

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF KOUGA MUNICIPALITY HELD ON
TUESDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 08:00**

PRESENT: Councillors

Ald B Williams	(Speaker)
H Bornman	(Executive Mayor)
Ald D Benson	
B Dhludhlu	
T Jantjes	
W Gertenbach	
W van der Linde	
H Murray	
R Foley	
S Ruth	
F Heystek	
C August	
M Biko	
M van Niekerk	
J Alexander	
L Maree	
G Stuurman	
N Ntshota	
N Ntengwane	
V Gunuza	
B Human	
M Mbandana	
E Mbuqu	
M Valgee	
L Nkilishane	
M Yali	
V Zana	
W Petersen	
K Ndzelani	
P Oliphant	

**Officials &
Municipal Manager**

C du Plessis	(Municipal Manager)
D de Jager	(Deputy Municipal Manager)
L Opperman	(Acting Director: Planning, Tourism, & Development)
R Lorgat	(Chief Financial Officer)
N Machelesi	(Director: Community Services)
C de Kock	(Director: Civil & Water)
T Madatt	(Acting Director: Electro-Mechanical)
E Goliath	(Manager: Public Participation)
K Minnaar	(Chief of Staff)
L Wessels	(Legal Officer)
M Basson	(Media Specialist)
D Klopper	(Office Administrator: Office of the Speaker)
C Prinsloo	(Legal Officer)

M Julius	(Senior Admin Officer: Committees)
M Rossouw	(Manager: Administration & Auxiliary)
L Cronjé	(Committee Clerk)

1. **NOTICE OF MEETING**

The Speaker read the notice convening the meeting in terms of Section 19 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act No.32 of 2000) that a Special Council Meeting will be held virtually.

2. **OPENING AND WELCOME**

The Speaker welcomed all those in attendance and asked Cllr Ndzalani to open with a prayer.

3. **ABSENT WITH LEAVE**

None

4. **ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE**

None.

5. **PRESENTATIONS**

None

6. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS, CONDOLENCES & CONGRATULATIONS**

Cllr August expressed condolences to the family of Hans from Hankey. He oversaw the rugby field until his death on 11 September, 2023.

Cllr Human also applauded the Springboks on their impressive victory.

Cllr Dhludhlu congratulated the Municipality on obtaining third place at the National Arbor City Awards ceremony. The prize was granted by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment in the category of Local Municipalities.

He also complimented Dorp van Drome for receiving an award for their impressive green initiatives.

7. **STATEMENTS OR COMMUNICATIONS BY THE SPEAKER**

None

8. **STATEMENTS OR COMMUNICATIONS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

None

9. **DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST**

None

10. **STATUTORY MATTERS**

11. **MATTERS DEALT WITH IN TERMS OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

(The reports by the Executive Mayor, in terms of the provisions of Section 63 of the Local Government Municipal Systems Act, 32 of 2000, on matters dealt with by the Executive Mayor in terms of delegated authority as detailed in the Minutes to be noted).

12. **REPORTS BY THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR**

12.1 **REPORTS BY THE CHAIRPERSON: ELECTRO-MECHANICAL SERVICES**

23/09/EM1 ROLL-OVER: INEP ELECTRIFICATION & BULK PROJECTS, PERMISSION TO CONTINUE WITH THE PROJECT

Cllr Mbandana expressed that the African National Congress (ANC) supported the item. He commented on the electrical difficulties encountered in Patensie and pleaded for a resolution. He additionally observed that the Gamtoos Valley was not encompassed under the project and contended that its inclusion would have been desirable.

Cllr Gunuza and Cllr Ntshota joined the meeting at 08:07.

Cllr Zana expressed his endorsement of the item. He concurred with Cllr Mbandana on the challenges encountered in the Gamtoos Valley.

Cllr Foley expressed his support for the item and extended appreciation for the allocation of funding that will positively impact the community.

Cllr Oliphant affirmed his support of the item. He acknowledged the positive impact of electrification and its contribution to enhancing the quality of life for previously disadvantaged communities. However, it was stated that the occurrence of rollovers indicated the Municipality's insufficient planning. He stated that political motivations likely influenced the allocation of grant funding.

Cllr Nkilishane enquired whether Oceanview's electrification included all informal settlements. He alleged that the electrification effort was undertaken exclusively for political campaigning.

The Speaker requested that he submit his allegations in writing to the Office of the Speaker.

Cllr Human expressed that the Patriotic Alliance (PA) supported the item. He inquired about the rationale behind the Municipality's decision to wait until the conclusion of the fiscal year to declare the unspent funds and to apply for the rollover.

He further enquired on the fate of the original funds allocated for the project in light of the Chief Financial Officer's (CFO) statement in the item, which indicated the cancellation of internal funds and the absence of grant funding. He cautioned against the utilisation of initiatives for political advantage.

Cllr Maree expressed appreciation for the Administration's achievements. She stated that the Institution received financial resources from the Treasury towards the end of the fiscal year and that the Department stated its dedication to the prudent allocation of funds.

In response to Cllr Human, the Executive Mayor clarified that the rollover was not a result of inadequate planning but attributed to the delayed receipt of funds. It limited the Municipality's ability to plan adequately and allocate the funds within the given timeframe. He extended an invitation to Cllr Nkilishane, requesting his presence alongside other members of the Council at Ocean view on the following day to observe the progress of their collective endeavours.

Considering the statements made by Cllr Oliphant and Cllr Mbandana, the Executive Mayor reiterated the provision of energy in the Gamtoos region falls beyond the purview of Kouga Municipality's responsibilities. The Municipality does not have ownership of the infrastructure.

The CFO verified that the Department would formulate the Adjustment Budget to present it to Council in January 2024. He stated that the funds being utilised by the Municipality were submitted on 31 August 2023. The Municipality possesses reserves that have accrued since the conclusion of the previous fiscal year. He further stated that, upon receiving approval for the rollover from the National Treasury, the Municipality intends to convert the funding source to grant funding, subsequently replenishing the reserves. The allocation is expected to take place during the Adjustment Budget.

A vote on the item was held via a poll and it was unanimously approved.

Resolved (12 September 2023)

1. That the Council approves, by resolution taken by the majority of its full number, and in terms of Section 30(2) of the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act No. 117 of 1998 (as amended), read in conjunction with Section 28 of the Local Government: Finance Management Act, Act No 56 of 2003, approves the following adjustments budget for the 2023/24 financial year.

UKEY	Project Description	Approved Budget	Adjustment Budget	Funding Source
new	Electrification Ocean view phase 1	0	1,318,112.55	Internal
new	66Kv Overhead line construction	0	1,576,840.27	Internal

2,894,952.82

13. **CLOSURE**

The meeting closed at 08:30



B WILLIAMS

SPEAKER

4 March 2024

DATE