



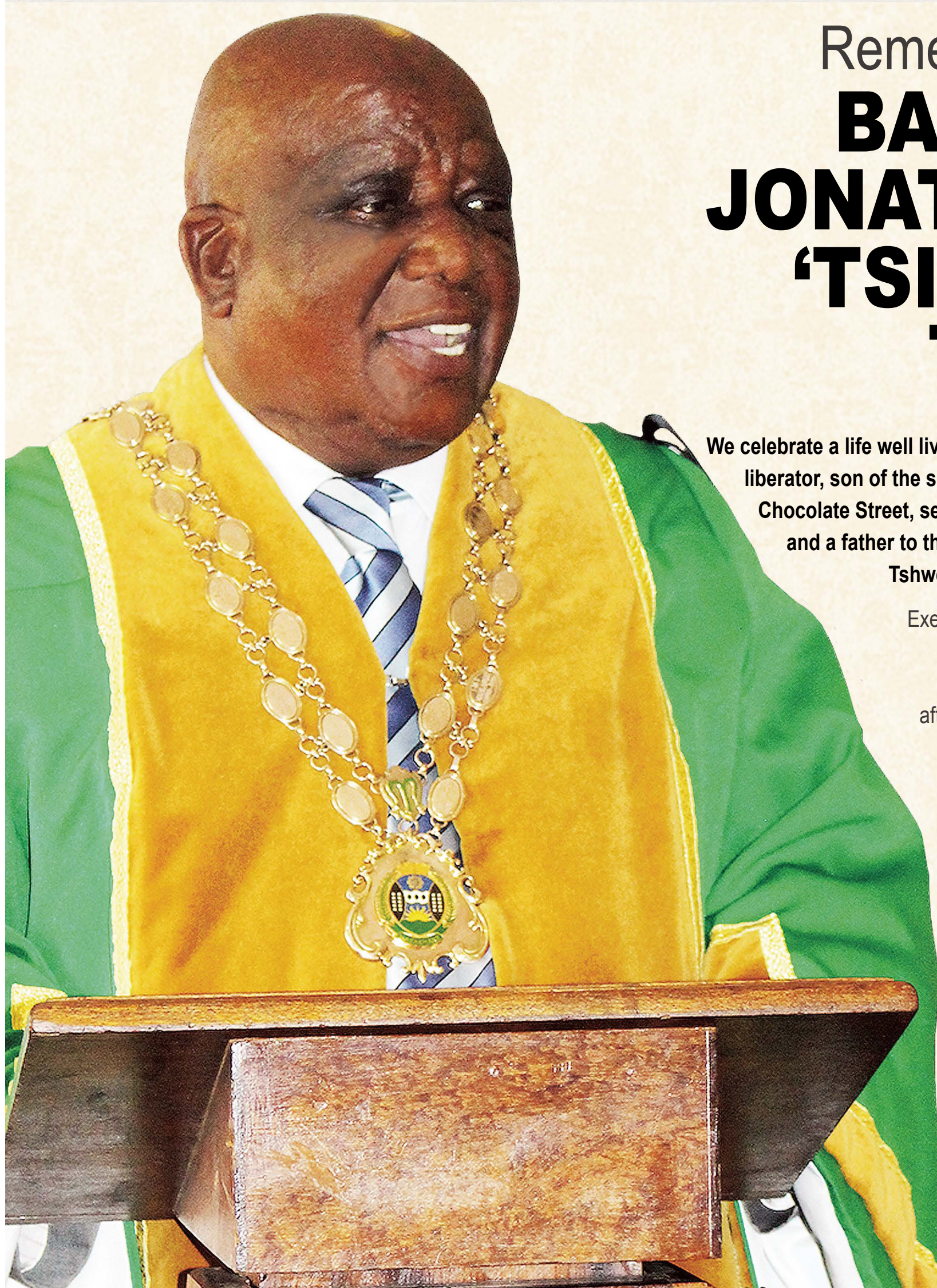
Steve Tshwete
Local Municipality

Masakhane

2020 / 2021 EDITION

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Remembering **BAGUDI JONATHAN 'TSIETSI' TOLO**

We celebrate a life well lived, apartheid agitator, liberator, son of the soil, from Parliament to Chocolate Street, serving with distinction, and a father to the community of Steve Tshwete Local Municipality.

Executive Mayor Tolo sadly passed away on 2 February 2021, after contracting Covid-19 while in public service.

This edition of Masakhane is dedicated in fond remembrance to Mayor Tolo's selfless service to better the lives of our communities.

Mayor Tolo's voice of reason across political spectrums is silent but never forgotten.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS WEDNESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2021



This will be the sixth time under South Africa's democratic dispensation that voters will elect leadership and public representatives at Metropolitan, District and Local level.

Cllr Diphala Motsepe, Executive Mayor, urges eligible and especially first-time voters to ensure that they are registered to participate in the elections which provide the basis for development and service delivery closest to where they live.

WHO CAN REGISTER?

You must:

- Be a South African citizen.
- Be at least 16 years old. You can only vote from age 18.
- Have a green, bar-coded ID book; smartcard ID; or valid Temporary Identity Certificate (TIC).

WHAT DOCUMENTS DO I NEED TO APPLY FOR REGISTRATION?

By law, you must apply in person. No on-line or email registrations are permitted.

Please bring your:

- Green, bar-coded ID book; smartcard ID; or valid Temporary Identity Certificate (TIC).
- No other forms of ID can be accepted. Only original documents (no copies) are accepted.

HOW DO I KNOW IF OR WHERE I AM REGISTERED?

To check your registration details, you can:

- Send an SMS with your ID number to 32810 (R1-00 per SMS).
- Download our mobile app and enter your ID number.
- Check your voter registration details.
- Check at your local IEC office during office hours.

SMS SERVICES

SMS your ID number to any of the following numbers at only R1-00 per SMS.

Registration status - 32810

My ward Councillor - 32245

Special vote application status - 32711



A few **GOOD REASONS** why you should vote



1 Because you can! You may take your right to vote and all other rights in our constitution for granted, but 25 years ago most of the people in our country were not allowed to vote. You can vote simply by presenting yourself at a voting station with your ID during a registration event that puts you on the voters' roll for life.



2 Not voting is giving up your voice. If you don't vote, someone else will make the decision for you.



3 If you don't vote you get stuck with other people's choices - and you can't even complain about it because you let it happen! Your power is in your vote.



4 Voting is an opportunity for change. If you're thinking that right now you've got better things to do with your time and you'll vote next time, think again! Five years is a long time to be stuck with something that you don't want or that doesn't work.



5 Our generation knows best. Technology and connectivity means that our generation is probably the best informed and equipped to vote in South Africa.



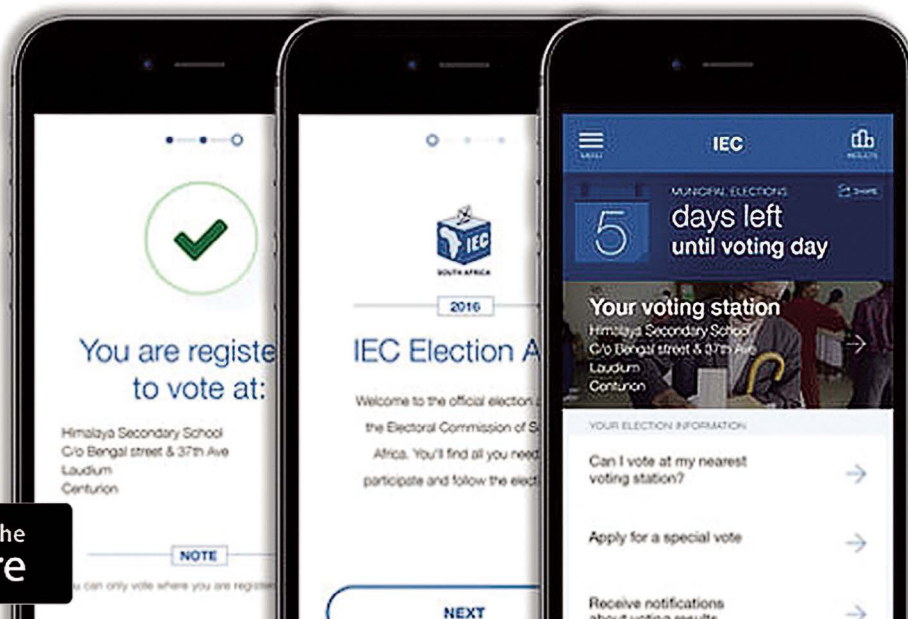
6 Social media and the internet is giving us access to information which previous generations of voters didn't have. You are becoming the experts ahead of your parents and grandparents. Use that expertise to make sure our country heads in the right direction!

How to **DOWNLOAD** your voter app

With the official app, you can check, confirm or update your address, get election results, check your registration details, and find your voting station.

You can also apply for a special vote, share key election moments, get answers to common questions and keep up to date via social media.

Download the app for your device now to stay informed on elections by following a few simple steps



<https://www.elections.org.za/pw/Voter/IEC-Mobile-App>



SPECIAL VOTE

A special vote allows a registered voter, who can't vote at their voting station on election day, to apply to vote on a predetermined day **BEFORE** election day. Alternatively, you can also apply by SMSing your ID number to

32249 R1-00 per SMS

VOTERS REGISTRATION



17-18 JULY 2021



8AM to 5PM

www.elections.org.za

VOTING AID for voters with disabilities

The Electoral Commission (IEC), together with the South African National Council for the Blind (SANCB), has developed a voting aid, the Universal Ballot Template (UBT), to assist persons with disabilities and special needs to have an independent and secret vote during elections.

WHAT IS THE UBT?

The Universal Ballot Template is a voting aid made of hard, black plastic into which a ballot paper is inserted. The template is not a Braille ballot paper.

The right front of the template has a flap which has cut-out windows numbered in Braille and in large, raised white print.

When the ballot paper is inserted into the template, each window aligns to a particular candidate or party and the voter is free to make his or her secret and independent mark accurately.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE



Steve Tshwete
Local Municipality

Masakhane

Time to celebrate



Steve Tshwete Local Municipality is proud to announce that the administration, under the leadership of Cllr Diphala Motsepe, Executive Mayor, and Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager, achieved a clean audit for the 2019/2020 financial year.

A jubilant Mayor Motsepe broke the news while engaging the public during the Municipal Budget Indaba, hosted by the Municipality on 28 April.

“Our financial statements are clean, with no findings on predetermined objectives, we are fully compliant with key local government legislation and there are no internal control deficiencies, we aimed to make the town proud, and we have achieved that goal.”

The municipality has a 20-year history of clean, transparent governance, and excellent service delivery to our ratepayers who are pivotal in the municipality’s financial buoyancy, with a payment rate of over 95%.

The enviable payment rate enables the Municipality to render the highest quality of continued service delivery to our communities, including free basic services to more than 17 000 indigent households.

From 2002 to 2008, unqualified audit opinions were expressed by the Auditor General. Ever since, with the exception of 2014/2015, a matter of emphasis was duly noted, the Municipality had achieved clean audit reports, repeated again in 2019/2020.

“I am incredibly proud of our financial prudence, which can only be maintained with dedicated political and administrative leadership,” Mayor Motsepe beamed, adding “it’s a privilege to announce that our community can sleep soundly knowing that our financial records, procedures, processes and internal controls are commendable, as per the opinion of the Auditor-General.”

The Municipality’s financial statements were fairly presented in all aspects relating to legislative frameworks like the Public Audit Act, the Municipal Finance Management Act and all other relatable legislation.

The Auditor-General also reported that there are no notable deficiencies with the Municipality’s internal controls.

“We want everyone to know that under the current political and administrative leadership, aptly headed by Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager, the Municipality’s assets are being responsibly managed, and top level services rendered.

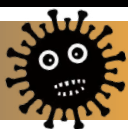
“Now let’s get back to work!” concluded Motsepe.

Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager

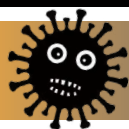
PLEASE NOTE - MUNICIPAL NEW BANKING DETAILS AS FROM 1 JULY 2021

Bank - First National Bank (FNB) • Account number - 628 7714 0740 • Branch code 210 554 • Account type - Cheque
Reference number - Municipal account number

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Remembering **BAGUDI JONATHAN 'TSIETSI' TOLO**

STLM celebrates a life well lived, a stalwart and freedom fighter, the late Mayor Bagudi Jonathan 'Tsietsi' Tolo.

Tolo passed away on 2 February 2021, aged 69, following his admission to Life Midmed hospital when suffering from a Covid-19 related illness.

He joined STLM as Executive Mayor in April 2018, deployed by the African National Congress (ANC), and served with great passion, dedication and humility until his untimely passing.

Improving people's lives through the acceleration of service delivery had

always been close to his heart. This was evident through unveiling and implementing a number of Capital and Local Economic Development (LED) projects.

His selflessness, unwavering commitment and dedication impacted many lives in the community.

When looking back on successes championed by the Municipality, Tolo's successor Cllr Diphala Motsepe, acknowledges his administration is left with a task of continuing the good work started by Tolo.

"We are prepared to continue to build confidence and trust in our people by delivering on the promises made by

Council, and we are so willing to accelerate the pace of delivery," he says.

Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager, also remembered him as a truly committed cadre.

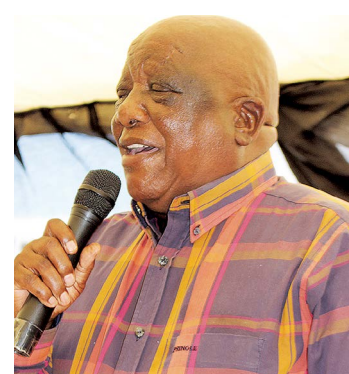
"We are devastated by his departure as he was highly active and did his utmost in pursuit of service delivery. His astuteness and vigilance will be missed dearly," Khenisa said.

The following projects were prioritised and implemented during his tenure:

- Replacement of old asbestos water pipes with Polyvinyl chloride (PVC).
- Construction of Graspan reservoirs.

- Mhluzi sub-station.
- Replacement of street lights to high mast lights.
- Township revitalisation programme.
- Refurbishment of Boskrans waste water treatment plant.
- Construction of a Middelburg taxi rank.
- Approval of a Middelburg hotel and conference centre.
- Door-to-door electrical meter survey.
- Relocation of 100 beneficiaries on serviced stands in Kwazamokuhle, Extensions 8 and 9.
- Construction of residential dwelling units (RDU) in Reabota by Department of Human Settlement.

Down **MEMORY LANE**



WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

STEVE TSHWETE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY
PAGE 5

Township **REVITALISATION** strategy launch



Steve Tshwete backyard business operators have been given an opportunity to conveniently continue doing business.

The Municipality, in partnership with three mining companies, have invested R22.2-million in a project to develop an industrial hub in Mhluzi township to boost local economy and to overcome the challenge of limited space for backyard businesses.

On 27 November, the Municipality launched Phase 1 of its Township Revitalisation Strategy at Node D in Mhluzi and handed over seven workshops for local small, micro and medium enterprises (SMMEs) owned by young people, women and people living with disabilities.

The completed Phase 1, which has officially resumed in 2021, saw three local mining companies, Anglo American Coal, in partnership with ArnotOpco and Exxaro Coal, coming to the party with a cash injection of R12.2-million for construction of the workshops.

The German company, Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), and Glencore have also partnered with Steve Tshwete.

The Municipality's role in the project was to provide basic services like roads, electricity connections and storm water drains. Adjacent to the workshops, business stands have already been sold to local businesses.

The launch included the official opening of a one-stop service centre for SMMEs

at the Adelaide Tambo Community Center in Extension 7, and the introduction of SMME Container Support Programme funded by GIZ.

It also included a sod turning ceremony to mark the beginning of Phase 2, a project that includes the building of bigger industrial warehouses sponsored by Glencore at R10-million.

This concept that was formulated in 2012 when the Municipality conducted a survey on light industrial activities taking place in townships and rural areas. The survey revealed that the activities were taking place in areas that were not zoned for business purposes.

During his address, the late Cllr Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor, said that the Municipality, in light of revitalising the economy of the township, intervened by rezoning Extension 23 for the purpose of establishing an area for light and heavy industrial activities.

“Council took a resolution to adapt a Local Economic Recovery Plan to offer assistance and support to the recovery of local businesses by putting in place relief measures,” he said.

Tolo thanked big businesses who partnered with the Municipality to ensure that the plan becomes a reality.

“We are grateful and happy that big businesses like Exxaro, Anglo American Coal SA, ArnotOpco and Glencore have come on board to help revive and revitalise our township economy, which will indeed go a long way in uplifting the lives of our citizens,” Tolo said.

He also said that the Township Revitalization Strategy was part of the Municipality's plan to reintegrate society and putting people closer to main business activities.

“The plan is to do away with old planning which was designed in a way that puts our people far away from main economic activities,” he concluded.

“As part of the South African community, we are always looking at



Katrin Ladwig from GIZ and the late Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor, officially launch the One-Stop Service Centre.



Bontle Aphane - ArnotOpco and the late Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor, cut the ribbon at one of the workshops.



Dawid Taaljaard and the late Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor, reveal a plaque at one of the workshops.

making a significant difference within our host communities. Looking at how both businesses and individuals have suffered during this difficult year, it is without a doubt that we would want to give a boost to the business community of STLM,” said Dawid Taljaard, General Manager of Anglo American owned Goedehoop

Colliery.

Mzila Mthenjane, Executive Head: Stakeholder Affairs of Exxaro Resources said his company was elated to be part of the project.

“It brings us joy and excitement to be part of initiatives such as these. That is the reason why we could not hesitate responding positively when the Municipality approached us. We always strive toward developing people in communities where we mine and around the country,” he said.

Bontle Aphane, ArnotOpco Chief Executive Officer, made a commitment to the development of local businesses.

“To ensure that this facility is sustained, we are going to commit to select some businesses to become part of our Enterprise Development Initiative to acquire much needed skills and knowledge to keep the flow in their businesses,” she said.

Glencore's Noel Pillay, Executive Head: Community Affairs, said they were ready to begin with Phase 2 of the project.

“This is part of our Social Labour Planning. We are coming in at Phase 2 of the project to accommodate larger industries within the township.

“We are hopeful to start the project possibly by the first quarter next year. We want to put this opportunity to the portal so that we give everyone access to participate..

“We want to encourage companies that are situated within Steve Tshwete to participate,” he concluded.



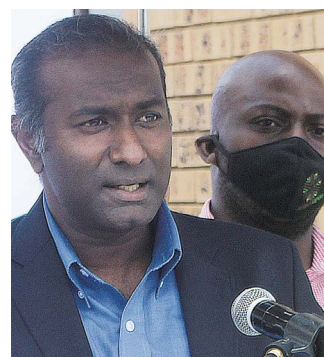
Noel Pillay and the late Cllr Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor, during the sod turning, heralding the beginning of Node D second phase.



Mzila Mthengane - Exxaro Resources.

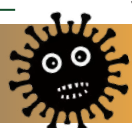


Bontle Aphane - ArnotOpco.



Noel Pillay - Glencore.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

A transformational journey ushers STLM into a **SMART CITY**

“Imagine working in a Smart Digital City, a paperless environment where everything is seamless, effortless, and achievable with a touch of a button.”

Where our communities and customers enjoy the benefits of timely, efficient, and accurate service delivery through technology.

We would have the capacity to improve how we work and the levels of service we render.

The Municipality has adopted the Smart City concept as one of the key strategic drivers.” says Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager.

A smart city uses data collected from sources such as interconnected sensors, Municipality systems, and social media and other government/private data sources to optimise city operations, manage assets and resources to improve the day-to-day lives of its citizens.

Smart cities leverage technology to improve processes such as traffic management and optimise power and water supply, improve waste management, and more.

STLM is proud to announce the launch of the Smart City Digital Programme.

The programme will include several initiatives that will enhance service delivery and significantly improve the way we work.



Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager.

A few of these initiatives will include solutions such as:

Public Engagement Platform:

So far, community-based processes, service touch points are manual, and paper based. This could lead to poor customer service.

By introducing this initiative, the public will be able to engage with the Municipality through automated online touch points.

These will include the enablement of end-to-end tracking of applications submitted, and incidences reported, or queries lodged.

This will greatly improve service delivery and reduce the dependence on face-to-face customer interactions and the need for physical interaction during these times when social distancing is necessary.

Smart Metering:

The Smart Meter solution will enable residents with obtain real-time meter readings on both water and electricity consumption alerts.

Workflow:

The automation of workflow initiative will fasttrack the co-ordination, tracking, monitoring, and measurement of tasks across different systems and departments.

It will provide for the ability to segregate duties and collaborate efficiently on work performed.

Most importantly, it will enable the staff to measure turnaround times and provide better feedback to stakeholders and the public.

“Let us embrace this change.

Together we will become a Smart City driven by technology innovation and digitisation.

Be on the lookout for more exciting news around this initiative.

We as STLM wish you and your loved ones safe passage through this difficult period,” explained Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager.

Upgrading the Call Centre:

The Municipality is also responding to the community’s plight to improve the Call Center.

Our Call Center should enable community members to log calls using

different methods and not limited to making calls.

The public, upon logging a call, will receive a reference so that they can easily make follow ups. This will improve our interaction and response to service delivery.

Online Services:

It will no longer be necessary for community members to travel to the Municipality to submit building plans and applications for wayleaves.

Applications will be done online and applicants will be able to monitor the progress of their application without travelling to the Municipality. The process will also allow for payments to be done online.

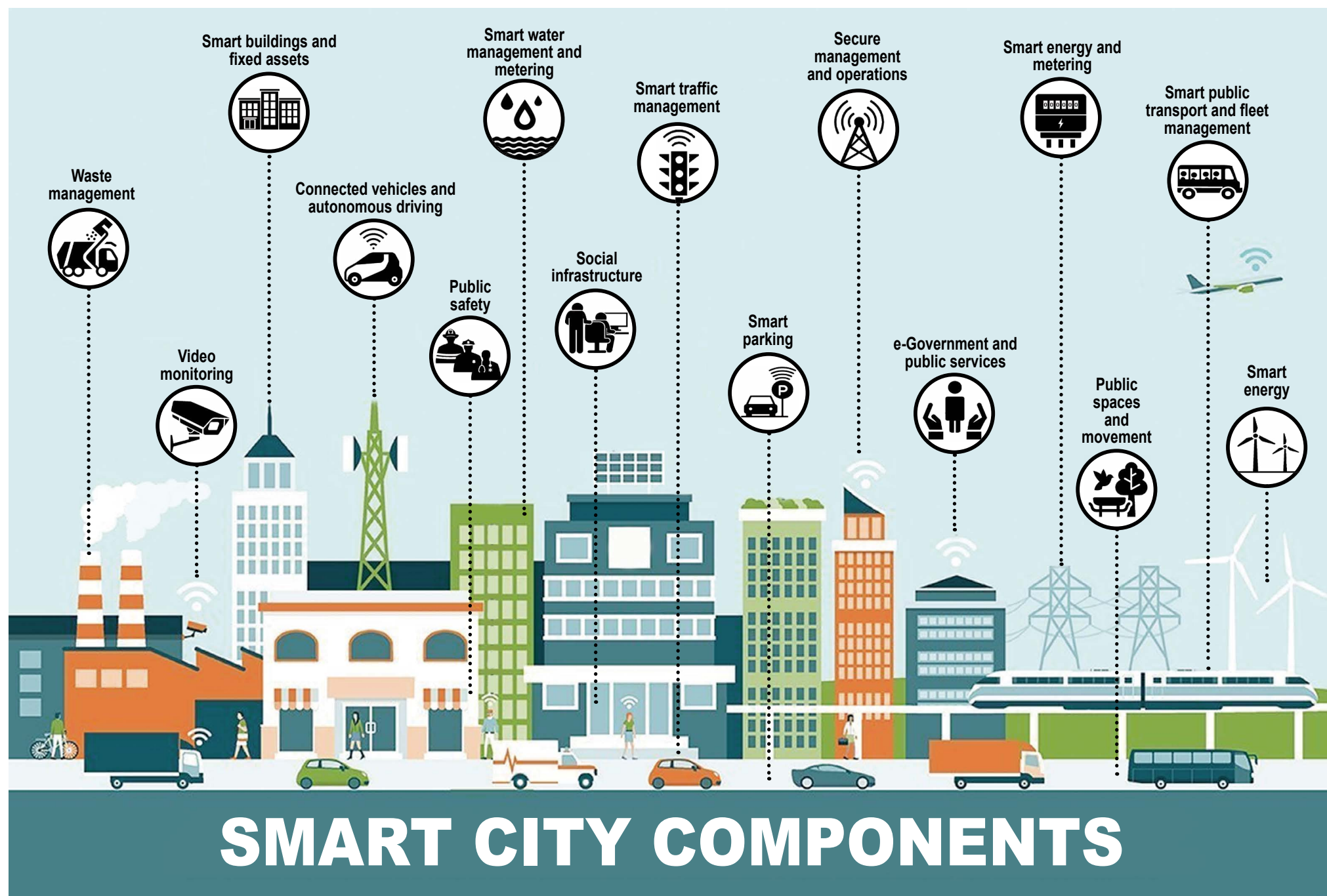
More online service will be added incrementally over a period of time.

SCADA Systems:

Digital technology will enable the Municipality to identify problems faster and proactively respond to incidents.

This will improve how Municipal infrastructure is maintained and properly planning.

This will empower the community to find answers to service delivery problems and employees to respond effectively to incidents and plan maintenance outages.



WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Water and Sanitation

Valuing WATER

MIDDELBURG AND MHLUZI VISITS

Various water and sanitation projects were visited and inspected by the Executive Mayor and his delegation, in accompaniment of local residents in the different places that they visited.

The first stop was at the Boskrans Waste Water Treatment Plant where old infrastructure was replaced. This was due to dysfunctional aerators that were constantly breaking and needed repairing regularly.

The Municipality replaced 6 sets of aerators to minimise the stench caused by the dysfunctional aerators.

There was also construction of a bigger inlet pump station to avoid the overflow of sewage into the Klein Olifants River.

The Graspan Reservoir was visited as well. The purpose of the Graspan project is to address old infrastructure and the low water pressure in Mhluzi, Ext 5, 6, 7 and 23 by replacing asbestos water pipes with PVC pipes and the construction of an elevated water tank - almost completed.



The Plant's operating system.



Six sets of new aerators installed at Boskrans Water Treatment Plant.

What was the peoples reactions to the inspection tour?

Residents, Prince Maseko and Thulani Mahlangu of Ward 23 said: "The stench was unpleasant. People in the community were puzzled about the developments and the foul air we breathed. However, we knew it was related to the sewer because of the type of smell it emitted.

"There was nothing we could do. We had to cook under those circumstances. The difficult part was the fact that the stench was practically everywhere, from the township to town. We had to bear it until the Municipality resolved the issue.

The stench is finally gone and things got back to normal. I'm glad that the matter was addressed urgently for everyone's sake," said Maseko.

Meanwhile, Mahlangu pointed out that residents should always come first and that the Municipality should always strive to be efficient in delivering services.



Workers at the construction site of the new 15 megalitre Graspan Reservoir.



Water may be a scarce commodity in many local municipalities across the country, but Steve Tshwete Local Municipality has ensured that its residents have access to clean water through the roll-out of its 2020/21 financial year projects.

This was proven during a three-day campaign in commemoration of National Water Week under the theme; 'Valuing Water' from 15 to 22 March which Cllr Diphala Motsepe, Executive Mayor, embarked on.

Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager, and Johan Matshiane, MMC for Infrastructure Services, and the technical team, were all out to showcase service delivery excellence as a direct positive response to communities.



CLLR
Diphala Motsepe
Executive Mayor.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Water and Sanitation

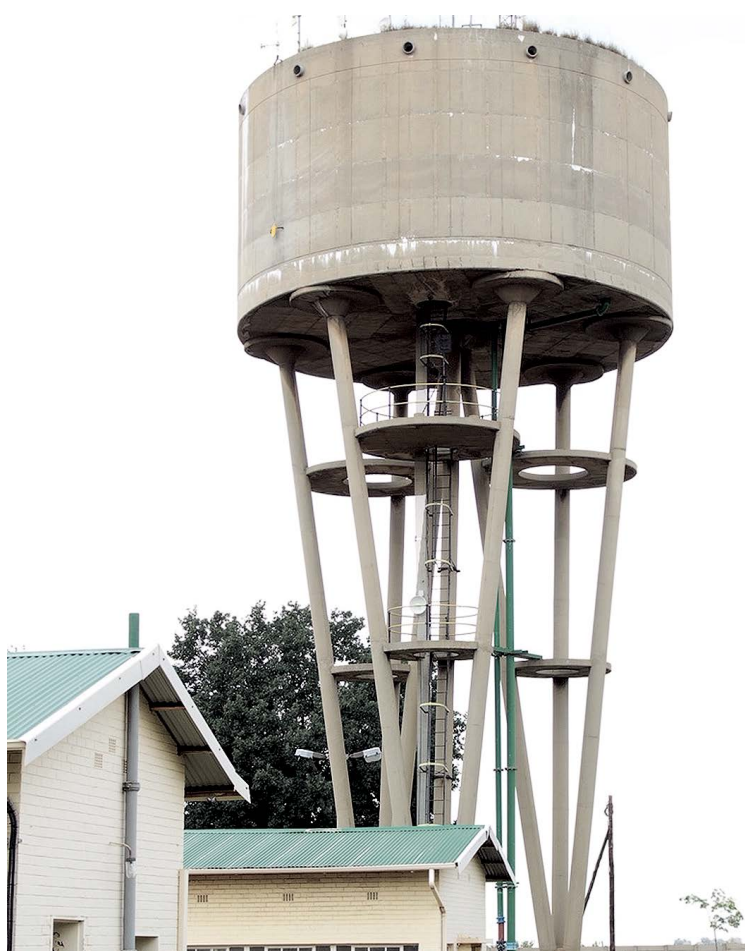
HENDRINA AND KWAZAMOKUHLÉ

The second inspection was at Bosmanslaagte Farm in Hendrina where a borehole and a communal tap were installed after years of the area not having water.

Ward Committee Member, Johannes Magagula said they're pleased with the Municipality's efforts in providing clean water, flushing toilets and a functioning borehole that provides sufficient water supply to the community.

The inspection proceeded to Kwazamokuhle Reservoir, led by Swelihle Mbatha, Assistant Director: Rural Sanitation.

The project cost R11-million for the new 2.9km pipeline that runs from the water treatment plant in Hendrina to the Kwazamokuhle Reservoir. The purpose of the project is to increase the capacity due to population growth. This plant will also supply the new Ext 9 and 11. The Municipality continues to fight against Covid-19 by ensuring that efficient water is provided to communities.



The elevated reservoir at Optimum Coal Water Reclamation Plant.



Johannes Magagula, Ward Committee Member.

People's views

Johannes Magagula, Ward Committee Member, said:

"We're not short of water even in the rainy season. Before this intervention by the Municipality, the water tanker couldn't come due to muddy road. It's different now, we're able to access water from the borehole."



"During the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Municipality made sure we received enough water 24-hours."

Linah Malunga, community member, fills her water container from a tap installed by the Municipality.

RURAL AREAS AND AGRI VILLAGES

The Executive Mayor concluded his visit at Somaphepha Village where he inspected the newly constructed elevated water tank.

It was explained that the project's completion was delayed due to the lockdown last year, however, the Mayor assured the community that water scarcity in the area is now an issue of the past. He also promised to host a Mayoral Outreach at the village soon.



CLLR
Diphala Motsepe
Executive Mayor,
addressing the community.



ABOVE:
The old water tank.



LEFT:
The newly constructed
elevated reservoir.

Valuing WATER

People's views

Elizabeth Msiza, resident: "This is a relief for all of us because we would get water far from our homes. We no longer walk long distances and that makes us happy. We are satisfied with the Municipality's work."

OVERVIEW BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

This week marked the National Water Week which is commemorated annually. In 1993, the United Nations designated 22 March as World Water Day with the focus on the importance of fresh water, also to raise awareness of the country's most limited resource.

"The UN's sustainable development goal number six, declared the provision of water and sanitation, as well as hand sanitation as a universal priority and must be realised by 2030. This year's theme reinforces centrality in the entente value chain."

"In 2017, Cape Town nearly became the first African City to run out of water. During December 2019, residents of Mhluzi were without water for almost five days after water outages. The Graspan Reservoir had aged infrastructure which caused water outages."

"This incident showed us how vulnerable our people are to unplanned water shortages. We, therefore, use the Water Week to raise awareness on the use, management, conservation and protection of our water resources."

"We continue shaping the new developmental agenda through our programme and water infrastructure projects. Water management and allocation must not be a separate goal, but as an essential vehicle for developmental of health."

PRIVATE SECTOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO COVID-19

Johan Matshiane, MMC for Infrastructure Services, has emphasised on the importance of public-private sector partnership.

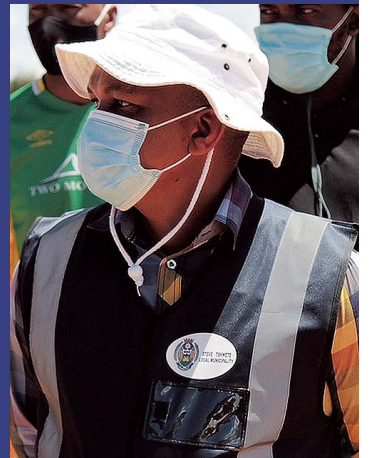
With the government's goal to grow South Africa together, the state cannot execute the community response plan alone.

Mafube and Goedehoop Coal Mines, as well as Anglo American Mine and its foundation made a collaborative contribution to the communities within the Municipality. Part of the donations was a water tanker to ensure that communities had enough water to continuously wash hands to minimise the spread of Covid-19.

The mines also generously donated Personal Protective Equipment and Jojo tanks to communities.

Access to water is a basic right and its protected in Section 27 of the Constitution.

"Everyone has a right to clean water. It is a human right and monitored annually by the South African Human Rights Council," he said.



Johan Matshiane
MMC for Infrastructure
Services.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Water and Sanitation

CLEAN WATER to the people



STLM is not only concerned about bringing clean piped water to the majority of its communities, but over the years the Municipality has also made strides to bring improved water quality suitable for human consumption.

The Municipality has further made efforts to conserve the water that is being supplied to its people.

Adding to their good care to its communities, the Municipality has come up with ten water saving tips under the theme: 'Every drop counts. Saving water is everyone's responsibility', this in a bid to help consumers conserve water.

A call is made to every citizen to use water sparingly.

Conserving water involves the use of water in a manner that is wise and responsible. In ensuring that residents are acquainted to using water wisely and responsibly, the Municipality has published tips and guidelines emanating from strategies including lessening wastage of water, avoiding poor water quality and improving water management.

Water is the most essential commodity and a great asset which needs to be conserved at all costs. The Municipality requests citizens to use the following tips to save water because every drop counts:

- Report/fix leaking water taps
- Make sure the toilet seals properly and does not leak water.
- Use washing machine only once a week.
- Spend less time in the shower when bathing.
- Let children bath together instead of separate.
- Couples can share a bath.
- Don't let water run while brushing your teeth.
- Make sure the dishwasher is

completely stacked before starting the washing cycle.

- Report leaking water pipes immediately to the Municipality.
- Monitor water usage every second day.
- Limit the washing of vehicles.
- Watering of green grass should be limited.
- The drip system of irrigation should be used to water vegetable gardens. Avoid using sprays as water is being blown away by wind.
- Water used for washing should not be scattered but can be reused for other purposes.
- Minimise the amount of water from the toilet reservoir for flushing waste.

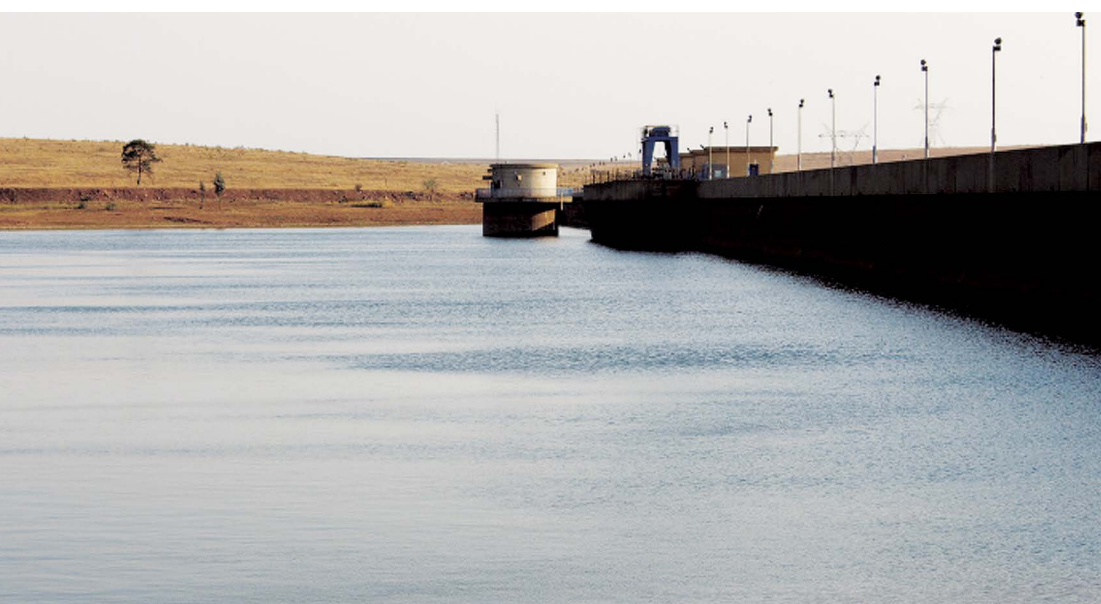
To make sure that the Steve Tshwete communities have access to clean running water, a new water pipe system is being installed. The old water pipes that were being used during apartheid have grown old and it is prone to leakages.

Community members can also use water storages such as Jojo tanks, drums and plastic containers in order to save water. During rainy seasons, water from the gutters can be stored into containers and be used for cleaning and doing washing.

The volume of water in the two dams, Middelburg Dam and Loskop Dam, where the Municipality sources water to provide the community can only increase when there is lots of rain.

At the moment, the two dams stand between 80% and 90% respectively. During dry season, the water level decreases to 40% and it result to water shortages. The Municipality then try to supply water using tankers and sometimes resort to rationing.

Before water can be supplied or provided to residents it must first go the purification stage at the purification plant. A lot of money is being used by the Municipality to buy chemicals to clean the water and make it safe for human consumption.



Reservoir solutions to curb WATER SHORTAGES

Water supply interruption will soon be a thing of the past as the STLM puts plans into motion to deal with water outages, once and for all.

The Municipality's plan encompasses a strategy to store more water for the increasing demand.

Prudence Magutle, Municipal Spokesperson, says to implement the strategy, STLM has approved a budget of R52-million for the construction of a 15 megaliter ground reservoir and an elevated tank in Graspan.

"The reservoir will add to the existing infrastructure as there are currently three more storage tanks, with two 4.5 megaliter and 10 megaliter capacities, existing for the emergence supply of other sections," she said.

"The project aims to provide additional water storage in order to meet water supply demands in areas of Mhluzi.

"The elevated tank is constructed to improve water pressure in areas of Mhluzi

X23, Node D, Malope, portion of Mhluzi, Ext 6, 7, 8."

The multi-million Rand project commenced in September 2020 and will be completed on 30 June 2021.

Water will be pumped from the Skietbaan Station, which gets its water from the Middelburg Dam, to the Graspan reservoir.

In the past few months, the Municipality had dealt with a series of protests from despondent community members as a result of water supply interruptions.

The role played by the Municipality is critical in the provision of water to consumers.

Themba Maphosa, a resident, applauded the Municipality for its decision to build an extra water storage tank.

"I'm so excited about the implementation of this project by STLM. This will help alleviate the problems of water outages when there is planned maintenance work on the main pipeline," he said.



Construction of a 15 megaliter ground reservoir and elevated tank has begun in Graspan Node D, part of Mhluzi. This will be an addition to the existing water storage tanks.



WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Water and Sanitation

Improving infrastructure, **FIXING PROBLEMS**

Ageing infrastructure has stood in the way of providing efficient and immediate services to residents.

It is unfortunate that the Municipality experiences community unrests emanating from despondent residents as they bear the brunt of ageing infrastructure, resulting in water supply interruptions.

Regular water interruptions is a result of pipe bursts which caused high water losses.

The Municipality had to redirect funds meant for the provision of other services to fix and repair old pipes, which according to Auditors, amount to a fruitless expenditure.

To get to the bottom of the problem, the Municipality embarked on a massive project to replace old asbestos water pipes with PVC pipes around Mhluzi.

The project, which commenced in September 2020, is scheduled for completion on 30 June 2021.

R60-million was set aside to replace pipes from Skietbaan to Graspan and Rietfontein reservoir, with R45-million set to be spent on pipe replacement for all 11 Wards.

A number of contractors were appointed to implement the project which will be implemented in Wards 14, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 28.

The project in Ward 18, 19, 23 and 26 commenced on 5 October 2020, and will be completed by 30 June 2021.

The project is also aimed to train, skill and empower 11 Small Micro and Medium Enterprises (SMMEs) contracted within the Municipality.

Jacob Mkhonza of Sithakasile Trading and Projects says he is glad to be part of a programme to remove the old asbestos pipes and instal new PVC pipes.

“I truly appreciate this opportunity for my company to be contracted by the Municipality to work on this project,” he said.

“It offers my employees with new skills and will improve the grading of my company when it comes to Broad Based Black Economic Empowerment.”

STLM ensures **SUPPLY** meets **DEMAND** in Kwazamokuhle

The Municipality identified the need to increase capacity of water storage in order to meet water supply demand due to increasing development in Kwazamokuhle, Hendrina.

The development is taking place at Kwazamokuhle Ext 8, Kwazamokuhle Ext 9 and the future Kwazamokuhle Ext 10.

The project includes construction of a ground reservoir that is 5 Megaliters in capacity. It also includes a 0.8 Megaliter elevated steel tank, bulk water line and a pump station.

The pump station that will primarily be used to transfer water from the ground reservoir all the way up to the elevated steel tank, has been completed.

The reservoir and elevated steel tank are dedicated to supply water to the Kwazamokuhle Extension 9 which is in the process of being developed.

Nearly 724 households in Kwazamokuhle Extension 9 will be serviced by this infrastructure.

The adjacent areas like Kwazamokuhle Extension 6, 7 and 8 also stand to

benefit from this project as the water pressure in these areas is expected to increase. This will also eliminate low water pressure problems the areas have been experiencing.

Sipho Mhleka Mahlangu, an Extension 7 resident, said that for a long time the people of Extension 6, 7 and 8 have experienced very low water pressure.

“This has made life difficult for us as residents because without adequate supply of water, life comes to a standstill,” he said.

“As residents, we truly appreciate the intervention done by the Steve Tshwete Municipality. This shows that the people of Kwazamokuhle are not forgotten when it comes to the delivery of services.

“We hope that they will also continue intervene in other areas because Kwazamokuhle is still a growing area, there is still more work that needs to be done, but we appreciate what has been done so far to make sure that our lives improve for the better.”

The total project cost to date for bulk line, elevated tank and pump house is R37.5-million.

The contractor is currently completing the pump house, and minor pipe connections and testing also need to be done prior commissioning.

The commissioning of the project was done in mid-December 2020.



SEWER UPGRADE in Eastdene on the cards

Sewer blockages and leakages will soon be a thing of the past for the Eastdene community as Council has approved upgrading old sewer lines in the 2020/2021 financial year.

Two main sewer lines stretching from Zuid Street in Mineralia to Eastdene, will be upgraded for the residents of Eastdene and surrounding areas.

The 1.7 kilometer pipeline will run from Zuid Street, underneath Cowen Ntuli and Koets Streets and through the Eastdene sports ground and Boncker Street.

The upgrade follows the time-to-time blockages and leakages as a result of the sewer pipeline having reached its maximum capacity.

“We have established the pipeline can no longer cope with the demand of sewer load hence the blockages,” said the late Executive Mayor, Cllr Bagudi Tolo.

Approving these upgrades is an indication that this Municipality listens to its residents.

The sewer upgrades were long overdue as a result of delays the Municipality faced with the application, which was

submitted on 24 July 2018, for a Water Use License, in line with section 21 of the National Water Act.

In the 2017/2018 financial year, Council approved the budget to commence with the engineering designs for the project to

upgrade the outfall sewer pipeline from Zuid Street to Eastdene.

The engineering designs were completed in the 2018/2019 financial year.

The upgrades were formally approved by Council in January 2021.



Scenes of blocked sewer drains will not be seen anymore as Council approved a budget to upgrade old sewer pipelines from Zuid Street to Eastdene.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Roads and Storm Water

STORM WATER construction in Wards

Residents spoke and the Municipality listened.

STLM has made efforts to alleviate flooding in Ward 20 and 21.

Storm water drainage systems have been installed in Sibanyoni, Masemula, Dikwale, Mathibela, Umthata, Phokeng, Bhuda Melato, Moboloke Streets and Luthele Crescent.

The community has been waiting for several years for funding to become available to install storm water drains in the area.

Previously storm water drains were in Bhuda Melato Street only. This meant water from the other streets would flood the storm water drain in Bhuda Melato Street.

“When the first few storm water drainages were built, the town was not experiencing as much rain as it is currently. To have free-flowing water, the Municipality had to install more storm-water drains,” said Prudence Magutle, Municipal spokesperson.

Extension 1 resident, Elizabeth Moage said that walking after a rainy day was a nightmare.

“I am pleased with the work council has done. We struggled to walk in the road after it rained. The road would be filled with water for several days.”

The construction of the 842m storm water drainage was completed in November 2020 at a budget of R2.5-million.



Main road constructed in **NEWTOWN**

STLM has undertaken, in its mandate and responsibilities to eradicate squatter camps in the Newtown precinct, to develop new state-of-the-art Reconstruction and Development Programme units.

In 2013, the Town Planning Department began to survey the ‘behind the mountain’ area for the development of 1 100 serviced stands.

The initiative was motivated by the fact that stands in the informal settlement were too small for new houses.

Stands have been put aside for the development of businesses, industrial, and Municipal buildings as well as parks, which will make this a fully-fledged township with all the amenities that residents need.

The Municipality remained true to its word and is proud to say a announce that a fully-equipped park has been built for the community in the area.

Adding to that, a new 1.6km tarred taxi route connecting the old Newtown to the newly developed Newtown has been constructed. The R10-million project was completed in 2020.

“I am very excited about this new road. During the rainy season it was a nightmare to use the gravel road,” said Matlala Thabo.

When Masakhane visited the park, it found a group of enthusiastic children playing.

“I really enjoy playing with my friends at the park,” said playful Lindiwe Nyuswa.



New roads and storm water constructed in Newtown.

Easing traffic congestion in **AERORAND**

Motorists using John Magagula Street and Nelson Mandela Drive are no longer experiencing unnecessary congestion on that busy intersection.

The road has been expanded and traffic lights placed to better manage traffic at a cost of R10-million.

The expansion happened in 2019 after bumper-to-bumper traffic during peak hours.

Local resident, Dimpho Sithole, said travelling home from eMalahleni was unpleasant and horrible at times.



The upgraded intersection.

New roads and storm water drainage in **AERORAND**

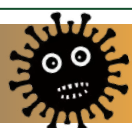
Construction of the 2.2km road connecting Pongola, Timbavati, Mongul, Tugela Streets, and Waterval Crescent, as well as storm water drains have been completed.

Approximately R4.2-million was spent on the storm water drainage while the roads cost R13-million. The suburb has expanded substantially.

Gravel roads that were built in the expanding areas were an inconvenience to people who had to put up with increasing dust as well as mud during the rainy season.



WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Electricity

Sod turning for the construction of **MHLUZI SUB-STATION**

Frequent power outages will soon be a thing of the past for Mhluzi residents as the Steve Tshwete Municipality took swift actions to bring a solution to the problem affecting its residents.

The Municipality resolved to build a sub-station to the tune of R74-million for the current 2020/ 2021 financial year.

Following time-to-time electrical interruptions and the resounding fire of the Gholfsig sub-station which led to a blackout that lasted for three days during the beginning of this year, the Municipality took note of the people's concerns and their daily struggles for reliable electrical services.

The sub-station was formally unveiled on Friday, 18 December 2020, during a sod-turning ceremony in rainy weather. It will be situated in Ward 22 between Chromeville and Newtown.

During his address, the late Cllr Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor, said that the project marks a turning point for the people of Mhluzi who constantly suffered electricity outages. Adding to that, the future of electricity supply will not just be sustainable, it will be a gamechanger that will impact the lives of our people for the better.

He further said that the Municipality fully understood that they are at the coal-face of service delivery and that the buck stops with them.

"We stand as humble servants of the people and renew our commitment and social compact we have with our communities. We also renew our resolve to ensure that the lives of our communities change for the better.

"It is also our considered view that we always have to work with speed in the roll-out and implementation of projects as we deliver services.

"It was in that spirit that a decision was taken to come up with a long-term solution to the challenges of the substation in Mhluzi. Hence the substation," he concluded.

The substation which is expected to be completed within a 24 month period is envisaged to create an estimated 30 jobs for local residents who will be working as sub-contractors throughout the duration of the construction.

The late Ward 22 Councillor, Patrick 'Dertig' Motau, said that he was grateful that some will benefit from the project in terms of employment.

"These jobs, though short term, will go a long way in helping to alleviate poverty and unemployment for some of our people," he said.

Cllr Johannes Matshiane, MMC for Infrastructure Services, said that the project

is a vehicle through which our agenda of successful economic growth and development will be driven," he said.

Before conclusion, Tolo also used the opportunity to introduce a Contractor Development Programme which allows contractors with low CIDB grading to compete for jobs at the Municipality.

He stated that in 2018, the Municipality conducted a survey and noticed that out of 2 000 registered, 80% of them were still on CIDB 1 grading.

"During that time it was also confirmed that the majority of the contractors were in Level 1 grading of CIDB and therefore could not compete for jobs in the Municipality. Accordingly, we experienced unrests in our communities where it was alleged that we do not give tenders to local people. But it is not possible to give tenders to people who do not qualify.

"At our Lekgotla, a decision to start the Contractor Development Programme was adopted with the objective to train and capacitate the contractors to graduate from their low CIDB grading to higher grading that will empower them to compete with well established contractors.

"The targeted grading at the end of the contract were CIDB 3 CE to 5CE.

"The Municipality appointed nine up-and-coming contractors for Roads and Storm Water projects in 2019/2020 financial year, 11 for Water and Sanitation and six for Electrical Services during the 2020/2021 financial year.

"The programme is a huge success and it has changed the lives of many people for the better.

"A total of 108 opportunities were created for them during the 2019/2020 financial year and a whopping 991 opportunities have been created so far during this 2020/ 2021 financial year," he concluded.



An artist impression of the new sub-station for Mhluzi.



Patrick Motau, the late Ward 22 Concillor, Desmond Sindane - F Tech Services, Andries Mabena, Speaker, Cllr Bagudi Tolo, the late Executive Mayor, and Samakaleng Nkadameng - Chief Whip, look on as sods are turned to mark the commencement of the sub-station.

LIGHTING UP the Municipality with high masts

The dysfunctional street lights in Nazaret, Ward 8, and Komati Ward 4, have, for a while now, posed a serious threat to the safety of residents and parts of the area have been a target for criminal activity.

There are more than 50 street lights not working in Ward 8, others are constantly on and others stolen.

Nazareth Councillor, Morgan Bruiners, says that no one can walk after dark without feeling vulnerable.

"Crime is also lower in areas with good street lighting, as criminals often use the cover of darkness to harass pedestrians," he said.

Now there is a light at the end of the tunnel, with the Municipality opting to install high mast lights in the area.

"Although the provision of high mast lights will not in itself eliminate crime, it will most certainly go a long way to reducing it.

"High mast lights make it much more difficult for criminals to go around harming residents. The primary benefit of high mast lighting is safety for pedestrian and motorist," concluded Bruiners.



WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



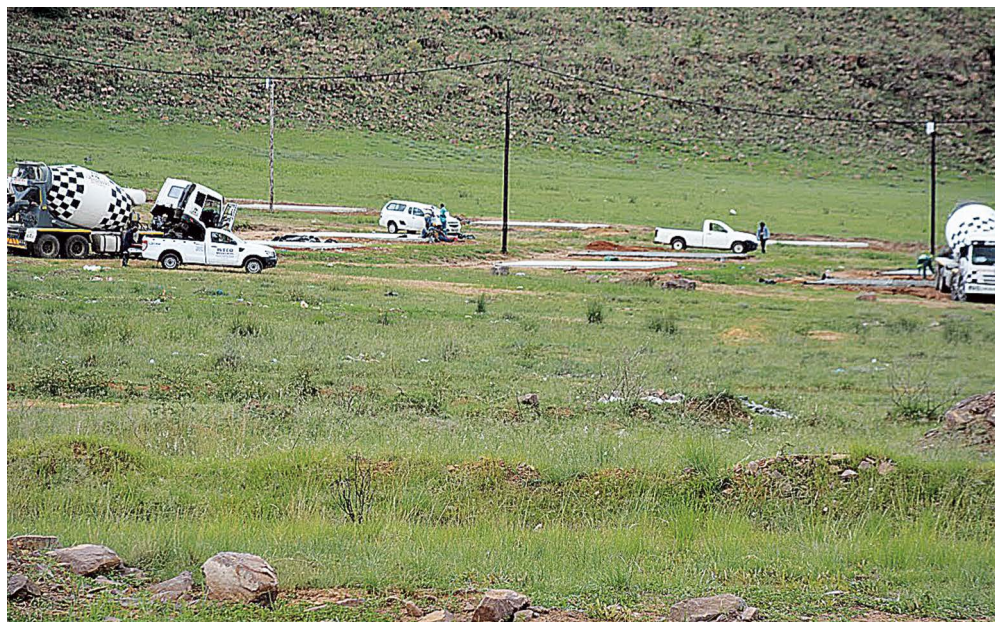
SOCIAL DISTANCE

Town Planning and Human Settlement

Dignified **HOUSING** for STLM communities



The Newtown informal settlement where many people are still waiting to be moved to the new RDP houses in Extension 1.



Foundations being poured for the erection of houses in Newtown, Extension 1.

MHLUZI - NEWTOWN, EXTENSION 1

There is finally a light at the end of the tunnel as STLM has kept its promise to provide adequate housing for the residents of Newtown informal settlement.

The Municipality took a bold step and finished construction of 575 houses out of 1 100 planned. The completed houses have already been occupied. Some of the occupants are from the single-sex Jabulani Hostel in Mhluzi which was initially designated for migrant workers but was demolished in 1999.

A further 100 housing units are currently under construction and upon completion, the units will be allocated to the approved beneficiaries.

In order to qualify for the house, applicants must meet the qualification criteria. To qualify, you must:

- Be a South African citizen.
- Be contractually capable.
- Be married or habitually cohabit with a partner.
- Be single and have financial dependants.
- Earn less than R3 500 per month, per household.
- Be a first time government subsidy recipient.
- Be a first time home owner.
- Be a single Military Veterans without a financial dependant.
- Be a single aged persons without a financial dependant.

Hezekiel Sihlali, Assistant Director: Housing, said the project in this area was supposed to have been completed but issues arising from local structures have derailed it. The project created employment to the people of the area.

“We ensure that we give people quality houses and that means their dignity has been restored. Lack of housing delivery is the first thing that people in our communities complain about,” he said.

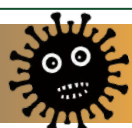
Sihlali also mentioned that they identify beneficiaries that are vulnerable such as pensioners, people living with disabilities, and child-headed families.

The Municipality expected an annual housing allocation from the Provincial Department of Human Settlement for housing subsidies but due to the Covid-19 pandemic no allocations were received.

According to Sihlali, for now they are relying on multi-year projects.

“We service sites by making sure that we put water, electricity, roads, and sanitation before we can allow people to move in there. The main aim is to eradicate informal settlements and provide a better living for every citizen.”

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Town Planning and Human Settlement

Dignified **HOUSING** for STLM communities

MHLUZI - UPGRADING OF REABOTA HOSTEL

Sihlali has also mentioned that the hostel at Reabota will be upgraded into community residential units.

He said there will be 176 units (CRU) at a tune of R66-million, budget allocated from the Provincial Department of Human Settlement.

He said they have realised that renovating the hostel will be a fruitless exercise as it is already falling apart.

“We have identified a site where we are going to build the new residential units and once the project has been completed we are going to relocate qualifying people from the hostel to those units.

“We will then demolish the hostel as the law says there must no longer be hostels within our communities.

“The new CRU project will be built in phases. This is done because the state of the hostel structure is not fit for human habitation.

Reabota Hostel is one of the oldest structures that was built by the previous government. It was meant to accommodate migrant labourers.

At the moment, the hostel is accommodating people who do not have a place to stay. It is a property that belongs to the Municipality and has reached its sell-by date as it is gradually decaying.

The project will run for three years and will be built in phases.

Challenges affecting the project

As Sihlali puts it, the construction of the units has been hampered by some challenges, thus delaying its progress.

He said the first challenge was the community who demanded sub-contracts and local business forums.

He adds that the project was halted for three weeks but a steering committee was formed and a CLO was also appointed to address those challenges.

“The project was stopped due to financial constraints on the side of the Provincial Department of Human Settlement.

“Some funds were withdrawn and directed to the Department of Health in order to deal with the Covid-19 pandemic,” he said.

Contributions by mines in housing delivery

Mining companies operating within STLM jurisdiction contribute to community dwellings in a positive and encouraging way. They are contributing to the development of these communities.

Exxaro, South32, and Wescoal Mines have joined to build houses for the locals. The companies want to provide safe and sustainable accommodation.

Sihlali says they are pleased that the three mining companies are ploughing back to the community.



The old Reabota Hostel is dilapidated and qualified dwellers will be relocated to the new housing units under construction.

He said Wescoal Mine will build 33 houses in Newtown Extension 1 while Exxaro Mine will build 18 houses at Kwazamokuhle, Extension 9.

“They are assisting to address the housing backlog within the Municipality.

“Mines are obliged or compelled to plough back to the community where they are doing business.

“It is part of the Social Labour Project Plans stipulated by the Department of Mineral Resources,” he concluded.



The construction of the new 176 housing units at Reabota is well underway.

KWAZAMOKUHLE - EXTENSIONS 8 AND 9

Human settlement is among the main visible service delivery project that ensures that people get their dignity back by owning proper houses.

Many protest actions across the country are because of lack of housing. On the back of this, the STLM is busy with the building of houses in some areas within the Municipality.

The role of the Department of Town Planning and Human Settlement at Municipal level is to allocate serviced stands, identify potential beneficiaries and register title deeds of their properties.

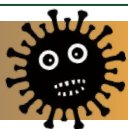
Residents of Kwazamokuhle and surrounding areas are not left behind in development as there are about 300 housing units that are under construction over the next three years. The project is aimed at eradicating informal settlements within the area and to relocate people to a newly established township in Extensions 8 and 9.

The Mpumalanga Department of Human Settlement serviced 300 stands during 2017/2018 financial year to build houses for qualifying beneficiaries, as part of its RDP/low cost housing programme.

The housing programme is a multi-year project that started in 2018 and will continue until 2021.



Kwazamokuhle, Extensions 8 and 9.



Special Programmes

STLM impresses **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER**

STLM was graced by a diplomatic visit from **Lindiwe Zulu, Minister of Social Development, on 6 November 2020. Her visit intended to check the running of local old age homes, the Middelburg Victim Support Centre and Khula Milling.**

She also wanted to see how the centres utilise government grants. Zulu said she is very satisfied with what she has found, adding that she was very concerned by the increasing number of gender-based violence (GBV) in local communities.

“Gender-based violence has become another pandemic that we need to fight against as communities. Women and children are under siege and the main culprits are men who are supposed to love and protect them. They become displaced and end up losing contact with their families for good,” she said.

Zulu applauded the good work that has been done at St Josephs Old Age Home.

“All over the country we have government structures becoming white elephants. They need to be given to organisations that cater for the disadvantaged.

“They need to be transformed into shelters for the old and abused women and children. As long as women are pushed into marriages or relationships they will get killed and be buried.

“The best solution is to mobilise the communities in

order to combat GBV and femicide. We also need to have more Khuseleka Centres where women and children can speak freely rather than in an open space at the police station,” she said.

Zulu also visited the Middelburg Victim Support Centre and was satisfied with the improvements and impressed with the centre's vegetable garden.

“The work being done here is very good because women will not want to go back to their abusers.

“They will have something to do for a living. Most women resort to going back to men who abuse them just because of financial constraint. That is not a good thing as it give the abuser power over them,” she said.

Joshua Nethenonde, Deputy Chairperson of the Middelburg Support Victim Centre, said the centre was leased from 1997 until STLM donated it in 2016.

“At first we had a big challenge with the building. Last year people were referred to Emalahleni. The house was then refurbished and it became ready to shelter victims, accommodating six women and children for six months,” he said.

Lindiwe Zulu, Minister of Social Development during her site seeing tour of the centres, with the late Cllr Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor.



The late Executive Mayor, Cllr Bagudi Tolo, was part of the panel discussing on gender-based violence.



Thami Ngubeni, television and radio presenter facilitated the GBV discussions during the Women's Month celebration.

WOMEN'S MONTH

STLM commemorated Women's Month with the theme “Generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights for an Equal Future” with Thami Ngubeni.

Every year in August, the country celebrates Women's Month, with the main tribute paid to the more than 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings on 9 August 1956, in protest of the extension of Pass Laws to women.

Television presenter and radio personality, Thami Ngubeni, facilitated discussions on gender-based violent (GBV) issues within the Municipality.

The media star was joined by the late Executive Mayor, Cllr Bagudi Tolo, representatives from the Departments of Health, Justice, Correctional Services, Social Development and the South African Police Services.

This was part of the Women's Month celebration held on 26 August 2020.

The discussions were broadcast live on the Municipal Facebook page and YouTube channels.

The event also came at a time when the country was fighting the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Covid-19 lockdown has resulted in an increase in domestic violence and abuse, leaving women vulnerable and in danger. The impact of the pandemic on society has been seen to have the potential to reverse progress made on women empowerment and eradicating poverty.



Members of the community were also invited to share their experiences on GBV related issues.



The late Cllr Bagudi Tolo presenting a gift to a participant in GBV discussions.

Please report GBV-related incidents by contacting the Middelburg Victims Empowerment Centre on 013 243 4287 or call the South African Police Services on 08600 10111

CARING for the ELDERLY

Elderly people play an important role in society in shaping and guiding our moral values as well as preserving our culture hence they are regarded as fountain of knowledge.

Their rights and dignity must be recognised and given respect to be promoted.

STLM has not deviated from its yearly commitment to honour, respect and appreciate the elderly citizens. The Municipality has once again celebrated its senior citizens in October.

The Municipality handed over Personal Protective Equipment and blankets to three retirement homes in the area, namely: Sizabaswele, Vergeet My Nie and Rivier Park.



Cllr Muka Mnguni, MMC for Social Development, handed over sanitisers, PPE and blankets to various retirement homes.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Environment and Solid Waste Management

WHEELIE BINS for residents

Residents of the STLM are now disposing waste in style, thanks to the big green wheelie bins introduced.

The Municipality began the roll-out of the movable big green bins to more than half of the



population in a concerted effort to curb illegal dumping.

The 240 liter bins, nearly three times the size of the old black bins, come with a pair of wheels, making waste disposal hassle free.

Moses Lekondeni from the Environment and Solid Waste

Management Department, says the bins are distributed to all sections and more than 50% of the residents have already received theirs.

Lekondeni adds that the bins serve a great purpose by reducing the amount of waste illegally disposed of in the Municipality.

“The aim is to reduce illegal dumping by providing a bigger size bin compared to the previously 85 litre black bins.”

He says that “Wheelie bins allow the rate payers to add more waste in plastic bags. They save time and are user friendly as well.”

The bins have a nine-digit serial number linked to a rate payer’s municipal account.

“People can mark their bins but must ensure they don’t hide the serial number,” Lekondeni appeals. He asks that residents should use the bins for the intended purpose.

Billy, Extension 5 resident, says he ended up using the bin to store blankets in because he thinks he will incur additional costs in his Municipal account.

“I am not so sure if the Municipality charges people each time they collect rubbish but I am told so. That is why I don’t use it for rubbish for now, until I am certain I won’t be charged,” he says.

The department has issued the following guidelines to the public regarding usage of the bins:

- **Do not fill bins with more waste than it can take.**
- **No rocks, soil and building material.**
- **No wet waste.**
- **No explosives or flammable material.**
- **No car batteries, gas cylinders, motor oil and solvents.**
- **No hot ash or anything that can ignite fire.**
- **No dead animals or hazardous material.**

WHEELIE BIN COLLECTION SCHEDULE

MONDAY

Extension 2 - Hector

Extension 4 - Magagula

Extension 6

Extension 8 - Clinic and bridge

Tokologo - Zinyoke and Mswati

Phumula, Tembisa and Ext 23 - Lotto Village

Rockville and Chromeville

Mathayleni and Plein

Hlalamnandi and Rondebosch

TUESDAY

Extension 2 - Sofunda

Extension 3 and Reabota

Extension 4 - Mhluzi Mall

Extension 5 and Malope Village

Extension 7 - Tokologo

Newtown Formal Settlement

Mountain, Vuka and Riverside

Townhouse - Bambanani, and Groenkol - Rembrandt

Hope City flats and Middelburg Primary School

Kanonkop Laerskool and Hoërskool

Middelburg Tegniëse Skool

Civic Centre and Kees Taljaard Stadium

WEDNESDAY

Extension 9 - Groenkol

Extension 18

Extension 24 - Batlakgaye

Kanonkop - Springboklaan

Golfsig and Wes Street

WEDNESDAY continued

Aerorand - Friendly

Aloe Ridge

Eastdene

Denniesig

Kanonkop Spar

Clubville

Nasareth and Sam Rose

THURSDAY

Middelburg Extension 1

Mhluzi Extension 1

Extension 24 - Phumelele

Kranspoort

Aerorand - Silver Lakes

Doornkop

Sikhululiwe and Somaphepha Villages

Presidentrus

Hope City flats and Middelburg Primary School

Kanonkop Laerskool and Hoërskool

Middelburg Tegniëse Skool

Civic Centre and Kees Taljaard Stadium

FRIDAY

Rockdale Extensions 1 and 2

Rockdale and Rockdale North

Extension 23

Aerorand - Pongola Street

Aerorand - Midwater

Newtown - Mokokotlong

Roberts Estate and Midland Estate

SORTING GARDEN WASTE made easy

A community garden waste drop-off centre, designated for diversion of garden waste, is in the pipeline for STLM residents.

The Environment and Solid Waste Management Department reports that it is in the process of constructing a community garden waste drop off centre. The project, worth R9-million, is aimed at separating garden waste from landfill site waste.

Construction began during the 2019/2020 financial year, and is expected to be completed during the 2020/2021 financial year. Once completed, the project will be beneficial to the Municipality, as bigger landfill site space will be available for household waste.

The facility is located on the left hand side of the road leading to the Middelburg landfill site, adjacent to the Phumolong graveyards in Tokologo.

Moses Lekondeni from the Environment and Solid Waste Management Department says community members and garden waste service providers will drop off garden waste at the facility at applicable tariffs.



A garden waste separating facility is being constructed next to the main dumping site behind Graspan Mine.



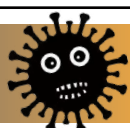
GENERAL WASTE ENQUIRIES

Monday to Thursday from 07:30 to 16:30

Friday from 07:30 to 13:30

013 249 7024 / 7300

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Local Economic Development through Public/Private Partnerships

More jobs expected with **NEW HOTEL**



The building of a 4-star hotel will create much needed jobs for the locals and improve the tourism industry.

More than 200 full-time jobs will be created when the luxury 4-star hotel, consisting of 150 rooms and a convention center, accommodating 1 000 guests, starts operating.

The hotel and convention center will be developed by Akani Properties, a 100% black owned property development company.

The development will take place in

Aerorand on the corner of Sondagsrivier Street and Dr Mandela Drive, a 29 000 square meter piece of land.

Part of the agreement was that 10% ownership will be sold to a local company, through a bidding process, to partner with Akani.

Diphala Motsepe, Executive Mayor, said that, as a Municipality, they will make sure local people are employed and local sub-contractors are given work.

“The Municipality, through the office of the Local Economic Development Unit (LED) will work closely with the deve-

loper to identify construction opportunities that will be given to local companies.

“We will develop a database of local companies to make sure that they properly account for local participation.

“We have agreed that labour absorption should be 50% on construction and 30% on operations.” Motsepe explained.

The project, one of the Municipality’s anchor projects, includes the Integrated Development Plan (IDP), endorsement by Premier Refilwe Mtshweni-Tsipane.

During the State of the Province Ad-

dress (SOPA) on 5 March, the Premier indicated that the public private partnership (PPP) component within the District Development Model was beginning to bear fruit.

“In STLM, we will be working together with private sector partners to build a R350-million 4-star hotel.

“Part of the conditions of the award is that 10% ownership should be local and 30% of the construction work should be subcontracted to local businesses,” she concluded.

Izimbiwa Coal continues to be a **STERLING EXAMPLE**

During this desperate time of the coronavirus outbreak, Izimbiwa Coal continues to be a sterling example of what could be achieved if government and the private sector work together.

Ten jojo tanks were donated to the Municipality. The jojo tanks will be used for water storage and assist the Municipality to increase water supply to farm dwellers.

Receiving this worthy donation from Ms Busani Tshabangu, Superintendent - Izimbiwa Coal Community Development were Cllr Diphala Motsepe, Executive Mayor and Johan Matshiane, MMC for Infrastructure and Technical Services. They thanked the mine for this worthy donation.

This is not the first donation by the mining giant since the outbreak of the coronavirus. A few months ago, they donated 50 blankets for the homeless and 250 food parcels to the community.



Cllr Diphala Motsepe, Executive Mayor, Busani Tshabangu, Superintendent - Izimbiwa Coal and Johan Matshiane, MMC for Infrastructure and Technical Services.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Local Economic Development through Public/Private Partnerships

Thank you **SASOL** for donating fuel and sanitiser



On Friday, 9 April 2021, Sasol donated 15 000 litres of ULP93 fuel and 400 litres of sanitiser to STLM.

This most welcome donation will assist the Municipality in rendering services to the community.

The fuel will be used for the Municipality's fleet of approximately 500 vehicles in service, from waste management, water provision, emergency services, to the transportation of essential goods to communities.

The sanitiser will help curb the spread of Covid-19.

Sasol has been supporting our communities since the March 2020 lockdown as part of Government's initiative to minimise the impact of Covid-19.



Mashuda Ndou, Sasol Head of Community Affairs, Regional Operations and Asset Services thanking the Municipality for its excellent service delivery.



MMC Catherine Mkhuma, Acting Mayor, thanking Sasol for the generous donation of fuel and sanitiser.

Wescoal and South32 LED PROJECTS implemented

Wescoal Colliery has become another strategic partner of the Steve Tshwete Local Municipality in terms of improving the lives and conditions of the community.

The mine, through its Social Labour Planning (SLP) commitments has contributed to the development of adult training through the Adult Basic Education and Training (ABET).

Thirty six community members were taken through a comprehensive adult training session to learn basic writing, numeracy and financial planning skills. The successful candidates were awarded with certificates upon completion.

In its Portable Skills Programme, the mine was able to assist 65 community members to obtain driver's licenses. They also successfully trained 45 community members to operate an Articulated Dump Truck (ADT).

More women will no longer depend on looking for employment to make ends meet, as Wescoal has given them skills that will enable them to survive through the Mhluzi Wethu Textile programme.

A partnership between STLM and South32 has yielded tangible positive results in the delivery of services for the Municipality's residents.

The partnership has led to a number of Local Economic Development Unit (LED) projects embedded in the Municipality's Integrated Development Project (IDP).

The projects emanating from the mines' Social Labour Planning (SLP) were set for implementation from the period 2018 to 2022.

The Wolvekrans Middelburg Complex (WMC) donated two 20.5 cubic meter Waste Removal Trucks to the tune of R11.7-million, a TLB and 1 000 wheelie bins (240 litre) for use with the Waste Removal Trucks.

South32 also delivered on the promise to build a clinic worth R30-million for the Rockdale community. The clinic was fitted with furniture and equipment worth R3-million. South32 also upgraded the Somaphepha Water Purification Plant.

A Youth Portable Skills Center worth R3-million was completed at the Adelaide Tambo Community Center and handed over to the Municipality.

The mine also assisted with bursaries to the tune of R5.7-million for academically deserving students to study medicine.

An outdoor gym was erected at OR Tambo park in Mhluzi and a recreational park worth R1.5-million in Ext 23.



Mashudu Ndou, Head of Community Affairs - Sasol, signing the handover document.



Left to right: Rethabile Ndjibu, Manager Social Impact - Sasol, Thokozile Zulu - Acting Municipal Manager, MMC Catherine Mkhuma - Acting Mayor, Cllr Andries Mabena - Speaker, Mashudu Ndou, Head of Community Affairs - Sasol, Sonto Malepeng, MMC for Arts and Culture, and King Nkambule, Manager Social Labour Plan - Sasol.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Local Economic Development through Public/Private Partnerships

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

Cllr Diphala Motsepe, Executive Mayor, engaged with businesses operating within the Municipality's jurisdiction on 5 May 2021 at the Sydney Choma Banquet Hall to discuss Preferential Procurement, Enterprise and Supplier Development.

He was joined by Andries Mabena, Council Speaker, Catherine Mkhuma, MMC for Financial Services, Marumo Sekgwele, MMC for Corporate Services, Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager and STLM officials.

The primary objective of the session, as the Executive Mayor said, "is to rebuild and review the economy of Steve Tshwete as a whole through private sector and Government investment, and subsequently explore sustainable opportunities for job creation."

Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager, emphasised during the roundtable that he wants community members to benefit

from the capital projects of businesses within the Municipal area and how the private sector can assist and come on board to tackle the challenges.

The Municipal Manager further proposed:

- To meet with Eskom and have a discussion regarding fly-ash.
- To have a meeting with the Manager of Middelburg Mall concerning waste management.
- To meet with Transnet and have an in-depth discussion regarding how they will assist community members.
- Private sectors can use the Municipality Local Economic Development Department to assist with sending tenders to community members.
- Private sectors can use the Municipality's website to start advertising tenders and vacancies.
- To have a follow-up meeting with Rietvlei Mine.



Barend Smit,
Supply Chain
Management and
Finance at
Arnotopco



Curtis Mapokga,
Enterprise and
Supplier
Development
Manager at Eskom



Elman Chiane,
Executive Manager
at TFR - Transnet
gave a presentation
on Local
Procurement
(BBBEE) and
Enterprise Supplier
Development
Programmes



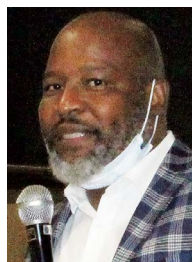
Es-Marie Grobler,
HR and SLP
Manager at Tumelo
Coal Mine gave a
presentation on
Procurement and
Enterprise and
Supplier
Development
Programmes



Kutala Bizana,
General Manager:
Legal and Transform-
ation at Colum-
bus Stainless Steel
gave a presentation
on Procurement
and Enterprise and
Supplier Develop-
ment Programmes



Cllr Diphala
Motsepe,
Executive Mayor
Steve Tshwete
Local
Municipality



Adv Bheki Khenisa,
Municipal Manager
Steve Tshwete
Local
Municipality



Nazreen Carrim,
Manager, Graphic
Department at
OH Frewin Printers
gave a presenta-
tion on Local
Procurement
(BBBEE) and
Enterprise Sup-
plier Development
Programmes



Tina Malau,
Regional Social
Performance
Manager at
Anglo Coal gave
a presentation on
Procurement and
Enterprise and
Supplier Develop-
ment Programmes



Mike Tammady,
Counter Manager
at Middelburg Mall
gave a presentation
on Local Procure-
ment (BBBEE) and
Enterprise Supplier
Development
Programmes



Nepia Zivana,
Supplier
Development
Specialist
Anglo Zimele



Sybil Madlopha,
Director: Develop-
ment and Strategic
Support at Steve
Tshwete Local
Municipality



Richard Bean,
Enterprise and
Supplier
Development
Specialist at
Anglo Zimele



Lusapho Njenge,
Manager of Enter-
prise and Supplier
Development at
Exxaro gave a
presentations on
Procurement and
Enterprise and
Supplier Develop-
ment Programmes



Terblanche Botes,
Procurement at
Rietvlei Mining
gave a presen-
tation on Pro-
curement and
Enterprise and
Supplier
Development
Programmes



Anna-Marth Ott, CEO - Middelburg
Chamber of Commerce and Industry

STLM AND ABSA PARTNER to upskill local contractors



Front row, from left to right: Johan Matshiane - MMC for Infrastructure and Technical Services, Semakaleng Nkadameng - Chief Whip, Cllr Bagudi Tolo - the late Executive Mayor, and Andries Mabena - Speaker, flanked by local contractors during the sod turning ceremony of Mhluzi sub-station.

More often than not, construction contract workers offer their services, unregistered, earning meagre salaries and lesser skills imparted onto them in the process.

These workers, largely known to be doing 'hard labour' entail bricklayers, concrete pourers, trench diggers, levelers and many more. Generally these workers are not highly skilled or graded thus they are lower graded than skilled workers.

It is a headache for some of these workers, as on completion of their labour, they are left with not much to show but to look for the next job. This concern has not gone unnoticed by the best run Municipality, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality, which has undertaken the responsibility to upskill these workers.

It is the view of the Municipal leadership that locals should be equipped with skills so that after finishing one project, they can be graded, registered and then become their own boss at a later stage.

In 2018 the Municipality extracted the status of local contractors and noticed that out of 2 000 registered contractors on Civil Engineering (CE) grading, 80% of those have CIDB level I grading.

The Municipality arranged a session where all contractors were invited and introduced to different funders and subjected to Supply Chain Management processes. During this session it was confirmed that the majority of contractors are below level 3 CIDB grading.

It was then presented to the local Lekgotla and the resolution was taken that the Municipality should embark onto a programme to develop contractors.

A tender contract for a period of 36 months was advertised on the Municipal website and local newspaper for the appointment of service providers.

Adding to the good news, in 2019 Amalgamated Banks of South Africa (ABSA)

came on board, forming a partnership with the Municipality and in the process, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Under the MoU, ABSA committed a R50-million funding for small contractors who have been identified by the Municipality in an effort to absorb unskilled labour.

Through the involvement with ABSA, a programme has been developed to help grade unskilled contractors.

This means upon completion of a project carried out by those identified, they are paid directly by ABSA, to later form part of the Municipality's database (to be considered for future projects) once they are graded.

This is one project that has brightened the faces of many contractors within the STLM area of jurisdiction as it gives first preference to locals. The project is seen to somewhat ring-fence local talent as well as help keep the local fiscus circulating among locals, thus empowering households and making sure they have something to put on the table.

The STLM and ABSA partnership project has proven a success, with the Municipality having appointed nine contractors so far for local Roads and Storm Water projects, eleven for Water and Sanitation projects and six upskilled contractors for Electrical Services projects.

As figures never lie, the contractor upskilling project has, to this point, 108 work opportunities across the board for the 2019/20 financial year as well as 991 opportunities during the 2020/21 financial year for locals, in the process absorbing women and youth.

Further project inspections will be conducted to check on the efficacy of the project, but in all, it's one project that STLM leadership can look at confidently with a smile, knowing they are indeed a Municipality working at improving the lives of its people.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Local Economic Development through Public/Private Partnerships

Anglo American **DONATES** water tanker

Good hygiene and adequate access to water by vulnerable communities tops the agenda of mining giants, Anglo American Coal SA.

The company, through its subsidiaries, Mafube Coal and Goedeheop Colliery, recently donated a 14 000 liter water tanker truck worth R1.2-million to STLM to assist them respond to the water needs of its farming communities. The donation will serve the mine's host communities.

During his address, Dawid Taljaard, General Manager of Goedeheop Colliery, said that there are still communities where a reliable and adequate supply of water is a luxury.

“We want to help by giving the Municipality capacity to deliver more water to the communities who need it most. We believe that this water tanker will go a long way in doing this,” Taljaard said.

He adds that based on the relationship they have with the Municipality, they saw

it convenient to respond to the basic needs of the residents.

“This is in the basis of our good relationship with this Municipality. Not so long ago we gathered here to hand over large quantities of PPE to protect local health workers,” he said.

The tanker came at the right time when the world is preaching the gospel of regular hand wash in the fight against Coronavirus.

“It is something that is universally regarded as the first line of defence in protecting our communities from the Coronavirus.

“When the days of Covid-19 are finally over, the tanker will still be used to provide fresh, clean and safe water to our most vulnerable communities,” he added.

Acting Mayor Johannes Matshiane said that the donation will add to the number of water tankers they have in the asset register and it will also serve a great

purpose in delivering water to the rural areas.

“We currently have five water trucks servicing all the 29 wards. We have seven wards that are in the rural areas,” Matshiane said.



Anglo American's Goedeheop Colliery and Mafube Coal have responded to rural communities with shoddy access to water in STLM. They donated a 14 000 liter water tanker truck worth over R1-million.

Urging locals into **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

STLM realises that most people are eager to do trading business within the Municipal area of jurisdiction.

To improve the local economy and fight the challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment, STLM advises bonafide residents to apply for permits to operate their respective businesses.

STLM has allocated trading spaces in developed areas such as malls. The demarcated spaces can only be used through permits issued by the Municipality.

STLM will follow certain protocols before permits are issued to entrepreneurs who meet the necessary requirements.

Invading spaces for any kind of business

is prohibited and the Municipality plans to take legal action against any transgressor.

Forceful removal will be implemented. The Municipality discourages such acts that will cause friction between itself and its residents.

Doing business is good for everyone in order to improve the economy but if anyone is caught without a permit, Law Enforcement Officers will confiscate goods.

Once goods are impounded, the owner will be required to pay a fine of R300. If perishable goods such as fruits and vegetables are impounded, the owner must ensure bail is paid within 24 hours.

A three-month bail period is reserved for non-perishable goods.

The Municipality has issued a warning that failure to pay bail within the required period of time, goods will be donated to Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) or dumped.

The main aim is to maintain law and order so that everyone can have a safe and clean working environment.

Trading at road intersections is against the law. This can result in slow traffic flow and accidents, even to the seller.

Additionally, hawkers and traders are warned to never rent out trading licences to foreign nationals as this creates a conflict of interest whereby locals might think that foreigners are being prioritised.

Also prohibited is displays of produce outside shops accompanied by loud music in business areas such as malls and shopping centres.

It becomes a public nuisance which by law is punishable. Business people are advised to use another form of advertising.

Glencore Izimbiwa Colliery and STLM turn the sod for the construction of **TOKOLOGO ROADS**

Glencore, Izimbiwa Colliery, and Steve Tshwete Local Municipality officially turned the sod on Thursday, 11 March, for the construction of inner roads at Ward 28, Tokologo, Mhluzi.



Andries Mabena - Council Speaker, Cllr Diphala Motsepe - Executive Mayor, Busani Tshabangu - Stakeholder Engagement Manager: Izimbiwa Coal Mine, and Cllr Thabang Morufane - Ward 28, turning the sod at Tokologo.



Hawkers are advised to apply for hawker's permits to avoid unnecessary fines and confiscation of goods.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Parks and Recreation

Appreciating the **BEAUTY** of recreational parks



Recreational parks are places where people relax during their leisure time and have social gatherings at any given time.

In a move to further recognise the importance of such spots, the STLM has opted to develop open spaces and illegal dumping sites and turn them into parks.

The developed parks are of a high standard. They consist of gym equipment and sports facilities like basketball courts and LCD screens. The STLM has done all this in order to improve the lives of the community, at the same time, jobs have also been created.

In all its efforts to upgrade the standard of living within the community, STLM has noted the appalling state of some of the local parks. Residents throw rubbish in the parks, leading them to potentially head back to the olden days of being dumping sites.

The parks then no longer become conducive as the bad smell pollutes the atmosphere. The rubbish strewn all over can also result in endangering the lives of community members. Their health is at great risk because of the bad odour and food rotting created by the rubbish.

But the Municipality stands firm to ensure that its people cannot live in rubbish and must always make sure that such places are kept clean at all times. It plays its role in making sure that the parks are run well and have everything that the community needs in order to function well.

As part of acting responsibly, the Municipality has put up warning boards in every park under its jurisdiction bearing the warning: **NO DUMPING PLEASE**.

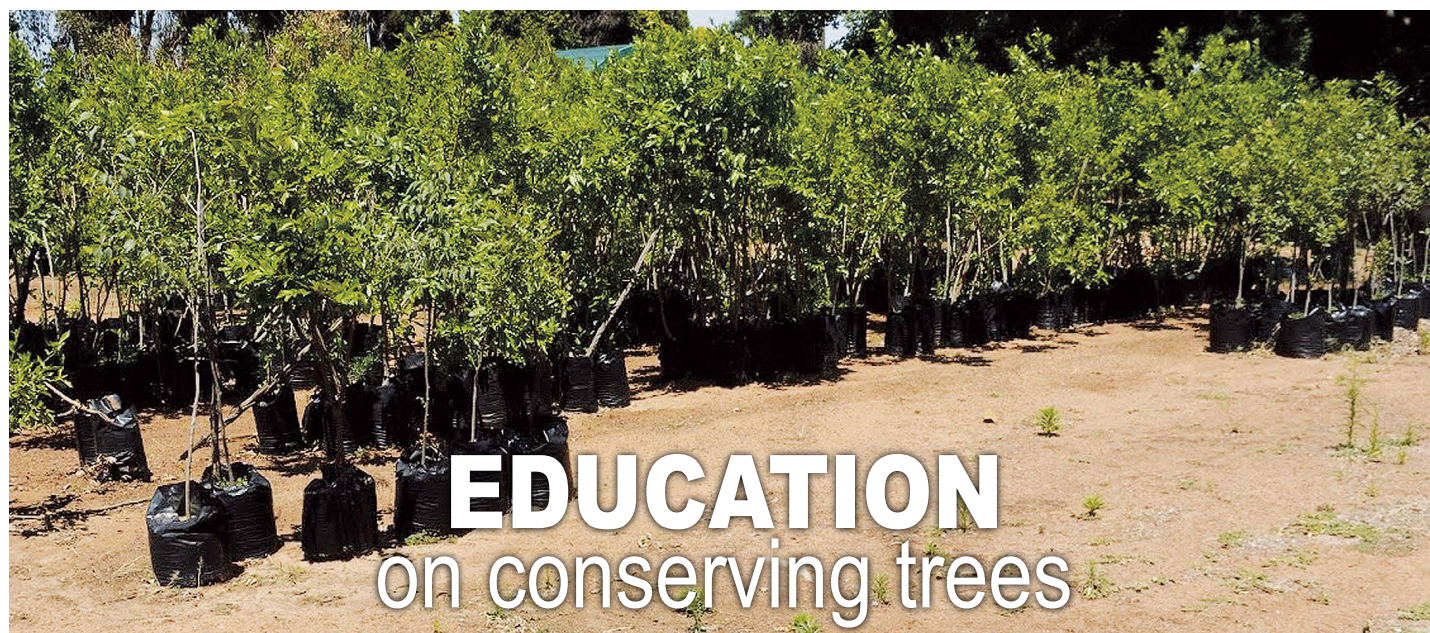
However, people still ignore the signs. To curb this, a hefty fine of R2 000 has been set to discipline all those who dump rubbish inside the parks.

The Rockdale, Mhluzi and Nazaret parks have been noted as very good examples in the community. Inversely, the Athlone dam, Pongola, Aerorand and the OR Tambo parks, to mention a few, have been raised as examples of parks that are not being taken care of by their respective communities.

Part of the problems in these parks include people who play loud music and litter. As such, the STLM requests members of the community to report illegal dumping more especially in parks. They can use the following numbers: 013 249 7024 / 7752 / 7814 / 7837

Parks are seen to be safe places for children to play at and even for elders to leisure there, which is why they are made to be beautiful. The STLM has developed about 103 parks which belong to the community, the Municipality only being the custodian.

It is encouraging to note that in other areas, community members take it upon themselves to make sure their parks are squeaky clean. They remove the rubbish and water the trees or even cut the grass themselves, a sign that they prove that they appreciate what the STLM has done for them.



A positive message on the conservation of trees is being spread to residents, because trees give life!

Trees and plants give us oxygen to live and in return, we give them carbon dioxide to survive.

A plea is being made to community members to help conserve trees, plants and grass, all of which are nature's greatest assets. The Municipality has embarked on a project to plant trees throughout town as well as in disadvantaged communities. All have been donated by the Municipal Nursery.

The initiative has led to the beautification of the town, and the Municipality is working hard to prevent it from falling into disrepair.

It is no wonder STLM is regarded as the best-run Municipality in the province, all because of its beauty and the kind of service it renders to its communities.

To help residents better understand nature, STLM warns against using trees planted on streets as advertising platforms.

Mounting advertising boards on trees, using nails or tying a wire around a tree, is prohibited as it contributes to reducing the trees' life span.

In other areas where trees are cut or pruned, residents are urged to allow trees to grow to the fullest so that they can produce enough oxygen which is needed by humans to breathe. Taller trees also help to slow the speed of strong

winds that could potentially blow away houses. Another educational factor is that trees also prevent soil erosion and further provide nice shade during sunny days.

Before the trees are planted in our communities, they are propagated at the Municipal Nursery. The trees go through four stages before they are ready to be planted. Each stage can take five to eight years after propagation, before they are planted.

STLM donates some of the trees to disadvantaged communities, schools, churches, parks, clinics and NGOs.

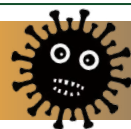


The STLM Nursery where different types of trees are grown. When they are big enough for planting, they are planted on sidewalks or donated to the community.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Parks and Recreation

Rondebosch Cemetery in use for **BURIALS**

Steve Tshwete Local Municipality has officially opened a 104 hectares gravesite, one of the largest cemeteries in the Middelburg area.

Rondebosch Cemetery was opened on 3 March and because of its size it will have a 50 years lifespan.

Mhluzi township and the surrounding areas have been using Phomolong Cemetery since 1998 but it has reached its maximum burial capacity on the adult burial site.

There are approximately nine hundred burial sites for children and second placements for families available.

The first gravesite in Mhluzi was Cross-roads Cemetery which has long since reached its full capacity as the township was still developing at the time.

The then Municipality opened a second gravesite called Avalon Cemetery in 1990 which has also reached its full capacity.

Middelburg's population is growing at 4,4% per annum, according to the 2016 community survey which shows that the Municipality is growing at a rapid rate.

The Municipality had to identify a new gravesite in Mhluzi where bereaved

families can bury their loved ones close to home, unfortunately, no suitable land for a gravesite is available.

The decision to establish a new cemetery at Rondebosch did not come

unchallenged as the Municipality understands the challenges of the community and the distance residents have to travel to bury their loved ones but Rondebosch is the only suitable area for the

gravesite.

Other burial sites still in use are Fontein, Nasareth, Hendrina and Kwazaomkuhle Cemeteries.



Optional **CEMETERIES** available

Cemeteries are a sacred place where families lay their loved ones to rest. They also need to be protected as much as people need protection at their homes.

The Steve Tshwete Local Municipality currently has about 11 cemeteries within its communities.

Of that number, some of them have become inactive because they have been filled to capacity.

The Municipality has taken upon itself to allocate a new site where new cemeteries will be developed.

At Somaphepha, the Municipality is still busy with studies for a new cemetery. In the Mafube area, the mine is giving back to the community by developing another cemetery.

Studies have already been done and the project will commence very soon.

Apart from burying loved ones, these cemetery projects will benefit the community by creating job opportunities.

A new cemetery at Sikhululiwe location is in the pipeline. STLM shows that it cares for both the dead and the living.

Currently there are eight cemeteries that are maintained in the Middelburg area and four in Hendrina and Kwazamokuhle. The new cemetery in Hendrina is operational but the development of roads and ablution is still in progress.

STLM is very concerned about the vandalism of cemeteries, saying such acts show no respect for the dead. Vandalism also causes a setback in terms of development.

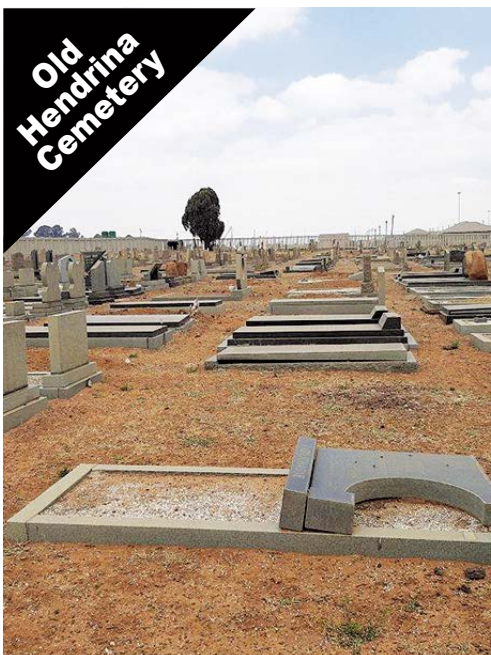
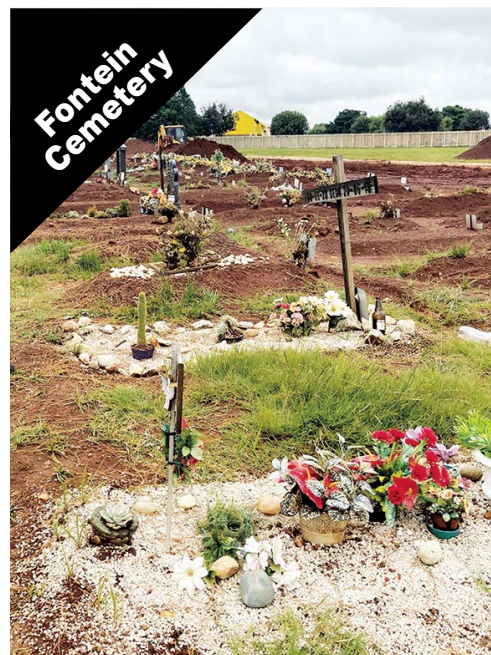
People break fences surrounding cemeteries to create short-cuts. In some cemeteries, STLM has put burglar bars

to prevent crime. Some graves don't have grave markers because they were stolen.

In Nazaret, two years ago, the Municipality bought a new ablution container but got stolen.

Crime has become a problem, a behaviour strongly condemned by the STLM leadership.

BOOKINGS
Ms Beauty Bucibo
013 249 7346



WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Parks and Recreation

GREENING initiative



Cllr Diphala Motsepe,
Executive Mayor.

As part of the build up to the annual national celebration of Earth Day on 22 April 2021, Steve Tshwete Local Municipality distributed 1 000 trees, including fruit and ornamental, to all 29 wards. This donation comes at a time when the damage of climate change is becoming more and more apparent in the world and locally.

The donation is also in line with the Municipality's Greening Initiative which focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving the quality of life of residents. Our communities remain at the centre of the Municipality's Greening Initiative which is driven by climate change response.

It also aims at encouraging and maintaining bio-diversity and the efficient use of our natural resources by our communities.

Trees and plants prevent atmospheric damage, both on a global and local scale. Trees and plants provide a cooling effect in hot weather and are the homes of many birds, insects and other living organisms.

Not only are trees and plants wonderful to look at, a green view is so much more than just decoration. Fruit trees do more than just sustain the environment by preventing soil erosion, they also provide food which is part of the programme to address the need for food security in our communities.



Steve Tshwete
Local
Municipality
distributed
1 000 trees,
including
fruit and
ornamental,
to all
29 wards



A greener future for our generation of tomorrow



WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Municipal Buildings

State-of-the-art **TAXI RANK** near completion

The month of October marks the observing of Transport Month countrywide, and STLM has been no exception.

Doing his bit, the late Tsietso Tolo, Executive Mayor, embarked on a campaign to do on-site inspections on 20 October at the Nasaret taxi rank in town.

He observed and interacted with passengers. He further held what is deemed a 'fruitful meeting' with local taxi association bosses who had the opportunity to share their challenges.

The Mayor maintains that a new state-of-the-art taxi rank will be built in order to avoid overcrowding and make transporting local people easier. He said the taxi industry is contributing immensely to the economy of the Municipality.

The new rank will accommodate taxis operating in Hlalamnandi, Extension 24, Nazareth, Rockdale, Rondebosch and Sam Rose areas.

The rank will further accommodate taxis operating on long distance routes.

The construction of the new taxi rank has been delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The state-of-the-art rank will provide space for hawkers to operate. There will be stalls and other great features that are top of the range.

"The purpose of building the new taxi rank is to help hawkers with ample space to do business. They will also be

issued with business permits.

"Passengers must feel safe every time they are in the taxi rank. Taxi bosses and operators must also feel comfortable in their working space. The challenges they face right now will be dealt with, I heard their cry," concluded the Mayor.

STLM also distributed pamphlets that warn people about the dangers of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In the pamphlet, residents will read about the rules and regulations they must follow in order to avoid getting sick.

The pamphlets also teach people about the new normal so that people can adjust to it.

How to be a law-abiding citizen and avoid arrest

STLM is requesting people to stop being ignorant when it comes to paying their traffic fines.

The Municipality has undertaken a drive through which it humbly advises people to avoid being issued with warrant of arrests.

According to STLM, once a person fails to pay the stipulated fine and is arrested, they will then automatically have a criminal record for the rest of their lives.



Cllr Bagudi Tolo - the late Executive Mayor, Muzi Kunene - main contractor of Crain-Fly Trading, and Municipal Officials during a loco inspection of the project.



Construction of Nasaret taxi rank is progressing well despite Covid-19 delays.

STLM at your service, **SOMAPHEPHA**

Thusong Service Centres, originally known as Multipurpose Community Centres (MPCCs) were conceived in the earliest days of democratic South Africa as one of the primary vehicles of development communication.

The centres provide opportunities for people to develop and progress towards a better life through access to information and services which was enshrined in the constitution of 1996. Thusong is a Sotho word meaning 'A place of help'.

As a new area, residents of Somaphepha

Village in Ward 9 had luck smiling on them as STLM had built a Thusong Service Centre.

Now help is within walking distance, their long distance travel to seek for services has been cut short. They will get everything right at their door step because a one stop service centre has been built.

Locals will now be able to access essential government services like paying municipal rates, Home Affairs, health as well as social grants among others. STLM said the construction of the Phase

1 of the service centre commenced on 30 April 2018 and was completed at the end of March 2019.

It also said that only the first phase will be built while the second and final phase will be completed once funds are available.

The Municipality has spent a total of R18-million to build the structure. The centre consists of a community hall and a library.

The library has a big space that will be used as a study area while the community hall will carry a capacity of 800 people.

A guard house has also been constructed together with a sewerage treatment plant and water supply system. This will also involve minor landscaping.

The construction of the centre also had a positive impact to community members as jobs were created. The lack of skilled labourers became a problem but the company on site managed to employ some.

The Municipality urges government departments to make use of the offices

built at the centre in order to bring service closer to residents. Government departments do not want to co-operate and hire offices at the centre because they are reluctant to pay rent.

If they can utilise the office space there, residents will not struggle to get services.

The intention of the Municipality is to get all services in one place without spending a cent.

On 27 July 2018, the late Executive Mayor, Bagudi Tolo, conducted a sod turning ceremony to mark the official beginning of the construction of the first phase of the centre.

The Municipality says it has kept its promise to deliver good services to the people of Somaphepha, emphasising that the presence of Thusong Centre is not for the Municipality but for the people.

It means that the community need to safeguard it from vandalism as it has cost the Municipality millions of Rands to construct.



State-of-the-art Thusong Service Centre at Somaphepha Village.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Inter-Governmental Relations

Middelburg PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL under construction



The Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport is constructing a new hospital in Middelburg, adjacent to Middelburg Mall. Further information will be shared in the next edition.

NEWTOWN LIBRARY under construction

A reading community is an informed community. The construction of a new library is currently underway in the Mhluzi/Newtown area. It will ensure that the saying lives up to its true form.

Newtown is quickly developing into a civilised integrated human settlement. It will boast a new library - currently under construction and other completed amenities such as parks and roads.

The new R14-million state-of-the-art

library is still at the foundation stage, but is anticipated to be completed in the near future.

The library is a Mpumalanga Department of Arts and Culture, Sports and Recreation project under the STLM stewardship. The Municipality allocated the land where the library is being built.

The library will be a first of its kind as authorities say it has special features that cannot be found at the other libraries.

As part of its unique features, the library

boasts green building features. It will consist of a special section where children can play with toys that are in line with the Early Childhood Development programme, as prescribed by the government, stipulating that children aged two should start going to learning centres.

According to age groups, children will enjoy the benefit of playing indoors or outside in a leisure park area. It will ensure that adults don't get disturbed on their trip to the library.

Everything happening inside and outside the library will be under the watchful eyes of workers. Library assistants will be there to assist in locating books.

It will also have a big boardroom and ample space for studying.

Its construction is seen to have come at the right time because there was none in the area.

Locals previously struggled to find information and they had to walk a long distance to Chromeville in order to access library services.

Upon completion, residents will easily access the power of information at close proximity. The local library will further save local residents long trips which, at times, ended with exposure to criminal activities.

The Newtown Library will also help the community with the creation of job opportunities. Many households will be able to put food on the table, with more employment available after its completion.

At the library patrons will also have free access to computers that are connected to free wi-fi, accessing information with ease.



WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Inter-Governmental Relations



Five road projects **UNDERWAY**

Five notable projects, under the auspices of the Mpumalanga Department of Public Works, Roads and Transport, were lined up for the 2020/2021 financial year.

The first project is the rehabilitation of the coal haul road from the N11 in Hendrina. As a result of inclement weather and reported labour unrest affecting the project, only 10% progress of the envisaged 13% target has been achieved.

Phase 1 of the second project is the rehabilitation of the coal haul road between van Dyksdrift and Hendrina. Only 12% of the targeted 40% of the project has been completed as a result of the withdrawal of coal haulage funding. Phase 2 of the rehabilitation project reported a 100% completion.

The third project is the rehabilitation of the coal haul road from Montagu Street in Middelburg to the N4 which is a 100% complete.

A 23 kilometre rehabilitation of the road between Arnot Power Station and Hendrina is still at 0% completion, with the project said to be in a 'defects liability period'.

Phezukomnotho Mlimi **GARDEN PROJECT**

The Phezukomnotho Mlimi Garden Project in STLM, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development, has seen completion of its projects within the stipulated time during the 2020/2021 financial year.



The three-pronged project targeted subsistence, small holder and commercial projects within the Municipality.

The 670 hectare plant project, with a budget of R6.7-million, provided mechanisation to 86 farmers and entities. The project saw the allocated budget met.

Another project, which also met its allocated R70 000 budget, was a 10 hectare project that provided production inputs and garden working tools.

The Municipality and the Department reported that a piggery project in Doornkop, Ward 29, was also completed and met the budget of R460 000.

This spells success on the part of the Municipality and its objectives to uplift its communities.

DOORKOP project

With regards to feedback on STLM's Rural Infrastructure Development projects, an 85% progress can be confirmed wherein the project in place entails the supply and installation of solar street lights in the Doornkop area. The project has been allocated R9.2-million.

In the Middelburg area, the Municipality is working on a livestock project which is currently in its planning stages. This forms part of the Municipality's land development support projects.

The Municipality has undertaken four red meat/grains projects in the Middelburg and Stoffberg areas with an estimated 35 jobs to be created across the board.



Donations of **GARDENING TOOLS**

The Municipality, in partnership with the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, donated garden tools to nine beneficiaries who are managing community gardens within the Municipal jurisdiction on 23 February 2021.

Beneficiaries in Wards 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9 and 29 were identified through the Community Works Programme as being in desperate need of new tools.



WARD 1: Senzokuhle Centre. Doctor Skosana - Ward 1 Councillor.



WARD 3: Johanna Mlangeni - Ward 3 Committee Member



WARD 5: Pullenshope. Caroline Mphego - Ward 5 Councillor.



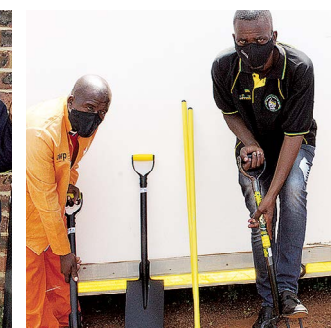
WARD 6: Evergreen Primary School. Maria Simelane, CWP Supervisor.



WARD 7: Rietkuil Orphanage Home. Johan Matshiane, Ward 7 Councillor.



WARD 9: Beestepan Farm. Elizabeth Kgagara - CWP Supervisor.



WARD 9: Somaphepha. Cllr Johanna Skosana.



WARD 29: Doornkop Phase 2. Francina Setoaba - Ward 29 Committee Member.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Behind the Scenes - the people who make it happen

LONG SERVICE awards 2020



10 YEARS



20 YEARS



30 YEARS



40 YEARS

In his remarks, Cllr Bagudi Tolo, the late Executive Mayor, thanked and encouraged long serving employees during the Long Services Awards and said:

“It is indeed an honour and a privilege for us to pause and give due recognition to the stalwarts of our Municipality who served our residents with loyalty and dedication.

Quite often, we lack the very basic attributes that make us human, just to say ‘thank you’ when a person has done something good. Indeed your self-worth as employees is recognised and greatly appreciated.

Steve Tshwete Municipality has a ‘heartbeat’ precisely because you gave everything, body and soul, to make the Municipality functional.

Although this gesture is quite modest compared to the amount of sacrifice, loyalty and energy that these workers invested in our Municipality, it means a lot to us.

It should be noted that the majority of recipients of the awards are from the lower income groups. However, they opted to remain steadfast and served the Municipality with dedication.

Sadly, it is common experience particularly among our young generation today to look for work and join organisations, all for wrong reasons, such as instant promotions, big salaries and exquisite fringe benefits.

This is all expected within a short space of time without a corresponding effort to consolidate one’s experience, grow a body of knowledge, contribute to growth and profitability and become a valuable asset to the life of that organisation.

We therefore need to start by promoting a strong work ethic as a foundation for a productive nation, if we want to be competitive and prevail as STLM.

And for that we cannot thank our employees enough because of their loyalty and reliability have become precious attributes we cannot do without.

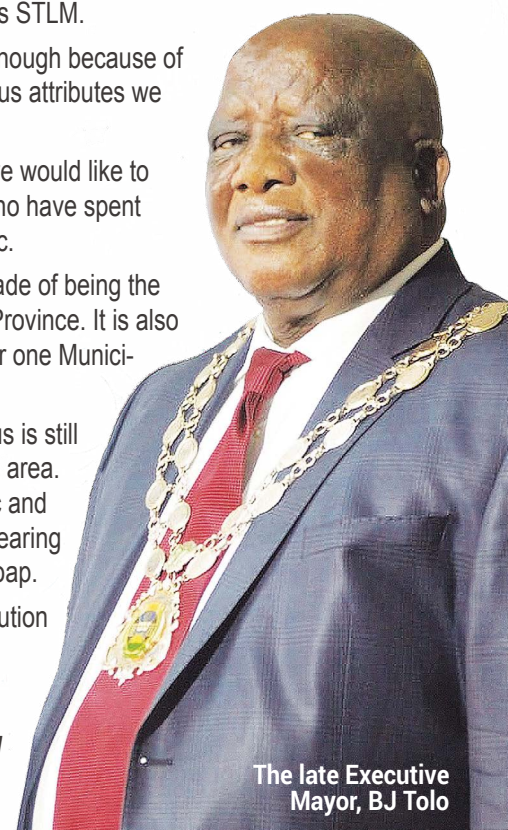
On behalf of the Steve Tshwete Municipality, we would like to salute you men and women of steel, people who have spent virtually their lifetime in the service of the public.

Without you we would not have won the accolade of being the Cleanest and Greenest town in Mpumalanga Province. It is also through your efforts that we remain the number one Municipality in the Province.

I also want to continue to warn that corona virus is still ravaging our country and indeed our municipal area. Let us be foot soldiers in fighting the pandemic and spreading the message of social distancing, wearing of masks and regular washing of hands with soap.

Once again, thanks very much for your contribution to our Municipality.”

PLEASE NOTE: Executive Director: Corporate Services, Muzi Khumalo, handed out Long Service Awards Certificates to all the recipients.



The late Executive Mayor, BJ Tolo

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

WALKING an EXTRA MILE to enforce BY-LAWS



STLM would like to thank South32 for the donation of four bakkies and three motorbikes to be utilised by Law Enforcement Officers.

The Steve Tshwete Local Municipality has recruited new Law Enforcement Officers who will be entrusted with the responsibility of enforcing by-laws. The officers will complement the Municipal Traffic Department.

With the proposed Municipal Court in the pipeline, the Municipality has recruited 15 new Law Enforcement Officers to help with enforcing by-laws. They will, while enforcing the law, help maintain

peace and stability within the municipal area of jurisdiction.

The recruited officers were subjected to an internal training session conducted between September and October 2020, intended to familiarise them to municipal by-laws. The training was conducted by different departments.

The recruited team of 15 men and women includes 11 former South African Police Service members.

In November they left for Cape Town to attend an advanced training as the Municipality trends towards being recognised as a Municipality that takes implementation of its by-laws seriously.

Training focused on a comprehensive approach that looks to several legislative framework and regulations.

Thokozile Zulu, Executive Director for Community Services, says the training programme will help to maintain our status of being the best in Mpumalanga

and thrive to be among the best in the country.

According to Zulu, by-law implementation will take centre stage, focusing mainly on waste management, air quality and buildings control.

The aim is to have 15 additional new recruited officers responsible for the enforcement of all Municipal by-laws as outlined in the Government Gazette.



Thokozile Zulu, Executive Director for Community Services (Centre), and Executive Mayor, Cllr Diphale Motsepe, with the newly recruited Municipal Law Enforcement Officers before undergoing training in Cape Town.



Second from left: Dingane Ntuli, Superintendent - Traffic Department, Bheki Khenisa - Municipal Manager, with Law Enforcement Officers.

All eyes set on consumer DATA CLEANSING

A door-to-door survey/audit and data cleansing project for Water and Electricity is underway within STLM, it focuses on reading meters to ensure accuracy of customer details on the financial management systems, thereby assisting the Municipality to send correct accounts to residents.

Data cleansing is an annual, free of charge, survey conducted by the Municipality. Ntiyiso Consulting has been contracted by the Municipality to conduct the door-to-door survey. The project started in November and was implemented in Wards 19, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 and 29.

Phase 2 includes Eastdene, Mineralia, Industria, Aerorand, Middelburg CBD, Golfsg, Clubville, Midlands Estate, Kanonkop, Dennesig, and Modderspruit.

Phase 3 includes Kwazamokuhle, Hendrina, Komati, Pullenshope, Rietkuil, Nasaret, and Rockdale.

Fourty field workers residing in the above-mentioned Wards were recruited and trained to do the data cleansing. They took pictures of water and electricity meters on the premises to ensure billing is accurate.

To ensure the process runs smoothly, the Municipality sent a request to residents to give full support and co-operate during the door-to-door survey, emphasising that the information required would only be used to update financial records and will not be used for any other purposes i.e marketing or election campaigns.

The Municipality is aware of previously reported crimes of bogus door-to-door surveyors, taking money from residents. **DO NOT FALL FOR THE TRICK! PLEASE REPORT ANYONE ASKING FOR MONEY OR PAYMENT TO A FAKE ACCOUNT TO THE SAPS ON 10111**

BY-LAWS

The following transgressions should be guarded against.

- Illegal dumping and sand mining.
- Illegal land invasion and advertising.
- Stray animals and noise.
- Burning of waste.
- Water pollution, littering and loitering.
- Conditions causing vermin like rodents, mosquitoes, flies, fleas, bugs, cockroaches on any premise or vacant land.
- No washing of cars or laundry in any stream, pool, river or dam.
- No urinating in a public place or in view of others.
- Operating tuck shops without a business licence.
- Illegal water and electricity connections.
- Public drinking and parking on sidewalks.
- Building encroachment.

Visit the Environmental and Solid Waste Management Department - offices D205 and D208, 1st floor, Cnr Wanderers Avenue and Walter Sisulu Street or phone 013 249 7024 / 7752 / 7814 / 7837.

Covid-19 regulations for attending a funeral

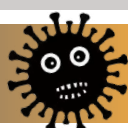
- Funeral attendance is limited to 100 persons maximum, with persons observing a distance of at least one and a half metres from each other.
- Night vigils are not allowed.
- After-funeral gatherings, including 'after-tears' gatherings, are not allowed.
- During a funeral, a person must wear a face mask and adhere to all health protocols and social distancing measures.
- The duration of a funeral is restricted to a maximum of two hours.

We urge residents to please abide by the regulations and avoid unnecessary clustering at funerals.

We need to adhere to Covid-19 rules to keep safe. Continue to sanitise, keep social distance and wear your mask at all times.

Together we can beat this as long as we follow the health protocol.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

MATRIC EXAMS AND A PRAYER

Over a hundred matric learners from various schools within STLM congregated at the Sydney Choma Banquet Hall last year before the start of the matric exams for an hour-long prayer session.

The Matric Class of 2020, ahead of the daunting year-end exams, sought divine intervention with a prayer session, courtesy of STLM leadership.

Educators, Principals and Circuit 1, 2 and 3 Managers as well as the late Cllr Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor, attended the prayer session.

During his address, the late Executive Mayor wished the learners well and urged them not to rely on prayer alone. "We are now pinning our hopes, trust and belief on you doing us proud as the number one Municipality in the province.

"Your prayers should be coupled by hard work which includes sleepless nights, research and focusing on your studies. Prayer alone cannot make you pass, pray whilst making sure that you study. It is the only way that can make you pass."

Thabisile Mkhwanazi, Municipal Youth Manager, motivated the learners: "It has been said that everything is hard in the beginning, messy in the middle and elegant in the end. You have been working towards this elegant moment during your basic schooling journey.

"As a Grade 12 learner, you went through the hard work of starting basic schooling, navigating yourself through the middle that eventually led to a priceless moment in your basic school journey. Therefore I plead with each and every one of you to take this priceless moment as all the money in the world will not bring it back.

"Today, we are gathered here to pray for you and ask God to give us the grace to sustain, the strength to stand firm and willpower to keep on going.

"STLM Matric Class of 2020 I wish you all the best, study smart and know that I am so proud of you," Mkhwanazi concluded.

Naveen Reddy, Education Manager of STLM 1, put pressure on the Class of 2020 when she informed them that the Class of 2019 scooped the STLM best Municipality accolade in the province.

"The Class of 2019 from STLM 3 Circuit became the best in the province for two consecutive years.

"The pressure to perform and ensure that you are the cream of this crop is enormous, hence putting performance in line with prayer is a good way to start.

"You have almost completed a basic education that serves as a platform to launch yourself into your future," said Reddy.

A word of encouragement from Wiseman Jiyane, South African Youth Council.

"Rest well. It is important that you take some time during your exam preparations to rest. Be disciplined and keep on studying," he added.

WHAT THE LEARNERS HAD TO SAY
Klaas Maile - Tshwenyane Combined School in Mhluzi. "I have been waiting to write the exams. I spent sleepless nights studying."

Xoliswa Motshweni - Sozama High School. "We had online classes during lockdown and they helped us with the first term revision. We also had extra classes after reopening."



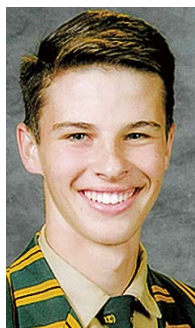
Above: The late Cllr Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor, and Cllr Diphala Motsepe, the new Executive Mayor.

Below: Matrics at prayer.



Steve Tshwete learner **TOPS** in province

STLM has set its footprint in academic excellence, evidenced when one of its learners was hailed a top achiever in the province for the 2020 academic year.



Kurpershoek, from Middelburg Hoërskool, performed exceptionally well, passing all seven subjects with distinctions, landing at number one position.

Out of 53 391 learners who sat for exams, Kurpershoek obtained 96.3%, which is above the Municipality's 84.7%.

According to the Mpumalanga Department of Education, his performance was above average for all learners in the province.

The department's political head, MEC Bonakele Majuba, expressed appreciation and elation for his hard work and commitment.

"I wish to take this opportunity once again to congratulate Willem, the man of the moment and our shining star of the day.

"Congratulations to you young man for being so great and a role model to the thousands of learners through your achievements. You really make us all proud and please keep the Mpumalanga banner flying even at university.

"You registered seven distinctions under your name and made the province proud. You have proven to your peers that hard work, commitment and dedication surely pay off," Majuba said.

The MEC kick-started his visit at Middelburg Hoërskool, accompanied by various private companies that surprised the provincial top achiever with gifts, including cash and appliances.

Kurpershoek received a brand new car, sponsored by CliniPro, a R30 000 cheque from SASOL as well as R10 000 from Standard Bank. He also received a laptop from Vodacom, a television set, a mini refrigerator, a microwave oven, a kettle, travel bags, a toaster, a tablet and an electric iron.

He was also sponsored with a full bursary covering full tuition, accommodation, textbooks, food and R2 500 monthly stipend.

Cllr Diphala Motsepe, Executive Mayor, congratulated Kurpershoek and indicated that the 2020 academic year presented a very huge challenge to learners because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Truly, there can be no doubt in anyone's mind that the 2020 academic year has been an uphill battle for most. This was more so for learners from previously disadvantaged communities and schools," Motsepe said.

He encouraged other learners to take Kurpershoek's achievement as a reminder that hard work will not disappoint them.

"Surely hard work pays. This is not magic or a miracle but outcomes of true commitment. You too can achieve this, even more, only if you can look at what is happening today and allow it to positively influence you," he concluded.

WEAR YOUR MASK

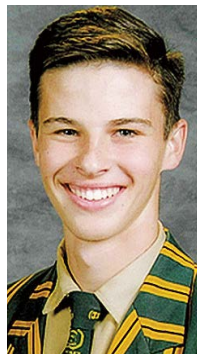
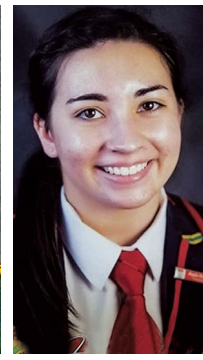





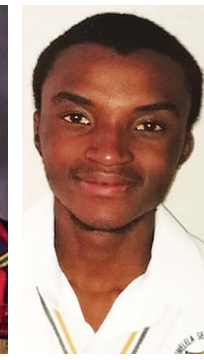




SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Mayor honours the Class of 2020 **TOP ACHIEVERS**

									
96.3%	92.4%	90.9%	90.6%	90.1%	87.9%	87.8%	86.2%	86.1%	86%
Willem Lodewijk Kurpershoek Hoërskool Middelburg	Kayla da Silva HTS Middelburg	Stephan Erasmus Hoërskool Middelburg	Shireen Putter Hoërskool Middelburg	Francois Neil Combrink Hoërskool Middelburg	Vivek Mohanlala Steelcrest High School	Carla Kruger HTS Middelburg	Benedict Sindane Phumelela Secondary School	Belita Prinsloo HTS Middelburg	Lucky Mahlangu Tshwenyane Secondary School



Executive Mayor, Cllr Diphala Joseph Motsepe, is flanked by learners, parents and sponsors from Rietvei Mining Company who donated 10 laptops, 10 backpacks, 10 external hard drives, 10 power banks, 10 computer mice and 10 Microsoft softwares. Tumelo Coal Mines donated 1 laptop, 1 backpack and 1 mouse. Arnot Opco Coal Mine donated 10 laptops, 10 backpacks and 10 Microsoft softwares.

THE TOP-10 STUDENTS RECEIVED LAPTOPS, BACKPACKS, POWERBANKS, MICE AND EXTERNAL HAND DRIVES



The Executive Mayor with Willem Kupereshoek's father.



The Executive Mayor with Kayla da Silva's mother and Dipolelo Mohokare, Arnot Opco Coal Mine - HR and responsible for community projects and Vane Reddy, Circuit Manager of Steve Tshwete 1.



The Executive Mayor with Francois Combrink.



The Executive Mayor with Vivek Mohanlala.



The Executive Mayor with Carla Kruger's grandfather.



The Executive Mayor with Benedict Sindane's brother.



The Executive Mayor with Belita Prinsloo's father.



The Executive Mayor with Stephan Erasmus, Nomusa Xulu, Rietvei Mining Company, Daniel Makuse, Department of Education Circuit Manager of Steve Tshwete 2, and Dalisu Nkosi, General Manager, Rietvei Mining Company.



The Executive Mayor with Lucky Mahlangu.



Benedict Sindane's brother - Quintile 1 - 86.2% - Phumelela Secondary School with Executive Mayor, Cllr Diphala Motsepe.



Willem Kurpershoek's father - Quintile 4 - 96.3% - Hoërskool Middelburg with Executive Mayor, Cllr Diphala Motsepe.

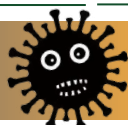


Nonhlanhla Skosana - Quintile 2 - 65.1% - Beestepan Agricultural High School with Executive Mayor, Cllr Diphala Motsepe.



Luyanda Mahlangu - Quintile 3 - 84.1% - Mphanama Secondary School with Executive Mayor, Cllr Diphala Motsepe.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

Diphala Motsepe **INDUCTED** into office as Executive Mayor

Cllr Diphala Joseph Motsepe is bestowed with responsibilities to lead STLM after the position became vacant following the passing of the late Bagudi Tolo on 2 February 2021.

Cllr Motsepe from Ward 18, possesses vast political and civic experience. He previously served as Member of Mayoral Committee for Community Safety. He was elected and sworn in as Mayor at the Sydney Choma Banquet Hall on 1 March 2021 as per the Municipal Structures Act of 1998.

His inauguration was held on 8 April 2021 at Kwazamokuhle, Hendrina. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, the event could take a limited number of people, connecting the remainder virtually through a live streaming on the Municipality's Facebook channel.

During his keynote address, Motsepe

started by explaining why the Municipality chose to celebrate his inauguration in Hendrina.

“It is because this town is part of MP313 and we are not mincing our words when we say **you are Steve Tshwete and Steve Tshwete is you**. We will continue to bridge the gap that historically existed between these two towns which has been evident by establishing a Mayoral Office here,” he said.

“I want to assure the residents of Steve Tshwete that we will be a government for every single one of you regardless of your political affiliation.

“Having served this Municipality for the past 10 years, history has taught me that through collaborative, robust and engaging debate, we can build realistic plans that are achievable and can be delivered to our people.

“This is a course I personally have advanced and I still subscribe to it. We are prepared to continue to build confidence and trust in our people by delivering on

the promises made by the previous and current Council, and we are also willing to accelerate the pace of delivery,” he concluded.



Bheki Khenisa, Municipal Manager, symbolically places the Chain of Office around Cllr Diphala Motsepe, the Executive Mayor's neck during the inaugural ceremony.

The **EXECUTIVE** Council



Cllr Andries Mabena. Council Speaker.



Cllr Diphala Motsepe, Executive Mayor.



Cllr Semakaleng Nkadineng, Chief Whip.



Cllr Sonto Malapeng, MMC for Culture, Environmental Health and Social Services.



Cllr Mondli Kgalema, MMC for Community Safety.



Cllr Thandi Mnguni, MMC for Spatial Development and Human Settlement.



Cllr Marumo Sekgwele, MMC for Corporate Services.



Cllr Johan Matshiane, MMC for Infrastructure.

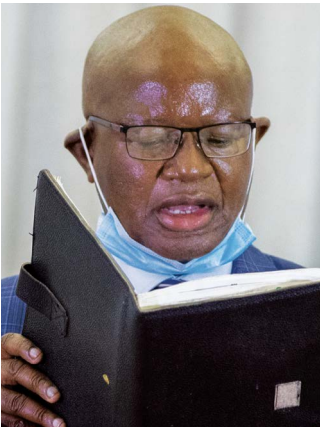


Cllr Cathrine Mkhuma, MMC for Financial Services.

The Mayor also highlighted the following service delivery success stories

- The construction of Thusong Service Centre in Kwazamokuhle. The centre will be a one-stop facility catering to service delivery needs.
- We are developing Kwazamokuhle Stadium as one of our legacy projects.
- We have relocated 100 beneficiaries to serviced sites in Extension 9.
- A Thusong Service Centre in Rockdale.
- All our parks have been upgraded with ablution facilities.
- A taxi rank in Middelburg is currently under construction.
- Sporting facilities in Eastdene have been upgraded.
- Facility upgrade at Middelburg Dam.
- The construction of the Reabota Flats by the Department of Human Settlement is underway.
- The Premier of Mpumalanga Province is set to visit STLM for the sod turning of the Middelburg Hotel and Conference Center. All preparation for the construction of the hotel have been finalised.
- We have finalised Dennisig South stands.
- Plans are at an advanced stage for the servicing of Middelburg Mall and surrounding mines in respect of waste management.

Messages of support for the Mayor came from ...



Reverend William Sehlola.



Cllr Johanna Mthombeni - EFF.



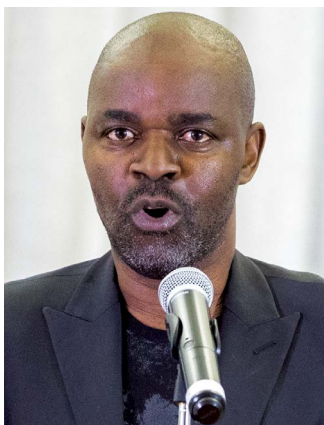
Cllr Johannes Duvenage - FF+.



Cllr Thapelo Motloung - ANC.



Cllr Sophia Mogola - DA.



Apostle David Zwane.

Diphala Motsepe **INDUCTED** into office as Executive Mayor



Senior Magistrate DJ Erasmus, Cllr Diphala Joseph Motsepe - Executive Mayor, Andries Mabena - Council Speaker, and PR Cllr Busisiwe Ndala.



Cllr Diphala Motsepe - Executive Mayor, Major-General CL Lentsoane, and Frank Mohloane - Deputy Director: Public Safety.



Cllr Mandla Mark Skhosana and Cllr Maria Nomgqibelo Mathibela.



Major K Oliphant and Major NM Mathe from 4SAI Battalion.



Sarah Masilela - Executive Mayor Nkangala District Municipality.



Linah Malatjie - Executive Mayor Emalahleni Local Municipality.



Ndabezitha Skosana.



Executive Mayor cheers his wife, Shiela Eunice Motsepe, after his keynote address.

CONGRATULATIONS TO COUNCIL'S ALDERMEN



Alderman Elizabeth du Toit.



Alderman Petrus Pretorius.



Alderman Thandi Mnguni.

Masakhane News wishes to congratulate the three Council Aldermen for serving Steve Tshwete Local Municipality with dedication and loyalty for more than fifteen years. The honour bestowed upon them is a feat that deserves a special mention.

WELCOME TO NEW COUNCILLORS



Cllr Juanette Mentz.



Cllr Cacious Sihle Mashiloane.



Cllr Busisiwe Ndala.

IN MEMORIAM ...

Rest in peace



Cllr Bagudi Tolo, Executive Mayor.



WARD 22 Cllr Patrick Motau.



PR COUNCILLOR Karel Uys.



AMPAC CHAIRPERSON Ald Robert Xaba.

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

PUBLIC NOTICES

INDIGENT REBATE

Consumers who were delisted that wish to re-apply for the rebate, the following documentation are required for submission with the completed application form:

Applicant original ID
Death certificate • Marriage certificate
In case of a divorce - a divorce decree
Letter of authority - deceased estates
Three-month bank statements
SASSA - letter confirming grant
Retrenchment / exit letter

If you are an owner, partner or account holder who is a director of a dormant or inactive company the following have to be additionally submitted:

Latest bank statement of dormant / inactive company
Copy of SARS tax clearance certificate for said dormant / inactive company
If your total income from JULY 2020 TO JUNE 2021 exceeds R3 720 - two state pensions - you automatically don't qualify for the Rebate

MUNICIPAL MANAGER - B KHENISA

GENERAL VALUATION AND PREPARATION OF VALUATION ROLL 2023 - 2028

Notice is hereby given,

in terms of Section 41 and 42 of Local Government: Municipal Rates Act, 2004 (Act 6 of 2004), hereinafter referred to as the "Act",

that officials of the Municipality will be visiting properties in town for the preparation of the General Valuation Roll 2023-2028.

An official of the Municipality will have to produce an employee card upon request and will be driving Municipal marked cars.

ANY QUERIES MUST BE DIRECTED TO

Juanita Dedekind - 013 249 7088 or Phumlane Mkhize - 013 249 7282
Department of Property Valuation Services • Room C218 • First floor
Steve Tshwete Local Municipality • Corner Walter Sisulu Str & Wanderers Avenue
from 29 March 2021 to 30 June 2022

MUNICIPAL MANAGER - B KHENISA

DEPARTMENT OF TOWN PLANNING AND HUMAN SETTLEMENT

OUR SERVICE STANDARDS

Building plans are finalised within 30 days for areas smaller than 500m² and within 60 days for areas larger than 500m², provided all the required information and documentation were submitted on time

Booked building inspections and attended to within two working days

Rezoning, consent use and township establishment applications are decided upon within 60 days provided all the required information and documentation have been received on time

Subdivision and consolidation applications are decided upon within 60 days provided all the required information and documentation have been received on time

All complaints received on illegal land use and building work are attended to within three working days and progress is given within three working days

SERVICES RENDERED

Evaluation of applications for township establishment, rezoning, subdivision, consolidation, consent use, and erection of advertising signs

Evaluation of building and site development plans

Inspection of all building activities

Law enforcement on illegal land use and illegal building works including advertising signs

Develop policies for land development and building standards

CONTACT DETAILS

STLM Infrastructure Building • 14 SADC Street
Town Planning - 013 249 7068
Building Section - 013 249 7179 / 7788
Email: council@stlm.gov.za

BOOKING OF COMMUNITY HALLS

Residents are hereby informed that Community Hall bookings are at Nashua - Infrastructure Building, SADC Street

Residents are welcome to book the following Community Halls

Eric Jiyane Community Hall

Adelaide Tambo Community Hall

Eastdene Community Hall

Nazareth Community Hall

Banquet Hall

Cosmos Community Hall Hendrina

Gerard Sekoto Auditorium Boardroom

ENQUIRIES

Mr Elliot Mdluli

013 249 7245 / 7020 / 7312

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Switchboard 013 249 7000

24-Hour Call Centre 013 249 7344

013 249 7348

013 249 7349

Finance Enquiries 013 249 7255

013 249 7156

013 249 7157

013 249 7158

STLM DEPARTMENTS

Mayor's Office 013 249 7261

Municipal Manager 013 249 7263

ICT Services 013 249 7016

Development Strategic Support

013 249 7334

Finance 013 249 7107

Executive Director: Community Services

013 249 7097

Licensing 013 249 7038

Fire and Rescue 013 249 7845

Cultural Services 013 249 7314/7709

Protective Service 013 249 7213

Traffic 013 249 7030

Parks, Recreation and Cemeteries

013 249 7209 / 013 249 7346
072 672 0441

Environmental and Solid Waste

013 249 7024

Housing 013 249 7792

Executive Director: Infrastructure

013 249 7207

Municipal Buildings 013 249 7020

Town Planning 013 249 7068

Civil Engineering 013 249 7170

Electrical 013 249 7221

Executive Director: Corporate Service

013 249 7242

Property Valuation 013 249 7088

Legal and Admin 013 249 7364

Communications 013 249 7054

Youth Centre 013 249 7279

Human Resources 013 249 7345

COMPLAINTS MOBILE NUMBERS

Water 066 033 5058

Electricity 072 335 4058

Accounts 082 952 6964

Vending outlets 072 263 6813

Fire and Rescue 076 655 1754

Cemeteries 082 390 2958

Law Enforcement 082 501 1879

Traffic 072 394 5423

Solid Waste 082 399 6487

COMPLAINTS LANDLINE NUMBERS

Water 013 249 7344

Electricity 013 249 7348

Accounts 013 249 7349

Vending Outlets 013 249 7714

Fire and Rescue 013 243 2222

013 249 7222

MAYORAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cllr Johan Matshiane - MMC for Infrastructure Development Services
081 263 4155

Cllr Cllr Muka Mnguni - MMC for Spatial Development, Human Settlement & Housing Administration
084 456 2868

Cllr Mondli Kgalema - MMC for Financial Services
079 194 9187

Cllr Sonto Malepeng - MMC for Arts, Cultural & Environment Health
072 678 9826

Cllr Catherine Mkhuma - MMC Financial Services
076 083 5756

Cllr Marumo Sekgwele - MMC for Corporate Services
076 323 6823

VENDING OUTLETS

Mhluzi Ext 4 Sasol Nkululeko Garage

Middelburg Maranata Engen Garage

Middelburg Tosca Kanonkop

Middelburg Kanonkop Superspar

Hendrina Burgers Garage

Middelburg Midwater Engen Garage

Middelburg Total Garage next to Middelburg Mall

Middelburg Kruger Park Total Garage

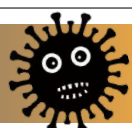
Komati OK Grocery Store

Middelburg Sasol Garage Meyer Street

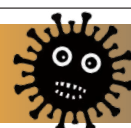
Hlalamnandi Choppies Supermarket

Facebook @officialstlm

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE

PUBLIC NOTICES

STOP ILLEGAL DUMPING RENT A SKIP



**WE HELP YOU BY SAFELY COLLECTING
AND DISPOSING OF**
building rubble, general and garden waste



FURTHER
INFORMATION

Dudu Nkosi - 013 249 7300
Prudence Maseko - 013 249 7024
Department of Solid Waste - office D210



BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR LIBRARIES

TO QUALIFY, PLEASE BRING YOUR
ID document

Proof of residence - adult and children
Birth certificate - children

Gerard Sekoto Library
013 249 7314

Rietkuil Library
013 249 7813

Hendrina Library
013 249 7247

Somaphepha Library
013 249 7314

Chromeville Library
013 249 7025

Doornkop Library
013 249 7396

Mhluzi, Ext 7 Library
013 249 7136 / 7808

Komati Library
013 249 7803

Eastdene Library
013 249 7275

Mhluzi Library
013 249 7146

Pullenshope Library
013 296 1300

Nasaret Library
013 249 7390

NUISANCE BY-LAWS

everything you need to know

STRAY ANIMALS



DON'T ALLOW ANIMALS TO ROAM AROUND FREELY

DISOBEYING BY-LAWS

THE IMPLICATIONS OF SUCH HARMFUL ACTIONS

Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with the provision of Nuisance By-laws or a direction issued by the Council in terms of these By-laws, or a condition imposed under these By-laws, is guilty of an offence and is liable to a fine.



ARREST AS PUNISHMENT

REPORT PUBLIC NUISANCE

- Environmental and Solid Waste Management, Offices D205 and D208, First Floor, Corner of Wanderers Avenue and Walter Sisulu Street.
- Telephonically:

013 249 7024
013 249 7752
013 249 7814
013 249 7837

STOP THE BURN before it's too late

Burning your household, garden or any rubbish causes unpleasant smells, fumes and nuisance smoke which add to air pollution and annoy your neighbours

be more considerate

- Don't add to air pollution or become a safety risk.
- Don't be the cause of other people's health problems such as asthma and respiratory conditions.
- Stop annoying your neighbours with burning your rubbish.
- Stop injuring animals as they might hide in your rubbish.
- Stop the spread of uncontrolled fires to fences and buildings as the smoke reduces visibility on roads and create pollution.



correct waste disposal

- Recycle paper, plastic, metal and cardboard.
- Drop your waste at your nearest transfer station.
- Make compost out of leaves and other garden waste, fruit and vegetable peels.

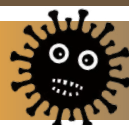
REPORT ILLEGAL WASTE BURNING

013 249 7024 • 013 249 7814
013 249 7752

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE



His last Mayoral Golf Day tees to **BENEFIT THE NEEDY**

S TLM has once again shown its commitment to fight the prevailing triple challenges of inequality, poverty and unemployment.

The Municipality organised the second Annual Mayoral Golf Day to raise funds in order to help the needy. The event was held at the Middelburg Country Club in Gholfsig on Friday 30 October 2020.

The late Cllr Tsietsi Tolo, Executive Mayor, said the Municipality cares for the people in need. He said they will use all proceeds to help poor communities. The beneficiaries of this year's golf event are homes for people living with disabilities.

The event was graced with the presence of soccer legends like former Orlando Pirates and Bafana-Bafana midfielder, Dumisa 'Sphithiphithi' Ngobe, and former Kaizer Chiefs and Bafana forward, Pollen 'Trompies' Ndlanya.

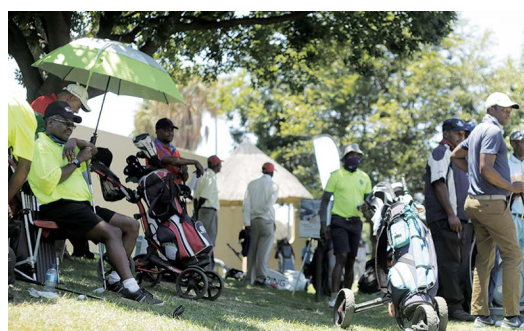
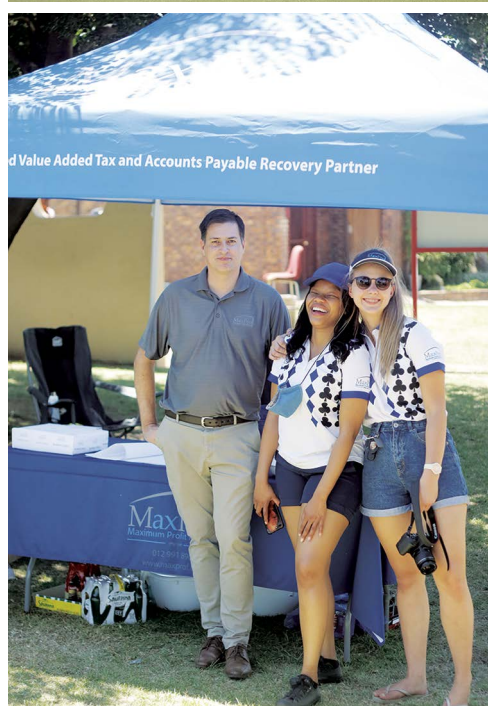
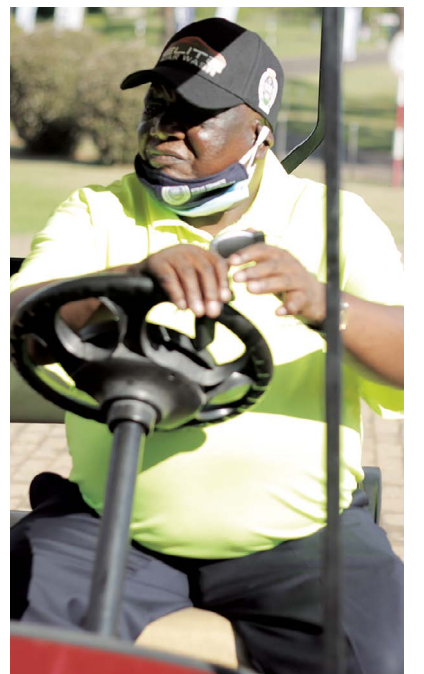
They said: "We are very excited to be here as we have been invited by the office of the Mayor. The good thing about this event is that it is raising funds to help needy people in our community."

"We are representing Mzansi today to benefit the disadvantaged people. We encourage other sport legends to also take part in charity events like this."

"We must unite to fight poverty and inequality," the two legends said.

"STLM remains number one in the province when it comes to service delivery. The Municipality has obtained an unqualified audit report and intends to do the same in the coming financial year. We need to work together with private businesses to improve the lives of our people," the late Executive Mayor said.

The overall event had four main sponsors: Max Prof; Metropolitan; Builders Partner and Elite Car Wash.



NEWSHOUND
Send your comments and stories
to Prudence Magutle
prudencem@stlm.gov.za
013 249 7053

WEAR YOUR MASK



SANITISE



SOCIAL DISTANCE