

MUNICIPALITY OF SWAKOPMUND



COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

27 June 2019

Presented by
The Deputy Mayor of Swakopmund
Maria Elago

- ✓ Honourable Councillors,
- ✓ Pastor Gustav Kamatoto,
- ✓ The Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Alfeus Benjamin
- ✓ General Managers,
- ✓ Managers,
- ✓ Officials,
- ✓ Junior Town Council,
- ✓ Members of the Community,
- ✓ Members of the Media,
- ✓ Ladies and Gentlemen
- ✓ All Protocol observed

Good evening and a warm welcome to our June Council meeting. As Council, we are grateful to all of you who made effort to join us this evening.

Before we proceed, let me share with you a scripture from the Book of 1 Corinthians, Chapter 3 from verse 8-9, and it reads *"The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to their own labor. For We are God's fellow workers; You are God's field, God's building."*



Ladies and Gentlemen



The Office of the Mayor is tasked with various official engagements, therefore, the Mayor and the Councillors attended to the following engagements during June 2019:

- Karibib Travel and Tourism Expo's official opening ceremony, Karibib
- Mass Housing Development Programme Meeting at the Office of the Governor, Swakopmund
- Africa Cup Inline Hockey opening ceremony, Swakopmund
- Opening ceremony of Swakop Food festival, Swakopmund
- Memorial service of Late Honourable Dr. Nickey Iyambo, Former Vice President of Namibia, Windhoek
- Perivoli School Trust Graduation Ceremony, Swakopmund
- Launch of the Project Shine Campaign, Swakopmund
- State of the Region Address, Swakopmund
- Namibia Tourism Expo official opening, Windhoek
- NNMF Exco Meeting, Gobabis
- Lions Old Age Home Awards ceremony, Swakopmund
- Launch of the Human Rights Campaign, "The Journey", Windhoek
- Launch of the Refela Chapter, ALAN, Otjiwarongo
- The Prinzenball of the Swakopmunder karneval

- We attended the official opening of the Ehao Cultural Festival in Okahao.
- Consultative meeting for the National Social Public Policy formulation with the Ministry of Poverty Eradication and Social Welfare, Swakopmund
- Resilient Cities 2019, Bonn, Germany
- Various in-house meetings

Thank you Honourable Councillors for your dedication and commitment in fulfilling some of the duties of the Mayor's Office.

Ladies & Gentlemen

The country has been confronted with severe drought and earlier this year, His Excellency, Dr. Hage Geingob, the President of the Republic of Namibia, has declared drought as a national crisis. Thus, it is critical that we manage this drought crisis by working together to save water. To do that, we each need to learn to value water.

Encouraging water conservation may be one of the most important things we can do to protect our vital natural resources and even our very existence on this earth. Every effort we take to conserve water will make a huge difference and will help to ensure that one of our most precious resources continues to be preserved for future generations. As Council, we hereby call on everyone to work with together to manage the water shortage crisis and to preserve our

water! The Council at its meeting on 23 May 2019, approved the new basic tariff of N\$126,50c for water supply by Namwater and noted the importance to encourage our community to save water. Thus, we hereby announce that there will be an increase in water charges on your municipal account as from the 1 July 2019.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On the 5th of June, we celebrated the 10 year anniversary of the Project Shine Campaign. The Campaign, which was launched on World Environmental day 10 years ago, comprises of two components namely; the Clean-Up Campaign and an Awareness/Education Campaign. The Clean-Campaign was initially aimed at cleaning the main road from Swakopmund to Arandis, but has since been extended to the beaches from Swakopmund to Henties Bay, the Swakop River and certain areas of the desert east of Swakopmund. The Awareness component of the project further focuses on creating awareness about understanding sustainability on a fundamental level and in that we continuously promote and accentuate the importance of a clean environment, the benefits of recycling and contributing to the social improvement of our town.

The Clean-Up Campaign commenced on the 1st of June 2019 and will end on the 30 November 2019 whilst the Awareness campaign is an ongoing activity. Eighty to ten (8-10) groups were selected from

non-profit organisations to participate in cleaning the town of Swakopmund. Each participating group has been allocated a ward and they need to ensure that their ward is clean and maintained for a period of 6 months. These wards stretch from about 10-20km. All participating groups are expected to submit a monthly activity report on waste removed and this will be used as a tool by the evaluators during the monthly inspections. The evaluation team consists of representatives from the Ministry of Environment and Tourism, Municipality of Swakopmund, Rossing Uranium/Rio Tinto, Roads Authority and NACOMA.

This initiative serves as evidence that as the community of Swakopmund, we are determined to work towards sustainability as we adopt systematic and strategic approaches in practicing sustainable principles.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Fellow Councillors

May I, on behalf of Council, use this platform to express our heartfelt gratitude to our valuable sponsors, who since the launch of this Campaign have been committed to ensure its success.

These companies are; Namibia Breweries Ltd, Rio Tinto/Rössing Uranium, NACOMA Project, Bannerman Resources Namibia, First National Bank and Plastic Packaging Namibia joined forces and

contributed immensely towards the growth of this Campaign. Their valuable contribution and participation in the Campaign is highly praiseworthy.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In our efforts to improve our payment services, the Council has compiled and is conducting a Customer Payment Survey for our valued clients, in order to find out which payment methods are convenient for their use. We observed the excessively long queues at the Cashier during a specific time frames in a month, thus we realized that it was important to share with the public, the various payment methods which are available to be used when paying for their Municipal bills. The current methods available range from:

- Cash / Debit / Credit Card (at the Cash hall)
- Cell Phone Banking
- ATM Transfer / Payments
- Online / Internet Banking Payments (Electronic Fund Transfer)
- Debit Order
- Bank deposit inside the Bank
- Deposit at the ATM
- Cellphone App (pay Today)

We therefore encourage our valuable clients to peruse the Survey and enquire at the Cashier about the available payment methods.

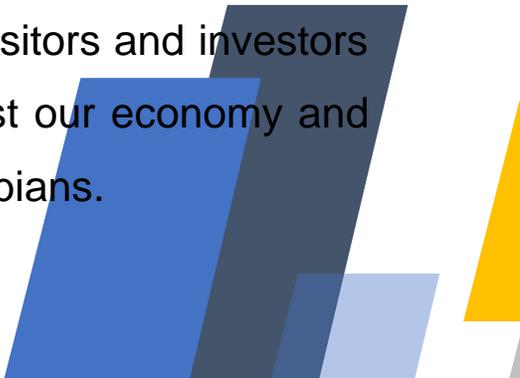
As the Council, we strive to serve with excellence and thus we continuously try to improve on our service delivery.

**Honourable Councillors,
Ladies and Gentlemen**

On a very delightful note, I am proud to announce that on the 16th of June 2019, Swakopmund was officially proclaimed as the Kwela Town of the Year (“dorp van die jaar”) 2019. I was overjoyed about this great news and I believe that this is our time to extend our shining gleams to the global world. Council wishes to express its appreciation to all the Councillors, Management, staff, stakeholders, residents, fellow Namibians and visitors who worked diligently during this campaign, activations and for casting their votes for our town. We would specifically like to commend the Swakopmund Destination, Namibia Hospitality Association and our Marketing division, who worked tirelessly in ensuring that we won the award this year.

Competing against South African cities and/ towns was challenging due to the population size difference, but we as the Namibian nation once again proved that when united, we can reach higher elevations.

I would like to encourage my fellow Councillors and municipal staff to continue promoting our town to attract more visitors and investors as this is one of the ways in which we can boost our economy and create more job opportunities for our fellow Namibians.



The prize for being the Kwela Town of the Year is advertising airtime to the value of One million Namibian dollars (N\$1 000 000) on Kyknet. Please take note that the Council or the Swakopmund town will not receive the prize in cash, but it will be only be used to advertise and promote the local businesses which vary from SMEs, MSMEs and private organisations. These advertisements will contribute towards attracting more national and international visitors and investors for the town. The exposure will also assist in marketing our town as the best tourism hub and an increase in tourism activities could greatly benefit our economy.

Moreover, the organisers (Homebrew Films), will host a big bash for Swakopmund. On behalf of Council, we are inviting the community to the Makiti (Big Bash) featuring famous artists, entertainment, and different stalls for local entrepreneurs. The event will take place in December and we will share more details at a later stage through various communication methods available.

Congratulations Swakopmund on your well-deserved wining.



Ladies & Gentlemen

Long Service Awards

We hereby would like to acknowledge the following staff members and present them with long service awards. These staff members in their respective positions have shown commitment and loyalty to the Municipality through their long service and we as Council would like to express our sincere gratitude for their time and contributions to develop this Municipality and transform it into what it is today.

The staff members are as follows:

15 YEARS SERVICE

Lydia Mutenda

20 YEARS SERVICE

Annalize Jacobs

Alden Strauss

May you all continue to serve with loyalty and help us grow our institution as we jointly serve our community.

Ladies & Gentlemen

Thank you for your undivided attention. May you all have a wonderful evening ahead.

Maria Elago

DEPUTY MAYOR

