

**MAYOR, CLLR. SHADRACK GEZANI MALULEKE TABLING THE STATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY ADDRESS OF COLLINS CHABANE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY HELD ON THE 28<sup>th</sup> OF JUNE 2023 AT MALAMULELE COMMUNITY HALL.**

**Good evening ladies and gentlemen, comrades, compatriots and friends!**

Let me take into cognisance all those who are listening from radios, watching MBWENDA TV and watching Facebook-Livestreaming!

Furthermore, let me acknowledge the following people and stakeholders present here:

- **MEC for CoGHSTA in our province, Mr Basikopo Makamu;**
- **Vhembe District Municipality Executive Mayor, His Worship, Cllr Nenguda Dowelani**
- **Speaker of Collins Chabane Municipality, Cllr Thinawanga Sellinah;**
- **Chief Whip of African National Congress in Collins Chabane Municipality, Cllr Baloyi Mafemani Erick;**
- **MMCs from Vhembe District Municipality;**
- **Executive Committee Members of Collins Chabane Local Municipality and other municipalities;**
- **Mayors from other municipalities;**
- **Speakers and Chief Whips from other municipalities;**
- **MPAC and Section 79 Chairpersons;**
- **Fellow Councillors;**
- **Vhembe House of Traditional Leaders;**
- **Municipal Officials led by Municipal Manager, Mr Shilenge R.R;**
- **Heads of Departments;**

- **Vhembe ANC Regional Leadership of the ruling party;**
- **Alliance partners and other political parties represented in the Council and those that are listening;**
- **Station Commanders of Malamulele SAPS, Vuwani SAPS, Saselamani SAPS, Hlanganani SAPS with their colleagues;**
- **Ward Committee Members;**
- **Sector Departments and Government Agencies;**
- **Organised Community Based Structures;**
- **Participants of Comrade Marathon in our midst;**
- **Leadership of various Religious and Spiritual Formations;**
- **Representations of Labour Unions;**
- **The Collins Chabane Youth Council;**
- **Women and Disability Forums;**
- **The Collins Chabane Business Stakeholders;**
- **Collins Chabane Senior Citizen's Forum;**
- **Our friends from Different Media Houses;**
- **Distinguished Guests;**
- **Comrades and Friends;**
- **Members of the Community;**
- **Special greetings to my wife, my family and relatives, they support me through the thick and thin;**
- **The Chabane Family and your relatives;**
- **Ladies and gentlemen;**

**Riperile!**

## **HONOURABLE SPEAKER;**

I stand here before you not as a prophet, but as a humble servant of you, the people of our country, South Africa, Limpopo Province, Vhembe District and our local municipality Collins Chabane.

It is now seven (7) months since we have been in the Second Administrative Council- a journey of hope characterized by a high level of service delivery.

As we table this budget for adoption today, we must be mindful of immense and selfless services by ordinary people and freedom activists in the length and breadth of our country.

We dare not make a mockery of their immeasurable contribution for the attainment of our freedom.

## **LADIES AND GENTLEMEN;**

Last month was Africa month. We celebrated Provincial Africa Day on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 at the University of Venda.

The month of May continues to be significant in our Calendar as a country and the rest of the African continent. We celebrate our Africanism during May.

I am standing here before you on the verge of closing Youth month, June which is a month dedicated for young people.

This year National Youth Month was celebrated under the **Theme: “Accelerating youth economic emancipation for a sustainable future”**

June is a month in which we remember the dedicated youth of 1976. The youth who stood up against the apartheid regime and laid down their lives fighting for freedom and the right to equal education.

Truly, the challenges facing youth have changed, but the dedication and resilience must remain the same.

While the youth of 1976 fought against an unjust education system and the brutality of apartheid, today's youth activism is directed towards successfully tackling the challenges of **Poverty, Unemployment, Inequality, Gender-Based Violence and substance abuse amongst others.**

We cannot dare sing the song of complete freedom until we have dealt vigorously with all remnants of the apartheid era.

### **HONOURABLE SPEAKER;**

It is that moment that presents an opportunity for me on behalf of the Collins Chabane Municipality Council to table the 2023/2024 to 2024/2025 Medium Term Revenue Expenditure Framework (MTREF).

Through the Budget Speech, the Mayor on behalf of Council updates the residence of the municipality on the state of municipal-public finances and progress on the municipality service delivery.

The budget will give details on how the municipality intends to fund commitments made in the Budget/IDP and Tariffs consultation processes.

Honourable Speaker we hold this year's State of the Municipal Address in the absence of our fallen late Mayor, brother, leader, father, colleague and comrade Cllr Moses 'Big-Moss' Maluleke. In him we have lost a valuable leader in government and political

arena. His unveiling is scheduled for 23 September 2023 at his home village of Xifaxani.

## **CONDOLENCES**

N'hweti leyi yinga hundza hi weriwile hi gome laha hi nga lahlekeriwa hi hosi ya hina, Ndhavezitha Hosi Phahlela Gezani Joas Mugakula Makuleke, hi thlela hi lahlekeriwa hi Muyimbeleri wa vunanga bya Xitsonga vona Tatana Thomas Mathonsi xikan'we na mutirhi kuloni kwala ka Masipala wa hina wa Collins Chabane, Risenga Aaron Maluleke.

Tani hi masipala wa Collins Chabane nakambe hi tsutsumele kona ku ya va khoma xikatla, ingaku mimoya ya vona yi ngaya mahlweni yi kuma ku wisa.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Tani hi masipala wa Collins Chabane hi rhandza ku thlela hi hoyozela mubi wa xibakele wa ndhuma wa kwala ka Malamulele ehansi ka Masipala wa Collins Chabane loyi kunga Khensahosi 'The Dynamite' Makondo eka ku hlula ka yena eka nyimpi leyi ayi teka vundhawu kwala ka Xifundzha xa hina xa Limpopo, hi

Mugivela lowu wu hundzeke. Hi thlela hi hoyozela nhenhakazi ya vunanga bya Xitsonga vona Dr Sophie lava va tivekaka ngopfu hi album ya 'Va-Maseve' eka masagwadi lawa va nga makuma ku nga sagwadi ra Muyimbeleri wa Xisati wa lembe xikan'we na sagwadi ra Xiyembeleri lexi xa ha ku tumbulukaku eka vunanga bya Xitsonga. Hi nga rivali na ku hoyozela Muyimbeleri wa hina wa kwala Collins Chabane Oscar Makamu loyi ativekaku hi album ya "Manyorho ya Rirhandzu' eka sagwadi leri anga ri kuma ra Album yo hlawuleka ya lembe. Lava Hinkwavo ava kuma masagwadi lawa yo hlawuleka ku suka eka SABC Xitsonga Music awards.

Sa Masipala ri khou fhululedza vhadzulapo vha fumi vho yaho kha Comrade Marathon vha ri imelela zwa vhudi. Vho vhuya na mimendele I no sumbedza mushumo ye vhudi ye vha ita. Ri khou ri no ri ita vhathu. Dzulani ni tshi ita nga u ralo ni imise fulaga ya Masipala washu. Ri ri ani ri tshileli.

### **AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR (2023).**

As the deployees of the glorious movement of the people, the African National Congress, we were given a word of caution by the leadership through the 2023 January 8 Statement which directed us to establish conducive approach for economy recovery in our government.

The ANC directs its government to continue with the work of concluding sectoral compacts that will form pillars of a comprehensive social compact with all social partners with the aim of supporting the broad approach and principles of the Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan. This compact should set out the obligations, commitments and trade-offs needed from the private sector, organized labour and civil society to ensure effective social and economic recovery”.

Madam Speaker, our history has and continues to be a significant sign post for the Collins Chabane Local Municipality as we look to improve the lives of our residents. Ours is also a **future of hope**. A **future of prosperity**, of **non-racialism**, **non-sexism** and **democracy**. It is a vision to build a society fundamentally different from the one we have inherited, a society where your ability to achieve, your talent, potential and skill is not inhibited by race, gender or class.

As we commit to a promising future, we take lesson in the Reconstruction and Development Programme we adopted just after we became a democratic country, where we committed "to mobilize all our people and our country's resources towards the final eradication of apartheid and the building of a democratic, non-racial and non-sexist future.

We made this declaration because we believe that "our people, with their aspirations and collective determination, are our most important resource". It is therefore in our ability to mobilize the collective energies and efforts of the people of Collins Chabane that we can overcome the obstacles that lay ahead with respect to our transformation agenda.

## **FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY, INEQUALITY AND UNEMPLOYMENT**

Programme Director, as the leadership in Collins Chabane, we have listened and heard President Cyril Ramaphosa well during his State of the National Address (SONA). I want to commit my comrades, compatriots and colleagues across all the political parties representing all our people in this municipality that we have understood and taken serious the President's call when he stated that this beautiful country of ours needs to embark on radical socio-economic transformation to push back the triple challenges of INEQUALITY, POVERTY and UNEMPLOYMENT. We noted the initiative of Government putting in place a programme of action based on the African National Congress Manifesto and the National Development Plan which will guide us to streamline the economic development initiatives.



## **THE PROVISION OF BASIC SERVICES**

The 2023 January Statement has re-emphasized that the Local government has a critical role to play in rebuilding local communities and environments, as a basis for a democratic, integrated, prosperous and truly non-racial society. As the ruling government we further commit to the call by the 55<sup>th</sup> National Conference which resolved to strengthen the political and administrative institutions to deliver on their mandate. This includes building effective integrated planning and service delivery systems. The provision of basic services such as water and sanitation, municipal waste collection, and the repair and maintenance of roads will receive priority. The planning, design and delivery of these basic services will take into account the rapidly changing climate situation.

The ANC led government had always maintained the notion that We are a nation at one, we are one people, committed to work together to find jobs for our youth; to build factories and roads, houses and clinics; to prepare our children for a world of change and progress; to build cities and towns where families may be safe, productive and content.

We are determined to build a society defined by decency and integrity that does not tolerate the plunder of public resources.

While there are many issues on which we may differ, on these fundamental matters, we are at one.

## **LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Madam Speaker, our socio-economic reality mirrors that of South Africa - one that consists of two separate economies; an advanced, increasingly globally integrated first economy and an informal, marginalized second economy, with a structural disconnection between the two.

Through his State of the Nation address this year, His excellency, Honourable President Cyril Ramaphosa challenged us to find practical solutions to respond to the persistence of the triple challenges of unemployment, poverty and inequality. We are required to demonstrate our bona fides through a set of programmes and projects whose implementation will be an unequivocal statement of intent to radically change the lives of the people of our Municipality for the better. **Open Quote** “Our economy needs to grow much faster if we are to meaningfully reduce unemployment. We spoke of our intention to forge a comprehensive social compact that would join all social partners in a common programme to rebuild our economy and enable higher growth” **close Quote.**

The National Development Plan (NDP) identifies the increasing of employment through faster economic growth as one of its key strategic objectives. The unemployment rate in Collins Chabane affects the most vulnerable sectors of our society such as the youth, women and persons with disabilities. It is also characteristic of the past socio-economic conditions in that it predominately affects eastern axis of our municipality, which are significantly rural and poor.

**MADAM SPEAKER.**

whilst the other spheres of government have their plans for the coming five years, we as the Collins Chabane Local Municipality will continue with the aggressive approach in moving our municipality forward despite a challenging economic situation globally. We want to remain focused on job creation and working towards financial stability of our area and the region so that we can innovately and tirelessly promote self-determination and increase sustainability.

The Auctioning of 39 business stands in Malamulele which I can confirm that 29 stands have been bought already to the value of R52 000 000 which emphasizes our vision and commitment to grow the local economy for the benefit of all our citizens and to create a sustainable local economy by 2030.

In the previous financial year and in this current financial year, we have managed to fund 33 Corporatives within Agricultural sector. Through the Municipality Business Expo, 34 local businesses successful exhibited their products and this was an opportunity for them to market themselves. Through the Municipality LED initiative, eight tourism establishment managed to exhibit their business in Cape Town, Durban, Rand Easter Show and Phalaborwa Marula festival.

### **THE EXPANDED PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME (EPWP)**

The municipality plays a critical role in the national endeavor to address poverty, inequality and unemployment, which are the triple evils of socio-economic status in the country. In response to the socio-economic status in the country, the municipality is participating in Expanded Public Works Programme to deal with some of the highlighted challenges. I am happy to announce that in this financial year we have managed to recruit 144 EPWP beneficiaries. The first 72 group started in September and the remaining 72 will start July this year.

### **ON YOUTH.**

On the 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2023, South Africa commemorated 47 years since the June 16, 1976 Soweto student uprisings that saw students march against the Bantu education system. They were rebelling against Bantu Education, which, despite its name, was no education at all. It was another tool of the apartheid system to keep black South Africans in servitude. The uprising ended tragically with hundreds of young people being brutally killed. Following the advent of democracy in 1994, the new democratic government declared 16 June as National Youth Day and June as the Youth Month.

Our young people today are faced with different struggle. They are fighting to be freed from poverty, inequality and unemployment.

The President of the Republic of South Africa, Hon. Cyril Ramaphosa, reported that the Department of Small Business Development and the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) had achieved their target of supporting 1,000 youth-owned enterprises particularly in the township and rural economy. As the municipality we have managed to send to training 17 young people who are currently getting training as traffic officers and they will soon be starting with their traffic internships for the next 24 months. The Municipality is also engaged in skills and training partnership with various sectors and we have since received several young people who are doing training in various departments within the

municipality. In these trying times, we will channel our youth in a position where they are able to apply innovative thinking to combat the challenges we face. We need to see more businesses owned by young people providing essential services.

Essential goods should be locally produced and sourced. As government, we will therefore continue to provide support to business owned by our youth.

As the Municipality, we yearn to see more entrepreneurs making strides in the provincial space as well. The challenge of youth unemployment can seem insurmountable. However, we know what we need to do to address it. We know that by providing young people with opportunities for work experience, by supporting them to start and grow their own businesses, by fixing our skills development system and by creating opportunities for work that serves the common good, we can make inroads into this challenge. However, we need you to rise, and demonstrate that a better life for all is indeed within our reach. I call on young people to put your innovation, creativity and energy at the disposal of our Municipality.

## **ON REFUSE REMOVAL**

The Municipality has so far made a significant progress in cleaning our areas and this has contributed to creating healthy and hygienic environment in residential places.

The Municipality collect refuse at 5 803 households in Malamulele Unit A, B, C and D and Vuwani in all the proclaimed areas and we have also extended our services to all our villages.

During the previous financial year, we have successful placed 40 Skip bins in all identified strategic points or hotspot in the villages as identified by the municipality and waste collection is extended to 183 villages within Collins Chabane Local Municipality.

Xigalo landfill site is still under construction and I believe that soon the construction will come to end so that we continue serving our people.

Extension of refuse removal service is a continuous program which will be running until all villages within the municipality are catered for.

## **MAYOR'S SOCIAL and EDUCATION INVESTMENT**

Mayor's Social Investment continues to perform phenomenally. The Mayor's bursary continues to support the best performing grade 12 learners in Collins Chabane with a Bursary at the value of Two Millions and Five Hundred Thousand rand.

Ladies and Gentlemen, this year we have managed to fund Ten Full-paid Bursaries to Ten best Matriculants and we have given away Five laptops to Top 5 learners while 109 Learners have received registration fees from the Mayor's Bursary. The bursaries were awarded to students who had applied to the Mayor's Bursary Fund.

Let me emphasize that not in this lifetime that an academically deserving child would be denied a chance to go to School because of their family circumstances while Collins Chabane Local Municipality exist.

These students are studying in different universities such as University of Cape Town, University of Limpopo, University of Venda, University of Pretoria, Sefako Makgatho Health Science University (SMU) and other Universities.

We have Singita Hlungwani in our midst from Phaphazela who is a beneficiary of the Mayoral Bursary and was studying at the University of Limpopo, He is now a Pharmacist intern at Malamulele Hospital. We have Felicia Makondo who graduated from University of Cape-Town, where she was doing Bachelor of Business Science Degree specializing in Finance and Accounting and she now works for PSG Assets Management. We have also Tsundzukani Maluleke who is a fifth year student in Sefako-



Makgato well known as Medunsa, other Bursary beneficiaries who have completed their studies using the Mayoral bursaries includes Sambo Nhluvuko, LLB graduate from University of Limpopo and many other students who could not join us today.

## **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND FEMICIDE**

Violence against women and children manifests itself openly in serious crimes such as murder, sexual assault, domestic violence, assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm or human trafficking. What is of serious concern is that most women are attacked by men they know and in most cases men they are intimate with their husbands or partners. We are losing more and more women at the hands of their violent intimate partners. International studies show that women often turn a blind eye to the violence in their intimate relationships or sometimes prefer to live in denial or disbelief. They also live in hope that the perpetrator will change and stop their behaviour. The danger about living in an unattended violent relationship is that it intensifies over time until it leads to death. Violence against women has been declared a priority crime by government. Women must not be scared to report the perpetrators to the police.

## **AUDIT OPINION**

South Africa has the Auditor-General (AG), who audits financial and non-financial expenditure of government departments and municipalities.

The Auditor-General does not only monitor municipality spending, but examine Financial Statements and transactions to ensure the Taxpayer's money is spent without irregularities, and then report these findings to Council.

The municipality received sustainable **Clean Audit** of predetermined objectives or performance information for four years in succession.

I want to commend the teamwork spirit prevailing in the municipality. Team work has rewarded us in **RETAINING THE AUDIT OPINION.**

**We have received Unqualified Audit Opinion in Financials for the past three financial years.**

Awards to this effect were received.

Here is the four consecutive financial years Audit Opinions in tabulated form:

<b>FINANCIAL YEAR</b>	<b>AFS OPINION</b>	<b>AUDIT</b>	<b>PREDETERMINED OBJECTIVE AUDIT OPINION</b>
2018/2019	Qualified		Unqualified
2019/2020	Unqualified		Unqualified
2020/2021	Unqualified		Unqualified
2021/2022	Unqualified		Unqualified

## MIG SPENDING

Collins Chabane Municipality have managed to spend 100% of the MIG for four years in succession. Awards to this effect were received.

We

FINANCIAL YEAR	ADDITIONAL FUNDING	% SPENDING
2022/2023	R45 000 000	100%
2021/22	R28 000 000	100%
2020/21	R7000 000	100%
2019/20	R0	100%

have

achieved this because of team-work, political and administrative will, the unwavering commitment to comply with all prescripts by all of us.

We believe that the Financial Year under review ending on 30 June 2023, we will produce Clean Audit (without findings) from the Auditor General of South Africa.

The above is a true reflection of accountable and responsible spending of the public purse. It is an excellent way of service delivery to our communities.

The more we work well, the more we get awards and additional funding to pursue service delivery to our communities.

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ALLOW ME TO FLICK THROUGH THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE BUDGETS AS PER FINANCIAL YEAR FROM 2012/20201 FINANCIAL YEAR.**

1. **2020/2021 FINANCIAL YEAR:** R641 664 452.00 WITH CAPITAL BUDGET OF R351 578 668.00
2. **2021/2022 FINANCIAL YEAR:** R739 889 000.00 WITH CAPITAL BUDGET OF R343 627 000.00
3. **2022/2023 FINANCIAL YEAR:** R773, 393 million WITH CAPITAL BUDGET OF R339, 500 million.

## **REFLECTION ON THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL**

Speaker, it is appropriate for me to list some of the achievements that this council, under the leadership of the African National Congress led government, has achieved.

### **2020/2021 FINANCIAL YEAR, AS THE MUNICIPALITY.**

Our people no longer rely on candles for lighting their houses. The government has reduced the chance of fires which often destroy people's belongings. Many rural women are relieved of the burden of fetching firewood from faraway forests. To address the electricity backlog within our municipality:

630 Households were electrified at MBUTI Phase 2,

In Ward 7, we have successfully electrified Mseve A and B, in Ward 8, we have also electrified Masia Mveledziso, in Ward 9, we have electrified Kurhuleni and Masia Tandavale and Ward 11, Makhasa village.

The municipality has also done the Electrification of 461 Households at Dhoveni, Masia (50) Mashau, Madobi (71) Makhasa (64) Muhunguti (80) Makahlule (93) Manghena (60) Khakhanwa, as well as electrification of 103 Households at Malamulele B-Extension

We have managed to Install the 36 high Mast Lights in all 36 Wards under our municipality which assist in reducing the high rate of crime since our people can now walk freely.

The installation of Solar LED Street Lights was done in all Clusters in our Municipality, with benefiting 150 Solar LED street lights, Saselamani (50), Vuwani (50), Hlanganani (50).

Guided by our mission statement which explains that the Municipality seeks to ensure the provision of sustainable basic services and infrastructure to improve the quality of life of our people and to grow the local economy for the benefit of all citizens, we once again succeeded in provision of delivering a better service to our citizens through the completion of the following projects in the **2020/21 FINANCIAL YEAR.**

We have managed to supply and install Solar traffic signal(lights) at Saselamani, Vuwani and Hlanganani.

We have also completed the following projects:

- Construction of Mahatlane Access Bridge.
- 4.5 KM Ring Road was constructed at Bevhula.
- 3.7 KM Road was also upgraded at Sebudi/Vyeboom road phase 2
- Upgrading of 3 KM of Internal Streets at Vuwani.
- Opening and widening of streets in Malamulele Business park
- Upgrading of internal streets in Malamulele
- Construction of Malamulele traffic circle
- Upgrading of R81 to Xitlhelani graveyard road.
- 2.2 KM Ring Road was constructed at Nwa-Matatani

The improving of our road conditions plays a role in attracting investors especially roads that are heading towards our economic hubs.

## **2022/23 BUDGET**

For the current year under review (2022/23 financial year) an additional 467 households are being serviced with new electricity connections by Eskom.

The 467 are under the following villages:

- Halahala (125),
- Tiyani Magoro (120)
- Xifaxani Ext (154)
- Xivambu/Njakanjaka (68)

## **HONOURABLE SPEAKER;**

I stand here on behalf of the Council, to pursue our golden road as mapped out by the municipality's **Vision that states: "A Spatial Integrated and Sustainable Local Economy by 2030"**. **We are on track in pursuing our vision.**

The municipality is in advance stages in proclamations and establishment of new townships. This in itself addresses the "Spatial Integration" part of the Vision.

Recently, we have handed over service providers, Biggen Africa group who will be dealing with the establishment of a Township at Muchipisi. We are working very closely with hosi Madonsi.

We have made tremendous progress in the establishment of a Township at Saselamani working amicably with hosi Xikundu. We are indeed a municipality at work.

Formalisation of Vuu and Mabandla is underway in an effort to increase the revenue.

Huge progress has been made in doing the same at Majosi and many other vilages where tihosi are donating land for proclamation in order to establish more townships within the radius, length and breadth of the municipality.

A Memorandum of Understanding for establishing a Township at Mtititi in Altein was signed between the municipality and hosi Mtititi.

The township will be built to bring development closer to our people and in support of the Shangoni Gate of the Kruger National Park.

Very soon, financial viability and strong revenue base will be a thing of the past in Collins Chabane Local Municipality. We are indeed a municipality at work.

**Ladies and Gentlemen, I now present the 2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR BUDGET.**

**MADAM SPEAKER**

This years 'budget speech and State of the Municipality Address will focus more on how in the next five years, we are going to transform the Municipality to be a better place to work and live in. it will represent the wishes and aspirations of the poor, and as such all our endeavors will be centred around the critical task of eradicating poverty, reducing unemployment and inequality. To achieve these, we are guided by the National Development Plan which proposes the following story:

- ***An economy that will create more jobs.***
- ***Improving infrastructure.***
- ***Transition to a low-carbon economy.***
- ***An inclusive and integrated rural economy and many other elements with the National Development Plan.***



Together with communities, we have established a strong, accountable, transparent and resilient system of local governance. Our communities are involved in all developmental initiatives in their respective localities. We have ensured that our councilors hold report back and feedback meetings with their communities. In our communities, councilors work together with traditional leaders. We are, also aware that there are communities that still experience some difficulties with regard to public participation. And we looking into a lasting solution to that challenge. We reiterate our unwavering allegiance to the core imperatives of the Freedom Charter and proudly proclaim our readiness to accelerate the radical transformation of the economy to bring about an equitable, just and inclusive municipality.

Madam speaker, allow me to quote one of the well-respected African writers, scholar and a narrator Professor Patrice Loch Otieno Lumumba, better known as PLO Lumumba, he said as **I quote** “A man may be a political animal, but there comes a time in a person’s life when true service must be the ultimate goal. In the history of our country, this is the time” **Closed quote.**

We continue to press towards the realization of the values of freedom, dignity and equality as embedded in our constitution. We know how critical it is for our people to have access to basic needs.

This 2023/24 budget continues to fight the problems that the Collins Chabane Local Municipality economy continues to find itself in. The budget therefore follows a conservative approach to rates and tariffs but also slowly begins to plan in anticipation of improved economic conditions from 2023/24 onwards.

### **Summary of the annual budget for 2023/24 financial year:**

- ❖ **The operational revenue budget** for the MTREF Budget is R773, 121 million for 2023/24, R734, 210 million for 2024/25 and R733, 343 million is 2025/26 financial years. The major components on operational revenue budget are the following:

#### **Operational Transfers and Subsidies:**

- Equitable shares of R486, 442 million for 2023/24, R520, 712 million for 2024/25 and R510, 355 million for 2025/26 financial years.
- Finance Management Grant (FMG) has a budget of R2, 550 million for both 2023/24 and 2024/25 financial years and R 2.6 million for the 2025/26 financial year.
- Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) has a budget of R1, 404 million for 2023/24 financial year.
- Neighbourhood Development Partnership Grant has a budget allocation of R500 thousand for 2023/24 financial year and R2 million for the outer years.

With this tremendous achievement, we have alleviated the social and economic living conditions of many struggling families in the municipality.

### **Capital Transfers and Subsidies:**

- Municipal Infrastructure Grant of R98, 133 million for 2023/24, R102, 649 million for 2024/25 and R107, 357 million for 2025/26 financial years.
- Integrated National Electrification Programme budget of R12,504 million in 2023/24, R13 million in 2024/25 and R13, 582 million in 2025/26 financial years.

### **Main Components of Other Revenue Budget:**

- Property rates budget is R36, 621 million in 2023/24, R38, 415 million in 2024/25 and R40, 220 million in 2025/26 financial years.
- Refuse Removal is R6, 765 million in 2023/24, R7, 096 million and R7, 430 million in 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years respectively.
- Interest on Primary bank account is R15, 983 million in 2023/24, R16, 766 million and R17, 554 million in 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years respectively.

- Interest on investment is R9, 555 million in 2023/24 financial year.
- Interest on arrear accounts is R 8, 784 million in 2023/24 financial year, and R9, 214 million and R9, 648 million for 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years respectively.
- Licences and Permits is R7, 596 million in 2023/24, R7, 968 million in 2024/25, and R8, 343 million in 2025/26 financial years.
- Agency fees is R4,416 million in 2023/24, R4, 632 million in 2024/25, and R4,850 million in 2025/26 financial years.

**The Operational expenditure for MTREF Budget** is R457, 671 million in 2023/24, R452, 311 million in 2024/25 and R486, 635 million in 2025/26 financial years.

**The major impact on operational expenditure budget is due to:**

- Employee related costs is budgeted at R147, 237 million in 2023/24, R154, 304 million 2024/25 and R161, 709 million in 2025/26 financial years.
- Remuneration of councillors is budgeted at R30, 898 million in 2023/24, R32, 381 million and R33, 935 for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years respectively.

- Depreciation and Amortisation: the budget is R51, 219 million in 2023/24 and R53, 729 million in 2024/25 and R56, 254 million in 2025/26 financial years.
- Contracted services: is budgeted at R146, 577 million in 2023/24, R130, 521 million in 2024/25 and R138, 701 million in 2025/26 financial years.
- Repairs and maintenance: is budgeted at R19, 628 million in 2023/24, R19, 200 million in 2024/25, and R29, 700 million in 2025/26 financial years.

**The Original Capital expenditure budget for the MTREF Budget is** R325 ,650 million in 2023/24, R263, 899 million in 2024/25 and R225, 107 million in 2025/26 financial years.

**The Capital expenditure budget for MIG is** R98,133 million in 2023/24, R102,649 million in 2024/25 and R107,357 million in 2025/26 financial years. The Capital expenditure budget for INEP is R12,504 million in 2023/24, another R13 million in 2024/25 and R13, 582 million in 2025/26 financial year.

The internally funded projects amount to R 218 million in 2023/24, R148,250 million in 2024/25 and R139,400 million in 2025/26 financial years:

Again Madam speaker, For 2023/24 financial year Eskom planned to service an additional 674 households with new electricity connection at Mudabula (600) and Mbalati (74).

**The table below is the detail budgeted capital assets for the 2023/24 – 2025/26 Financial Year:**

Funding	Item Description	Budget year 2023/24	Budget year 2024/25	Budget year 2025/26
Own	Construction of Municipal Office Building(new)	40 000 000	20 000 000	-
Own	Development of Market Stalls- market stalls at Hlanganani and Xithlelani	4 000 000	10 000 000	10 000 000
Own	Vuwani Sports Centre	5 000 000	15 000 000	15 000 000
Own	Construction of Davhana Stadium- Own	10 000 000	-	-
INEP	Electrifications of 400 households at Mahlohlwane- INEP	8 000 000	-	-
INEP	Electrification of 200 households at Xithlelani-INEP	4 000 000	-	-
INEP	Pre-Engineering of 419 households at Nthlaveni block c(200),Phugwani(60), Hlungwani(40),hasani dakari(79) and Nyavani(40) INEP	504 000	13 000 000	13 582 000
Own	Construction of solar street lights at various villages	4 000 000	4 000 000	4 000 000
Own	Construction of electrical street lights at nodal points	2 000 000	2 000 000	2 000 000
Own	Flood lights at Hlanganani sub-office	-	1 000 000	1 000 000
MIG	Construction of Bungeni stadium - MIG	12 146 000	17 000 000	18 000 000
Own	Construction of Bungeni stadium -Own funding	-	-	-
MIG	Construction of Access road at Josefa - MIG	17 000 000	20 000 000	-
Own	Construction of Access road at Josefa -Own	-	-	-
MIG	Construction of Access road at Xihosana - MIG	18 000 000	19 649 000	-
Own	Construction of Xihosana ring road - Own	-	-	-
MIG	Construction of Misevhe A;B;C &D Access road to public facility-MIG	12 000 000	10 000 000	
MIG	Construction of Botsoleni access road to public facility	12 000 000	12 000 000	
MIG	Construction of Ngehezimani access road to public facility	12 000 000	12 000 000	
MIG	Construction at Masia headkraal access road to public facility	12 000 000	12 000 000	
Own	Construction of Gidjana Access road to public facility	7 000 000	8 000 000	7 000 000

Own	Construction of Masakona Access road to public facility	7 000 000	8 000 000	7 000 000
Own	Construction of Muchipisi Access road to public facility	7 000 000	8 000 000	7 000 000
Own	Construction at Jim jones access road to public facility	7 000 000	8 000 000	7 000 000
Own	Construction of Altein Access road to public facility	15 000 000	-	-
Own	Construction of Magomani road	14 000 000	-	-
Own	Construction of Olifantshoek Road	15 000 000	-	-
Own	Upgrading of Malamulele D EXT 3 Phase 3 (6.3 km)	15 000 000	-	-
Own	Construction of Phaphazela road	17 000 000	-	-
Own	Rehabilitation of Vuwani Internal streets	10 000 000	-	-
Own	Rehabilitation of Malamulele Internal streets	10 000 000	10 000 000	10 000 000
Own	Development of designs of ring roads at 5 wards (various villages)	-	5 000 000	54 125 468
Own	Acquisitions:Outsourced Refurbishment of Malamulele Taxi Rank	-	5 000 000	5 000 000
Own	Construction of Tiyani mall intersection	-	3 000 000	-
Own	Construct a storm water channel at Malamulele B	-	3 000 000	3 000 000
Own	Cost:Acquisitions Low Level Bridges	3 500 000	2 000 000	-
Own	Opening and Widening of Streets in Business Park	10 000 000	-	-
Own	Acquisitions Plant & Machinery	1 000 000	5 000 000	5 000 000
Own	Purchase of Motor vehicle	-	2 000 000	10 000 000
Own	Park at Hlanganani	-	-	1 000 000
Own	Testing station/DLTC at Hlanganani and Saselamani	5 000 000	5 000 000	12 000 000
Own	Transfer station	-	-	7 000 000
Own	Acquisitions VUWANI TRAFFIC AND LICENSING ADMIN BLOCK	-	7 000 000	-
Own	Purchase of Fire arms/bullet proof vest and hosters	300 000	-	-
Own	Vehicle pound station at Malamulele	-	2 000 000	3 000 000
Own	Animal pound station at hlanganani and Saselamani	-	1 600 000	1 700 000
Own	IT Security Vulnerability Scan	600 000	650 000	700 000



Own	Satellites offices inter-connectivity (Vuwani)	1 000 000	3 000 000	-
Own	ICT infrastructure-new municipal offices	1 500 000	-	-
Own	IT Equipment	1 000 000	1 000 000	1 000 000
Own	IT Equipment-Licencing	-	1 000 000	-
Own	CCLM Business registration online portal	-	2 000 000	-
Own	Acquisitions Asset Man Other Equipment(new)	-	1 500 000	5 000 000
Own	Acquisitions of Furniture	100 000	1 500 000	10 000 000
Own	Solid Waste Landfill Xigalo land fill site- Own	5 000 000	-	-
Own	Acquisitions Refuse Bins and Bulk Containers	-	3 000 000	5 000 000
		325 650 000	263 899 000	225 107 468

## **CONCLUSION.**

As I conclude, fellow Councilors, our appreciations go to the people of Collins Chabane for their belief that today will be better than tomorrow. Our gratitude also goes to the ruling party and other parties within Council. I want to take this opportunity to thank all Councilors and the administration team led by the most hardworking Municipal Manager Mr Risenga Richard Shilenge for your hard work and dedication. We are united by the purpose to serve and this we continue to do. It is a pleasure to work with you.

Ladies and Gentlemen we will deliver on our mandate and we dare not fail you. Our collective experience communicated to all of us is that, working together, we can and shall succeed in meeting the common objective we have set ourselves as a Municipality-to build a better life for all in a Municipality that no longer contains within it and represent much that is ugly and repulsive in human society.

Fellow Councilors, the people spoke; we delivered, the people are speaking; we are responding; the people are indeed governing in Collins Chabane.

We should today even speak more confidently together about freedom. We should dare to act in concert to pursue the happiness that can come to men and women if they live in a land that is free.

We are not there yet, but no one, except ourselves, shall ensure that our dream is realized. And so, let us roll up our sleeves and get down to work, fully understanding that the task to build our Municipality for which we yearn is a common responsibility we all share in love and honest.

As former president Thabo Mbeki said, “The future is formed and derives its first impulse in the womb of the present.” Therefore, let us all roll up our sleeves today and work together to build the future – resilient, sustainable and liveable communities!

**Let me close by borrowing words from the late Mayor of our municipality Moses ‘Big-Moss’ Maluleke, Mun’wanati, Guyu, few hours before his sadly departure from this land, loko vaku “ ahi tirheni, hi tirhela vanhu, leswaku na loko hi nga ri kona eka leyi misava rin’wani ra masiku, mintirho ya hina yi ta sala yi hi vulavulela” . indeed mintirho yi le ku vulavuleni.**

**To quote the late Ray Phiri in one of Stimela's hit song; 'Singa Jindi Majita' and I say, ‘Shoes or no Shoes, Siyaya Phambili.....I HOPE TOMORROW WILL BE BETTER THAN TODAY’**

**I THANK YOU.**