



AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS MZALA NXUMALO REGION

VRYHEID-SUBREGION MEMORANDUM

ABAQULUSI MUNICIPALITY CORPORATE SERVICE		
FILE NO.: 17/3/10/1		
DATE RECEIVED	17 OCT 2018	FO ATTENTION
MM	MAYOR	SPEAK
DER. MAYOR	DIR. CORP	CFO
DIR. TECH	DIR. COM	DIR. DEV

TO: THE HONOURABLE MAYOR-ABAQULUSI MUNICIPALITY

CC: THE HONOURABLE MEC FOR COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS

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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The African National Congress in the Vryheid Sub-Region is entrusted to ensure that communities within its area of operation are well coordinated and furthermore are assisted in accessing better services as stipulated in the country's constitution. It is also important to put an emphasis on the on upholding Batho Pele principles while also practicing clean governance at all times.

As the ANC we have a historic responsibility of emancipating our people from all oppression and underdevelopment. It is because of this historic responsibility that we are gathered here today to find an amicable solution to social issues that have plagued the residents of Abaqulusi municipality. We note that the IFP has put a spanner on all positive developments that we saw from 2011 to 2016 when the ANC was in charge. Be that as it may, the majority of the residents of Vryheid have entrusted the ANC with the responsibility of running their affairs. This is evidenced by the fact that the ANC is entrusted with leading 11 or half of the 22 wards in the Abaqulusi municipality. We would like to thank all our people for their trust in the ANC and we shall always work hand in hand with you as your faithful servants in working towards the realization of your aspirations.

The unholy alliance of opposition parties has led to a municipality governed by minority parties whose sole purpose is to sabotage the progress of our people. It must be noted that there is no ideological synergy between the IFP, DA and the EFF except to frustrate the efforts of the ANC to liberate the people of our municipality.

We note the DAs purported commitment to clean governance against the reality we have in this municipality where the very same party is playing a critical role in propping up the corrupt IFP administration against all odds. This organization does this because they are aware its only the conservative IFP that can assist them in maintaining white privilege. Historically the IFP has stood on the side of the oppressors and we are therefore not surprised.

This coalition regime has led the municipality into a dire state of affairs with service delivery coming to a halt. There are serious issues of mismanagement that have crippled this municipality.

One must firstly remind the Mayor that we are not happy about the way things are being done within the Municipality. The legislative mandates stipulates that public participation is the wheel that is so

critical in all spheres of the government, therefore it must be utilized in a manner that will be clearly understood by the communities as the voters in our democratic era.

The following are just but some of the serious issues that we demand the administration to deal with as a matter of urgency.

MALADMINISTRATION

- The issue of maladministration has become the business of the day within our Municipality and there are lots of things that serves as the evidence. T
- Claveshay issue which has been dominating the media house. We not that the attorney used, Mr. De Klerk is a personal friend and adviser to the IFP president and the possibility that the money is being channeled to the IFP is not far fetched.
- Outsourcing of Annual report and Financial Statement consolidation becomes costly for the municipality as it is already bankrupt.
- Municipality is wasting taxpayers money paying for unnecessary legal matters

- The municipality, which has a budget of roughly 500 million, has a deficit of 117 million which represents more than 20 percent of its budget.
- They have failed to pay service providers for more than 120 days. They currently owe a total of 65 million to external service providers.
- MIG money meant for the provision of services like electricity has been diverted into paying for the administrative responsibilities of the municipality thus depriving communities of new electricity connections.
- The municipality has spent ludicrous amounts to build bathroom sized creches
- The diversion of the electricity tariffs in their entirety to the administrative budget has led to the municipality failing to pay ESKOM and as a result the municipality is 35 million in arrears with ESKOM threatening to cut power supply to the municipality.
- Reserves have been depleted and workers are not guaranteed of their salaries
- We note the nepotism of the IFP and particularly the speaker. The incompetent corporate services director was hired for no reason other than being the sister of the Speaker.
- The community services director has till now failed to produce his matric certificate.
- While facing this dire state of affairs, the municipality has suspended key personnel on full pay for no reason other than their association with the ANC. This blatant victimization of workers must stop.
- There are workers associated with the ruling coalition that have committed acts of serious misconduct and even fraud that have not been charged.
- Khehla used the municipal car for the IFP campaign in Nquthu. This was done without authorization and in any event even if there was such authorization municipal assets should never be used for a party political campaign
- The municipal manager has appointed VIP protection services to the MM without a threat analysis report from the SAPS being provided. This is an act of illegality by the municipality and such constitutes irregular expenditure.

ELECTRICITY

One will firstly argue that the electricity price is not equal nor so close to its units when one is buying electricity. In actual fact the electricity rate/tariff is so high compared to the units we get when purchasing it. Furthermore, the indigent policy on electricity seems to be flawed somewhere and an immediate intervention is requested. There are Electrification projects that are on hold in almost 7 wards which on its suggests otherwise as we believe that those projects were funded by Municipal Infrastructure Grant which leaves a lot to be desired with reference in which the funding was utilized. Municipality infills on electricity within Sasko(103 units) area and other areas are not yet being done. Electricity disconnections without proper engagements and required procedures.

Streetlights which are not working becomes a challenge especially in town as it has a contribution in the high crime rate that occurs night especially burglary.

ROADS

We have witnessed a decline in the road development in almost every corner of our communities. It is true that there are more potholes especially in all Municipal townships including in Town where it makes it difficult even for drivers as they have to dark and dive which on its own contributes in the high rate of accidents.

- Hlobane-Highway starting from a Zulwini lifestyle heading to the robot the road is not conducive for any driver which on its own suggests poor service delivery.
- The decision of out-sourcing Premix plant must be rescinded by the council to cater for the low standards of our roads.

WATER AND SANITATION

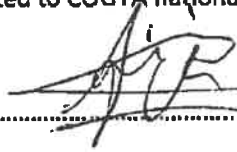
The issue of storm drainage system especially in areas like Sasko is still a challenge in our communities where we see peoples human right not implemented deliberately. It is also within our argument that the Municipality continues to be reluctant in trying to deal with

- Infrastructure upgrading in all aspects of its mandatory objectives. In actual fact the municipality is failing the voters.
- mismanagement of funds.
- The suspension of Artisans to give Khambula Electrical company callouts programs also becomes costly. Its 600 000 monthly for this exercise. Out-sourcing of Annual report consolidation becomes costly each and every time it has to be consolidated while the municipality is bankrupt

Our demands

1. COGTA should put the Municipality under investigation.
This as we believe that the municipality lacks the political will and the knowhow to resolve these issues
2. COGTA appoints a forensic investigation team to probe the issues raised
3. The Municipal manager be suspended
4. Progressive elements in the municipality should assist in unseating this demonic administration led by the IFP
5. A report back on the progress made within seven working days failing which these issues will be presented to COGTA national.

Received by



Date 17/10/2018

Handed over by.....



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