

## **MAYOR TABLES THE FIRST PROPOSED IDP BUDGET**

**MOKOPANE:** As part of an endeavour to ensuring sufficient service delivery and also guided by the Municipal Systems Act 2000, Chapter 4 which compels all municipalities to consult with communities, the Mogalakwena Local Municipality led by the Mayor, His Worship Cllr Ngoako Tauetsaola has on Thursday held its first 2023/24 Intergrated Development Plan (IDP) and Budget Mayoral Roadshows with various stakeholders at Aboo Tayob Hall in Mokopane.

The IDP roadshow is part of the municipality's service delivery decision-making processes and also a platform provided to all stakeholders across all 32 Wards of the municipality to come and interact directly with the Councillors, managers and officials on issues affecting the community at large.

Briefly while rendering the purpose of the day, Mayor Tauetsaola said that the purpose of consultations/roadshows is to fulfil the above legislative requirement (Municipal Systems Act 2000, Chapter 4) and to keep in touch with communities on what are the expectations from the council.

"The Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) further requires the municipal Council that when the budget is tabled before, the Council should consider the views of the local community. After considering all the budget submissions which will be made during these consultations, the Council has an opportunity to effect amendments to the budget for consideration," said Mayor Tauetsaola.

Mayor Tauetsaola indicated that the proposed Budget for 2023/24 financial year is R1 621 673 822.00 (one billion six hundred and twenty-one six hundred and seventy three eight hundred and twenty eight) which R311 598 550 is for Capital projects and R1 310 075 278 is for Operational budget. For free basic services such as water and electricity for Indigents the municipality has budgeted R9 945 930.00.

The consolidated needs of the municipality produced the following priorities from a community perspective are: housing, roads and stormwater, water and sanitation, electricity, crime prevention, safety & security, health & welfare, led & unemployment, community facilities, sports, arts & culture, education, refuse & solid waste management, communication, transport, land & environmental management and institutional arrangements.

Mogalakwena Municipality's Mayor, His Worship Cllr Tauetsaola, Members of Executive Council, Councillors, Managers and municipal employees will embark on a two-week Mayoral IDP roadshows until 26 April 2023 to determine the developmental needs and priorities of both residents and stakeholders in all the wards throughout the municipality.

Various service delivery challenges which were raised by residents from Mahwelereng,

Extension 17, some parts of Home 2000, Hospital View, Extension 19 and 20 and Phola Park, some of them are ranging from sewer spillage, waste collection, provision of waste bins, storm water control, patching of potholes, resealing of streets, addition and maintenance of high mast lights to curb crime, fixing of streetlights, de-bushing/clearing of the bush, illegal dumping, incomplete projects, renovation of Mahwelereng community hall, sports grounds/playing fields, tarring of internal roads, clearing of the construction site after completion of the projects, revamping of parks and recreational facilities, access to Mahwelereng park and sporting facilities.

The second round of the IDP & Budget Mayoral roadshow was held on the same day at Mayor's Parlour in the municipal premises. Second round of the roadshow consisted of residents from Maribashoek, Planknek, business associations, Percy Fyfe Safety and Association, property owners and farming community.

Most of the issues which were raised at Mayor's Parlour are ranging from waste collection, maintenance of roads, resealing of streets, bushing/clearing of the bush, cutting of trees along the powerlines and maintenance of power lines water shortage, sewer overflowing at Ga- Mitchell, roads maintenance, potholes, incomplete projects, provision of high mast lights, waste water treatment and sporting facilities.

"We acknowledge that there are issues and challenges which were raised but we need each other to resolve them. You raised genuine issues and brilliant ideas and I promise that days of sitting in the offices must fall and I will take it upon myself that we constantly go to our communities since there are no longer Covid-19 regulations which warded us off, hence there were no Intergrated Development Plan (IDP) and Budget Mayoral Roadshows from 2019-2022," said Mayor Taueatsoala while responding to issues raised.

"Councillors should develop and submit their meeting schedule since you indicated that there is a lack of consultations from us. amongst yourselves. With the little budget we have we will strive to provide basic services to all our 178 villages, town and two townships (Mahwelereng and Rebone)," said Mayor Taueatsoala,

"The municipality has noted all concerns raised by the community more importantly the provision of water, roads, sewer spillage and storm water control. Other issues like provision of RDP houses, schools, clinics and others are competency of the provincial government which we will escalate to them at the relevant time and platforms," said Mayor Taueatsoala.

Mayor Taueatsoala, thanked all councillors (Speaker Cllr Pheladi Olifant, Chief Whip Cllr Staff Tsebe and members of Executive Council, officials moreover communities for robustly participating in the first and successful IDP roadshow.