



UMZIMVUBU
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

UMZIMVUBU NEWS

September 2011

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FOREWORD BY COUNCILLOR KULUKAZI PHANGWA, MAYOR OF UMZIMVUBU MUNICIPALITY.

Umzimvubu News remains one of the Key channels through which we communicate our programmes, projects and activities to the local community.

This publication is the first circulation to take place after the 18 May local government elections accordingly a number of activities were embarked upon by Council. In this regard we are proud to reveal that on 14-17 June 2011 we conducted our own Induction Workshop for Councillors with a particular focus on Policies and Practices. A month later SALGA –EC took the process further by initiating a Capacity Building Workshop for councillors.

In pursuance of public participation we held a Stakeholders Roadshow which included Churches, Traditional leaders, Ratepayer, Bus and Taxi association, Government departments and Council. We have also established 27 new ward committees in line with the applicable legislation and policies.

We are currently preparing the development of the five-year IDP wherein we will also review the Municipal Vision and Mission due to the fact that we are at the beginning of the five –year term. This will be preceded by the adoption of the IDP and Budget Process Plan.

During the Women's Month (August) we held two events in honour of the female Councillors and female employees on one hand on the other we hosted a business seminar for the female/women business leaders.

In pursuit of the Heritage month, we organized a Provincial arbor week on the 7th September at Njijini location in ward 22. We also partnered with the Madzikane Royal Family towards the Commemoration of Nkosi Madzikane kaZulu.



CLLR K.S. Phangwa (Mayor)

The Alfred Nzo Community Radio is of great help to us in that we are able to interact directly with the local community from time to time through the station.

On 22 July we organized a successful Wellness Day with a view to motivate and boost the morale of our employees so that we can increase production in order to enhance the delivery of services to our community.

I want to call upon the readers of this newsletter and the community of Umzimvubu in general to give us feedback so that we can improve.

Our resolve to serve the community remains intact.

Many thanks
CLLR K.S. Phangwa
Mayor

FOREWORD BY SPEAKER COUNCILLOR Z.O.SISILANA



Umzimvubu News continues to serve the community and continues to be the eye opener because the Speaker's Office deals with legislation and governance.

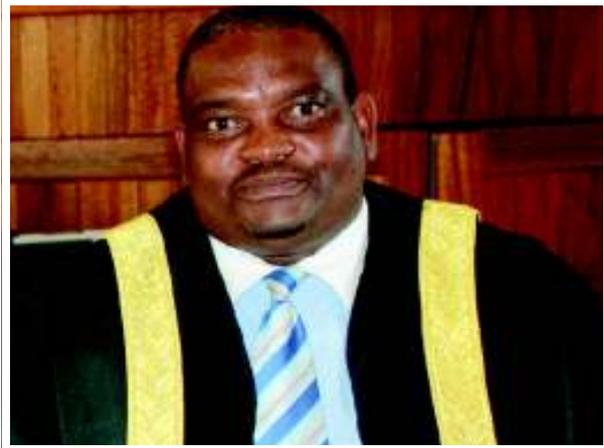
The Local Government Elections that were held on the 18th May 2011 provided our municipality with a new leadership in the office. It was on the 31st May 2011 where Umzimvubu undergone a process of inauguration in the Alfred Nzo Council Chambers. Today we have 27 wards through the process of demarcation instead of 24 wards.

This year was declared by the African National Congress as the year of mobilization and consolidating peoples power to create a democratic society. At the same time I must appreciate the role played by Councillor Siphosheke the former Speaker. He was always a torch bearer of our Municipality for the last five years and in making sure that the issue of public participation is not a lip service but a reality.

The Speaker's Office has managed to make enough preparations for the Council to establish section 79 committees so that council operates effectively and efficiently in the performance of any of its functions or the exercise of any of its powers.

During this short period in the office Umzimvubu Council has got its important key committees i.e Rules Committee, Municipal Public Accounts Committee and very soon these committees will be invited in a workshop.

We are looking forward to establishing a Petitions Committee. We are almost through with the programme of establishment of Ward Committees which was started after a Council resolution in July. Umzimvubu Municipality has managed to hold three council meetings where the last one dealt with compliance issues. According to our plans we are preparing to train all ward committees before the end of September 2011 so that the Council does not fail our communities. We are so happy to confirm that all standing committees are



SPEAKER Z.O. SISILANA

doing their tasks and all Councillors who are deployed to serve in the standing committees still honoring the meetings. The Speaker's Office is always understaffed. Right as we speak there is no unit that deals with the issues of public participation and that alone poses a challenge when it comes to the involvement of our communities. In the next Council meeting i.e ordinary council meeting at the end of September the council is going to establish relevant study groups as per the resolution of the conference of SALGA Eastern Cape, it means we will have to establish six groups. During the month of September the Office of the Speaker will be visiting six Traditional Councils with the hope that the rest will be visited in early next year.

Our experience has confirmed that no one undertakes a journey alone. We depend upon others constantly in ways both tangible and intangible to move us towards our destination.

Speaker's Office cannot succeed without the help of others, but forming positive relationship poses challenges.

UPHUHLISO KUMNTU WONKE.

COUNCILLOR INDUCTION WORKSHOP

Delivering her opening welcome address to the Councillor Induction Workshop held at East London on 13-15 June 2011, Councillor Kulukazi Phangwa said "This induction workshop seeks to orientate and acclimatize councillors with the tasks that lie ahead of us in terms of our mandate." The workshop was the first of its kind in the aftermath of the municipal elections for the Third Local Government term of office. Amongst the issues dealt with were the following:

- Current Policies of the municipality
- How the local sphere of government operates
- Integrated Development Plan (IDP)
- Roles and Responsibilities of Councillors

Mr Gwede Mantashe together with Mr. Oscar Mabuyane, the National and Provincial Secretaries of the African National Congress respectively were offered a slot to address the issues of developmental local government. Both leaders shared the platform and emphasized the significance of serving the Local community with diligence, respect and dignity. The leaders stressed that community participation on the programmes of the municipality must be prioritized at all material times.

Linked to this was the fact that public representatives (i.e Councillors) must be rooted in their communities. They thanked the municipality for the bold steps it took to organize the induction workshop immediately after assuming office.

The Mayor was also advised to maintain regular links with all the MEC's in the province and ministers in the national government in order to forge strategic partnerships for purposes of fast tracking the delivery of services to the local community.

In his own words Mr. Mabuyane said "Mayor Phangwa, you now have the license to phone directly the MEC or Minister in the Republic of South Africa and raise service delivery issues for your local community" Councillors, all of them without exception appreciated and expressed gratitude for the effort taken by the two leaders of the governing/ruling party.



UMZIMVUBU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & MUNICIPAL MANAGER

Front Row From left to right: Cllrs. Z. Ndevu(BTO), N. Nkula (Exco), K.S. Pangwa (Mayor), L.T. Qasha (Corporate Services), N. Ngalonkulu (SP & Communications).

Back Row from left to right: Cllrs. B. Bulana (Community Services), Mr. G.P.T. Nota (Municipal Manager), M. Nkqayi (Infrastructure & Planning) & N. Mpumlwana(LED)



UMZIMVUBU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY COUNCILLORS



UMZIMVUBU
LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

CELEBRATION OF MANDELA DAY

On the 18th July 2011 Umzimvubu Local Municipality honored and celebrated Nelson Mandela's 93rd birthday by dedicating time and energy for 67 minutes cleaning Mt Ayliff town. Addressing the people Councillor Khulukazi Phangwa explained that Mandela became the first President of a free and democratic South Africa in 1994. During Nelson Mandela's term of office as president he dedicated his energies towards nation building, reconstruction and development as well as

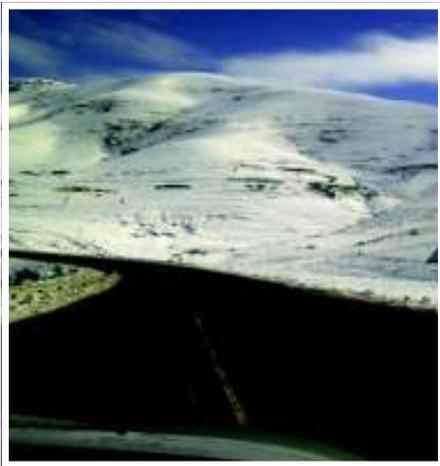
national reconciliation. The Mayor made a commitment of treating the clean up campaign beyond the 67 minutes with the seriousness it deserves. She encouraged the people of Umzimvubu to always keep their towns clean and it should be every citizen's responsibility. Councilor Phangwa appreciated the fact that a large number of community members came out in numbers due to the fact that the programme is done by municipal workers. She told people that cleanliness is next to Godliness.



Cllr K.S. Pangwa (Mayor), Cllr L.T. Qasha, Cllr N. Ngalonkulu, Communications Manager Mr. S. Kulu & Z. Ndevu & Cllr M. Jojo cutting the cake on 18 July 2011, during Nelson Mandela Day.

Heavy snowfall blanketed the N2 Route between Mount Frere and Kokstad during the month of July. The National road became inaccessible from 25 July to 27 July 2011. Households and homesteads were covered by snow for

some days even though the road was cleared. The whole of the mountainous areas of Umzimvubu had to endure the inconvenience caused by heavy snowfall.



N2 Road to Kokstad



Homesteads covered with snow



WOMENS DAY CELEBRATION



"Our struggle for gender equality and women emancipation can never be complete when in both public and private sectors, executive and management positions are dominated by men. So the struggle for women's emancipation continues!" These are the words of Councillor Kulukazi Phangwa Mayor of Umzimvubu Local Municipality on the 22 August 2011 celebrating womens month at Umzimvubu Town Hall, Mt Frere.

In her opening remarks Councilor Phangwa mentioned that Umzimvubu Municipality is making

its own humble contribution in celebrating womens month by honoring our own mothers and sisters in the Council and Administration. She further explained that the fact that Umzimvubu is honoring our female Councilors and employees must be understood in the proper context of the emancipation of women. The Mayor of Umzimvubu also invited the female Mayoral Committee Members from Alfred Nzo District Municipality as the Executive Mayor is a female. However the mayor was pleased to note that women

are doing well wherever they are deployed or employed. Dr. Taki Dube from Ethekwini Christian Church was invited as the guest speaker and also to motivate employees and councilors. In this regard there are women of great integrity and esteem who continue to inspire the nation in their efforts of bringing about change in our country. Councilor Phangwa celebrated this day differently as all women were treated with a full breakfast, manicure and pedicure. The theme of the day was "You are a Woman of Worthy ZITHANDE".



Colourful setting in Mt Frere town hall ready to host the celebrations in honour of Women's day.



Cllr Khulukazi Pangwa the Mayor of Umzimvubu Municipality about to deliver opening remarks and welcome officials & Councilors as Programme Director Novuko Kubone hands over the microphone.



Women councillors listening attentively to the guest speaker.

WOMENS DAY CELEBRATION



Dr. Taki Dube the guest speaker receives a gift from Councilor Mpepanduku.



Cllr Nolundi Mbele, Chief Whip of Council during the Women's Day celebrations doing manicure.



Umzimvubu Women Councillors and employees during Women's Day Celebration.

UMZIMVUBU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY 2011 PROVINCIAL ARBOR WEEK



Umzimvubu Local Municipality hosted the 2011 Provincial Arbor Week on the 7th September 2011 after developing the Forest Sector Plan and hosting a successful Forestry Indaba.

Umzimvubu Municipality was identified as one of the municipalities with a potential for forestry development in 2006. Forestry is one of the key drivers of Umzimvubu Local Municipality with two major types of forests that is commercial and indigenous trees. This potential has led to an interest shown by private partners in support of the Forestry Development initiatives in the area. This forestry development initiative was then incorporated in the municipalities Integrated Development Plan and Local Economic Development Strategy.

The theme of the year 2011 Arbor Week campaign was "Forests for the people" This theme is in line with the United Nations initiatives for the celebration of the International Year of Forests. Delivering her message of support, Ms G. Sigwabe informed communities about methods and benefits of long term sustainable use of indigenous trees and forests. She raised awareness of the danger of veld and forest fires and the prevention thereof. She provided educational information about forestry issues to schools and promoted career pathing in forestry. The mayor of Umzimvubu Municipality, Councillor Kulukazi Phangwa emphasized the necessity of community involvement in forestry poverty alleviation through job creation. She further explained that Umzimvubu Municipality has initiated a Pole Treatment Plant at ward 21 in Mawusheni village in

Mt Frere. This project is based on the feasibility study that has been commissioned and the municipality will not spend less than R2 million and promised a substantial number of job opportunities that will emerge because of this project. She encouraged communities to plant trees for a greener Umzimvubu and ultimately a greener South Africa. Peach trees were given to 685 households of Njijini and 200 indigenous trees were given to 20 schools in the area.



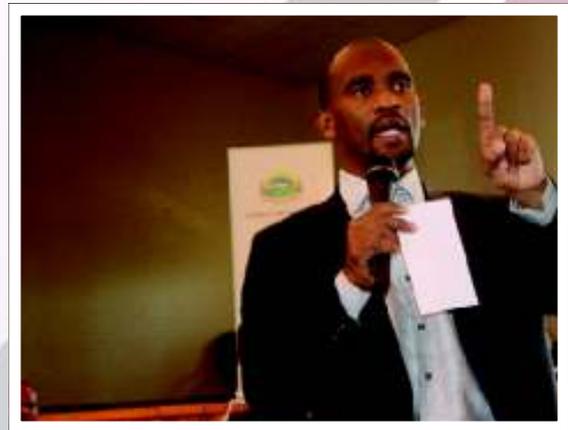
Trees donated by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries given to community members and teachers.

A successful Wellness day was organized by the Corporate Services Department on Friday the 22nd July 2011 at Mount Frere with a view to motivate and boost the morale of the employees.

This year's Wellness Day was not dealing with the physical aspects but with the psychological and emotional well being of the employees of the municipality.



Umzimvubu employees listening attentively during wellness day



Pastor Zondo motivating Umzimvubu employees

WARD COMMITTEE ESTABLISHMENT

After the Local Government Elections of the 18th May 2011 new Council has been elected and this also calls for new ward committees to be elected in each ward. The importance of Ward committees is that they are an advisory committee to Ward Councillors as they advise on any matters of service delivery and development within council competency. It is a legal requirement that a municipality must develop a mechanism to ensure community participation in policy initiation and formulation, decision making and implementation. As a result of this background Umzimvubu Municipality has established new

ward committees in all 27 wards within the municipality. When electing these ward committees, 50% gender representation has been taken into account. Community involvement is a far more targeted and structured form of public participation and is both group specific and issue focused. The Umzimvubu Municipality officials have ensured that every member taking part in the election are registered voters in that ward. The venue of the meetings were made accessible to the community members and the municipality provided transport for the community. The date, time and venue of the meetings in each ward

were pre arranged and community members were notified accordingly. The Office of the Speaker as the Chairperson of Council, Councillor Sisilana was central and responsible for overseeing the functioning of this programme. Ever since his election to council Cllr Sisilana has ensured that representations made through the ward committees and ward councillors are channeled to the appropriate structures for further attention. This exercise was informed and guided by the imperatives of the Eastern Cape Generic Policy for Establishment and Operation of Ward Committees.

Mt AYLIFF STADIUM



Mr Mazabelana on the ride on lawnmower to be used at the stadium.



Mt. Ayliff Stadium under construction



Mt. Ayliff Stadium changing rooms

