



INGOUZA HILL
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

MAYOR'S POLITICAL OVERVIEW TO STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION 11 - 14 MARCH 2019 AT MZAMBA CASINO

Madam Speaker

Chief whip

Executive Committee members

Section 79 committee chairpersons

All Ingquza Hill Councillors

Deployees from various levels

Sister departments

State owned enterprises

Business Chamber

Labour Unions (SAMWU & IMATU)

Invited Guests

Management as led by Acting Municipal Manager

I greet you on behalf of the Ingquza Hill Local Municipality Council and community.

Madam Speaker it is important to make some highlights on the international and National Balance of forces as they have an impact on our operations

The attitude of the right wing elements in America make one to believe that there is a change in the foreign policy of USA as it has returned to its diplomatic wars with Latin America.

The recent call by Donald Trump to build a wall between Mexico and USA is a clear testimony of a continued hatred for the Latin American Countries like Mexico and Cuba and also to Black people throughout the world.

One would have failed not to mention the US attack on Venezuela which is an imperialist agenda to exploit oil resources by creating instability in all socialist countries and purport to be intervening.

Maria Todorova says "America's entry in the First World war with the intention of waging a war to end all wars, ended in an unintended peace, which ended all peace"



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The Zimbabwe political instability or unrest which is due to the economic downturn has a negative impact in our national situation as this may lead to influx of Zimbabwe foreign nationals to our country.

The extension of economic sanctions by one more year against Zimbabwe is a cause for concern for the SADC region given the fact that the influx into South Africa and other neighbouring countries will be relatively high.

This will then impose serious economic challenges in a form of provision of basic services and indigent services as they live below poverty line.

All of the above issues are an indication of the fact that balance of forces internationally are not static as there are inducing factors for existing conditions.

Madam Speaker

Allow me to give a brief synopsis of the current political epoch and or chemistry which we are operating in and how it impacts in our daily operations.

We are gathered here today after important government events which have created space for us to engage and also shape up our sphere of government by taking the tune from those events which include SONA, SOPA and Budget speech.

According to Stroh EL "Strategy planning focuses on a bigger picture whereas tactical planning focuses on the specifics within that bigger picture." It is for that reason that the Municipal departments planning must flow from the end product of this strategic planning. Wayne Chirisa an entrepreneur and author said "Every effective winning strategy is mapped out by focusing on the desired end goal" I reasonably believe that as IHLM we are duty bound to effectively execute the mandate given to the Anc by the people of our area and beyond. That must be coupled with transparency accountability and people driven. The quality of service that we provide is very fundamental. There are noticeable service delivery protests that happen spontaneously in our area. It is unfortunate that some are triggered by deliverables not necessarily in our competence.

Compatriots



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The ANC led government in its manifesto identified 5 apex priorities which include Education, Health, fighting Crime, rural development and provision of decent Housing and shelter.

Few years ago we have seen the implementation of free basic education which now has been escalated to tertiary education. This will bring relief to the middle strata (teachers, nurses and all civil servants) as it talks to exception of those earning less than

On Health, we have seen the emergence of Health facilities in both two towns of our municipality as part of the NHI pilot project which is implemented in O.R Tambo District.

The President of the Republic will visit Ingquza Hill on the 3rd April to open a new Health centre in Lusikisiki which is a testimony that the ruling party is committed in improving health system.

The Eastern Cape Budget Speech by Hon MEC Oscar Mabuyane pronounced itself on the improvement of the condition of St Elizabeth Regional Hospital which is a commitment to the improved health system.

Despite the challenges imposed by ESKOM in terms of electricity connections however we are proud to say that about 82% of the households are electrified and some getting free electricity or paraffin.

We have installed High masts in some crime prevalent areas and we are planning to install others in 22 high schools as we put the education and safety of our children as a top priority

INGquza Hill has a serious water challenges whereby 82% of our population does not have access to clean water. In certain wards water schemes have collapsed.

We are committed to fight bribery and corruption but we solely depend on the communities and all of us to report any of these so as to allow the leadership to act decisively.

As the Municipality we have to make ways and means to create jobs as the Presidency has pronounced commitment to check jobs created every week.

As part of our strategy to create jobs in our area we are committed to lure investors through infra structured development and face-lifting of our towns.

We need a renewed approach to deal with the issue of land invasions as it is a threat to the development to our small towns. Land is the only benefit which we are left with and is the only dependable resource towards economic development.



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Where to now?

The Current crisis in ward 25, 26, 32 has pronounced clearly on the tarring of the road, Mkambathi to Mtontsasa, for the access and economic development.

We have made strides to come closer to SANRAL and get to know other than N2 road which other access roads have been planned for construction and maintenance.

We have also managed to be at the centre of the coordination of the meetings working with Premiers office through the Eastern Cape Socio Economic Commission which plays a facilitation role.

We are at the centre of the proposed biodiversity development project which is targeting Port St Johns, Bizana and Ingouza Hill which will employ more than a 1000 personnel.

We are embarking on the Flagstaff face-lifting through a Small Town revitalisation as pronounced by the Eastern Cape premier, however, there are challenges of land which hinder the development.

As the Municipality we have agreed to extend our scope to quarry and sand mining. We need to reason as to what is it that has to be done to create boom in that sphere linked to SANRAL development.

The Eastern Cape MEC for Economic Development has also pronounced on the need to push for technology innovations as the promise of broadband has not yet been rolled to our area. He has made it clear that the bottle necks on the contract are being finalised.

Once that is done it will compel leadership to engage with malls to have free Wi- Fi which will benefit our people especially youth in schools and TVET colleges.

The Eastern Cape Budget Speech pronounced itself on the creation of jobs through the establishment of an Isqalo Youth Fund with an injection of R50 million which will focus on:

- Training and skills development, and
- Funding for Youth Owned Enterprises

We need to ensure that our processes are geared towards the 4th industrialisation as technology is in demand. Our offices must have video conferencing facilities to minimise travelling costs and time wasted in meetings.



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We as the Council need to move away from documentation which is presented on paper to paperless but that has to be preceded by the provision of sustainable working tools.

As we begin this four days strategic planning session it must resonate in our minds that our strategy must inform policies which must translate to a programmes which shall benefit our people on the ground.

At all material times, our duty remains to be held accountable to the people. Every word, every act and every policy must conform to the people's interests, and if mistakes occur, they must be corrected – that is what being responsible to the people means. Mao Tse Tung (Mao Ze Dong)

Honourable Chief Whip

2019 is the year of National General Elections there will be more demands for services and community needs which will translate to community protests and that calls for vigilance from all councillors.

Our role is to activate all structures of the civil society and organs of people's power to be closer to the people and give every detail to our communities as knowledge is power.

IEC has said there are about 500 plus political organisations which will contest elections which show that our democracy is growing and also that politics are a contested terrain which need people with well-crafted vision, mission, strategy and objectives which are closer to the hearts of our people.

This has a potential to attract more voters to the polls than the previous years as the ruling party in the past was voted by 12 million voters.

Achievements

Despite the fact that we purchased a second plant which was meant to assist in road maintenance and construction of roads there are some delays in finishing some projects hence we embarked on outsourcing of those projects.

We have connected 82 % of the households which never had electricity though we have some challenges in ward 3 at Mathithiyeni and other areas.



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For 3 consecutive financial years we have achieved a clean audit with no audit findings even at Supply Chain Management (mSCOA) but unfortunately in 2017/18 we got a qualified audit opinion.

Our Long term planning, 2035 Vision which is being facilitated by Eastern Cape Socio Economic commission (ECSECC) is in the stage of implementation and has called us to improve our economy from 1% to 4 % which is an accepted standard.

This means we need to put more effort and increase our strides in the implementation of our key priorities which will bring about economic spin offs.

We must be thorough in scrutinising our SDBIP through the population of the organogram which has about 38 % vacancy.

Our strategies and objectives should talk to the people's needs and also address the way forward in terms of sustaining clean good governance

Your attendance to this 4 days strategic planning session will show commitment to the changing of lives of our communities and zeal to transform our institution to be a working institution with a friendly leadership.

Thank you so much