

## **MONTHLY REPORT**

PORTFOLIO: Human settlement and Land Development

MONTH: June 2024

MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PORTFOLIO: Francois Hattingh

Still waiting for feedback from Merafong still nothing is done about this list.

➤ **New build houses and old houses been built on.**

\*18,20,24 Denneweg, Fochville all been built on.

\*93 Olienhout, Fochville building new garage

\*House in vleiground in Olienhout, Fochville

\*Corner of Ouhout and Olienhout, Fochville (Building)

\*37 Wattel street, Fochville (Building)

\*42 Keurboom, Fochville

\*Cnr of Keurboom and Stinkhout, Fochville

\*10 Tamboti street, Fochville

\*11 Kiaat street, Fochville

\*12 Dahlia Street, Fochville

\* 11 Keurboom, Fochville

\*5 Annemoon street, Fochville

\*10 Malva Street, Fochville

\*19 Disa laan, Fochville

\*Villa Yvonne Complex Malva/Jacaranda, Fochville

\*Across Froneman 8C Fochville

\*Elmweg next to nr 9 Fochville

\*Elmweg across nr 4 Fochville

\* Annemoon 45 Fochville

\*11 Jacaranda Street, Fochville

\*11 Jacaranda Street, Fochville

\*Olienhout street net to Civic Centre

\*Cnr Jacaranda and Peperkorrel street, Fochville

\*65 Keurboom, Focville

\* Cansa building, Pepperkorrel, Fochville

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'W. J. J. J.', written over a horizontal line.

Date:

05<sup>th</sup> of June 2024

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REPORT 2024-06-05

PORTFOLIO: WATER AND ELECTRICITY

ELECTRICITY:

Street lights burning during the day

Street light on the C/O N12 and R500 is not fixed yet. After months of reporting. It is a great concern as it is a high risk area for highjacks.

Electricity was off on Sunday 2 June due to overload. No notifications were given to the residents. This problem continued threw to the 3de and 4<sup>th</sup> of June. Residents are highly upset as the transformers trip on overload. It then takes hours for the power to stabilize and all parts to be switched on.

Power was off for approximately 7 hours.

Monday 3 June. Power is on and off. Awaiting Eskom to switch on. Only then Merafong will be able to manage the loads and switch on area by area.

Protea lines needs to be replaced

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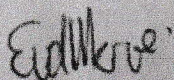
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WATER:

Smaller water leaks not fixed yet

Valve damage near retirement village. Amarilla street. Reported late Thursday 30 May. No TLB available.

Ref: 005/30/05/2024/01



Engel van der Merwe



## Monthly Report Ward 14: June

### Portfolio \_Road , storm water and Public Works.

#### Members responsible for the Portfolio: SIMON MATLALA.

The purpose of this report is to make sure that the people get their services delivered to them by the municipality.

- 1.The leakage between Oliehout avenue and Froneman has been attended we appreciate.
- 2.There is bad hole corner Pepperkorrel street and Ouhout street need to be attended.
- 3.The street Oliehout avenue from corner Froneman going down very bad potholes need to be attended.
- 4.Sycamore street no 4 14 21 25 very bad potholes need to be attended.
- 5.Corner Kareeboom and Hawthorn very bad potholes need to be attended.
- 6.Corner Keurboom and Denneveg street very bad potholes need to be attended.
- 7.Corner Keurboom and Bloekoms street very bad potholes need to be attended.
- 8.Ouhout street no 4 very bad potholes need to be attended.
- 9.Jacaranda and Eberhout big potholes need to be attended.

Please we need assistance and attention to this potholes they damage the cars please, it's a serious problem.

Signed: SIMON MATLALA.





PORTFOLIO :

PUBLIC SAFETY

MONTH :

May-24

MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PORTFOLIO :

JC VAN DER MERWE

**1.) ELECTRICAL CABLE FAULTS / THEFT OUTAGES :**

THIS WAS THE MOST QUITE MONTH IN A VEEY LONG TIME.

DURING THE HUGE STORM.

DUE TO NO LOADSHEDDING FOR THE WHOLE MONTH, EXPECT FOR 2 OUTAGES WHEREBY WE OVERLOAD ON EXTREME COLD AND STORMY CONDITIONS.

**2.) BURGLARIES :**

NO REPORTS RECEIVED IN OUR AREA THIS MONTH.

**3.) C.P.F.**

PATROLLERS FINGERPRITS CAME BACK, ALTHOU ALL BEEN PLACED ON HOLD UNTIL THE ELECTIONS BEEN FINILAZED, ORDERED BY THE PROVINCIAL CPF CHAIRPERSON.

AT THIS STAGE, IS AFRIFORUM PATROLLERS AND SECUTRITY COMPANIES UP AND ARMS TO ASSIST SAPS WERE NEEDED.

**4.) SUSPICIOUS SILVER VEHICLES :**

SUSPICIOUS SILVER VEHICLES WERE REPORTED TAKING PICKTURES OF SMALL ORANGE MINI SUBSTATIONS.

ON FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF PRIVATE SECURITY COMPANIES WERE REPORTED BACK THAT IT IS " NEWLY APPOINTED CONTRACTORS TO VERIFY ALL " WATER AND ELECTRICAL " READINGS, THAT WILL BE SUBMITTED TO BE FEED INTO THE NEW SYSTEM TO NE ABLE THE COUNCIL TO GIVE RESIDENTS " CORRECT STATEMENTS FOR PAYMENTS.

I REPORTED THE INSIDENT TO COUNCIL, CAUSE THE VEHICLES WAS NOT MARKED, AND THE PEOPLE HAVE NO IDENTIFICATION OR UNIFORM TO CONFIRM.

AFTER THE 3RD ONE BEEN STOPED, HE PRESENT A LETTER FROM COUNCIL.

RELEVANT DEPARTMENT RELEASE A PUBLIC NOTICE 2 DAYS AFTER, AS WE WERE NOT ALLOW THEM TO ENTER OUR AREA.

**5.) HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUE :**

SEWER ACROSS 6 POPPELIER / PEPERKORREL WAS OVER FLOWING AS REPORTED LAST YEAR.

RAW SEWER RUNNING INTO THE SPRUIT THAT'S GOING TO PIET VILJOEN.

NEARBY NEIGHBOURS NEARLY HAVE TO EVACUATE THERE HOUSES DUE TO THE SMELL AND TOXIC FUMES THAT WAS CREATED BY THIS MASSIVE FLUIDING OF SEWER.

I NOTIFIED THE HEALTH INSPECTORS AND SANITATION.

LEAH AND MR. VERMAAK VISIT THE SITE, AND BRINGING IN A " HONEY SUCKER " TO OPRN UP THE BLOCKAGE.



JC VD MERWE  
0828008668



05 June 2024

Status Quo is in the order of the day.

Otherwise, nothing to report...BUT...

1. Economic indicators are not positive. Eskom switched both transformers off during cold spells and finally winter is here meaning woes for businesses. That coupled with Rand Water and the threat of reducing water will have catastrophic consequences. No new development, and unemployment is an ever-increasing problem.
2. The state of Merafong City Council, Finances and governance is despondent and the current mismanagement and double standard in credit control and the failing of the payment incentive scheme is already a disaster where Merafong cannot pay the basic accounts. The Provincial and National finance department that should intervene and play an integral function in the administration of Merafong is non-existing.
3. State involvement and basic inclusion of Fochville in the IDP. As reported last month the mayor and her representatives did not honor the IDP public participation meeting. Instead, the kicked off with a roadshow trying to tell us a lot of nonsense and ultimately no projects of any IDP / Budget for Fochville.
4. Local Businesses are struggling.
5. The total properties for sale is also high and indicative of people not happy staying and working in Fochville under the current management from Merafong. Property24 and Private property listed around 206 properties in the current market available for sale. The only entity that think business is striving and well in Fochville is the Merafong and Wets Rand IDP / Annual reports.

By compiling and analyzing these various sources of data and information, it is my humble opinion that Fochville economics is in a downward spiral with no prospects for any sustainable new developments, LED project or any growth in the foreseeable future.

Yours truly,



Jaco van der Merwe  
LED: Ward 14 portfolio



# MONTHLY REPORT

PORTFOLIO: Intergraded Environmental Management

MONTH: June 2024

MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PORTFOLIO: Heidi Hattingh

Still waiting for feedback from Merafong

Rubbish dumped all over ward 14 .

Dustbin diggers continue to contribute to existing problem.

Only on address on the list were attended to conder of Annemoon and Kiepersol grass was cut but not very needly.

Some addresses where rubbish was observed:

- ✓ All the fields in Tamboti street Fochville need to be cut.
- ✓ All the fields in Bloekom street Fochville need to be cut.
- ✓ Palm 9 Sidewalk grass needs to be cut.
- ✓ Building rubble in field in Dahlia Street.
- ✓ Next to Cansa building in pepperkorrel the building and garden rubble in the field.
- ✓ All open field in ward 14 need to be clean.
- ✓ Annemoon 5 Fochville, on sidewalk a lot of gardens and building rubbish
- ✓ Malva street Fochville, a lot of rubbish
- ✓ Kiepersol 40 Fochville, a lot of building rubbish
- ✓ The field to town Losberg and Olienhout Fochville, a lot of rubbish
- ✓ Kiaat 11, 5 and 9 Fochville a lot of rubbish and building rubbish
- ✓ Veld opposite Olienhout 1, Fochville, a lot of rubbish both sides of road,
- ✓ Veld oppisit Karee 14,18,20 Fochville, a lot of rubbish
- ✓ Corner of Ouhout/Waterberry ,Fochville, a lot of rubbish
- ✓ Sidewalk corner of Olienhout and Ouhout, Focville, a lot of rubbish.
- ✓ Dustbin diggers was caught with 2 dustbins that was stolen and one dustbin was claimed by owner. (Losberg)
- ✓ Froneman Fochville all the open fields in the street grass needs to be cut
- ✓ Corner of Olienhout and Foreman Fochville field needs to be cut.
- ✓ Kiepersol Fochville open fields needs to be cut resident are complaining of snakes in the long grass.
- ✓ Civic Centre at main gate field needs to be cut.



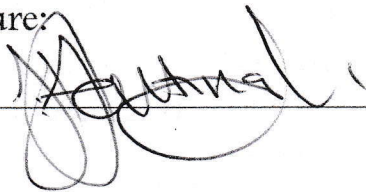
- ✓ Elmweg Fochville grass is growing in the street need to be cut.
- ✓ Jacaranda Fochville open fields grass needs to be cut.

Recommendation – Olienhout vlei area needs a TLB to clear road and sidewalks.

A lot of complaints was received about areas not been maintained.

Keurboom Lane, Ebbehout Road, Olienhout Avenue, Disa Avenue, Sycamore and Ouhout street where visibility is a concern for motorist. In Kiepersol the grass is growing in the street, in Losberg the grass is so long it is a fire danger.

Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. J. J. J.', written over a horizontal line.

Date:

05<sup>th</sup> June 2024

## **MONTHLY REPORT – WARD 14**

**PORTFOLIO: Finance**

**MONTH: June 2024**

**MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PORTFOLIO: CWA NIEUWOUDT**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this report is to submit the Draft Debt Control and Collection Policy 2024/2025 and the Tariff Policy, Trade Services to the Ward committee for information.

### **Background**

Council needs to review its policies during the IDP and Budget process and these policies should form part of the Budget consultation process which was undertaken, although the policies were not discussed in detail at the meetings.

### **Discussion**

The draft policies should have been approved by 31 May 2024 and it is not certain whether it was amended or approved as submitted.

A few discrepancies have been noted pertaining to the Tariff policy, where the Electricity Blocks for the block tariffs has been incorrectly captured. This was brought to the attention of Cllr Zwart before the section 80 meeting but it is not clear whether corrections were made.

Several amendments of the Debt Control and Collection policy is included in the draft policy of which the public should be informed.

### **Recommendation**

1. That cognisance be taken of the Draft Debt Control and Collection Policy 2024/2025 and the Tariff Policy, Trade services.
2. That cognisance be taken that the incorrect blocks of the electricity tariffs has been brought to the attention of Cllr Zwart for correction.

**SIGNATURE: *Original Signed***

**CWA NIEUWOUDT**

**DATE: 04/06/2024**



## MONTHLY REPORT – WARD 14

### PORTFOLIO: Finance

MONTH: June 2024

MEMBER RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS PORTFOLIO: CWA NIEUWOUDT

#### Purpose

The purpose of the report is to submit a broad overview of the implementation of the 2023/2024 budget in accordance with the April 2023 Section 71 Financial report of the MFMA.

This format of the report submitted to council differs from previous reports as it is generated by the new financial system.

#### Background

As previously reported to the ward committee, municipal financial reports are required in accordance with the applicable legislation.

In terms of **Section 71(d)** of the MFMA, the accounting officer of a municipality must by no later than 10 working days after the end of each month submit to the mayor of the municipality and the relevant National and Provincial Treasury, a statement in the prescribed format on the state of the municipality's budget reflecting certain particulars for that month for the financial year up to the end of that month.

The above compliance reports must be made public in terms of **section 21A** of the Municipal Systems Act.

As the ward committee member responsible for the Finance portfolio, it is important that the municipal financial reports, in accordance with the mentioned legislation, be obtained to analyse and inform the ward councillor of any concerns to be addressed by council that may impact on service delivery in the ward in accordance with the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP).

In terms of the provisions of section 21B of the Municipal Systems Act, a municipality must establish its own official website and place on the official website information required to be made public in terms of this act and the MFMA.

This report was received from a councillor as per the council agenda. Certain discrepancies were pointed out to the councillor and it is not certain whether any amendments were made to the report.

#### Discussion

The MFMA stipulates as follows regarding reporting monthly on a budget performance:



## **Statement of Financial Performance: Budget Performance**

### **Revenue**

According to this report, Table C4, the annual operating revenue budget is **R 2 248 908 047** and the Total Revenue for the 2023/2024 financial year is **R 2 248 808 047** and excludes capital transfers and contributions.

The **Adjustment budget of R 2 558 088 161** as approved after the mid-year review is indicated in Table C4 but is not reflected in the summary of the report, where the revenue % is calculated on the original budget figure. The report is therefore incorrect.

The table below summarizes the report for April 2024

DESCRIPTION	TOTAL BUDGET	TOTAL BUDGET (Adjustment not included in report)	Planned Revenue	ACTUAL REVENUE	REVENUE%
			April YTD	April YTD	Variance YTD
Operating Revenue	R2 248 908	R2 558 087	R2 072 549	R2 027 481	-R 45 069 000
Total Revenue	R2 248 808				- 2%

The report indicates that the Operating revenue YTD, in the table, represents **98%** of the budgeted figure for the year and not the adjustment budget figure, on which the calculation should have been done. The wording in the report however indicates that revenue of **90.15%** has been achieved for the month, but the table reflects a 2% variation.

It is clear from the above that the figures are incorrect and the variance of 2% on revenue is understated. There are also some formula mistakes in the report. Some variances on line items such as operational revenue is reflected as -100%.

Based on the full year forecast, it is clear that council will not reach its revenue targets, as advised by this committee during the budget inputs.

No reliance can however be placed on these reported figures due to the fact that the budget figures differ.

### **Expenditure**

The total budgeted expenditure is reflected as **R 2 248 908 047** compared to the previous reported figure of **R 2 248 905 000** with an adjustment budget figure of R 2 547 211.

As in the case with Revenue, the summary table in 9.2 of the report differs from the report in Table C4. The adjustment budget figure was not taken into account.



DESCRIPTION	TOTAL BUDGET (Original)	TOTAL BUDGET (Adjustment )	Planned Expenditure	ACTUAL Expenditure	Expenditure %
Expenditure			April YTD	April YTD	31/12/2023 YTD
	R 2 248 908 047	R 2 547 211	R 1 481 875	R 1 224 643	54%

According to the report Council has underspend by 54% which is not explained in detail in the report. There is a considerable variance. It is further indicated that the figure does not include water and sewer expenditure and provision for bad debt and depreciation was not allocated.

No reliance can however be placed on these reported figures due to the fact that the budget figures differ from the July 2023 report, first report of the 2023/2024 financial year, reported to council as well as expenditure not included in the report.

The expenditure on overtime overspends by 140%. This is a serious concern and a clear indication that there is insufficient operational and budget controls in place.

No proper analysis can be done on these reports which are clearly incorrect.

#### **Capital Expenditure.**

The total capital budget for the 2023/24 financial year is reported as R219 193 780.

The planned capital expenditure for April was R12 650 000 and the actual for the month was a mere R1 419 539

The YTD capital expenditure is reported as R 99 761 222.98 of R244 447 486 from grant funding, representing 41%. The total grants amount differs from the capital budget and is not explained.

It is however clear that council has dismally performed in the implementation of the capital budget, despite the appointment of new consultants and a lead consultant to oversee appointed consultants. The impact of these appointments on the project budgets are not reflected and should be reported, as it impacts negatively on the actual value of the project delivered in terms of the project plan.

There is also no reasons for the deviation from the planned performance and corrective measures implemented to rectify the situation.

The oversight on the implementation of the SDBIP and Capital projects by council is seriously lacking.

#### **Bank reconciliation**

There is no bank reconciliation provided which is a serious concern. In the light thereof that consumers accounts were paid direct into the bank accounts without any



billing for at least 5 months, the allocation of these payments to the consumers accounts and recon of the accounts remains a serious challenge.

### **Creditors age analysis**

**Merafong Creditors** as of 30 April amounted to **R1 341 808 000.**

**Sundry creditors** not paid within 30 days as at 30 April 2023:

1 ESKOM BULK PURCHASES	<b>R858 237 997.02</b>
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RAND WATER BULK PURCHASES	<b><u>R842 854 920.47</u></b>
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Total Sundry creditors	<b><u>R1 701 092 917</u></b>
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<b>Total outstanding creditors:</b>	<b><u>R3 042 900 917</u></b>
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It is clear from the above figures that the financial situation in Merafong is worsening by the day. The municipality is not in a position to honour its financial obligations which is the reason for services interruptions such as electricity and water according to the Rand Water notice of reduction.

The situation is desperate, yet there is no indication of any steps taken by council to ensure continued service delivery to the community. Despite this situation, council is incurring additional costs by the appointment of service providers and non-core service delivery staff on a bloated organisational structure.

There is no indication of any steps in terms of the draft Financial Recovery Plan, of which no mention is made.

### **Revenue management:**

The total collection rate is reflected as 60,4% but no indication is given of the collection rates in the respective wards. It is therefore not possible for ward councillors to monitor payment figures in their wards and to follow-up credit control measures in their wards. This is a blatant effort to conceal the payment figures in all wards as well as any progress on credit control initiatives.

The fact that the debtors has increased to **R5 705 943 000.00** is a clear indication of the failure of credit control measures, at the core of which is the 20 000 plus bridged electricity meters.

There is also no mention of the outcome of the "Ngwe Ka Ngwe" project and the amounts collected so far, which confirms the failure of this project as previously advised.

### **Recommendation**

1. That it be noted that the documents required in terms of the Municipal Systems Act and Municipal Finance Management Act to be made public, were not made public as prescribed by legislation and this constitutes non-compliance and will result in an audit finding.



2. That the discrepancies pertaining to the original and adjustment budget figures in the report be noted for correction.
3. That the dismal financial position of council be noted and that council report on the progress with the Financial Recovery Plan.
4. That the outstanding creditors pertaining to Bulk services for Electricity and Water be noted with concern as well as the effect thereof on services disruptions.
5. That an action plan be developed and be communicated on how the situation will be addressed to ensure continued supply of water and electricity to paying residents of the municipality.

**SIGNATURE: *Original Signed***

**CWA NIEUWOUDT**

**DATE:03/06/2024**

**Monthly Report – May 2024**  
**Portfolio – Corporate Services**  
**Member – Nadine Bouwer**

- Health & Safety still a concern – We are approaching rain season/winter, so the concern is even higher especially at the rate that we have electricity issues, the lack of PPE, proper equipment etc, I sincerely hope that this can be addressed and seen too as in general we are not well prepared – we have contactors at the moment with electricity however that can change very quickly and we do rely heavily on Municipality workers in general who do not have the means to perform many of their tasks
- Rand Water – No further feedback was received re the possible further water restrictions as a result of the account in arrears
- Residents very anxious re financial/billing system that is still not operational – Reports that it would have/should have been up and running at the end of March 2024 – No other feedback re this
- Library in need of books, assistance when load shedding/reduction taking place – overall general upgrades / maintenance required which seems to not have been happening
- Eskom – nonpayment/short payment resulting in still lower amps for Fville and load reduction has been severe this week so far

