



MINUTES OF THE 26TH EXTRA-ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF JOHANNESBURG MUNICIPALITY HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 22 MAY 2024, AT THE CONSTANCE CONNIE BAPELA COUNCIL CHAMBER, BRAAMFONTEIN AT 14:00.

**SPEAKER OF COUNCIL
CLLR M ARNOLDS**

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MEMBERS PRESENT

The Speaker: Councillor M S Arnolds

The Executive Mayor: Councillor K Gwamanda

Abdool, F
Amad, T
Atterbury, E
Avant-Smith, C
Baloyi, D L
Bini, L
Boer, C
Bolani, M G
Buthelezi, T C
Chauke, K L
Chetsanga, H
Chuma, A T
Coutriers, M J
Coverdale, D L T
Dammie, B H
Davids-Green, L C
De Lange, F C
Dladla, D
Dlamini, B
Doyle, T
Durand, G V M
Edward, N
Francisco, D B
Fresling, R R
Galeshewe, T M
Gantsho, L
Harris, R
Hlatshwayo, S M
Huggett, E A
Ismail-Moosa, I
Johnson, N
Kaldine, J
Khanyile, N M
Khumalo, X I
Komane, S A
Kwapeng, C
Lebatlang, T Z
Lebea, M G
Lefutso, L
Leitch, A N
Leshilo, R S
Liebenberg, E
Lobi, M
Maake, M J
Mabaso, M P
Mabelebele, S S
Mabuke, T A
Mabunda, T E
Mabuza, S K L
Machaba, L M U
Machethe, S
Madiba, T J
Magwaza, B L P
Magwentshu, L C
Majola, S
Makamo, S S
Makhafola, E
Makhuba, H N
Maluleka, T
Manganyi, D B
Mangena, T D
Marema, V A
Marumo, T
Mashala, K
Mashinini, S
Masoga, L M
Masuku, L
Maswazi, R
Matabane, O
Mathe, G
Mathe, Z E
Mavhona, L S
Mazibuko, N
Mazibukwana, M
Mchunu, A
Mgaga, B
Mgcina, S E
Mhlari, T M
Mhlongo, T A
Mkasi, G
Mkhize, T
Mkhonto, M S
Mmbengwa, M N
Mmota, L
Mngadi, W B
Mnisi, N D
Mnyameni, M
Moatshe, K
Modladlaba, D S
Modukanene, L C

Modupi, D N	Nhlapo, C P
Moepi, N J D	Nkokou, T P
Moeti, O T	Nkomo, E T
Mofokeng, J	Nkonyeni, S P
Mofokeng, M P	Nkosi, R A L
Mogapi, T A	Nkubungu, L
Mohlala, C	Nofemela, N
Mohlala, P K	Nonkumbi, I M
Mokoari, Z	Ntoele, N L
Mokoena, G	Ntombela, M J
Mokoena, P	Ntshidi, T E
Mokoka, M L	Nyembe, M M
Mokome, J M	Nyembe, Z P
Mokwena, T M	Nzimande, C
Molala, S M	Pelzer, R
Molefe, B J	Phometsi, P S
Molefe, E W	Ponsonby, D A
Molefe, M	Radebe, N P
Molefe, S B	Radebe, T T
Molise, L D	Raholane, M W
More, E	Rakosa, P M
Morero, S E	Ramafikeng, D J
Mosehla, K J	Raphadu, A T
Mothopi, O Z	Raseruthe, S H
Mphaho, M A	Rohlssen, C K
Mphahlele, M	Santana, C G
Mpolobosho, M M	Seerane, M K
Mposula, T	Sekwaila, B J
Mpotulo, G S	Sesedinyane, M I
Mthembu, M N	Shange, P A
Mulelu, M	Shumba, K A
Munyayi, V E	Sifumba, N
Mutavhatsindi, N T	Simelane, P
Nair, R K	Simelane, S O
Ndlela, M C	Simonse, L C
Ndou, N L	Sindani, F P
Ndou, P	Smit, P A
Ndou, P	Supe, N P
Ndzondo, C M	Tabane, M C
Nefdt, P W	Tambani, P S
Nenemba, T	Tefu, P V
Nethamba, R	Telekoa, A T
Ngema, S V	Tshwaku, M
Ngobeni, L M	Tshedo, J G
Ngoepe, C S	Tshehlo, G J
Nguse, S	Tsotetsi, L Y M
Ngwenya, F N	Twala, Y A
Ngwenya, J A	Van Wyk, W M
Ngwetsheni, M M	Wilskut, D

Xuma, L
Zazini, A
Zitha, S L

Zondo, L T
Zungu, N G
Zwane, S

1 OPENING

The Speaker welcomed the Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg – Councillor Kabelo Gwamanda, Whip of Council – Councillor Godslove Zungu, all political party leaders and whips, Members of the Mayoral Committee, Chairpersons of the Section 79 Committees, fellow Councillors, City Manager – Mr Floyd Brink, Acting Secretary to Council – Mr Andile Gobinca, officials of the City of Johannesburg, residents of the City of Johannesburg, members of the media, ladies and gentlemen to the 26th Extra-Ordinary Council Meeting of the City of Johannesburg Municipality to reconsider the Budget reports after Council failed to approve them on Wednesday, 15 May 2024. A special welcome was extended to Councillor J Ngwenya upon his return.

The Speaker asked for a 30-minute break for the Council Whip to gather all whips and bring Councillors in from outside, as two groups caused. Thereafter, Legal would confirm the number of Councillors present to determine quorum.

She confirmed that 154 Councillors have signed the register, which means there is a quorum, and the meeting will continue. However, she also noted that some Councillors were still signing the register.

Councillor Lebatlang (ActionSA) stated that the Executive Mayor needed to address a group of employees outside the Council precinct.

Councillor Mosehla (EFF) said that the group of people outside had been addressed and were fine; they will be met after the meeting.

The Executive Mayor acknowledged the Speaker, the Whip of Council, Members of the Mayoral Committee, the head of administration, party leaders, fellow Councillors present, residents of the City of Johannesburg, and members of media.

He stated that the two groups outside the Chamber needed to be separated. He said that the City of Johannesburg has demonstrated over the past couple of weeks what it would mean to be led by the ActionSA.

He said it needed to be corrected so that Councillors in the House would be mobilized to get the City back in its current state. He further mentioned that they have witnessed Councillors wearing their party regalia, addressing the media, and obstructing the interventions the City was trying to put in place in various depots. He stated that he had not yet addressed the two groups outside, but if ActionSA wanted him to address their members, they should call their programs and formally invite him.

He indicated that he understands the season's sensitivity and today's significance. He added that some political parties have no expression without mentioning the City of Johannesburg.

He laid a formal complaint against ActionSA, stating that there was a trail from his office that ActionSA members who were outside, led by their provincial leader, were overturning rubbish bins.

He stated that the issues of casual workers and Pikitup are serious matters. To demonstrate the Office of the Executive Mayor's commitment, they held a meeting on 24 May 2024 with representatives from all the depots to begin engaging in their grievances. He emphasized that if they have already engaged with members from all their depots, then ActionSA must inform them of who is currently outside.

He said that politicians cannot allow themselves to be painted with the same brush as those who seek to exploit the people's discomfort, challenges, and hardships to promote themselves.

He registered with the House that he was lodging a formal complaint against ActionSA regarding the current condition of the city. He indicated that he would provide the Speaker of Council with the meeting minutes, the attendees, and the resolutions made. He concluded by stating that he disagreed with addressing the ActionSA membership.

Councillor Mthembu (ActionSA) summarized that, in essence, the Executive Mayor is refusing to address the Pikitup workers, cleaners, and security guards who were outside waiting for an update on the insourcing issue.

Councillor Raphadu (ANC) rose on Rule 72 of the Standing Rules and Orders of Council and urged the Speaker to ensure that when Councillors rise to speak, they must specify the rule under which they are rising.

The Speaker asked Councillor Mthembu which rule she was rising under. She further said that the Executive Mayor had stated he would not address the people outside, and so, the matter would not be discussed further.

Councillor Mthembu stated that ActionSA requested the recording in which the Executive Mayor said he would not address the City of Johannesburg employees.

2 LEAVE OF ABSENCE

<i>Councillor Nontenja, C T</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Illness</i>
<i>Councillor Kunene, K</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Political Party business</i>
<i>Councillor Jainoodeen, Z</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Illness</i>
<i>Councillor Nkomo, P T</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Illness</i>
<i>Councillor Wissler, S T J</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Political Party Business</i>
<i>Councillor Mkhonza, N F</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Private Business</i>

The following Councillors requested to arrive late.

Councillor Rohlssen, C K

The ActionSA caucus requested to leave the meeting at 16:00 if the Council had not adjourned by then.

The following DA caucus Councillors submitted leaves of absence due to political party commitments:

*Councillor Amod, C J
Councillor Benjamin, R F
Councillor Bittkau, R
Councillor Brand, D G
Councillor Chabalala, M D
Councillor Chame, F
Councillor Christians, A
Councillor Coogan, L C
Councillor Crichton, M
Councillor Da Gama, V M
Councillor Da rocha, C M D
Councillor Deppe, A J
Councillor Dewes, D S
Councillor Echeozonjoku, B C
Councillor Finn, C E
Councillor Foley, D T
Councillor Fourie-Shawe, C
Councillor Goosen, J W
Councillor Harman, L J (DA)
Councillor Hoén, J N
Councillor Hooper, R S
Councillor Horwitz, J
Councillor Hughes, Z
Councillor Jacobs, B
Councillor Jacobs, K
Councillor Jonker, N
Councillor Kgeletsane, M O
Councillor Knott, L R
Councillor Koekemoer, M
Councillor Kreusch, S
Councillor Landis, R
Councillor Louw, M A
Councillor Maila, S M
Councillor Marais, A F
Councillor Marais, S I
Councillor Masera, H
Councillor Mazibuko, A L
Councillor Meyers, T
Councillor Moloisane, D
Councillor Mphefo, L M P
Councillor Ncube, W M
Councillor Niemand, G J
Councillor Nkomo, B
Councillor Nkwanyana, P B*

Councillor Papo, M M
Councillor Pietersen, J
Councillor Pietersen, N
Councillor Rahn, N J
Councillor Ramaru, G
Councillor Rambani, N S
Councillor Reddy, V M
Councillor Reinten, I M
Councillor Roberts, F C
Councillor Schay, D
Councillor Sekhu, M V
Councillor Shackelford, L M
Councillor Sherman, G J
Councillor Steenkamp, D
Councillor Steer, B
Councillor Stewart, A J
Councillor Suddaby, J
Councillor Sun, Y H
Councillor Truluck, T F
Councillor Van der Merwe, M
Councillor Van Dyk, N J
Councillor Wax, K P
Councillor Williams, M C

3 RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

The Executive Mayor apologized to the residents of the City of Johannesburg for the current conditions, stating that they knew who was responsible. He then tabled the executive reports and the accompanying recommendations.

Item 1 RETABLING OF THE 2024/25 – 2026/27
 MEDIUM-TERM BUDGET AND
 RELATED DOCUMENTATION IN
 TERMS OF SECTION 25 (1) OF THE MFMA

This item was dealt with simultaneously with Items 1A, 1B, 1C, 1D and 1 E.

Councillor Boer (VF+) addressed the Council, noting that while the government of local disunity was scrambling to get a budget approved and allocate funds to projects like swimming pools and Eldorado. It provided him with an opportunity to delve into the budget once more. He has concluded that the budget was political in nature.

He stated that the budget presented to them appeared to be politically motivated, especially considering the timing, just before the elections. As the VF+, they cannot approve such a budget. The MMC needed to address serious questions regarding the budget. Their primary concern, apart from the water crisis and electricity vandalism on the substations, is the staggering 81% increase in the Operating Budget for the Group, Corporate, and Shared Services departments.

He indicated that the Political Facilitated Agreement (PFA) has been increased to R701 million, and the filling of strategic positions has been increased by R100 million. Together, these two items account for R801 million. He mentioned that the total Capex budget for City Power and Johannesburg Water is only 1.2 billion. Thus, allocating R801 million to the Political Facilitated Agreement and filling strategic positions raises significant concerns about budget allocation priorities.

He said that the residents are enduring weeks without water and electricity. Instead of prioritizing these critical projects, the funds are allocated elsewhere. He further emphasized that the MMCs needed to provide answers to the residents of the City of Johannesburg regarding where the money was going and why it was not allocated to address these pressing issues. In conclusion, he said that the ANC-led Government of Local Unity knows that after the elections, many of their MPLs sitting in the Provincial Legislature will be without jobs. They are trying to make provisions to bring them over to the City of Johannesburg.

He said that the MMC of Finance and the MMC of Group Corporate and Shared Services needed to assure the residents that those funds would not be wasted on nonsensical expenditures. Instead, they should be utilized to address the backlogs in Johannesburg Water and City Power infrastructure, where they have backlogs of 20 billion and 30 billion, respectively.

Councillor Harris (ACDP) addressed the Council, drawing a comparison to Charles Dickens's novel, "A Tale of Two Cities." He suggested that the City of Johannesburg could be seen as a tale of four cities. The first being the richest square mile in Africa, which stubbornly refuses to expand its borders. The second is a suburban area inhabited by blue-collar workers and the working poor. The third consists of dormitory areas, remnants of apartheid spatial planning. Lastly, the fourth encompasses historically disadvantaged areas, often considered the dumping grounds for the descendants of the Khoisan people.

He expressed concern that areas like Westbury, Claremont, Nuclear, and Coronationville were not designated as deprivation areas. He admitted that the budgetary process is a difficult juggling act. However, he critiqued the budget for lacking imagination, creativity, and innovation. He emphasized that while the devil is in the details, time constraints prevent a deep dive into the granular details.

He highlighted that the equitable share received by the city is a clear indication that the National Government does not understand and care about migration patterns into the city. It has yet to engaged the National and Provincial Governments about the strain on the infrastructure brought on by inward migration. He stated that the Human Settlement Department needs to be more adequate to deal with the massive housing backlog. While the initiatives to give dignity to the residents of informal settlements are welcomed, the millions budgeted for the formalization process indication that the city has capitulated to land grabs and disorder. Contrast these allocations to the process and to the bottomless pit that is a Lufhereng project with the pitiful amount budgeted for the repairs and maintenance of the high-density flats and all old-age units owned by the city. He said that one is forced to conclude that there is a silent project to punish people living in the ghettos collectively.

He acknowledged that while it is commendable that the rate increases are among the lowest nationally, it still places a heavy burden on the working class and the working poor to finance the city's administration. The allocated funds for remedial work at the Goudkoppies landfill site are insufficient and do not give comfort to the residents of Eldorado Park. Who are pleading for the complete removal of this health hazard and the rehabilitation of the area. Moreover, there needs to be more provision for establishing a waste-to-energy facility. Given that the existing landfill space may be exhausted within the next four years, it is perplexing why the city is not developing waste-to-energy infrastructure, especially when the private sector is eager to collaborate and monetize the thousands of tons of municipal solid waste collected.

He stated that the budget is supposed to reflect the wishes of the Councillors, stakeholders, and residents who participated in the IDP process. However, the final product is merely a cut-and-paste exercise. He said that the ACDP advocates for service, order, and safety, and because Region B has once again been short-changed, the ACDP will not support the items.

Councillor Gantsho (ActionSA) addressed the Council, stating that he hoped the reason the meeting was called because the pieces of the GLU had decided to stick together to pass the budget. He understood that the gaping hole where the people of Eldorado Park should have been covered, which is good news. He added that it is not yet clear why the Economic Freedom Fighters did not support the budget last time, but he hopes the funds have been cleared this time around, so they would not be called to another meeting.

He said it is easy to criticize, but one can never really know the challenges until one is in the driving seat. Johannesburg is an extremely ordinary complex and colossal entity with many parts. Managing all these moving parts takes considerable skill, temperament, and vigor. It is even more challenging in a coalition of different parties, and they understand it is not easy.

He further said that 83 billion Rand is not a small change; it is a lot of money, but more is needed, and he had no doubt that the GLU tried its best. But what would a reasonable government do with 83 billion Rand? The situation reminded him of a parable in the Bible, that of the master, the servant, and the talents. Three servants are given resources by the master. Two take these resources and multiply them, but the third servant, the wicked servant, simply returns what was given to him as is. He stated that a good servant of the people, a good steward, takes what has been given to them and multiplies it to return to the master, who, in this case, is the residents of the City of Johannesburg.

He stated that 83 billion Rand is a lot of money, but it is not enough. They need to raise more funds. The city's financial stability should be the utmost concern of those in finance, not simply putting money to use. They should be taking what they can from the budget and using it to multiply the resources available to better serve the master, who is the residents of the City of Johannesburg.

As a humble servant of the people, he has three suggestions to help the city's finances. Firstly, tell the truth to the residents. There is no such thing as a free lunch, free water, and free electricity. Somebody must pay for these services. Even in instances where individuals or households are not paying, somebody is paying, it is either through theft or tax money.

He indicated that the myth of free presence from the state, or worse yet, the ruling party, is a lie from hell that needs to end. Everyone must pay for the services they use. If they invest money in fixing this, they may raise even more funds for the city while lowering the average cost of these services.

He acknowledged that poverty is a severe problem in the communities and that many people cannot afford to pay. However, he asserted that this issue is caused by impotent economic policies and incompetent implementers. No number of freebies will solve this problem. People must be allowed to be productive to pay their own rates and services.

He stated that they need to open their arms to business, as Johannesburg is increasingly losing its status as the city of gold. The captains of industry are leaving Johannesburg, or worse, leaving the country due to anti-business policies, poor service delivery, and the general decay of the city. He said they needed to change that and bring back the gold standard that made Johannesburg the city of gold. They have to cut the red tape of doing business and roll out the red carpet for all businesses wanting to operate legally in Johannesburg.

He indicated that law enforcement is another issue costing the city money. It is a land invasion if it is not vandalized or stolen infrastructure. If it is not hijacked buildings, structures are being built without regard for By-Laws. If it is not illegal electricity connections, it is Zama Zama's digging through the city's underground and their gang turf wars. He emphasized the need to allocate serious funding to the metro police and increase their quantity and quality to make a difference.

He stated that if the three points he raised were done diligently, it would create the surplus required to start dealing with the enormous backlog of infrastructure maintenance that is sorely needed. It takes time to fix, but they will get it right with time. He asked the MMC of Finance to begin the process as a resident patriot, and when they relieve him as government, they will be able to take over and finish off.

He concluded by saying that after fixing the finances of the city, the employees of the city must take priority. Without city's employees, no waste will be collected, and no roads will be repaired. Nothing can get done without them. He asked why the city must burn, stink, or come to a standstill before the concerns of the employees are taken seriously. He further said that ActionSA has remained firm on removing labour brokers and letting insourcing take over.

Councillor Santana (DA) addressed the Council, stating that the number of IDP processes going out to the public is insufficient. He pleaded for more to be added to ensure that they engage with their residents to understand and promote the IDP process. However, all his requests were denied.

He said that the processes could have been better as they did not involve the residents in the IDP draft policy and review or rates By-Law review. Furthermore, he mentioned that the policy was rewritten, and the residents were denied an opportunity to engage in the processes of the rates policy itself. He highlighted that notices were sent to the Speaker by civic organizations requesting an extension for the submission of issues to the Council, but they were ignored.

He mentioned that Annexures 1C and 1D were blank, yet submitted to Council for approval. He expressed concern that Councillors would commit fraud by approving a budget that does not address the residents' comments. As public representatives, he stated they would be committing fraud in the House because the City of Johannesburg is not following proper processes. He questioned how they could be asked to approve the budget when they do not even have the relevant information to engage on such matters.

He said that the increases do not affect those who do not pay the bill, but rather those who do. He further expressed that the residents of the City of Johannesburg were battling to survive and struggling to put food on the table. Despite this, the city was passing increases and opening another entity called Joburg Tourism, all at the expense of the residents of Johannesburg. He criticized the fact that none of these entities were generating income.

He questioned the justification for the 7.7% increase in the sanitation charge, mainly based on property size and multi-dwelling tariff. He mentioned that despite requesting reports on the capital expenditure for each ward, he still had not received them. He emphasized that despite this lack of information, they were being asked to support a lack of inclusive budget and excluded a significant portion of the population.

He mentioned that the Speaker had changed the commencement time of the IDP in Region E from 08:00 to 15:00 and questioned how that change was communicated to the residents. He stated that the change of time could have communicated effectively to the residents because he had asked some of them and they were unaware of it.

He stated that educating the residents on the IDP process should start six months prior rather than just month that the budget was finalized. He emphasized that Councillors also needed to engage six months before the budget came out to have a comprehensive understanding. He further highlighted that every ward should be included in the budget, with each 135 wards having a project, not just the 115 as indicated in the budget. He questioned whether the 20 wards that were left out did not pay for services or were not worthy of receiving any infrastructure or budget allocations.

He indicated that the budget was a farce because they did not engage with everyone and all those concerned as they should have. He stated that the Democratic Alliance would not support the budget purely because they felt the IDP process, specifically the rates policy, was a complete farce.

Councillor Kaldine (PA) addressed the Council, acknowledging all comments from fellow Councillors regarding Eldorado Park. She expressed gratitude to Patriotic Alliance President Gayton McKenzie for facilitating the inclusion of coloured people at the decision-making table and allowing them to represent their community effectively. She also thanked the residents of Eldorado Park, Wards 17 and 18, for their trust and support.

She emphasized that as part of the Government of Local Unity, they were mandated to represent their constituents effectively. They remained committed to ensuring that the voices of the people were heard clearly.

She stated that as disciplined coalition partner, it was their duty to hold each other accountable. As the Patriotic Alliance, they would continue to do so with military precision. She welcomed the revised budget and the inclusion of their constituencies, seeing it as a step in the right direction. They aimed for excellence in making the coalition work for the benefit of the people, ensuring everyone was included in the budget.

She noted the collective responsibility to encourage the residents of the City of Johannesburg to continue paying for services so that the city can collect revenue. As the Patriotic Alliance, she expressed support for the budget.

Councillor Mhlongo (AIC) addressed the Council, acknowledging that it was election season. However, he emphasized that they would not allow political parties to exploit people's plight for political gain. He criticized parties that exploit people in dire states, bringing them to the Council precinct to score political points. He stated that the ground was waiting for political parties to campaign elsewhere, not within the Council.

He further emphasized that the Council is the August House and should be always respected. In closing, he stated that the African Independent Congress acknowledges and accepts the revised budget. He thanked the Government of Local Unity for listening to the political parties in coalition with the GLU and those in opposition.

MMC Makhafola (EFF) requested a 10-minute caucus break for the EFF.

The Speaker acceded to the request.

Councillor Raseruthe (EFF) addressed the Council, stating that as the Economic Freedom Fighters, they pride themselves on reporting to the citizens of Johannesburg that their involvement in governance has drastically changed how things are done. Since the EFF became part of the Council in 2016, the city has begun to develop plans and budgets that explicitly prioritize the poor. He emphasized the importance of acknowledging progress, even if full economic emancipation has not yet been achieved.

He noted that until the EFF became involved, it seemed impossible to have tariff hikes below the Consumer Price Index (CPI), despite the burden on residents due to unemployment, slow economic growth, and the high cost of living. Although Johannesburg residents still pay more in rands for most tariffs compared to other

metropolitan municipalities, he highlighted that the budget presents the lowest increase in tariffs compared to other metropolitan municipalities in South Africa. He viewed this as a move in the right direction.

He highlighted that the revenue generated by the continent's economic hub only covers 16.5% of its budget, while borrowing has skyrocketed to 33.7%, showing that significant work is being done to improve revenue collection. He mentioned measures such as the recent opening of the vehicle licensing station in the densely populated community of Diepsloot, which will boost revenue collection in the city without overburdening residents. He emphasized the need for other creative and sensitive means to improve revenue collection.

He acknowledged that although it may be difficult to accept due to political affiliation reasons explicitly, they can all agree that the participation of the EFF in this Council has led to massive planning and budget reform. He noted that today, this inclusive budget prioritizes informal settlement residents as part of their priorities.

He informed the residents of Johannesburg residing in informal settlements that over 200 million rands have been reserved for electrifying their homes. He emphasized that without the EFF in the Council, the fight against fires in informal settlements and respiratory conditions resulting from energy resources such as paraffin would have been a losing battle, as no resources were previously allocated to address electricity issues in informal settlements. He highlighted that informal settlements are being formalized, and people are provided with service stands to build their homes. Additionally, some clinics operates 24 hours, seven days a week, and streets are being renamed.

Since the EFF's involvement in the Council, even residents in areas such as Orlando are starting to feel included in the budget process. They requested that resources be allocated to complete projects such as the 2,875 square meter Yata Nathan Early Childhood Development Centre in Orlando West. He stressed that despite resource constraints, the quality of life in many households in the city has improved thanks to the EFF's efforts.

He said that the quality of life in many households in the city has improved, as many security guards have secured decent, well-paying jobs with reasonable benefits in the city. He highlighted that the EFF Local Government manifesto clearly advocates for the insourcing of security guards, cleaners, and other workers, demonstrating their commitment to improving the lives of workers by ensuring they receive fair treatment and decent wages. As the EFF, they approved the budget.

Councillor Marema (ANC) addressed the Council, expressing support and acknowledgment of the budget. He emphasized the importance of ensuring that the residents of the City of Johannesburg receive the service they deserve. He mentioned that some Councillors have indicated that they have been trying to reach out for a long time without receiving attention, and as a result, they believe the residents should suffer by not approving the budget. However, other Councillors acknowledge the shortcomings of the city and can pass the budget, which is supposed to address those identified gaps. Despite this opportunity, they do not support the budget. As the African National Congress, they approve the budget.

Councillor Makhuba of the (IFP) addressed Council, acknowledging the reduction of 20 million from the hostel development budget with consent. She emphasized that while they accept this reduction, they do so with the understanding that the overall budget of 83.1 billion must be distributed to improve the lives of Johannesburg residents.

Expressing concern over hostels living conditions, she criticized those who accept these conditions as acceptable. She highlighted the need for action, stating that merely accepting the situation without attempting to address it is not enough.

She reiterated the IFP's commitment to ensuring that the allocated budget for hostels is effectively implemented. She invoked the teachings of the late Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi, emphasizing the importance of raising concerns and complaints during budget discussions but accepting the budget.

MMC Morero addressed the Council, reminding the residents of Johannesburg that on 25 May 2024, all roads lead to the First National Bank soccer stadium, where they would consolidate their victory on 29 May 2024.

He noted that throughout the process, the business plans and IDP consultations had raised critical service delivery challenges and aspirations of the residents of Johannesburg. The Executive Mayor highlighted the issue of deprivation areas as a key to assessing Johannesburg success, specifically pointing out Regions G, B, D, and E. The Executive Mayor's consultation with these communities emphasized the importance of addressing issues in these areas.

He expressed regret that during the speech, they were unable to explicitly pronounce what they would do in these deprived areas, despite the Executive Mayor's consultation with the communities. However, they have reviewed the issues and intend to address informal settlements throughout these regions, specifically focus on Kliptown. They also plan to address old age homes and flats to ensure they are addressed as part of the deprivation areas.

He emphasized the importance of responding to road resurfacing and potholes, mentioning their resolution to address Boundary Rd immediately with the start of the new financial year, responding to the concerns of Eldorado Park communities that the Executive Mayor had been engaging with. Additionally, they have noted that London Road has become dilapidated and requires resurfacing. Therefore, they have ensured that the allocation at JRA will be able to respond specifically to those areas that have been escalated as priority areas.

He stated that they also responded to the registration of stands that need to be concluded in Ward 77 to ensure the restoration of dignity for the people in those areas. The restoration and declaration of those stands will also assist the city in revenue collection. He further stated that the Jozi Bread Project was resuscitated to ensure that we can create entrepreneurs in the bread industry and disrupt the monopoly of bread. He mentioned that they are looking into allocations

around Social Development to ensure that the needy and the poor are catered for. In doing so, they are also responding to the completion of centers in Regions D and G. Additionally, they address shortages and challenges in Public Safety. These challenges are critical to advancing their work towards ensuring By-Law enforcement in the City of Johannesburg.

He said that it was important for Councillor Harris to note that they have taken steps to address the dilapidation of flats in the areas of Newclare and Bosmont. He added that the current allocation in Human Settlements will assist in beginning a program to address these challenges. It is important to note that something has been done. Notably, they receive an informal settlement upgrade grant and the Urban Settlements Development Grant (USDG), which will help them deal with some of these challenges. They are committed as a city to building a solid response to issues around human settlements, especially given their location in the metropolitan City of Johannesburg.

He highlighted that they have allocated 701 million for the Politically Facilitated Agreement because this government cares about addressing issues that affect workers. This allocation is not just lip service; it aims to avoid misleading those who are not yet employed by the City of Johannesburg and undermining administration's authority in addressing employment issues. He then tabled the report and asked the Council to approve the 2024-2025 budget.

At this point, at 16:01, the ActionSA caucus, except for Councillor Coutriers and Councillor Atterbury, requested to leave, as they had earlier put in a request to leave at 16:00.

After deliberations, the Speaker put the question to the House, but the response was not clear. Therefore, she put the item to a vote, and the results are as follows:

*Yes: 145
No: 10
Abstain: 0*

Therefore, the item was carried.

Councillor Santana (DA) addressed Council, noting the Democratic Alliance's abstention on the item.

Councillor De Lange (VF+) addressed Council, noting the 4 VF+ abstentions for voting no.

MMC Masuku asked what must be reflected in the minutes, as Councillor De Lange asked that the 4 abstentions be noted as voting no.

The Speaker concurred with MMC Masuku, stating that it was confusing that Councillors were voting against the items and then noting their abstentions after voting.

RESOLVED

ITEM 1A: THE 2024/25 – 2026/27 MEDIUM-TERM
OPERATING BUDGET AND RELATED
DOCUMENTATION

This item was dealt with simultaneously with Items 1, 1B, 1C, 1D and 1E. See Item 1 for comments.

RESOLVED

- 1 That the consolidated operating revenue of R76.4 billion, operating expenditure of R75.7 billion, taxation of R41.2 million and capital grants and contributions of R3.7 billion for the City of Johannesburg for the financial year 2024/25, and the indicatives for the projected medium-term period 2025/26 to 2026/27 be approved as set out in the following attachments:
 - 1.1 The consolidated operating budget for the City, Core Administration and Municipal Entities as reflected in Annexures A, B and C.
 - 1.2 The operating revenue and expenditure budget by vote for the City as reflected in Annexure D.
- 2 That the subsidies payable by Core Administration to the following Municipal Entities be approved:

Municipal Entity	Original Budget 2023/24	Adjusted Budget 2023/24	Budget 2024/25	Estimate 2025/26	Estimate 2026/27
	R 000	R 000	R 000	R 000	R 000
Pikitup	1 306 074	1 248 866	1 207 377	1 206 349	1 193 898
Johannesburg Roads Agency	1 323 633	1 310 112	1 394 601	1 445 105	1 497 527
Metrobus	599 576	607 299	622 766	645 785	668 877
Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo	1 142 236	1 057 688	1 098 723	1 136 766	1 176 323
Johannesburg Development Agency	43 041	71 574	72 166	74 792	77 351
Johannesburg Property Company	671 270	623 131	656 397	677 263	685 871
Metropolitan Trading Company	259 136	259 136	224 616	214 644	220 275
Johannesburg Social and Housing Company	48 617	110 687	133 501	136 865	140 436
Joburg City Theatres	183 984	201 182	205 358	211 893	218 658
Joburg Tourism	69 121	69 121	91 320	94 516	97 788
City Power	269 980	269 980	304 375	343 153	386 871
Total subsidies to ME's	5 916 668	5 828 776	6 011 201	6 187 131	6 363 875

- 3 That the supporting information contained in the 2024/25 – 2026/27 Medium-Term Revenue and Expenditure Budget document as required in terms of Section 17(3) of the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003) be approved in conjunction with this report.

ITEM 1B: THE 2024/25 – 2026/27 MEDIUM-TERM
CAPITAL BUDGET

This item was dealt simultaneously with Items 1, 1A, 1C, 1D and 1 E. See item 1 for comments.

RESOLVED

1 That the capital budget of R7 414 826 000 for the year 2024/25, R7 880 921 000 for the year 2025/26 and R7 425 162 000 for the year 2026/27 of the City of Johannesburg be approved in terms of Section 16 (3) of the MFMA as set out in the following schedules:

- 1.1 Capital budget by vote for each of the Municipal Entities and Core Administration as reflected in Annexure A.
- 1.2 Capital budget by project for each of the Municipal Entities and Core Administration as reflected in Annexure B.

ITEM 1C: THE REPORT ON OUTCOMES OF PUBLIC
CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED 2024/25
BUDGET AND ITS REVENUE RAISING MEASURES
AND THE TECHNICAL EVALUATION LED BY
NATIONAL TREASURY

This item was dealt simultaneously with Items 1, 1A, 1, 1D and 1 E. See item 1 for comments.

RESOLVED

THAT THE COUNCIL:

- 1 Note on the body of the report how the legislative requirements as they relate to public participation have been complied with.
- 2 After careful consideration of the analysis of comments made and the technical recommendations that should be carried into the final budget note that in terms of section 11 (3)(i) and 75a (1) and (2) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 2000, 32 of 2000, as amended, read with Section 24(2)(c)(ii) of the Local Government: Municipal Finance Management Act, 56 of 2003 and the Sections 9 and 14 of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act, 6 of 2004 hereby, approve the proposed rates and tariffs; for the 2024/25 financial year, as set out in Annexures 1 to 24, and the property rates By-Law as set out in Annexure 25.
- 3 That the approved rates and tariffs, and the property rates By-Law be implemented with effect from 1 July 2024

- 4 That, in terms of Sections 17(3)(a)(ii) and 22(a)(i) and (ii) of the Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act, 56 of 2003 and Sections 21, 21A(1) and 75A(3) of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000, as amended and also Section 14(3) of the Municipal Property Rates Act, 6 of 2004, the following legislative compliance processes were undertaken as reflected in the body of the report:
- (i) A display a copy of the resolution in the manner prescribed Section 75A (3)(a) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000, as amended.
 - (ii) A publication in newspapers of general circulation of a notice in the manner prescribed in section 75A (3)(b) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000, as amended.
 - (iii) Through the above platforms as contained in the body of the report, the substance of public consultation was shared with the ratepayers.
- 5 That a copy of the notice referred to in Paragraph 5(ii) above be sent forthwith to the MEC for Local Government and the National and Provincial Treasury in terms of Section 75A(4) of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000 as amended.
- 6 That specific for property rating as required through sections 5, 6 and 14 of the Local Government: Municipal Property Rate Act, 6 of 2004 read with its amendments, the revised Property Rates Policy and its By-law be approved, noting that a resolution on levying of rates should be placed in the *Provincial Gazette*, and the notice be made by the City Manager.
- 7 That a copy of the finally approved Tariff Charges be sent forthwith to the National and Provincial Treasury in terms of Section 24(3) of the Local Government Municipal Finance Management Act, 56 of 2003.

ITEM 1D: DRAFT RATES POLICY AND RATES BY-LAW

This item was dealt simultaneously with Items 1, 1A, 1B, 1C and 1 E. See item 1 for comments. See item 1 for comments.

RESOLVED

- 1 That Council approves the 2024/25 Draft Rates Policy (Annexure A) and 2024/25 Draft Rates Policy By-laws (Annexure B).
- 2 That Council notes the submissions received from various stakeholders during public engagements (Annexure C).
- 3 That Council notes summary of the submissions and the responses provided by the City in relation to the submissions (Annexure D).

ITEM 1E: AMENDMENTS TO 2024/2025 INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT PLAN (IDP) REVIEW AND 2024/2025 SERVICE DELIVERY AND BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

This item was dealt simultaneously with Items 1, 1A, 1B, 1C, and 1D. See item 1 for comments. See item 1 for comments.

RESOLVED

That the 2024/25 Integrated Development Plan (IDP) review and the 2024/25 Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) be replaced by Annexures (E1 – IDP) and (E2 – SDBIP) as aligned to this budget.

(GROUP FINANCE)
(Ntuthuzelo April)
(Tel. (011) 358 3290)

4 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

None.

5 CLOSURE

The Speaker closed the meeting and wished all Councillors well for the elections.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 16:12.



.....
SPEAKER OF COUNCIL
CLLR M ARNOLDS

22 AUGUST 2024
.....
DATE