



PIXLEY KA SEME DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY

BUDGET SPEECH 2010-2011

EXECUTIVE MAYOR

COUNCILLOR J.Z.LOLWANA

28 MAY 2010

Honourable Speaker of the Council

Honourable Chief Whip of the Ruling Party in the Council

Honourable Members of the Mayoral Committee

Former Executive Mayor

Honourable Councillors of the Pixley ka Seme District Council

Senior Management of the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality

Regional Heads of Departments in the District

All local government leaders in the Pixley ka Seme District

Former Political Prisoners and Veterans of our Liberation Movement in the District

Distinguished guests

Ladies and gentlemen

It is a great honour and pleasure for me to present to this House my Budget Vote under the administrative leadership and stewardship of Premier Hazel Jenkins, our own former Executive Mayor, and also under the custodianship of the ruling party, the African National Congress.

This Budget Speech of the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality takes place just three days after the celebration of Africa Day. I am also painfully aware of the fact that this is the 47th birthday of the formation of the Organisation of the African Unity whose sole purpose was to liberate the whole African continent from colonial oppression and to create unity amongst Africans in the continent. I am using the word "painful" deliberately because Africa as a continent still faces challenges of national cohesion and unity as a result of civil strife, conflict and poverty, which was a critical challenge our african heroes like Nkwame Nkrumah, Haille Sellase, Nelson Mandela, Jomo Kenyatta and others tirelessly and dearly fought for. We can certainly say that there is not a single country in Africa that is currently experiencing colonial rule in the form of both political subjugation and imperial rule, though there are still challenges with regard to the economic, political stability, good governance and financial issues. We still hope that the formation of the African Union will successfully and effectively deal with these challenges.

We are also 14 days away from the kick-off of the 2010 World Cup Tournament hosted by our country. President Zuma emphasised the fact that this is an African World Cup, hosted in South Africa, when he invited the majority of African Heads of States to join him when he welcomes the world to the shores of Africa. There is nothing better that South Africa can celebrate and contribute to Africa than ensuring that South Africa host a global soccer event that will benefit not only the country but the whole African continent, particularly the Southern African region. Let us therefore present and market the 2010 World Cup as a truly African event in honour of the contributions and sacrifices made by all African leaders in their fight for national liberation and social justice. This could be indeed a memorable african event if Bafana Bafana or any african team could win the World Cup. I strongly believe that they will make us proud both as a nation and continent.

Honourable Councillors, let us all ensure that Pixley ka Seme Region, is also part of this worldwide celebration in anticipation of the FIFA World Cup. This event must also be experienced in our remote towns, eg Vanwyksvlei, Norvalspont, Campbell and Loxton. It is also our responsibility as local government, to ensure that our people in the most

remote areas can also proudly say, "Feel it, it is here". The recently concluded mayoral soccer-tournament must evolve to such an extent that it can produce players from our region to participate in big tournaments, such as the world cup. We also need to ensure that we are ready as Pixley ka Seme Region, to welcome all the tourists, international and local, who will be visiting our region, and also travel through the region during the course of the tournament.

Honourable Speaker, Councillors, Municipal Manager and Senior Managers, Honourable Guests and members of the public, all of us are having a constitutional responsibility to ensure that our institutions, be they public or private, is managed in a very efficient and effective manner. We do not have the luxury to fold our arms when we observe wrong and criminal things happening. We must be the first ones to jealously guard these institutions, from sliding into havens of corruption and fraud. Corruption and fraud must be uprooted, as they only serve to enrichment people personally, at the expense of the public, who are supposed to be benefitting from these resources. Public resources must only be utilized to uplift the quality of life of the poorest of the poor. Corruption and fraud cannot be become part of our daily operations, and be treated as normal. As Pixley ka Seme District Municipality, we will lead this campaign in the new financial year, and take it to all towns and villages in the district.

Honourable Speaker, we must also as public representatives and appointed officials of Pixley ka Seme District Municipality, join and support the national campaign launched by the Department of Health, which seeks to ensure that we curb the spread of HIV/AIDS, by testing ourselves to know our status. The President of the country set a very good example in this regard, by even announcing his status publicly. We will in the new financial year embark on a district-wide programme, with the Department of Health, to ensure that we de-stigmatize this pandemic. We need to assist our people with early detection, for treatment and management of this illness. HIV/AIDS affects all of us, let us then all join the fight against it.

Honourable Speaker and Councillors, this year marks the twentieth anniversary of the unbanning of the ruling party, the African National Congress and the release from incarceration for 27 years of our own international icon uTata uNelson Rolihlahla Mandela. This very same month also marks the 16th anniversary of the inauguration of former President Nelson Mandela as the first black President of a free and democratic South Africa. These memorable events changed the course of our history from a divided, racially polarised and oppressive society to amore united, racially inclusive and democratic South Africa.

Honourable Speaker , Councillors , Ladies and Gentlemen, I am reminding you of these memorable events because I strongly believe that the struggle should not only be waged against poverty and other social ills, but also against forgetting especially where we are coming from. President Jacob Zuma in his State of Nation Address delivered on the 10th of February this year, reminded South Africans that," The release of Madiba was brought about by the resolute struggles of the South African people. You will recall that the masses of this country, in their different formations, responded with determination to the call to make the country ungovernable and apartheid unworkable". This very same gathering seated here today is as a result of those struggles and sacrifices waged by millions of South Africans.

Honourable Speaker

Next month we will be celebrating Youth Month, in particular 16 June, where 34 years ago in Soweto, students and young people bravely challenged the Bantu Education system in particular and apartheid in general. This was characterised by violent conflict with police, which later engulfed the rest of the country, in which a large number of students and young people lost their lives in their quest for quality education and a free and democratic South Africa. We will be taking stock of what progress we have made as government in improving the lives of young people as recognition for the contribution they have made in the attainment of democracy in this country.

Honourable Councillors, ladies and gentlemen, let me also remind you that we are also celebrating the 55th anniversary of the Freedom Charter, adopted in Kliptown in 1955. It was through the adoption of this visionary and revolutionary document that the people of the country could already in 1955 declare the kind of society that they aspired to live in. It is only now that we all can witness the birth of that society.

They declared amongst a number of other issues, the following demands:

- There shall be work and security.
- The land shall be shared among those who work it.
- The doors of learning and of culture shall be opened.
- There shall be houses, security and comfort.
- The people shall share in the country's wealth.

Honourable Speaker, it is only now, 55 years later, that we can proudly announce that the government of the people, led by the African National Congress, is ensuring that we link the current priority areas, to what the masses demanded in Kliptown, in 1955.

This government, which includes local government, cannot but ensure that we keep the spirit of the class of 1955 alive, and assist the current government, to achieve its priorities.

Honourable Speaker and Councillors, we are also proud that we can gather in our new chambers today, after a long struggle. We need to ensure that this entire building and what it represents, is utilised in a manner that will enhance service-delivery in the district. We need to ensure that our officials appreciate their improved working-environment, and it must also lead to an improved performance from them.

Municipal Manager, we also need to finalize the inauguration-arrangements of the new building, and invite both the former Executive Mayor and former Municipal Manager, to share in our joy. The construction of this building was started during the period in which they led the municipality.

The Premier of the Northern Cape, Mrs Hazel Jenkins, during her State of The Province Address and Budget Speech for 2010-2011 declared this year as the "Year of Action" – which calls upon all of us politicians and administrators to speed up service delivery to our people. There is definitely no space and time for excuses, people on the ground must feel and experience the impact of our services in improving the quality of their lives. This demands that we become swift in our response to their needs, concerns and demands. This will also demand of us to be more sensitive and caring about the needs of our communities, especially the working class and the poor of the poorest.

Honourable Speaker, the past financial year also saw the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality, assisting a high number of municipalities in ensuring that they deliver quality services to their communities and stakeholders, namely:

- The bucket-eradication project in Siyancuma-municipality.
- The roll-out of the Ouboks housing-project in Umsobomvu-municipality.
- The maintenance of the 7 Youth Advisory Centres in the district.
- The assistance provided by the Internal Audit, Finance and other units in the municipality.

Speaker and Councillors, the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality will also ensure that it avails its expertise and knowledge to all municipalities in the new financial year, to further enhance the service-delivery in the region. We must however ensure that all government-departments, and not just municipalities, are held responsible for service-delivery in the district. Therefore, our approach to service-delivery will have to change in the new financial year. We need to speak with a more united voice on service-delivery. The IGR-structure must be viewed as the most relevant platform in the district to ensure that we reach common agreement on how to be more effective and efficient, in delivering government-services in the entire district.

The following are some of the projects which will be implemented in the different municipalities in the district.

- Renosterberg Municipality, solid waste disposal site, in Petrusville, and a street paving project in Philipstown.
- Housing-project in Renosterberg Municipality, in Philipstown.
- Oxidation ponds in Siyancuma Municipality, in Schmidtsdrift, as well as the upgrading of roads in Schmidtsdrift.
- The erection of a reservoir, both in Victoria West and Richmond, in the Ubuntu Municipality.
- Replacing of the old bulk water supply to Bongani and Breipaal townships, in Siyancuma Municipality.
- The upgrading of the Strydenburg Sports Complex, in Thembelihle Municipality.
- The upgrading of the access road in Loxton, in the Ubuntu Municipality.
- The upgrading of the solid waste disposal site in Marydale, in the Siyathemba Municipality.
- The upgrading of the solid waste site in Vanwyksvlei, in Kareeberg Municipality, as well as in Vosburg.
- The bulk water supply in Hopetown, in the Thembelihle Municipality.
- The upgrading of the Noupoot/Kwazamuxolo Sports Complex, in Umsobomvu Municipality.
- The upgrading of the Carnavon Sports Complex, in Kareeberg Municipality.

Honourable Speaker, we also need to ensure that the economic development potential of the district is unlocked during the new financial year. It is only through sustainable economic development that we can provide a better life to all our people in the region. All of us must support the LED-initiatives, and all local municipalities must ensure that they appoint officials with the correct skills and qualifications, to take the economic development of the district to another level.

Honourable Speaker, we need to ensure that we create a coordinated, efficient, coherent and effective communication system in the district. This is to ensure that our messages and information reaches communities constantly and timeously. This will enhance more informed public participation, and ensuring that we receive more feedback from the communities with regard to the levels and quality of the services which we render. All local municipalities would be advised to appoint local communication officers, for successful communication coordination, responsibility and accountability in the municipality.

Speaker and Councillors, we also need to ensure that the commitment to Operation Clean Audit 2014, enjoy our utmost support and commitment as councillors. We cannot be content with the fact that the majority of our municipalities and the district municipality, annually receives negative audit-opinions. We must support the administration in this important task, and not contribute to the challenges which they already experience in this regard.

Honourable Speaker, we have all recently completed the Turn-Around Strategies for all municipalities in the district. Our responsibility, as a collective of elected public representatives, is to render support to all officials in reaching the targets as set out in the Turn-Around Strategies. We cannot allow the results of that process to gather dust on the shelves of the municipalities. We need to implement the turn-around strategy as speedily as possible, to better the lives of the people in the district.

We are also nearing the end of our term, which started in March 2006, and I am totally convinced that we contributed immensely to the improvement in the lives of the people, in the district.

Speaker, 2011, will be marked by a local government-elections campaign, during which all political parties will be expected to once again engage the voter-population and to convince them of

the correctness of their policies and programmes. As we all know that this process will be full of activity, both negative and positive, as well as the making of promises and the declaring of commitments. We need to ensure that we as councillors and representatives of different political parties, participate in this process, by creating a violence-free, tolerant and peaceful environment. Ours was never a physical encounter, but rather a process in which we engage peacefully.

Honourable Speaker, allow me to briefly explain the figures of the 2010-2011 operational and capital budget. The following factors had to be considered during the construction of this budget.

1. The agreed annual wage increment of CPX+1.5 %, for officials, to be implemented on 1 July 2010.
2. The recent deal struck between SALGA and Organised Labour which needs to be implemented, backdated to September 2009.
3. A 10% increase in Councillor allowances.
4. Die onsekerheid rondom die toekoms van die lewering van die Paaie Funksie.
5. Die negatiewe houdings van instansies namens wie ons funksies leer, byvoorbeeld die National Youth Development Agency.
6. Die feit dat ons steeds, na herhaalde pleidooie, nie genoegsame fondse ontvang vanaf die Nasionale Regering nie.

Honourable Speaker and Councillors, I am today tabling a budget to the amount of R73 474 300.00, for the 2010-2011 financial year. This budget is R6 million less than the previous budget. We are however aware that this budget will increase as more functions and responsibilities will be delegated to us, as the year progresses.

The breakdown of the budget is as follows:

- District Functions : R53 806 300.000

➤ Roads Agency : R19 668 000.000

The District Functions, (Expenditure) is further broken down, as follows:

➤ Personnel/Councillor Costs : R26 387 406
➤ General Costs : R23 977 894
➤ Repairs and Maintenance : R 1047 000
➤ Contractual Obligations : R 1614 000
➤ CAPEX : R 780 000

The following is an indication of the personnel cost, in percentages:

➤ Including Councillors : 49,04%
➤ Excluding Councillors : 42,4%
➤ Excluding YAC's and Learners: 38,9%

The other costs involved in personnel expenditure, include the following:

➤ Overtime : R125 000
➤ Ex Gratia Officials : R390 000

Agbare Speaker, die inkomste vir die komende boekjaar bestaan uit die volgende kategoriee:

➤ Provinsiale Toekennings : R12 536 800
➤ Nasionale Toekennings : R35 340 000
➤ Eie Fondse: : R 5 929 500
➤ Department Vervoer : R 19 668 000

Honourable Speaker, we also had to adapt to the new budget format, as set by the National Treasury, eg no more special funds for issues like entertainment, but we will ensure that we still perform our developmental and social responsibilities in the district.

We also had to cut our budget severely, as reported earlier, but that will not result in us not performing our duties. This budget will ensure that we allow the people of the district to enjoy a better life and improved social conditions.

Speaker and Councillors, we need to thank Councillor Katy Mooi, for leading the Finance Committee of the district municipality, and ensuring that we could finalise and present our budget on time.

Speaker, allow me to thank the Municipal Manager, Mr NM Jack, and the entire senior management team, for their hard work and visionary leadership, which they are providing to this municipality. May your collective leadership take this municipality to new heights, in the new financial year.

I would also like to thank all the staff of the Pixley ka Seme District Municipality, for being at work every day, and doing what is expected of them, especially the staff in the Office of the Executive Mayor.

Let us all also thank our Heavenly Father and God, for allowing us on a daily basis to do what He expects from all of us.

Speaker and Councillors, I am tabling, in all humility, this budget before you, for your consideration and approval.

Baie Dankie

Enkosi

Thank You

Kealeboga