



INTRODUCTORY NOTES BY HIS WORSHIP, THE MAYOR CLLR MOMELEZI MBEDLA ON THE INTRODUCTION OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED MUNICIPAL MANAGER HELD ON 08th SEPTEMBER 2020 AT MATATIELE ELECTRICITY BOARDROOM.

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR,

THE MUNICIPAL MANAGER

MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA

PEOPLE OF MATATIELE listening via ANCR

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

Let me take this opportunity and thank you for honouring the invitation and for attending this media briefing.

Sidibana apha ngenyanga ekhethekileyo, inyanga yezokhenketho nalapho sikwixesha elinzima sililizwe ngenxa ye COVID-19. Ezokhenketho zichaphazeleke kakhulu ingakumbi emva kokumiswa ngxi kwentshukumo. Uqoqosho lubethakele, imisebenzi ilahlekile. The financial situation in many homes is extremely difficult to manage.

Apha eMatatiele, iindawo ezininzi zichaphazeleke mpela kuquka indawo zokulala, ezolonwabo, indawo zokhenketho ezifana neMehlosing Hiking Trail, Nature Reserves, Mountain Lake, Mountain hiking, rural tourism nezinye.

Emva kokuba singene kwisigaba sesibini sokumiswa ngxi kwentshukumo, singatsho sithi “Matatiele Is Ready To Welcome its tourists” – but of course under the lockdown regulations and all the safety and security measures that go with that.

Inline with the theme for this year’s tourism month, we’ve contextualised it to say *“Building Matatiele – Through a partnership for Tourism Recovery and Rural*

Development”. We will showcase rural tourism offerings which include natural wonders, lifestyles, events, traditions, culture, crafts and we encourage everyone to take a Shot-Left into Matatiele.

Members of the media and people of Matatiele..

Kumele siyivume into ethi singuMasipala kukhona izinto esingazenzanga ngendlela ebenilindele ngayo kwezinyanga ziphelileyo. Liyinene elokuba sibenabo ubunzima esihlangabezene nabo endleleni. Kodwa noba kunjalo, umsebenzi esiwuthunywe ngabantu baseMatatiele silelibhunga besingawulibalanga. Ndiyavuya namhlanje kuba, nangona bekungelulanga, sikwazile ukulwisana nezinto ebezifuna ukuma endleleni yethu yenkqubela phambili. Siyaquba nokuphucula ubomi babantu baseMatatiele.

I must assure the people that as Matatiele local municipality, we are an institution that seeks to abide by the law as we implement our IDP and we will do so without any fear, favour or contradiction.

The purpose of this briefing as outlined by the Head of Communications is in a certain form and to a large extent to introduce the newly appointed Municipal Manager. Given all the negative publicity we have attracted in the past few months around the issue of our former Municipal Manager, and in our quest to re-build Brand Matatiele, we decided to convene this briefing to precisely communicate the council resolution on the appointment of Municipal Manager.

Siyibone iyeyona ndlela ilungileyo okokuba sinazise thina ngokusesikweni kunokuba niyive kwizitalato zalapha eMatatiele.

Ibhunga lalo Masipala laye lathatha isigqibo sokupapasha isikhundla somphathi womasipala emva kokuphuma kuka-Dr. Tsepang Nakin kwesi sikhundla. On this note, I feel I must pause and echo sincere words of appreciation to him and his family for all the years he dedicated serving our community. Usebenze ngokuzinikela uKoena, wamthatha umasipala wethu wambeka kwelinqanaba akulo namhlanje.

Through the formal recruitment and selection processes, as prescribed by the law, the council appointed Mr Lizo Matiwane as Matatiele Local Municipality Municipal Manager with effect from 01 September 2020.

In line with the processes as alluded above. Mr Matiwane was found to be the rightful candidate for the post. He is joining us at a very interesting time, whereby it's not only the issue of balancing political and administration matters that he'll be grappling with. BUT, generally we are not only facing the COVID-19 challenge... fraud and corruption have become the biggest animal waging war against the government of the day.

Born and bred eChibini A/A in Ntabankulu, Mr Matiwane is a married man and a father to three daughters. He brings with him a wealth of experience in local government, public administration and policy development. Ushiya uMasipala wase Alfred Nzo, apho ebengumphathi kwisebe lakwa Corporate Services. Ukhe wabambhela njengomphathi womasipala eMhlontlo waba ngumlawuli oyintloko kananjalo. He worked for the formerly known as Nkonkobe Municipality - which is now s Raymond Mhlaba Local Municipality as a Senior Manager: Strategic Planning and LED and also responsible for Corporate Services.

He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration and Political Science from the University of Port Elizabeth; Hon. Degree in Political Sciences from Nelson Mandela University; a Strategic Management Course & Advanced Programme in Project Management from UNISA. He also has one of the prerequisite courses needed for any employee in local government, which is CPMD and is currently pursuing his LLB Degree with the University of South Africa.

I will not mention all his accolades, but I wanted to give you just an indication on the kind of a Municipal Manager we've appointed to steer our beautiful ship. Central to the tasks he is facing, is the restoration and improvement on our pride and the beautiful history we've earned over the years. One of your immediate tasks in this regard is to take us back to a clean audit opinion status and as center for good governance.

In the coming months, we must re-write the Matatiele story. People must read about a Matatiele that prides itself with excellent quality financial management, clean administration, good governance and an epitome of local government excellence.

We need to make Matatiele Local Municipality a vibrant and functional institution so that it can carry its mandate effectively.

Management can't work without a disciplined and committed workforce that will ensure we maintain seamless administration. We will listen to you and take your

concerns and advise serious. With you joining us, we believe now is the time to stop focusing on what divides us and focus on our common goal i.e Moving Matatiele Forward.

Tough as the times may be, as this council we have pledged to give Mr Matiwane the necessary cooperation and support at all the times. We shall make available, appropriate resources for you to deliver services as per your performance agreement.

Siyathembisa ukuba sizakuncedisana nawe Jola maxa onke apho udinga khona uncedo lwethu kwaye siyakholwa ukuba uza kusancedisa nathi ukulwa nendlala, intlupheko, intswela-ngqesho kunye nokuhanjiswa kweenkonzo eluntwini ngokukhawuleza.

As I said during your induction last week, we are pinning our trust in you. Work with everybody including the unions, all based on the framework and prescripts of the law. We commit to provide the necessary support. Please help us steer this local government ship towards the right direction.

Let us all of us accelerate and double our efforts in building good governance, effective and efficient local government.

Welcome on-board Mr Matiwane.