**BUDGET SPEECH BY THE HONOURABLE MAYOR I MEHLOMAKULU**

**MOHOKARE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY**

**30 MAY 2017 MATLAKENG COMMUNITY HALL**

* **Honourable Councillors**
* **Management of Mohokare**
* **Sector departments**
* **Distinguished Guests**
* **Most importantly the community of Mohokare**

I rise with humility as your servant, to present to this august house the IDP and budget speech. It is my duty as the Mayor/Speaker of Mohokare Local municipality to present the final budget for 2017/2018 financial year.

Before I proceed with my address, I’d like to re-affirm that I proclaimed “2017 as my Caring Year”. As the Mayor this year will be all about caring and making mutual respect the order of the day. I’d like to share the following motto:

***Before you assume, learn the facts.***

***Before you judge, understand why.***

***Before you hurt someone, feel.***

***Before you speak, think deeply***

On the 25th of this month we celebrated Africa Day, this means for us as government we must strengthen our commitment towards economic transformation for our people. As we know that most of our residents in our municipality cannot afford to pay for services, revenue enhancement is still a challenge for our municipality therefore we will always stress the importance of Local Economic Development at all times.

Council is all too aware that the cost of living seems to be rising , with the unstable Rand that is constantly fluctuating.

On its part, Council will ensure that the capital budget is utilised to the hilt, even if the resources at its disposal are rather limited most of the time. It goes without saying that productivity, service delivery and good governance will be addressed in earnest, while Council promises not to budge from its zero-tolerance attitude towards wasteful and fraudulent practices. Ditjhelete tsa maspala, hadisebelletse batho barona!

Honourable councillors if we are to improve the performance of our municipality, we need to improve our operational efficiency and responsiveness to service delivery issues. Our senior management need to understand the fundamental importance of resolving underlying service delivery hindrances. It cannot be business as usual when it comes to service delivery. Serithi sa batho ba rona, se matsohong a rona ka hore re bafe ditsebelletso tseo dibaloketseng.

Fellow residents we gathered here today to consider both the final IDP and the Budget of Mohokare.

Honorable house, section 22(a) of the MFMA stipulates that immediately after tabling the annual budget in Council, we must make public the annual budget and invite the local community to submit representations. Section 23(2) of the MFMA stipulates further that after considering all submissions, the Council must give the Mayor an opportunity to respond to the submissions and if necessary revise the budget and table amendments for consideration by Council.

We consulted our communities in the three towns namely, Smithfield, Rouxville and Zastron. After considering submissions by the communities, as the Mayor, I am given the opportunity to revise the budget and table any amendments for consideration before this honorable Council.

Fellow residents we realise that 2017/2018 financial year should be approached with realism and tightening of fiscal discipline and we believe we should guard against unrealistic demands and concentrate on our key role of uplifting our communities and our area.

This budget is a testimony to the fact that we as councillors are committed to create conditions for a better life for all the people of Mohokare, ***Roger Smith one said I quote ‘you don’t just stumble into the future. You create your own future’ Close quote.***

Through this budget we are trying to create our own future and the future of our children.

The 2017/2018 operational expenditure is allocated as follows:

* Total operating income is as estimated at R 170 million rand
* Operational expenditure is estimated at R169 million rand
* Grants and subsidies is set at R67 324 million rand
* Own funding is set at R 1. 348 million rand

The 2017/2018 Capital budget is allocated as follows:

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| --- | --- |
| **Description of project** | **Capital budget** |
| Rouxville: Construction of Rouxville Water Treatment Works | R 4 000 000.00 |
| Rouxville: Construction of the 27km pipeline to Orange River | R 16 000 000.00 |
| Rouxville: Mech & Electrical works on two pump stations | R 14 700 000.00 |
| Zastron: Upgrading of Water Treatment Works | R 11 000 000.00 |
| Zastron: Mech & Electrical works on two pump stations | R 4 300 000.00 |
| Zastron waste water treatment works | R 560 105.54 |
| Smithfield: Construction of 5km access paved road | R 832 436.04 |
| Zastron: Upgrading of a sports facility | R 527 600.00 |
| Roleleyathunya: Construction of a sports ground | R 293 020.00 |
| Zastron: Building of gatehouse, ablution facility and fencing of cemeteries | R 1 999 216.03 |
| Rouxville/Roleleathunya: Building of gatehouse, ablution facility and fencing of cemeteries | R 1 465 139.54 |
| Smithfield/Mofulatshepe: Erection of fence at the cemetery,construction of gatehouse and ablution facility | R 2 854 691.00 |
| Rouxville / Roleleathunya: Upgrading of the sewerage water treatment works | R 5 570 952.00 |
| Rouxville/Roleleathunya :Installation of five high mast lights in Somerset | R 1 288 907.95 |
| Rouxville/Roleleathunya : phase1 Construction of 1.7 km access road and related storm water | R 1 746 006.90 |
| Zastron : Construction of 600m of paved access road and related stormwater of Zama road | R 186 125.00 |

In conclusion fellow residents the budget I am presenting to you today is what we have in our disposal to ensure that we change the lives of the people of Mohokare, we urge all residents to pay services in doing so you’ll enable Council to tackle all service delivery challenges that we are faced with. We have also identified the need to monitor the performance of our service providers this will enable us as council to make changes where necessary in order to speed up service delivery. We won’t rest as this Council until our towns are clean and our people are serviced as they supposed to.

I am therefore tabling the 2017/2018 IDP and Budget for approval by the Honorable Council in line with section 24(1) of the MFMA Act no 56 of 2003.

Thank you.

Dankie

Ndiyabonga