes of the 52nd Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 22 July 2020

The Speaker took members through the minutes of the 52nd Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 22 July 2020.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

That the Confirmed Minutes of the 52nd Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 22 July 2020 be and are hereby **NOTED**.

C 229/08/20 URGENT MATTERS

It was noted that there were none.

IN COMMITTEE MATTERS

[At that stage of the proceedings, Cllr MA Manyoni moved for the meeting to move in-committee and was seconded by Cllr LMR Ngcobo].

C 230/08/20 In-Committee Minutes of the 41st meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 30 July 2020

The Speaker took members through the In-Committee Minutes of the 41st meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 30 July 2020.

Following which,

It was

RESOLVED:

That the In-Committee Minutes of the 41st Meeting of the Ugu District Municipal Council held on 30 July 2020 be and are hereby **CONFIRMED**.

C231/08/20 Cwabeni Off-Chanel Storage Dam

The Municipal Manager took members through the item.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report on the Minister's Directive in respect of Cwabeni OCS Dam be and is hereby **NOTED**.
- (b) That His Worship, the Mayor, Cllr SR Ngcobo convey Council's thanks and appreciation to the Minister of Water and Sanitation, LN Sisulu.

C232/08/20 Payment of Councillors in terms of Government Gazette No. 43246

The Municipal Manager took members through the item.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report on the status of Payment of Councillors in terms of Government Gazette No. 43246 be and is hereby **NOTED**.
- (b) That the process of recovering the overpayment from the Councillors concerned be approved for commencement.
- (c) That further engagements be held with all the affected Councillors to ensure that their financial viability was not negatively affected.
- (d) That consequence management be applied to the responsible officials who were responsible for the overpayment.

C233/08/20 Extension on the Acting Appointment of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

The Municipal Manager took members through the item.

Following which,

It was unanimously

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report regarding the Extension on the Appointment of the Acting Chief Financial Officer (CFO) be and is hereby **NOTED**.
- (b) That the extension of the Acting Chief Financial Officer, Ms LZ Sotshede be on a month-to-month basis for three months, effective from 01 September 2020 to 30 November 2020.
- (c) That the appointment process of the new Chief Financial Officer be fast-tracked.

[At that stage of the proceedings, Cllr Mthethwa moved for the meeting to move out of committee and was seconded by Cllr Henderson.]

C234/08/20 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the date of the next meeting was scheduled for 23 September 2020.

C 235/08/20 CLOSURE

There being no further items for discussion, the Speaker declared the meeting closed at 12h47.

CHAIRPERSON: ----- **DATE:** -----