

Council welcomes a new Speaker

Council Speaker Cllr Mvuseni Mnqayi, of the African National Congress, resigned from Council in October to take up the position of KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Civilian Secretary in the Office of the MEC for Community Safety and Liaison, Willies Mchunu.

The City of uMhlathuze wishes him well with his change of career. Working with the community is nothing new to Cllr Mnqayi having been involved with the community work during his career as a nurse. More recently, during his time at the Municipality,

he has served several years as Chairperson of the Empangeni Community Policing Forum as well as Cluster Chairperson for the Empangeni, Richards Bay, Ntambanana and Mtunzini areas.

At the Council meeting in November Cllr Mduduzi Mhlongo took the Oath of Office to fill the vacancy on Council, as a result of Cllr Mnqayi's resignation, and shortly afterwards he was also nominated unopposed as Council Speaker.



Council Speaker, Cllr Mduduzi Mhlongo is welcomed by Mayor Elphas Mbatha and Deputy Mayor Zethu Gumbi.

Meet Mduduzi Mhlongo, Council's new Speaker



Mduduzi Mhlongo is no stranger to the City of uMhlathuze having worked as an official at the Municipality since 2009. However, his profile suddenly became more public when he resigned from the Municipality to join the political leadership and was also nominated as Council Speaker.

Accepting his new position, Cllr Mhlongo said: "The responsibility given to me today is a very serious one for one who is so young. I am fully cognizant of the challenges that lie ahead and of the enormity of the shoes that I am filling, particularly the role the previous Speaker played as a person who fought for and achieved unity. My goal is to carry on the good work the previous incumbent started and I would like to express our gratitude for his work as a councillor and the Speaker.

"I would also like to express my gratitude to the people of uMhlathuze, the Council and the ANC for this opportunity and I will seek to execute the tasks of Speaker in a non partisan way so that everyone can approach the Speaker and confide in me whatever issues need to be confided in.

"Most importantly there is work to be done that needs to be carried out in a most urgent manner. I hope that I won't disappoint you and I will be looking to learn from you as experienced councillors," he said.

Cllr Mhlongo studied towards an LLB Degree at the University of Zululand before leaving to join the Office of the Premier in 2003 to work on the African Peer Review Mechanism. In 2006 he joined the Department of Transport as a consultant to facilitate the launch of the Public Transport Passenger Association.

He joined the City in 2009 as an Administrative Assistant in Legal Services and was appointed as Manager in the Office of the Speaker in September 2011. There he worked closely with outgoing Council Speaker, Cllr Mvuseneni Mnyazi, until he became Acting Deputy Municipal Manager: Corporate Services in September 2014.

Cllr Mhlongo is excited and motivated about his appointment as Council Speaker and says: "I have always been a socially conscious person. As an activist I like to see social justice and want to help towards anything that creates a society with a semblance of justice. We mustn't be spectators to the injustices that prevail in our society because we all have our role to play. I like to think the Municipality has a lot to contribute, and the Office of the Speaker is in a good position to have the largest impact.

"Our leadership has a lot of potential to change the outlook of our Municipality. In the past uMhlathuze Municipality has been predominantly focused on the urban areas but our new leadership

has taken a bold decision to focus on the more outlying areas with projects focused on water, sanitation and housing among others. It is important that people in these outlying areas regain their dignity and that no one lives below the breadline in the City of uMhlathuze. By alleviating poverty in our City we will address a multitude of issues, including crime and the spread of disease."

His work aspirations are to promote a vibrant and accountable environment between the Municipality and the public.

Changes to Council

Cllr Njabulo Mlaba, a proportional member of Council representing the National Freedom Party (NFP), resigned in September when he accepted a position as a Member of the KwaZulu-Natal Legislature.



The vacancy on Council, as a result of Cllr Mlaba's resignation, was filled at the end of November when Cllr Simphiwe Richard Hlope took the Oath of Office and joined Council.



Newly elected councillors, Mduduzi Mhlongo (second from left) and Simphiwe Hlope (second from right), are congratulated by Mayor Elphas Mbatha, Senior Magistrate AB Ntshangase and Deputy Mayor Zethu Gumbi.

City hosts provincial ILGM conference

Political and administrative leadership from KwaZulu-Natal's sixty-one municipalities gathered at the Protea Hotel Richards Bay at the beginning of November for the annual provincial conference of the Institute of Local Government Managers of South Africa (ILGM).

The ILGM was formally established in January 1997 to supersede the erstwhile Institute of Town Clerks of Southern Africa (ITC) and the Institute for Municipal Management (IMM).

In fitting with the ILGM's mission to promote excellence in local government management through the development and capacitating of managers in the sector through lobbying of stakeholders and advocacy, the theme of this year's conference was "Professionalism of local government...Back to basics".

uMhlathuze Mayor, Elphas Mbatha welcomed the delegates to the City by giving an overview of uMhlathuze and what it has to offer in terms of a deep water harbour, the largest coal terminal in the world, excellent road infrastructure and rail network as well as an airport. He said that the City is "blessed with industries that are world players" that produce phosphoric acid, aluminium, paper, iron and heavy machinery and that it is also one of few municipalities in the province to have mines within its area.

He added that uMhlathuze has "excellent potential for tourism" and was looking at developing this sector as the City already has world class hotels and Big 5 game reserves a short distance away.

Messages of support were shared by the South African Local Government Association, (SALGA), South African Municipal Workers Union (SAMWU), Institute of Municipal Finance Officers (IMFO) and the Independent Municipal and Allied Trade Union (IMATU) while the MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Mrs Nomsa Dube-Ncube, delivered the keynote address.

The programme was packed with relevant and thought-provoking presentations, which included a discussion by eThekweni Municipal Manager, Sbusiso Sithole, on the emergence of municipalities from section 139 interventions and a discussion by uKhahlamba Municipal Manager, Siza Sibande, on the road to achieving a clean audit.

ILGM President, Mxolisi Nkosi, gave an analytical review on the "Back to basics" concept and the role of the ILGM while Hibiscus Coast Municipal Manager, Maxwell Mbili spoke about making the performance management system work for municipalities.

Mayor Mbatha also hosted a gala dinner for delegates, which included entertainment and a motivational speaker.



Seen at the ILGM Provincial Conference were (from left) uMhlathuze Municipal Manager, Dr Nhlanhla Sibeko and Chief Whip, Manie Lourens.



The newly elected Deputy Secretary of the KZN Chapter of the ILGM, Boniwe Zulu, hands Mayor Elphas Mbatha a token of appreciation while ILGM President, Mxolisi Nkosi, (right) thanks Cllr Mbatha for welcoming the delegates.



uMhlathuze Executive Committee councillors, Dumisane Nxumalo and Beena Simmadhri, also attended the conference.

IziNhlangothi ZoBumbano Zenza Ibhizinisi

IMeya yaseMhlathuze uKhansela u-Elphas Mbatha enkulumweni yakhe yokwamukela uNgqongqoshe wezokuTHuthukiswa koMnotho, ezokuVakasha neziNdaba zeNdawo, uMhlonishwa uMike Mabuyakhulu emcimbini woMnyango wokugubha uSuku lweziNhlangothi zoBumbano kuMhlaba-jikelele owawubanjelwe e-Umfolozo Casino Empangeni wathi, "Izinhlangothi zobumbano (co-operatives) ezinempumelelo zifaka okuthile emnothweni kanti ziyawenza umahluko enanini labantu abaswele umsebenzi ezweni."

Lolusuku lwabuye lwanikezelwa kubafundi ababexhaswe yiloMnyango ekuqedeni kwabo imfundo ephakeme yamaDiploma okuPhatha iziNhlangothi zoBumbano ababezenza eNyuvesi yaseZululand.

IMeya uMbatha yabuye yenezelela ngokuthi abafundi ababebesazi ukuthi bazokwenzani uma sebeqede umatikuleletsheni. Wathi, "Abanengi abafinyeleli ezingeni elifanelekile ukuze bakwazi ukuqhubeka nezifundo zemfundo ephakeme noma bangakwazi ukuthola ukwesekelwa ngezimali ukuze baqhubekela emakolishi nasemanyuvesi. Ngokusungulela nokwesekwa kwezinhlangothi zobumbano, abamabhizinisi nohulumeni bayakwazi ukusiza labo abangakwazi ukuzisiza bona."

Ohlangothini lwabafundi, uKwanele Mkhwanazi wathi ngenkathi beqala izifundo zabo ngo 2011 akusibonke abafundi ababazi ukuthi izinhlangothi zobumbano zaziqini. Wathi, "Sesifundile ukuthi intsha inekhaya kuleziNhlangothi njengazozonke izinhlobo ezivuleleke ukuba wonke umuntu azwakelise uvo lwakhe, ikakhulukazi uma benemibono eyakhayo."

Wenezelela ngokuthi abafundi bayalithakasela ithuba abanikwa lona ngaloluhlelo kepha izinhlangothi ezisafufusa zidinga ukwesekwa ukuze zikhule zibe ngamabhizinisi amakhulu.

Ngaphandle nje kokufunda izincwadi ngokuphatha inhlangothi yobumbano, abafundi banikwa ithuba lokuba basebenzise ulwazi lwabo ezinhlangothini zobumbano ezinabanikazi bazo endaweni nanokwedlulisela ulwazi lwabo kwabanye abantu.

Umzali womunye umfundi, uMnuz uVictor Mthembu uyilungu leMthanize Co-Operative eyenza amabhuloki lapho abafundi bebesebenzisa ulwazi lwabo ngokweseka ekuphathweni kwezimali nokugcinwa kwamabhuku.

uMnuz uMthembu wathi, "Basisize ngokusifundisa ngendlela enobuchule yokusebenza inhlangothi yethu. Egameni labobonke abazali siyakwethabela lokhu umnyango obenzele khona kanye nalokho abasenzele khona kulelibhizinisi lethu elincane."

UMphathi wenxenywe ye-Unizul eseRichards Bay, uDr Isaac Machi wathi umkhakha wamabhizinisi amancane yiwona oqasha abantu abanengi kodwa yiwona mkhakha obonakala wehluleka kakhulu. Wathi, "Uqeqesho kwezobuNhlangothi yoBumbano kubaluleke kakhulu ngoba akumele kwenziwe okwakwenziwa esikhathini esiphambilini lapho okwakwehlulekwa khona bese kulindelwa imiphumela eyehlukile. I-Unizul ibambisene nentuthuko yomphakathi inika amakhono ehlukene adingeka ezindaweni zasemakhaya ukuze izinhlangothi zobumbano ezisafufusa kanye nalezo esezisebenza ngokugcwele zikwazi ukusimama. Loluhlelo kumele lwedluliselwe nakwezinye izifundazwe ngoba yiyonandlela ezokwenza abantu abanengi abafuna imisebenzi bakwazi ukuqashwa."

Enkulumweni yakhe yosuku, uNgqongqoshe uMabuyakhulu wathi uSuku lweziNhlangothi zoBumbano eMhlabeni-jikelele, luwumgubho wokuthuthukiswa kwezomnotho nokufukula isizwe. Wathi, "Lezifundiswa ziyizinqalabutho kulomkhakha, zingamavulindlela kanti sicabanga ukuthi ngazo sizokwazi ukwakha abaholi bakusasa abazokwazi ukuthuthukisa bakhulise umnyakazo wezinhlangothi zobumbano eNingizimu Afrika. Abaqeqeshwanga ukuba basebenzise amaphepha nje kodwa kumele bahole ngokuba babe yizibonelo ngokuba benze izinhlangothi ezintsha ezisetsenzwa ngendlela efanelekile zikhule zibe ngamabhizinisi amakhulu."

Abafundi abangamashumi amathathu nesishiyagalombili ababefakwe ohlelweni lokusebenza eMnyangweni ukuze bathole ulwazi lomsebenzi ababewufundele njengoba uNgqongqoshe wayethe ulwazi lwencwadi kuphela alwanele, kufanele umuntu afundele nokwenza umsebenzi.

Wathi, "Kumele bakwazi ukulinganisa kokubili; kumele ulwazi lwabo lwencwadi balusebenzise ngokubonakalayo. Ngikufanisa nemikhumbi, yayakhelwe ukuba idukuze phakathi olwandle hayi ukuba ihlale nje echwebeni."

Wanezelela ngokuthi ukuze umuntu aphumelele ebhizinisini kumele abenomqondo ohluzekile onombono ukuze lowombono uphenduke ibhizinisi elinohlonze nelinika isiqiniseko sokukhula. Waqhuba wathi, "Izinhlangothi zobumbano zimele ziguqule izinselelo zibengamathuba amahle kodwa zimele ziphathwe njengamabhizinisi, makungenjalo ziyowa. Ziyingxenywe egqokomo yomnotho lapho uwonkewonke engazibandakanya khona. Kumele sikhohlwe yilengqondo yokuthi izinhlangothi zobumbano aziwona amabhizinisi ngempela. Amabhizinisi amaningi asezingeni lomhlaba aqala njengezinhlangothi zobumbano. INingizimu Afrika iyizimuzimu elilele libe linamandla amangalisayo kulomnyakazo walezinhlangothi, kumele silivuse lelizimuzimu."

IWikipedia ichaza inhlangothi yobumbano njenge "nhlangothi ezimele yabantu abazikhethela bona ngokwabo ukuhlangana ukuze basizakale ngendlela yokuphila, ezomnotho kanye namasiko kanti kungafaka izinhlangothi zomphakathi ezingenzi nzuzo kanye namabhizinisi aqathwe ngabantu abasebenzisa imisebenzi yazo (inhlangothi

yobumbano yabathengi) noma ngabantu abasebenza lapho (inhlango yobumbano yabasebenzi) noma yabantu abahlala kuleyondawo (inhlango yobumbano yezezindlu)."

E: *"Successful co-operatives contribute to the economy and can make a dent in the country's unemployment numbers," said uMhlathuze Mayor Elphas Mbatha in his welcome address to the MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), Mike Mabuyakhulu at the Department's celebration of International Co-operative Day hosted at the Umfolozi Casino in Empangeni.*



IMeya yaseMhlathuze yemukela osomabhizinisi bendawo nabaholi bezepolitiki emgubheni woSuku lweziNhlango zoBumbano owawubanjelwe e-Umfolozi Casino.



UNGqongqoshe wezokuThuthukiswa koMnotho, ezokuVakasha, neziNdaba zeNdawo uMhlonishwa uMike Mabuyakhulu echaza ukuthi iNingizimu Afrika iyizimuzimu lezomnotho elisalele kwezeziNhlango zoBumbano elidinga ukuvuswa.

Iconic new design to replace steel bridge

The City of uMhlathuze has appointed a service provider to deliver an iconic conceptual redesign of the Richards Bay Waterfront steel bridge in order to realise the economic and tourism potential of the area.

The one-way steel bridge at the Richards Bay Waterfront, as the primary access to the Waterfront, poses a number of operational risks due to its sheer design. Such challenges, and the need to design and construct of a new bridge, were expectedly amplified in recent social assessments and planning exercises relating to the Waterfront Development.

The Mzingazi Canal is a symbolic interface of land-meets-water and the Municipality would accordingly like to receive a creative bridge design that captures elements of eco-tone.

The appointed service provider has a proven track record and the capacity of producing a world-class design as required in the tender brief. The company has international recognition and has received South African design awards for its work, which includes the Moses Mabhida Stadium, the Umhlanga Rocks pier and the Durban Waterfront Development.

Importantly wetland, geotechnical, hydrological impacts and traffic aspects will be considered in the due diligence phase prior to the preparation of a design concept.



The University of Zululand's National Diploma in Management of Co-operatives graduates take part in the celebrations.

Council notes progress with Aquadene Human Settlements Project

Council has approved that the Social Housing Programme component of the Aquadene Human Settlements Project, which comprises of Block A with 168 units and Block B with 97 units, be implemented as the first phase.

A progress report on the project was presented to the Executive Committee at the end of October where councillors noted the projected milestones and implementation timeframes and supported the establishment of an Aquadene Human Settlements Project Social Compact Committee.

It was explained that a Social Compact must be established in order that a Tranche 1 application can be submitted to the Department of Human Settlements. A Social Compact is concluded with the beneficiary community to ensure their participation in the project. Since the Aquadene Human Settlements Project is for the entire uMhlathuze community, a mechanism of obtaining beneficiary representatives needs to be devised by way of this Social Compact.

The Tranche 1 application for the project was scheduled to be submitted by the end of November 2014. Civil works construction is scheduled to commence during June 2015 on site and the signing up of beneficiaries also during the first half of 2015. It is further anticipated that Block A and B (Social Housing) will be completed by end September 2016. House Construction (Phase 1-5) by Projecon is anticipated to begin during October 2016.

Funding for bulk infrastructure is estimated at R51 million and R50,9 million for reticulation. The bulk services funding is being sourced through the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) in phases and the Municipality is also exploring other possible funding sources in order to eliminate delays. The internal services funding will be applied for from the Department of Human Settlements in the Stage 2 application after the township establishment has been finalised.



DMM speaks at international conference

The Deputy Municipal Manager: Infrastructure and Technical Services, Tumelo Gopane travelled to the United States in November where he spoke, on invitation, at the 7th Energy Africa Conference to be held at the Colorado School of Mines in Golden Colorado.

The conference brought together thousands of private, public, non-governmental organisations and academics to dialog and invest in work needed for African countries to supply energy that is affordable, accessible, efficient and clean.

Mr Gopane was part of a panel covering the topic "Building out the Urban Industrial Electric Utility Grid: Examples of Public and Private Partnerships", which gave him an opportunity to discuss the City's Energy Efficiency and Demand Side Management (EEDSM) as well as progress with renewable energy projects.

A feature of the conference was the Energy Africa Business Symposium, a pre-conference event that aimed to match projects in select African countries with US developers and investors in support of the Power Africa Initiative.

In this regard Mr Gopane indicated to the organisers that the Municipality is looking at various projects:

- The treatment and reuse of effluent water.
- The removal of fats, oils and greases from effluent water to release cleaner water into streams, rivers and the sea and to assist in creating cleaner fuels.
- Changing the City's 16 000 streetlights from incandescent to LED to realise an energy saving of between 70% and 80%, from a public lighting perspective.
- Changing all building lights in the City from CFL and incandescent to LED to realise an energy saving of between 70% and 80%, from a building lighting perspective.
- Working with National Treasury to pilot the introduction of renewable energies into municipalities, utilising the City as a pilot site.
- Constructing two 120MVA sub-stations in the City to largely supply power to commercial and light industrial customers.

It was reported to the Executive Committee in October that Mr Gopane's travel and accommodation costs while participating in the conference would be paid by the conference organisers.


Residents warned of possible load shedding

Eskom has communicated that the national power grid is under pressure and has given notice that load shedding is likely. In the event that the Municipality is requested to load shed by Eskom the following schedule will be used:

State key

Normal Load Shedding <20 MW

Emergency Load Shedding > 20 MW

Block		1	2	3	4	5	6
		Richards Bay CBD	Greenhill Meerensee Mzingazi Small Craft Tuzi Gazi	Aquadene Arboretum and extension Birdswood Brackenham CTC Kusasa Mandlazini Silvacel Veldenvlei Wildenweide	Alton ZCBF Showgrounds	Carsdale Empangeni CBD Graham Park Hillview Kildare Richem Sentraal	Bell Empangeni Braeburn Empangeni Rail Fairview Kuleka Lafarge Quarries Mill housing Noordsig Nyala Park Panorama SAR Empangeni Zidedele Village ZSM (Old Mill)
Monday	Normal	07:30 - 10:00 19:30 - 22:00	09:30 - 12:00 21:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 14:00 23:30 - 02:00	13:30 - 16:00 01:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 18:00 03:30 - 06:00	17:30 - 20:00 05:30 - 08:00
	Emergency	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00
Tuesday	Normal	17:30 - 20:00 05:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 10:00 19:30 - 22:00	09:30 - 12:00 21:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 14:00 23:30 - 02:00	13:30 - 16:00 01:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 18:00 03:30 - 06:00
	Emergency	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00
Wednesday	Normal	15:30 - 18:00 03:30 - 06:00	17:30 - 20:00 05:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 10:00 19:30 - 22:00	09:30 - 12:00 21:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 14:00 23:30 - 02:00	13:30 - 16:00 01:30 - 04:00
	Emergency	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00
Thursday	Normal	13:30 - 16:00 01:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 18:00 03:30 - 06:00	17:30 - 20:00 05:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 10:00 19:30 - 22:00	09:30 - 12:00 21:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 14:00 23:30 - 02:00
	Emergency	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00
Friday	Normal	11:30 - 14:00 23:30 - 02:00	13:30 - 16:00 01:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 18:00 03:30 - 06:00	17:30 - 20:00 05:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 10:00 19:30 - 22:00	09:30 - 12:00 21:30 - 00:00
	Emergency	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00
Saturday	Normal	09:30 - 12:00 21:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 14:00 23:30 - 02:00	13:30 - 16:00 01:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 18:00 03:30 - 06:00	17:30 - 20:00 05:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 10:00 19:30 - 22:00
	Emergency	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00
Sunday	Normal	07:30 - 10:00 19:30 - 22:00	09:30 - 12:00 21:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 14:00 23:30 - 02:00	13:30 - 16:00 01:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 18:00 03:30 - 06:00	17:30 - 20:00 05:30 - 08:00
	Emergency	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	07:30 - 12:00 19:30 - 00:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	11:30 - 16:00 23:30 - 04:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00	15:30 - 20:00 03:30 - 08:00

We are powerless without you sharing the load.

IMPORTANT NOTES

- Please note that the dates and time slots are not fixed and the Municipality has the right to change the schedule without any prior warning or notice.
- Load shedding may take place at any time, which means that depending on the time, the correct block as per the schedule will be shed as per time the slot.
- The suburbs of eSikhaleni, Felixton, Ngwelezane, eNseleni and Vulindlela are directly load shed by Eskom and the Municipality has no control over the dates and times of load shedding for these suburbs.
- To determine the status on a specific day call the Municipality's 24-hour toll free Call Centre 0800 222 827 or visit our website www.umhlathuze.gov.za. Please do not phone the fire station for load shedding enquiries.
- Please regard all electrical equipment as live during load shedding and switch off all appliances.

Bringing tourism into focus

The inauguration of the uMhlathuze Community Tourism Organisation (UCTO) in March this year has brought focus and attention to the hidden tourism potential of the City.

UCTO Chairman, Professor Thandi Nzama, provided an introduction to the organisation and the role players involved in promoting and developing tourism within the City of uMhlathuze during a workshop hosted by the Department of Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DEDTEA) in November, which was attended by councillors, the UCTO members and municipal officials.

Prof Nzama reported that since March the organisation has held numerous meetings where its Terms of Reference were finalised and adopted. "The UCTO has adopted a new logo, registered with the Department of Economic Development Tourism and Environmental Affairs, and secured offices which have been donated by local resident, Rob Hughes, who is as passionate about tourism as are the members of the UCTO," said Prof Nzama.

"We have opened our own bank account and hosted a number of presentations. As the tourism organisation responsible for promoting and supporting tourism in our City, we understand our responsibilities. These include providing a platform for stakeholders to engage in implementing tourism strategies; facilitating the registration and monitoring of tourism products within the City; playing a role in attracting events and assist with the marketing and promotion to ensure their success."

Prof Nzama added she believes that tourism can have an immense economic benefit for the City if all stakeholders held hands going forward.

Acting Deputy Municipal Manager: City Development, Stanley Mbatha, said the purpose of the workshop was to introduce the UCTO to councillors and for the DEDTEA to give an overview of the role councillors have to play in promoting tourism and providing resources and budget for the promotion and growth of tourism in the City.

"We live in a coastline/port city which has endless possibilities where we can all co-operate in making a success of tourism. We all need to eat, walk, talk, breath and dream tourism!"

Long standing uMhlathuze tourism promoter and activist, Anne de Robillard, said that the past two months has seen more than 79 yachts visiting the Port of Richards Bay bringing with them more than 400 international guests who spent money at the shops and industries in Richards Bay.

"There is about a three month window when the north east wind blows; nobody likes it but it brings the yachtsmen into Richards Bay to seek safe harbour and where they enjoy our hospitality."

Providing guidance and advice on how councillors should work with the UCTO, Ayanda Zondi from the DEDTEA said it is very sad that tourism is often put aside at municipal level due to a lack of funds. She said the department is there to support and assist municipalities to focus on tourism.

"Communities also have a role to play, they need to ensure that local tourism sites are maintained and preserved so that tourists look forward to visiting these landmarks or tourism destinations. The UCTO should monitor these attractions, ensuring that they are maintained and kept visitor friendly and even improved, to enhance the experience of the visiting tourist."

Zondi said that Richards Bay has always attracted business tourists but the City needs to shift its focus to domestic and other visitors. She added that there are no full documented accounts or demarcated sites of the history and culture of the area and monies should be set aside in the budget for this to be done. "To get this right we need to become a tourist in our own area and find places, cultures and practices of significance that would attract other tourists."



uMhlathuze Community Tourism Organisation Chairman, Professor Thandi Nzama, said the organisation's meetings are open and community members are welcome to attend should they feel they can add value.



Attending a workshop to introduce the uMhlathuze Community Tourism Organisation to Councillors and municipal officials were (back left): Councillor Musa Mbokazi; Sipho Mchunu; Percy Thusini; Lisa du Plessis (UCTO secretary and communications) and (front left): Ayanda Zondi (DEDTEA); Councillor Meera Sookroo; UCTO chairman Prof Thandi Nzama and Councillor Beena Simmadhri.

Ukulondoza Kwabantu Belondolozela Abantu

Izindleko ezihambisana nokuba nesilondolozamali ebhange lebhizinisi angeke zimelwe umuntu oholo kancane kanti kungalesizathu ukuba kusungulwe kubuye kukhuthazwe iziKhungo zeziMali eziyiNhlango (Co-operative Financial Institutions).

Ukwethulwa ngokusemthethweni kwesiKhungo seziMali seNhlango yoBumbano ebhalisiwe yaseMhlathuze iZiphakamise Co-operative kwabayingxenywe yomgubho loSuku lweziNhlango zoBumbano loMhlaba-jikelele olwalusingethwe uMnyango wezokuThuthukiswa kwezoMnotho, ezokuVakasha neziNdaba zeNdawo.

IMeneja yeGatsha yeZiphakamise uNksz Zasengweni Ngema wathi leNhlango yasungulwa ngo 1999 ngabasebenzi beMetal Workers Union ababesebenzela inkampani eyayaziwa nge-Alusaf ngalezokhathi. Wathi, "Inhlalo yeNhlango yoBumbano kwakuwukusiza abasebenzi ukuba bakwazi ukuphatha izimali zabo kangcono."

Kusukela lapho leNhlango isikhule yaze yabanamalungu angama 632 ahlanganisa nabasebenzi bakwaBell Equipment noMasipala waseMhlathuze.

LeNhlango ubulungu bayo obuvuleleke kuwawonke umuntu ikhuthaza amalungu ayo ukuba abenamava okonga kanti ibuye ibe nezindlela ezahlukeni zokweboleka.

OkaNgema wathi, "Isiqubulo seNhlango sithi 'lapho abantu befaka okuthile kwabanye abantu' okungukuthi sikhuthaza amalungu ukuba asebenzise izindlela ezahlukeni zokweboleka ukuba bazithuthukise bona qobo. LesiKhungo kumele sibukwe njengethuluzi lokusiza abantu abaningi ukuba bazimele kwezizimali."

IZiphakamise yisiKhungo sezeziMali lapho amalungu aso elondolozela imali ndawonye ukuze bafukulane ngokwezimali bebe benzangcono ezomnotho womphakathi wabo.

Izinqubomgomo okuqhutshwa ngazo inhlangano yilezi:

- Ubulungu obuvulekile nokuzikhethela
- Ukuphatha ngendlela yentando yeningi
- Ukubamba iqhaza kwamalungu kwezomnotho
- Ukuzimela
- Imfundo, uqeqesho nolwazi
- Ubambiswano phakathi kweziNhlango zoBumbano kanye
- Nokukhathalela umphakathi

Okwamanje kuneziKhungo zeziMali zeziNhlango zoBumbano eziyisithupha kulesisiFundazwe kanti uNgqongqoshe weDETEA uMhlonishwa uMike Mabuyakhulu wathi ufisa ukubona zanda leziKhungo. Wathi, "Lamabhange eziNhlango zoBumbano ngamabhange asemthethweni angawabanikazi bamalungu enhlangano kanti akumele aqhathaniswe namabhange ejwayelekile angamabhizinisi."

UNgqongqoshe wathi inkomfa okuyobe kuhloswe ngayo ukuchaza kabanzi ngomnyakazo weziNhlango zoBumbano ikakhulukazi ngeziKhungo zeziMali zeziNhlango izoba ekuqaleni kuka 2015 kanti izobandakanya ulwazi losomabhizinisi abanempumelelo nabazokwazi ukwabelana ngolwazi lwabo.

UNgqongqoshe uMabuyakhulu wedlulisa amazwi okukhuthaza wathi, "Yisikhungo sesithathu lesi ukuba sibhalisiwe sibuye sethulwe kulesisiFundazwe. Injongo yokuqala wukuba sibhalisiwe ngokugcwele bese-ke kulandela ukuthi siyobhaliswa nini neBhange Ngodla (Reserve Bank)."

Wabuye watasa kakhulu isandla esifakwe yibobonke abathintekayo ekwenzeni iZiphakamise Co-operative ibe yilempumelelo eyiyo. Wathi, "Ngikhuthaza osomabhizinisi abazimele ukuba bavulele izinhlangano zoBumbano amathuba; lelizwe liyoba nekusasa eliqhakazile uma iziNhlango zoBumbano ziphumelela."

IZiphakamise Co-operative ibhalisiwe neCIPS neSARS njengesilondolozela neNhlango yoBumbano yokweboleka kanti ingaphansi kukaMbhekeli wezokweboleka kaZwelonke kanye neCo-operative Banks Development Agency engaphansi koMnyango wezeziMali kuZwelonke.

E: The official launch of uMhlathuze's own registered CFI, Ziphakamise Co-operative, formed part of the recent International Co-operatives day celebrations hosted by the Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (DEDTEA).



Emcimbini wokwembula itshe lesakhiwo okuwuphawu lokwethulwa kweZiphakamise Co-operative (kusukela kwesobunxele) nguLaurence Radebe (ilungu leBhodi yeZiphakamise lephambilini); iMeya yaseMhlathuze uKansela u-Elphas Mbatha; uSomlomo woMkhandlu wesiFunda soThungulu u-Alice Mthembu; iPhini leMeya yasoThungulu uThulani Mashaba; iPhini likaSihlalo weBhodi yeZiphakamise uJohn Khumalo; uNgqongqoshe wezokuThuthukiswa koMnotho uMhlonishwa uMike Mabuyakhulu; iMeya yesiFunda soThungulu uThembeke Mchunu; iPhini leMeya yaseMhlathuze uZethu Gumbi kanye neMeneja yeGatsha leZiphakamise uZasengweni Ngema.

Omgewingsgesondheidspersoneel hard aan die werk

Ingevolge die Munisipale Oorlaste Verordeninge is daar vyf dienste wat die Omgewings-gesondheidspersoneel moet lewer ten einde die verordeninge vir 'n veiliger omgewing te handhaaf, waaronder:

- Die dien van kennisgewings op eienaars van privaat wonings wat oorgroei is, die ondersoek van klagtes van die publiek met betrekking tot stagnante swembaddens wat nie deur die huisbewoner onderhou word nie, asook onwettige stortings.
- Die handhawing van die Munisipale verordeninge vir die aanhou van diere, wat ook insluit die beheer tydens rituele slagtings van diere asook aanvalle deur diere.
- Plaagbeheer by Raadseindom.
- Die uitvoer van hulpbehoewende en armlastige begrafnisse
- Inspeksie en opvoeding van informele handelaars wat nie kosware voorberei en verkoop nie, soos byvoorbeeld haarkappers en kar wassers.

Statistiek vir die kwartaal, 1 Julie 2014 tot 30 September 2014 sluit onder meer die volgende in:

- Sewentien ondersoeke met betrekking tot klagtes van die publiek en sakepersele oor oorbegroeide privaat wonings,

onwettige storting, stagnante swembaddens, informele handelaars (nie-kos) en plaagbeheer by raadseindom.

- Vyf kennisgewings met betrekking tot oorgroeide eiendomme is uitgereik
- In geheel is 34 rituele slagtingaansoeke en permitte toegestaan.
- 59 Hulpbehoewende en armlastige begrafnisse is ingevolge die Raad se Hulpbehoewende Begrafnisbystandbeleid en die Nasionale Gesondheidswet, teen 'n koste van R128 150,00 uitgevoer.

E: *An article about the responsibility and productivity of Environmental Health staff for the quarter 1 July to 30 September 2014.*

Aquadene community can look forward to its own library

Daily Double Trading 315 CC has been awarded a contract in the amount of R7,4 million to construct a library at Aquadene to provide a library service to the Aquadene community and the surrounding areas.

The site was handed over to the contractor in mid-July and construction on the library, situated on Via Ammannia opposite to the school grounds, is well underway. The contract is expected to take about nine months to complete with the library scheduled to open for business at the end of October 2015.

On completion the library will be the same magnitude as the extended eSikhaleni Library. The 805 square metre development will include an exhibition area/foyer, a seminar room, group activity room, group study room, dedicated computer room, book display area and study area, offices, a kitchen and ablutions.

Richards Bay Clean Air Association Monthly Report: October 2014

SO₂ (Sulphur Dioxide) Guideline Exceedances

The RBCAA Measures SO₂ at 7 sites: Arboretum (swimming pool), Brackenham (Intersection), Richards Bay CBD (Central Sports Complex), Harbour West (West entrance to the Port), Scorpio (between Foskor & Hillside), Felixton (Felixton College), and eSikhaleni (Tisand Technical High School). There were no measured exceedances of the NEMAQA standards recorded at the RBCAA monitoring stations.

TRS Odour Threshold Exceedances

TRS is emitted by Mondi and is monitored by the RBCAA at the Richards Bay Central Sports Complex in Richards Bay and in eSikhaleni at Tisand Technical High School. There were Eight (8) measured exceedances of the RBCAA 10-minute Target (4.5ppb). All were attributed to emissions from Mondi Richards Bay.

PM10 Exceedances

There was One (1) measured exceedance of the current NEMAQA Daily Standard (120 g/m³). There was One (1) measured exceedance of the future NEMAQA Daily Standard (75 g/m³). The exceedances were recorded at Brackenham on 1 October 2014, and were associated with high wind speeds lifting dust from Alton.

Air Quality Complaints

There were two (2) air quality complaints received during October 2014.

For more information contact:

Sandy Camminga (Public Officer)

Tel: 035 -786 0076 Cell: 083 515 2384

Complaints can be logged at: complaints@rbcaa.co.za

Website: www.rbcaa.org.za

**Water is a precious resource.
All living things depend on
water to survive. We are
facing a water scarcity.
Let us all save water.**



**LET'S ALL
SAVE
WATER**

Ways of Saving Water

- ◆ Never put water down the drain when there may be another use for it such as watering a plant or garden, or cleaning.
- ◆ Verify that your home is leak-free, because many homes have hidden water leaks. Read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, there is a leak.
- ◆ Repair dripping taps by replacing washers.
- ◆ Check for toilet tank leaks by adding food colouring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, colour will appear within 30 minutes. Check the toilet for worn out, corroded or bent parts. Most replacement parts are

- inexpensive.
- ◆ Avoid flushing the toilet unnecessarily. Dispose of tissues, insects and other such waste in the rubbish bin rather than the toilet.
- ◆ Take shorter showers.
- ◆ Use the minimum amount of water needed for a bath by closing the drain first and filling the bath only 1/3 full. Stopper bath before turning water. The initial burst of cold water can be warmed by adding hot water later.
- ◆ Don't let water run while shaving or washing your face. Brush your teeth first while waiting for water to get hot, then wash or shave after filling the basin.
- ◆ Operate automatic dishwashers and clothes washers only when they are fully loaded or properly set the water level for the size of load you are using.
- ◆ When washing dishes by

- hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water. Quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the tap.
- ◆ Do not use running water to thaw meat or other frozen foods. Defrost food overnight in the refrigerator or by using the defrost setting on your microwave.
- ◆ Kitchen sink disposals require lots of water to operate properly. Start a compost pile as an alternate method of disposing food waste instead of using a garbage disposal. Garbage disposals also can add 50% to the volume of solids in a septic tank that can lead to malfunctions and maintenance problems.
- ◆ When adjusting water temperatures, instead of turning water flow up, try turning it down. If the water is too hot or cold, turn the offender down rather than increasing water flow to balance the

- temperatures.
- ◆ If the toilet flush handle frequently sticks in the flush position, letting water run constantly, replace or adjust it
- ◆ Create an awareness of the need for water conservation among your children. Avoid the purchase of recreational water toys that require a constant stream of water.
- ◆ Report all significant water losses (broken pipes, open hydrants, errant sprinklers etc.) to the property owner, local authorities or your Water Management District.
- ◆ Encourage your school system and local government to help develop and promote a water conservation ethic among children and adults.
- ◆ Make sure your visitors understand the need for, and benefits of, water conservation.
- ◆ Encourage your friends and neighbours to be part of a water conscious community.



Saving Water Outdoors

- ◆ Raise the lawn mower blade to at least three inches. A lawn cut higher encourages grass roots to grow deeper, shades the root system and holds soil moisture better than a closely-clipped lawn.
- ◆ Avoid over-fertilising your lawn. The application of fertilisers increases the need for water. Apply fertilisers that contain slow-release, water-insoluble forms of nitrogen.
- ◆ Mulch to retain moisture in the soil. Mulching also helps to control weeds that compete with plants for water.

- ◆ Plant native and/or drought-tolerant grasses, ground covers, shrubs and trees. Once established, they do not need to be watered as frequently and they usually will survive a dry period without any watering. Group plants together based on similar water needs.
- ◆ Do not hose down your driveway or sidewalk. Use a broom to clean leaves and other debris from these areas. Using a hose to clean a driveway can waste hundreds of litres of water.

- ◆ Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles water. If you wash your own car, park on the grass to do so.
- ◆ Avoid the installation of ornamental water features (such as fountains) unless the water is recycled. Locate where there are minimal losses due to evaporation and wind drift.
- ◆ If you have a swimming pool, consider a new water-saving pool filter.

Try to do one thing each day that will result in a saving of water.

Don't worry if the saving is minimal. Every drop counts. And every person can make a difference. So tell your friends, neighbours and co-workers to **"Turn it Off" and "Keep it Off".**

City supports the 16 Days of Activism

The 16 Days of Activism is an international campaign originating from the first Women's Global Leadership Institute, which was sponsored by the Centre for Women's Global Leadership in 1991. Participants chose 25 November, International Day Against Violence Against Women and 10 December, International Human Rights Day, to symbolically link violence against women and human rights to emphasize that such violence is a human rights violation. The 16-day period also highlights other significant dates including International Women Human Rights Defenders Day on 29 November, World AIDS Day on 1 December and the anniversary of the Montreal Massacre on 6 December.

Since 1999 the South African government has run a parallel campaign that includes the issues relating to violence against children because of the high incidence of child abuse in the country.

Supporters wear white ribbons to symbolize the commitment of the wearer to "never commit or condone violence against women and children and to speak out about violence where they see it".

We are all accountable for playing our part in reducing violence at the individual and community level, as well as at the national, state and global levels. Every action, no matter how big or small can make a difference.

This time of year – the season of goodwill – is one where the thought of 'giving' is on the minds of many.

While most gifts are of a material nature, the greatest and most precious gift is life itself.

With that in mind, the City of uMhlathuze is committed to do all in its power to help prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS; to offer clinical and other health support to those suffering from this scourge; and to console those infected and affected by this pandemic. We wish all our people long, happy and healthy lives.

We urge each person to abstain from risky lifestyles that could be detrimental to ourselves and our loved ones. Abstinence and partner faithfulness remain the key interventions. We encourage every citizen to know their status, as knowledge is power. We also pay tribute to those who are daily involved in nursing and care giving for victims and their families; we salute your dedication. As our citizens prepare to celebrate this season of goodwill, remember once again the gift we all desire: an AIDS-free society.

Be blessed
Mayor Elphas Mbatha



Mayor Elphas Mbatha.

Important Municipal Telephone Numbers

In case of uncertainty, the main switchboard in Richards Bay can be reached by dialling 035-9075000

- **Building Inspectorate**
Office hours: 035 907 5434/5409/5410
- **Housing**
Office hours: 035 907 5486/5057
- **Tourism**
Office hours: 035 907 5018
Empangeni: 035 907 5630
- **Waste Management**
Office hours (Emp): 035 907 5670
Office hours (R/Bay): 035 907 5789/5790
- **Traffic**
R/Bay Motor Licencing 035 907 5268/5461
Emp Motor Licencing 035 907 5650/5652
Drivers Licences 035 787 1464
Traffic Section 035 907 5633
Control Room 035 907 5760/1
Learners Licences 035 907 5030
- **Fire**
Office hours 035 907 5722/3
After 035 797 3314/5
Emergency 035 797 3313/3911
- **Property Section**
Enquiries 035 907 5038/5073
- **Hall Bookings**
Empangeni 035 907 5620
Ngwelezane 035 907 5832
Richards Bay 035 907 5048
Esikhaleni 035 907 5825
Sport fields 035 907 5352/5941
- **Water Leaks & Sewer Leaks**
Roads & Storm Water
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard 035 907 5000
- **Refuse Removal**
Empangeni 035 907 5670/5679
Richards Bay 035 907 5790/5769
- **Power Failures**
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard 035 907 5000
- **Streetlight Complaints**
24-hour toll free 0800 222 827
Switchboard 035 907 5000
- **Treasury**
Account enquiries 035 907 5497/5128/
5132/5131/5286/5960/5142
SCM enquiries 035 907 5770
Supplier's database registration 035 907 5773

uMhlathuze News - Also on: www.umhlathuze.gov.za

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Design and Layout: Alliance Graphics Printing: Colour Planet

Dial 0800 222 827 for the City's 24-hour Call Centre