

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR JUNE 2009

Fellow Councillors, Ds Christo v/d Heever, the Chief Executive Officer, General Managers, Managers, Officials, Junior Town Council, Members of the Media, Members of the Community, Ladies & Gentlemen

Good evening and welcome to our Council meeting for June 2009.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As usual, my office had commitments for June and these were attended to by myself or by my fellow Councillors:-

- { Erongo Development Foundation Meeting
- { NDF Day-Cum-Commissioning Ceremony by the Navy in Walvis Bay
- { Opening of the Pro-Ed Private School Sports weekend attended by Councillor John Ngolombe
- { Monthly NCCI meeting attended by Councillor Paul Rooi.
- { World Environmental Day took place on 5 June 2009 at the Amphitheatre
- { Council also signed a co-operation agreement with the MVA Fund
- { Numerous appointments with community members as well as representatives of institutions
- { Dawid Bezuidenhout High School from Windhoek visited the Municipality with students from Finland
- { The new SCORE Volunteer, Samuel Zatjirua was introduced to the Mayor
- { The annual Karneval activities commenced with a Prinzenball attended by Councillor Peter Steinkopff who handed over the key to the Elferrat und Narrenvolk – we hope everything was done legally.
- { Namib High School together with Swakopmund Secondary School hosted the FNB Classic Clashes Sports day and was opened by myself.
- { Various in-house meetings took place and were attended to efficiently.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As promised at last month's Council Meeting, I would like to brief you regarding the cooperation agreement entered into between the Swedish City of Malmö and our town Swakopmund

At some stage in July 2008 Council discussed and decided to participate in the Municipal Partnership with the Association of Local Authorities in Namibia and SALAIDA in Sweden. A co-operation agreement was then signed and since then, the City of Malmö in the south of Sweden and Swakopmund were involved in developing areas of mutual cooperation.

Earlier this year two identified projects were submitted to and approved by SALAIDA which will run for the next 3 years until the expected completion in 2012. The projects are based on developing a strategy to improve Solid Waste Management in our town and especially to promote Recycling and Re-use of waste materials. The second project deals with strategies to design alternative energy sources with special emphasis on the use of Solar Energy.

As part of the projects, a delegation from Swakopmund was invited to Malmö during May 2009. The delegation entered into discussions with the Malmö delegation and inter alia deliberated on

- The project description, aims and the budget
- Project organization
- Risk Analysis and the possible
- Involvement of a third Partner – A coastal town in the Cape Province was mentioned.

Educational tours were undertaken to

- A local biogas plant where all food waste are recycled.
- Visit to Augustenborg, a housing area from the fifties that has been renovated in a sustainable way

The delegation was then taken on a train journey to Copenhagen after which they departed from Stockholm where the highlight of the tour was a visit to Namibia's ambassador to the Nordics, the former Mayor of Walvis Bay, Her Excellency, Theresa Samaria. The ambassador expressed her appreciation for the visit and requested that she be updated on all projects and co-operation agreements between Namibia and Sweden AND especially where the coastal towns are involved.

In Stockholm the delegation participated in educational tours to the palace of the local royalty, several museums including the Nobel Museum, Riksdagen, The Swedish Parliament, and the City Hall for a presentation on the operation of the Environmental Department and goals as well as their voting procedures.

The visit to Sweden enhanced Sida's commitment to support the Municipal Partnership North-South Programme which is based on Sweden's Policy for Global Development which states that global development policy concerns all strata of Swedish Society.

Similarly we recognize and appreciate the efforts from our local Association for Local Authorities in Namibia (ALAN) for initiating these joint ventures which ultimately will contribute to poverty reduction in our communities and will improve environmental conditions.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Project Shine is now entering its third year and remains at the top of our Environmental Agenda.

It is one of my Councils goals to provide and maintain safe, sufficient and affordable services for residents and visitors to our town and I can assure that our patrons contributes largely to the success of Project Shine and is now internationally recognized as part of our efforts to ensure a cleaner and healthier environment.

The administrators of Project Shine provided me with a report that reflected on the past successes but also the challenges experienced throughout the project, so please allow me first of all to congratulate you on contributing to the success of last year's project. The efforts and contributions were outstanding and come highly recommended. The contributions from the sponsors were phenomenal and a true indication of their continued support to the project. We cannot execute this project without our patrons and I therefore thank you for all your efforts to ensure the continuation of Project Shine.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Erongo Health Directorate sub-division: Family Health is spear-heading the National Immunization Days and the first round of immunization took place from 15 -19 June 2009, the second round will take place from 21 – 24 July 2009 and the target all children aged 0 – 5 year and they will get Polio and Vitamin A drops. All children aged 9 months – 5 years will get immunized for measles. Our community is requested to see that our children get immunized as it is a service provided by our Government for free.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are experiencing huge problems with continuous leaks on the water network and poor compaction in Tsvorite Street, especially between the intersections Tsvorite/Tanzanite and Tsvorite/Emerald. This causes, besides water losses, a very uneven piece of road and of cause a number of valid complaints from our residents and road users have been received in this regard.

Barrel nipples instead of hex nipples were used for the connection of the consumers onto the main line in the middle of the road and the pipe for the house connection are causing leakages as well. This seems to be due to poor construction, wrong material used and bad supervision during the construction. All consumer connections will be re-done and once it has been done Council will attend to the resurfacing or repair of the street surface.

Work has started, but it will take some time because we are replacing the connections one by one, not to interrupt the supply of water to the consumers for too long.

Consumers in this area of town are kindly requested to be patient during this period and be of assistance towards our Works Section.

Ladies & Gentlemen;

The Swakopmund Municipal Sport & Social Club was established in 2007, with the aim to promote sport and team spirit amongst the staff members and also with the community. They affiliated to SAIMSA, Southern African Inter Municipal Association and in September 2008 participated in Kimberley (SA) in the SAIMSA Games against 40 municipalities.

This year they plan to participate again in the SAIMSA Games which will take place in Maputo (Mozambique). In order to raise funds for their expenses a Fun Day has been planned for Saturday 27 June 2009 at the Central Sports Field.

Councillors, Chief Executive Officer, General Managers, staff members and the General Public is invited by the Swakopmund Municipal Sport & Social Club to join them for the Fun day that will start at 09:00.

On a very sad note

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We have learnt about the death of Petrus #Eichab who was stabbed to death sometime this month. Petrus was the beloved guitarist who used to entertain shoppers and visitors at the Woermann & Brock shopping centre while practicing his talent. On behalf of the Swakopmund Municipal Council, residents and indeed on my own behalf, I would like to express our sincerest sympathy to his family; it is our prayer that the Lord of comfort will give them peace at this time of sorrow. I would also like to appeal to the public, especially the criminals, to value life as precious and to respect the rights of others. We cannot and should not tolerate the scourge of violence that wants to disrupt our stable and peaceful country. We should all join hands and unite against the disregard of human life by involving ourselves in anti-crime activities.

Long Service Awards:

We also have Long Service Awards and I would like to call the following staff members forward to come and collect their certificates:

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| o Annalize Jacobs | - | 10 Years |
| o Alden Strauss | - | 10 Years |
| o Johannes Paulus | - | 20 Years |

Thank you very much for serving our community and Council for so many years, we wish you many more years of good and healthy service to the community of Swakopmund. May God bless you richly.

I thank you.

Germina Ndapua Shitaleni
MAYOR