

REPORT OF THE SPEAKER: CLLR TV MATSEPE

January to November 2002

As we all know the Local Municipal Structures Act No 117 of 1998 provides for the election of the chairperson of the municipal Council who is called the Speaker.

In terms of section 37 of the same Act the Speaker of the Municipal Council has the following functions:

1. He or she presides at meetings of the Council
2. He or she performs the duties and exercises the powers delegated to the Speaker in terms of Section 32.
3. He or she must ensure that the Council meet at least quarterly
4. He or she must maintain order during meetings
5. He or she must ensure compliance in the Council and Council Committees with the Code of Conduct set out in Schedule 5 of the Act.
6. He or she must ensure Council meetings are conducted in accordance with the Rules and Orders of the Council.

It is against this background that the review of the year under review must be seen.

If one looks at the functions of the Speaker as defined in the Act it appears as if these functions are centred around the staging and managing of the Council's meetings as well as committees within the context of the Act.

However one needs to look at it in terms of the broader functions of local government as set out in the constitution which amongst others provides for the following:

1. Council must provide a democratic and accountable government for local communities.
2. Council must encourage the involvement of the communities and community organizations in the matters of local government.(in this regard I refer to Section 152 of the Constitution of the republic of South Africa Act 108 of 1996)
3. Section 156 of the Constitution states that the powers and functions of the Municipality includes amongst others the function to make and administer by-laws for the effective administration of matters which it has the right to administer and to ensure that these laws are not in conflict with any national or provincial legislation.

The white paper on local government defines a Developmental Local Government **“as one which among others has the ability of democratising development through the involvement of those traditionally excluded, empowering citizens and community groups in the design and the delivery of Municipal programs and tapping into the creative energies as well as ensuring that sources are adequately redistributed and further building a multi-sectoral cadre of leaders at a local level with a united vision as well as creating the conditions for local solutions or development through sheer designing of community empowerment”**.

It does therefore become clear that the Office of the Speaker also has functions that stretch beyond the simple management of Council and Committee Meetings:

- 1..Co-ordinates community meetings as well as Ward Committee meetings.
2. Ensures that Public Hearings are properly conducted.
3. Assist the Executive Mayor with the ceremonial duties.
4. Facilitate on-going public participation in the activities of Council to keep communities in the Municipality area informed allow them to influence Council Policies (e.g. by-laws, plans and its performance.
5. Ensures accountability by Councillors to local communities.
6. Promotes inter governmental relationships between Speakers of the District.
7. Interacts with Councillors as well as members of the public and media who attend Council meetings regarding proper conduct in such meetings, to ensure compliance with Council’s Rules and Orders.
8. Determines policy for the use of Council’s facilities by members of the Council in accordance with recommendations made by the Rules Committee to members of the Council within the limits determined by Council and further may determine the committee’s procedures

The Office of the Speaker should therefore be the face of the Council in as far as Council involves and communicates with communities and as has often been mentioned Municipalities can no longer think of themselves as just service providers but they must also see themselves as development facilitators and agents in building partnerships and networks that drive local development. This implies that communities must be active in Wards as partners in the provision of service and thus their development, instead of passively receiving these services. It is communities themselves who must find a way within themselves to make their own areas of settlement sustainable instead of complaining and lamenting about the harmful effects of apartheid policies the fall in the value of the rand and the general loss of the job opportunities resulting from the closure of the mining activities in and around Matjhabeng.

The challenge therefore is to galvanise communities to make do with what they have and build on same to create an environment where everyone strives to stretch him or herself to strive for a better life through a joint co-ordinated effort.

FUNDING FOR THE OFFICE

The present policy of the government pertaining to local government around financial assistance given to Municipalities falls short in one crucial respect.

In as much as new Municipalities are given what is called a fair share or equitable share of the national fiscus, the purpose for which such grants are made is essentially to enable the Municipalities to have the capacities to render services such as provision of water, electricity refuse removal and sewerage amongst others. However this view loses sight of a significant portion of local governments, governmental functions which basically has little to do with rendering of service. These have to be funded from the profits, if any, which are made out of the sale of the services rendered to the communities.

It is therefore in my view unfair for government to expect that the money that the community is paying for the purposes of purchase of the either water or electricity or any other service, be used to fund the running of the institutions of government such as community participation processes which fall within the ambit of the Speaker's delegated powers.

The Speaker's Office for the local government is therefore one of those unfunded mandates granted to the local government.

In this context therefore the functions of the Speaker's Office are to be seen and evaluated.

One is happy to notice that this argument at least has now been accepted by SALGA and it indeed, is being put into the agenda of the finance and fiscal commission although sadly enough the argument has been clouded by the request for the national fiscus to fund the salaries of Councillors in order that the amount that caters for their remuneration should be released to be utilised to service the communities from which the money derives.

We must also not lose sight of the following problems faced by Councillors especially Ward Councillors delivering community participation services:

1. Councillors have to consult with the community on a regular basis from their homes for lengthy hours.

2. Ward Councillors constantly have to hold meetings in their homes and garages utilising their own facilities, refreshments, lighting facilities, stationary as well as their furniture.
3. Ward Councillors have to utilise their own initiative to transport certain members of their Ward Committees from far away lying areas to the point where the meeting is being held.
4. Councillors frequently have to utilise their own cell phones or telephones to ensure that communication channels between themselves and administration and or the Speaker's Office is kept open although the telephone allowance granted is not sufficient.
5. Councillors often have to arrange public meetings in their wards without the assistance of the Council's administration because there is no capacity back up for them in this regard which makes their work even much more demanding. However as the rest of the report indicates there are Councillors who are indeed putting greater effort than others and for that the Speaker's office wishes to commend them.

One great frustration that Councillors have within the administration is its lack of responsiveness to the issues that they raise.

This frustration is often reflected in various meetings held by the Chairperson's Committee and the reports that are given to the Speakers Office.

ON DIVISION OF POWERS AND FUNCTIONS IN THE MUNICIPALITY STRUCTURES ACT.

In the discussion document presented at the SALGA conference one of the commissions debated the question of powers of the District Council in relation to the powers of the local Council as set out in the Act.

The observation is made that two years after the local government elections, local Municipalities are performing the functions of water, sanitation, electricity and health in the same areas of jurisdiction as they did on the 4th of December 2000. It is further observed that the minister is about to authorise some 54% of category B local Municipalities to perform water and sanitation functions while Section 84(1) of the Structures Act allocates these functions to District Municipalities indicating that in this regard some adjustments will be required to the Act or to the authorisation because of the uncertainty in unclear role of the District Municipalities. The paper further argues that the major deviation from the intention of the legislature that District Municipalities should perform certain key functions and local Municipalities all other Municipal functions, raises the question whether there is a need to continue with a two tier system of local government outside Metropolitan Areas and it concludes by stating that “it may make more sense to move towards a single tier system of governance in none Metropolitan

Areas which would still allow for decentralised government”(that is through some form of sub structures).

The final recommendation in this regard was that the efficacy of two tier system in none Metropolitan Areas should be reviewed. The activities of the Transitional Facilitation Committee for Lejweleputswa District Council of which the Speaker of Matjhabeng is a member has not engaged the subject thoroughly and it is therefore my view that we need to seriously engage in debate on this issue as Lejweleputswa, to be able to prepare for the future in this regard.

The workshop on the adjustment of powers between District and Local Municipalities be recommended to the MEC, The Matjhabeng Local Municipality FS184 performs the following district functions:

- 84 (1)(j) Fire fighting
- 84 (1)(h) Airports
- 84 (1)(l) Cemeteries and cremation
- 84 (1)(k) Markets only
- 84 (1)(f) Roads
- 84 (1)(e) Water disposal
- 84 (1)(n) Public Works

There are no adjustments to perform Local Municipality functions by the Lejweleputswa District Council (DC18)

The questionnaire completed by Lejwelwputswa for the Demarcation Board on whether this Municipality performs the following functions were answered with a No.

1. Air pollution
2. Building Regulations
3. Child Care Facilities
4. Electricity and Gas Reticulations
5. Fire Fighting Service
6. Municipal Airports
7. Municipal Planning
8. Municipal Health Services
9. Transport
10. Pontoons Ferries Jetties Piers and Harbours
11. Trading Regulations
12. Water and Sanitation Services (Postal)

The rest of the functions set out in schedule 5 part B of the answers was No, they do not.

This means that DC18 does not have the capacity to render most of the functions granted to it.

For this reason the discussion between us and Lejweleputswa on this issue has become imperative.

CONCLUSION

Mr Executive Mayor and Councillors I wish to take this opportunity once more to express my deep sense of gratitude to the support that was received by the Speaker's Office from all the Councillors and in particular I single out the Executive Mayor for having been so understanding given the difficult circumstances under which the Speakers Office has to function because of the fact that it has to carry out an unfunded mandate to enable it to comply with the provisions of the relevant Acts.

I also wish to express appreciation to the Municipal Manager for attempting to live up to the expectations, expected of him.

I also wish to single out the secretary of the Speaker who has unselfishly doubled up as a secretary, administrator, community liaison officer, typist and so on, without complaint. To her I say that her efforts and commitment have not gone unnoticed.

To the entire community of Matjhabeng for being patient with the Municipality and the Council with our short comings I wish to express our thanks as Councillors to them and I promise that we will try at all times to deliver our best.

I also take this opportunity to wish all Councillors and their families, all members of the staff of Matjhabeng and the rest of the community of Matjhabeng a happy Christmas and a prosperous New year and trust that they will be able to achieve their aims for the new year.

Lastly let me pen of with a quotation from a book entitled **THE POLITICS OF LOVE** by Michael Cassidy with a Foreword by Archbishop Desmond Tutu
 "In the social and political arena I believe love has four laws and seven controlling principles, these laws are:

1. Love sees politics as all about people.
2. Love deals with its own heart first.
3. Love loves, humanises and forgives its enemy.
4. Love hears and sees the other side."

The statistics that follow show the activities undertaken by Councillors to achieve the above mentioned aims and objectives as set out in the introduction.

COUNCIL AND MAYORAL COMMITTEE SITTINGS JANUARY – OCTOBER 2002:

Ordinary Council meetings for the year	10
Special Council sittings	3
Mayoral Committee Meetings	21
Special Mayoral Committee Meetings	7

MATJHABENG COUNCILLORS

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of Council meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
ALEXANDER Rolly Richard	10	3	-	77%
AURET Ian Hugo	8	5	-	62%
BAAITJIES Maureen	11	1	1	85%
BENGU Velile Victor	12	1	-	92%
BOTHMA Bonifacius	11	2	-	85%
CHAO Martha Kediemetse	10	3	-	77%
DALI Vusi N	12	1	-	92%
DASSIE Yangaphi Samuel	13	-	-	100%
DLAMINI Siphwe Cosmos	12	1	-	92%
DLOVA Themba William	12	1	-	92%
DU TOIT Jan Johannes Battista	10	2	1	77%
EDELING Johan Heinrich Albert	13	-	-	100%
FOURIE Johannes Jacobus Christoffel	12	1	-	92%
IKANENG Mary Innocentia	12	1	-	92%
JAMES Tyoty Hubert	12	1	-	92%
KHALIPHA Thanduxolo David	12	1	-	92%
KOTZEE Dora	11	1	1	85%
LEEuw Serake Jacob	12	1	-	92%
LIPHOKO Sephiri Jan	6	3	4	46%
LOUW Martin Luther	9	4	-	69%
KUJOANA MA	13	-	-	100%

MABUYA Fezile Frederick	9	4	-	69%
MAFANTIRE Moselantja Jane	8	5	-	62%
MAFONGOSI Zoliwe Vijaya	8	4	1	62%
MAJOE Thupe Simon	13	-	-	100%
MANZANA Nkosinathi Reginald	12	1	-	92%
MAQENA Aleymaria Malefu	8	4	1	62%
MARAIS Johannes Stefanus	12	1	-	92%
MASHININI Thami	10	3	-	77%
MASIENYANE Mofapohedi David	12	1	-	92%
MASOKA Nakana Lazarus	9	3	1	69%
MATLABE Moses Mohapi Thabang	9	3	1	69%
MATOSA Albertina Nozamisile	10	3	-	77%
MATSEPE Tsiu Vincent	12	1	-	92%
MATSUBUKANYE Mangaliso MacGeorge	7	2	4	54%
MBANA Archie	13	-	-	100%

MENONG Kemoitsi Simon	11	2	-	85%
MFEBE Mamoipone Sakane Emily	12	1	-	92%
RAMAISA Khuthala A	13	-	-	100%
MHLABA Nondumiso	9	3	1	69%
MOGOLE Richard Rethabile	12	-	1	92%
MOHLOLI Pule Patrick	11	2	-	85%
MOKHATHI Percy Esaia	12	-	1	92%
MOKOENA Molefe Elias	11	2	-	85%
MOKOLUTLO Lebakeng Abraham	11	2	-	85%
MONTSHIOA Benjamin Alpheus	11	2	-	85%
MOSALA Mohau Stoffel	12	1	-	92%
MOTSHABI Mmilwane Patrick	13	-	-	100%
NAKWA Tamsanqa Alexander	12	1	-	92%
NEUMANN Vernon Hilson	13	-	-	100%
NGANGELIZWE Sebenzile	8	5	-	62%
NTSALA Molefi Malachia	11	1	1	85%
OLIVIER Jacobus Johannes	10	3	-	77%
RADEBE Lejone Lebohang Francis	12	1	-	92%
RADEBE Mpolaiile Lydia	7	6	-	54%
RAMOJELA John Nkoanyane	12	1	-	92%
RUBULANA Lennox	11	2	-	85%
SEBOHOLI Chabeli Patrick	13	-	-	100%
SEGALO Sello Soften	10	3	-	77%
SEPHIRI Joseph	10	3	-	100%
SMIT Dirk Cornelius	11	2	-	85%
STYGER Andre	13	-	-	100%
TALIWE Fumani Edward	12	1	-	92%
THOABALA Teboho Eddie	11	2	-	85%
THUTHANI Zwelibanzi Adam	11	2	-	85%
TLADI Renciloie Emma	8	5	-	62%
TLHONE Mamohanoe Lucy	8	5	-	62%
TSATSA Sizakele Joseph	12	1	-	92%
TSHABANGU Sello E	11	2	-	85%

TSOENE Thabang David	10	3	-	77%
VAN ROOYEN Hendrik Cornelius	11	2	-	85%
VANGA Nomahlazo Maggie	8	5	-	62%

Of the 72 Councillors of Matjhabeng Municipality:

11	Attended all 13 Council meetings
22	Did not attend 1 of the 13 meetings
15	Did not attend 2 of the 13 meetings
8	Did not attend 3 of the 13 meetings
5	Did not attend 4 of the 13 meetings
8	Did not attend 5 of the 13 meetings
2	Did not attend 6 of the 13 meetings
1	Did not attend 7 of the 13 meetings

RESOLUTIONS TAKEN AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

NUMBER OF RESOLUTIONS TAKEN	A-resolutions	C-resolutions
86	83	3

Eighty-six (87) Council resolutions (A1/2002 to A83/2002 and C1/2002 to C3/2002) were taken from January to October 2002. The A-resolutions are non-confidential resolutions that are taken by Council in a meeting open to the public. The C-resolutions are confidential resolutions taken by the meeting *in camera*.

Amongst these were resolutions regarding Council policies, namely:

- ☞ Draft Placement Policy adopted;
- ☞ Draft Policy on use of municipal sports and recreation facilities approved;
- ☞ Skills Development Policy adopted;

Other resolutions pertained to executive and administrative matters in the municipality, such as

- ☞ Proposed organisational structure adopted in principle;
- ☞ 9% salary increase approved for implementation;
- ☞ Draft Integrated Development Plan approved;
- ☞ Interim Conditions of Service approved for implementation;
- ☞ Standardisation of by-laws to be implemented;
- ☞ Amendment to Standard Rules and Orders;
- ☞ Establishment of formal whippyery facilities for the municipality;
- ☞ Introduction of a Home Loan Scheme for Councillors.

There were also questions raised by Councillors at meetings that required speedy attention and information to be furnished. As far as it was practically possible, the Office of the Speaker attended to these matters and ensured that the questions were answered to the satisfaction of the enquirer although the administration's response was often delayed.

As guardian of the privileges and interests of Council members, it is important that the Speaker be abreast of any matter of disagreement between Councillors. A noteworthy incident that accentuated the harmony that exists between Councillors took place in Ward 9 between Cllr D Smit and Cllr T Mashinini. Although they had different opinions about the matter, Cllr Smit unconditionally accepted a public apology by the ANC's Chief Whip for inconveniences caused, in the spirit of good governance and teamwork to the benefit of the Matjhabeng Community.

ATTENDANCE OF PUBLIC AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

The practice of having various ministers of religion open the proceedings with scripture reading and prayer, continues and it lends a healthy start to Council meetings.

Members of the public are keen to attend Council meetings and there were people in attendance at each meeting. Lending an ear to debates and decisions on issues that affect their community, brings public participation a step closer to the running of the municipality. The request that Ward Councillors ensure that they bring along Ward Committee Members to Council meetings was not diligently done by Ward Councillors.

At the Council meeting of 28 May 2002, the ANC Regional Chairperson attended, as well as teachers and learners from the Lebogang Secondary School. It warms the heart to know that educators inspire learners to attend such meetings in order to build in them the knowledge of how decisions are made and what being part of the Council entails. These are tomorrow's leaders, so it is important that we instil in them today the importance of freedom of speech, open dialogue and transparency.

At a meeting on 25 September 2002 a stress management talk was held by Dr J Mamphego, a Clinical Psychologist, who indicated how Councillors can manage stress. During a question session the Executive Mayor requested Dr Mamphego to draw up a questionnaire for Councillors and Officials to evaluate how stress levels can be monitored and analysed. Consequently, questionnaires were distributed to all Councillors.

MAYORAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The record of Councillor attendance of Mayoral Committee meetings is as follows:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
LEEUEW Serake Jacob	25	3	-	89%
MATSEPE Tsiu Vincent	18	8	2	64%
CHAO Martha Kediemetse	24	3	1	86%
MENONG Kemoitsi Simon	24	4	-	86%
MONTSHIOA Benjamin Alpheus	27	1	-	96%
RAMAISA Khuthala A	25	3	-	89%
THOABALA Teboho Eddie	24	3	1	86%
THUTHANI Zwelibanzi Adam	22	2	4	79%
TLADI	18	10	-	64%

Reneiloe Emma				
TSHABANGU Sello E	25	2	-	89%

A total of 28 Mayoral Committee meetings took place from January to October 2002, of which 21 were ordinary meetings and 7 special meetings.

RESOLUTIONS TAKEN AT MAYORAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ITEMS	NUMBER OF RESOLUTIONS TAKEN	RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL
299	270	29

SECTION 80 PORTFOLIO COMMITTEES

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Attendance of meetings by councillors:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
BOTHMA B	7	-	-	100%
DASSIE YS	6	1	-	86%
LIPHOKO SJ	5	1	1	71%
LOUW ML	5	1	1	71%
MABUYA FF	3	1	3	43%
MOKOLUTLO LA	6	-	1	86%
RAMOJELA JN	6	-	1	86%
THOABALA TE (MMC)	7	-	-	100%

Resolutions taken: 59

Recommendations to Mayoral Committee: 48

CORPORATE SERVICES

Attendance of meetings by councillors:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
DLAMINI SC	7	-	-	100%
EDELING JHA	5	2	-	71%
JAMES TH	4	2	1	57%
RADEBE LLF	4	3	-	57%
SEBOHOLI CP	3	2	2	43%
SEGALO SS	4	2	1	57%
SEPHIRI MJ	7	-	-	100%
TLADI RE (MMC)	5	2	-	71%
VAN ROOYEN HC	5	2	-	71%

Resolutions taken:

13

Recommendations to the Mayoral Committee:

The Section 80 Corporate Services Portfolio Committee had 6 ordinary meetings for the year 2002 up to October. On 6 August it had its first special meeting where a resolution was taken regarding the proposed organisational structure: job levels 4 to 18. On 11 October a departmental lekgotla was held in Odendaalsrus.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND SPATIAL PLANNING

Attendance of meetings by councillors:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
IKANENG MI	7	1	1	88%
MAQENA AM	5	2	1	63%
MASOKA NL	4	-	4	50%
MONTSHIOA BA (MMC)	8	-	-	100%
MOTSHABI MP	5	1	2	63%
NGANGELISWE S	7	1	-	88%
SMIT DC	6	1	1	75%
TSATSA SJ	3	2	3	38%
VANGA NM	6	2	-	75%

Resolutions taken: 20

Recommendations to the Mayoral Committee: 28

This committee held 7 ordinary meetings and one special meeting.

FINANCE

Attendance of meetings by councillors:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
BENGU VV	15	1	1	88%
MAFANTIRE MJ	15	-	2	88%
MAJOE TS	1	3	13	6%
MANZANA NR	16	1	-	94%
MARAIS JS	8	8	1	47%
MBANA A	14	1	2	82%
MOHLOLI PP	12	2	3	71%
MOTSHABI MP	6	2	9	35%
MOSALA MS	12	1	4	71%
OLIVIER JJ	15	2	-	88%
TSHABANGU SE (MMC)	16	1	-	94%

Resolutions taken: 40

Recommendations to the Mayoral Committee: 101

This committee held 17 meetings for the year until October 2002.

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Attendance of meetings by councillors:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
CHAO MK (MMC)	8	1	-	89%
DALI VN	9	-	-	100%
FOURIE JJC	8	-	1	89%
KHALIPHA TD	4	1	4	44%
MAJOE TS	3	3	3	33%
MASIENYANE D	7	-	2	78%
MATSUBUKANYE MM	4	-	5	44%
MOTSHABI MP	1	-	8	11%
NEUMANN VH	8	-	1	89%
THLONE L	8	-	1	89%
TSOENE D	7	2	-	78%

Resolutions taken: 12

Recommendations to the Mayoral Committee: 35

The Section 80 Housing Development and Environmental Management Portfolio Committee had 8 ordinary meetings in 2002 and on 21 May it held a special meeting to discuss the Draft Budget 2002/2003 for the department.

Invitation to Thubelisha Servcon Housing Presentation took place on 14 September 2002. Affected wards were: 4, 11, 12, 18, 20, 22, 25, 26, 30, 31.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Attendance of meetings by councillors:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
MENONG KS (MMC)	10	-	-	100%
MATLABE MMT	4	6	-	40%
MATOSA AN	9	-	1	90%
RUBULANA L	8	2	-	80%
NEUMAN VH	10	-	-	100%
RADEBE ML	9	1	-	90%
KUJOANA MA	7	1	2	70%
BOTHMA B	9	-	1	90%
BAAITJIES M	7	2	1	70%

Resolutions taken: 25

Recommendations to the Mayoral Committee: 36

This Committee held 10 meetings for the year until October 2002.

9PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORT

Attendance of meetings by councillors:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
RAMAISA K (MMC)	9	-	-	100%
MASHININI T	7	-	2	78%
ALEXANDER R	7	1	1	78%
MOGOLE RR	3	1	5	33%
MHLABA N	5	-	4	56%
KOTZEE D	6	-	3	67%
TALIWE F	7	-	2	78%
AURET I	6	-	3	67%
NTSALA MM	6	1	2	67%
MAJOE TS	1	-	8	11%

Resolutions taken: 13

Recommendations to the Mayoral Committee: 10

This committee held 9 meetings for the year until October 2002.

LOCAL LABOUR FORUM

Attendance of meetings by councillors:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
BENGU VV	10	1	3	77%
MAFONGOZI ZV	3	2	8	23%
MOHLOLI PP	3	2	8	23%
STYGER A	5	6	2	39%
TLADI RE	9	-	4	69%
VAN ROOYEN HC	5	6	2	39%

Resolutions taken: 38

The Local Labour Forum had 9 ordinary meetings for the year until October 2002 and 4 special meetings.

CHAIRPERSONS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Attendance of meetings:

SURNAME & NAMES	Number of meetings attended	Absent with apology	Absent without apology	Percentage attendance
BAAITJIES M	3	-	1	75%
BOTHMA B	1	2	1	25%
DASSIE YS	4	-	-	100%
DLAMINI SC	4	-	-	100%
DU TOIT JJB	1	1	2	25%
EDELING JH	2	1	1	50%
JAMES TH	1	2	1	25%
KHALIPHA TD	-	1	3	0%
LIPHOKO PP	1	2	1	25%
LOUW ML	2	2	-	50%
MABUYA FF	2	-	2	50%
MAGOLE RR	-	-	4	0%
MAHLOLI PP	3	1	-	75%
MANZANA NR	2	-	2	50%
MASALA MS	2	1	1	50%
MASIENYANE MD	1	1	2	25%
MASOKA NL	1	-	3	25%
MATSEPE TV	4	-	-	100%
MATSUBUKANYE MM	-	-	4	0%
MFEBE MSE	3	-	1	75%
MHLABA N	2	-	2	50%
MOKOENA ME	1	2	1	25%
MOKOLUTLO LA	3	-	1	75%
MONTSHIOA BA	3	1	-	75%
NAKWA TA	3	-	1	75%
NGANGELISWE S	3	-	1	75%
RADEBE LLF	4	-	-	100%
RAMAJELA JN	4	-	-	100%
RUBULANA L	4	-	-	100%
SEBOHOLI CP	3	-	1	75%
SMIT DC	2	-	2	50%
TALIWE FE	4	-	-	100%
THOABALA TE	4	-	-	100%
TSATSA SJ	4	-	-	100%
TSHABANGU SE	2	2	-	50%
TSOENE TD	2	-	2	50%
VAN ROOYEN HC	1	1	2	25%

Resolutions taken: 21

Recommendations to Council: 11

The regularity and frequency of the meetings of this very important committee leaves much to be desired. The Chairperson is urged to ensure its effectiveness in the next year.

LANGUAGE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

This committee held 2 meetings for the year until October 2002.

The last Language Committee meeting was held on 26 September 2002. This committee consists of 3 Councillors and 5 Officials. The committee members are as follows:

Cllr TV Matsepe
Cllr TW Dlova
Cllr VH Neumann

Officials: Mr B Molatseli
Mr T Shiringani
Mr T Jobo
Me P Seleka
Me T Wallace

PUBLIC MEETINGS AND HEARINGS

Council's annual report-back meetings were held from 3 to 5 December 2001. These meetings were aimed at reporting back to the public on all Council activities and problems encountered.

Many issues which were raised in these meetings pertained to service delivery, payment of services, unemployment, socio-economic development achieved and failures, as well as the role of ward committees.

At the last public meetings for the year 2001, which due to time constraints could not be included in last year's report, it was envisaged to take all public concerns and problems into cognisance and to report back on those issues raised.

COUNCILLORS MEETING THE PEOPLE

The Councillors met Matjhabeng residents to discuss their concerns and to listen to their inputs. The meetings were scheduled for 14 to 24 October 2002. Different venues of all Matjhabeng Administrative Units were used to meet the residents.

The attendance at the majority of the meetings was very good. Everybody was invited to attend these meetings. This was where a voice of the people was heard. People were asked to raise their concerns, problems and made inputs.

Councillors' participation was also effective as they were able answer some of the questions in a very professional way. It must be noted that meetings held at venues situated at previously "white" areas in terms of the now, repealed Group areas Act, did not draw significant attendance. There is a lack of interest and apathy from the communities living there. We need to find ways of whipping up interest.

Matjhabeng Municipality also held public meetings regarding the Draft Budget of 2002/2003. These series of meetings were held at different venues, including all Matjhabeng Administrative units on 11 and 12 June 2002.

TRAINING OF COUNCILLORS

Councillors underwent a number of training courses presented by SALGA during 2002. A total of 9 different courses were presented and provided Councillors with the necessary skills and expertise to be applied to the benefit of the Matjhabeng communities they serve.

The courses were presented as follows:

Name of course	Date presented	Number of Councillors attending course
Managerial Roles and Responsibilities	17-19 April	1
	23-25 April	4
	22-24 May	2
	29-31 May	2
Municipal Legislation	8-10 May	2
	15-17 May	3
	5-7 June	4
	12-14 June	2
Human Resource Management	5-7 June	4
	12-14 June	6
Integrated Development Planning	26-28 June	3
	3-5 July	2
	10-12 July	2
	17-19 July	2
Financial Management Module 1: Budgeting & Finance	22-23 July	6
Land and Housing	10 July	2
	17 July	7
Financial Management	31 July – 2 August	8
	14-16 August	7
Financial Management Module 2: Financing a Municipality: Sources of Operating Revenues and Capital Finance	12 – 13 November	5

DILIGENT ATTENDANCE OF COUNCILLORS

The number of Councillors who have not received any training from SALGA thus far is 23. This means that the Office of the Speaker has succeeded in aiding almost 70% of the Councillors in obtaining additional skills and knowledge that they can apply to the benefit of Council and betterment of the community as well as themselves.

WARD COUNCILLOR TRAINING

A workshop on Participatory Development through ward committees and ward councillors was held on 6 and 7 August 2002.

Kagiso Trust Consultance (KTC) held this two-day national workshop on community participation through ward committees and ward councillors. It was aimed at supporting and enhancing the capacity of local government efforts to accelerate service delivery and to develop practical developmental plans.

The seminar was attended by Cllrs TV Matsepe and L Rubulana.

Ward Councillor training took place in Virginia and Welkom and was attended very well by Ward Councillors. On 23-24 August, 23 Councillors attended a training workshop in Virginia, whilst in Welkom, 18 Ward Councillors attended it on 21-22 August. The workshop was organised as a

joint action by the National Department of Local and Provincial Government, SALGA and the South African Institute of Civil Engineers and was titled “Sustainable Infrastructure for South African Towns and Cities: a Programme for Decision Makers”. The main objective of the workshop was to enhance informed decision making at local government level by empowering Councillors with a basic understanding of how infrastructure works.

WARD COMMITTEES

As the report shows there are several Ward Committees that are non-functional. Some Ward Councillors are experiencing problems, which stem from the disruptive actions of some individuals in their wards and in some cases even Ward Committees. These individuals are using these platforms to undermine the authority of the Ward Councillor, disrupt the ward activities with the aim of discrediting the Councillors and thus Council. The intention of these individuals is to popularise themselves and to “unseat” the Councillor. (Ba batla ho hula tapeiti) as the saying goes. Council and the administration must be supportive of these Councillors.

Council must also be aware that Ward Councillors are often abused, sworn at and at times threatened for issues relating to Council’s lack of proper delivery of services, something the Councillors often have little or no control over except as policy formulators. What they have to endure at these meetings is often painful.

A Ward Committee for Ward 34 was finally established. It is the Speakers duty to ensure that the committees meet regularly, function in general and that Ward Councillors report back to Council on the activities of the ward committee.

WARD COMMITTEE MEMBERS WHO PASSED AWAY

Ward 35

Mr MS Malawu passed away on 19 April 2002. His vacancy has been filled.
Mr NP Rapitsi passed away on 15 September 2002

Attached as Annexure A is a synopsis of Ward Reports from January to September 2002.

GENERAL REMARKS

Official visit

On 8 August 2002 the Speaker of the Sol Plaatjie Municipality visited Matjhabeng. The purpose of the meeting was to exchange views on issues of similar interest to both municipalities.

Community and Liaison Officer

The post for a Governance and Liaison Officer was advertised and applications closed on 29 September 2002. The interviews were conducted on 31 October 2002. The shortlisting was finalised by the Speaker and the Human Resources department.

The incumbent will report to the Speaker and will be responsible for the co-ordinating of ward meetings, community participation meetings, training of councillors and ward committee members on the latest legislation pertaining to government development and the administration thereof, etc.

Coat of Arms

The Coat of Arms has not yet been finalised. Proposals were sent to the Bureau of Heraldry in Pretoria for approval.

Proposals for the motto have been sent to councillors and ward councillors to come up with suggestions. The Office of the Speaker has received about 26 suggestions to date.

Floor-crossing

The Office of the Speaker has not been informed of any floor-crossing from one political party to the next and as such the status quo remains in Matjhabeng.

I THANK YOU