



Address by the Sedibeng District Municipality Executive Mayor, Cllr. Mahole Simon Mofokeng on the occasion of the 28th Special Meeting of the Mayoral Committee Speaking Notes held at the Sedibeng Mayor's Parlour on the 17th February 2011, in Sedibeng

Colleagues & Officials

I take this opportunity to welcome you all to this Special Mayoral Committee. It is a special Meeting in a number of ways. Special in the sense that we have just gone through the second State of the Nation Address by the President of the Republic of South Africa, the Honorable Jacob Zuma.

In his address, he has clearly set out the path and the priorities facing us as government. Our work is cut out for us. This onerous task facing us demands of us to bring our best game forward, assist in creating a framework within which jobs will be created.

The address also demands that we deploy our best cadets for the task at hand to ensure that we make a difference in the lives of our communities.

This meeting is special in the sense that it comes at the time when we celebrate the 21st Anniversary of the release of our icon, former President Nelson Mandela from Victor Vester Prison. His role in our liberation is there for us to learn from.

We have just completed a successful hand-over and allocation of houses to the community of Tshepong Phase Two and the orphans from Sicelo Shiceka. Contrary to popular belief, the community was in full support of the programme. They were there in their numbers and there was not even a single sign of disruption. The communities are behind us all the way.

This MAYCO is also special in a sense in that it comes at the time when we are under siege from faceless people who fail to deal with change. The change which I am referring to here is the manner in which our glorious movement, the ANC has directed us to present our possible candidates to communities.

Change has the effect of generating energy. Energy without direction has a tendency of being disruptive. One is reminded of the science adage which says “The greater the energy the greater the disorder” We do however condemn this anarchy and hope that it will dissipate soon.

I hope that this spate of unrest will not stop us from executing our tasks at hand. This is purely an ANC process and will be dealt with at that level. I

have a sense that by this afternoon the Provincial Leadership of the ANC will be meeting with all the branches in the Region to put this matter to rest.

I take this opportunity to bring to your attention the need for the Institution to adapt to these changes. The changes which are brought about by the challenges presented in the State of The Nation Address. We need to be seen to be deploying our tried and tested cadres into areas which require concerted effort.

I hope that we will look into the various deployments and reshuffling of the Executive Directors in that light. The administration in general and the office of the Municipal Manager is hereby entrusted in making sure that these changes are effected with due regard to legal and legislative framework and without delay.

I hope we will all find this in order. The administrative reshuffle must also be dealt with by this MAYCO to ensure compliance with this directive.

I also wish to take the time to acknowledge that we have just recently received a Memorandum from APC. I do not want the Institution to find itself wanting for having had not responded on the Memo on time. To that end, I hope that this MAYCO will ensure that this matter is addressed

seeing as we have missed the deadline which was on Tuesday, 15 February 2011.

We are expecting a protest march from SAMWU and the issues that their memorandum of grievances carries is nothing new. These matters have always been on the radar. It is surprising that to-date the administration has not had the decency to deal with these.

Is it an indication of how things have fallen through the cracks? How long are we going to have to react to things we could have dealt with proactively?

Some of their concerns are around training, nightshifts and working hours at the EMS including payments of performance bonuses for the past two financial years. It is my wish that this MAYCO will assist the administration to deal and respond to SAMWU memorandum.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity to inform that I will be out of the country from the 23rd February until the 01st of March. In the light of this trip, I do hereby appoint **MMC Maipato Tsokolibane**, as the Acting Executive Mayor for the period under review. I hope that colleagues will give her the support which you have shown me through and through.

I know that we have been talking about the District-Wide Imbizo. This has been moved from one date to another. I take this opportunity to inform that until a suitable date is found, we will pronounce on it but should be before the end of March 2011.

I wish to implore that the Municipal Manager must guide, working in tandem with my office and the office of Speaker, the process in determining the date of the State of the District Address.

I expect the MM to also act on the memo received from the Office of the MEC for the Department of Infrastructure Development on Expanded Public Works Program Municipalities Roadshows. I hope that the response will reach the MEC before the end of business by tomorrow, 18 February.

The MM should also assist our colleagues from the National Department of EPWP on the three questions they have flagged for our attention which will assist in the development strategic framework for the implementation the EPWP in the Region.

I Thank You.