

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY, HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, MUNICIPAL OFFICES, 50 VOORTREKKER STREET, CERES ON THURSDAY, 29 AUGUST 2013 AT 14:00

PRESENT

Councillors

TT Godden (Speaker)
JNED Klazen (Executive Mayor)
K Adams (Deputy Executive Mayor)
R Badela
WJ Hanekom
BC Klaasen
S Louw
SM Ndwanya
MI Saula
EM Sidego
HJ Smit
D Swart
JA Veschini
JJ Visagie
P Waterboer

Officials

Mr D Nasson (Municipal Manager)
Ms J Krieger (Director: Community Services)
Mr HJ Kritzinger (Director: Finance)
Mr CG Wessels (Principal Administrative Officer)

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

Councillor JNED Klazen welcomed everyone present.

NOTED.

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE, IF ANY (3/1/2/1)

Applications for leave of absence from the meeting were received from the following councillors:

BJ Chaaban (NPP), JJ du Plessis (DA); MC du Toit (ANC), JS Mouton (ANC), P Heradien (DA), JT Phungula (ANC) and L Salmon (ANC).

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from the Director: Technical Services, the Director: Corporate Services and the Head: Internal Audit.

RESOLVED

(a) *That the applications for leave of absence from the meeting, received from the following councillors, be approved and accepted:*

- *BJ Chaaban (NPP)*
- *JJ du Plessis (DA)*
- *MC du Toit (ANC)*
- *JS Mouton (ANC)*
- *JT Phungula (ANC)*
- *L Salmon (ANC)*
- *P Heradien (DA)*

(b) *That cognisance be taken of the apologies rendered for absence, received from the Director: Technical Services, the Director: Corporate Services and the Head: Internal Audit.*

4. STATEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS OR MATTERS RAISED

**4.1 Matters raised by the Speaker
(09/1/1)**

The Speaker requested that attention be given to the allocation of an office for Councillor R Badela at Nduli, Ceres. The matter of an eviction must be finalised.

NOTED.

**4.2 Matters raised by the Executive Mayor
(09/1/1)**

The Executive Mayor requested that attention be given to the allocation of an office for Councillor R Simpson at Op-die-Berg.

NOTED.

5. RESERVED POWERS

**5.1 International Relations: Bozhou, China
(10/2/3)**

The following items refer:

- (a) Item 8.1.4 of the Executive Mayoral Committee meeting, held on 20 August 2013.
- (b) Item 9.6 of the council meeting, held on 21 August 2013.

An email from Mr Tony Yang, dated 10 June 2013, is attached as **annexure 5.1**.

The following report, dated 19 August 2013, was received from the Municipal Manager:

"Purpose

To consider a letter from Bozhou Municipality to send a Witzenberg delegation to their Fifth Liquor Trading Expo to be held from 8 to 10 September 2013, Bozhou.

Background

Witzenberg Municipality has a Twinning Agreement with Bozhou Municipality in China. A Bozhou delegation recently visited our Municipality and indicated that they would want to explore new areas of cooperation and investment that will be beneficial for both municipalities. The one area that has been identified was that of the wine making industry. A letter was received from the Bozhou Municipality to visit Bozhou. The delegation's costs of any accommodation, meals and transport will be for the account of the Bozhou Municipality. If the invitation is accepted then a formal letter will be sent to our municipality. In terms of the delegation of approval of international visits resides with full Council."

Councillor J Veschini proposed that the following delegation visits the Bozhou Municipality, China:

The Executive Mayor, Councillor JNED Klazen, the Speaker, Councillor T Godden, Councillor H Smit, the Municipal Manager, Mr D Nasson, the Director: Community Services, Ms J Krieger, the Deputy Executive Mayor, Councillor K Adams, and one representative from the local wine industry.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 20 August 2013 to recommend to Council:

That the following delegation be approved to visit the Bozhou Municipality, China in order to attend their Fifth Liquor Trading Expo to be held from 8 to 10 September 2013 in Bozhou:

- (i) The Executive Mayor, Councillor JNED Klazen
- (ii) The Deputy Executive Mayor, Councillor K Adams
- (iii) The Speaker, Councillor T Godden
- (iv) Councillor H Smit
- (v) The Municipal Manager, Mr D Nasson
- (vi) The Director: Community Services, Ms J Krieger
- (vii) One representative from the local wine industry.

Councillor J Phungula enquired with regard to the flight costs of the delegation.

Councillor H Smit withdrew as part of the delegation.

Councillor P Waterboer argued that nobody from the Local Economic Development Forum is part of the delegation.

Councillor M du Toit was of the opinion that investments from China in the municipal area is a dream. It never realises.

Councillor BC Klaasen requested that the attention be placed on the bigger picture such as export, new markets, possibilities etc. It also supports the initiative of the National Government in terms of BRICS. Furthermore is Tulbagh one of the leading producers in the wine industry.

Councillor P Heradien requested that a smaller delegation attend the Wine Festival in China.

Councillor J Phungula proposed and Councillor J Veschini seconded that a smaller delegation attends the Wine Festival in China.

Councillor JNED Klazen proposed and Councillor S Louw seconded that the item be held in abeyance until the next meeting.

The Speaker called for a vote and the outcomes were a tie vote of 11 votes each.

Speaker resolved that the matter be held in abeyance until the next meeting.

Council resolved on 21 August 2013 that the matter regarding a delegation to visit the Fifth Liquor Trading Expo in Bozhou, China be held in abeyance until the next meeting.

Councillor BC Klaasen proposed and Councillor J Visagie seconded that the delegation as mentioned in the item be approved to visit China. The Municipal Manager informed the meeting that he withdrew from the delegation due to the serious illness of his mother-in-law.

Councillor P Waterboer informed the meeting that the ANC component does not support the proposal. Speaker requested that the individual ANC councillors must express themselves, because Councillor Waterboer is not the Chief Whip of the ANC in Council. Opportunity was granted to the various ANC councillors.

The Speaker requested that it be minuted that not all the ANC councillors present at the meeting supported the information of Councillor P Waterboer.

RESOLVED

(a) *That the following delegation be approved to visit the Bozhou Municipality, China in order to attend their Fifth Liquor Trading Expo to be held from 8 to 10 September 2013:*

- (i) *The Executive Mayor, Councillor JNED Klazen*
- (ii) *The Deputy Executive Mayor, Councillor K Adams*
- (iii) *The Speaker, Councillor T Godden*
- (iv) *Councillor H Smit*
- (v) *The Director: Community Services, Ms J Krieger*
- (vi) *One representative from the local wine industry.*

- (b) *That approval for special leave be granted to the following representatives of the municipality:*
- (i) *The Executive Mayor, Councillor JNED Klazen*
 - (ii) *The Deputy Executive Mayor, Councillor K Adams*
 - (iii) *The Speaker, Councillor T Godden*
 - (iv) *Councillor H Smit*
 - (v) *The Director: Community Services, Ms J Krieger*
- (c) *That all the municipal representatives mentioned in (b) supra be paid the travel and subsistence allowance in terms of Council's policy.*

**5.2 Designation of councillor to act as Executive Mayor in absence of Executive Mayor and Deputy Executive Mayor
(03/1/1/4)**

Item 9.9 of the council meeting, held on 21 August 2013, refers.

Legal position

In terms of Section 56(7) of the Municipal Structures Act, if both the Executive Mayor and the Deputy Executive Mayor are absent or not available, the Council must designate a councillor to act as Executive Mayor.

Council resolved on 21 August 2013 that the matter regarding the designation of a councillor to act as Executive Mayor in the absence of the Executive Mayor and Deputy Executive Mayor be held in abeyance until the next meeting.

Councillor J Veschini proposed and Councillor JNED Klazen seconded that Councillor S Louw be designated to act as Executive Mayor in the absence of the Executive Mayor and Deputy Executive Mayor.

RESOLVED

That Councillor S Louw be designated to act as Executive Mayor in the absence of the Executive Mayor and Deputy Executive Mayor.

**5.3 Electricity: Petition and request from Nduli community, Ceres
(16/3/4/1)**

The following memorandum, dated 27 August 2013, was received from the Municipal Manager:

"Purpose

"To request Council to consider a response to the demand from Nduli Community that electricity cut-off be suspended and Eskom be mandated to sell electricity in the jurisdictional area of Council.

Background

Councillor Saula and a delegation of Ward 1 requested an urgent meeting on 26 August 2013 with the Municipal Manager, Mayor and the CFO. They handed over a letter from the community requesting the suspension of electricity cuts. A copy of same is attached as **annexure 5.3**. During the deliberations they requested that Eskom be allowed to sell electricity in the whole jurisdictional area of the Municipality. There was a further request that consideration be given to a further amnesty period for offenders with regard to electricity meter tampering.”

RESOLVED

- (a) *That amnesty be granted for all first time transgressors of tampering with electricity meters throughout the Witzenberg service area.*
- (b) *That the amnesty period be until 30 September 2013.*
- (c) *That the names of second time and more offenders of tampering with electricity meters be tabled to the Committee for Corporate and Financial Services for consideration.*
- (d) *That the Director: Community Services follows an intensified program for indigence at Nduli, Ceres.*

5.4 State Funeral Plan 2013 (17/13/P)

The following memorandum, dated 28 August 2013, was received from the Municipal Manager:

“Purpose

To table to Council the State Funeral Plan 2013 of Witzenberg Municipality in the event of a state president passing away.

Background

Municipalities have been requested to compile a local State Funeral Plan per the guidelines by the National Department of Local Government in the event of a state president passing away.

The Cape Winelands District Municipality is coordinating all activities of state funerals within the district. Various meetings between different spheres of government have been conducted. Witzenberg Municipality has compiled a State Funeral Plan as per the discussion and guidelines, which needs to be approved by Council.

A copy of the State Funeral Plan is attached as **annexure 5.4.**”

RESOLVED

That approval be granted that councillors may attend a state funeral on provision that an invitation has been received.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 14:30.

Approved on _____ .

COUNCILLOR TT GODDEN
SPEAKER

/MJ Prins