



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG
METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITY
OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

MINUTES OF THE 3RD SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF JOHANNESBURG MUNICIPALITY IN HONOUR OF THE LATE COUNCILLOR MPHO MOERANE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25 MAY 2022, AT 08:00, AT THE CONSTANCE CONNY BAPELA COUNCIL CHAMBER AT THE METROPOLITAN CENTRE, BRAAMFONTEIN

These Minutes comprise:

- 1 OPENING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**
- 2 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 3 MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**
- 4 MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE BY THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS**
- 5 MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE BY POLITICAL PARTIES**
- 6 COMMENTS BY FAMILY REPRESENTATIVE**
- 7 ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 8 CLOSURE**

1A MEMBERS PRESENT

The Speaker: Councillor Da Gama, V M

The Executive Mayor: Councillor Phalatse, M

Alexander, W R	Hughes, Z
Amad, T	Ismail-Moosa, I
Amod, C J	Jacobs, B
Arnolds, M S	Johnson, N
Badal, K	Jonker, N
Benjamin, R F	Kanda, M
Bini, L	Kgeletsane, M O
Bittkau, R	Khanyile, N M
Boer, C	Khumalo, X I
Bolani, M G	Kiviet, A
Cele, D W	Knott, L R
Chabalala, M D	Koekemoer, M
Chair, C A	Landis, R
Chalufu, S T	Lebatlang, T Z
Chame, F	Lebea, M G
Chauke, K L	Lefutso, L
Chetsanga, H	Lobi, M
Coogan, L C	Louw, M A
Coutriers, M J	Maake, M J
Coverdale, D L T	Mabaso, M P
Crichton, M	Mabelebele, S S
Dammie, B H	Mabuke, T A
Dauids-Green, I C	Mabunda, T E
Davis, M R	Mabuza, S K L
Dellwaria, N	Machaba, L M U
Deppe, A J	Madiba, T J
Dlamini, B	Magwaza, B L P
Durand, G V M	Magwentshu, L C
Dyers, S	Maila, S M
Echeozonjoku, B C	Majola, S
Edward, N	Makamo, S S
Finn, C E	Makhuba, H N
Foley, D T	Makhubele, T C
Fourie-Shawe, C	Maluleka, T
Francisco, D B	Manganyi, D B
Galeshewe, T M	Mangena, T D
Gantsho, L	Marais, A F
Goosen, J W	Marais, S I
Harris, R	Marema, V A
Hlatshwayo, S M	Mashala, K
Hoén, J N	Mashinini, S
Homer, C	Masoga, L M
Horwitz, J	Maswazi, R
Huggett, E A	Mathe, G

Mathe, Z E	Nkwanyana, P B
Mazibuko, A L	Nofemela, N
Mazibuko, N	Ntombela, M J
Mbundu, N N	Ntshidi, T E
Mchunu, A	Nyembe, Z P
Meyers, T	Nzimande, C
Mgaga, B	Papo, M M
Mgcina, S E	Phakathi, S
Mhlari, T M	Phometsi, P S
Mhlongo, T A	Pietersen, J
Mkhize, T	Pietersen, N
Mkhonto, M S	Radebe, T T
Mmbengwa, M N	Rafferty, P D
Mmota, L	Ramaru, G
Mngadi, W B	Rambani, N S
Mnyameni, M	Raphadu, A T
Moatshe, K	Reddy, K
Modladlaba, D S	Reddy, V M
Modukanene, L C	Reinten, I M
Modupi, D N	Roberts, F C
Moeti, O T	Sauls, A
Mohlala, P K	Schay, D
Mokoka, M L	Sekhu, M V
Molefe, M	Sekwaila, B J
Molise, L D	Shabangu, L
Moloisane, D	Shackleford, L M
More, E	Shange, P A
Mothopi, O Z	Sherman, G J
Mphaho, M A	Shumba, K A
Mphahlele, M	Sifumba, N
Mphefo, L M P	Simelane, P
Mposula, T	Simelane, S O
Mpotulo, G S	Sindani, F P
Mthembu, M N	Sithole, A M
Mulelu, M	Sobey, A
Munyayi, V E	Steenkamp, D
Nair, R K	Steer, B
Ndou, N L	Stewart, P S
Ndou, P	Stewart, A J
Nefdt, P W	Suddaby, J
Ngema, S V	Sun, Y H
Ngobeni, L M	Supe, N P
Ngobeni, R F	Tabane, M C
Ngoepe, C S	Tambani, P S
Nguse, S	Tefu, P V
Ngwenya, F N	Tembe, D S
Niemand, G J	Truluck, T F
Nkokou, T P	Tsotetsi, L Y M
Nkomo, B	Twala, Y A
Nkubungu, L	Van der Merwe, M

Van der Schyf, C
Van Dyk, N J
Van Wyk, W M
Wax, K P
Williams, M C
Wilskut, D

Wissler, S T J
Wittman-Potter, D D
Zazini, A
Zondo, L T
Zungu, N G

1 OPENING

The Speaker requested Council to observe a moment of silence. He apologized for a technical glitch that was experienced earlier on.

He thereafter addressed Council as follows:

"Fellow Councillors, the Moerane and Nkosi families, officials, community members present in the Special Council meeting, allow me to draw the strength from Psalm 73 verse 26. "My flesh in my heart may fail, but God is strength of the heart and my portion forever." I wish I could take all this pain and sorrow from all of you, the families, fellow Councillors, officials and the citizens of Johannesburg. Allow me to continue to quote from Psalm again. "The Lord is close to the broken hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit." Through our words can do little. We hope our thoughts and prayers will support all of us at this difficult time. Fellow Councillors, families and friends, let us continue to embrace pain and burn it as fuel for our journey in carrying forward the wishes and dreams of all 18 Councillors that we have lost in the previous political term. Councillor Moerane passes on at the time when I had asked Councillor Affairs to organize an interfaith prayer to be held today, prior to the commencement of the budget speech to help the Councillors deal with the death, trauma and that we have experienced, not only in Council, but it in the entire municipality. We've also lost a few officials in the past few weeks. Considering this, I therefore saw it befitting that as we host the Special Council meeting to reflect and remember all members of our Council who have parted from us since the beginning of this political term. I'm now going to ask Councillor Tyrell Meyers, the Whip of Council to light the candle in remembrance of these Councillors, as I read out the names. Light is a symbol of hope. Light represents a plea to God for mercy and grace. Councillor Conzelia Lehlohonolo Moloto, PR Councillor of the Economic Freedom Fighters who passed away on the 2nd of February of 2022. Councillor Ntaoleng Mpho Mofokeng, African National Congress, Ward 53 Councillor, who passed away on the 5th of March 2022. Councillor Mpho Moerane, former MMC for EISD and former Executive Mayor, leader of the official opposition majority party, the African National Congress, who passed away on the 18th of May of 2022."

2 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

The following applications for leave of absence from this meeting were granted:

<i>Councillor Christians, A</i>	:	
<i>Councillor Gwamanda, K</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Masuku, L</i>	:	<i>Illness</i>
<i>Councillor Mokwena, T</i>	:	<i>Illness</i>
<i>Councillor Tshehlo, G J</i>	:	<i>Illness</i>
<i>Councillor Zama, A A D</i>	:	<i>Illness</i>
<i>Councillor Sesedinyane, M I</i>	:	<i>Illness</i>
<i>Councillor Liebenberg, E</i>	:	<i>Illness</i>
<i>Councillor Zwane, S</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Machethe, S</i>	:	<i>Council Business</i>
<i>Councillor Nkomo, E T</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Mofokeng, J</i>	:	<i>Council Business</i>
<i>Councillor Nkomo, P T</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Baloyi, D L</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Dladla, D</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Dlanjwa, M</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Komane, S A</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Leshilo, R S</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Mkasi, G</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Moepi, N J D</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Mofokeng, M P</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Mogapi, T A</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Mokoena, G</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Molefe, E W</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Mosehla, K J</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Ndou, P</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Nenemba, T</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Nethamba, R</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Ngwenya, J A</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Nhlapo, C P</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Nkosi, R A L</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Nkomo, P T</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Novela, M</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Ntoele, N L</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Radebe, N P</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Raholane, N W</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Raseruthe, S H</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Seema, S M</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Seerane, M K</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Telekoa, A T</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Tshedo, J G</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Zitha, S L</i>	:	<i>Private Business</i>

3 MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

The Executive Mayor addressed Council as follows:

“Speaker of Council, Councillor Vasco da Gama, Whip of Council, Councillor Meyers, Chair of Chairs of Council, Councillor Coleen Makhubele, MMC’s, Chairpersons, Whips, Leaders of political parties, dear Councillors, esteemed guests, friends, family, members of the media, good morning. Three days ago, we laid to rest yet another one of our own, a friend and a brother to many of us, my name’s sake, Mayor “Bitso”, Councillor Mpho Moerane. Hailing from the streets of Alex, we shared our passion for the township of Alexandra and for his people. ‘Bitso’ truly was a son of the soil. Though he had achieved much success in life, he never forgot where he came from. I was humbled to hear of the various initiatives that he embarked on to improve and uplift the lives of the people of Alexandra and beyond. I know first-hand that he had even served on the board of the Alex Community Health Centre, a place I too once called home. As name denotes nature, Mpho was a true gift. A gift to Alex, a gift to Johannesburg. On this Africa Day, we reflect on the plight of the African continent. The richest continent on the face of the planet but one that has been ripped and pillaged for far too long. It is a continent that laments, calling out for restoration and justice for all its people. This type of restoration will not occur except at the hands of fearless leaders, those who understand that they cannot consider themselves successful, except that they ensure the success of others.

Those who understand the African tradition of Ubuntu, ‘I am because you are’. Mpho was such a leader. Politics was not his natural inclination but his weakness for people and his relentless quest for their well-being kept pulling him into this world, his vehicle for service to humanity. We have lost a son, we have lost a leader, but we dare not give up the hope of seeing his dreams realized, seeing Alexandra rise up from the ashes, seeing Africa restored to her former glory. I’m happy to announce that our commitment to seeing his dream realized was upheld in the last two days here in the City of Johannesburg, when the city hosted its first ever Energy Indaba- a gathering of minds of everyone in the energy sector. It was the City’s first instalment to ensuring that Mpho’s dream of energy security in Johannesburg is realized. And I continue to give my undertaking that the Joburg multi-party government will see this dream through to fruition. May his light continue to shine among us, and may it be joined together with the greater light as we are led to towards a brand-new City of Johannesburg, our city of golden opportunities for all.

To the colleagues, friends and family, a re foleng, a re emeng ka maoto, a re ageng sechaba sa rona. Modimo are tiise, a re tshegetse, a re thuse to be faithful and to honour the scroll of the city until we reunite with our brother again, a moya wa gagwe, o robale ka kagiso.

4 MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE BY THE AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS

Councillor E Mgcina (ANC) addressed Council as follows:

"Thank you Speaker. Speaker of Council, Councillor Vasco da Gama, the Executive Mayor, Mme Mpho Phalatse, fellow Councillors, the ANC caucus, family, ba kwa Nkosi and Moerane, our dear sister, Fikile, mme Matshidiso, bana ba ntate Moerane, the entire family of Moerane and Nkosi.

It has been hard writing these lines because I couldn't find the exact words to describe our leader of caucus, Councillor Mpho Moerane. And you can imagine all the feelings involved. Somehow, it was easier to just sit and cry in the dark than to receive words of comfort. We ave carried a heavy burden of grief on our hearts. Our souls refuse to be still, and our spirits have sunk under the unbearable weight of a numbing sock. We have come here with mixed feelings; we cannot hide the deep sense of sadness and gaping wounds in our heavy hearts. We cannot not hide our anger and frustration at God, that such a productive life, a committed leader was taken away from us so soon. Councillor Mpho was an amazing human being, humble and caring person. He showed us that no matter how hard life can be, we must all learn from it every day and embrace every moment of it. Because we never know how and when it's going to end. Our country has been in mourning since the fateful day of the 18th of May 2022 when Councillor Mpho Moerane ceased to breathe. I still recall how shaken I was when I heard that he is no more. Our dear sister, Fikile, I don't know the feeling of losing a husband. I don't know exactly how you are feeling at the moment, but I wish you strength my sister and pray that God give you and the children of course the necessary required strength.

We have no doubt that our sudden sadness and sorrow are nothing compared to the pain and agony that has visited the Moerane and Nkosi family. Even in our solemn sadness and deep anger, we cannot hide the spark of joy in our tearful eyes. Our joy stems from the full knowledge that the 52 years of Mpho's life are decorated with enormous accomplishments and outstanding achievements that very few, 70 and 80 year-olds can match. We have heard so many testimonies of the great life and standing contributions of Comrade Mpho towards making this world a better place than he found it.

It is indeed not our part to mourn. It is our right and privilege to celebrate the fact that we were blessed with so rare, a gift of a brother, a father and a family man who was simultaneously a genuine leader. A trustworthy servant of the people who surrendered his life to the cause of Ubuntu. I am because you are. As the former President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela once said, I quote "What counts in life is not the mere fact that we have lived, it is what difference we made to the lives of others that will determine the significance of the life we lead." Close quote. The best way to sum up Comrade Mpho's life is to say he was an accomplished revolutionary in the fullest

sense of the word. He did everything to change this world in order to leave it in a better place than he found it. I'm confident on his arrival in heaven. Comrade Mpho gave a full report on the state of the city and of his beloved organisation, the African National Congress. He has given a report to our forbearers who were honourable men and women who dedicated their own lives to serve our people. He also answered difficult questions from the two late mayors, Councillor Geoff Makhubo and Jolidee Matongo, about the progress of Growth Development Strategy of 2040 in the City of Joburg. He answered many questions from the late councillors of the city and surely answered questions from umama Conny Bapela and umama Thandi Boqo, about the work of our city on women emancipation and gender equality. In a typical Mpho style, all questions were answered, honestly, briefly and accurately, giving a true account of the state of our city and of our conversation. I am sure that after answering all these questions Comrade Mpho concluded with the following words, 'mission accomplished'. I've ran my race, I've served my people, I have served my family, I have served my God.

As we say farewell to this colossus that lies peacefully in his everlasting place. We say to him that we know that the grave cannot praise you, that death cannot celebrate you, dearest father and honoured son of Alex, Gomora. To speed your journey to your place of pride amongst the ancestors who guard our fortunes, we the living repeat after the poet, John Donne, "But by all souls not by corruption choked, let in high raised notes that power be invoked, calm the rough seas, by which he sails to rest, from sorrows here, to a kingdom ever blest. And teach his hymn with joy, and sing, The grave no conquest gets; Death hath no sting! And indeed, death has no sting. The living monuments towards Comrade Mpho and his other leaders did, will say everything else that needs to be said. Robala ka khutso Moerane. Lala ngoxolo gxabani lami. We will always miss you, till we meet again, our leader of caucus. Thank you very much, Speaker."

5 MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE BY POLITICAL PARTIES

Councillor Nkokou T (PAC) addressed Council as follows:

"Greetings to you Speaker, Executive Mayor, Councillors present and the residents of the City of Johannesburg, the bereaved family of the late Mpho Moerane. I stand here to offer my condolences to the family of the late Councillor Mpho Moerane, his party, African National Congress, to this Council which we have lost a servant, a cadre and son of the soil. A true son of the soil is the one who is connected to his roots and his people. People always feel that he's one of them. This is how I can describe the late Mpho Moerane, a man who made all of us feel that he is one of us, irrespective of our political differences. My impression of the late Mr Mpho Moerane as a person, was that of a very humble person. I had several meetings with him, including telephonic briefings, and he came across as a rare breed of a leader. On behalf of Pan Africanist Congress of the people of Azania, condolences to the family, friends and the organization that he belongs to. Rest in peace, son of the soil. We will continue serving, as you have shown us. Izwelethu."

Councillor Reddy K (UIM) addressed Council as follows:

"Good morning to the Executive Mayor, Speaker of Council, Chief Whip of Council, the Chair of Chairs, MMC's, fellow councillors and the bereaving families, both Moerane and Nkosi. I stand before you today with mixed emotions. As I have more questions than I have answers. I'm asking why? I'm asking what if? And I'm asking if only. And the list may go on and on and on. You see, whilst I never personally knew Councillor Mpho Moerane, but there was just something about him that represent absolute graciousness. He possessed a magnetic influence, his gentle voice, his humble approach and his tenacity to be heard, whether you wanted to listen or not. Some of the other he got his point across. Something peculiar about him just encapsulated me about this man with his gentle cohesiveness. He got you to see his point and to support his vision. And an absolute true ambassador to the people.

I found him to be an exemplary leader, a man of great stature, and he clearly radiated God through his mannerism and his benevolence. Many a time, I would look across and I found him turning to his Councillors within his caucus and encouraged them to calm down whilst there was a form of disruption. Not because he was afraid of confrontation, but rather because he valued peace more than unnecessary arguments and disruptions. I, for one, must admit that having attended the funeral this past Sunday, I was drenched with tears to hear his sons and his daughters speak, that brought me to a point that I could barely contain myself. And then to listen to the last love note read on behalf of our beloved sister, Fikile Moerane, to her beloved. The one thing it portrayed was the absolute gemstone that Councillor Moerane was. And truly it displayed how deeply embedded their love for each another was and remains.

If I may say one thing to the immediate family, to the family of the ANC and friends and fellow colleagues gathered here today. I want to say that we have lost a genuine person, an admirable friend and amazing leader and a phenomenal role model. But if we can do anything to uphold his impeccable memory and legacy, then let's do this. Let's love God and serve these people because that will inevitably be what our beloved Councillor Moerane would want us all to do. On behalf of the United Independent Movement I would like to take this opportunity in extending our heartfelt condolences to the bereaving families, and I pray that God almighty showers you all with his love, with his grace and with his peace during this time tumultuous time of grief and pain. I would like to end with the following quote, "There isn't enough darkness in all of the earth to put off the light of one little candle." We are called to be the light of this world; let's keep shining. I thank you and Shalom."

Councillor M Arnolds (AIC) addressed Council as follows:

"The AICs tribute to Councillor Mpho Moerane. Presiding Officer, Councillor Vasco da Gama, the mayor of the City of Johannesburg, political party leaders present today. Greetings and condolences to the Moerane and Nkosi families. To the African National Congress in the greater Johannesburg region, to the ANC caucus in the City of Johannesburg, to the residents of the City of Johannesburg, whom Councillor Mpho Moerane loved the most. I stand here with a heavy and conflicted heart. I don't know

whether to cry or to celebrate a life well lived. I've lost since March 2021, my brother. I've lost in July, comrade Geoff Makhubo. I've lost in September, comrade Jolidee Matongo. I've lost my daughter in November, now, a very special friend Mpho Moerane. Mpho would be invited to be a VIP guest, but he decided to be seated amongst the ordinary people. From the little that I know from the Bible, I know that each of us came here as visitors. When the time comes, and we've completed our assignment, we are called into heaven to be with God.

Programme director, allow me to express my experience with comrade Mpho Moerane. From when I met him in 2012 to when he was MMC of EISD till he became the Executive Mayor of Johannesburg, Mpho Moerane's eyes were on accelerated service delivery. When the city experienced a challenge with electricity, he went the extra mile to engage Eskom and City Power with the sole purpose of ensuring that the entire city is lit up, not only the leafy suburbs, whilst also resolving the issue of collecting funds owed to the city. In every issue, he engaged all political parties to put the interest of the people of this city first, just like his predecessors, Geoff Makhubo and Jolidee Matongo. He had a special place for the young people in his heart. He was passionate about helping them achieve their dreams. It is proven in the case of the 130 staff of the City of Johannesburg that was made permanent during the GLU government of which he was part. It is sad that all this has fallen off the table in the current administration and these young people are in court today. He was a man with a vision to have an equal city whether the townships, inner city or the leafy suburbs. Equal service delivery was on his heart.

When he became the leader of the opposition, he continued to serve, though he was in the mayoral seat. Dignity and humility was Mpho Moerane. We couldn't match him the way he always looked good. To him, we were all servants of the people, and we must be about the people. I've lost a friend, a cadre, a noble leader and a mentor, even though he was exactly 10 years younger than me. To his wife, thank you for sharing your husband with us. The last message you sent to me that he treated you like a queen and that's how he spoke about you, his queen. To his mom, you gave birth to an exceptional human being. I don't think we'll find another one like Mpho, they are rare. To his children, carry on with his legacy. I'm certain he'd want you to do that. To his party, the ANC, you are not alone poorer, we have all lost. We thank you for allowing Mpho to lead us as a mayor and as an opposition leader. May you all be comforted by the following words. A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies, it brings us all together, all the time. Rest in peace Mpho, rest in peace my friend. From the African Independent Congress, I thank you, programme director."

Council L Magwentshu (ATM) addressed Council as follows:

"Greetings to the honourable Executive Mayor, Doctor Mpho Phalatse. Greetings to all honorable Councillors. Special greetings to the ANC Councillors and to the Moerane family. I stand here on behalf of the African Transformation Movement to bid farewell to a dedicated and loyal servant of the people. Honourable Moerane was charismatic, his personality and character made him to attract, charm and influence people around him. He had a unique touch of glamour that made him a people's choice. He charmed even those who were opposed to his political ideology. In his political cycle, he was

referred to as a service delivery champion. It is therefore befitting that his memorial service in Council is held on the day of the budget speech, -which is aimed at outlining the multi-party governments commitment to service delivery. To the family, it is written in the book of Philemon, chapter one, verse 15, "For perhaps this is why he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for good."

Councillor Moerane has been separated from you as the Moerane family for a while, so that you might have him for good, in spirit. To the ANC councillors, we know that losing a leader of Councillor Moerane's calibre is not easy at all. UThixo owaziyo. And we trust Him to grant you the wisdom and the strength to carry you through this period. To all Councillors, in honour of this fallen leader, we need to carry the baton of service delivery until a better tomorrow for our residents is achieved. We thank honourable Moerane for his sacrifices, his family, for his life. And the ANC for his deployment to the City of Johannesburg. Phumula ngoxolo Councillor Moerane.

Councillor Ismail-Moosa (Aljama-ah) addressed Council as follows:

"Thank you. Warm greetings to the honourable speaker, the Executive Mayor, the Chief whip, Chair of Chairs, the respected esteemed MMC's as well as chairpersons of the Section 79 committees and respected esteemed Councillors as well as distinguished guests and members of the media present and most importantly, the respected family of the honourable late Councillor Moerane whose family is present today. In the name of Almighty, the most merciful, the most gracious. To the Almighty, we belong and to him we return on behalf of Al Jamaah, please accept our deepest condolences.

Although no words can ease the loss you bear, know you're very closely in our thoughts. May the peace that comes from the memories of your loved one comfort you now and in the days ahead. While it may not feel that way now, your incredible strength will help guide you through your grief as you mourn the loss of your loved one. Saying goodbye to a loved one is never ever easy. May the Almighty give you the peace you seek. We offer you our thoughts as well as wishes during this very difficult time.

We are indeed honoured and blessed to have known our late beloved Councillor Mpho Moerane. He was truly a blessing in our lives, and we will miss him. With fond memories, we will remember our dearly departed, remembering him as a wonderful and gentle soul, he will forever remain in our hearts. With a heavy heart we part with our beloved colleague and dear friend, the late Councillor Mpho Moerane. Mpho Moerane as a Councillor was a gentleman. He knew how to respect and treat people and was a true service delivery champion. May our Lord bless and comfort the near and dear family and friends of the late Councillor Mpho Moerane. It would be difficult to measure the impact he has had on so many people's lives he has touched personally and professionally. Our thoughts are with the family of our beloved late Councillor Mpho Moerane during this difficult time. In sorrow we mourn those that we lost, in gratitude we embrace those around us, in sympathy we reach out to those who grieve.

As I complete my condolences, I leave you a deep reflection. That we will all should ponder over the respect to the right of life and death to cut through all barriers of differences amongst ourselves. Because during our ten years of services, there is no better sweetness than serving mankind to its fullest. To the respected family, stay well, stay strong and continue to serve and live up to our late Councillor Moerane's expectations and aspirations. Love all in unity, and there is no better sweetness than serving mankind. Thank you so much."

Councillor M Mabaso (IFP) addressed Council as follows:

"Thank you very much colleagues. The honourable Speaker of Council, the chairpersons of Section 79 committees, Chair of Chairs, Whip of council, Executive Mayor, MMCs, Leaders and whips of political parties, Moerane and Nkosi family, ANC caucus and Honourable Councillors.

Speaker, with all death that has attacked us in this Council, I ask myself if God is still with us or not. I'm then reminded of the story of Job in the Bible when God gave Satan permission to torment Job. He lost everything but kept his faith to God, even when his wife encouraged him to curse God and to give up and die, Job refused. He resolved to persist in pursuing wisdom by fearing God and avoid evil.

Speaker, God will never desert us and that should give us comfort as Revelation 21 verse 4 says "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or cry or pain for the old order of things has passed away"

I met Comrade Moerane before he joined us here in Council, it was in a meeting between ANC and IFP leadership around 2018 we interacted a lot after that and he proved to be a community activist than being a politician, he made it easy for everyone to engage with him.

When we were both appointed as MMCs, in 2019 we became very close, we shared a lot together with the late Executive Mayor, Jolidee Matongo. We gave the late Executive Mayor Makhubo hard times, we created our corner in the Mayoral Committee. I remember the late Mayor Makhubo calling me saying 'Mabaso your friendship with my comrades is getting out of hand', and few days after that call. I called the Mayor, Makhubo about something I needed his political guidance and he replied by asking why I do not call Moerane or Joli. When I went on to tell them that Geoff Makhubo was refusing to help me saying I should ask both of you and Moerane was the first to respond 'hai uyahlanya loyo.'

I was out of the country during Annual general meeting for entities and I requested Moerane to deliver my speech to welcome JOSHCO board and my party SG was present, and I was not informed about his presence. So, in the speech, I had not recognised the SG and when Moerane read the speech he said, "I greet my SG". Everyone laughed thinking he was reading it from the speech. So later on, they learned that it was not part of the speech, they asked him, and his response was, 'I'm doing it for my friend to save his deployment.

We went out for dinner with him and Jollidee and I arrived driving ix35 and he took the keys looked at me and said MMC Mabaso leaders drives BMWs wena udinga uncedo. He liked addressing me in IsiZulu and he always wanted to speak this deep IsiZulu and he was terrible with it.

With all these memories colleagues, I'm trying to demonstrate how Moerane interacted with people, the love he had for people. Political affiliation did not prohibit him from engaging with other people, he made friends with everyone, he cared for the well-being of everyone. Within a short space of time in government he influenced and touched lives of many people that's the legacy he leaves behind.

The IFP is saddened by his untimely departure and we wish to send our heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and his political home as we are all going through this difficult time, which I believe in earnestly that 'it came to pass'. Times like these must trigger Gods purpose for our existence in this world, which is to serve him through his people of Johannesburg who are looking up to us to change their lives for better. The passing of our colleague must strengthen us and make us want to do more for our people.

May the soul of Councillor Mpho Moerane rest in peace and may his family be comforted by the words found in the book of Romans, that (If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord.) Thank you."

Councillor Sauls I addressed Council as follows:

"Thank you so much. To the Executive Mayor, to the Speaker, to the Chair of Chairs, Whip of Council, the Chairpersons specifically knowing that Councillor Mpho Moerane was also the cousin of Chair Ngobeni. To my fellow MMC's, greetings and to the Moerane family, on behalf of the Patriotic Alliance, on behalf of our President, His Excellency, Gayton McKenzie, our Deputy President, the honourable Kenny Kunene and every single patriot within this country. We want to express our deepest and sincerest condolences to you. I have not really been very close with the former mayor, Councillor Moerane. Our engagements was much more on the political level. But I've come to know that his name means gift. And at the memorial service, I learned that his favourite song was 'Jesus is love'. And so I considered what I would say, and I want to reassure the family that your son, your husband, your father, was an example of the gift of love. So, we know that Mpho means the gift, but what is love? And oftentimes we mistake being religious as being loving. But I've come to understand that religion is a noble human attempt to explain God, but God cannot be explained. God can only be experienced because scripture says that God is love, not God has love. God is love. And so, when you love, you are literally giving God to someone. So, when you say I love you, you say, I God you and I think this is what I've experienced with my engagement with Councillor Moerane. He loved the city that he understood that when it comes to service, it doesn't matter which political party you come from. On the 30th of August 2021, whilst he was still the MMC, I had an issue that I was complaining about around electricity and water at the Newclare flats and I WhatsApped him. He

didn't know me personally, but he responded, and he didn't respond because he knows me politically, he responded because he loved the city.

When I met him face to face here in the chamber's, no matter our robust engagements or our political differences, but outside in the foyer, he would greet, he would hug, he would shake hands, because he was an expression of love. And that is how you give God to people. And so, if God is love and we know that Mpho means gift, he's the gift of love. But if love is God, I want to let the family know, your father, your son, your brother is Mpho of God. I thank you.

Councillor Boer (Freedom Front Plus) addressed Council as follows:

"Thank you. Honourable Speaker, Executive Mayor, fellow Councillors, Good morning to all of you. Especially to the Moerane family. On behalf of the Freedom Front, I want to express our sincere condolences. To the loss of your son, your brother, your husband. And we pray to you that the Lord will bless you, that the Lord will comfort you in those difficult time. That's understandable time for us. Your son, your husband was taken away so sudden, so unexpected. And it was a shock to all of us when we heard that Mpho Moerane was in a car accident. And I remember that we were in a committee meeting and the question was asked, what have we done? Why, again, for the third time, we've lost the Councillor. We've lost officials. We've lost security people; we've lost employees in Council. The new term is only six months old and so many people that passed away and on the WhatsApp group earlier this week there was a question asked when we heard that Mpho had passed away. Lord, what have we done? And I want to spend a minute or so to see if we can't see the answer from the word of God, because what have we done? Let me read in the first chapter of the Word of God in Genesis. Genesis 2 verse 17. Then the Lord says to Adam in Paradise but of the tree of knowledge of good or evil, thou shall not eat or, for the day that you eat from there, you shall surely die. And that is what the Lord said in Genesis. And then we read in the New Testament where the Apostle Paul tells the Corinthians in 2Corinthians 5:10, for we all must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, and then Paul continues to the Romans and says to them in Chapter 6 23 for the wages of sin is death. And that is why those things do happen to us. The wages of sin and wages is something that we earn, something that we deserve and that is why there is death in the world because we have sinned against the Lord. And the Councillors were asking Lord, what have we done, and I want to bring this back to our Councillors because Councillors are a special group of people. Yes, we are special. Why are we special? Because we are elected by the people of Johannesburg. Yes, that makes us special.

But even more so, we are special in the eyes of the Lord because we are not elected by the people alone. We are also ordained by God to be here, because Paul also tells us in Romans 13:1, for there is no power but of God and the power that be are ordained of God. So, we are as Councillors representing the Lord in the City of Johannesburg and because we are representing the Lord, we have to do what the Lord asks from us, and what does the Lord ask from us? And we read that in Luke 10:27. And the Lord asked from us, thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy

soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind and thy neighbour as thyself. And this is what the Lord asked from all of us. And then we have to ask us that what have we done? Did we obey the Lord? And why are all those things coming over to us? And if I would stop here, it would have been a miserable speech. I would have had no hope for you, but I want to turn back to the family of Moerane.

Yes mother Moerane, when you gave birth to Mpho, you really received a great gift from the Lord. And that is why you called him Mpho. And in the Lord's wisdom he took your son away. He took your brother away. He took your husband away. And what do we read further with? Apostle Paul says in Romans 6:23, for the wages of sin is death and that is what we deserve. We earn that we earned those wages, but it carries on. And he says that the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. And we pray that although the Lord in his wisdom took your gift, your son away, your husband away, that the Lord will give you the gift of eternal life and to the Councillors to close off, we pray for you as well, that we will acknowledge what the Lord wants from us and that we also experience the gift of God being eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. I thank you."

Councillor Sithole (ACDP) addressed Council as follows:

"Thank you Speaker, you have made my life easy today and God bless you. To the speaker of the City of Johannesburg. Councilor Vasco da Gama, to the Whip of the Council, Councillor Meyers, to the Mayor of the City of Johannesburg. Councillor Mpho Phalatse. As well as to the Deputy Speaker of the City of Johannesburg, Councillor Colleen Makhubele, that is what I call her. To Moerane's family and to all our fellow Councillors. I greet you all in the name of Jesus. As the ACDP, I'm standing here today grieving, with the hope that the Lord Jesus always gives to us through the scriptures. One thing I have realized Speaker, that life, or something that I've realized about life Speaker, is that life has no friend. Life sometimes is not good. As much as other people say that life is good in short, LG. But life was never good. And death has no timing. As we live, I always say that we are writing a book and that book we are writing it in our daily life. The Bible tells me in the book of Hebrews, that there is a cloud of witnesses that are writing down everything that we are doing whether good or bad. Someone is writing what we are doing and the question that I have today with all of us in the House is, after we have gone, what the people will read about us as we are writing the book? How many people will be rushing to buy your book and to read about you when you're gone? That is a question that I'm always asking myself. That when I'm no more with you in this chamber, what will you say? I always say these words to my family, I don't like people to speak good of me when I'm gone. I want them to speak good when I'm still alive because I can hear them. That's why today I'm standing here to their family. And you see, I'm no longer speaking to Mpho Moerane, that is gone. But I'm speaking to you who still alive. And the following is what I have to say to you today. That our beloved brother has gone, and he has done all that he could do. What is left now for us is for us to run our own race with the hope that we'll be doing good every day. The Bible reminds me the scripture in the Book of Romans, chapter one, verse 20, and says, I like the last part when it says, "So that men are without excuse." This tells us that there is no one amongst us that are in this chamber

or those that are not here and those that are watching through the screens that will have excuse of not serving God or serving the people of God in this planet Earth because we are all given time and opportunities to explore that, so that men are without excuse.

The book of First Thessalonians Chapter 4:13 tells us a very good script that I always read, and it says in verse 13, "But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him." Mpho Moerane, that is today sleeping, to life again. Many are asking when that will happen. It can happen today. Because God is not concerning of time, but people do. May the grace of God console all of you, especially to the family. As well as to the caucus of the ANC. I knew Councillor Mpho Moerane before I even came to this chamber, I remember him. He was the first man calling me honourable Councillor. When we were still negotiating that if the ANC become the leader of this Council, what will be there for ACDP? He asked us, what do you want as ACDP? And as a leader of that delegation, I simply answered to him and said, "Service delivery to the people." I didn't even know that you people are calling him a champion of service delivery. I never knew. But indeed, he was championing that. I like what he said at the end. Even though we are not going to be in governance, there is that possibility. But please for those that you'll be working with you make sure that people get service delivery. I thank you Speaker. On behalf of the ACDP, this all that we have to say today and don't forget, as you live, you are writing the book. God bless you all. Amen."

Councillor M Mphahlele (EFF) addressed Council as follows:

"Morning to the Moerane family. Salutation are in order to the Chairperson and leader of the caucus of the mighty Economic Freedom Fighters, Councillor Sepetlele Raseruthe in absentia, Executive Mayor, Speaker of Council, Acting Secretary to Council, Acting City Manager, Councillors who are present today.

A very special and warm greetings to Mrs Moerane, and to her kids and the entire family of the late Moerane. We won't recognize this morning as a usual good morning, cause it's a shocking morning that we are standing here talking about Comrade Mpho Moerane in the past tense. It is unbelievable but as the Economic Freedom Fighters we would like to send our regards and Condolences to the Moerane's family this morning!

As the Economic Emancipation Movement, the Mighty EFF, we are standing here and as the Council of Johannesburg to bid farewell to one of our own who has left us too soon to be true, it's hard for our minds to come reconcile with this fact but our hearts have to accept that Comrade Mpho Moerane will never be with us physically in this chambers again!

It's with a heavy heart that I remember the last time we spoke, he was sitting right here and I told him that we can't let this other party fire our African employees without a reason and nothing happens, we need to take radical actions and collapse this Council if need be, cause here we are talking about the livelihood of our people, and he responded by saying, "On what grounds will we be having that protest? What

legislation will support us in doing so?", and I told him that this other party is totally unreasonable, and we can't reason with unreasonable people! But from our small conversation you could tell that Comrade Mpho Moerane was a person who follow orders and reason, he was an orderly individual even in his walk. He was one of the best Councillor this August House ever had. Whether you are an opposition or not he had that self-respect and presence and openness that is felt by those around him!

Comrade Mpho Moerane inspired a lot of young people, he was a living icon from a dusty township called Alexandra where poverty is from. He proved that you could be from Alexandra, Diepsloot or any forgotten place but still make it as a Mayor of the richest City in Africa, the City of Johannesburg!

He inspired generations that you can be born in a squatter camp like Alexandra but through hard work and dedication you can reach the stars, that you don't have to let your background determine your destiny, that you don't have to engage in crime and drugs cause you are from a squatter camp. But you can work with your community to improve the lives of the very same community!

As I am from Alexandra myself, we have lost a beacon of hope in Alex, we have lost a mentor, a proper politician who knows the history and background of politics, we have lost an individual who have put Alex on the map and reminded people from Alexandra that this squatter camp is the mother of all townships from Soweto to Tembisa! We are proud to have had you in our lives, there are a lot of things we wished we have said to you, we never knew that you would be gone this soon!

The lesson we take from all of this tragedy is that life is fragile, time is too short, and we have to do all in our powers to make the best of our time to eradicate poverty, turn squatter camps into suburbs, and as Economic Freedom Fighters we are committed that we will expropriate Frenkenwald land as that EFF motion is already passed and adopted in this Council and make Alexandra a place that you wouldn't look down upon but you would be proud of. We would continue with this baton. After we have successfully expropriated this land, we would name one of the street with your name so that for generations to come they may know that, there was once a comrade called Mpho Moerane who became the Mayor of the City of Johannesburg from the dusty streets of Alexandra!

To all the Moerane's family we would like to tell you that EFF will always be here for you cause your husband, your brother, your father, comrade Mpho Moerane was one of the Comrades whom was respected and we will never forsake you, just call on us when you need anything!

We wish you peace, comfort, courage, and lots of love in your time of sorrow. Our hearts go out to you at this difficult time following the untimely passing of our dear colleague who was also the leader of the ANC caucus in Johannesburg. Councillor Moerane was a cut from a different cloth. A completely different person when compared to his comrades who he led here in Council. I am referring to a cool, calm, and collected being who respected diverse opinions which were at times unfavorable

towards his political party. He truly respected human beings. Councillor Moerane will be remembered for his astute political acumen, gentleness and being a cooperative and tolerant political opponent in Council who stood out from a whole lot. May the soul of Comrade Mpho Moerane rest in peace on this African Day."

Councillor L Ngobeni (ActionSA) addressed Council as follows:

"Mr Speaker, Cllr Vasco Da Gama, The Executive Mayor, Cllr Mpho Phalatse, Chair of Chairs, Cllr Colleen Makhubele, Chief Whip of Council, Cllr Tyrell Meyers, MMCs, Chairpersons of Committees, Fellow Councillors, particularly the bereaved ANC Caucus, residents of the City of Johannesburg, all protocols observed.

Most importantly, I greet our honoured guests here this morning, the family of our dearly departed fellow Councillor and former Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg, Cllr Mpho Moerane, who are also my family.

Rakgadi Matshediso, Mpho's mom, MaNkosi, Aus Fikile Moerane, Mpho's wife, Aus Gladys, Mpho's sister Lerato, Neo, Tshepo and Kutloano, Mpho's beloved children, it is an honour for me to pay this tribute to Mpho this morning. Rakgadi, I do so in this instance representing my political party, ActionSA, here in this house but more importantly as motswala wa Mpho.

My earliest memory when him and I became closely acquainted was when I had gone grocery shopping in Sandton for Papa and as I was walking towards the taxi rank. I met Mpho at the parking lot by the library where he had parked his car. We were delighted to see each other, and he offered me a lift back because we lived diagonally opposite one another ko Eastbank, in Alex. Mpho had bought his Mom rakgadi Tshidi that house while he was still working in the private sector, a house that used to belong to the late Aus Kleintjie, my best friend Nonku Hlongwa's mom.

I had just known Mpho as the handsome son of our neighbour who seemed to have a lot going for him. Even then one could tell that this was someone on a mission to achieve success. But I didn't expect what followed Mpho dropping me off at home that day. I found Papa busy cooking, but he opened the door for me as he saw me getting out of a car with a man helping me to the gate with groceries. Mpho greeted Papa from the gate and proceeded to leave. When I got into the house, Papa asked: "Who is that dropping you off?". I replied: "Hawu Papa ha wa mmona? Ke Mpho wa Mama Tshidi ko opposite." Papa turned around and said oh, you mean your rakhali Tshidi? And I said, "what?! What do you mean rakgadi Tshidi?", and he said, "nna le Tshidi re batswala." I didn't wait for my dad to finish. I scooted out the door and ran to mama Tshidi's house to confront them both. I found Mpho still outside by the car, and I belted: "Did you know we were cousins?" And he said, "yes, I did!", I was so furious that all of them thought I would somehow know this information.

To cut a long story short, Mpho and I became very close from there. He would share some of his plans with me, and I would visit their house often. My fondest memory in that house was experiencing the love rakhadi had for Mpho and by that time and most important to rakgadi was looking after Lerato. She would always say, "Lerato is such a special child."

I have always remembered her words. It didn't surprise me to find Lerato still by rakgadi's side when I went to visit recently even as the young man he is now.

It's funny how when one is oblivious to having relations with someone, the other person looks like everyone else, but as soon as you're told, "Hey did you know those people are related?", you begin to see the resemblance. There is an old photograph I took of Papa and Mpho outside rakgadi's house, when Mpho was still a skinny guy like Papa, they looked just like father and son.

Life took on from there until we were reunited again here in this House. It was like we kept up with each other throughout the years. We simply picked up from where we left off, except both having moved out of our previous homes and married with children.

A few hours before the accident, Mpho called me and said, "Hey Cuz. I am so sorry man for having missed a couple of the S79 Committee meetings. You know, I was the MMC so I know this stuff, I hope my Whip has been sending my letters of absence but I promise I will attend the next one...Eish I am running around like a headless chicken trying to make sure I don't leave any balls in the air." Don't worry Abuti, I said, Councillor Makamo has been sending your apologies, it's cool, just make sure you attend the next one, I said. "Kea o rata neh? Keep up the good work, see you soon for a glass of wine." Thanks, Abuti, I will, lenna ke a o rata, o dumedise rakgadi, as I always reminded him. Little did I know, that would be the last time I would speak to Mpho until the news of his accident. The rest is now history. I just remember praying that he would make it, despite the conflicting stories that were doing the rounds.

We've all heard narrations during the memorial and the funeral about how Mpho wholeheartedly gave himself to his family and his wider community; how he loved his mother; his wife and his children. How he loved Alexandra and its people; and even though he was no longer living there, he never left them behind.

I was proud to see Mpho announced as the Executive Mayor of Johannesburg, albeit following the loss of his colleague and friend, former Executive Mayor Jolidee Matongo. But Mpho's commitment to his movement, the African National Congress, and to serving the people of Johannesburg would not be deterred.

As I was leaving the memorial service, I gave a lift to an elderly member of the ANC Women's League who I could see was struggling to walk using her cane trying to get out of the traffic leaving the service. I proceeded to offer her a lift home and all the way she recounted the times Mpho gave back. She told me that even though she struggles to walk, there was no way she would miss Mpho's send off.

Rakgadi; Aus Fikile; family, please accept ActionSA Caucus' most sincere condolences and my own personally. I want to emphasize that despite our political differences, Mpho would always reach across the aisle and was never offish with anyone, even his opposition. We all witnessed how graciously he congratulated Councillor Mpho Phalatse upon winning the Mayoral Election.

This Chamber feels really strange without him here! Especially his ever-present contagious smile.

In politics people often borrow from Ayi Kweh Armah's words, "That the beautiful ones are not yet born, but I say, the beautiful ones have been born, they just go way too young."

Le lahlehetswe; re lahlehetswe, but we are blessed to have witnessed his life's work unfold before our eyes. What a great son you raised rakgadi. May the Spirit of the Lord keep you all in his embrace and give you comfort. As the Lord is close to the broken hearted and saves those crushed in spirit.

Good night. Robala ka Kgotso Cuz! Ke a Leboha"

Councillor B Moloisane (DA) addressed Council as follows:

"Heaven, hear me now I'm lost without you. Se wele sethlare sa Moerane. Se wele ka midi ya sona.

Good morning Speaker of Council; Good Morning, Executive Mayor and fellow Councillors. The family, the Nkosi family and the Moerane family. This morning I stand here before you to pay tribute to a gentle giant. A man I called a friend. The boy from Alex, who grew up in and rose to be the Executive Mayor of the Golden City.

Speaker, allow me to address nate Moerane directly. I do not do that out of disrespect, but I do it because I want to address the man I knew, the man I called a friend.

Skeem, your death left many of us as orphans. Many people may not understand what I mean but Mpho was a father to many of us. Regardless of what political differences, he would randomly call me and say I have not spoken to you in a while, I hope the residents of your ward are treating you well and if anyone gives you a problem, let me know, I'll deal with them. I remember I called him after my first public meeting, after being elected as a ward Councillor and I said to him, "Skeem, it seems like the comrades are going to be a headache for me", and he said to me, "Who are the problems? Give me the names. I'll call them and tell them to back off. You are there to serve the residents. You are not there to serve a political agenda." That was Mpho for you. A genuine man who the people that he connected with, he would continuously check up on them.

Mpho, these chambers are so lonely without you, your smile, your brightness, AKA Yellow Bone, we will never see you again, but you will always remain in our hearts. There is a special place for you in many of our hearts. Your love for people is what encourages many of us to stay in politics.

When I first met Mpho, the City of Joburg used to have what we used to call the youth desks. And former Councillor Phumzile Sithole was one of those who were the coordinators for the youth desk. I then got elected as the Deputy Secretary for ward 73 for the Youth desk. We were invited to Alex San Kopano to address the matric pass rate of Minerva High School and Realogile.

He was there, he sat with us and we spoke after the meeting. We had a chat and he asked me, "What do you want to do? Because it seems like your passion is in the right place. But you need some sort of mentoring and guidance." We parted ways. We lost contact and we met again in these chambers and when we met, we looked at each other and I said to him, "Where do I know you from?" And he said, "I'm asking myself the same question." And from there, we proceeded to become good friends, we reunited. We would have wine sessions. One thing I really appreciated about him is that during our wine sessions, we never had political discussions and I'd always say to him, "One of the things that I really, really value about you is that you have a passion to mentor young people and you want young people to stand up on their own. You don't tell young people, or you don't try and recruit young people to the African National Congress. You want young people to be independent."

You know, this morning I woke up and I looked at the stars that remained in the sky. The first thing I said was say, "Good morning, morning star." Because now comrade Mpho you are a morning star. You've went high up in the milky way; you now look down upon us as your children. You continue to protect us. In you we've gained an Angel, a true Angel, that will always protect us. I want to thank you for the love that you've always shown to the people of the City of Joburg, your friends, your family.

Thank you to Koko Tshidi; Aus Fikile and the children; the Nkosi family; the Moerane family, for allowing your son; your husband; your father, and the friend to us to show us the love that you continue to show us. In honour of Councillor Mpho Moerane. Let us go back to the basics. Let us get the basics right. Let us continue to serve our communities. In honour of his memory, it'll be befitting that this Council at some point look at erecting a wall of remembrance in honour of all the Councillors that have fallen in the City of Joburg.

As I say, my final goodbye. Ntumelle motswale waka, ke go bitse ka seane sa geno. Wena tlou, wena tlou tau e tonna. Robala ka kgotso Tlou ya ga Moerane. Difela tsa sione, Hymm 268, re fa [vernacular]. Morena waka, e ba le rona ka nako tsohle, a thato ya gago e phetege.

Ntate Moerane robala ka kgotso. Condolences to the family. Kea leboga."

The Speaker addressed Council as follows:

"God called your name Councillor Mpho Moerane. He called it so gently that only you could hear. No one heard the footsteps of the Angel drawing near. Softly from the shadows, there came a gentle call, and you closed your eyes and went to sleep quietly left us all. Councillor Makhuba, can I ask for a song please.

On 22 November 2021, Councillor Mpho Moerane, was inaugurated to serve in this Council. He represented the ANC as a PR Councillor. He took an oath and was allocated that seat and his name was displayed digitally at all times whenever he attended Council meetings.

On the 18 May 2022, he passed on and today during our Special Council Meeting, we observed a moment of silence and honoured his name. Chaplain Reverend Govender, wrapped his desk screen with the Council flag, as you can see. Today Councillor Moerane's seat in this chamber is draped with a black cloth, symbolising that he will never sit on it again.

Today, this Special Council Meeting is not only being held to give all the Political Parties an opportunity to present their messages of condolences and celebrate the period Councillor Moerane has spent in the City of Johannesburg, participating in robust debates and sound Council decisions. This Special Council Meeting is also being held to officially remove Councillor Moerane's name in this chamber. A ritual known in Sepedi or Setswana as "ho tlhoboga". Chaplain Govender will now remove the flag and place it on this podium with our Code of Arms. Thank you, Chaplain."

Chaplain Reverend Govender addressed Council as follows:

"Speaker of Council, Councillor da Gama; Honorable Executive Mayor, Councillor Mpho Phalatse; Chief Whip, Councillor Meyers; Chair of Chairs; MMC Public safety and fellow MMC's; Councillors, the Moerane and Nkosi family, and all who mourn the passing away of our late Councillor Mpho Moerane, the leader of the ANC caucus; former Mayor. I greet you in the precious and peaceful name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

The name Moerane has blessed our country. I think of my days in the Police Service as a Chaplain, their fellow chaplain, Moerane, the clergy as well. And so, I turn our attention to the great Psalm, a Psalm of David the shepherd, known to be a man after God's own heart. Psalms 23. And I trust that it will bring a solace in this time of grief and heartache. "The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside quiet waters. He restores my soul. He guides me in the paths of righteousness for his namesake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death. I will fear no evil. For thou art with me. Thy Lord thy staff. They comfort me. Thou dost prepare a table before me, in the presence of my enemies. Thou hast anointed my head with oil. My cup overflows. Surely goodness and loving kindness will follow me all the days of my life. And I will dwell in the House of the Lord forever."

We thank God for the reading of his precious word. Death has struck a painful blow. Heartache has expounded its' impact and life has become an overwhelming turmoil. No one plans for the effects of death. The passing on of the former Executive mayor has brought pangs of sorrow and all seems to be at its lowest ebb. But there is comfort and encouragement to be gained for the soul that seeks a greater purpose in life, as we have been reminded in the various tributes. A man after service delivery.

The Psalm has been a source of strength for many such souls. It expounds a bountiful shepherd unlike any other. The shepherd became the sheep. David the shepherd becomes a sheep, humbling himself to be a follower because in the face of death there was great comfort in turning to a bountiful greater shepherd. That Great Shepherd

himself became a sheep. Like a lamb led to the slaughter we read in Isaiah 53. He succumbed to the to the death of a sinner so that he could carry away the sins of the world. And then to conquer death. He rose again and gave meaning to his words. To the Lazarus family. In John 11:25, he says, "I am the resurrection and the life, anyone who believes in me will live even after dying." I've heard it said that darkness has taken over. But let me let me remind you, darkness is actually the absence of light. Darkness itself has no power and the longer you shine your light in service of the city.

The longer we shine our lights in service of our state, darkness will not be there. Not only does it expound the Psalm. The Psalm also extols peace, provision, protection and providence. This world and life cannot hold me here, there is a greater gain in the next life, which is eternal. And because I believe in this bountiful, great shepherd, this eternal life will be the fulfilment of peace, provision and protection and providence in my life. Not just here on earth, but through eternity. The Psalm also extends safe passage from this life to the next. Even when facing death, which brings fear, it gives assurance of this eternal hope, the Psalm says surely, meaning truly, meaning without a doubt, all of my life they will be goodness and a dwelling place with my great shepherd. Max Lucado describes death, you probably have heard me say this. He says if you want to understand death, don't look at the black dress, the black hearse, the depressing casket, the daunting grave, he says look at the maternity ward for in there is expectancy of new life of joy and hope. That is what God sees when he sees death.

When we all see death, he sees a soul returning to him for eternal abode and eternal rest. That is, if hope was placed in this great shepherd, this great saviour, the greatest shepherd, the bountiful providing, protecting shepherd. I pray that we all will be hoping in him today. May his Holy Spirit breathe comfort into our hearts and bear our pain. If the Great Shepherd is leading you then joy comes in the morning. As I bring this to a closure, I'm also reminded of the words of Max Lucado regarding death. We all came into this beautiful sanctuary that directs the affairs of our city. We came through a door. If that door was not opened, we would not have been able to come in here and shortly I'll be taking my exit. And if a door is not opened. I would not be able to exit and proceed to the next commitment. And Max Lucado describes death further on as such. If death is the door, the only door that ushers from this life into the next, is it bad? It's a door that you and I will one day face. It is with this faith that we mourn today but we grieve with hope. If the Lord is our shepherd because he became the Lamb of God in our place. May this hope be yours in this hour of grief."

6 COMMENTS BY FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES

The family member addressed Council as follows:

'Thank you very much. Let me take this opportunity to greet and honour the Speaker of Council, to greet and honour the honourable Executive Mayor, to the Mayoral Committee, to the honourable Councillors that are in this place, at the Chamber. Greetings also to the former Speaker of the Council Sedibeng District and former MEC of Sports in Gauteng, comrade Nelisiwe Moerane who is at the gallery. In absentia, let me honour and greet my father, Reverend Gift Moerane; friends and colleagues; to the Moerane and Nkosi families this morning I want to send my warmest greetings.

We honour the Lord today for His son Jesus Christ for all that he has done. We also give honour this morning for one of the most profound; consistent man and a leader; a reformer; my brother, the late Mpho Moerane.

A lot of this, ladies and gentlemen, would not be possible if Mpho did not have a private strength outside what he did. So, I would like for you all to join me and join your hands together in the honour of the woman in the name Mrs Fikile Moerane. Can we please come together and clap hands for Mrs Fikile Moerane. We want to honour her- as a family, for staying by my brother's side, for encouraging him to do the great work that he did.

I would also like to speak to the Executive Mayor, Dr Phalatse. I heard you clearly on Sunday. And I want to say to you and the Council and the fellow Councillors that, when the battle intensifies from every angle you need to keep strength, you need to keep the faith and you need to keep on praying. Let this storm not deter you in action. Do not lose heart, don't get weary. Apostle Paul says in the book of Galatians, "If we do not give up, no matter the circumstances, we shall reap a harvest if we do not faint." So, I urge you to walk tall and lead this city as you have been chosen to lead it at this time. The people of the City of Johannesburg need leadership and it is important that we are able to carry on in spite of the storm.

To the great ANC that has lost a giant, I say to you, do not sleep with a wound because the wound must heal. You are going to have to follow the route which your leaders initiated, from Mr Geoff, thereafter Mr Jolidee, to now Mr Mpho. You have a responsibility to take the baton and carry on with their mission, the nation is waiting. In the midst of the pain, we must carry on. We must not get discouraged. We must not give up. There is still work to be done. Take your shields, take your spears, a journey awaits us. We must stand on our feet and support each other. When circumstances do not allow us to go on, we stand up and continue the journey.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude: Thank you to the brothers and sisters who supported us. Thank you, Comrades: Moses More, Mike Maile, Lucky Silemela, Frith Silolo, Keith Khoza, Paul Mashatile, and Premier David Makhura, for the leadership they have shown us as a family in our time of loss. I want to say to you, may the God of peace bless you for the support you gave us as the Moerane family, may God bless you thousands times over, thousand folds, let it be your portion.

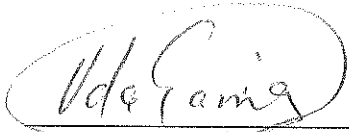
To Ms Phalatse and her committee and Councilors; I would like to say that there is something that we call 'a staying blessing'. A 'staying blessing' is a blessing that we saw when Joseph left prison, for the palace. We call it a blessing that is stationary, and it is a blessing that Satan is fighting against you for. We have lost a loved one today, may God protect you on the work that you are ordained to perform, so that no one will downgrade you and all your efforts. Let no one take you away from God's purpose, the nation is waiting, and the time is still right. Stand on your feet and fight. The Moerane and Nkosi family say thank you for all you have done. May the God of peace bless you."

7 ANNOUNCEMENTS

The speaker reminded Councillors of the Ordinary Council meeting that would be convened immediately after the Special Council meeting.

8 CLOSURE

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 11:52.



SPEAKER OF COUNCIL
CLLR VASCO DA GAMA

27/07/2022.
DATE