

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS
APRIL 2008

FELLOW COUNCILLORS, PASTOR FRANCOIS KOCH, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, GENERAL MANAGERS AND MANAGERS, OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

Good evening and welcome to the Council Meeting of April 2008.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am sorry to inform you that Our Mayor, Councillor Rosina //Hoabes is not well and she is recuperating at home and that explains her absence this evening. On behalf of my fellow Councillors, the Chief Executive Officer, General Managers and Municipal staff, and indeed on my own behalf, I wish her God's Healing touch and may she have a speedy recovery.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Ministry of Health and Social Services, Directorate of Special Programmes in collaboration with development partners, NGO's and the Private Sector are organising a National HIV Counselling and Testing Day.

This important event will be taking place in our district from the 8th to the 10th of May 2008. The first National HIV Testing Day will be celebrated on Friday 9th of May 2008.

The purpose of the national HIV testing day is to mobilize the community to access counselling and testing services. Erongo region is among the 5 regions where the first official commemorations will take place this year. According to statistics within the sexually active population (15-49 years of age), only 29% of females and 18% of males have gone for HIV testing in the past 12 months and know their sero-status. It is evident that the uptake of HIV testing by males is significantly lower than their female counterparts, and therefore, special emphasis will be put on males' involvement in Counselling and Testing.

In order to mobilize the community, the Political Leaders of our town will address the public through two Public meetings; the details of the meetings are as follows:

- Women are invited to attend a meeting on Monday 28th of April 2008 @ 18:00 at Meduletu Hall in Mondesa
- Men are invited to attend a public meeting on Tuesday 29th of April 2008 @ 18:00 at Meduletu Hall in Mondesa

These meetings have been arranged on separate days to allow both genders to deliberate on this topic in liberty and transparency.

I would like to call upon all the residents of the Swakopmund District to get involved in this venture to ensure its success.

Ladies and gentlemen

The Police Public Relations Committee (PPRC) for Swakopmund was established a few months ago. The PPRC represents the Police, security companies, several government institutions, various church and community leaders as well as business owners from Swakopmund. Their constitution has been drawn up and they are ready to get physically active for the fight against crime in Swakopmund. To get the public involved, a number of public meetings will be held on the following dates and places;

Tuesday, 29 April 2008 : Town Hall
Wednesday, 21 May 2008 : Meduletu Hall

All these meetings will commence @ 18:30 on the said dates. Crime is an occurrence that affects our daily lives and thus I am encouraging our participation in these important meetings.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This evening, the Swakopmund Municipal Council will be tabling its budget for the Financial year 2009/2010 and I would like to congratulate the Council for the timely submission of the budget, keep up the good work!!!

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Tonight we again have Long Service Awards and one retirement and I would like the following people to please step forward to receive their certificates:

10 Years: Joas Haubab
15 Years: Pinehas Johannes
Ruben Haitana
20 Years: Andreas Frans
Jason Shingulu

We also have one retirement:

Paul Venter : 8 Years & 9 Months

On behalf of Council, I wish to thank you all for the commitment shown towards the people of Swakopmund. May our Heavenly Father bless you with good health as you continue to serve Swakopmund and may your retirement be filled with joy and good rest.

As schools have closed and parents would be taking their children on holiday or they themselves are taking a break, I would like to call on all to please drive safely, keep to the speed restrictions and arrive safely!

I thank you!

Germina Ndapua Shitaleni
Deputy Mayor