



ENOCH MGIJIMA

LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

DIRECTORATE: OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR
Physical Address: 70 Cathcart Road, Town Hall, Komani 5320
Postal Address: Private Bag X 7111, Komani 5320

EXECUTIVE MAYOR ENOCH MGIJIMA MUNICIPALITY: REFLECTIONS ON MY 100 DAYS IN OFFICE

I accepted my deployment by the African National Congress to the newly established Enoch Mgijima Municipality without hesitation that this August task come with its challenges. I rallied on the support on the support of my beloved movement and the people of Enoch Mgijima at large. To date I still enjoy an unbreakable support from my movement, people of Enoch Mgijima and different political parties in council.

It was saddening to watch R21m worth of municipal assets being put under a hammer when I was barely a month in office as the Executive Mayor of Enoch Mgijima Municipality. It is also depressing to wake up on receiving/reading/watching negative reports about the young Enoch Mgijima Municipality.

In trying to get in tune with what is taking place at our Municipality, amongst things I requested to see was the pre-amalgamation report on the merging of the three erstwhile Municipalities namely Inkwanca, Tsolwana and Lukhanji. It is unfortunate to mention that to date that the report is not forthcoming from both provincial government and Chris Hani District municipality whom were reported to be the ones who facilitated the amalgamation of the three municipalities.

By these reports one wanted to get a sense on how to deal with persistent challenges that were brought by amalgamation and that includes law suits that were unresolved prior amalgamation. I instructed the Municipal Manager to talk to his counterpart at the district to reconstruct those amalgamation reports if possible.



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Having reflected on the negative challenges that I faced in my first hundred days as the Executive Mayor, it is important to reflect that there are positives that together with entire Enoch Mgijima family we achieved. The following is the list of what my office achieved:

STATE OF THE MUNICIPALITY 100 DAYS AGO	PROGRESS TO DATE
1. IDP/Budget consultation sessions not yet conducted in communities	1. All wards were met and IDP/ Budget
2. IDP/Budget preparation process not yet started	2. Budget and IDP approved by Council on 31 May 2018.
3. Section 71 & 72 Reports not all submitted in time to treasury	3. There is 100% submission and compliance
4. Section 52(d) Reports not all submitted to treasury in time	4. There is 100% submission and compliance
5. MIG spending less than 40%	5. There is 100% MIG spending
6. R44m debt to Eskom	6. R14m remaining with a payment plan ending 31 March 2019.
7. There was R21m debt owed with a service provider (Milowo Construction)	7. Debt is 100% settled
8. The municipality was without a governance framework	8. Governance framework was approved by council
9. The municipality was without a women's caucus	9. A Women caucus launched and is operation
10. The municipality was without a whippersy	10. A Whippersy launched and operational
11. The municipality had no yet reviewed its organogram	11. Council approved its organogram
12. No funding for the unemployed learnerships	12. Services Seta approved R4.5 m funding for learnerships for the unemployed
13. Yellow plant, old and new was auctioned	13. New yellow plant donated by Department of Roads and Transport
14. Dilapidated road infrastructure at Ezibeleni	14. Assistance for a 6.8 kms' road for Ezibeleni to start construction before end August 2018
15. MIG projects for 2018/19 financial year	15. MIG projects for 2018/19 all awarded to improve spending



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In conclusion despite the abovementioned amalgamation related challenges & successes, a landmark employer/employee relationship have been established with labour through the local labour forum. This is a rare scenario in many amalgamations and most often it is where many mergers fail. I want to thank the support the African National Congress give me, people of Enoch Mgijima and different political parties in council and wish a continued support to tackle challenges facing our young municipality.

Ms N G Tolashe
Executive Mayor
Enoch Mgijima Municipality