



CITY OF JOHANNESBURG COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE 10TH SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF JOHANNESBURG MUNICIPALITY IN HONOUR OF THE LATE COUNCILLOR R A L NKOSI HELD AT THE CONSTANCE CONNIE BAPELA COUNCIL CHAMBER, BRAAMFONTEIN, ON THURSDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 08:30.

**SPEAKER OF COUNCIL
COUNCILLOR M ARNOLDS**

- 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 ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS (EFF)**
- 5 MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE BY OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES**
- 6 COMMENTS BY FAMILY REPRESENTATIVE**
- 7 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CLOSURE**

MEMBERS PRESENT

The Speaker: Councillor M Arnolds

The Executive Mayor: Councillor S E Morero

Abdool, F	Kgeletsane, M O
Avant-Smith, C	Khomongoe, N
Baloyi, D L	Khumalo, X I
Benjamin, R F	Koekemoer, M
Bini, L	Komane, S A
Boer, C	Kreusch, S
Brand, D G	Kunene, K
Campbell-Cloete, B	Landis, R
Chame, F	Lebatlang, T Z
Chauke, K L	Lebea, M G
Cherry, J	Lefutso, L
Chetsanga, H	Leshilo, R S
Christians, A	Louw, M A
Chuma, A T	Maaake, M J
Coogan, L C	Mabaso, M P
Cook, M	Mabidilala, M P
Coutriers, M J	Mabuke, T A
Crichton, M	Mabunda, J H
Da Gama, V M	Mabunda, R S
Da rocha, C M D	Mabunda, T E
De Kock, G	Mabuza, S K L
Deppe, A J	Madiba, T J
Dladla, D	Magwaza, B L P
Dlamini, B	Magwentshu, L C
Durand, G V M	Mahlangu, O J
Echeozonjoku, B C	Maila, S M
Edward, N	Makamo, S S
Finn, C E	Makaula, S
Foley, D T	Makhafola, E
Fourie-Shawe, C	Makhuba, H N
Goosen, J W	Maluleka, T
Harman, L J	Manganyi, D B
Harris, R	Mangena, T D
Hlatshwayo, S	Marais, S I
Hoon, J N	Marema, V A
Hooper, R S	Masera, H
Horwitz, J	Mashala, K
Huggett, E A	Mashinini, S
Hughes, Z	Masuku, H P
Jacobs, B	Masuku, L
Jacobs, LC	Maswazi, R
Jonker, N	Matabane, O
Karolia, Y	May, Z

Mavhona, L S	Ndou, P
Mazibuko, A L	Ndzondo, C M
Mazibukwana, M	Nenemba, T
Mbambala, T J	Nethamba, R
Meyers, T	Ngoepe, C S
Mgaga, B	Nguse, S
Mgcina, S E	Ngwenya, F N
Mhlongo, T A	Ngwetsheni, M M
Mkasi, G	Nhlapo, C P
Mkhize, T	Niemand, G J
Mkhonza, N F	Nkokou, T P
Mmota, L	Nkomo, B
Mngadi, W B	Nkomo, E T
Mnisi, M	Nkonyeni, S P
Mnisi, N D	Nkwanyana, P B
Mnyameni, M	Ntlemeza, B
Moatshe, K	Ntoele, N L
Modukanene, L C	Ntombela, M J
Modupi, D N	Nyembe, M M
Moepi, N J D	Nyembe, Z P
Mofokeng, J	Nzimande, C
Mogapi, T A	Papo, M M
Mohlala, C	Pelzer, R
Mohlala, P K	Phometsi, P S
Mokoena, G	Pietersen, J
Mokoena, P	Pietersen, N
Mokoka, M L	Radebe, N P
Mokome, J M	Radebe, T T
Mokwena, T M	Raholane, M W
Molala, S M	Rakosa, P M
Molefe, E W	Ramafikeng, D J
Molefe, M	Rambani, N S
Molefe, S B	Raphadu, A T
Molise, L D	Raseruthe, S H
Mosehla, K J	Rohlssen, C K
Moshapo, L C	Santana, C G
Mothopi, O Z	Schay, D
Moticoe, K D	Seerane, M K
Mphaho, M A	Sehoai, R J
Mposula, T	Sekhu, M V
Mpotulo, G S	Sekwaila, B J
Mulelu, M	Shackleford, L M
Mutavhatsindi, N T	Shai, T E
Mwale, B P	Shange, P A
Mzolo, N	Shawe, Z
Nair, R K	Sherman, G J
Ndlela, M C	Shumba, K A
Ndou, P	Simelane, P

Simelane, S O
Simonse, L C
Sindani, F P
Smouse, B M
Sondag, J M
Steenkamp, I
Stewart, A J
Suddaby, J
Supe, N P
Tabane, M C
Tambani, P S
Tefu, P V
Thema, T N
Truluck, T F

Tshwaku, M
Tshedo, J G
Tshehlo, G J
Tsoadi, M S
Van der Merwe, M
Van Onselen, R J
Van Wyk, W M
Wax, K P
Xulu, P S
Xuma, L
Zigebe, Y L
Zitha, S L
Zondo, L T
Zwane, S

1 OPENING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

The Speaker requested Council to rise and observe a moment of silence for prayer or meditation.

The Speaker conveyed greetings to the Executive Mayor, Councillor S Morero; the Whip of Council, Councillor K Chauke, in absentia; the Chair of Chairs, Councillor A Marema; fellow Councillors; most importantly, the Nkosi, Letlatsa and Vilakazi families; officials of the City of Johannesburg; members of the community; political party leaders present; and all ladies and gentlemen.

The Speaker stated that the Special Council Meeting had been convened not only to mourn, but also to honour the life of Councillor Raymond Abraham Lincoln, who was born on 12 January 1974 and lived a life of purpose and courage.

She expressed appreciation to the bereaved family for attending the meeting, acknowledging the pain of their loss and noting that their presence was not taken lightly. The Speaker indicated that the Council shared in their sorrow and that collective mourning formed part of the difficult process of healing.

The Speaker further reflected on the life of the late Councillor Raymond Abraham Lincoln, noting that his names prompted reflection on their possible significance, the intentions of his parents, and whether he may have been named after a family member. The Speaker remarked that this reflection was an attempt to understand the character of the late Councillor, noting that names often influence and reflect who individuals become.

The Speaker indicated that, according to research, the name Raymond means “wise protector”, noting that the late Councillor appeared to embody this meaning as a guardian who provided wise guidance. She further remarked that their interactions with him in the Council Chamber and during oversight work in the Section 79 Committees bore testimony to this. It was noted that the late Councillor was attentive during deliberations and often provided direction during discussions.

The Speaker noted that the name Abraham, a well-known biblical figure who was abundantly blessed by God and reflected qualities that could also be seen in the character of the late Councillor. The Speaker remarked that the late Councillor demonstrated humility, gentleness, a peaceful nature, as well as dedication, commitment and obedience.

The Speaker further indicated that the name Lincoln signifies strength and principled leadership, noting that these qualities were evident in the life of the late Councillor. The Speaker stated that his passing was a significant loss; however, his legacy, reflected in the meaning of his three names and in the manner in which he lived his life, would not be forgotten.

She further remarked that although the late Councillor was no longer suffering from the illness that had affected him, it was the responsibility of those present to continue the work he had begun. The Speaker emphasised that his memory should serve as a shared responsibility and that the light he had ignited in many hearts should continue to shine within homes, the Council, communities and the city.

The Speaker said that even in their heartbreak, they were encouraged by the words, "Yesterday, I dared to struggle. Today, I dare to win," and called on all present to carry that same spirit in honour of Councillor Raymond Abraham Lincoln Nkosi.

2 APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

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

<i>Councillor Chabalala, M D</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor De Lange, F C</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Dewes, D S</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Mphefo, L M P</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Ramaru, G</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Private Business</i>
<i>Councillor Smit, P A</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Ill Health</i>
<i>Councillor Wilskut, D</i>	<i>:</i>	<i>Ill Health</i>

The following Councillors were granted permission to arrive late.

*Councillor Amad, T
 Councillor Cherry, J
 Councillor Fourie-Shawe, C
 Councillor Gwamanda, K
 Councillor Jacobs, K
 Councillor Kaldine, J
 Councillor Khanyile, N M
 Councillor Kunene, K
 Councillor Makhuba, H N
 Councillor Manganyi, D B
 Councillor Marais, A F
 Councillor May, Z
 Councillor Mohamed, N
 Councillor Ncube, W M
 Councillor Pitso, K
 Councillor Ponsonby, D A
 Councillor Sifumba, N
 Councillor Steenkamp, D
 Councillor Zigebe, Y L*

3 MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR

The Executive Mayor addressed Council as follows:

“Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Let me acknowledge the family of Councillor Nkosi. On behalf of the City of Johannesburg and the residents of Johannesburg, I am honoured to convey our sincere condolences to his family, his political party, the EFF, and the extended family, including his children.

I would like to assure you, dear compatriots, that we too share the pain of the loss of your brother, father, and a fighter. We hope that, in sharing your grief, we may help in some way to lighten your burden. Even as we celebrate that Councillor Nkosi grew to become a national asset and an activist in the service of the poor and the working class.

Our city government and Council are truly privileged to have been given the opportunity to show our deep respect to Councillor Nkosi by convening this memorial service in his honour. In acknowledging the role played by Councillors, whom I regard as national assets. I believe that we should be allowed to honour our Councillors through an official civic funeral. In this regard, I call upon the Speaker of Council to reinstate the civic funeral for current serving and former Councillors.

I must confess that I am greatly saddened by the fact that Councillor Nkosi departed from the world of the living before completing his tasks and the term he was serving. Councillor Nkosi had set himself particular objectives upon entering this chamber. One of his key objectives was to serve the communities in which he lived and to ensure the transformation of the lives of those who were disadvantaged and marginalised.

On behalf of our government and the nation, I am honoured to once more convey our sincere condolences to his family. Let me conclude, Madam Speaker, by sharing a small poem with the family and his political party:

*You have gone, Councillor Nkosi.
 Tree of shade, hero of hearts, bearer of spirits.
 You were the fire that warmed the cold, the mirror of the people,
 the voice of the silenced.
 We rejoiced in your presence like timely rain.
 You did not hide but gave yourself to the people.
 A person is a person through others; you lived this truth.
 You were the healer against fear, the spear at the mountain pass.
 Today we say not to kill a man is to let him go.
 Do not fear our tears.
 The rainbow after rain. Go well.
 Go well, leader of the people. Go well.
 Go well, fighter of the Freedom Fighters.
 We will remember you until sorrow is smoothed. Go well. Robala ka kgotso.*

Thank you.”

4 MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS (EFF)

Councillor Radebe (EFF) addressed the Council as follows:

“Greetings to the Economic Freedom Fighters battalions, our Caucus Leader, Commissar Mgcini Tshwaku; our Chief Whip, Fighter Tabisa Mogapi; MMC Ennie Makhafola; the Chairperson of MPAC in his absence, Hospital Raseruthe; Madam Speaker; fellow Councillors; officials; the Letlatsa family; the Mthimkhulu family; and the Nkosi family.

Today, we gather here to celebrate the life of our brother and dear colleague, Councillor Raymond Nkosi, known to most of us as Bucks or Pele. Councillor Nkosi was very humble, free-spirited, intelligent, and informative. During debates, he did not need to raise his voice to make his point; he was always resolute.

He understood his duties as a Councillor and was very persistent in conducting oversight in the Governance Committee, and those who served on that Committee can attest to this. He was vocal and raised critical issues without fear or favour, and one would always learn something from him.

Councillor Bucks had a passion for IGR and DDM and was particularly concerned when critical items, such as budget adjustments, were tabled late, as he valued cooperation and transparency. He was also accommodating and patient, always willing to teach, even when one did not fully understand. During Committee oversight, he not only identified challenges but also proposed solutions to address them.

Councillor Nkosi embraced many of us as brothers and sisters. For example, Benny, the Legal Advisor in the Speaker’s Office; although you had only recently met Bucks, you engaged in a wide range of issues. Your visit to him in the hospital during his most vulnerable time is a clear demonstration that family is not only defined by bloodlines.

Councillor Nkosi was deeply moved by such gestures and continued to extend kindness to others. That is why today we see uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, and cousins united within his family.

On behalf of the EFF, I would like to extend our sincerest condolences to the entire family. Councillor Nkosi will be deeply missed, but his memory and legacy will live on through the impact he had on all of us. He was an exceptional colleague and an even better person, and his presence will be felt for a very long time.

Ngalamazwi ngithi duduzekani nina bomndeni. UNkulunkulu anibophe ngebhande linye. Thank you, Speaker.”

5 MESSAGES OF CONDOLENCE BY OTHER POLITICAL PARTIES

Councillor Harris (ACDP) addressed Council as follows:

“Madam Speaker, Executive Mayor, City Manager, MMCs, Councillors, especially the caucus of the Economic Freedom Fighters and their guests, officials; I extend greetings to the Nkosi family gathered for this solemn occasion. On behalf of the ACDP, its leader, Rev Kenneth Meshoe, and the Johannesburg caucus, we extend our sincerest condolences to you during this most difficult time.

Participating in the political arena has its own joys and challenges. The media in particular, often portrays us as liars, thieves, demons, corrupt, and worse. However, those of us who share these seats know that this is not entirely true. For us, as the ACDP Caucus, Councillor Nkosi epitomised a calm, thoughtful, mature, measured and budding statesman. His humility shone through. We thank the family for giving him the space to serve and contribute to the fabric of the City of Johannesburg.

I acknowledge that there are different worldviews in this chamber. As Christians, we seek comfort from our instruction manual, the Bible. Allow me to share two verses:

Matthew 5:4 says, ‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.’ We pray that in your time of mourning, you will experience God’s comfort, and that the memory of Councillor Nkosi will lead you to a place of joy.

Psalms 23:4 says, ‘Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me.’

We do not know what you are going through or how you are processing the passing of your loved one, but we do know that you are experiencing one of the lowest points in your lives. Family, know this: God is present to lead and console you in ways that none of us can. Keep Councillor Nkosi’s memory alive by living the lessons he taught you. Remember him fondly and with love, as he has transitioned from a physical life to a spiritual one.

May God bless you as you reflect on the joy of his presence in your lives. Thank you.”

Councillor Boer (VF+) addressed the Council as follows:

“Good morning, Madam Speaker, Executive Mayor, fellow Councillors, members of the Freedom Front Plus, and the Nkosi family.

On behalf of the Freedom Front Plus, I wish to express our sincere condolences to the family and to Battalion 29 on the loss of your beloved Councillor, Councillor Nkosi.

To the son of Councillor Nkosi, although I may not know the rest of the family, I want to say that you can be proud of your father. He set an example in this Council. If we were to assess all 270 Councillors, I am confident that your father would rank among the top. He was a dedicated Councillor who served his community with distinction. Please find comfort in knowing that he stood out in this Council.

The Speaker referred to your father's names; I wish to reflect on his surname, Nkosi. While I may not be fluent in your language, I understand that 'Nkosi' carries significant meaning. It can refer to a chief, a king, or even God. This is a profound name that your father bore, and which you also carry.

In the Bible, we read that God created humanity to live with Him as His children. However, through disobedience, humanity fell and became separated from God. As a result, we experience loss and death, even though God created life.

In the Gospel of John, chapter 1, verses 10 to 12, it is written: 'He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the power to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.'

This passage reminds us that, through faith, we can be restored as children of God.

In closing, to the family, I say: find comfort in the Lord during this time of loss. Councillor Nkosi's life was not in vain; he served his people with dedication. May that be your comfort during this difficult time, especially to his son. Thank you."

Councillor Courtiers (ActionSA) addressed the Council as follows:

"Good morning to the family of Councillor Nkosi. Good morning, colleagues. On behalf of ActionSA in the City of Johannesburg, and the broader ActionSA movement, we extend our deepest and most heartfelt condolences to the family, loved ones, friends, colleagues, and the caucus following the tragic passing of Councillor Nkosi. We are profoundly saddened by this loss.

Serving the residents of Johannesburg requires commitment, courage, and sacrifice. In this time of grief, we honour the contribution made in service to the people of our city and acknowledge the dedication he demonstrated to public duty. This tragic loss reminds us of the fragility of life and the heavy responsibility carried by those who choose to serve.

Our thoughts are with you the family, as you navigate this painful period. We pray that you may find strength in your faith, comfort in cherished memories, and support in the love that surrounds you.

As a caucus and as a political movement, we stand united in mourning. We commit ourselves to supporting you in every possible way and to honouring a life dedicated to public service.

Colleagues, I ask that we observe a brief moment of reflection. Please close your eyes and remember our departed colleague.

Heavenly Father, we come before You with heavy hearts. We ask that You wrap Your loving arms around this grieving family. Grant them peace that surpasses all understanding, strength for each day ahead, and comfort in the assurance that You are near to the broken-hearted. May the soul of our departed colleague rest in peace. Amen.

On behalf of the ActionSA caucus in the City of Johannesburg and ActionSA nationally, we share in your sorrow. Thank you."

Councillor Magwentshu (ATM) addressed the Council as follows:

"Greetings, Madam Speaker. Greetings to the Executive Mayor, the Chair of Chairs, all Councillors, and most importantly, the Nkosi family and the EFF family.

Madam Speaker, we are gathered here today to remember the life of Councillor Nkosi, a fighter and a gentle giant. Councillor Nkosi served in my Section 79 Governance Committee and was one of the most disciplined members of the Committee. The only time he would be absent was when he was unwell and hospitalised, yet even then, he would communicate his situation, demonstrating his dedication to his responsibilities as a Councillor.

He was deeply passionate about his work and was one of the most outstanding members of the Committee. His contributions were progressive and clearly well-researched. Even officials paid close attention when he spoke, as his inputs were always meaningful and insightful.

Councillor Nkosi was committed to ensuring consequence management when things did not go right, and he was equally passionate about improving the functioning of the City. In remembering him, we, as Councillors, owe it to him to ensure that we turn things around in the City of Johannesburg.

With those words, Madam Speaker, I say: Lala ngoxolo, Councillor Nkosi. Siza kukhumbula. Imisebenzi yakho emihle uyenzile. Kubantwana bakhe, siyazi ukuba benimthanda utata wenu, kwaye naye ebenithanda. Hlala neenkumbulo zakhe. Akafanga; uphumlile. Thank you, Speaker."

Councillor Mokome (COPE) addressed the Council as follows:

"Good morning, Madam Speaker. Let me also acknowledge the Executive Mayor, Sello Dada Morero, the bereaved Nkosi family, the Chief Whip of Council, the Mayoral Committee, the Chair of Chairs and Section 79 Committees, all political parties, the City Manager, Dr Floyd Brink, the Secretary to Council, Andile Gobinca, residents of the City of Johannesburg, guests in the gallery, ladies and gentlemen.

Madam Speaker, allow me to juxtapose the following quotation to contextualise my tribute: When somebody you love becomes a memory, that memory becomes a treasure. Although it is difficult today to see beyond the sorrow, may looking back in memory help comfort you tomorrow.

Ka segagesho, re re: Bagaetsho, la maabane le phirimile; la gompieno ke go re, a re pheleng ka tshepo, re yeng pele.

We extend our sincere condolences to the Nkosi family and to the EFF caucus.

Madam Speaker, today we immortalise Councillor Nkosi as a good husband, a considerate father, a trustworthy head of his family, a dependable member of the community, and indeed an exemplary and consummate political figure. May his legacy serve as an anchor for the Nkosi family.

In African culture, when an elder passes on with such remarkable credentials, future grandchildren are often named after them to preserve and carry forward their legacy.

To the EFF caucus, Madam Speaker, Councillor Nkosi was more than just a public representative. He was a voice for the voiceless and a tireless advocate for justice and equality. He carried the hopes of the community on his shoulders and never hesitated to stand firm in his convictions. Whether addressing service delivery challenges or uplifting the youth, he approached every task with determination and humility.

Madam Speaker, as Councillors in the City of Johannesburg, in his honour, we commit to upholding the Batho Pele principles by accelerating our service delivery mandate. I thank you."

Councillor Maila (DA) addressed the Council as follows:

"Madam Speaker, Your Worship, the Executive Mayor; the Honourable Leader of the official opposition, the tearful leadership of the Economic Freedom Fighters, led in this chamber by its Caucus Leader, Councillor Dr Mgcini Tshwaku, esteemed leaders of other political parties represented in this Council; the bereaved Nkosi family, in the fullness of your genealogy; the people of Johannesburg, greetings and salutations.

Human history has no definitive record of the first person ever to die. However, because we have all lost so many loved ones over the centuries, we have come to accept that death is as natural as the arrival of a child at birth. Naturally, we understand that there will come a time for us to return to our Maker or to cease to exist in our present form. This perhaps explains why we view death with fear, consternation, and uncertainty, as those who depart do not return to share their experiences of this painful phenomenon of our planet.

Whenever a loved one is taken from us, the pain is uniquely excruciating, even if we have experienced loss before. It does not matter how many times death visits a family; each time, the pain feels as though it is the first encounter with this difficult reality.

Sipho Nkosi left us at a time when many of us, brought together by politics, were beginning to appreciate his sharp mind and intellect. I served with him on the Municipal Public Accounts Committee, where he represented the Economic Freedom Fighters. I came to know him as a debater who was not easily persuaded from the views he held at any given time.

Sipho and I engaged in many debates. As you can imagine, I belonged to a party he viewed in a particular light. When I explained that the DA is a party for all South Africans and one of the most diverse political formations in the country, he would skilfully redirect the discussion, often towards matters such as the ill-treatment of workers on factory floors, contrary to the provisions of the Labour Relations Act on fair labour practices. That was Sipho for you.

Madam Speaker, Siphso was also unwell. Each time he went for treatment, he would inform me and other colleagues on the MPAC Committee, ensuring that we were aware of his condition. Although he was a brave young man, it became evident that his illness had progressed significantly and had taken a toll on him. He lost considerable weight, and it was sad to witness his decline until he could no longer attend Committee meetings.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, Siphso had a quality I deeply respected. Despite our political differences, I never doubted his patriotism or his commitment to his cause. Through our engagements, I gained a better understanding of the seven non-negotiable cardinal pillars of the Economic Freedom Fighters, even though they differ from the principles of the DA.

At one point, I indicated that I agreed with pillar number four, which speaks to building state and government capacity, as well as pillar number seven, which advocates for an open, accountable, and corruption-free government and society. We agreed that he would read the DA's Federal Constitution to better understand our position, while I would study the EFF's cardinal pillars in preparation for our debates.

I will miss Councillor Siphso Nkosi and our political engagements during MPAC breaks and other interactions.

To the Nkosi family, I know the pain runs deep, but I urge you to allow him to rest. Though your hearts are heavy, may you draw strength from the memories he has left behind for you and for all of us. Siphso's life was a beautiful one, and it is worth celebrating. That is where our focus should be.

Hamba kahle, Dlamini. Lala ngoxolo, Mlangeni. Ndlelenhle, ludonga lwaMavuso. Sidwaba sika Luthuli. Thank you."

Councillor M Cook (GOOD) addressed the Council as follows:

"Good morning, Madam Speaker, Executive Mayor, MMCs, fellow Chairpersons of Section 79 Committees, Chief Whip, Chair of Chairs, all Councillors, the Nkosi family, and the EFF.

Many of you will note that this is the first memorial service at which I have spoken. It is not something I usually do. However, when I joined Council, I sat directly behind Councillor Nkosi. At the time, it felt like a very lonely space, and I often felt somewhat isolated. Yet, the one person who consistently offered me comfort and encouragement was Councillor Nkosi.

I also had the privilege of serving with him on the MPAC Committee. At times, we would challenge one another and push each other on various matters, even competing over who would cover specific topics. I recall a conversation we once had at the back of this chamber, where we reflected on whether some Councillors simply followed caucus positions when voting, rather than thoroughly engaging with reports.

Councillor Nkosi; however, read every report assigned to him and was fully conversant with the details of each. He stood firmly for the principles of the Economic Freedom Fighters and for the residents of this city. He was a true ambassador of the City of Johannesburg. A Councillor whom all in this chamber can regard as an exemplary public representative.

To the Nkosi family, I cannot begin to imagine the depth of your pain. To the EFF, you have lost a warrior and a fighter. Today, we remember that a great tree has fallen, that tree is Councillor Nkosi. Lala ngoxolo, Tata Nkosi. Thank you."

Councillor Mkhize (IFP) addressed the Council as follows:

Executive Mayor, IFP Caucus Leader, honourable, Councillor Mabaso; the Nkosi family, fellow Councillors; and members of the community, greetings to you all.

On behalf of the IFP caucus, the Inkatha Freedom Party, we extend our deepest condolences to the Nkosi family, friends, the community, and our colleagues in the EFF on the passing of our Councillor, Raymond Nkosi, who served the City of Johannesburg with dedication.

Today, we gather in grief, remembering that the passing of a person transcends political beliefs or party affiliations. It affects all of us as people who serve the community. We have lost someone who worked selflessly to improve the lives of residents in the City of Johannesburg.

We face a difficult time, and we are called to stand together and show humanity. We are encouraged to honour the life that has passed by committing ourselves to serving people with integrity.

May God grant you strength, give you peace in your hearts, and provide comfort in the days ahead. To the Nkosi family, we say: May God heal your wounds, and may you remain in His word.

We share in your loss; you are not alone. We know the good work he accomplished, and we hope it brings you comfort and remains a lasting memory. His legacy will not be lost in the Nkosi family.

Rest in peace, Councillor Bucks Nkosi. The mark of your work will always be visible. May your soul rest in eternal peace. Thank you, Madam Speaker."

Councillor Steenkamp (PA) addressed the Council as follows:

"Good morning, everyone. I greet you all in the wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. I would like to acknowledge, Madam Speaker, our Executive Mayor, Dada Morero, and most importantly, the Nkosi family.

Today, we are not gathered as politicians; we are gathered as a wounded community. We stand in the shadow of a loss that feels too heavy to bear, the loss of a leader, a fighter, a servant of the people, and above all, a leader who gave his heart to this community.

Being a Councillor is not glamorous. It is not easy or comfortable. It means answering calls at midnight, being blamed for things beyond your control, attending angry meetings while still choosing to listen, and carrying the frustrations, hopes, tears, and expectations of thousands of people on your shoulders. Councillor Nkosi carried that weight. He did not serve from a distance; he was present in our streets, schools, funerals, protests, and celebrations. When there were floods or service delivery crises, he was there. When residents felt unheard, he stood in the gap.

Leadership in local government, as envisioned by the Constitution of South Africa, demands accountability and proximity to the people. Councillor Nkosi understood this deeply. He understood that to lead meant being accessible, even at personal cost, time away from family, sleepless nights, and the emotional burden of trying to fix problems that sometimes seemed impossible. Yet he persevered, not for recognition or applause, but because he believed in his community.

Today, we must acknowledge the pain of his family. You did not just lose a Councillor; you lost a parent, a sibling, a spouse, and a loved one. While the public saw a figure of leadership, you carried the private sacrifices, and for that, we salute you.

To the residents, the fighters, the EFF, and every leader here today, grief is real. It hurts because relationships were real. But let us not allow this loss to divide or discourage us. Let it unite us. Let it remind us that leadership is about service, and service requires courage. The true measure of a Councillor is not in titles or Council seats, but in the footprints left in the community. Those footprints are everywhere in every life touched, in every problem confronted, and in every moment, we choose to stand for what is right.

Councillor Nkosi's voice will be missed. His presence will be missed. His strength will be missed. But we must carry forward his spirit.

Lastly, I encourage the family with Philippians 4:6: 'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to the Lord, and the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and your minds in Jesus Christ.'

Rest well, Councillor Nkosi. Your shift may be over, but you will always be remembered, and your legacy will live on. May your soul rest in peace. Thank you."

Councillor Zigebe (UDM) addressed the Council as follows:

"Fighters, colleagues in Council, residents of Johannesburg, and the Nkosi family, good morning. We gather today with heavy hearts because a chair in the City of Johannesburg Council has fallen silent, and yet, in that silence, we can still hear the echo of a life that refused to be ordinary.

To speak about Councillor Nkosi is not to recite a title. It is to speak about a posture: the posture of a person who chose the side of the people, not because it was fashionable, but because it was right. Those who worked closely with him know he was a dedicated community activist who was disciplined, fearless, and firmly rooted among his residents.

And that is what makes this loss so sharp. Johannesburg does not only lose a Councillor; Johannesburg loses a particular kind of servant. The kind who shows up even when there are no cameras. The kind who believes that politics must return to the street, to the taxi ranks, to the queue at a clinic, to the grandmother waiting for a social worker, to the young person searching for work.

Because that is what Council work really is, if we are honest. It is not microphones and speeches alone. It is the hard, unglamorous labour of representation: being present when communities are tired of explaining the same pain, being patient when systems move slowly, being brave when the truth is unpopular, and being disciplined when frustration tries to turn us against each other.

In our city, the burden of governance is not theoretical. It is lived. It is the daily contest between promise and delivery; between policy and plumbing; between budget lines and whether the lights stay on in a home where a child must still study.

And in that space, the space between what Johannesburg is and what Johannesburg must become, Councillor Nkosi stood as one of those fighters who refused to accept that suffering must be normal.

That is why it matters that he served as a Proportional Representation Councillor, because Proportional Representation Councillors are often misunderstood. People think Proportional Representation is distant. But some Proportional Representation Councillors become closer to the people than many who hold wards. Not through geography, but through commitment. Through consistent presence in community struggles, through caucus discipline, through a steady hand in the machinery of Council and through loyalty to the mandate that brought them there. Councillor Nkosi carried that mandate with dignity.

To the Nkosi family, today we do not speak as strangers. We speak as a Council family, as a Johannesburg family, and as a city that recognizes the cost of public service. There are griefs that never become easier; they only become carried differently. May you be strengthened by the knowledge that his name is now stitched into the story of this City.

To the Economic Freedom Fighters caucus, you have lost a comrade and a fighter, not just in uniform, but in spirit. May your remembrance not end in words, but continue in the work he believed in.

And to all of us, across parties, this is the uncomfortable truth we must accept today: death does not negotiate with political colours. It humbles all of us. It reminds us that our time in these seats is borrowed, and that our legacy will never be the size of our titles, but the weight of our service.

So let this tribute be more than a farewell. Let it be a recommitment to fight corruption with clean hands, to defend the dignity of the poor with courage, to treat community anger as a legitimate cry for justice, not as an inconvenience and to remember that every decision we take in Council eventually lands on the kitchen table of a family trying to survive.

If Councillor Nkosi taught us anything, it is that a Councillor must be more than a politician. A Councillor must be a protector of dignity. A councillor must be a translator of community pain into government action. A Councillor must be a fighter, not for personal gain, but for the public good.

And in honouring him, we must also speak from the depths of who we are as African people. In African Indigenous Spirituality, death is not an end; it is a transition. It is the crossing from the visible to the ancestral realm. A life lived in service does not disappear; it transforms into guidance. Those who walked upright among the people become part of the living moral compass of the community.

In our tradition, we understand that the ancestors are not distant spirits floating in abstraction; they are the custodians of memory, the guardians of justice, the witnesses of our conduct. When a servant of the people departs, we do not only mourn, but we also elevate. We recognize that such a life now joins the lineage of those who watch over the struggle for dignity.

Councillor Nkosi's commitment to the poor, his rootedness among ordinary residents, and his discipline in public duty. These are not lost to the soil. They are absorbed into the moral archive of our people. They become part of the ancestral testimony that asks us, every day. Are you serving with integrity? Are you standing with the people?

In African thought, a person does not truly die as long as their name is spoken with honour, and their deeds continue to shape the living. Today, as we speak his name in this Chamber, we affirm that his spirit joins the continuum of those who fought before us and those who will fight after us.

Councillor Nkosi, "Bucks," fighter and servant of the people, we honour you. May your family find comfort. May your comrades find strength. May Johannesburg find the will to continue the work. May his ancestors receive him with dignity. May his spirit rest among those who stood for justice. And may we conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of being remembered the same way. And may we who remain, across all benches, serve this City in a way that proves your struggle was not in vain."

Councillor Abdul (UIM) addressed the Council as follows:

"In life, we meet people that we are ever so sorry to have met, and then we meet people that we are so blessed to have met. Councillor Nkosi is one of the people that I have met, and I am truly blessed to have met him.

Good morning, Madam Speaker, Executive Mayor, fellow Councillors, and most importantly, the family of Councillor Nkosi, his wife, his son, and the rest of his beloved loved ones, as well as special greetings to the EFF caucus.

We always used to chat briefly there at the back, as Councillor Cook has mentioned, but I got to know him better when he joined MPAC, where we both served. This is where I experienced an intelligent, good-hearted, humble person, yet very stern in his beliefs, with proper values and principles.

Little did I realise the severity of his illness when he used to ask for painkillers right there at the back, and sometimes we could help him, and sometimes we could not.

It is indeed sad that he has passed away in the prime of his life. He leaves a legacy of love, servanthood, and a sacrificial attitude for his fellow man and the community that he served. And even here in this Chamber, he always displayed respect, even when he disagreed with certain things being said. Never have I seen him being disrespectful to anyone.

And today, I would like to share a special message with Mrs Nkosi, his son, and the family and loved ones: our deepest heartfelt sympathy. There are not enough words to comfort you today but know that only God knows. May his beautiful soul rest in peace. God bless you."

MMC Mgcina (ANC) addressed Council as follows:

"Thank you very much, Chair. Madam Speaker, the Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg, Councillor Dada Morero, the Speaker of Council, Councillor Margaret Arnolds, the Chair of Chairs, Councillor Marema, the Chief Whip of Council, Councillor Khazamula Chauke, the Leader of Executive Business, Councillor Masuku; fellow MMCs, city leaders from various political parties, fellow colleagues and ward Councillors, members of the media, residents of this great city, and a special greeting and acknowledgement to the family of the late Councillor Raymond 'Bucks' Nkosi.

Ladies and gentlemen, sanibonani. Dumelang.

Honourable Speaker, fellow Councillors, distinguished guests, and members of our community, today we rise in solemn remembrance of Councillor Raymond Siphon 'Bucks' Nkosi, who departed from us about two weeks ago due to ill health. His passing, so soon after celebrating his 52nd birthday, has left a deep void in this Council and in the hearts of all who knew him.

However, Madam Speaker, while he may be gone, his presence lives in our streets, in the streets of Diepkloof, in the oversight structures of Council, and in the political consciousness of the people he served.

As fellow councillors in this Chamber, we knew Councillor Nkosi as a disciplined and dedicated community activist. His life was defined by service, service to the people, service to justice, and service to the ideals of a better society.

When communities in and around Diepkloof faced challenges of service delivery, development delays, or workers' struggles, he was there to listen, to mobilise, to engage departments, and to demand accountability. He was a man of principle whose activism was not confined to words but lived daily through his actions.

Here in Council, he served diligently in critical Oversight Committees including; MPAC, Ethics, Governance, and Finance Committees that form the backbone of accountability in the city.

As the African National Congress, we acknowledge and honour his contribution to our democracy and to the people he served. Though he represented the Economic Freedom Fighters, his commitment to the people transcended party lines, demonstrating deep political maturity. He engaged respectfully across political divides and always put the interests of residents ahead of those of a political party.

His discipline, integrity, and dedication are qualities that we, across the political spectrum, can learn from. We extend our deepest condolences to the Nkosi family, his loved ones, and to his fellow comrades in the Economic Freedom Fighters. We share in your grief, for his loss is not yours alone; it is a loss to this Council, to our city, and to our nation.

While his chair may now stand empty in this Chamber, his spirit remains with us. His example calls on each of us to recommit ourselves to the values he stood for; discipline, dedication, and unwavering service to the people.

Let us honour his memory not only with words, but with deeds that continue the work he so passionately pursued. May his soul rest in peace. May his legacy inspire us all, at all times.

As this great statesman once said, uBaba Reginald Oliver Tambo, and I quote: 'A nation that does not value its activists does not deserve its future.' Close quote.

To the Nkosi family, his wife and children, his political party, the Economic Freedom Fighters, we extend our deepest condolences as the African National Congress in the greater Johannesburg region.

As I conclude, Madam Speaker, I leave you with the words of King David in the Book of Psalms, Chapter 34, Verse 18, which says: 'The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.'

Your loss is our loss. We share in your grief. May you know that your son's legacy will live on in our hearts and that he will never be forgotten.

Farewell, Bucks. May your spirit continue to guide us, and may your memory be a guiding light, a beacon of hope and strength to all of us as we continue to serve our people in the greater City of Johannesburg. Thank you very much."

The Speaker addressed the Council as follows:

"On behalf of the City of Johannesburg, we continue to extend our heartfelt condolences to the family. We understand how difficult this time must be for you as you grieve the loss of a beloved son, brother, husband, father, and uncle. Our prayers are with you during this difficult time.

Fellow Councillors, family, and friends, may you find peace that brings comfort and courage to face the days ahead, and may the loving memories of Councillor Raymond Nkosi forever warm your hearts.

We know that no words can truly wipe away your tears, and even the tightest embrace may not ease the depth of your pain. But we urge you to hold on to these memories, for in them he lives on. As the pain slowly fades, may the beauty of his life remain with you, with us, and with the Council he so dedicatedly served.

On 5 November 2021, Councillor Nkosi was sworn in as a Proportional Representation (PR) Councillor representing the mighty Economic Freedom Fighters, serving with commitment and integrity. He was allocated a seat in Council at the back of the Chamber, where his name was always proudly displayed each time, he attended Council meetings. A constant reminder of his presence, his voice, and his unwavering service.

Councillor Nkosi served with distinction, carrying his responsibilities with grace, discipline, and a deep sense of duty as a member of MPAC, the Governance Committee, and the Rules Committee.

Tragically, on 13 February 2026, Councillor Nkosi passed away. His funeral service was held on 21 February 2026, where his family, his political party, fellow Councillors, and members of the community bid farewell to a remarkable leader, a colleague, and a friend.

Today, the Council flag bearing the City's coat of arms has been placed on his seat, and his name is being represented by a pillar candle and flowers, symbolising that he will no longer attend Council meetings. We have honoured him through tributes delivered by all political parties represented in Council.

This special Council meeting is also being held to officially remove his name from this Chamber, a protocol ritual known as "ukusula igama", or 'to erase a name.' Sad as it is for all of us, this is the reality that we have to accept."

6 COMMENTS BY FAMILY REPRESENTATIVES

Mme Sanelisiwe MaVilakazi Nkosi addressed the Council as follows:

"Thank you, Speaker. Good morning to everyone presents in this Council today. The Honourable Speaker, Ms Margaret Arnolds, the Executive Mayor, Chief Whips, all Members of the Mayoral Committee, City officials, ward-based and Proportional Representation Councillors, as well as the people of Gauteng, and the Nkosi, Letlatsa, and Vilakazi families present this morning.

Thank you for standing with us today. In moments of our deepest sorrow and confusion, not only did you stand by us, but you also became a beacon of hope. Your presence reminds us that Bucks did not live only for himself or for us as a family, but that he also lived for the people of Gauteng.

All of you knew him as a public representative. You knew his discipline, intelligence, and commitment to his work. You saw how he engaged with issues and how thoroughly and thoughtfully he approached leadership. At home, he was known as a giver. He gave his wisdom, his strength, his finances, and his time. Even to people who were not always deserving. But we came to terms with the fact that this was simply who he was.

Bucks were highly intelligent. His intelligence was strategic and guided by principles. He studied issues deeply because he believed and understood that the people he was serving deserved leaders who think carefully and act with courage.

The Bible reminds us that to whom much is given, much is required. Bucks understood that and believed that his knowledge and strength were gifts entrusted to him by God, and he used them in the service of others.

I would like, on behalf of our families, to extend our heartfelt and sincere gratitude to the following people, among many others:

Honourable Speaker Arnolds and your delegation. You walked into our home when we were deep in despair, and you left us filled with hope for a better tomorrow. We appreciate your words of kindness and comfort, your prayers, and everything that you ensured was available to assist with laying Bucks to his final resting place. We will never forget you.

Honourable MMC Dr Mgcini Tshwaku and your delegation, thank you, Sir. You were the first person who was informed of Bucks' passing. Confused as everyone was, you gave direction and ensured that Bucks' dignity was restored and maintained, even in his death. Siyabulela, mhlekazi.

EFF Provincial Chairperson, Nkululeko Dunga, MMC of Health and Social Development, Ms Ennie Makhafola, and your delegation, words fail me. You became like modern-day Moses, with the miraculous staff in your hand. With very little to say, but with miraculous actions, you took us out of the bondage of our Egypt and safely led us into the land of milk and honey.

May you be blessed and elevated. May your cup never run dry but continue overflowing with grace and mercy. You epitomise the saying, "Umntu ngumuntu ngabantu."

To the Chief Whip of the EFF, Sis Tabisa, thank you so much for your guidance and your patience. To the regional structures of the EFF, we would like to extend our sincerest gratitude. To the leadership of ward 27, thank you for everything.

To Councillor Nhlanhla Radebe, thank you for everything, for all your efforts, and for all the doors that you knocked on. May God elevate you.

May God bless this Chamber. Thank you for all the words of kindness and encouragement that you have given to us this morning. May God bless each and every one of you.

Along the walks of life, we sometimes hurt the people around us, intentionally and unintentionally. To anyone and everyone that Bucks may have hurt along his line of work, I would like to offer a sincere apology on his behalf, if he did not get a chance to apologize for himself.

To the EFF, I would like to tell you that Bucks loved you. He loved the EFF with everything he had. I recall, on a cold morning of 26 July 2013, he woke me up with so much excitement, asking me to accompany him to Uncle Tom's Hall, where the party was being established. He was very excited to have been part of that history, and he never looked back until his last day on earth.

He gave so much of himself to the EFF, particularly to the ground forces. He sacrificed a lot for the EFF. EFF, thank you for loving Bucks back. What you did for us as a family showed us that his love was not in vain.

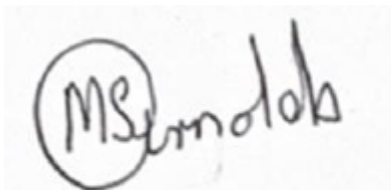
Madam Speaker and the whole Chamber, once again, I would like to express our appreciation on behalf of the family and thank you for supporting Bucks through your visits to the hospital, your prayers, and your emotional support.

May everything that you did for us be done for other families as well. Thank you very much. May God bless you. Amen.

7 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CLOSURE

None.

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:32.



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**SPEAKER OF COUNCIL
CLLR M ARNOLDS**

**15 April 2026
DATE**