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Corner Kort and Eddie Sedibe Street, Burgersfort

BUGDET SPEECH DELIVERED BY THE MAYOR OF GREATER TUBATSE MUNICIPALITY, COUNCILLOR RALEPANE S. MAMEKOA, ON THE OCCASION OF PRESENTATION OF THE 2010/11 BUDGET AND IDP, MONDAY, MAY 31, 2010 DURING FULL COUNCIL SITTING, BATUBATSE PRIMARY SCHOOL, PRAKTISEER.

Speaker of Council: Clr Masana Motubatse Chief Whip of Council: Clr Akila Leshiba EXCO Member for finance: Clr Manyaka

EXCO Member of Strategic Services: Clr A. Mohlala

Members of EXCO

Leaders of all Political Parties

**Fellow Councilors** 

Magoshi arena, Ma-a-para Nkwe

Municipal Manager: Phaahle Simon Malepeng

Managers and officials of Council

Distinguished quests, community leaders and business leaders

Members of the Community

The Media

Comrades, friends, ladies and gentlemen:

Madam Speaker, It is a great honour and humbling experience to present to this sitting of Council the 2010/11 Greater Tubatse Municipality Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and Budget.

In his State of the Nation Address, President Jacob Zuma challenged the nation, to pursue the ideal for which Madiba has fought his entire life – the ideal of a democratic and free society, in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. This visionary message should serve as a source of inspiration and guidance to all of us the

citizens of Greater Tubatse Municipality to continue on a path of strong developmental local government, focussed, working harder and faster for the attainment of the goal of a society free of poverty and underdevelopment.

Madam Speaker, as we enter 2010/11 financial year, "the year of action", we do so taking stock of the revolutionary gains we have made since 2006 to date, in advancing the struggle for a better life for all. The ideals for transformed society free from poverty, corruption, discrimination, economic and social injustices characteristic of the apartheid regime remains central to our collective efforts.

The year 2010 provided us with the opportunity to commemorate the 20 years celebrations of the release out of prison of President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela, a watershed moment that led our country to the attainment of democratic order. I also want to pay my respects to our fellow fallen Councilors, who passed away during term of council. They were humble servants of our communities and champions of development. We salute them all for their tireless efforts to create a better life for all.

Madame Speaker today marks 10 days before the kick-off of the 2010 FIFA World Cup. The Greater Tubatse Municipality is privileged to host the Public Viewing Area(PVA) at Ntwampe Sport Ground that will to provide an opportunity to our communities to be part of this history making lifetime experience in enjoying the first ever FIFA soccer world Cup on the African Continent. We are confident that everything will go well and we wish Bafana Bafana and the whole country the very best of the tournament.

Madame Speaker, early this year in March we were also privileged to host the NCOP 'Taking Parliament to the People programme' that was held with great success in terms of its objectives of promotion of local democracy and enhancement of service delivery. We would like to thank all the people, stakeholders and our community at large for having contributed to its success.

Furthermore we wish to thank our local communities, leaders from various formations, churches, youth, women, Magoshi, CBOs, mines, business, sector departments and other representatives of the society who contributed immensely to the 2010/11 IDP and Budget we are presenting today. This augurs well for the pursuit of the municipality vision that is "to develop Tubatse as a Platinum City in an integrated manner to improve the quality of life for all".

Madame Speaker, as the municipality, we view the IDP and Budget as a mechanism through which development and better quality of life is progressively brought to our communities. We are also glad to report that the 2010/11 Greater Tubatse Municipality IDP is aligned to the priorities of National Government as contained within the medium strategic framework and 2009-2014 Limpopo employment, growth and development plan.

Working together we have registered major advances in service delivery. We must therefore continue to build the momentum for further advances in the future that would leave a good sustainable legacy for the future generation.

Madam Speaker, in responding to the call by the President, Premier and Minister of COGTA to make local government work, the municipality is adopting as part of 2010/11 IDP and Budget, the municipal local government turnaround strategy(LGTAS) in order to restore public confidence in the municipality as part of the national effort to speed up development. The turnaround strategy would enable the municipality to improve the provision of basic service delivery such as water, sanitation, and waste management, roads, town and land use management by focusing on the following five strategic objectives:

- Ensure that municipalities meet the basic service needs of communities:
- Improve the performance and professionalism in municipalities;
- Build clean, effective, efficient, responsive and accountable local government;
- Improve national and provincial policy, oversight and support; and
- Strengthen partnerships between local government, communities and civil society

Madame Speaker, the delivery of basic services remains a huge challenge for the municipality despite the significant achievements in this area. Over a period 2006 to date the municipality has experienced township development growth of over 200% which impacted positively on our revenue base. These investments in excess of R5 billion in our local economy have so far created more than 5000 job opportunities (both temporary & permanent) in the area since 2006 to date despite the challenges of recession that the country has experienced in recent times. Most notable investments during this period are Xstrata investment in ferrochrome smelter of approximately R2 billion and Cranbroek Motaganeng, Spekboom and Tubatse East development (which will include 7500 affordable housing) estimated at R5 billion once completed.

Madame Speaker we also want to acknowledge the contribution of Marula Platinum, Two Rivers, Dwars River,

Mototolo, ASA Metals, Modikwa, Twickenham, Xstrata and Samancor mines to the growth and development of our local economy.

Madame Speaker, we must indicate that more still needs to be done by these mining companies particularly in the areas of local community empowerment in the form of local employment, ownership and access to procurement opportunities.

Furthermore, taking the rural nature of our municipality we are proud to report that more than 73% of our total households of 66 6611 live in cement/brick houses at RDP standard and above, which a good indicator of social progress in the municipality.

Madame Speaker the rollout of basic service delivery to our communities has seen access to water reaching 72.5%; access to basic sanitation at 14.9%; access to electricity at 63%; refuse removal at 8%; and improved traffic management services.

Tarred roads in Greater Tubatse Municipality have been upgraded and streets are being lit for the first time during this period. There are some areas in the Municipality that needs further attention. Today we are proud to celebrate our achievements and to announce that we are on track in terms of accelerating service delivery.

Madame Speaker, the municipality ability to address the basic service backlogs is constrained by the fact that it does not have the authority to perform certain key functions such as water, electricity, fire fighting and district roads. This status, constrains the pace of property development in the area. Going forward and working together with other spheres of government we believe these bottlenecks should be

addressed as part of the municipality local turnaround strategy for accelerated development and service delivery to our communities.

Madame Speaker, the Greater Tubatse Municipality has experienced a population growth of 27% against the provincial growth of 4% over the past 5 years. This population is mainly propelled by in-migration due to economic activities taking place in the area. This situation has further put huge financial and non financial constraint on the ability of the municipality to keep up with these changes due to limited budgetary, bulk infrastructure and human resources constraints.

Over and above these gains that the municipality has achieved since 2006 to date, we are proud to have attracted and harnessed the following major public infrastructure development investments in the area:

- Construction of De Hoop Dam in excess of R2 billion;
- Road infrastructure Upgrading of R555 & R37;
- Commitment for upgrading to tar of Kgautswane to Alverton road :
- Construction of Mankele bridge;
- Development of major Multimodal transport facility in Burgersfort(currently at planning stage) estimated at over R200 million
- Upgrading of bulk water & sewerage infrastructure
- Upgrading of Road infrastructure in Praktiseer, Ohrigstad, Burgersfort, Steelpoort and Mapodile
- Upgrading of health and social services infrastructure

Madame Speaker, over the past 4 years, the municipality has been proactive in introducing measures for fraud prevention including establishment of oversight committee and audit committee as well as instituting independent investigations were allegations of irregularities were detected or raised. These reports were also made public in Council meetings and corrective measures implemented accordingly where required and justified in order to ensure good governance. These measures paid dividend in that the municipality in 2008 was declared the best local municipality in Greater Sekhukhune District and a provincial Vuna award on good governance and public participation category.

Madame Speaker please allows me to present the summary of projects that were undertaken by this Council since 2006;

The following Villages were electrified from 2006/07 to 2009/10: Moroke, Manoke, Masha, Mpuru, Alverton, Motlailane, Ga-Mashabela, Tjate and Modimolle

The municipality provided Alternative energy to the following Villages as a temporary relief and pilot project: Ga-Mokgotho, Ga-malepe, Maretlwaneng, Ga-Moraba, Mankele, Ga-Motshana, Lefahla and Ga-Mamogolo.

The municipality was able to erect street and communal lights in Burgersfort, Mashamothane, Ohrigstad, Riba Cross, Driekop, Moroke, Steelpoort (Lavino Cross) and Ga-Malekane(Steel bridge). The municipality established Ntwampe sport facility. The municipality has build four community halls since 2006/07 to date. The following villages benefited: Ga-Mokgotho, Driekop, Leboeng and Tjate. Sekhukhune District Municipality has built a Taxi Rank at Praktiseer to improve mobility at Praktiseer

Greater Tubatse Municipality in co operation with Greater Sekhukhune District municipality has provided water to the following Villages; Ga-Motodi, Mareseleng, Ga-Mashamothane, Penge, Bothashoek, Praktiseer, Alverton

and Moroke. During the same period the two municipalities were able to do Mapodile sewage refurbishment, Moshira/Mecklenburg water refurbishment and Ngwaabe water refurbishment. Sekhukhune District Municipality has also constructed Mooihoek water treatment plant and Lebalelo Southern pipeline and Reservoir.

During the same period the municipality has upgraded the following roads to Tar: Ngwaabe, Burgersfort, Praktiseer, Mapodile, Ohrigstad internal streets, Riba Cross to Ga- Riba and also build an overhead bridge at Burgersfort. The municipality has improved the status of Moraba road at Leboeng and Kgautswane roads by regravelling them to improve mobility of transport in the two wards.

During the period 2006/07 to date the municipality has build access Bridges in the following villages: Molongwane, and Taung, Ga – Madiseng, Mapareng, Ga-Malekane.

The following villages have benefited from the allocation of RDP houses: Diphale, Maakubu, Swale, Tswenyane, Manoke, Lefahla, Mahlakwena and Lepelle.

The municipality has assisted the following poverty alleviation projects with training and facilitation to access to funding: Modimo rethutse Agricultural project at Apiesdoringdraai, Megokgo ya Lethabo Bakery at Ga-Mapodile, Mathomomayo Pottery at Praktiseer, Botse bja Africa at Resden, Basadi re maano at Riba Cross, Leather at it best at Magobading, M.J.S. Civils at Kgautswana and Ratinthe at Ga-Riba

Madame Speaker, allow me to report on the commitments we made in the 2009/2010 financial year and the status thereof:

**ACCESS BRIDGES** 

- Tukakgomo access bridge completed
- Manyaka access bridge completed
- Diphale access bridge completed
- Mareseleng access bridge to be completed in the 2010/11 financial year

## **INTERNAL ROADS**

- Praktiseer internal roads completed
- Ohrigstad internal roads completed
- Burgersfort to be completed in the 2010/11 financial year

## **ACCESS ROADS**

- Moraba access road completed
- Kgautswane access road completed
- Ga- Riba access road completed

## **COMMUNITY HALLS**

- Leboeng Community hall completed
- Tjate Community hall completed

## **ELECTRIFICATION**

- Lepelle 95% completed
- Tswenyane 98% completed
- Bokome 98% completed
- Ditenseng 98% completed
- Kalkfontein 90% completed

In the past financial year, over 800 housing units were completed which included the units at ward 1, 24, & 26 which were not completed previously.

Madame Speaker, we are satisfied that the projects implemented have a positive impact on the lives of our people. Most of the projects used local labour from the communities and through the Expanded Public works programme. Over 400 people were employed in the implementation of the projects.

Madame Speaker, allow me to highlight some of the key issues that come from the 2010/11 IDP/Budget stakeholder/community engagements processes:

- The need for water and sanitation services;
- The need for household electrification;
- The need for road infrastructure;
- Housing
- Fencing of grave yards,
- Job creation
- Clinics and hospitals
- Sports fields
- Skills Training
- Tourism facilities
- Land availability and ownership
- Agriculture
- Beneficiation in mining sector

Madame Speaker, In addition the following key factors have influenced the budget we are presenting today:

- IDP priorities and Municipal local government turnaround strategy
- Recession of the local economy that has impacted on the ability of customers to pay their utility bills and negatively affected revenue projections of the municipality;
- National Treasury Guidelines on inflation and year-onyear increases in the expenditure budget;
- SALGBC Collective agreements
- DORA Allocations

This year the Greater Tubatse Municipality presents a total budget of approximately R227 million for the 2010/11 financial year, comprising R174.8 million Operating budget and R52.8 million Capital budget. It is our greater ever

budget that reflects Council's response to the needs of the community which we serve.

This budget seeks to strike a balance between basic developmental service delivery provision in rural areas/villages and the need to maintain and upgrade our infrastructure in urban and township areas. We are therefore unfolding our strategic agenda and roadmap for the year, Integrated Development Plan (IDP) and the accompanying budget and Service Delivery Budget Implementation plan (SDBIP) and municipal turnaround strategy.

The capital budget includes funding for both urban and rural infrastructure development while the operating budget covers departmental programmes, personnel and activities required to fulfill obligations outlined in the IDP.

The projected revenue for the 2010/11 is approximately R174.8 million, the major sources of budget funding are; Property Rates constitutes 32% of the revenue, grants contributes 57%, and the remainder of the revenue is derived from traffic fines and other service charges.

Madam Speaker, the Operating Budget is distributed as follows:

A total budget of R21.1million has been allocated to corporate services in order to ensure that sound governance and administrative principles/systems are implemented and maintained and to achieve an unqualified audit report.

Executive Support is allocated R32.8 million to address among other matters, youth development programme, people with disability programme, HIV/AIDS, elderly, mayoral bursary fund, council secretariat, councilors support and ward committees.

Financial services (Budget & treasury) will receive R28.9 million to deal with issues relating to financial viability and municipal assets.

Economic and land Development will receive R12.8million to continue to upscale the implementation of local economic development, town planning, land use management and building control programmes.

Technical services is allocated R53 million to deal with matters relating to water, sanitation, free basic electricity, waste management, municipal buildings and roads upgrading and maintenance.

Community services will receive R16.2million for implementation of programme relating cemeteries, social services, parks and open space, thusong service centers, disaster management, traffic and protection services.

The total capital budget allocated for infrastructure development is R52.8 million, which is mainly funded from Grants. We believe this infrastructure investment would contribute towards socio-economic development of the municipality and create job opportunities for local people.

The capital budget will be invested in the following manner:

 R30 million will be spent on roads infrastructure. The funds will be committed towards the following projects: Ngwaabe internal road, Burgersfort internal streets, Mareseleng, Swale & Tidintitsane, Lekwareng-Ga Motshana access bridges; Makofane access bridge; Praktiseer internal road, Leboeng IRMA; Bothashoek access road; and Ga-Phala to Modubeng access road;

- R3 million is committed to construction of Moeng Community Hall Ward 11;
- R9 million is will go towards electrification of Maepa, Kgotlopong, and Maahlashi.
- R10 million for Neighborhood Development Grant for Praktiseer & Burgersfort
- R870 000 for Expanded Public Works Programme

Madame Speaker, this financial year the Department of Local government and Housing has made an allocation of 900 housing units to this municipality in the following areas;

- Burgersfort extension 10
- Ga-Mampuru
- Ga-Malekane
- Maphopha
- Ga-Makofane
- Maahlashi
- Kgotlopong
- Riba Cross
- Sebepe
- Shaking
- Pataneng
- Motloulela
- Ga-Masha
- Makopung
- Mohlala
- Maepa

Madame Speaker taking into account the municipality tariff policy, the balance to be maintained between service provision and affordability as well as the impact of economic recession on the local economy and population, the forecasted inflation it is proposed that there be a general tariff increase of 6.5% on all service charges by the municipality. This increase in tariff has been kept below

average to allow the customers to recover from the effects of recession. The indigent households are also encouraged to register with the municipality to receive the applicable rebates and social support.

Madame Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our communities for having confidence in the leadership of this Municipality. They are always behind us in all the forums convened and their participation was constructive. This Council would have not survived without their inputs, suggestion, comments, concerns and we hope that the partnership will continue for many years to come.

Madame Speaker, allow me to take this opportunity to thank all of the Honourable Councillors, you Madame Speaker, Chief Whip, Members of the Executive Committee, honoured traditional leaders, staff and communities for your commitment and hard work towards the success of our Municipality. Working together with key stakeholders and our communities we are facing the future with pride and energy that will propel us to success and achieve of vision.

We have been able to travel thus far as a result of our collective wisdom, cooperation, hard work and determination to our people.

Our GTM Council is constituted by councillors from different background, yet united in one goal of wanting our society to prosper. We are bound to work together if we are to achieve the objective of creating a better life for all in our Municipality. These much, we have done and Madam Speaker, this no mean achievement. We have indeed been able to rise to the occasion. For this I once more wish to thank all our Councillors from different political parties in our Council.

Today we stand firm ground that we ourselves have created over the past years. We are proud that we diligently and tirelessly carried out the task of establishing, the Greater Tubatse Municipality into a solid, stable, viable institution, potential poised to spearhead economic development of our area on one hand and deliver services, on the other.

Madame Speaker, we have travelled this road together assisted by the administration under the leadership of Setloane Malepeng. Over the years we have developed systems to assist the administration to function effectively and of late we are seeing the fruits of the Council investments. We are confident that the Municipality will grow from strength to strength with the kind of administration in place.

It is not suprising that a common national consensus is emerging as the late President of the African National Congress envisaged in a speech delivered at the 1989 Lusaka conference between the members of the Five Freedom Forum (a group of white liberals) and the ANC. In that conference Oliver Tambo said `it is indeed our collective responsibility to rid our country of the cause of conflict, deprivation and disunity which has earned it the distaste of the rest of humanity. We are not an accursed people, singularly incapable of rising ourselves from quagrine of racism and human degradation. Ours is a gifted and industrious society, with as yet untapped potential to offer humankind a towering example of non-racial unity based on the recognition of the rich tapestry of cultures that make up South Africa. We can and must do it

We thank you.

Ba-Tubatse Primary School, Praktiseer, 31.05.2006