



RAMOTSHERE NEWS

MEET YOUR POLITICAL HEAD



Not so long ago she was building tomorrow's future in the lecture room; grooming future nurses and doctors today she's been tasked to ensure that the municipality achieves its mission of striving to be the best in the provision of sustainable development and service delivery at the local government.

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Executive committee of Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality

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Mayors foreword

Greetings to the community members of Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality. The new council was inaugurated on the 17th August 2016 and we promised that we will continue working together for the success of this municipality. I count myself privileged to have been elected to be the mayor of this municipality, your humble servant. I am still asking you to work with me and the entire Council, as we show that the work of the fallen heroes are not in vain. Our wards have been reduced to 19 from 20 post local government elections. I believe that we are finding it in our hearts to adjust to the changes. The challenges around the new demarcation will have to be managed politically as some wards are divided into two or more sections cutting two different traditional leaders.

Amongst the priorities for this term of office we are without a shadow of doubt tapping on the Bokone Bophirima 5th administration's vision which is repositioning, rebranding and renewing the municipality that its community can be proud of and live harmoniously whilst working together to ensure its economic and moral success. **The acceleration of service delivery, including housing, and ensuring the continuation of good governance practices are at the epitome of our Agenda.** To break the cycle of poverty, dependence and unemployment, we must start putting more focus on job creation. That is where this council is going to focus and harness its energy. If we can give people jobs, they get dignity, with dignity you are more productive and if people are productive many of the social ills, in our society will start disappearing or will drastically be minimized.

Thank you

Cllr Kereng Mothoagae

Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality Mayor

Manager's foreword

Greetings, My name is Olebogeng Abel Monchusi. I assumed the office in December 2015 and I have been seconded here for a particular period. During my stay, I will be responsible for the general managerial duties of the institution, ensuring sound management of the council budget, ensuring that the municipality complies with all applicable legislations amongst others. My aim is to take Ramotshere Moiloa to greater heights and that he can only achieve that with the full support of the staff in general. I hope that during my stay in this municipality we will be able to work together. Compliance to all legislations is the slogan we should align ourselves with.

This newsletter reflects number of activities that took place during the first half of 2016/2017 financial year in delivering services to the community. In order to achieve this we are aligning with the back to basics programme that was launched by the Minister of Local Government in 2014 that entails the following: **Putting people first, Service delivery, Good Governance, Sound Financial Management, Building Capable Local Government Institutions.**

Furthermore, the Bokone Bophirima Provincial 5th Administration has introduced the five concrete pillars that aims at realizing its vision; namely . **Arts, Culture and Tourism, 2. Villages, Township and Small Dorpies (VTSD), 3. Reconciliation, Healing and Renewal (RHR), 4. Setsokotsane and 5. SaamTrek SaamWerk.** We are aligning our service delivery programmes by working together with relevant stakeholders towards the realization of that.

Yours

Mr Abel Monchusi

Acting Municipal Manager



Ramotshere Moiloa scoops the Most Improved Municipal Award

After achieving a number of disclaimers in the previous years, Ramotshere Moiloa shook off the dust and achieved an unqualified audit opinion for 2014/15 Financial year. The Municipality was awarded for the splendid achievement by the Auditor General in December 2015.

However, that was not the end, during the Chartered Institute of Government Finance, Audit & Risk Officer (CIGFARO)'s 87th annual conference; the Municipality was awarded a clean administration award under the category of the Most Improved Municipality with clean Audit Opinion in Durban .

The award was received based on the Auditor General's Audit outcome for the 2014/15 for the most improved municipalities with the objective of encouraging the municipalities to do more to get clean audit continuously and not regress.

This achievement comes shortly after the Local Government elections; municipalities. Most of our municipalities are rural and villages are on the tribal lands. When taking the projects to the villages, let's engage with the local authorities and our communities and work in harmony and avoid unwanted and unplanned service delivery protest. At the same time the issue of compliance is very critical. Let us adhere to all the legislations and regulations in moving our municipalities to greater heights. Professionalism should not be compromised", said Bapela, Deputy Minister of Cogta.

An emphasis was also made regarding the Back to basics tool which was launched in 2014 to accelerate and measure service delivery. "It is a known fact that not all municipalities have welcomed the idea simply because they do not want to comply.

All the five pillars are important in assisting us to build an ideal municipality where people will have access to all the basic services", the Deputy Minister concluded. At the mention of her institution, the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality Mayor; Kereng Mothoagae who was accompanied by the Speaker Tiro Moiloa, could not contain her excitement. She made it to the podium running and uttered the following: "This award goes to



the whole Ramotshere Moiloa team; our councillors, senior managers, all officials who made this possible especially the Audit and Risk Committee (ARCOM), who performs oversight in all compliance reports. You have made us proud. Let's keep the fire burning", said Mothoagae.

The Deputy Minister was presenting the awards in the company of the Deputy Mayor for Ethekwini Metropolitan Municipality, Fawzer Peer and CIGFARO Chairperson; Jane Masite who gave a background on the establishments of the awards. "The awards were established to celebrate the outstanding achievements of Municipalities and working tirelessly to improve the South African Communities. As we celebrate the achievements, I would like to congratulate all the winners and also looking forward to seeing them again in 2017", she said.

CIGFARO anticipates that all the municipalities will be motivated by the awards and improve in their performance submit their entries for a national recognition in future.



Kereng Mothoagae, second Female Mayor for Ramotshere



When she was called to be the Mayor of the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality, in the Bokone Bophirima Province, Kereng Mothoagae did not stall. As her name says it all, she asked what must she say and she agreed. However, many predicted her to be clueless about South African Politics. The prediction might not have been too bad as she was from the lecture room.

Her parents originate from Lehurutshe but moved to Alexandra Township where she was born. However, at the age of four, her parents relocated to Tladi in Soweto where she started her primary education, her secondary schooling in Sekano -Ntoane and completed grade twelve (then form five) in Naledi High School. She registered for a nursing course at Natalspruit and graduated as a nurse. She qualified as midwife at Baragwanath and also registered Psychiatric and Forensic with the University of Free State

Kereng Mothoagae started her political career many years ago when she participated in the United Nations Petition to collect signatures for the release of Mandela Campaign and later participated in the 1976 youth fight against Afrikaans as a medium of instruction in schools as a member of the SRC and was arrested and detained without trial. She also served in the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM) structures whilst the ANC was banned.

She was a Member of Parliament of the Republic of South Africa from April 1994 to April 2004 first term she was serving as Senator in National Council of Provinces and the last term in the National Assembly. After completing her term in Parliament, she did not sit back; she enrolled with different tertiary institutions where she furthered her education. She registered a BA (Cur) 2006 in which she majored in Education, Community Nursing, Occupational health and Administration again registered a course in Dispensing of Medicine (University of Pretoria)(2007). She is also a registered Assessor and Moderator (2007).

Her experience as a nurse dates as far as rendering her services as a professional nurse in the department of Correctional Services from August 2005 to January 2013. In February 2013 she resumed joined the Mmabatho College of Nursing where she worked as a lecturer

The enthusiastic Mothoagae mentioned that politics has always been in her “despite not being actively involved in politics, I always followed political stories. When my two terms ended in Parliament, I focused on my career as a nurse. Ten years down the line, when the ANC engaged with me on becoming the Mayor for Ramotshere, I could not refuse even though my career had taken another path”, she said during her inauguration speech.

“I am faced with a tough task ahead. Bokone Bophirima Government has urged us to create income generating opportunities to communities and also link our programmes with five concrete pillars; Agriculture, Culture and Tourism, Villages, Townships and Small Dorpies, Reconciliation, Healing and Renewal, Setsokotsane and Saamwerk-Saamtrek. In order to make a success of these pillars, we need to work together as councilors, ward committees and the community at large. If we work together, we will move Ramotshere Moiloa forward”; she concluded.

She believes that it is her dedication, intelligence, flexibility and vigilance that drove the ruling party, African National Congress (ANC) to deem it fit to give her a role of becoming the second female Mayor of the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality.

A single parent of two grown up boys who is also a Jazz Grade III student is an active member of the Anglican Church and enjoys listening to ‘jazz’ music, cycling and travelling. Mayor Kereng is currently studying towards a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) with Regenesys Business School.

Mayor Mothoagae takes lead in planting of trees

Arbor week is an annual event that takes place from 1 – 7 September aimed at raising awareness about trees and their importance. Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality, Ngaka Modiri Molema District Municipality, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) in collaboration with different stakeholders made it possible by joining hands to work together on this endeavour to plant more trees around the Zeerust area.

The main purpose of the day, as outlined by Mayor Kereng Mothoagae during a briefing was to remind and urge communities to recommit themselves as the citizens of Bokone Bophirima province, particularly Zeerust area on the importance of planting and conserving trees which are playing a crucial role in the lives of many people of this country.

"The business of today is to plant trees and leave the talking for another day. We are here in our working gear and I am humbly honoured that when you heard arbor, you forgot about

your high heels and ties. Indeed we can have a beautiful town. The focus on trees and forests is not only an opportunity to plant and maintain indigenous trees and forests but also to reflect on how forestry can, and is, contributing to a better life for all in South Africa.

The importance of trees is not only measured in terms of shade, fruits and greening the towns and cities, but trees have become vital in many ways," Mothoagae said.

"I also know that water is very scarce in our area and people might think we are wasting water with trees. When we engaged with the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries on the planting of trees, we raised the challenge of water and agreed that we will only accept indigenous trees", said Mothoagae who was accompanied by the Speaker of Ramotshere Moiloa; Tiro Moiloa who also had his bite on the pie.

"Trees are a resource that requires protection and are to be used for the benefit of all our people, not just for urban communities who often live in barren areas, in the context of sustainable development and poverty alleviation. Today we are planting trees that will require you to protect and care for them so I also appeal, let us all join together in beautifying our town and remain proud residents", said the speaker after planting an orange tree in Willow Park settlement.



With the province facing drought threat, most of the trees that were planted were indigenous trees and citizens were also educated on the correct way of planting trees and not wasting water whilst at it. A representative from the department of Rural, Environment and Agricultural Development demonstrated on how to plant a tree. "When



you plant a tree, you prepare your whole in advance and separate the soil. You must have a two litre bottle and pierce three small holes at the bottom. The bottle must have a lid and when you place your plant into the whole, you place the bottle next to the plant and start by filling the top soil. Once you are done, you open that bottle, fill it with water and when the water level

rise, it will be an indication that the tree has been watered enough. That is basically how we conserve water", said Mr Ratsoga.

The activity that lasted until midday saw councillors, government officials and community members, also getting their hands dirty. The trees were planted in Willow Park, NR Mandela Commercial Secondary School in Dinokana and Lehurutshe Civic Centre.



Ramotshere aligns with municipal services payment campaign

Despite not being identified as a municipality that has highest debt, Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality embarked on a revenue enhancement campaign. This follows the launch of Rates and Tax Payment Campaign by the provincial government. The main objective of the campaign was to encourage consumers to pay their debts as well as to educate them on the importance of paying for their services.

With the total 70% of the municipal area being rural and 30% urban, the municipality relies mostly on services to generate income.

The campaign that was conducted during the first quarter of 2016/17 financial year was rolled out in Ikageleng, Groot Marico, Zeerust town and Lehurutshe In encouraging the consumers to pay for their services, the Council had long taken a resolution allowing the residential properties 30% discount and 20% for business properties when settling their accounts. Residents were ecstatic about the arrangement and spread the word around town which made the initiative a fruitful exercise.

Meanwhile, before the campaign started, the acting Municipal Manager, Mr Thompson

Phakalane engaged with the various communities to inform them about the initiative and encouraged them to take advantage of the discounts offered to them. "It is important for each and every one of us to pay for services rendered. Paying for services will enable the municipality to perform its functions diligently and with the discounts offered you can be able to save a lot of money and start on a clean slate", he said during the consultative

meetings.

During the campaign qualifying residents who could not afford to



pay their accounts were given the opportunity to register as indigents. In order for them to qualify it may only require 2 state pensioners under SASSA (South African Social Security Agency) or with monthly salary that calculates under the sum up of R2800.



Officials assisting the residents during the campaign.

Trans-Kalahari law enforcement campaign in Ramotshere



The Trans-Kalahari Corridor is anchored on the N4 highway towards Skilpadshek Border Post with its feeder being R49 road towards Kopfontein. These two routes pass through the communities of Zeerust, mainly Lehurutshe and the surrounding villages and Mokgola and the surrounding villages.

The Governments of the Republics of Botswana, Namibia and South Africa respectively concluded a Memorandum of Understanding for the development and management of the Trans Kalahari Corridor on the 3 November 2003, in Walvis Bay, Namibia making a commitment to achieving set goals of integrating the three member countries and using advantages to complement each other.

In strengthening the relations, the National Department of Transport, Provincial Departments of Transport Management and Public works, Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality including other stakeholders joined force and embarked on law enforcement exercise during the October; transport month. The main aim of the exercise was to contribute and promote trade facilitation within the TKC Members States (Botswana, RSA, and Namibia) through improving transport efficiency.

"We would like to encourage people who are in business to expand and go across the SADC countries to grow their businesses thus contributing to the realization of VTSD vision", said Mayor Mothoagae during the operation on the N4. Gracing the occasion was the MEC for Community Safety and Transport Management, Dr Mpho Motlhabane who encouraged the communities and drivers to always ensure that safety comes first when using the roads. "we are going to increase law enforcement visibility on the corridor; promote safety and security; Enforce laws and regulations intended to improve traffic safety and those related to transport; and enforce laws related to transport, including weight limits and hazardous materials rules",



Motlhabane said. Stakeholders including CBRTA, RAF, SANRAL, RTIA were present during the campaign and they provided community with education on the services they are giving.



2016 - 2021 COUNCIL OF RAMOT'SHERE



CLLR K B KENOSI—WARD 1



CLLR S J RANTWA—WARD 2



CLLR B G MONAMODI—WARD 3



CLLR B MOOKETSI—WARD 4



CLLR M P MOABI—WARD 5



CLLR O P MODIRWA—WARD 6



CLLR J G PULE—WARD 7



CLLR L MOTSOKWANE—WARD 8



CLLR U R MORAKE —WARD 9



CLLR P R MOGOROSI—WARD 10



CLLR L J SELEBOGO—WARD 11

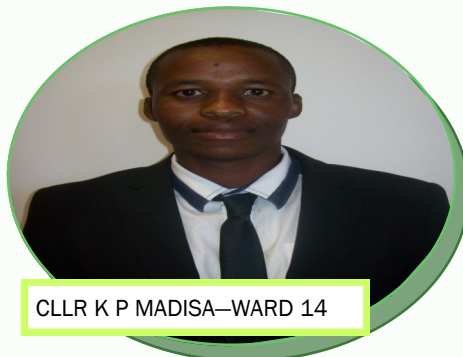


CLLR P J MOLEFE—WARD 12

MOILOA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY



CLLR M N MOLOKWANE—WARD 13



CLLR K P MADISA—WARD 14



CLLR I T MOLOANTOA—WARD 15



CLLR M F RAJAN—WARD 16



CLLR L K MOSADI—WARD 17



CLLR R J MAFORA—WARD 18



CLLR S S TEMBO—WARD 19



CLLOR B PHELOANE—PR



CLLR L.K MOTLADIILE—PR



CLLR T.N. SAPALA—PR



CLLR M.N. TSHIKOVHI—PR



CLLR N.T. MOROENG—PR



CLLR P K MOTHOGAE -MAYOR



CLLR T R MOILOA —SPEAKER



CLLR K I MANTHOKO— ANC CHIEF WHIP



CLLR L SELEBOGO—PR



CLLR O C MOILOA—PR



CLLR S F NGWEYE—PR



CLLR C DREYER—PR



CLLR A N NYAMANE—PR



CLLR A B CASSANGA—PR



CLLR I S SULIMAN—PR



CLLR R S PHETWE—PR



CLLR T J MOREBANTWA—PR



CLLR S MODIBETSANE—PR



CLLR I S VENTER—PR

***EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF RAMOTSHERE MOIOLA LOCAL
MUNICIPALITY***

CLLR Alfred Nyamane— Chairperson of
Community Services and Municipal
Planning and Development

CLLR Brenda Mooketsi—Chairperson
of Infrastructure Development

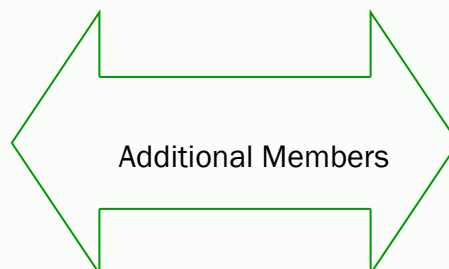
CLLR Faizul Rajan—Chairperson of Fi-
nance and Corporate Services



CLLR P K MOTHOGAE -MAYOR



CLLR B PHELOANE—PR



CLLR M.N. TSHIKOVHI—PR

Officials take part in celebrating heritage

Heritage Day is a South African public holiday celebrated on 24 September. It is also referred to as the National Braai Day, which is called many things like Chisa Nyama, Braai and Ukosa to name few. Although the ingredients may differ, the one thing that never changes is that when there is something to celebrate, people light fires and prepare great feasts.

The government set this day aside for all South Africans to celebrate their rich heritage. Across all different race, lan-

guage, region and religion, South Africans all share one common heritage.

On this **day,**

South Africans

celebrate their culture and the diversity of their beliefs and traditions, in the wider context of a nation that belongs to its entire people.

Normally, various events are staged throughout the country to commemorate this day. All South Africans are encouraged to unite around fires, share their heritage and wave the South African flag.

In South Africa the term “intangible cultural heritage” is used interchangeably with the term “living heritage”. People would celebrate this day by showing off their cultural tradition, oral history, performance, ritual, popular memory, skills and techniques, indigenous knowledge system and the holistic approach to nature, society and social relationships. Research has shown that Heritage day celebration plays important role in promoting cultural diversity, social cohesion, reconciliation, peace and economic development.



across the spectrum are encouraged to

In every community there are living human treasures who possess a high degree of



knowledge, skills and history pertaining to different aspects of diverse living heritage. It is therefore important for South Africans to reclaim, restore and preserve these various aspects of living heritage to accelerate the use of living heritage to address challenges communities are facing today.

In contributing to the hype around the day, the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipalities did celebrate the day by showing off their different traditional attires as well as home cooked meals. All the races and cultures were well presented as employees wore their colourful and meaningful outfits. The employees showed their pride in promoting their cultures where Indians, Sotho,

Tswana, Coloured, Xhosas, Vhendas and Zulus were well represented.

Mothoagae urges stakeholders to work together

Saamwerk Saamtrek is one of the fifth pillars



of the Bokone Bophirima fifth administration's vision. In aligning with the with this philosophy, Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality

Mayor, Kereng Mothoagae, recently engaged with the sector departments around the Ramotshere Moiloa area to strengthen the relations between the municipality and provincial government.

This happened within less than a month since her inauguration as the Mayor of Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality. During the engagement sessions, Mothoagae urged government stakeholders to work with the municipality in order to move Ramotshere Moiloa forward. "The municipality is always here to support your programmes and I need us to work together. If the community complains about the services of a certain department, open your doors so that we can find the solution and provide the most efficient and accurate services to the people of Ramotshere", she said during the meeting that was held in the municipal premises. She further indicated that as a councillor, including all newly elected

councillors, they should portray willingness to work productively with each and all of stakeholders. "With rational, collaborative effort, we can, together work in furthering the best interests of our residents. I look forward to varied, spirited discussions leading to consensus based resolutions", she added.

Mothoagae mentioned that amongst the priorities for the current term of office they are without a shadow of doubt saying that the acceleration of service delivery, including housing, job creation and ensuring the continuation of good governance practices are at the epitome of their Agenda.

"To break the cycle of poverty, dependency and unemployment, we must start putting more focus on job creation. That is where the VTSD (Villages, Township and Small Dorpies) pillar comes in. The Bokone Bophirima Province Premier Supra Mahumapelo has encouraged us to support our local business initiatives. The vendors in our communities especially in schools should be supported by buying their goods. Our government is trying through EPWP and CDW programmes but we must also think of small jobs to keep us going, Mothoagae advised.

Ramotshere Moiloa ready for SPLUMA

The introduction of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA) (16 of 2013) is set to aid effective and efficient planning and land use management. In the context of the spatial transformation agenda, SPLUMA has been proposed as a possible tool to effect spatial transformation. A study that seeks to understand the extent to which SPLUMA could assist in achieving spatial transformation has been conducted.

SPLUMA is a framework act for all spatial planning and land use management legislation in South Africa. It seeks to promote consistency and uniformity in procedures and decision-making in this field. The biggest point of departure from older planning legislation, is that municipalities will be solely responsible for processing and dealing with land use applications and the appeals relating thereto.

Cities and local municipalities have been tasked with driving spatial transformation with the must meet the need for inclusivity, mobility and access, economic development that drives local and national growth prospects and transforms space in a manner that is socially and environmentally sustainable. All municipalities are expected to establish Municipal Planning Tribunals to decide on cases, with the Municipal Council dealing with appeals on decisions made by the Municipal Planning Tribunal.

In the Bokone Bophirima Province, Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality has been identified as one of the municipalities to have made progress in this regard. The council has adopted draft SPLUMA by-laws and the revised land use tariffs. A series of events also unfolded such as public participation on the draft bylaws where communities were educated on SPLUMA. An advertisement on the nominations of members to serve on the committee has also been done and all processes will unfold in due course.

The Bokone Bophirima provincial government has since commended the municipality for its effective response and commitment.

Events in pictures





Kgosi Lillian Gopane and Gopane residents dedicate their 67 minutes to fight crime

Despite the icy winter morning, a joint Letsema initiative by the Department of Community Safety and Transport Management, Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality, SAPS and the Department of Public Works, together with the community, as a close-out for Mandela Month had everyone involved in the cleaning of the area where you found dirty diapers, beer bottles, plastics, dead animal and human faeces, and cigars.

The community believes that trees around the area provided refuge to the criminals since they could not be noticed and that made it easier for them to carry out their criminal activities. "The safety of residents is the priority of the government; hence we saw it fit to embark on this exercise. Our village has scattered sections and it is not easy to view or even hear when people cry for help from the other side. We therefore decided to work hand in hand with the local police station to combat issues relating to crime, like housebreaking, theft and rape", said Kgosi Lillian.



A community representative also had the following to say: "We decided to leave our daily household chores and put the safety of our children first. We have children and are all responsible for their safety as well as our own. These criminals causes the residents to have sleepless nights and do not feel safe even when locked inside their homes", uttered a community member who identified herself as a mother of three teenage daughters.

During one of her engagements with the stakeholders, Kgosi Lillian Gopane had encouraged the members to communicate the message to all the residents to come and dedicate their 67 minutes in clearing the said area. "I can joyfully say that indeed my plea did not fall on deaf ears looking at the large number of young and elderly people who came. We should actually make each day a Mandela Day and not only work on this day. Let this initiative be a start of good things and be extended to all villages. These big trees and grass were soon going to be a hive for criminals; where they would consume and deal drugs and consume liquor or use it for well as sharing and hiding stolen goods. Your dedication and volunteerism shows that indeed working together we can take Ramotshere Moiloa forward", she said.



Residents excited about their homeownership documents

Nothing can cause sleepless nights to any person like not having a permanent place to stay in. The residents of Welbedacht Unit 1 in Lehurutshe could not contain their excitement when they were presented with title deeds of their homes that they have been occupying for many years. These residents were forcefully removed from their houses in Groot Marico during the Apartheid era and they have always leaved with a fear of being removed again since they did not have assurance of homeownership.

The exercise which was part of the Mandela day activities, saw at least 30 residents being awarded their long awaited homeownership documents was an initiative by the Department of Local Government & Human Settlements, North West Housing Corporation (NWHC) and Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality (RMLM). The documents were presented by the outgoing RMLM Town Planning and Development; MMC Boitumelo Montwedi, CEO of NWHC, Mr Makuapane, and Chairman of the NWHC Board, Matthew Wolmarans.

The residents were ululating, whistling, chanting songs of praises, singing hymns and shedding tears of joy upon signing and receiving their documents.

A 67 year old Mmadikhai Monnaane could not contain her tears.

She indicated that her family was amongst those who were forcefully removed from Groot Marico. "I stayed here with other family members who have since passed on and I kept on wondering what will become of my children should I be chased away too. Now I can die a happy woman knowing that my children have what belongs to them rightfully", those were the words of tearful Mmadikhai.

In his speech Wolmarans indicated that the government paid for all the costs and residents are not being charged a fee.

We know that our people lost their land during their apartheid era and some of you might have been worrying about being forcefully removed again. Today the government have provided you with surety that the land on which your houses are built is yours and no-

body should tell you otherwise", said Wolmarans.



Mme Mmadikhai with Councillors from RMLM and NWHC deputy chairman.

The title deed exercise is envisaged to continue throughout the re-

maining wards in the municipality.

Ramotshere residents benefit from CWP

The Community Work Programme (CWP) is a non-state sector component within the Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) that target unemployed and underemployed people within communities at ward level enhance service delivery through 'usefulwork'.

The main purpose of the programme is to provide an employment safety net, to contribute to the development of public assets and services in poor communities, to strengthen community development approaches and to improve the quality of life for people in marginalised economic areas by providing work experience, enhancing dignity and promoting social and economic inclusion.

Ramotshere Moiloa is one of the nineteen municipalities that are participating in the programme which was transferred from Presidency in 2010 to Department of Cooperative Governance (DCoG) to accelerate job creation. At least 1085 participants have benefitted from the programme and are working for two days per week.

Various stakeholders such as Department of Cooperative Governance, Department of Social Development, Department of Public Works, NGOs, have partnered together to provide training, monitoring and develop intervention strategy where needed in order to ensure the smooth running of the project through its duration.

The main role of the CWP Participants is to identify 'useful work' in their wards that address community needs and priorities. They support

home based care, schools (scholar patrols, feeding scheme, after school support and cleaning in schools) clinics, food gardens, waste management.

The useful work is planned in partnership with ward councillors and traditional and institutions identified through the support of Implementing Agents. Since its inception the programme has already bear fruits and the municipality can safely report that through the training that was offered, homes for elderly people, and a toilet were built in Lekgophu and Nyetse Home Based Care respectively. Vegetable gardens have been developed and the products thereof were donated to various people and organizations.



Some of the beneficiaries receiving help from CWP participants in form of vegetables from the gardens that they manage and participants are seen constructing a house



In order to ensure good quality and skills transfer, an accredited training for Community House Building was approved by Department of Public Works. The training was approved for 39 participants, 23 at Mokgola and 16 at Nyetse. The induction for all beneficiaries at Nyetse and Mokgola was also conducted.

Mothoagae Conducts let's talk session with communities

Imbizo is a two way communication system which aims at improving service delivery and community involvement in decision making processes of the municipality. In ensuring achievement of municipal priorities, Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality Mayor Kereng Mothoagae embarked on mayoral izimbizo under 'let's talk session' theme with communities across the 19 wards within Ramotshere Moiloa jurisdiction. The main aim of the sessions is to update the communities on the current projects in the municipality and to share the vision of the fifth administration of Bokone Bophirima Provincial Government with them .

The Mayor was accompanied by the councilors and the managers from the municipality. She indicated that the municipality has two wings i.e. administration and political. Both the councilors and the managers were introduced to the communities to enable them to know who to consult when they need different services. "I am accompanied here by the directors and managers from the municipality. They are responsible for the administration part and they are the relevant people to update you on the daily running of the municipality. We are working together with them. If you come to my office to ask about water, I will refer you to the relevant department. Now from today you will know on which door to knock for a particular service", she said.



During the sessions, communities were given an opportunity to ask about the current status of priority projects that have been rolled out. However, gathering the communities together has its hardships as they will always make their demands and are also quick to point fingers. "We are not here for IDP consultation but to give an update on the projects. I am fully aware that the previous council had interacted with you and presented the projects for the year in question. I am also aware of the fact that there were concern raised about certain wards not being included in the current programme but I can also advise that it is not the end of the world and that it all depends on you to make sure that you work together with the councilors and the ward committees in order for your needs to be addressed. Therefore, when a councilor calls a meeting, make sure that you attend in order to make a contribution about your needs", said Mothoagae.

Mothoagae also mentioned that the 5th administration of Bokone Bophirima Province has a vision which will be realized through five Concrete Pillars namely; 1. Arts, Culture and Tourism, 2. Villages, Township and Small Dorpies (VTSD), 3. Reconciliation, Healing and Renewal (RHR), 4. Setsokotsane and 5. SaamTrek SaamWerk.

"If you can remember a lot has been done to boost the image and the economy of our province. Setsokotsane which aims at nearing the services to the people has been rolled throughout the province, Arrangements to establish Business Chambers which falls under VTSD are underway. We want to see our small businesses grow whether you sell sweets, or magwinya, you need to be recognized in order for your business to grow. A workshops have been arranged in this regard and I strongly urge you to participate in those activities.

The sessions that have been well attended were rolled out in three clusters. The members of the communities interacted actively and praised the management together with the councilors for making time and answering to their concerns.

Ramotshere kept clean seven days a week

Zeerust is small town experiencing mushrooming number of hawkers, shoppers and many other people who pass by to nearby cities/countries. All day activities around town, results in littering and thus making the town dirty. But the most interesting part is that you will never find the papers, empty boxes, tins, bottles, etc. flying across and lying on the streets.

In order to keep the town clean at all times, the municipality has since introduced working shifts. There are general workers or assistants who work from 7H30 am to 15H00 pm and are relieved later on by co-workers from 15H00 until 19H00. This is due to the fact that during peak hour, it gets busy around town with people doing last minute shopping and rushing home and throwing trash around.

It does not end there, whilst the general assistants are picking up dirt using clippers and putting them in plastics, they are followed by a waste truck that is collecting the plastics as well as emptying the waste bins. Hawkers also contribute in keeping the town clean. They have an agreement with the council to clean their working space before they go home.



There are waste bins around town and the residents have become responsible and co-operative in maintaining the neatness of the town. Even though keeping the town clean might sound as an easy task for these municipal employees; they experience negative attitudes and resentment from careless residents who just throw waste around claiming that they are creating jobs for them. However, that does not restrict them from doing their work. Households have access to refuse removal five days per week

Health and safety of workers is also preserved as they are provided with gloves and clippers to protect themselves against gems. Their determination to keep the town clean, does not allow rainy seasons, windy weathers, blazing sun to deter them from doing their job diligently.

These workers can always be seen working hard during rainy weather where everyone would hide under shades. They would be spotted wearing their raincoats, their gloves holding their clippers filling the streets to maintain the neatness. Even during the windy weathers where waste would fly out of the bins to the streets, they would still be on streets to clean the town.

They have taken their challenges and turned them into their strengths with the perspective of working together to keep our town clean and the determination on their work. It is of benefit to all residents regarding hygiene around the town, which may reduce risks of illnesses among our residents.

Anna Modise, a single mother of eight was delighted to share her experiences. She mentioned that she has been working for the municipality as a General Assistant for 23 years. "I have been doing this job for the past 23 years and it does not shame me since it puts food on the table and educate my children as well". Said Anna.

However, she did highlight on the challenges she faces daily when doing her job, Anna said that attitude of people who litter intentionally around town sometimes gets to her but with the respect that she receives from her manager and those that she supervises she loves her job even more. "There are people who looks down on us for cleaning the streets, but I must say I appreciate the respect I receive from the young and old people that I work with. I will only leave my job when I reach my retirement age", she said.

The significance of cleanliness and hygiene cannot be overlooked by any society for it is believed that cleanliness determines who you are. Cleanliness has been considered as one of the important factors by which to judge society or town's development, and this town as small as it is, has really proven to be the number one town as far as cleanliness is concerned.

Ramotshere Moiloa supports local economy

In the plan to boost the local economy the Department of Municipal Planning and Development has been tasked with the responsibility of creating at least 100 employment opportunities per quarter. The council has since resolved that at least 25% of the budget must be used to support local service providers in order to sustain their businesses.

All the jobs initiated are in line with the Service Delivery Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP), Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the Local Economic Development (LED) Strategy that was developed and adopted by Council. LED Forum has been established and is functional.

In ensuring the success of its plan the department has developed a Small, Medium and Micro-sized Enterprises (SMMEs) database and organized workshops on registration of co-operatives in all the 19 wards of Ramotshere Moiloa jurisdiction.



The Municipality has initiated a Brickmaking Machine Project which intends to support number of internal roads in rural area since municipality has resolved to paving than tarred road. At least 1090 job opportunities created through Community Works Programme with 2850 job opportunities created through EPWP programme since its inception in 2011.

In bettering their lives further the Department of finance has since advised the SMMEs to register on the Central Supplier Database programme which aims at giving the suppliers fair and equal chance of bidding and tendering for services across the country. **More information on CSD can be acquired on 018 642 1081 ext 244/268/272.**

Ramotshere takes care of its Indigents

An indigent is a person so poor and needy that he/she cannot provide the necessities of life (food, clothing, and decent shelter) for himself/herself. As guided by the Municipal Finance Management Act, Municipal Property Rates Act and other relevant legislations, the Ramotshere Moiloa Local Municipality provides financial and other support such as discounts, subsidies and assistance for services which the Municipality renders to its Registered indigents and households headed by registered indigents.

The local indigents are taken into consideration as they are provided with free municipal basic services for the benefit of each and every one who is regarded as needy judging from the life style one is living. The municipality has an indigent register which is updated regularly in order to reach the needs of all those who are disadvantaged. Employees from the indigent office of the municipality, working together with the local ward councilors would go to communities to register those people who are in need.

They would assist the residents to fill the forms that requires a police stamp and attach all the necessary supporting documents. Once the forms are completed they would be assessed and the results would therefore determine whether a person should be considered an indigent or what. The recent statistics show that there are 17926 indigents discovered in 20 surrounding wards.



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The people who are regarded as indigents are those that are registered with SASSA (South African Social Security Agency) for old age grant, Child headed households and or people whom their monthly incomes calculates under the sum of R2800. Its benefits may result to free basic services such as 12 kl (kilolitres) of water, free 50 kw electricity and 100% of property rates, sewerage and refuse removal.

Residents are advised to visit the municipal revenue unit for more information or update regarding the indigents registrations and payment of services or call on 018 642 1081 ext 250/ 263 / 267 from 07H30—16H00 Monday to Friday.



Where to find us...



Corner Presidents & Coetzee Street, Zeerust

P.O. Box 92 Zeerust, 2865



018 642 1175 / 018 642 2618



018 642 1081 using extensions below:

Office of the Mayor	:	203
Office of the Speaker	:	207
MPAC	:	296
Office of the Municipal Manager	:	202
Internal Audit	:	301
Corporate Service	:	206
Finance	:	204
Technical Services	:	214
Community Services	:	210
Municipal Planning and Development	:	248
Traffic Department	:	018 642 5909
Municipal Standby	:	083 284 7238

Issued by Communication Unit

Tel: 018 642 1081 Ext 286 / 259/ 202

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