

MAYOR'S SPEECH AT THE COUNCIL MEETING OF JANUARY 2008

FELLOW COUNCILLORS, REV JOHNNY NEL, CEO AND GENERAL MANAGERS, MANAGERS, OFFICIALS, MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY, MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

Good evening, thank you all for coming and welcome to the first Council Meeting for 2008.

As we start the New Year, it is my sincere hope that we have taken the break to rest during December as 2008 will have its own challenges, which I know, we as the Swakopmund Municipal Council will face head on and do the best in the interest of the community that we serve!

I look forward to this year and I am so proud of our Town --all that it has been in the past and all that it strives to be in the future. This Town is gaining recognition as a respected, vibrant and essential element for the future of our region, as well as national attention as the best Municipality in Namibia. Everyone here has played a part in this growth and recognition, and should take great pride in the work that has been accomplished.

And I wish to share with you ---

Based on a survey on Namibia conducted during August, September and October 2007, the Municipality of Swakopmund will receive the following awards on 22 February 2008 by PMR Namibia, in Windhoek:-

- 1.1 In the CATEGORY: CITIES/TOWNS DOING MOST FOR SOCIAL UPLIFTMENT in Namibia, the MUNICIPALITY OF SWAKOPMUND is highest rated on an overall rating of 3.83 out of a possible 5.00, and will receive the Golden Arrow Award.*
- 1.2 In the CATEGORY: CITIES/TOWNS DOING MOST TO ATTRACT FOREIGN INVESTMENT to Namibia, the MUNICIPALITY OF SWAKOPMUND is highest rated on an overall rating of 4.09 out of a possible 5.00, and will receive the Golden Arrow Award.*
- 1.3 In the CATEGORY: CITIES/TOWNS DOING MOST TO ATTRACT LOCAL INVESTMENT in Namibia, the MUNICIPALITY OF SWAKOPMUND is highest rated on an overall rating of 4.00 out of a possible 5.00, and will receive the Golden Arrow Award.*
- 1.4 In the CATEGORY: CITIES/TOWNS DOING MOST TO ATTRACT TOURISM to Namibia, the MUNICIPALITY OF SWAKOPMUND is rated on an overall rating of 4.08 out of a possible 5.00, and will receive the Golden Arrow Award.*
- 1.5 In the CATEGORY: CITIES/TOWNS DOING MOST FOR JOB CREATION in Namibia, the MUNICIPALITY OF SWAKOPMUND is highest rated on an overall rating of 3.67 out of a possible 5.00, and will receive the Silver Arrow Award.*

The ratings are based on the perceptions of the respondents (corporate and senior government officials in the country). A total of 7807 ratings and nominations were sourced overall in the country. Companies and institutions were rated against the following criteria:

- ❖ companies/institutions that have done most to enhance economic growth and development of the country*
- ❖ management*
- ❖ corporate governance*

Ladies and gentlemen

I am informed that the crime situation in town over the festive season was under control especially in view of the fact that we had more visible policing from the local as well as additional police force members who assisted during the festive season. Thank you for a job well done.

Our Traffic department reported that vandalism again took place during our festive season. Vandalism is a criminal act against property. It should be pointed out the intentional destruction of Municipal property is a common law crime and is punishable if one is found guilty of this offence.

It should be stated that the protection of Municipal property is not only the responsibility of the Municipality of Swakopmund, but equally that of all residents. Residents are kindly requested to be of assistance and report such acts to our Traffic department or the Police to prevent and reduce acts of vandalism in town.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Further, thanks goes to Rössing Uranium and Namibia Breweries for the contributions they made to the lunch for the less fortunate elderly people in our town that our Council hosted on 16 December 2007 and the many companies and individuals who ensured that the Mayoral Golf Day was a success by contributing and participating as these funds were also utilized for the lunch for the elderly.