

Nephraim Mogale News

Official NEWSLETTER of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality



May - July 2011 Edition

Our New Council
READY
to ride
the monumental
service delivery challenges

**Time
to Stand
and Deliver**

**Warm
Welcome**

Newly Elected: EMLM Mayor
Mmakola Mashimole Yvonne



Re hlabollla Setshaba



Together building better communities



Re hlabollla Setshaba

EDITORIAL

Time to stand and Deliver

The municipal elections have come and gone, and we've witnessed that the majority of our people lined up on the 18th of May to cast their vote in a view to strengthen our democracy and of course, they gave us a fresh political mandate.

SALGA in Limpopo has lined up induction workshops in the entire districts of the province started on the 27 of June and finished on 16 July with Sekhukhune District. The Council Induction Programme (CIP) is aimed at equipping and capacitating councillors to broadly understand their

executive council and also to swear all new councillors.

The swearing happened at the Municipal Chamber where all newly elected councillors from both the ruling party, ANC, Cope, DA, Mpumalanga Party and Independent Councillors gathered to take their oaths before the Magistrate Van Der Walldt and the community members.

The sitting used the opportunity to elect who should serve as the municipal mayor, the speaker, chief whip, the executive council and delegates of councillors to serve in the Sekhukhune District Municipal Council for the term 2011 - 2015 financial period.

The council elected Cllr Mmakola Yvonne to take the Municipal Mayoral seat, and Cllr Klaas Kekana was sworn in as municipal speaker while Cllr Frank Ratau took the chief whip position.

In this edition we found it necessary to introduce you to all our newly councillors, and featured the launching ceremony of Agricultural Farming Project aiming at creating more job opportunities. We also inclosed the summary of key aspects of our Budget 2011/12 and the official opening of Mokgwaneng Community hall, to list just few.

As I pause, I want to assure the people of Ephraim Mogale Municipality that we will continue to improve the living conditions of our people to better and that our newly elected crop of



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Mayor opens Mokgwaneng Community Hall

People must have access and it has been upgraded for them to utilize it beneficially for future community meetings, sporting, arts and cultural activities!

Moutse West, MOKGWANENG VILLAGE: The right environment in which to practice, hold community meetings, stage events, recreational activities and play on, brings the best out of people.

These words were said by the Mayor of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, Cllr Mmakola Yvonne during the official opening of Mokgwaneng Community Hall recently.

The hall has been revamped in order to afford Mokgwaneng residents to have the state of the art infrastructure where community meetings, events and youth musical and competitions can be held in an atmosphere that is conducive.

The hall now boast a recreational area, two office rooms, stage, tiled floor, ceiling, toilets and fence. The happy and proudly Mayor handed in the keys to the local Kgoshi and requested him to take care of the building and further pleaded with the community to take ownership of the hall and guard against any vandalism.

She indicated that the hall was not part of their current IDP priority project, but that she wanted to keep up her promise she made the last time she held a meeting at the same hall during the previous IDP consultative forum where she made a commitment that the next time she come back the hall should look better and fit for the purpose.

Mayor called upon the residents to double their participation in sport and recreational activities through the facility and the rewards will be multi-fold for health, talent reasons and the decay of moral standards and discipline reasons, "soon the social ills of alcohol and drug abuse, crime and teenage pregnancy will gradually fade away," she added.

She further said gone is the era of provision of facilities to only a privileged few but that empowering rural artist with the eye on discovering and developing new talent is the way to go. She remarked while pointing the pivotal musical performances by the local artist Bra Lucky and Tumi Tumi sharing the stage and left the audience calling for some more renditions.



Ward Councilor thank the Mayor after unveiling the plaque during the official opening of Mokgwaneng Community Hall



Young and old outside the newly revamped Mokgwaneng Community Hall during the official opening



So help me God! Mayor Elect, Cllr Mmakola Yvonne taking her oath before the Magistrate Van Der Waldt during the 1st council sitting

Our new Council **READY** to ride the monumental service delivery challenges

Marble Hall - A large contingent members of the public from in and around Ephraim Mogale Municipality and Sekhukhune District came to witness the eagerly awaited swearing in of the newly appointed Councillors during the 1st council sitting held on the 2nd June 2011 at Municipal Chamber.

Cllr Mmakola Yvonne was unopposedly elected as the Mayor of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality and wasted no time in committing her newly assembled crop of councillors to deliver on the promises made prior to the Local Government Elections polls.

"As we speak, joblessness, growing poverty and service delivery backlogs are staring us in the face," she said, but

however she told those attending to rest assured because her team is ready to ride the monumental service delivery challenges in their quest to provide better and improved services to the communities.

The Mayor also urged all councillors to attend all the council scheduled meetings and thanked them for the confidence they have shown in her.

"I hope that with your support, we will be able to run (council) meetings effectively. I also hope that we will be able to provide the much needed services to the people we serve," urged the Mayor.

The newly Mayor, Yvonne did not hesitate cracking the whip after she was sworn in as the Mayor and reminded councillors about their roles and

responsibilities and what is expected of them in their portfolios and urged them to assume their duties with immediate effect.

She also used to opportunity to congratulate the newly elected Municipal Speaker Cllr Klaas Kekana and the Chief Whip Cllr Frank Ratau.

The Democratic Alliance, Congress of the people, Mpumalanga Party and Independent Councilor congratulated Yvonne and committed their support to contribute towards the improvement for the residents' lives.

All Councillors including the Mayor elect, speaker and chief whip signed their statement of oath in front of the Magistrate HP Van Der



Councillors welcoming the Mayor!

More than **500** job opportunities through Organic Farming Development Projects

The Mayor of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality, Cllr Mashimole Yvonne Mmakola launched the organic farming project on the 07th April at Dichoeung Tribal Office in the presence of various emerging farmers, commercial farmers, primary agricultural cooperatives, Magoshi, DTI representatives, SS Ntike Consulting delegations, youth and communities at large.

Speaking at the launch, the Mayor told those present that we all recognize that the current unemployment and poverty levels threaten our social cohesion and the very existence of our democracy. We need to boldly respond to these developmental challenges.

She said it is for these reason that her municipality partnered with the Department of Trade and Industry and SS Ntike Consulting to provide skills transfer to 15 organic farming cooperatives over three year period and supply them with the necessary tools and equipment needed. The DTI granted funding amounting to R25 040 000 to the municipality for this project payable over three years.

According to the Mayor, the

overarching objective of the project is to contribute to organic farming opportunities in the marginalized rural communities in order to reduce poverty and unemployment. "The specific objective is to introduce 15 organic farm businesses to be trained and also link the

with seedlings and compost".

She went further by saying the project will be able to provide more than 400 sustainable jobs and also impact on the livelihood of at least 3400 people. Currently four cooperatives have so far been successfully assessed, namely: Dichoeung (Magarola Agricultural Co-op), Phetwane (Phakamaseme Agricultural Co-op), Elands kraal (Moeparesomo Organic Farmers Co-op) and Toitskraal (Project Incubation Centre). These projects apparently created employment to 96 community members in composting, installation of boreholes with reservoirs and fencing.

"One of the most important developmental opportunities, interventions, key features and issues identified in the LED strategy is that soil and weather conditions in the municipality are favourable for increased agricultural production and that the level of

production technologies, especially pertaining to emerging farmers, need to be

addressed". Mayor said, the overarching objective of the project is to contribute to organic farming opportunities in the marginalized rural communities in order to reduce poverty and unemployment. Mayor says



emerging farmers to the commercial farmers with secured market. An organic farmer will employ 15 employees per hector while nursery and compost manufacturing plant will supply more than 15 farmers

Ephraim Mogale Municipal PR & Executive Council



Mayor
Cllr Mmakola Mashimole Yvonne



Speaker
Cllr Kekana KN



Chief Whip
Cllr Ratau MF



PR & Exco
Cllr Seono MR



PR & Exco
Cllr Monyamane Eliah



PR & Exco
Cllr Mphahlele LJ



PR & Exco
Cllr Mabaso Welhemina



PR & Exco
Cllr Maibelo Frank



PR
Cllr Mamogobo Sinah
Coldliver



PR
Cllr Shalang Lesolo
Jack



PR
Cllr Selamolela Maria
Khomotso



PR
Cllr Nchabeleng Maputle
John



PR
Cllr Mohlobogwane Sadi
Tabea



PR
Cllr Motsepe James
Shopeng



PR
Cllr Esson Bruce
Arther



PR
Cllr Modisha Lorrain
Bushy



PR
Cllr Phetadi Magalane
Gladys



Ward Councilors



Ward 1
Cllr Bokaba HSM



Ward 2
Cllr Kekana MM



Ward 3
Cllr Ranoto P



Ward 4
Cllr Sebothoma OE



Ward 5
Cllr Matlala MF



Ward 6
Cllr Tshiguvhu EM



Ward 7
Cllr Mphahlele LJ



Ward 8
Cllr Makanyane GN



Ward 9
Cllr Ndobeni NR



Ward 10
Cllr Morwaswi ME



Ward 11
Cllr Seoka Kgwawane



Ward 12
Cllr Phala MG



Ward 13
Cllr Mashego BG



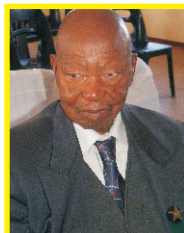
Ward 14
Cllr Chauke MS



Ward 15
Cllr Bogopa JH



Ward 16
Cllr Sehlola ET



Kgoshi Matlala MM
Mohlalaoetwane Village



Kgoshi Kekana KK
Rathokwe Village



Kgoshi Matlala LM
Dicheoeng Village



Kgoshigadi Rahlagane MP
Moganyaka



Kgoshi Mashung J
Matlala Ramoshebo



Ephraim Mogale
Local Municipality

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Environmental Education: Empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development

Ephraim Mogale, Dichoeung Village: The Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism in Limpopo, Agriculture and Forestry held the world environment day workshop for the Sekhukhune District on the 23rd June attended by more than five hundred people, including Magoshi, Municipal Representatives, Youth, local high school learners to commemorate the World Environmental Day.

The workshop draws the worldwide attention on the importance of environment under the theme, "Save Tomorrow Today"

Speaking at the workshop Mr Mphahlele RM, from Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism said the purpose of the workshop was to stimulate political attention and action, to give human face to environmental issues, but also we wanted to empower people to become active agents of sustainable and equitable development.

His words was echoed by Mr Frank Ratua speaking on behalf of the Executive Mayor by saying this event

promote an understanding that communities are central to changing attitudes towards environmental issues and advocating of partnerships to ensure that people enjoy a safer and more prosperous future.

Ratau emphasized the importance of sustainable development by reminding residents about their responsibility to take care of the environment.

On the other hand the host Kgoshi Matlala Lehwelere Mokgoma thanked both the Municipality and the Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism for providing the much needed information to the residents of Dicheoung about the danger of not caring for their environment. "This area is characterized by pollution, veld fire and people continue to resort to the wood as a means of cooking," and urged them to preserve nature for the coming generations by saving today for tomorrow.

To save tomorrow today - do the following:

. Use solar energy instead of electricity because burning of coal causes air pollution



WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY: 5 JUNE
SAVE TOMORROW, TODAY





“The outgoing council laid a solid foundation”
says the Mayor Mmakola Yvonne during her SODA 2011

Puleng: The Mayor of Ephraim Mogale Local Municipality in Sekhukhune District is singing praises of the outgoing council for what she calls, “hard work, commitment and endurance” over its five year term, “Their achievement has laid the foundation necessary for the coming council to take service delivery to the next level going forward.” she said

She was speaking during her State of the Municipal Address (SODA) and budget speech 2011/12 event held at Puleng Village, attended by people from all breadth and length of the municipality to hear what the municipality will do for them this financial year.

“I sincerely applaud your joint efforts over the past five years for steering the service delivery ship to where it is today. The incoming council will surely work from a solid foundation laid by you.” she appreciates.

The Mayor also used the opportunity to table the 2011/12 Budget to the residents and it was warmly welcomed by all. She indicated that her municipality has grown over the past five years and therefore it has been delaminated from 14 to 16 Wards which resulted in the increase of councilors from 27 to 32 in number. “We hope that this new delimitations will enhance the

ability of the council and its councillors to best interact with the communities.

She went further by saying at the epicenter of the ruling party’s agenda is the issue of job creation and that the President Jacob Zuma declared commitment to address the problem of unemployment through practical measures in the year, therefore 2011 will be the year of job creation through meaningful economic

We need an economy that **CREATES more jobs, Decent work and sustainable livelihoods**

transformation and inclusive growth.

We have introduced a New Growth Path that will guide our work in achieving these goals, working within the premise that the creation of decent work is the centre of our economic policies. We urge every sector and every business entity, regardless of size, to focus on job creation, every contributions count in this national effort..

We have aligned our programmes with the job creation imperative and we have signed a contract with the Minister of EPWP (Expanded Public works Programme) to create 227 jobs this year and we have already created 164 employment.

With the launch of the Organic Farming Project we aim at creating more than 500 jobs. This farming project receives funding capital from the DTI to the tune of R25 allocated over three year period. To this end the project have employed 95 people from the 15 participating agricultural co-operatives. “In addition we have received R4.2m from the EU (European Union) to strengthen our Local Economic Development (LED) strategy.” added the Mayor

The Mayor reported that the past five years, about 77% of the Capital Budget was spend in the roads construction in the villages such as Leeufontein, Elandskraal, Regae and Rathoke because they were identified as part of the municipal growth points.

“The provincial government in partnership with the



2011/12 Budget Allocations

Total revenue of R151, 976, 259.51

Tariff increases are reflected below:

Service	% tariff increase
Property rates	6%
Electricity	Average 19%
Refuse removal	6%
Sundry	15%

Sources of own revenue:

Description	Budget 2011/12
Property rates	R11 785 819.92
Service charges	R34 499 955.74
Government grants	R84 352 150.00
Other revenue	R21 338 333.85
Total Revenue	R151 976 259.51

Operating Expenditure budget:

Description	Budget 2011/12
Employee related costs	R42 028 411.48
Councilor Remuneration	R8 398 830.53
General Expenses	R64 282 158.89
Repairs & Maintenance	R8 507 192.46
Total	R123 216 593.36

MIG Funded Projects:

Project Description	Budget
Building of bridge: Mathukuthela	R2 673 874
Building of bridge: Monotolaneng	R2 765 700
Klopper Community Hall	R3 500 000
Moganyaka access road	R1 764 000
Malibitsa internal road	R1 176 000
Marble Hall storm water phase 2	R4 000 000
Vaalbank access road	R588 000
Total MIG Funded	R16 467 574

Internally funded projects below:

Project Description	Budget
Corporate Services	
Furniture and Equipment	R800 000
Community Services	
Guard house	R150 000
Machinery and equipment	R400 000
Expansion of services	R250 000
Upgrading of hawker stalls	R350 000
Greening project	R330 000
Extension of Cemetery	R1000 000
Total Community Services	R2 480 000
Technical Services	
Project Description	Budget
Remote metering	R200 000
Extension of offices	R880 000
Rehabilitation of admin block	R600 000
Rehabilitation of municipal hall	R400 000
N11 road	R300 000
Fencing of Zamenkomst thosung centre	R300 000
Rehabilitation of Moganyaka and Leeufontien halls	R200 000
Internal portion: Moganyaka access road	R3 282 091.65
Obaro road upgrading	R2 000 000
Matlala Ramoshebo Tribal Hall	R300 000
Total internally funded	R11 742 092

We trust that the new council, noting that this IDP Budget 2011/12 is a widely consulted budget, and will hit the ground running in terms of implementation thereof.

I thank you

EMLM Mayor

Cllr Mmakola Yvonne

Speaker's Profile

Our New Speaker Elect, Hon Kekana KN

a man of substance,
effective communicator,
a visionary LEADER of our times!

K EKANA: Having born and bred in Roedtan, Malebitsa, this man of substance is now the Newly Elected EMLM Speaker who took the baton from Cllr AC Tsiane who laid the rocky foundation for Kekana to take the municipality to the greater heights.

Many people are familiar with this son of soil but for those who might have some doubts in his leadership will do so at their own peril because Kekana is not new in politics, administration and management. He is one of the men who struggled, sacrificed, climbed mountains and walked passed challenges in his vigor to deliver better life for all.

Kekana is a qualified teacher and successfully completed NQF Lev 5 Course in Local Government with University of Johannesburg. Before he became a Speaker of EMLM, he was employed at the PR Councilor with Sekhukhune District Municipality from the year 2000 till 2011. He has knowledge and experience in local government systems and legislation governing the Local Government Sphere.

He played a important role in shaping and

contributed positively to the municipal growth and help the municipality to achieve its set objectives and target over the past years.

He joined the ANC during his teen years and participated in the liberation struggle to attain the freedom we now cherish. He served as Councilor in 1995 in the (TLC) Highveld district today called Ekangala District.



From 1986 to early 90s he was a teacher at Matabane Primary School and he led the ANC Zenane Branch as the Secretary and head the Malebitsa Branch as a Chairperson, the portfolio he still hold.

This ever ready Speaker committed himself to the Council and is prepared to leave no stone unturned in ensuring that poverty becomes things of the past in the communities, "I will therefore provide political leadership and ensure that this municipality live to its vision and mission to fast track service delivery to all our people." he said

He thanked those who bestowed their trust in him to chair and lead the current crop of councillors, "I feel honoured and great full to act in my capacity given to me and that I will stop at nothing to ensure that job creation remains the target of our strategic effort

