

The VOICE

OF EPHRAIM MOGALE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



1ST QUARTER 2018/2019

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2018

Re hlabolla setšhaba ka tshedimošo



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THROUGH THE EYES OF THE EDITOR

The lightning has strikes twice within the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality as two Members of the Executive Committee visited the municipality just like during the last quarter of the financial year. The Municipality warmly welcomed the MEC of Safety and Security Hon Makoma Makhurupetje in Moganyaka, Ward 9 on the anti-abuse on children and women awareness campaign, and MEC of Health Hon Phophi Ramathuba who opened the Health Centre in Ward one, Malebitsa and MDR Ward and health support centre services to the communities of Ephraim Mogale local municipality and the Sekhukhune District at Matlala Hospital in Ward 16. Both MECs were on the mission of providing the services to the needy District at large.

New culture of giving has emerged within the municipal political leadership. The municipality experience the political leadership setting standards of giving, when Cllr Mashoeshoe shared his birthday with the Drop Centre in Ward 11 by distributing food and clothes to the needy, Cllr Lentswane celebrated her birthday with learners at Ngwanakwena Secondary School, distributing sanitary towels and food parcels at the crèche, and the Hon. Mayor, Cllr Kupa celebrated her birthday with aged community in Elandskraal. Remember that the hands that give, received more blessings. Let us all those who can give and celebrate their birthdays with the needy community members, do so.

As part of the commitment to take services to the people, the municipality took the services to the community of Moutse West through the Batho Pele Principle. The municipality and Government departments provided a one-stop services. One of the key services was to provide information about government and municipality services, how to access them and to register complaints about the poor services.

The Infrastructure Service Delivery has reached a peak as one of the three multi-year internal roads of Dichoeung is completed. The two others of Letebejane - Ditholong and Ngwalemong will be completed and handed-over to the municipality within the next quarter. The municipality has already advertised the new project of Mashemong-Mooihoek and at any time the process of appointing the contractor will be completed. Two other road infrastructure developments by Road Agency Limpopo are on tract in Ward 6, Moutse West and Ward 13. Two contractors are busy with sport centres at Wards 8 and 10, while the storm water



Mr. Makoko Lekola
Editor - The Voice

challenges in Marble Hall Extension⁶ will be the things of the past as the contractor is finalising the installation of the storm water facility in the area.

Once again, Auditor General is in the house auditing the municipality' systems, processes, procedures and its finances. We are all optimistic that the audit result will be positive once comes the end of November 2018.

The sad news is that the municipality has experienced the high staff turnover at management levels. Former Manager Planning, Katleho Shongwe joined Fetakgomo-Tubatse Local Municipality, ICT Manager Matome Lemekoane joined the private sector and Legal Manager is also leaving as he will be serving his article as Advocate within the high court. The municipality wants to thank every one of them for their contributions in making a better life to our communities and wish them all the best in their new endeavours.

Hasta- la-vista

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MUNICIPAL MANAGER'S CORNER: Stability and service delivery our focus



Ms. Monica Mathebela
Municipal Manager

Ephraim Mogale Local municipality entered the new financial year, being the most stable municipality both politically and administratively. Politically during the past financial year, the municipality has never failed to make a quorum during any of its sitting, either Executive Committee or Council sitting. The two political structures took decisions, monitor and play oversight role on the implementation of those decision on daily basis. Politically, the municipality despite having different approaches based on different political views, has never failed to make a progressive decision.

As the municipality starts its new financial year, the focus is on two important things, that is; preparations for the upcoming audit by Auditor General and improve on the delivery of quality services to the communities. Since the last financial audit whereby the municipality

received an improved audit opinion; from disclaimer to qualified, the municipality has implemented nearly all the Auditor General findings, including those which were addressed during the preparation of the Annual Financial Statement (AFS). The municipality has meet the deadline of submitted the AFS to Provincial Treasury, Auditor General Office and COGHSTA on time and the AFS and ready for the next audit. This make everyone to feel optimistic of the audit result as all the good foundation has been laid.

The municipality is on track in contributing towards improving the lives of the communities. All the newly infrastructural internal roads budgeted and underconstruction are completed, despite being multiyear projects. The municipality accelerated the completion of the construction of Dichoeueng, Ngwalemong and Letebejane-Ditholong internal roads will



be handed over during the second quarter of the financial year. There are two roads constructed and financed by Road Agency Limpopo (RAL), as part of commitment to intergovernmental relations. Those are Tshikanoshi- Rathoke Road in Moutse West and Arabie – Mooemane –Phokwane Road in Ward 13.

There is also progress in the construction of the two sport centres; the municipality's own financed sports centre in Maphokgo- Ward 10 and the one in Leeuwfontein ward 8; financed by Limpopo Department of Sports, Art and Culture. These facilities will contribute to youth development and economic spinoffs for the residents of Ephraim Mogale municipality. During the State of the Municipality Address (SOMA), the Honourable Mayor, Councillor Kupa alluded to the fact that over 500 households will be electrified. Eskom contractors are already on sites in Matlerekeng – Ward 4, Matlala-Ramoshebo –Ward 5 and Leeufontein in Ward 8. The municipality is looking forward for electrification of other village extensions as announced during the State of the Municipality Address.

Lastly, the municipality has appointed

incumbents in different critical positions needful for service delivery; Deputy CFO, manager assets, PMU manager, and the newly appointed Audit Committee to strengthen and enhance oversight role. The municipality is finalising the filling of the positions of the Director Infrastructure and Technical services, and Director planning and economic development. .

While the municipality is building administrative capacity to accelerate the delivery of services to the communities, the municipality has experienced few resignations during the last two quarters which has a negative effect on service delivery to our communities. This includes the Manager for Planning and Economic Development, two Technicians in Project Management Unit, Legal Manager, Information and Communication Manager and the Chief Internal Audit. This is due to the low salary scales of the staff members of the municipality which causes the municipality to lose committed staff members, competencies and scares skills at a critical time when the minister of Local Government is concerned and addressing the issue of capacity in local government in order to fulfil its constitutional obligations.

Service Delivery on the roll – an update



Road Infrastructure

The Infrastructure Service Delivery has reached a peak as one of the three multi-year internal roads of Dichoeung is completed. The two others of Letebejane- Ditholong and Ngwalemong will be completed and handover to the municipality within the next quarter. The municipality has already advertised the new project of Mashemong- Mooihoek and at any time the process of appointing the contractor will be completed.

Two other roads developed by Road Agency Limpopo are unfolding in Ward 6, Tshikanoshi, Moutse West and Arabie-Mogaladi-Moomane-Phokwane Road in Ward 13.

Sports Complex

Two contractors are busy with sport centres at Wards 8, Leeuwfontein and Mamphokgo Village, Ward 10. Both projects are at 50% in progress.

Storm Water

The storm water challenges in Marble Hall Extension 6 will be the things of the past as the contractor is finalising the installation of the storm water facility in the area. So far progress is at 90% and the delay was caused by court case between the municipality and one of the house owner.

Electricity

In her State of the Municipality Address (SOMA), Her Worship Honourable Mayor Cllr





Kupa promised that 500 households in village extensions will be electrified during the 2018/2019 financial year. This was based on the electrification allocation made by Eskom in its budget allocation. During the first quarter of the municipality financial year, Eskom contractors are on-site already electrifying Matlerekeng Village Extension in Ward 4 and Leeuwfontein in Ward 8. In Ward 5, Matlala-Ramoshebo village, contract will be starting

soon as materials are already being delivered.

The electrification program will continue as promised. At the same time the municipality is requesting that Ward Committees, Ward Councillors and Community Development Workers (CDW) continue collecting data for new electrification for the coming financial year.



Crime awareness Campaign on vulnerable groups



The MEC of Security and Liaison Honorable Makoma Makhurupetje in partnership with Department of Justice and Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality hosted a crime awareness campaign at Manapjane, Ward 09 on the 31 August 2018.

The purpose of the campaign was to create awareness of the challenges of children and women abuse facing the country at large. The MEC also indicated that they are receiving alarming reports on the number of the violence against vulnerable groups such as children, women, and people living with disabilities in the area and the Department has seen that there was a need to create awareness. This was also part of the celebration of the Women month.

Both the MEC and Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality Mayor, Honourable Bella Kupa reiterated the importance of reporting abuse

cases to the law enforcement.



The country is faced with the challenges of abuse to the children, women, and people living with disabilities. It is important that as communities we all commit ourselves to tackle the challenges head-on. It is important that "REAL MEN cannot abuse vulnerable groups such as children, women, and people living with disabilities that include those who live with Albinism. The municipality encourages communities to report all forms of abuses to the law enforcement, meaning the police and health professionals such as Social Workers.

Moving health closer to the people



The commitment by the government in providing primary healthcare facilities closer to the people bears fruits to the community of Vlakplaas, Malebitsa in Ward 1 of the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality.

This happened on the 17th September 2018, when the Member of the Executive Committee (MEC) of Health Dr Phophi Ramathuba officially opened the Vlakplaas Clinic. The MEC handed-over the clinic to the community of Ward 1, represented by Mayor of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, the Honorable Cllr. C Kupa who was flanked by Ward Councilor Kekana.

When handing over the clinic, the MEC Ramathuba humbly requested the community to ensure that there is no vandalization to the clinic. She warned the community that should they allow the criminals to vandalize their health service centre, they will be denying themselves the

opportunity to access the health services it is aimed at rendering to them. "We have seen communities in other provinces and municipalities who vandalized their health facilities during protests and later when they could not access the services, they rejected their actions and it was too late", MEC concluded.



In her speech, Hon. Mayor Kupa welcomed the Limpopo Provincial Health Department, Specifically, the MEC Ramathuba in bringing the health services closer to the people. Hon Mayor promised to keep the facilities protected and is a milestone to the people of Vlakplaas.

The building of this clinic came after having realized that the community of Malebitsa did not have access to free health services nearby, and had to travel for a long distance to access the health facilities. In response to this challenge, the Limpopo Department of Health has built the state-of-the-art clinic with four consulting rooms, emergency room and maternity room.

MDR (MULTI-DRUG Resistant) Ward opening at Matlala Hospital



The Matlala Hospital received a facelift when the Member of the Limpopo Executive Committee (MEC) of Health Dr Phophi Ramathuba opened the newly built Multi-Drug Resistant (MDR) Ward on the 11 September 2018. The hospital was among the others within the province which were identified to provide the services in fighting the MDR, mostly around the Tuberculosis (TB) which was a serious threat to the community of Limpopo. This ward is the first of its kind within the Sekhukhune District, and the second after the building and opening of one of this nature at the Modimolle Hospital in Waterburg

District.

The building of this kind of wards within the provinces came after the outbreak and threat of the drug-resistant TB disease. Community members and staff at the hospital welcomed the MEC with warm hands and recommitted themselves to looking after this infrastructure.

The MEC also opened health support center which offers dental, radiography and physiotherapy. She also thanked Matlala Hospital staff for the good work and services



they are providing to the community as this is reflected in the reduction of complaints the MEC office received from the communities. The staff also promised and committed themselves to the MEC that they will continue providing the excellent health

services to community members.

The MEC of health was accompanied by the MEC of Budget and Treasury, Honorable Rob Tooley and Acting Mayor of the Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, Hon Cllr Lentsoane.



Taking Service to the Community, through Batho Pele



The Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality led by its Mayor, Honourable Councillor Ramadimetsa Bella Kupa, held its Batho Pele day at Spitspunt, Ward 3. On the 27 September 2018. This was part of the municipality commitment in promoting the principles of Batho Pele, specifically the commitment to the People First and Access to information by communities. This was a follow-up to the Limpopo Provincial Government Batho Pele Day at Taaibosch, Maleboho on 22 March 2017, led by Premier Chupu Mathabatha.

During the event at Spitspunt, Ward 3 Moutse West, The honourable Mayor in her opening speech highlighted the importance of information sharing and that it is up to the community members to visit the different stalls to access the necessary information and

assistance from the different stakeholders present. Hon. Mayor expressed the vitality of participating in voting registration and verification with IEC for the upcoming 2019 National Elections.

Community members were invited to the event as part of commitment to access the information. Various government sector departments that included SASSA, SAPS, Department of justice and CD, Independent Electoral Commission, GCIS, COGHSTA, NYDA, Department of Water and Sanitation, Department of Home Affairs on the applications, and Department of Social Development providing information and services on the spot. This include SASSA registering beneficiaries and IEC registering the residential addresses of community members as provided in the Electoral Act.,

Private sector was not left behind as Banks such as Standard Bank provided information and opened accounts for community members.

The Municipality also provided services such as proof of residence letters which assist in the opening of banking accounts and applications for SASSA grants. Information on

youth development and special programmes, the Indigents registrations and the central supplier database for Small, Medium Enterprises (SMEs) was also provided to the community members.





EIGHT BATHO PELE PRINCIPLES TO KICKSTART THE TRANSFORMATION OF SERVICE DELIVERY

The Public Service will put the following "People first" principles into practice without delay. And we will step up implementation to arrive at acceptable service levels and quality as soon as possible.



<p>CONSULTATION</p> <p>You can tell us what you want from us.</p> <p>You will be asked for your views on existing public services and may also tell us what new basic services you would like. All levels of society will be consulted and your feelings will be conveyed to Ministers, MECs and legislators.</p> <p>THE PRINCIPLE: You should be consulted about the level and quality of the public services you receive and, where possible, should be given a choice about the services that are offered.</p> 	<p>1</p> <p>SERVICE STANDARDS</p> <p>Insist that our promises are kept.</p> <p>All national and provincial government departments will be required to publish service standards for existing and new services. Standards may not be lowered! They will be monitored at least once a year and be raised progressively.</p> <p>THE PRINCIPLE: You should be told what level and quality of public services you will receive so that you are aware of what to expect.</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>ACCESS</p> <p>One and all should get their fair share.</p> <p>Departments will have to set targets for extending access to public servants and public services. They should implement special programmes for improved service delivery to physically, socially and culturally disadvantaged persons.</p> <p>THE PRINCIPLE: You and all citizens should have equal access to the services to which you are entitled.</p> 	<p>3</p> <p>COURTESY</p> <p>Don't accept insensitive treatment.</p> <p>All departments must set standards for the treatment of the public and incorporate these into their Codes of Conduct, values and training programmes. Staff performance will be regularly monitored, and discourtesy will not be tolerated.</p> <p>THE PRINCIPLE: You should be treated with courtesy and consideration.</p> 
<p>4</p> <p>INFORMATION</p> <p>You're entitled to full particulars.</p> <p>You will get full, accurate and up-to-date facts about services you are entitled to. Information should be provided at service points and in local media and languages. Contact numbers and names should appear in all departmental communications.</p> <p>THE PRINCIPLE: You should be given full, accurate information about the public services you are entitled to receive.</p> 	<p>5</p> <p>OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY</p> <p>Administration must be an open book.</p> <p>You'll have the right to know. Departmental staff members, particulars of service officers, expenditure and performance against standards will not be secret. Reports to citizens will be widely published and submitted to legislatures.</p> <p>THE PRINCIPLE: You should be told how national and provincial departments are run, how much they cost, and who is in charge.</p> 	<p>6</p> <p>REDRESS</p> <p>Your complaints must spark positive action.</p> <p>Mechanisms for receiving any public dissatisfaction will be established and all staff will be trained to handle your complaints fast and efficiently. You will receive regular feedback on the outcomes.</p> <p>THE PRINCIPLE: If the promised standard of service is not delivered, you should be offered an apology, a full explanation and a speedy and effective remedy. When complaints are made, you should receive a sympathetic, positive response.</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>VALUE FOR MONEY</p> <p>Your money should be employed wisely.</p> <p>You pay income, VAT and other taxes to finance the administration of the country. You have the right to insist that your money should be used properly. Departments owe you proof that efficiency savings and improved service delivery are on the agenda.</p> <p>THE PRINCIPLE: Public services should be provided economically and efficiently in order to give you the best possible value for money.</p> 

SCENE AROUND

LENS VIEW OF EPHRAIM MOGALE



Hon Mayor Cllr Bella Kupa celebrated her birthday with the aged in Ward 14.



Cllr Rebecca Lentsoane distributed Sanitary Towels at Ngwanakwena Secondary School as part of her birthday celebration



Cllr Rebecca Lentsoane celebrated her birthday with Early Child Centre in Ward 09



Cllr Hudson Mashoeshe celebrated his birthday with young children at Rakgoadi Drop-In Centre Ward 11

SCENE AROUND

LENS VIEW OF EPHRAIM MOGALE



Cllr Hudson Mashoeshe celebrated his birthday with young children at Rakgoadi Drop-In Centre Ward 11



Municipal Manager Monica Mathebela led a team of municipal officials by cleaning Budget & Treasury, Infrastructure and Planning & Local Development Building as part of celebrating Mandela day and their contribution of 67 mitures



Community of Mmakgatle during Public Participation

Vision
"Agricultural Hub of choice"

Mission
"To involve the community in the economic,
environment and social development for
sustainable service delivery"

Values
Communication
Transparency
Accountability
Teamwork

VALUES

Communication

Everybody is empowered within the whole community

Commitment

Focus and concentrate on council's core activities in a consistent manner

Transparency

Conduct council's business in a fair, responsible, flexible, equitable and honest manner

Accountability

Report regularly to all stakeholders regarding council's actual performance

Teamwork

In all aspects of conducting ourselves and our mandate, we will focus on service excellence



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