



MINUTES

OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT NARRAVILLE, WALVIS BAY ON THURSDAY 13 MARCH 2025 AT 18:00

Present: Councillors

Cllr Saara Mutondoka (Deputy Mayor)
Cllr Richard Hoaeb (Chairperson to MC)
Cllr Ronald Bramwell
Cllr Ryan Gordon
Cllr Olivia Andrews
Cllr Albertina Nkoshi
Cllr Paulus Kauhondamwa
Cllr Ephraim Shozi

Officials

Mrs. Victoria N Kapena
Mr. Theo Potgieter
Mr. Erikson Mwanyekange
Mr. Frans !Gonteb
Mr. Jack Manale
Mr. Henok Shikongo
Mr. Piet van Niekerk
Mr. Asser Tjikuniva
Ms. Anita Kahiva
Ms Krischka Stoffels
Mrs Lelani Coetzee
Ms. Shirley Tjaveondja

Others

Media: 1
Members of the Public: 75

1. OPENING

The Deputy Mayor welcomed the community to the meeting. The Cllr asked one of the members present to open the meeting with a prayer. The Deputy Mayor introduced the CEO to the public. She informed the public that the reason why input was required from the public to be submitted 7 days before the meeting was according to the Local Authority Act.

2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cllr Trevino Forbes
Cllr Leroy Victor

3. DISCUSSIONS / FEEDBACK

- NARRAVILLE SPORTS FIELD

- SEWERAGE MATTERS

1. Begonia Street – sewer has been over-flowing for 2 years, why is nothing being done to find a permanent solution?
2. People are building houses on top of each other. Why are the building inspectors not doing anything about it. She feels that the residents are also causing these problems. Houses built in this area are a hazard to the residents.
3. Evergreen Street – Drains are not covered, and when the wind blows, it blows everything in.
4. What is the short-term solution to the sewer problems while we wait on the 500mil project?
5. The sewer system is over-capacitated. He feels that the council should be taken to court and held accountable.
6. Roman Street No.20 – the smell is creating an unpleasant living environment, with rats creating havoc.
7. Her house was flooded with sewer water, and she wants to know who must be held accountable.
8. Neptune Street – She feels that the houses are not adhering to building regulations. She thanked the sewer sections.
9. He wants to know for the past 4 years, what has council done to the sewer and how much money did the council spent.
10. Baines Street no 24 – From 2019, the municipal drains have been overflowing in her yard as they have 3 of them there. She was promised that the drains would be relocated, but nothing has been done.
11. Evergreen Street no. 3 – She thanked Cllr Gordon and Mr Shikongo for being there for them, but she said it's a big problem and a solution is needed.
12. Houses are located in the lower areas. Why did town planning not foresee these problems? Council should also pick up their refuse as the stuff also goes into the manholes.
13. Drain covers are missing, and these open drains are a danger and a health hazard.
14. Insurance cover
15. Sewerage payments – why are residents paying and the Municipality say they cant help.
16. Pelican Street – The resident feels that the rehabilitation of Pelican sewer project is not finished as he is still sitting with the problem. His house is full of cracks from the work that took place in Pelican street sewer project.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION

- Causes of blockages of the drains – abuse of the system (90% of the stuff removed are objects that are not supposed to be there)
- Those who's houses are located on the lower areas suffer because the drains push out at those areas.
- Awareness campaign will start soon as there is a lack of understanding on the use of the infrastructure.

- Sometime the problem is at the pump station and not at the house, the house is just the spillage area and thus it seems like the team is slow to respond but then they are busy working somewhere.

CEO FEEDBACK ON THE AGENDA POINT

Currently, there are a lot of problems in Walvis Bay. Manhole covers that disappeared due to wear and tear council can replace them. However, a problem also exists where people steal these covers. Building illegally causes bigger problems. Owners of houses built unlawfully will be prosecuted.

• **REFUSE REMOVAL**

1. Why is the Municipality not opening the workshop and maintaining its own fleet? How much is the Municipality paying Rent a Drum?
2. Who changed the schedule for refuse removal? Trucks are parked at bottle stores during working hours. Too many people are working on one truck. Perhaps the Council can look at giving every suburb different color refuse bins.
3. People from Kuisebmond leaving Narraville with refuse bins (Shopping in Narraville)
4. Bins are not picked up in front of the house. Also, the guys on the trucks refuse to pick up the plastic bags on the floor.
5. The refuse issue is due to poor maintenance, and there are a lot of incompetent people in the Municipality.
6. What happened to the litter pickers?
7. Municipal workers throw the bins and thus damage them. Street sweepers sweep and leave everything, and the wind blows it. Romans Street, Guys with illegal workshops are just dumping their stuff and leaving oil, etc. there.
8. Does the municipality have a fleet manager? If so, how is it possible that all refuse removal trucks are down at the same time? How was the selection done for the refuse removal bid for the current contractors? What happened to skips being put around town as it used to be helpful? Scrap metal yards are the ones taking up these stolen manhole covers. Has the Council approached them?
9. Cape flat, what is being done about the reeds and the mess there? Illegal stalls are popping up and it should not be there. Every councilor should get a section of the town to be responsible for as they get a council fee.
10. Pearl Palace Street – Animal control should see that area about stray dogs.
11. The wall of the Rugby stadium is very beautiful, but it attracts filth. If sign boards can be put up.

3000 Wheelie bins have been procured so anyone who needs a bin should approach the Council (Deputy Mayor)

CEO FEEDBACK ON AGENDA POINT

She apologized on the issue of the refuse removal crisis. All 5 trucks broke down at the same time. As this was an emergency the method used was direct procurement method. If the community knows of companies that provide these services, they should please approach the

Council and inform accordingly. The procurement of the 5 trucks will not come next month. It will come in around 5 months as the trucks are modified. In terms of maintenance, council failed. The daily update is to allow people to at least have an idea when the bins will be removed as they are still catching up with the schedule. The Council will definitely look into the different color bins. The area behind the Cape flats will be cleaned, not tomorrow but Council promise to clean it up. Everyone should bring their side in keeping the town clean. The Council will look at putting up more skips to assist with the current situation. CEO will look into the illegal stalls and rectify. Stray dogs are a problem and council will look into. Certain things require quick responses. Talk to the employees not to throw bins and in the process damaging them.

- **ROAD REHABILITATION**

400million has been allocated for the rehabilitation on the main roads in three phases. This is a capital intensive project but the contractor is on site and has started. 17 roads have been allocated to RFA and RA for rehabilitation.

1. The problem is the standard of the roads.
2. Contractors doing the work are not capable.
3. Our roads cannot handle water. The way maintenance is done is wrong. Quality control and supervision is lacking with Municipality.
4. No. 23, Bougainvillea Street: Houses were constructed under the "Self-bou" scheme 32 years ago and the roads are not tared yet.
5. Malva Street: there is never a budget for the roads to be tarred in this street. They want to take the Council to court.
6. Trucks in Sam Nujoma Street – giving residents sleepless nights. Esp the heavy trucks. Roads signs were put up and removed. In six months, approximately 1000 trucks will be entering the port daily. Is the Municipality ready for this influx?
7. Town planning that did not include drainage system. Speed bumps
8. Nampont is the one getting all these trucks; is there no way they can get involved in assisting with this situation?
9. Walvis Bay was town of the year in Namibian, what happened. Why can the fishing industry not assist the council with the infrastructure of Walvis Bay. No road signs when there is road work. Lots of accidents take place due to that. A claim was put in with Municipality but nothing has been paid. No one can claim from the Municipality for damages caused due to roads and manholes.
10. Tires cost money and vehicle must be road-worthy. what must happen to residents.
11. Pelican Street, is it in the budget to be fixed? Are trucks allowed to drive and park in residential areas?
12. Speedhumps: there is a procedure to follow; submit the request with Theo.
13. Bougainvillea has a manhole that's rotten, and the interlocks are a hazard.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION

ASSER (SENIOR TRAFFIC OFFICER)

Trucks are not allowed to be parked in residential areas. In terms of law enforcement about trucks, the work is being done.

If truck ports are put in place within the legal framework, it will alleviate all of the problems.
(Deputy Mayor)

THEO (GM: RBC)

A lot of back log to catch up with. It will not be sorted out in one year, and a lot of people will be disappointed, but there is a plan. The RFA Contract – it is not just one contractor who has been awarded. Roads leading to the port and fuel depo will be completely rehabilitated. The council is trying to involve Namport, but technically speaking, RFA is responsible for fixing the roads and thus the 400 million. Besides the roads, the sewer under the roads has to be completed rehabilitated. Some of the repairs are not up to standard. The supervision aspect is being looked at as the two Foreman positions that have been vacant for a very long time will be filled soon. Storm water drainage is non-existing in Walvis Bay, and Council is trying to gradually address the issue. Two contractors will be appointed to start with potholes repairs and the installation of speedhumps.

Why only 2 contractors? Because there are only funds for two.

- **NOISE FROM EXTRA HEAVY VEHICLES**
- **BUDGET 2025/2026**
 1. Streetlights not budgeted for as was promised.
 2. Firefish Street, 34 years, no roads
 3. When was the budget consultation done? That is why there are so many questions.
 4. Can't blame Theo for the conditions of the roads. It's a long time coming. Can Union Street not be used for trucks? Can there not be height restrictions. Good standing certification.
 5. The cemetery is in a bad state. Why is the council using contractors to fix trucks?
 6. People are stealing flowers, vases, and water from the cemetery. Security services are required at the cemetery.
 7. Some of the terms used in the budget presentation are too high. If they can explain it in layman's terms. They also want a breakdown of the budget. There is a need for better service delivery and communication.
 8. Suggestion for a consultative budget meeting.
 9. House schemes according to the Local Authority Act – Is there land available for residential properties? Did we get more land from the government? Housing development from the Municipality side, can this not be re-instated?
 10. Swakop taxi rank – it's still a big problem. What is being done about the situation?

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION

JACK MANALE

The council has tried to make plans to keep the cemetery from being vandalized, but people still find ways to get in. The new cemetery has fresh water. The house scheme is being looked at as a pilot project as these are usually funded by the government. Currently busy servicing extension 8, and these plots will be available in April 2025 for first time homeowners through a bidding process due to demand.

CEO FEEDBACK ON AGENDA POINT

The suggestion of the security at the cemetery and that a tariff can be added for this is a great idea.

Land acquisition is done through the Ministry, and the conversation has been started. Walvis Bay has run out of land, and we need to expand and follow the procedures.

Budget consultations: we can try and make other meeting for it but the budget is due in May 2025.

Can the budget not be included on the WhatsApp group

4. **Closing**

The meeting was closed with a prayer by a member of the public and it adjourned at 21:25