



The Executive Mayor, Cllr Geoffrey Makhubo
Chief Whip of Council, Cllr Solomon Mogase
Leader of Executive Business, Cllr Loyiso Masuku
Chair of Chairs, Cllr Salphina Mulauzi
Members of the Mayoral Committee
All Political Party Leaders and Whips
Fellow Councillors
The Acting City Manager – Mr Floyd Brink
Secretary to Council – Ms Vicky Shuping
All Officials,
Members of the Media
The Residents of Johannesburg
Ladies and Gentlemen

Councillors,

I greet and welcome you all to the 46th Ordinary Council Sitting of the City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Council.

We are facing a trying time in history owing to the covid-19 pandemic. Our nation, our world and all the people in it, are experiencing a pandemic that is very difficult and unpredictable. Today we will light a candle, which is situated here in the council chamber, in memory of all councillors, and Johannesburg residents who have lost their lives to Covid-19. We pray for strength and resilience for their families. May they find solace in knowing that their loved ones are in a better place, may they be lifted up and find a reason to smile one more time, one more day.

I will now ask the Head of Protocol to light the candle, and as he does, allow me to read the poem that is engraved on the candle, because I am mindful that some councillors will not be able to see it, given that they are not physically in the chamber – The poem reads:

We come to You in our fear.

We come to You with trust.

For you alone are our hope.

We place before You the disease present

In Your World.

We turn to You in our time of need.

Bring wisdom to doctors

Give understanding to scientists

Endow caregivers with compassion and generosity.

Bring healing to those who are ill.

Protect those are most at risk.

Give comfort to those who have lost a loved one.

Welcome those have died into Your Eternal Home.

Stabilize our communities.

Unite us in compassion.

Remove all fear from our hearts.

Fill us with confidence in Your care.

May the souls of your children rest in eternal peace.

Councillors, please note that there will be a wreath laying ceremony on Saturday the 06 March 2021 which will be held in honour of all the men and women who dedicated their lives and died whilst serving the City of Johannesburg Council. The ceremony honours the memory of all Councillors and employers alike who diligently served our City.

On that note Councillors, you are all welcome...
