

**2022/2023 IDP/BUDGET SPEECH BY HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF
THE GREATER GIYANI MUNICIPALITY, CLLR.ZITHA THANDI**

Honourable Speaker of Council, Cllr. Mboweni Agrey

The Chief Whip of Council, Cllr. Makondo Thomas

Chair of Chairs, Cllr. Shiviti Morris

MPAC Chair, Cllr. Makondo Eric

Head of Finance Cllr. Ndaba Nkhensani

Head of Planning & Economic Development: Cllr. Baloyi Cedrick

All Executive Committee Members

Chairpersons of Portfolio Committees

Fellow Councillors

Our Traditional leaders

Municipal Manger Mr. Chauke Mkhacani and the entire Management

Chairperson of the Audit Committee

Chairperson of the Risk Committee

Sector Departments

Business Community

Our Faith Based Leaders

Ward Committees

SAMWU and IMATU Leadership

The Ruling Party and Alliance Leadership

Other Political Parties present

Members of the Media

My family led by Headman Maphata

Vaaka Tiko va Greater Giyani

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen

Avuxeni

Honourable Speaker,

Allow me as I begin to first thank our beautiful and intelligent young girl, **Stephy Mongwe** our nine years old grade four child of Tlharhani Preparatory Centre in Giyani Section E, for such an inspirational poem.

The poem signifies the importance of women in our society and as we celebrate the African month we should all embrace women of Africa and strive for the total emancipation of women in our communities taking from our forebears-mothers such as Lilian Nghoyi, Ruth First, Albertina Sisulu , Winnie Madikizela Mandela and others.

Honourable Speaker and your house

As we celebrate this Africa month we must remind ourselves that when Africa`s generation of liberators discovered the genuine truth that we are our own liberators, they defined a dream that must pervade every area of Africanees in future. That our Africa must not remain the disabled beggar of the nations, and we must all proudly say that:-

- ❖ **We are our own developers; we own our land and resources thereof and the dream you hear is ours-we own it.**
- ❖ **We should remind each other that we are our own defenders, and we have the future of Africa in our hands.**
- ❖ **Therefore, we must rise as Africans and proudly say to the world that we are Africans.**

Honourable speaker,

I am standing here today as your servant deployed to lead this community and which is a call that I am honouring. We have approved our IDP and Budget under challenging economic downswing at national level and indeed at local level.

The State of the Nation Address by his Excellency President Ramaphosa and the National Budget Speech by the Minister of Finance Honourable Enock Godongwane gives a clear direction in relation to the cost containment measures which Government institutions including ourselves should adhere to.

We find ourselves at a crossroads. We are therefore called upon to elect a path that leads to faster and more inclusive economic growth and strengthens private and public sector investment even at a local level. The path we are to elect shall sought to stabilize our financial state as a municipality and reduce debts and expenditures that are not linked to service delivery.

Honourable Speaker

At a national level which is the basis at which we have tabled our local budget, we are experiencing a technical recession – with its tenants of a decline in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) – driven primarily by contractions in agriculture, mining, and the rise in fuel prices as a result of the global uncertainty resulting from the Russia-Ukraine war. However, these events have led to a sharp depreciation of the Rand and caused an upward swing in the inflation rate.

Honourable Speaker,

The budget tabled here today is influenced by the current challenges faced by our communities and the opportunities we foresee in order to build the better tomorrow.

The high unemployment rate within our communities, lack of sustainable services, the growing allocation of residential site in almost all our villages which needs roads infrastructure, water, and electricity. All of those puts a serious financial obligation to the municipality.

I should remind Honourable councillors sitting here today, that we have all went all out to our communities during the local government elections campaigning wearing different political caps and our people have given us a clear instruction that go to Council and champion our interests for service delivery, we have long yearned for. Our people said they need water, electricity, houses, proper roads, safe and healthy environment to leave in.

This instruction should be consistent in our minds in all the decisions and actions we take.

Honourable Speaker

We are meeting here as a new Municipal Council Elected in November 2021 to consider our first IDP/Budget and budget related policies for this council. Some amongst us are in Council for the first time, but some are serving their unbroken second term as members of the Greater Giyani Municipal Council. Again there are others who have served more than two terms. **May I ask those councillors who have served more than two terms to rise [while they are standing]**

Honourable Speaker, these councillors must be recognized and be called by their right titles in Council, which are Alderman and Alderwoman. They have been repeatedly elected by their communities to represent them in Council. Their titles should henceforth change to Alderman and Alderwoman so we should no longer call them by the title “Cllrs” [you may be seated]

Honourable Speaker,

We are meeting this morning as a Council to present the 2022/2023 draft budget as compelled by legislation. Section 16(2) of the Municipal Finance Management Act (MFMA) which directs the Mayor to table the draft annual budget at a Council meeting at least 90 days before the start of the budget year. We have just tabled the IDP and budget which had been subjected to a rigorous consultation with our communities and various stakeholders.

We engaged on this important pillar of our democracy knowing precisely that public participation should inform all processes associated with local government.

We have just approved our IDP and Budget under a very stringent economic challenges, the high inflation rate, increase in the repo rates and the upward increment of fuel which impact negatively on the local economic growth and the subsistence of our people.

We should as a municipality draw strength from the words of **former President Thabo Mbeki** when he said *“Trying times need courage and resilience. Our strength as a people is not tested during the best of times”*. We therefore make a clarion call that we should work together with our communities and the business community, despite these economic down turns we should instill the

culture of payment of services so that the municipality continue to render sustainable services to the communities.

THE ROAD TRAVERSED FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL TO DATE

Honourable Speaker,

We are proud to report to this honourable house and to the entire community of Greater Giyani that the previous Council under the leadership of the former Mayor Cllr. Mathebula Sasavona and Former Mayor Cllr. Shibambu Basani had laid a basis at which we are continuing to build on. There are several key projects which the previous Council had achieved:-

PROJECT NAME	QUANTITY	START DATE	FINISH DATE	FINANCIAL YEAR COMPLETED
1. Blinkwater Upgrading From Gravel To Paving	1.013 Km	18 May 2021	18 Oct 2021	2020/21
2. Nkuri Upgrading From Gravel To Paving	0.9 Km	14 May 2021	14 Sept 2021	2020/21
3. Thomo Upgrading From Gravel To Paving	3.5km	21 May 2021	22 May 2022	2020/21
4. Homu 14B To 14A Upgrading From Gravel To Tar	4.3km	14 Feb 2018	31 Jan 2020	2020/21
5. Giyani Section F Upgrading From Gravel To Paving	8.67km	01 Apr 2019	01 Apr 2020	2020/21
6. Makosha Upgrading From Gravel To Paving	5.6 Km	12 Feb 2017	09 Oct 2020	2020/21
7. Nkomo A Upgrading From Gravel To Tar	2.5 KM	10 Feb 2020	21 Feb 2021	2020/21
8. Construction of Giyani Civic Centre Phase 3	1	10 Jan 2019	21 Oct 2020	2020/21
9. Mageva Sports Centre	1	01 Apr 2019	30 June 2020	2020/21
10. Giyani Section E Upgrading from Gravel to Tar Phase 2	1.477km	01 Apr 2019	01 Apr 2020	2020/21
11. Bode Paving Internal Streets	2.4km	26 Aug 2017	26 Mar 2018	2018/19
12. Refurbishment of Shivulani Sports Centre	1	5 Sep 2017	22 Feb 2018	2018/19
13. Giyani Section F Paving Of Streets	10km	29 Mar 2017	29 Mar 2018	2018/19

14. Civic Centre Phase 2	1	28 Sep 2018	12 Dec 2016	2017/18
15. Construction Of Thomo Community Hall	1	12 Feb 2016	31 Apr 2017	2017/18
16. Refurbishment of Sporting Facilities (Gawula)	1	5 Sep 2017	22 Feb 2018	2017/18
17. Development Of Giyani Section E Sport Centre	1	15 Apr 2015	15 Oct 2016	2015/16

ELECTRIFICATION

Honourable Speaker,

We should also report that we managed from the previous term to date electrified many of our villages extensions: -

PROJECT NAME	QUANTITY	FINANCIAL YEAR
18. Installation of High Mast Lights in Greater Giyani CBD.	3 units	2020/21
19. Electrification of Mapuve	400 units	2020/21
20. Electrification of Jim-nghalalume	335 units	2020/21
21. Electrification of Noblehoek	230 units	2020/21
22. Electrification of Mashavele	140 units	2020/21
23. Electrification of Nkuri-zamani	200 units	2020/21
24. Electrification of Shimange	170 units	2019/20
25. Electrification of Khaxani	300 units	2019/20
26. Electrification of Mushiyani	220 units	2019/20
27. Electrification of Xitlakati	170 units	2019/20
28. To erect 30 high mast lights in crime prone areas	30 units	2019/20
29. Electrification of Nkomo B&C	360 units	2019/20

30. Electrification of Mhlava-Willem, Sekhiming, Mbatlo & Shivulani Villages	369 units	2019/20
31. Electrification of Mushiyani, Kheyi, Xitlakati, Mzilela & Khaxani villages	360 units	2019/20
32. Electrification of Mninginisi Block 3 Village (Contractor)	350 units	2018/19
33. Electrification of Shikhumba, Nkomo C, Nkomo B, Dzingidzingi & Maswanganyi Villages	350 units	2018/19
34. Electrification of Mphagani and Nsavulani Village	260 units	2018/19
35. Electrification of N'wamankena 36. & Dingamazi Village	133 units	2017/18
37. Electrification of Gandlanani Village	257 units	2017/18
38. Electrification of Vuhehli, Ndindani, Gawula, Nwakhuwani, Mahlathi, Ntshuxi Villages	225 units	2017/18
39. Electrification of Hlomela, Siyandhani, Babangu & Ntshuxi Villages	200 units	2017/18
40. Thirty High mast lights in crime prone areas (Energizing)	30 units	2017/18

Honourable Speaker

We are glad to announce that the National Treasury awarded us a bonus of **R9.2 million Rands** through the INEG the amount we received in March 2022. This gives an impetus to the municipality to continue electrifying our communities.

WATER

Most of our communities still does not have running water and those receiving water are not consistently receiving it. We are however optimistic that the revival of the Nandoni water project by Minister Senzo Mcunu who had so far proved to be hands- on in ensuring that people of Greater Giyani have water. This week on Tuesday the Minister was once more here with us monitoring and

assessing progress made so far. We are therefore hopeful that our people will soon receive water in their communities.

LAND FOR OUR PEOPLE

Honourable Speaker

We should report to this Council on the progress to date regarding the sale of 539 sites between Giyani Town D2 and Section F. The sale of sites is still in progress. The number of sites sold as of today is 360 which implies that 179 sites are unsold so far.

The Department of Cooperative Government, Human Settlement & Traditional Affairs in Limpopo has appointed a Contractor Lumah Engineering Consultants for the servicing of sites with Water and Sewer reticulation. The contractor has arrived on site and started work this month May 2022. We appreciate the support of the department in this regard. Applications for title deeds are under way.

The Municipality is also assisting various traditional authorities in demarcation of sites which our people access through the traditional authorities.

Honourable Speaker

We must reflect that the budget which had just been approved by this Council reflect in a nutshell the following: -

TOTAL BUDGET

CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR	COMING FINANCIAL YEAR	COMMENT
R616.9 Million	R696.7 Million	An increase of 12.9%

CAPITAL BUDGET

CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR	COMING FINANCIAL YEAR	COMMENT
R183.1 Million	R193.5 Million	An increase of 5.7%

OPERATIONAL BUDGET

CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR	COMING FINANCIAL YEAR	COMMENT
R433.8 Million	R503.2 Million	An increase of 15.9%

GRANTS

CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR	COMING FINANCIAL YEAR	COMMENT
R417.9 Million	R448.7Million	An increase of 7.3%

Honourable Speaker

The municipality should intensify its campaign of ensuring that our communities and the business communities pay for the rates and taxes so as to ensure that the municipality generate its own revenue which is essential in order to fast track service delivery to our communities.

The IDP/Budget approved here today with its policies and the tariff structure which generally reflect an increase of rates by 4.8% is pivotal to implement and we call upon our rate payers to realize that paying for rates and taxes is an invest which will see our communities developing and ensure sustainable services.

Honourable Speaker

As we much forward to the new financial year, there will be numerous catalytic projects expected to start at the beginning of new financial year and we call upon the administration to begin developing plans to ensure that the projects

are successfully implemented and for us as the political component to embrace ourselves to execute our oversight role.

We also call upon our entire municipal workforce to realize that we need each other in order to intensify service delivery to our people, we all have an obligations to our people to commit ourselves and to work towards the noble goal of ensuring that our people receive quality-sustainable service delivery.

CONCLUSION

Honourable Speaker

As we conclude, we once more call upon all our councillors and Ward committees to continue to urge our people to get vaccinated in order to defeat the spread of COVID, to continue observing basic health measures and remain ever vigilant so that we are able to get on with our lives even with the virus in our midst.

We are committed to ensuring that mechanisms are put in place to implement and continuously evaluate our work. We have a clear roadmap for delivery – both in the immediate, short term, as well as the long term.

We wish to thank the Municipal Manager, the entire administration and our workforce for the work you are doing to improve the lives of our people.

Thanks to the Office of the Speaker, for ensuring the success of this important Council .

Thanks to the Preparatory Committee and the support staff in my office.

My special appreciation to the Finance and Planning Portfolio Committees for the comprehensive work done on the IDP and the budget.

Kunene Xitsonga xi vurisile Loko vaku Rintiho rin`we a rinusi hove.

As former president **Thabo Mbeki** once said, “*The future is formed and derives its first impulse in the womb of the present.*”

Therefore, let us all roll up our sleeves today and work together to build the future – resilient, sustainable, and livable communities!

Ndza Nkhensa