



Type of Meeting: Ordinary Meeting – 03rd April 2024 for the month of May 2024

AGENDA

1. OPENING AND WELCOME:

1.1 WARD COUNCILOR: Chairperson: Mr. Albie Nieuwoudt Letter of Delegation was written by Cllr. Lindy Maritz, Mr Nieuwoudt accepted the letter of Delegation.

- 2. OPENING PRAYER BY: Mr. Albie Nieuwoudt
- 3. ATTENDANCE REGISTER

3.1 NUMBER OF WARD COMMITTEES PRESENT: 8 3.2 NUMBER OF WARD COMMITTEES ABSENT: 3

3.3 INVITASION: 1 (Cllr. Blacki Zwart)

## 4. APOLOGIES (INDICATE WHETHER WRITTEN OR VERBAL)

4.1	Ms. Jacoba van den Berg (Written Approved)	
4.2	Ms. Nadine Bouwer (Written Approved)	
4.3	Mr. Jay Cee (Cornè) van der Merwe (Written Approved)	
4.4		

## 5. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda change has been changed the reason for this change is that there was a point on Agenda that was not supposed to be under matters arising. The agenda was adopted as proposed and the items resolved.

Cllr. Lindy Maritz alsos asked that if we can move point 7.2.3 to the top of the list.

Chair also asked that we talk about the S'phush'iservice delivery 12-18 April 2024 in ward 14 on the portfolio Integrated Environmental Management.

Mover: All ward members present.

Second: All ward members present.

## 6. PERSONALIA

Ms. Engela van der Merwe was for an eye operation, all went well and she

is back with us.

## 7. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- 7.1 Approval of the minutes of 05<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 (MOTION OF ADOPTION) MOVER: Ms. Engela van der Merwe moved to approve the previous minutes
   SECONDED: Mr. Francois Hattingh
- 7.2 MATTERS ARISING: from previous meetings.
- 7.2.1 Painting of Speed Humps (point 7.2.6 05 June 2023, 04 July 2023 August 2023, September 2023, October 2023, November 2023, December 2023, January 2024, March 2024, April 2024)

<u>Not Resolved</u>: Waiting for feedback. Mr. JP van der Merwe (AfriForum) will obtain permission and paint the speed humps.

- This will be a combine painting work between ward committee members and AfriForum. (Mr. Jaco van der Merwe)
- AfriForum (Mr. Jaco van der Merwe) started paint in Ward 14. January 2024 Work in progress.
- This will be ward 14 first project for 2024 02 March 2024 painting the speed humps – paint will be provided by Mr. Jaco van der Merwe (AfriForum)
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> project for ward 14 will be the repair of the potholes in ward 14 still need a date for this matter
- Work in progress.
- This will be made a Ward 14 project see point 7.2.5
- This matter will be removed from the agenda and minutes until a later date.
- 7.2.2 Upgrade of the municipal Swimming pool in Ward 14 (point 7.2.7 05 June 2023, 04 July 2023, August 2023, September 2023, October2023
  November 2023, December 2023, January 2024 point 7.2.6, February 2024, March 2024, April 2024)

<u>Resolved</u>: Waiting for feedback. Another e-mail was sent by Cllr. Maritz and a Petition regarding swimming pool was issued. (See e-mail attached) This will be a point on the Agenda for the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 2023. Mr. Jaco van der Merwe was approached by members of a Swimming Group of Gauteng and they required about Fochville swimming pool (making is a private swimming pool ect.) This group needs to make a proposal for ward 14 to be approved.

- A petition is also drawn up by Ward 14 public members (see attached petitions)
- There was also a suggestion that the swimming pool is donated to a private sector.
- Resolved all matter is solved and sent to Merafong.
- The swimming pool was open but a lot of complaints was sent to Cllr. Lindy Maritz please see all complaints and letters to Merafong still waiting for feedback from Merafong regarding the e-mails that was sent to ED and MM on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024 and 7<sup>th</sup> January 2024 complaints and letter attached.
  - All complains and photos was sent to Phillip from public safety
  - The swimming pool pumps are not working at the swimming pool. Swimming pool is green, this is a danger for people swimming there.
  - The diesel pumps at the swimming pool are killing the grass due to the diesel leakages on the grass.
  - Swimming pool is closed until further update.
  - Mr. Jaco (JP) van der Merwe stated that no one is taking responsibility for the mess at the swimming pool, and he feels that Clir. Francois van der Hoff who did open the swimming pool needs to take responsibility on this matter. Also, the following people should be held accountable the Municipal Manager, Executive Manager.
  - Their needs to be an investigation regarding everyone's involvement in this matter, and a report needs to be made available to all members.
  - New complain the company who installed the swimming pool pumps has not been paid by Merafong. All the relevant information was sent to Cllr. Lindy and she sent it to MMC and Ina of the legislature.

7.2.3 Recording of meetings.

(This point was moved in the meeting to the first point of discussion)

- Chair said that it will be handled as the Chairperson point –
- Cllr Lindy Maritz has received complaints from some ward members about Mr. Jaco van der Merwe who is recording the meeting. The ward members are not happy with this matter.
- Chair replied to this matter mentioning a point in the code of conduct what we all signed that the counsel standing code of conduct state is that the only recording that is allowed to be made is only by Secretary.
- Mr. Jaco van der Merwe replied that this was pointed at him for recording the meetings and said that from the beginning he was recording the meetings.
- Chair made the discussion that we stand by the Code of Conduct and only the Secretary will record the meetings.
- 7.2.4 Merafong Financial System
  - This matter was discussed by Cllr. Blacki Zwart see point 8.2.1
- 7.2.5 Ward 14 Project (point 7.2.1 February 2024 meeting) Painting the
   Speedhumps-paint will be provided by Mr. Jaco van der Merwe (02<sup>nd</sup>
   March 2024) 2<sup>nd</sup> project for ward 14 potholes still waiting for date for
   this matter.
  - Mr. Jaco van der Merwe replied that AfriForum has place a hold on all project until after the election.
  - This matter will be removed until further notice.

## 8. REPORTS

8.1 SECRETARY

Reports handed in form the 05<sup>th</sup> March 2024 on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 2024 No Birthdays. A discussion was made on members who don't have a valid Apologies and who is also been absent this year for more than 3 times. A letter will be sent to this member by the Ward 14 councillor.

# 8.2 CHAIRPERSON (CLLR)

## 8.2.1 see attached

## 8.2 Communication of the chairperson

### 8.2.1 Cllr Blackie Zwart – Finance Section 80

- Cllr. Blackie Zwart thanked the ward councillor for the invitation and explained the reason is for his visit to ward 14 committee meeting.
- He as Caucus chairman is responsible for the training and oversight of DA ward councillors and is visiting the word to assess the functioning.
- Councillors need to be able to run their ward committees and answer to the public.
- Cllr. Blackie Zwart said that Mr. Albie Nieuwoudt is the current delegated chairperson as requested by the ward councillor but Cllr. Lindy Maritz should fulfil the responsibility as the chairperson, as soon as she is ready.
- Cllr. Blackie Zwart gave a brief overview of the draft budget. Council is budgeting for a surplus but the amount differs in the report to the Section 80 and Council. This is clearly incorrect as Merafong never had a surplus budget for Years.
- This budget is not credible and is unfunded.
- Council must collect 100% of the revenue amount budgeted for but this is never achieved due to the lack of credit control.
- The collection rate budgeted for 23/24 is 60% but the collection rate is below 50%
- The draft budget indicates a collection rate of 70% which is unrealistic.
- A surplus will never be achieved. (Council base their estimates on the rand for rand scheme to collect arrears from non-paying areas, which has never paid. The success of this scheme remains to be seen.
- R450 million of the budget is for personnel costs.
- Even on an unrealistic 70% collection rate, the revenue will only pay salaries with very little for operations.
- The proposed Property Rates increase is 6%, Water 9.5%, Electricity 12.8%, Sanitation 6%
- The budget has been published for comment and the public can start giving input on the draft budget – (end May 2024 is councils final budget approval)
- This budget cannot be accepted by the community as it is not credible and cannot justify the increase in property rates above 4.9% CPI as prescribed by the budget circular.
- The financial system is a great risk and not functioning yet. Historical data is not uploaded and no billing is done since December, therefore council has no data on the actual performance of the current budget. The Valuation roll cannot be reconciled with the billing system and therefore the property rates budget is not based on any data.
- Nationally the Equitable share and Grants have been cut. Council cannot merely
  increase tariffs to make up for the loss in revenue. The rates and taxes are not
  affordable to the majority of residents.
- The Credit control policy must be implemented to ensure growth in revenue.
- Residents must attend the mayors' public participation meeting on 24 April 2024 and raise their concerns and make input into the Draft Budget.

## 9. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

### PORTFOLIO REPORTS

### 9.1 HUMAN SETTLEMENT AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

Report from Mr. Francois Hattingh read report attached.... A list of newly build and old houses, attached to this report. Twenty four (24) houses are on the list. The "vlei house" is getting water and electricity for Free how is this possible. Foto's attached of two houses

### Not Resolved

- A list of all the houses will be made and is attached to this meeting.
- Merafong needs to look into this (the building plans ect.)
- Ward committee needs feedback on this matter, a paper trail will be made between committee and Merafong for follow up matters.
- Foto's will be taken and sent in with this report.
- Vlei house needs to be follow up.

## 9.2 WATER, SANITION, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND PMU

Report by Ms. Engela van der Merwe please read report..

Mini substation across 6 Dahlia Street been vandalized during loadshedding Du Preez street again cables cut 4<sup>th</sup> time in this year.

Streetlights still burning during the day.

- This report was noted
- Cllr. Lindy followed up this matter.
- The portfolio reports needs to be read.
- Merafong needs to give attention to this report

### 9.3 ROADS, STORM WATER AND PUBLIC WORKS

Report form Mr. Simon Matlala please see report attached.... Sycamore 25,21,14,6 corner Olienhout nr 77 very bad potholes, Ouhout, Kareeboom very bad potholes need to be attended to.

Resolved

- Cllr. Lindy to follow up this matter.
- The portfolio reports needs to be read.
- Merafong needs to give attention to this report.
- Ward 14 will have a community event on this matter a soon as a date is set by committee members.

## 9.4 PUBLIC SAFETY

Report by Mr. JC van der Merwe please read the detailed report attached..... Public swimming pool, Electrical cable faults, burglaries, opens serve Fibre contractors, C.P.F elected members.

## **Resolved:**

- Cllr Lindy needs to follow up.
- The portfolio reports needs to be read.
- Merafong needs to give attention to this report.

## 9.5 LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Report by Mr JP van der Merwe....report attached Action are being taken to get services delivery and supply of water and Electricity up to standard.

- Reports needs to read and be taken notes of.
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## 9.6 INTERGRATED ENVIROMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Report by Ms. Heidi Hattingh Please read the report on rubbish and fields dustbin diggers still a problem. Sidewalks full of building rubble and garden rubbish. Dahlia still being use as sort rubbish by dustbin diggers. Between Losberg and Olienhout partially cleaned but still needs cleaning. Behind Jacaranda garage also sorting of rubbish. Pepperkorrel street next to Cansa Office a lot of building rubble and garden refuse dumped. Needs to be cleaned. S'phush'iservice cllr. Lindy will find about this project.

- Resolved:
- That Cllr Lindy follows up this matter with the Speaker and relevant Portfolio MMC.
- A clean up campaign in ward 14 needs to be launch.
- Still nothing been done from Merafong side.
- S'phush'iservice will be in Fochville form the 15<sup>th of</sup> April 2024

#### **9.7 FINANCE**

Report by Mr. Albie Nieuwoudt..see attached ... That it be noted that the documents required in terms of the Municipal System 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. That it be noted that due to The non-availability of financial reports, no financial report can be presented To ward committee. That it be noted that the municipality has failed to Procure and implement a financial system timeously which poses a serious Risk for the municipality pertaining to financial management, service Delivery, reporting and accountability. That it be noted that a court order Has been issued, interdicting the procurement of a financial system and That an appeal process should be finalised by 31 January 2024. That it be Noted that according to information, the appeal process was finalised and The appointed service provider must continue to implement the system. That the ward committees and the public be informed on the status of the Matter and plan of action. That it be noted that this has a serious impact On municipal services and business in general, who needs updated financial Information to conduct business. That it be noted that the oversight Structures of council are failing the public to timeously address issues of Serious concern pertaining to good governance, compliance, and service Delivery. That the Draft Annual Budget Medium Term Revenue and Expenditure Framework, 2024/2025, and outer years, submitted for Public comment be noted. That the ward councillor informs council Through the relevant structures of the position of ward 14 in the regard. That the public be made aware of the draft budget and public participation Process to ensure that council addresses the shortcomings of the draft Budget. That cognizance be taken of the credit control report for February 2024 and the concern that credit control is not done in all areas and wards Of the municipality. That cognizance be taken that no credit control is implemented in the worse paying areas of Merafong City which is a clear Indication of the selective implementation of council policies. That the Finance and Infrastructure Department, though the respective portfolio Heads, ensure co-ordination of their functions to address infrastructural Challenges hampering credit control. That these inputs be escalated by the Ward councillor through the relevant structures of council and that a feed-Back report be submitted to the ward committee.

- That this matters needs to be attended to.
- Cllr. Lindy sent an e-mail sending the Finance report by e-mail to MMC Moyeni and is still waiting for feedback.

### 9.8 HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

No Report – New member Mr. Abraham Brits

## 9.9 CORPORATE SUPPORT SERVICES

Report by Ms Nadine Bouwer please read attached report... Health & Safety still a concern, Rand water – no further feedback, Residents Anxious re financial/billing, Residents of Stinkhout have reported that they Have had less issues with resident driving recklessly.

#### **Resolved:**

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- That the report be noted.
- Cllr. Lindy needs to follow up on the account matters.
- Section 80 will be sent to anyone who would require it.

### 9.10 SPORTS AND LIBARIES

Report by Jacoba van den Berg...Some areas do have electricity. Bathrooms Are still a huge concern. Offroad bikers, Library still issue with loadshedding Complaints that staff don't want to help them, and that books are not Available.

**Resolved:** 

- Cllr Lindy needs to follow up.
- The portfolio reports needs to be read.
- Merafong needs to give attention to this report.

## **10. CLOSURE**

Chairperson closes the meeting at 19:55

SUBMISSIONS:

SUBMMITTED BY:	Heidi Hattingh	Date:	03 <sup>rd</sup> of April 2024
RECEIVED BY:	Lindy Maritz	Date:	03rd of April 2024

SIGNATURE OF WARD COUNCILLOR:

SIGNATURE OF SECRETARY:

Daria

9 | Page





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AGENDA

OPENING AND WELCOME: WARD COUNCILOR: Chairperson: Mr. Albie Nieuwoudt Letter of Delegation was written by Cllr. Lindy Maritz, Mr Nieuwoudt accepted the letter of Delegation.

OPENING PRAYER BY: Mr. Albie Nieuwoudt ATTENDANCE REGISTER NUMBER OF WARD COMMITTEES PRESENT: 8 NUMBER OF WARD COMMITTEES ABSENT: 3 INVITASION: 1 (Cllr. Blacki Zwart)

## APOLOGIES (INDICATE WHETHER WRITTEN OR VERBAL)

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### CHAIRPERSON (CLLR)

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## MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

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- That this matters needs to be attended to.
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## HEALTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

#### No Report – New member Mr. Abraham Brits

## CORPORATE SUPPORT SERVICES

Report by Ms Nadine Bouwer please read attached report... Health & Safety still a concern, Rand water – no further feedback, Residents Anxious re financial/billing, Residents of Stinkhout have reported that they Have had less issues with resident driving recklessly. **Resolved:** 

- That the report be noted.
- Clir. Lindy needs to follow up on the account matters.
- Section 80 will be sent to anyone who would require it.

### SPORTS AND LIBARIES

Report by Jacoba van den Berg...Some areas do have electricity. Bathrooms Are still a huge concern. Offroad bikers, Library still issue with loadshedding Complaints that staff don't want to help them, and that books are not Available.

**Resolved:** 

- Cllr Lindy needs to follow up.
- The portfolio reports need to be read.
- Merafong needs to give attention to this report.

## CLOSURE

Chairperson closes the meeting at 19:55