

STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY REACTS TO THE SHOOTING INCIDENTS WHICH TOOK PLACE AT THE MUNICIPAL HEAD QUARTERS IN MIDDELBURG

Thursday, August 18, 2022

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality in Middelburg, Mpumalanga province, has learnt with shock the disturbing shooting incidents which took place at the municipal premises, on Wednesday, 17 August 2022 around 17:00 in the evening. The incident happened after a group of people who forcefully made their way into the municipal premises by removing the gate of the main entrance and started attacking the security personnel by throwing unidentified objects, fist fighting and discharging of a firearm towards the security personnel.

The security personnel retreated to the guard house while using rubber bullets, then later resorted to the usage of live ammunition in self-defense in response to the live ammunition used by the group people who forcefully entered the municipal premises after official working hours.

The incident led to the fatal shooting of some of these group of men who were violently attacking the security personnel, and we have learnt with sadness that the incident led to a loss of life, and out of our own internal investigation the municipality learnt that some of the people who were involved are municipal employees and others are not municipal employees.

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality conveys its heartfelt and sincere condolences to the deceased family, and we wish those who have sustained injuries a speedy recovery, the municipality will send a delegation to the deceased to formally convey our condolences.

We must put it on record that the municipality does not condone any acts of violence used as a means to resolve any labour dispute including the damage to property and municipal infrastructure which is meant for the delivery of services.

Members of the community must take note that, the municipality remains unwaveringly committed to amicably resolve any labour dispute through the established and existing municipal legislative structures, as a result we urge municipal employees to return to work so that the municipality continues to provide quality services to the residents of STLM.

The municipality wishes to apologize to members of the community for the disruption of services, as a result of the continuing unprotected strike and we want

to reaffirm our commitment of providing quality services to the residents, we further commit to put in place corrective measures to restore services to the residents.

It is in this context, that the municipality has taken a decision to convene a press briefing on Friday, 19 August 2022 to give a detailed account on the sequence of events which led to the unprotected strike and later the unfortunate fatal shooting which led to the loss of life.

Statement issued by:

Office of the Municipal Manager