

**ADDRESS TO THE GREATER GIYANI MUNICIPALITY
COUNCIL BY THE MAYOR-CLLR. MATHEBULA SASAVONA
SALVA ON THE OCCASION OF THE 2017/2018
IDP/BUDGET SPEECH, 26TH MAY 2017, GIYANI
COMMUNITY HALL**

**Honourable Speaker and the Chairperson of Council, Cllr
Hlungwani M.P**

**Hon. Chief Whip of the African National Congress Cllr
Mashale M.R**

**Heads of Portfolio Committees and Fellow Executive
Committee Members**

**Chairperson of Municipal Public Accounts Committee, Cllr
Mabasa R.O**

Hon.Chairs of Chairs

Honourable Councillors

**Tihosi na mi mfumo swivongo hi ku hambana hambana ka
swona.**

Acting Municipal Manager and All Municipal Officials

Officials from Sector Departments and Parastatals

Members of Ward Committees

**Leadership of the African National Congress, Leagues and
Alliance Structures**

Political opposition parties in Council

Leadership of organised labour

Youth structures

Leadership of various religious denominations

Business Community and all our social partners

The Media, both local and from outside

Distinguished Guests, Comrades and Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen

Vaaka tiko va Greater Giyani

Ndza Milosa,

Xo sungula, hi ku pfumeleriwa hi n'wina Muchaviseki Xipikara, ndzi navela ku boxa marito ya ku chavelela mindyangu ya Greater Giyani, leyi nga lahlekeriwa hi varhandziwa va yona, eka khombo ra Malaria leri nga hlasela no yayarhela ndzhawu leyi na tin'wana leti nga vandzekana na ntanga wa Kruger. Hi ku titsongahata, a hi yimeni hinkwerhu, hi korhamisa tinhamu.

Ndza khensa! A hi tshamiseni!

Honourable Speaker,

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Oliver Reginald Tambo, a diligent leader of the people who led the struggle for freedom and democracy for many years under difficult circumstances.

In honour and memory of this gigantic selfless servant of the people, the ruling party has declared 2017, the year of OR Tambo and the year of unity in action.

Without a doubt, OR Tambo was indeed a selfless servant of the people and an embodiment of the struggle for democracy, non-racialism, non-sexism and unity. Most importantly, OR Tambo valued and prized the freedom of his people above anything. Here we are today, presenting this budget speech, thanks to his selflessness contribution to our freedom.

Honourable Speaker,

Today as we gather here, we doing so during the month of May, in this month, the country celebrate amongst others the Workers day, Africa day and mother's day.

Shamefully, throughout the country, we have received sad news of brutally murdered women and children, mainly, this people died on the hands of their perceived lovers, relatives or someone they know. We therefore want to appeal to all good men out there to isolate and condemn all evil men who prey on innocent defenceless women and children. Let us jointly say enough is enough.

Meanwhile we cannot ignore the spate of suspected ritual killings that took place around Greater Giyani areas. Equally, we say to all those who are involved to refrain from these evil acts.

Honourable members,

It is with great pleasure to introduce to you, the very energetic young man who put Giyani on a map recently by walking well

over 1978 kms from Giyani to Cape Town. He is in our mist and his name is Mr Nkosinathi Manganyi. We are so proud of you.

Since his return, this gentleman has embarked on various community development projects. We therefore appeal to all our local business men and women to lend a helping hand for the success of these projects.

We are proud to recognise another young man, he is a local journalist aligned to several media houses. He is not in our mist as he is attending the Kruger National Park Achievement Awards for outstanding Journalists as a recipient. His name is Mr Orlando Chauke. This is his second award following his recognition for best community media journalist of the year in 2014, conferred to him by Caxton media group. We congratulate him in absentia.

Honourable Speaker

Today, 23-years after the democratic dispensation, 16-years after the establishment of the current local government system on the 5th of December 2000 and almost 10 months since this council was overwhelmingly voted into office by our people, we can confidently confirm that ours is a democratic, people centred local government.

As per the precepts entailed in the constitution of this democratic country, let me indicate to your respectable house, honourable Speaker that in December last year, we as the executive committee and management, held a strategic planning session in Makgoebaskloof. It is during this time that we confirmed the municipal vision, mission and objectives.

This, for the sake of determining the types of strategies to employ in order to fast track the most needed service delivery.

We also analysed the projects and programs which have been under implementation by the former council, as well as come with new ones, in order to realize our vision for the coming five years. Of course this we did not do in isolation. The unwavering cooperation we as a municipality have with sector departments, has presented us with an assortment of projects and programs which, in my view, will bring a great change for the better during this financial year.

Town Planning and Land Use

Honourable Speaker

With regards to the formalisation of settlements, we are pleased to announce that we have successfully formalised B9 at Makosha village. The formalisation of Risinga and Eco-park is on-going as planned for this financial year (2016/17).

In an effort to ensure rapid speed in developing two of our available sites including the land made available by Mabunda Traditional Authority as well as the 539 sites at section F, we recently visited Mbombela and Rustenberg Municipalities to benchmark on how they successfully implemented similar projects. Coming from these visits, we are confident that the experience shared with our counterparts will go a long way in helping us implement these projects.

We consulted on the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act (SPLUMA) by-law. I have no doubt that the land issue is so full of challenges. I believe honourable Speaker that when the right time arises, we shall have the related by-law gazetted, and it will assist a great deal in responding to the ever growing challenges of land use.

LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Honourable Speaker,

We hosted a very successful economic summit during the financial year under review (2016/17). During this summit, amongst others, we resolved to intensify support for medium and micro enterprises.

We have supported more than 20 SMMEs by way of sending them to various shows such as the Marula festival, Easter Rand Show and Durban Indaba to market their products.

Honourable Speaker,

We are pleased to reveal that plans to open Shangoni gate into the Kruger National Park via Giyani are still on course. It is also our pleasure to announce to this august house that we are facilitating the re-opening of the Siyandhani Airport.

Equally significant is the plan to re-vitalise all irrigation schemes in and around Giyani to boost local economy.

INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSFORMATION

Honourable Speaker,

The National Development Plan (and the Limpopo Development Plan) calls for responsive, accountable, effective and efficient local government, and our Integrated Development Plan (IDP) requires us

“to develop and retain the best human capital, effective and efficient administrative and operational support systems”

To this end, the municipality will review the LED strategy to align it with the Limpopo Development Plan and the National Development Plan to ensure an integrated approach.

Honourable Speaker,

The 2016/17 mid-year analysis results from COGHSTA, which indicate that we have achieved our year target plans by 73% ahead of all other municipalities in the district, is evidence that we are on the right track. The results came after we successfully managed to submit all our reports on Service Delivery Budget and Implementation Plan (SDBIP) of our first quarter, focussing on achieved and non-achieved targets.

The introduction of Complaints Management System and the promotion of Performance Management Systems have been further strengthened by the appointment of the customer care coordinator located within communications unit.

These two systems feed directly in service delivery performance as employees are geared towards performance targets and citizens' complaints are attended to swiftly. Thus we urge all of our people to raise their concerns and complaints through the Communication Office - The number to call is 015 811 5581 or 0768126020 / 083 4040 434.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY

REVENUE COLLECTION

Honourable Speaker,

In order for this municipality to remain afloat, it is essential that we improve our revenue collection rates, we need to ensure that we vigilantly implement our revenue enhancement strategy as well as enforcement of our credit control policy and by-law.

As things stands now, our revenue base remains under pressure and needs to be expanded over the medium term to sustain the financial position of the municipality. We once more call upon our residents to pay for their municipal services, is the right thing to do.

TARIFF INCREASES

In order to continue providing sustainable services, the municipality should be in a position to cover costs associated with the provision of services. In this regard some cost drivers may necessitate increases above Consumer Price Inflation (CPI).

Honourable Speaker,

It is on this basis that tariffs are reviewed in order to ensure sufficient cash is generated to remain focused on effective service delivery that is economical and equitable to all communities.

Thus, our multi-year tariff assumptions for the 2017/18 Medium Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework (MTREF) will increase by 6.4% for property rates, water services, sanitation and refuse removal or solid waste sales. By 5.7% for 2018/19 and by 5.6% for 2019/20. Once again these include property

rates, water services, sanitation, refuse removal or solid waste sales.

Honourable Speaker,

Property rate increases are necessitated by among others the inflation rate. It is therefore pertinent that in light of the inflation forecast and our need to remain afloat as critical government institution, property rates have to be increased. The property rates will go up by 6.4 %, this increase is in terms of the Municipal Budget Circular No. 86 for the 2017/18 MTREF

Rental of municipal facilities are based on cost recovery. Tariffs for 2017/2018 have been significantly increased to ensure cost reflective tariffs. Factors such as electricity costs, water usage, maintenance costs, personnel costs, overtime costs and cleaning material were taken into account.

SPECIAL PROGRAMMES

Honourable Speaker,

We have annual budgets allocated for the following special programmes in the Office of the Mayor: Gender, Youth, Older Persons & Children, HIV/Aids, Traditional Affairs, Excellence Awards and Bursaries. These programmes are coordinated by specific officers placed in the Mayor's office.

We have successfully launched the Aids Council which will assist us to continue to fight the scourge of HIV/Aids pandemic. We have launched Gender Forum, Men Forum and Women Caucus.

The Mayor has adopted a child headed home at Mhlava Wellemu during the International Aids day hosted by the office of the Premier at the village. We are pleased to announce that the office continue to support the kids with groceries and other basic amenities on a month to month basis.

Honourable Speaker,

It is important to note that we have so far been able to offer our support materially to various Traditional Councils during their specific activities ranging from coronations, funerals as well as celebration of their special days. By this gesture, we are saying to the Traditional leadership that you occupy a special place in this government.

Honourable Speaker

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND BASIC SERVICE DELIVERY

Provision of Water

Honourable Speaker,

For years, the municipality have been grappling with challenges of water shortages. This problem was aggravated by the fact that our area is naturally dry.

Honourable Speaker,

Given the fact that the area is naturally dry just aggravated the situation. However, we are pleased to reflect the positives that came as a result of the national department of Water and Sanitation's intervention that eased the situation for everyone to see.

Vo tala hi timbhoni ta leswaku emigangeni ya ka hina, mati a ya ha ri xiphiqo ku fana na le kusunguleni. A hi ma tirhiseni kahle naswona hi nga pfumeleli munhu hambi wihi kumbe wihi ku tirhisa mati lawa hi ndlela ya vusopfa hambi ku ri ku ya xavisa Kunene. Ha switiva leswaku emigangeni yin'wana vanhu va pfurile mabindzu yo xavisa mati lawa mangariki ya vona. Swi bihe ngopfu a hi swisiveleni hi ri vaaki.

Housing and Sanitation

Honourable Speaker,

With the assistance of the provincial department of Cooperative Governance, Human Settlement and Traditional Affairs, well over 440 RDP units were built during the financial year under review (2016/17). Significantly, a total of 921 housing units have been allocated to Greater Giyani Municipality for implementation during 2017/18 financial year.

With all these achievements, we are not ignorant of the huge housing back log which currently stands at 6084. This only reflects the reality of the growing number of our people in need of affordable house.

Electricity

Honourable Speaker,

With all our 91 villages having been electrified since the dawn of the ANC led government in 1994, we are now left with a mammoth task to ensure that all extensions are electrified. We know that this is not going to be easy. But with a winning

mentality, we will make it. We will not be able to cover everyone at a go, we expect complaints and dissent from some section of the communities, who may not immediately be on the benefiting list. We call for calm as we allow for the peaceful and continuous engagements with all key stakeholders for an amicable solution.

Honourable Speaker

We are very pleased to announce that the following electricity projects are complete:

- Electrification of Mninginisi Block 3
- Electrification of Gandlanani and Silawa
- Electrification Of Bambeni village.
- Electrification of Mzilela and Kheyi
- Electrification of Maswanganyi

The following projects are either in construction or planning stages:

- Electrification of N'wamankena Village
- Electrification of Vuhehli, Ndindani, Gawula, Nwakhuwani, Mahlathi & Ntshuxi Villages.
- Electrification of Hlomela, Siyandhani, Babangu & Ntshuxi Villages
- Electrification of Shikumba, Nkomo B&C, Dzingidzingi Villages
- Electrification of Mbaula, Mushiyani, Xitlakati & Khaxani Villages

Highmast lights installation and energising:

- 31 Highmast Lights Installation are complete and 5 have already been energised

- 51 Highmast Lights – the project is in progress and energising will begin in June 2017

CIVIC CENTRE OFFICE PHASE 2 – COMPLETION

- Project is currently at Practical Completion Stage
- Civic Centre Fencing and Guardhouse is complete

THOMO COMMUNITY HALL & MAGEVA SPORTS CENTER

- Thomo community hall project is at Practical Completion Stage
- Mageva Sport centre – Site was handed over to the contractor and work will begin soon

The following projects are either complete, on tender or in progress

- Nkomo B Upgrading from Gravel to Tar – The Project is Complete
- Mbaula Access Road Upgrading to Tar - The Contractor is busy Surfacing
- Giyani Section F Phase 3 Paving – The Contractor is busy with Excavations
- Bode Paving of Internal Streets – The Project is on Tender for Appointment of Contractor

The following are planned projects for 2017/18

- Bode Paving of internal Street
- Waste Disposal Site
- Refurbishment of Gawula Sport centre

- Refurbishment of Shivulani sport centre
- Refurbishment of Giyani Section A and tennis court
- Rehabilitation of Dumping Site.

Honourable Speaker

Below are some of our notable achievements:

- The municipality is currently number one in Limpopo on MIG expenditure and it's been three years in a row.
- To that effect, the municipality received a bonus of 30 million from Coghsta because of the excellent performance on MIG.
- The department of Energy also gave the municipality additional 3 million bonus on electrification for better performance
- Last financial year the municipality received 20 million as a performance bonus
- Mbaula access road and Thomo community hall will be completed earlier than expected
- On EPWP programme, we have achieved our national targets and for that reason, our allocation has increased from 1 million to 4 million which means more jobs will be created next financial year.

Roads and Transport

Honourable Speaker

We cannot down play the seriousness of the backlog we having in as far as road infrastructure is concern. We continue to receive complaints surrounding issues of road maintenance or tar.

We still have backlogs in provincial roads such as, Thomo to Hlomela road, Mageva to Makhuva road, Ndhambhi to Xitlakati road, Mphagani to Xitlakati road, Mnigininginisi to Shangoni gate and Xikukwana to Xivulani. We also acknowledge as a fact that these very roads are not regularly graded or so well maintained. We are equally very concern. Thus, we are working closely with the department to find a solution to this challenge.

Community Safety

Honourable Speaker

We are pleased to report that we have set aside budget to further strengthen our capacity for ensuring community safety. In this regard, a new position for Community Safety Manager as well as a Chief Traffic Officer post have already been advertised and will appoint soon.

It is with great pleasure to announce that our pound station continues to be operational. Since its operationalization, a considerable number of stray animals have been impounded and this has contributed to alleviating accidents in our roads. We want to take this opportunity to applause our hard working officials who ensure that this work is done on a daily basis. In the light of this, I would like to explore our officials to continue to rid the CBD, our roads and the Townships of all stray animals.

I am greatly pleased to announce that our Driver's Licence Testing Centre has been upgraded to a Grade A and we are now able to test even the Motor cycles. We therefore assure our communities that we will continue to provide quality services to them.

Sport, Art and Culture

Honourable Speaker

It is a well-known fact that we are doing well with regard to sport, arts and culture in the municipality. Amongst others we have so far achieved the following during the year under review:

- We have grown the Mayor's cup both in popularity and stature. The Mayor's Cup continues to contribute in nurturing and unearthing the talents of our young people.
- We distributed several kits to various wards through our sports development programme. This year, we have expanded our support to include support for cricket codes. Two cricket teams will be supported during the financial year under review.
- The Giyani Stadium has been upgraded to a status where it can host soccer games of the Premier Soccer League status.
- We successfully hosted 14th MLFM Xitsonga Music Awards and conversations are underway to adopt the MLFM Xitsonga Music Awards as an annual event hosted by the Municipality.
- We successfully hosted arts and culture festival and indigenous games, programmes that seek to encourage and support community members to pride in their culture.

Environment and Waste Management

Honourable Speaker

We continue to render refuse removal services to our communities. However, it should be noted that our efforts are hampered by some sections of our residents who continue to dump illegally in prohibited areas.

Honourable Speaker

I am pleased to announce that the development of the new landfill site has been advertised and construction should commence in the first quarter of 2017/18.

Moreover, budget has been set aside in the next financial year (2017/18) for the development of the new landfill site as well as the rehabilitation of the current waste disposal site. This will also fast track the operationalization of the buyback centre, which will give birth to new business opportunities for the recycling sector.

Honourable Speaker

On behalf of the municipality I want to seize this opportunity to appreciate the work done by volunteers in many villages who volunteer to clean their communities, the same goes to those under the community works programme (CWP). Keep the good work up.

Disaster Management

Honourable Speaker

I have pleasure to announce that we have coordinated the construction of disaster relief housing in households severely affected by disasters. To this end, 106 houses have been completed scattered in different villages in the Municipality and, the disaster relief housing programme is still continuing.

Furthermore, the municipality has and continues to efficiently respond to isolated disaster incidents by providing emergency relief to the victims in the form of emergency medical assistance, emergency shelter, providing food parcels and life essentials.

We have also reacted well to the recent malaria disaster incidences that resulted in a record high of patients admission at Nkhensani Hospital. We have provided relief tents, 40 mattresses with blankets that assisted alleviate the shortage of patients admission space during the time.

Honourable Speaker,

We have recently developed a disaster management plan and Council has approved it. The plan provides a framework for the disaster management function of the municipality, both from a disaster risk reduction and disaster response perspective.

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

As council, we have started the IDP review process after adopting the process plan, as required by the municipal systems act. It is my pleasure, honourable Speaker, to indicate that we have already completed the analysis phase of the IDP, which has clearly indicated where from and where to, as a municipality.

To further strengthen our internal systems in order to achieve our service delivery mandate, the municipality have filled two senior positions of Chief Financial Officer and Director Corporate Services. Meanwhile, candidates for the position of a Director Community Services have been interviewed. The position of the Director for Planning and Development has been re-advertised.

Honourable Speaker,

Ours is to create an enabling environment for smooth running of the municipality and that cannot be achieved unless the staff establishment is so well equipped and supported adequately.

To this end, council will stop at nothing in ensuring that all key positions including that of the municipal manager are filled.

AUDIT

Honourable Speaker,

We are happy to report that the progress made thus far is promising. This, mindful of the fact that for three consecutive financial years namely 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16 we received qualified audit report.

What is more encouraging though, about our quest to attain clean audit is the fact that every year we manage to reduce the number of issues as raised by the Auditor General.

It is important to note that in 2013/14 we got qualified report with 8 queries, whilst we got qualified report again in 2014/15 but with 5 queries and recently (2015/16) we again got qualified audit report with 4 queries or issues. Clearly, we are on the right track, and clean audit is our ultimate destination.

Honourable Speaker,

The Budget I am to present is in line with the provision of the Municipal Finance Management Act, amongst other things the following are legal imperatives for consideration:-

The Council of a municipality must for each financial year approve an annual budget for the municipality before the start of the financial year (MFMA/Section 16 (1)).

A municipality council must at least 30 days before the start of the budget year consider approval of the annual budget: MFMA

Section 24(1). An annual budget must generally be divided into capital and operating budgets: MFMA/ Section 17(2).

An annual budget must be funded from realistically estimated revenues to be collected, cash-backed accumulated funds from previous years surpluses not committed for other purposes, and, borrowed funds (but only for the capital budget): MFMA/Section 18 (1).

An annual budget must be approved together with the adoption of resolutions as may be necessary: MFMA/Section 24 (2)(c). Regulation 17 (MBRR) requires a municipal council to consider and adopt separate resolutions dealing with each of the items contemplated in Section 24(2) (c) of the MFMA.

The Municipal budget for the financial year **2017/18** amount to **R369 336 970**.

(1) THE ANNUAL BUDGET CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING:-

a)	Capital projects budget	R 108 702 077
b)	Capital acquisitions (assets)	R 4 321 480
c)	Employees Related Costs	R133 872 946
d)	Remunerations of Councillors	R20 646 485
e)	Programmes	R 21 584 000
f)	Repairs and maintenance	R 19 800 000
g)	General expenses	R 60 409 982

d)	Total Expenditure	R369 336 970
	Funded as follows:	
e)	Grants & Subsidies	R323 193 000
f)	Municipal own revenue	R46 143 970
g)	Total Revenue	R369 336 970

Honourable Speaker,

It is now my honour to formally table the **final 2017/2018 IDP, and MTREF BUDGET FOR 2017/18 FINANCIAL YEAR AND THE TWO OUTER YEARS 2018/19/2019/20** coupled with the mscoa data string, Tariff structure, Service Standards (in terms of MFMA Budget circular no. 75 and 78), Organisational structure and budget related policies for Adoption by Council.

Ndza Nkhensa!

