MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC MEETING HELD AT NARRAVILLE COMMUNITY HALL (NARRAVILLE) WALVIS BAY ON THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026 AT 18:00

Present: *Councilor*
Cllr Johannes Shimbilinga
Cllr Miina Hangula
Cllr Ephraim Shozi
Cllr Patricia Munyala
Cllr Pius Benjamin
Cllr Sharon Roodt
Cllr Jo-Ann Kamaundju
Cllr Adolf Kahmann
Cllr Saara Mutondoka

Officials

Mr. Van Wyk
Mrs Sylvia Schubert
Mr. Erikson Mwanyekange
Mr. Frans Gonteb
Mr. Theo Potgieter
Mr Jack Manale
Mr. Gotlieb Nghinongelwa
Mr Sylvester Nyaambe
Ms. Krischka Stoffels
Mrs. Lelanie Coetzee

Others
Members of the Public: 47
Members of the Media: 0

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1. OPENING

- The meeting opened with a prayer by a community member.
- The Mayor welcomed attendees and invited Councillors and Administration to introduce themselves.

2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mrs Victoria Kapenda
Cllr Ndapewa Johannes

3. DISCUSSION POINTS

3.1 Solid Waste Management: The new General Manager reported that while the town currently operates with five service trucks, two additional compactor trucks are expected in April. To address overflowing bins at multi-household properties, the municipality has launched an "extra bin campaign," where additional drums will be issued and billed accordingly. Furthermore, 30 new skips are being distributed, and two more skip trucks are in the procurement phase.

Illegal dumping on open erven remains a concern. The Municipality will undertake the cleaning of such erven, and the respective property owners will be billed accordingly.

The presence of individuals residing at the landfill site was raised as a serious concern, as it poses health and safety risks. Relocation measures are required.

3.2 Water and Sewerage:

Officials acknowledged the aging infrastructure, citing over 6,500 sewer blockages between July and December 2025 caused by both system failure and abuse (e.g., wet wipes and bricks).

A need was identified for the Municipality to launch an awareness campaign addressing the misuse and abuse of the sewerage system.
It was noted that there are currently no local contractors available in Namibia to undertake pipe relining. Procurement processes will be initiated in the near future.

A three-year contract has been awarded to monitor infrastructure and repair sinkholes more rapidly, specifically targeting problem areas like Plain and Neptune Streets. For water security, a 10 km pipeline is being connected to the desalination plant to ensure a reliable supply for the region.

3.3 Road Maintenance:

The backlog for road repairs remains significant. To improve efficiency, the Council is moving toward a one-year unit-rate contract with three dedicated teams to address potholes across all suburbs. New consultants are also designing stormwater management systems to prevent future rain damage.

The issue of potholes was highlighted, with Council confirming that critical areas will be prioritised for repairs.
Contracts for the resealing of roads are expected to be awarded in the near future.

Concerns were raised regarding the lack of proper restoration following maintenance work, particularly after pipe bursts, where roads and interlocks are not reinstated adequately.

Residents expressed concern about the lack of traffic control of heavy trucks within residential areas, particularly along Sam Nujoma Avenue in Narraville.

Road signage is frequently disregarded by truck drivers.

Speeding of abnormal load trucks at night has been ongoing for several years.

Damage to private property caused by heavy vehicles remains a persistent issue.

3.4 FINANCE

Concerns were raised regarding Redforce:
Senior citizens are reportedly burdened with high municipal accounts.
Disconnections by Redforce are affecting vulnerable residents.

4. Housing and Land Development:

The Mayor highlighted that 39.2% of the population lives in informal structures. Current initiatives include 230 houses at the Farm 37 and the revival of the Build Together program, with 15 houses already under construction in Narraville. The Council is also working with the Shack Dwellers Federation to service land for 170 houses in Narraville.

The re-implementation of the Build Together Programme was noted as a priority.

The servicing of land should be budgeted for in order to support the Shack Dwellers Federation.

The establishment of a safe house in Walvis Bay is required to provide temporary shelter for fire victims who have lost their homes.

It was noted that, during the decongestion process, all illegal structures will be demolished. Additional charges will be levied for extra shacks constructed on erven due to increased demand on municipal services.

Concerns were raised regarding Cape Flats and Zee World (private property):
Increased incidents of drug and alcohol abuse in the area.
The need for a community-driven cleaning campaign.
Declining property values in surrounding areas.
The Municipality should consider placing skips to reduce illegal dumping.
Engagement with the property owner must be re-initiated.
Residents of Cape Flats should be considered for relocation.

The absence of fire hydrants in the Narraville Central Business Area was raised as a safety concern.

School children from Farm 37 reportedly wait at the Narraville Police Station until late afternoon without supervision while awaiting transport. Council is engaging with TransNamib to explore possible solutions.

5. Human Resources and Corporate Services

Administrative Reform: The municipality is introducing a performance management system and updated job descriptions for staff to ensure higher accountability and better service delivery.

It was recommended that future public meetings include structured presentations clearly outlining Council's goals and objectives.

The Way Forward:

The Council committed to prioritizing the needs identified by residents for the 2026/2027 budget. Officials promised to return for future meetings with visual presentations and clear figures to track progress on infrastructure and housing goals. There is also a strong emphasis on enforcing building regulations and addressing illegal activities through community cooperation.

Meeting adjourned at 20:49