

MUNICIPALITY OF SWAKOPMUND



COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT

August 2017

SPEECH PRESENTED BY

The Deputy Mayor of Swakopmund

Maria Elago

Council Announcement for August 2017

- Honourable Councillors,
- Pastor van Niekerk,
- The Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr Marco Swarts
- General Managers,
- Managers,
- Officials,
- Our distinguished guest:
 1. Mayor of Oranjemund, His Worship Henry Coetzee
 2. Chairperson of MC, Cllr Toivo Auala
 3. CEO of Oranjemund Town Council, Mr Shali Akwaanyenga
 4. Chairperson of MC - Cllr Richard Tjazapi (Opuwo Town Council)
 5. Acting CEO - Mr. Abel Katjoho
 6. Assistant to the Acting CEO - Mr. Gebhardt Makono
 7. Mayor of Rehoboth – His Worship C. Blaauw
 8. Deputy Mayor of Rehoboth -Clr. E.R. Maasdorp
 9. Chairperson of MC Clr. W.H. Uirab
 10. Vice Chairperson of MC - Clr. Mathew Jonas
 11. Chief Executive Officer - C. /Uirab
 12. W.I. Swartz (Manager: HR and Corporate - Project Coordinator)
- Members of the Municipal Sports Club
- Members of the LOC (125th years of Swakopmund's birthday)
- Members of the Community,
- Members of the Media,
- Ladies and Gentlemen
- All Protocol observed

Good evening and welcome to this Council meeting. I feel honoured and delighted to join you this evening. I would like to thank Pastor van Niekerk for opening the meeting with scripture reading and prayer and for inviting the Holy Spirit to be amongst us. Surely without God, we cannot do anything.

Ladies and Gentlemen on 02 August 2017 Council received a petition which primarily dealt with the Master list of Build Together Beneficiaries and the petition will be dealt with as per Council procedure and we will revert back to the petitioners and the public.

Honourable Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen

The office of the Mayor had the following commitments that were attended by the Mayor and fellow Councillors:

- The Mayor and the Chairperson of Management attended the meeting with Islamic Republic Of Iran Delegation at the Governor's Office.
- The Mayor delivered a speech at the Municipal Environmental Clean-up day.
- The Mayor delivered the welcoming remarks at the official opening of the 125th birthday anniversary celebrations of Swakopmund.
- The Chairperson of Management Committee attended the Namport Social Investment Event in Walvis Bay.
- The Mayor had a courtesy visit by local Pastors that assure the Mayor of their prayers for the uplifting activities of the council.

- The Chairperson of Management Committee attended the Commemoration of African Decentralization Day in Tsumkwe.
- The Mayor attended the 2017 National Fish Consumption Day (NFCD) Breakfast in Walvis Bay.
- Councillors attended the NDP 5 Popularization Campaign in Erongo Region.
- The Mayor attended the Official Launch of Nautilus Studios and delivered a Remarks for ribbon cutting Ceremony.
- The Mayor and the Chairperson of Management attended the Courtesy call of Chinese delegation at the Governors Office.
- Councillors attended the Commissioning of the Donated Brick Making Machine.
- Cllr U Kapeehi and the Mayor had a visit to Swakopmund peri urban area with Hon. Kornelia Shilunga.
- The Mayor delivered the welcoming remarks at the Free Legal Advise Day.
- The Mayor and Councillors also attended in-house meetings.

Again thank you Honourable Councillors for the team work and the support.

Ladies and Gentleman

The Swakopmund Municipal Sports and Social club members represented Council at the NALASRA Games held in Rundu during the month of May 2017. The team achieved second place overall and achieved the following awards:

Darts	-	Bronze medals
Pool	-	Gold medals
Volleyball men	-	Bronze medals
Volleyball mixed	-	Gold medals and a trophy
Tug of war	-	Silver medals
Fun walk	-	2 Gold, 2 silver and 3 Bronze medals

At this juncture, I would like to call the participants to the front to receive their medals.

Honourable Councillors, Officials, Residents, visitors and members of the media, I would like to express my gratitude for the participation in the Swakopmund 125th anniversary celebration of Swakopmund that took place from 4-6 August 2017 and as well the Municipal staff members. To all the sponsors who contributed resources and financial assistance towards the event, we cannot thank you enough.

With every event there is a strong spine called the Local Organizing Committee who runs around and put things in place for everything to

be smooth. Without their hard work and dedication, the event would not have been a success.

On behalf of Council I would like to express my gratitude for your commitment. Even without any compensation, you have dedicated yourself to start and finish the organizing of this event. I would like to call the Local Organizing Committee members to the front and award them with their participating certificates.

Ladies and Gentleman

Long Service Awards

Today we will acknowledge the following staff members:

- D N Kambanda - 20 years of service
- M M E Bussel - 20 years of service
- Mr Andreas Niilonga serves Council for 31 years and 6 month and we as Council appreciate your effort and commitment towards service rendering of our town. May the almighty bless you with good health.

Honorable Councillors***Ladies and Gentlemen***

The Swakopmund Municipal Council has been in existence for 108 years while new Local Government Systems is now almost 27 years old.

Smaller local authorities in Namibia especially those proclaimed after the Local Authorities Act, Act 23 of 1992, have relied a lot on Swakopmund for advice and technical assistance on Municipal service delivery and administration governance. Over the years, the Swakopmund Municipality has demonstrated itself as one of the torchbearers of sound administration.

Swakopmund is strategically located both for tourism and job prospects. However not all of us are fortunate enough to secure employment. As a result we are experiencing huge migration from rural to urban. At the moment the lack of proper housing, poor sanitation and no electricity in our informal settlements, are our biggest challenges we are faced with and as a result, crime and other social evils are escalating.

Twin towns or sister cities are a form of legal or social agreement between towns or regions, and even countries in geographically and politically distinct areas, to promote cultural and commercial ties.

The Swakopmund Municipality has signed agreements with few towns and cities. Tonight we have the privilege to sign Memorandum of Understanding with the following towns mentioned:

- *Opuwo Town Council*
- *Rehoboth Town Council and*
- *Oranjemund Town Council*

Your choice to identify Swakopmund as a twinning partner shows that as a Local Authority we have something to offer to Namibia.

I am therefore confident that by sharing information, knowledge and experience, is crucial not only for development but to create relationship and thus improve on the upliftment of the livelihood of our communities. Local Authorities has to become more effective and accountable to citizens and this requires us to tackle corruption and increase the public's access to information.

Local Authorities have led the way in experimenting with new focus on participatory decision-making, budgeting and planning. We have expand these efforts and became even more responsible to our communities, making sure no groups is excluded.

We believe that after signing these agreements, our ties will strengthen and we will excel in rendering services to our communities to better their living conditions and even the economy of our towns.

On behalf of the Swakopmund Municipal Council, I would like to welcome you all to Swakopmund and wish you a fruitful partnership and networking.

In conclusion, I would like to appeal to everybody present to stay in the chambers until we finish signing the Memorandum of Understandings after the meeting.

I thank you for your attention.