

ADDRESS BY MAYOR DURING COUNCIL MEETING OF 31 JULY 2018.

Honourable councillors and Managers.

Welcome to this special council of our municipality. I say this meeting is very important as it take place on the last day of Mandela month on this year which marks a centenary of the first president of the democratic South Africa, Dr Nelson Mandela. July month of 2018 has also been declared as the month in which political leaders have to recommit themselves to the service of their people. During the United Nations Public Service forum which was held in our continent, in Morocco on 21 and 22 June this year, countries committed themselves to work hard to realise the seventeen (17) Sustainable Developmental goals.

Returning from the United Nations Public Service forum, South Africa declared July as the month to recommit us to fulfil service delivery mandate. The week from 9 July to 15 July 2018 was declared as National Imbizo focus week. This week only marked the official opening of National Imbizo Focus Week. When opening the Imbizo focus week officially, Minister Nomvula Mokonyane urged government officials from local to national level to engage citizens in honour of Tata Nelson Mandela and Mama Albertina Sisulu. These two anti-apartheid political activists would have turned hundred (100) years if they were alive today. What also link these two selfless politicians is that it was Mama Sisulu who stood up in parliament and elected Tata Nelson Mandela as president of the democratic South Africa in 1994.

Both these leaders had passion for rural development. Whatever we do as political leaders of Lephalale Local municipality should be dedicated to these leaders. Whatever programme we engage ourselves in, must be aimed at taking the legacy of these leaders forward.

Honourable councillors and Managers.

Our actions and programmes must be informed by what Nelson Mandela said when delivering his first address. He said:

“I stand here before you not as a prophet, but as a humble servant of you, the people. Our human compassion binds us the one to the other – not in pity or patronizingly, but as human beings who have learnt how to turn our common suffering into hope for the future.”

As political leaders of Lephalale municipality we must agree that we stand here, in this chamber, not as servants of the people and not as prophets. If we agree that we are servants of the people, we must do the following:

1. Firstly, we must stand and say, like president Ramaphosa said: “Thumamina!” Thumamina is not a simple slogan that we must just go around shouting; it is a slogan that should be implemented by us as servants of the people.
2. Secondly, to implement the Thumamina slogan we must be united. Unity is very important if we want to implement this national slogan.
3. Thirdly, we must display maximum discipline and high moral, so that our followers through-out Lephalale will be united and disciplined.
4. As collective leadership we must be committed to our community work. We must collectively say “ Thumamina” and collectively implement our Community consultative mandate.
5. Management must also be disciplined and implement council decisions as required by this council.

Let me conclude by reminding all of us that we have a collective responsibility to build a vibrant city and make this area an energy hub.

Let me conclude by reminding us that from tomorrow we will be celebrating Women’s month honouring mme Albertina Sisulu under the national theme:

“Nevertheless, She Persisted: Honouring Women Who Fight All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and tirelessly strive for Women empowerment.”

I THANK YOU.

Hon Mayor: Cllr Moloko Jack Maeko