

MALUTI A PHOFUNG LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

BUDGET VOTE SPEECH 2011/12

BY DR. B.E. MZANGWA

10 May 2011

*Re ya o leboha Modimo wa rona, hobane o re
pepile ho fihlela mona kajeno - wa re
tataisa tseleng e boima, mme wa ba wa re
sireletsa le ditlokotsing tse ngata!*

*Hape re ya o boka Morena, hobane o re file
bohlale le matla a ho phetha mosebetsi wa
setjhaba sa hao ka lerato le tiisetso, mme re
tshepa hore le hosasa o tla nne o re behe
letsoho la hao le matla hore Masepala ona o
hole o tshwane le tlhaku ya mosetareta
setjhabeng sa hao.*

Ho wena Speaker sa Lekgotla la Motse wa Maluti a Phofung, Mme Mamolupe Motloun, le Balekgotla bohle ba rona, Baemedi ba Ntlo ya Lekgotla la Ketso ya Melao Foreisetata, Lekgotla la Phethahatso Profensing ya Foreisetata boetapeleng ba Premier Magashule. Setho sa Phethahatso se ikarabellang Lefapheng la Tshebedisano-mmoho ya Mmuso, Ditaba tsa Marena a Setso le Ditaba tsa Bodulo ba Batho, Mme Mamiki Qabathe le bo-mphatho, Morena Mathealira Mopeli mmoho le

ditho tsohle tsa Ntlo ya Borena ba Setso Foreisetata, Ke le dumedisa ka thabo le tlhompho e kgolo lebitsong la Lekgotla la Motse wa Maluti a Phofung.

Majoro wa Phethahatso wa sedika sa Thabo Mofutsanyana, Mofumahadi Mathokoana Mopeli, Baetapele ba Makgotla a Metse ba teng kwano, Mekgatlo ya Kgwebo, Dikereke, Dingaka tsa Setso le mekgatlo ka ho fapana, Bahlanka ba Masepala wa Maluti a Phofung, Diofisiri tsa Mmuso maamong a fapaneng, ke ya le dumedisa,

Baeti ba bohlokwa ba tswang hole le haufi, le lona baqolotsi ba ditaba, madume, mme le amohelehile – Ke boele ke hlomphe le ho dumedisa setjhaba sohle sa Maluti a Phofung se tlileng le se mametseng ditaba tsa pitso ena ya kajeno.

Speaker, let me first start by quoting from the famous book titled 'A tale of two cities' by the English author, Charles Dickens in which he says: *"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us,"*

This is how best one can sum up the past decade as the political head of Maluti-a-Phofung Local Municipality. The period has had its own trials and tribulations. It has also had its golden moments. There have been triumphs and disappointments. But throughout, the centre was able to hold, and this was possible through the collective commitment of fellow councilors, officials and the valued community of Maluti-a-Phofung.

We believe that we are still on the right track in delivering basic services and developing infrastructure in this municipality - with the help of national and provincial government departments, as well as through the Premier's Operation *Hlasela* Programme.

Most of our residents now have access to portable water, sanitation, houses, electricity, access roads, clinics and sporting facilities. We have also made major strides in the fight against poverty by creating job

opportunities through various projects, among them the Mantshatlala Mayoral Project which is not only intended to provide job opportunities to many people, but in effect to improve service delivery in our area. We have now appointed on a full time basis, those part-time workers who used to work on the Mantshatlala Project. They have been placed in various municipal directorates and divisions, such as roads, waste management as well as sport, arts and recreation.

Speaker, Ditho tse hlomphehang tsa Lekgotla la Motse le setjhaba, re boetse re kopane mona kajeno e le karolo ya mosebetsi o moholo wa ho lokolla setjhaba ditlamong tsa bofuma le ho fumana ditsela tsa ho aha bophelo bo *betere* bakeng sa batho bohle ba Maluti a Phofung.

Re sebeditse dilemong tse leshome tse fetileng tsa bo-masepala ba demokerasi. Re entse, ra fihlela ho ho ngata, mme re thabile ke hona. Le ha ho le jwalo, ho sa na le tse ngata tseo re lokelang ho di phetha. Re motlotlo ka mosebetsi oo re o entseng ho fihlela mona, mme re na le tshepo e tiileng ya hore ka boiphihlelo boo re seng re na le bona, mmoho re tla aha setjhaba se tswetseng pele. Re ke ke ra kgathala ho phetha mosebetsi o moholo wa ho pholosa setjhaba sa rona. Re tsamaile leeto le lelele, mme ha re ke ke ra kgathala kapa kgutlela morao kajeno.

Masepaleng ona o eteletsweng pele ke ANC, ho na le dintho tse ngata tse ntle tseo re di fihleletseng dilemong tse leshome re busa. Bothata ke hore ha re etse lerata le "*genoeg*" ka katleho ya rona. Ke boikarabelo ba rona re le Makhanselara ho bua ka diphihlello tsa rona tulong ena ya rona. Ka mokgwa o tshwanang re lokela ho tataisa le ho kgothatsa mafapha a ikarabelang tlhahiso-leseding hore a ikopanye le setjhaba ka mehla le ho ba fa ditaba tse ntle tsa katleho ya rona. Lekgatheng lena, re ke ke ra amohela puo e reng: "*Ngwana' phakwe senne o ipolela ...*," hobane ruri re le Lekgotla la Motse re hlile ra tiisa meqheleba nehelanong ya ditshebeletso le ntshetsopeleng ya Maluti a Phofung ka kakaretso. Mme ha e se rona ba buang ka katleho ya rona, ka nnete ke mang ya tlang ho e pepesa?

Speaker, I have been honoured to have been given the opportunity to lead the ANC government at the local level, as everyday of these past

ten years have been a learning curve for me and many of my comrades. I have been even more honoured to be deployed in this specific area that has a unique history, its own socio-economic profile and its specific geographic build.

It has been an unforgettable journey that has inculcated in us diligence and prepared many of us to serve our communities with passion and loyalty. This experience has equipped us with invaluable skills of running local government. For this, we are very grateful as we need more of this experience in the coming Council which will be yielded by these elections coming just over a week from now.

Banabeso, ka mahlo re a bona, mme ka ditsebe re a utlwa hore tokoloho e fihlile, mme re se re bile re tlwanela demokerasi jwale. Hona ho bonahala ka boiteto bo teng boitokisetsong ba dikgetho. Kahoo, bohle re lokela ho sebetsa ka thata ho atlehisa dikgetho tsena tseo re yang re di lebile e le ho tebisa demokerasi.

We are happy that we are maturing into this true democracy. Thanks to the African National Congress for leading all of us South Africans into this world class rule that we have now enjoyed over a decade! We must defend with everything in our power this gift of democracy as we continue to triumph over the aftermaths of apartheid.

We will continue to develop progressive policies, apply systems and introduce mechanisms to work more efficiently in an integrated manner with all other levels of government, in maximising our gains to speed up service delivery and development of infrastructure. We will strengthen our administrative services and promote an active human resources base for skills development, so that we are able to increase the output and deliver services better and faster. This, we will do as part of our strategic objectives and in alignment with the broader vision of building a united, prosperous and democratic state.

Ke ema mona ka ntle ho pelaelo ya letho hore mmuso o eteletsweng pele ke ANC o na le boiphihlelo tsamaisong ya mmuso ka mokgwa wa demokerasi. Kahoo re tla eketsa sekgahla sa ho tebisa demokerasi le ho matlafatsa merero ya ntshetsopeleng ka hara Maluti a Phofung. Sena re tla

se etsa re ikamahantse le ditabatabelo tsa setjhaba, mme re sebetsa mmoho le sona setjhaba.

Re nka hape le monyetla ona kajeno ho leboha bohle ba sebeditseng le rona ho ntshetsa pele Maluti a Phofung empa katleho ba sa e bona ka ho phethahala.

Many have not been fortunate enough to be with us today. Some of those who worked with us have not been able to walk with us this far, because they have passed on. We are however proud to stand here today and remember their invaluable contribution in ushering our area into this new era. We are indebted to their loyalty and selflessness in pursuing the dream of a better life for all. I believe their contribution will form part of a permanent history of democracy in our country, and I feel proud to be associated with their courageous efforts.

We will remember with great humility and pride the following colleagues – officials and *councillors, who worked with us to make the municipality a success story, and who have since passed on: *Mike Radebe, Shirley Qhesi, Owen Ngwenya, Walter Matena, Mollawa Lakaje, Mahlomola Lekgotla, Moya Mokoena, Oriel Makena, M. Vanqa,* JSS Phathang, Lehana Lehana, Lejone Mofokeng, C J van Reenen, Maud Moletsane, Aaron Sello, Busi Magudulela, Tsietsi Moloi, Ntaoleng Radebe and Tlaleng Simela*. As they contributed in building a democratic society, so do we promise to carry their commitment and dreams to a higher level.

Speaker, ditekanyetso tsena ke mosebetsi o kopanetsweng ke Lekgotla la Motse le setjhaba. Di tsheheditse ke tsebo e ikgethang ya lekala la tsamaiso masepaleng. Ke ditekanyetso tse tshwaeditsweng ke ditekanyetso tsa profensi le Puo ya Boemo ba Naha ka Mo-President Zuma. Mme ka sehlohong, ditekanyetso tsena di bopilwe ka moelelo wa Puo ya January 8 ya ANC e kgothaletsang phediso ya bofuma ka tlhahiso ya mesebetsi. Ke yona ANC eo ka 2007 e ileng ya re tlhahiso ya mesebetsi e lokela hoba mohopolo o moholo ho maano a rona a moruo. Mohopolo ona ke ona o hlahisitseng leano la *New Growth Path* leo ka lona mmuso o tlang ho hlwaya ka moo ho ka thehlang

mesebetsi e nang le seriti ka bongata le ho rala maano a tla tiisa theho ena ya mesebetsi. Re leboha bohle ba ileng ba nka karolo ho etsa ditekanyetso tsena - ba ileng ba sebetsa ka thata le ka mafolofolo, hore di behwe ka pele ho setjhaba sa Maluti a Phofung, e le moralo wa tsohle tseo re tlang ho di etsa selemong sena se setjha sa ditjhelete. Hona ke sesupo se setle sa kgolo ya puso ya setjhaba ka setjhaba.

Ke itse puo ya rona e tshwaeditswe ke puo ya MoPresidente ya boemo ba naha ka kgweheletso ya ho hlalosa selemo sena e le sa ho thehwa ha mesebetsi. Tulo ya rona ke e ntle haholo ho arabela kgweheletso ena. Ke sebaka sa mahae, se futsanehileng haholo. Kahoo hara tse ding ho tswa puong ya naha re tla ikamahanya ha holoholo le *'infrastructure development'* thehong ya mesebetsi ka bongata. Re tla boela re hlahisa diprojeke tsa phediso ya bofuma le ho thusa dikgwebo tse nyenyane e le karolo ya ho theha mesebetsi le kgodiso ya moruo.

Speaker, with this budget, we intend to improve on our efforts to maintain effective health and social security systems, to improve education, information technology and the communication portfolio of the municipality, to combat crime and to contribute in developing residents to participate meaningfully in the affairs of the municipality. This, we will do through programmes such as sport, arts and culture, life skills, education and other community programmes within the social cluster. We believe this will help to build proud residents and patriotic South African citizens who will contribute in building a better Africa and a better world.

We have undoubtedly covered a great distance in this past year. I am therefore proud to list some of the achievements that we attained in the past financial year.

Speaker, in an area like ours, where there has been a skewed infrastructural development, it is always imperative to give attention to this, as people cannot do without a range infrastructural set-ups. Besides, it will be against the Constitution if we fail to provide some form of critical infrastructural services to the community. Establishment of a human settlement is the beginning of a community and a building

block for a society and nationhood. We therefore need to do our best when establishing human settlements so as to create a conducive environment towards a healthy society. Housing is an integral part of any human settlement.

Ours is a well-known story in this area - the legacy of the apartheid system that has failed to respond to basic human right issues; like providing decent housing and providing basic services to citizens without bias.

We stand here today conscious of the huge deficit of housing and other necessities that are critical in any human settlement. Out of this, we have inherited a lot of problems and have earned ourselves informal settlements that decorate with great cacophony our municipality and directly place at our doorstep a number of challenges that have in effect turned into our responsibilities. These include: eradication of these informal settlements, formalisation and establishment of townships, construction of roads, bridges, water and electricity infrastructure and many other requirements in a proper human settlement. There is no way we can look away from this huge debt – we need to address it with all courage and endurance we can muster.

We have to this effect, submitted to the provincial government, four applications for formalisation of certain rural areas in Qwaqwa so as to eventually establish them as townships. These include: Makgalwaneng, Bolata, Dithotaneng and Lusaka. A total number of 3 238 households applications have already been submitted to the province for formalisation, and 300 erven in Harrismith have also been identified and documentation thereof submitted to the Provincial Government for further processes. Sites have also been identified in Harrismith and Bluegumbosch in the quest of developing better human settlements in these area.

Speaker, it is also important to mention that part of the problem that continues to hamper effective service delivery and development is informal settlements sprouting irreverently in our area in recent times. We view these kinds of settlements as not progressive to our cause. We

are however succeeding in reducing this informal settlement phenomenon. In an effort to weaken this negative trend we have relocated 30 hawkers from Lediboho Hawkers Complex to the new Crescent Centre. We hope that this move will serve them better in pursuing their dreams. We have also resettled 49 households to Phuthaditjhaba Extension 10 who had been living informally at Maqhekung, Bluegumbosch and Mandela Park.

Provision of housing is key to our delivery mandate. For the financial year 2010/2011 we have been allocated 1 800 housing subsidies and a further 750 housing units. The following are some of the areas in which houses are currently being built: Thabana Tshoana (Ward 15) - 100 houses, Thaba Tshoeu (Ward 20) - 100 houses, Qholaqhwe (Ward 2) – 50 houses, Thibella (Ward 21) – 50 houses and Bolata (Ward 12) – 100 houses. This venture is not only going to ensure dignified shelter to many people, but many as well are guaranteed job opportunities. There are over 600 people employed in this project, of which 149 are women, 325 young people, 1 disabled person and 221 men.

We have completed the following road-building projects: 2.6 km paved road in Bluegumbosch to the tune of R5 188 000 from the Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) funds. We have also successfully completed 7.4km, being Phase 3 of the Kestell/Tlholong paved road project at a cost of R23 940 000, also from the MIG allocation. We have used our own resources to the amount of R9 300 000 to construct a 23km gravel road with storm water drainage in Tshiame, and have successfully completed this project.

For Intabazwe, we have used R7 000 000 from the MIG funding to construct 3 km of roads. This project is currently at a 65% stage of completion. The paved roads project in Tshiame is also nearing completion. We have completed 3.9 km of this road which translates into 70% of this project being funded from the MIG allocation to the amount of R9 251 000. The McKechnie Street/N5 alignment in Harrismith is also nearing completion as 85% of this project has been completed. Here, we allocated our own funds amounting to R10 205 000.

Speaker, some of our areas are inaccessible during rainy seasons due to over flooding. To enable residents to travel with ease, and without fear of risking their lives by drowning, we set aside R7 000 000 from our own coffers to build steel footbridges. We are looking forward to completing the remaining 50% of this project, thus providing our people with simple and practical means that are safe and are a cost effective way of travelling.

We have been able to increase our capacity in the provision of bulk water by developing the Sterkfontein Bulk Water Scheme. We put aside R55 000 000 from the MIG funds in this project. This project is progressing well and is currently at a 65% stage of completion. We hope to complete it within the set timeframe so that we are able to provide water effectively where it is needed the most. Coupled with this, is sanitation development that has been undertaken in Tshiame and Intabazwe. The Tshiame sewer reticulation (network 544) has been completed using R5 377 298 of the allocated MIG funds, while the Intabazwe outfall sewer (network 690) is at a 65% stage of completion, having used R7 700 000 budgeted from the MIG funds.

We have once more progressed well in terms of the electrification programme over the years. With R10 000 000 received from Department of Energy, we have in 2010/2011 financial year made great strides in completing the electrification programme as planned. We have also managed to complete one of our major and involved electrification programmes of 2007/2008 (TATS). We have worked very hard to bring this project this far. We have financed this project ourselves to the tune of R9 200 000. We are very proud to have in general, succeeded in providing this important commodity (electricity) and essential energy resource to residents, government and to business 24/7.

Speaker, as of 10 March 2011 a total amount of R291 957 298 has already been spent on roads and storm water, water, sanitation, electricity, bridges, public facilities and other services. I am sure that this year we will outdo ourselves in this great feat as we move closer towards our dream of better and faster service delivery to all residents.

Ke rata ho supa hape mesebetsi e meng ya setjhaba eo re e fihletseng ka katleho e kgolo. Re kgonne ho kampela setsha sa mabitla sa Bluegumbosch le ho ntlafatsa marang-rang a sona. Ditjeho tsa mosebetsi ona tse kalo ka R3 200 000 di tswile matloleng a rona. Hona e bile kgato (*Phase*) ya pele, mme mosebetsi ona o sa tswela pele. Re boetse re ile ra phethela ka katleho katoloso ya diofisi tse kgolo tsa Masepala wa rona. Ke mosebetsi oo re leng motlotlo ka ona hobane jwale basebetsi ba Masepala le ditho tsa Lekgotla la Motse di na le sebaka se se setle sa moo ba sebeletsang teng. Disebediswa le thepa ya rona di fumana sebaka se setle sa polokelo.

Katoloso ena e ntlafaditse tjhebahalo le seriti sa Masepala mme e thusitse ho tsosa morolo hara Makahanselara le basebetsi. Ditjeho tsa mosebetsi ona tse tsamahetseng ho R30 000 000 di tswile mokotleng wa rona. Re nka katoloso ena e le 'asset' e kgolo bakeng sa rona le meloko e tlang masepaleng ona.

Our local economic development domain provides us with an excellent opportunity to transform the economic landscape and to systematically drive the process of distribution of wealth in this municipality. The building blocks of economic growth and empowerment in our case start from job creation projects through public and private initiatives.

We have created such job opportunities by running the following projects: donga rehabilitation and eradication of alien vegetation as part of protection and conservation of environment. These projects, which were carried out in Tsheseng, Diyatalawa and Aberfeldy were funded by SANBI (South African National Biodiversity Institute) to the amount of R 4 500 000. Out of this, 126 people benefited. The Greening of Environment project received funding to revamp the nursery at Phuthaditjhaba Park and rehabilitate and upgrade the park at the Sefika sa Mopeli in Namahadi. Fifteen people are benefiting from this project in which R 1 326 707 has been invested.

The Witsieshoek Mountain Resort needs renovations and upgrading of its facilities; like the restaurant and its accommodation. The Department of Economic Development, Tourism Environmental Affairs in the

province has funded this project with an amount of R20 000 000. The project has not fully commenced, but once begun, it is sure going to contribute to the economic growth and benefit the people of this area.

A Geotech assessment has been done and work is in progress to construct an access road to Witsie's Cave. A distance of 800 metres has already been paved. This project that has been allocated an amount of R 7 143 842 will benefit 40 people. The municipality has also received an amount of R1 000 000 from the provincial Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to revive the piggery project at Matsikeng village, creating more possibilities of employment for local people.

We have created jobs for a number of Maluti a Phofung residents as part of our social responsibility. We have spent R42 600 000 in this regard. Added to this, and in pursuit of skills improvement, we have spent R5 200 000 and R1 205 000 for accredited and non-accredited training respectively. Both accredited and non-accredited training offered in this regard yielded 104 accredited training and 56 non-accredited training sessions. This training relates to equipping people with skills so that they are able to serve the community better and improve their own lives. The impact of this saw creation of job opportunities for 156 women, 312 men, 300 young people, and 3 people with disabilities.

Speaker, in pursuit of an efficient and effective public safety, we continued to improve our capability and increase our capacity. We have towards this, put up a training programme for private fire fighters valued at R320 000. We have sent 14 fire fighters to the Central University of Technology who are now in their third year of study for a diploma in this field. We believe this will go a long way in contributing towards saving property and human lives.

Our area is, as you know, is plagued by wild veld fires during dry seasons. I am sure these private fire fighters will increase our capacity in combating the veld fires which every year bring untold damage to our environment, especially to the flora and fauna.

Speaker, we are committed to improving our service delivery in all facets, including active participation of our transport division in

providing service to the public. In order to keep to the commitment of serving with distinction in areas where we have capacity, we have acquired a fleet of 17 vehicles that will enable us to be more efficient and effective in rendering services. These new, roadworthy and modern vehicles, have not only resulted in us providing services in an easy and quicker manner, but have also undoubtedly improved the corporate image of the municipality.

Our Traffic Services has worked relentlessly in reducing traffic congestion, and promoting road safety in the municipality through on-spot checks, manning of traffic related activities, and enforcement of the Traffic Act, rules and by-laws. We have this year generated R253 942 through traffic fines. This indicates our resolve to maintain the law and make roads safer for all those who use them. Stray animals contribute significantly to road accidents. We have to this effect acquired land in Harrismith and at Kestell to build pounds for proper control of stray animals. This will also assist in the healthy upkeep of our environment and hopefully reduce stock theft within the municipality.

Speaker, our responsibility as a municipality is also to contribute towards building of a caring society. Our committed participation and contribution in community issues like health and wellness, social security, education and conservation of environment must serve as a sign of our conscious effort to build a society that cares.

Boikarabelo ba Masepala ba ho thusa ka thekolohelo bo bonahetse ka tse latelang: Re ile ra tshehetsa le ho thusa ho boloka bafu ba tswang malapeng a futsanehileng a 77. Re ile ra hlokomela hore ba malapa ana ba fumantshwa thuso ya ho thojwa maikutlo ka tahlehelo ya bona.

Re lekile le selemong sena se fetang sa ditjhelete ho fokotsa sekgahla HIV/AIDS, le ditlamorao tsa yona esita le ho nyahamisa ditlwaelo tse e bakang ka hara setjhaba. Re ile ra amohela “*di-tunnels*” tsa *hydroponics* tse 12 tseo ho jalwang meroho ka hara tsona. Re entse sena ho tshehetsa batho ba phelang ka HIV/AIDS le malapa a bona, mme ra tshwara dikopano tse mmalwa le batho ba ikarabelang mabollong a setso e le ho tlisa taolo le ho thusa ho fokotsa sekgahla sa HIV/AIDS ka

ho nka karolo ngodisong ya bashemane ba neng ba ya lebollong. Re ile ra ba ra nka karolo pulong ya HIV/AIDS Counselling and Testing programme.

Ho feta mona Lefapaha la Thekolohelo le ile la hlophisa le ho tshwara *di-workshop* tsa tshotlo ya bana le ditho tsa malapa (*child and family abuse*) e le ho qoqa le ho beha pepeneneng bothata bona ka hara setjhaba esita le ho sheba mekgwa kapa ditsela tsa ho bo fokotsa. Speaker, re ile ra theha *forum* ya sekolo sa ABET e kenyeleditseng ho tseba ho bala le ho ngola mongolo wa difofu (*Braille*). Hona ho tla thusa ho tiisa dihlopha tsa batho ba qwhadileng, ha holoholo difofu, hore ba itahlele ka setotswana mesebetsing ya ntshetsopele ya setjhaba.

Tsamaiso e ntle ya tikoloho le ho phuthwa ha matlakala ho bile ka sehlong. Re ekeditse sekgahla sa ho phutha matlakala. Ho feta mona re ile ra kenya *di-mounted bins* tse 250 tsa matlakala le matshwao a 300 a hlokomedisang ho se qhalle matlakala hohle (*no illegal dumping*) e le ho eketsa tsamaiso e ntle ya ho phutha matlakala le ho tlisa bohlweki tikolohong ya rona. Mme re ile ra etsa matsholo a fapaneng a setjhaba ho hlahisa leseding le ho ruta setjhaba ka bohlweki ba tikoloho.

Seabo sa rona thutong se bonahetse haholo ka *Teboho Mkhonza Educational Trust*, eo ka yona Masepala o ileng wa thusa baithuti ba ba ngatanyana. Hara bona nka qoholla ba latelang ba ithutang mane Unibesithing ya Foreisetata: Dimakatso Moloi, ya ithutang *Sociology* le Senyesemane mmoho le Motsamai Maleka eo yena a ithutelang bongaka.

Ho feta mona re e ile ra tshwara dithuto tse fapaneng dilaeboraring tsohle tse 6 ka hara Masepala. Hona ho entswe e le teko ya ho ntlafatsa thuto. Batho ba 125 ba ile ba fumantshwa thupello. Bana ba 569 kaofela ba ile ba nka karolo Programong ya “*Early Literacy*”, mme re bile ra nka karolo ketsahalong ya selemo le selemo ya *Readathon* e tsamaiswang ke dilaeborari le dikolo ya ho kgothaletsa setjhaba ho bala dibuka.

Ho tsa Dipapadi, Bonono, Botjhaba le Boikgathollo, mmoho le ditshebeletso tsa *di-park* le ditsha tsa mabitla, nka qoholla feela tse latelang: Re atlehile ho phethela mokgahlelo wa pele wa ntlafatso ya

Lebala la Dipapadi la Phuthaditjhaba ka ditjeho tse kalo ka R12 018 341, mme re qetile ho kenya jwang ba maiketsetso Lebaleng la Dipapadi la Bluegumbosch ka nyehelo e kalo ka R3.5 million ho tswa ho *FIFA 2010 Legacy Project*. Re amohetse hape tjhelete e kalo ka R250 000 bakeng sa kaho ya Club House hona Blougumbosch – le teng e ntse e le tjhelete e hlahang ho *FIFA 2010 Legacy Project*.

Re ile ra theha Makgotla a Dipapadi le Boikgathollo ho ntshetsa pele dipapadi le boikgathollo ka hara sebaka sa rona. Re tshepa hore hona ho tla thusa ho kgothaletsa batjha ho nka karolo dipapading ka ho fapana e le ho hlahisa letlobo le letjha le motlotlo la bo-mampodi ka hara Maluti a Phofung.

I am delighted to announce that our FIFA initiative, *Football for Hope*, and *loveLife* are in partnership in development, and are in the process of setting up a *Qwaqwa Football for Hope Centre*. This will be a *loveLife* run youth centre with programmes for all young people in the community.

This centre will not only offer young people a safe and exciting space to play soccer, but will also offer them a space to engage in *loveLife's* programme in the following areas: sexual health (including HIV, other sexually transmitted diseases, teenage pregnancy), substance abuse, life skills, sports, arts and culture. We believe this partnership will go a long way in contributing to personal growth of many young people and build them into a confident and resourceful community that will serve this area well today and in future.

Re phethetse mosebetsi o moholo wa ho kampela ditsha tsa mabitla Tshiame, Harrismith le Intabazwe, mme ra *hira* basebetsi ba 49 ba nakwana ka Lenaneo la Mosebetsi e Atolositsweng ya Setjhaba (EPWP) ho sebetisa dirapeng tsa ditsha tsa mabitla.

Speaker, Ditho tse hlomphehang le setjhaba sa heso, mosebetsi wa kaho ya setjhaba o boima - hobane o ama tlihabollo ya maphelo a batho. Ke mosebetsi o mo ngata haholo oo nka o tshwantshang le tshimokgolo. Mosebetsi wa tshimokgolo ha o fele - ha o e lema lehlakoreng lena, e batla ho hlaolwa lehlakoreng le leng. Mosebetsi wa tshimokgolo ke

mosebetsi o batlang boitelo, mamello le ho kgothala ka mehla. Ke mosebetsi o batlang letsema o sa hlokeng pudumo ya seema-nosi .

Speaker, Dames en Here, nasiebou is 'n proses waar van ons almal verwag word om aan deel te neem, ongeag ons eie ideologiese denke. Ons moet met eer en patriotisme alle gemeenskappe bedien. Ons doen 'n beroep op mans en vroue van alle rasse-groepe, die jeug, besighede, goddiens en kulturele groepe om op te staan en saam te werk vir 'n beter toekoms vir ons almal, deur deel te wees van die ontwikkelingsproses van die munisipaliteit.

Die tyd van politieke verdeling op grond van ras en geslag is verby. Sê nee aan mense wat apartheid loof en beter beskou as die nuwe demokratiese bedeling. Ja, sê nee vir mense wat nog dink dat die grootskaalse ekonomie aan sekere groepe of mense behoort. Die land se rykdom behoort mos aan almal en almal moet voordeel daaruit trek.

Yes, we have a daunting task ahead Speaker. But like ants that labour with determination in the face of hardships, so is our resolve to build a better community here.

Municipalities are expected to table their annual budgets in the new budget regulation from the previous financial year (2010/2011). The main objective of this regulation is to formalize norms and standards, which when applied will improve the credibility, sustainability, transparency, accuracy and reliability of municipal budgets. This annual budget explains how income and expenditure will be managed to ensure sustainability and viability of services in the municipality. Our annual budget focuses on delivering additional value for money to residents, especially in areas of need.

I have indicated what we have achieved a lot in the previous year. In spite of the economic climate, we have made all attempts to keep the costs to consumers at a reasonable rate. I also need to mention that some of the items that we have dealt with in the previous year overlap into the new financial year and some obviously affect costs to consumers. Some are basic service delivery issues and some are projects that we have yet to complete. So, like in *tshimokgolo*, we inevitably have

to continue working and working towards achieving our vision of building a better municipality.

Speaker, we commit to increase the quality and pace of our work - to work smarter and faster. This year, having been declared '*a year of job creation*', to us as a municipality, it means our service delivery indexes have to be biased towards creating employment on a large scale as explained in the New Growth Path. One of the most important service delivery directories that has been identified and will respond to this call, is infrastructure. There is a great need for infrastructure in this area. More infrastructural projects mean more jobs, a growing economy and less poverty. And eventually, an area equipped with basic infrastructure will provide better basic services.

It is for this reason that **R341 221 487** of operating expenditure, which translates into 31% of the total expenditure of **R1 096 900 632** for 2011/2012, is allocated to Municipal Infrastructure (*See table 2*). More jobs will be further created from the MIG capital projects and will accordingly push the frontier of development in our area further afield. Among these are the following major projects; Phase 2 of Qwaqwa Rural Water Network with a budget of **R40 000 000**; Phase 9 of the VIP toilets that is allocated **R24 000 000**; Phase 4 of Tlholong/Kestell paved roads at a cost of **R17 000 000**; Phuthaditjhaba paved road at **R10 341 964**; Makholokoeng sewerage and the Harrismith waste water treatment works at **R10 000 000** each. (*See table 5*).

Speaker, ke lokela ho kgeloha hanyane mona ho hopola hara tse ding tsa dingongoreho tsa baahi - tsona di ngata empa ke rata ho qoholla ya batho ba Lusaka bao ke ileng ka tshepisa hore le bona re tla sheba taba ya bona. Mme kajeno ke re ho lona baahi ba Lusaka re tla sebetsa ka thata hore le lona motse wa lona o be le marangrang a mantlha a tsa bohleweki (sanitation).

While infrastructure should be posited as the main job generating sphere in our case, we have provided for job creation in other areas as well that will guarantee our people decent jobs and reduce poverty. One such area is the establishment of Integrated Energy Centres (IeC's) as

part of the Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme (ISRDP). We are in an advanced stage to start an Integrated Energy Centre project in this area. This project will serve as a community information hub and energy shop that will provide access to safe and affordable energy resources such as illuminated paraffin, liquid petroleum gas, and candles to poor households. The centre will possibly also sell petrol and diesel to the community at affordable prices.

We have already identified a site for this project at Patryskamp (933), in Makwane village. We are investing **R4 million** and Sasol Oil sponsors the project with an amount of **R8,5 million**. Fourteen people are directly going to benefit from this project. The project will be linked to our IDP's throughout its existence.

Speaker, at this stage let me highlight some of the determinants of this budget that we need to reflect on and use as guides in our engagement with it, now and in future budget processes. I wish to start with operating income which forms an important part of our budget. Rates and Taxes which are 18% of our projected operating revenue, Electricity - 25% and Grants and Subsidies 28%, serve as main sources of our revenue. These account for over three quarters of our total projected operating income of **R1.112 225 billion** for 2011/2012.

While water (3%), refuse removal (2%) and sanitation (1%) are on the lower rung of income generation, they are inevitably and invariably linked to the sustainability of municipalities. But these are also areas that are akin to greater sensitivity on tariff increases as they are inherently linked to consumers. We will therefore in considering tariff increases, keep in mind the 6% boundary of the South African Reserve Bank's inflation target during the financial year, so as to be close to what is affordable and acceptable as increases. (*See table 3.*)

The projected annual revenue **R1. 112 225 billion**, represents an increase of **R174. 816 million** (16%) above the approved budget for 2010/11. For the 2012/13 financial year the annual budgeted revenue grows by **R63. 341 million**, a 5% increase to **R1. 175 566 billion**. In

2013/14 it will increase by 6% which equals **R78. 187 million** and will amount to **R1. 253 753 billion**.

Speaker, in total the consolidated annual operating expenditure budget for the 2011/12 financial year is **R1. 096 900 billion**, which represents an increase of **R2. 16 212 million** (20%) above the approved budget for 2010/11. For the 2012/2013 and 2013/14 financial years the proposed annual operating expenditure budgets amounts are **R1. 144 196 billion** and **R1. 222 557 billion** respectively, which represent increase of **R47. 117 million** (4%) and **R76. 317 million** (6%) respectively for the two outer years.

The projected annual capital budget amounts to **R475. 850 million** for the 2011/12 financial year, which represents an increase of **R198. 872 million** (41%) above the approved capital budget for 2010/11. The increase is mainly on those projects which will be funded by external loans, such as Integrated National Electrification Programme Grant for Municipalities which will be allocated **R10. 000 000 million**; Expanded Public Works Programme Incentive Grant for Municipalities receiving **R9. 381 000 million**; Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (indirect grant) at **R50. 050 000 million** and Municipal Infrastructure Grant funded at **R142. 459 000 million**.

The total national grants we receive is **R269. 775 million** for 2011/2012 financial year, **R17.5 million** from the Province, from external loan funds **R174 000 million** and from our own funding **R14.5 million**. *(See table 4).*

Our budget on expenditure will also be affected by the following; Employee related costs (22%), Remuneration of Councilors (2%), Debt impairment (5%), Depreciation (5%), Repairs and maintenance (7%), Finance charges (3%), Bulk purchases - Electricity (23%), Contracted services (6%), Grants and subsidies paid (7%) and General expenses (20%). The total expenditure on all these mentioned items will amount to **R1. 096 900 billion** for the 2011/2012 financial year.

Speaker, this is the budget vote we present for the financial year 2011/2012 and outer years projections for Maluti a Phofung local municipality. We hope with this budget we will inch forward step by step

to respond to the people's needs and move closer in achieving the dream of a better life for all. This, we will do through adherence to the new budget regulation and other related tools of good practice.

Speaker, leading this municipality has been an eventful and unforgettable chapter in my life and it has given me an invaluable insight and experience. It has been a great journey indeed. We have covered great distances. There were good and hard times as well in this journey of hope. Many have rejoiced and acknowledged the good work we have done. There are some however, whose hope has lost its glimmer. It is understandable; hunger cannot be postponed, nor can the pain of disease be ignored. We dare not disappoint those who have regained hope and work consistently with majority of our residents to restore hope of the hopeless. We will have to work even harder to make tomorrow better than yesterday.

Setjhaba sa heso sa Maluti a Phofung, ke le leboha ho menahane ka tshehetso yohle eo le re fileng yona re le Lekgotla la Motse. Speaker, we also thank all those who have worked tirelessly at the beginning of the decade to make the new democracy work. Today we can look back with pride and cannot stop marvelling at the good work done so far. But we also look forward with hope that we will leave no stone unturned in doing even better in building our community. Kahoo, ke ipiletsa ho lona bohle ba ingodiseditseng dikgetho tsena tseo re yang re di lebile, hore le tswe ka bongata bo boholo ho ya beha mmuso wa setjhaba.

I thank all those wonderful people in my life who have always supported me and made me to believe that each new day is worth living. First, I want to give special thanks to a great bunch of people who kept the home fire burning.

My family, in particular my wife - your patience has been enduring and your sacrifice has not gone without notice. My children, your boisterous antics have always reminded me of my responsibilities. You are the reason that made me go on even when the going got tough, when the horizon darken, you were the first rays of a new bright day. I sincerely thank you guys! I also wish to extend my deepest gratitude to all my

colleagues in the municipality who worked very hard to build the winning team despite all the challenges – Keep it on! Tons of thanks to the ANC, for putting its trust in me to lead this municipality in all these years.

Lastly, to the multitude of people in Maluti a Phofung who have been greatly patient and understanding in the face of uncompromising hardships. *Aluta continua!*

Speaker, let me conclude by quoting Dr. Martin Luther King, junior, in his last address on 3 April 1968 at Mason Temple in Memphis, Tennessee, United State. He said in his concluding remarks: *“Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now. I just want to do God's will. And He's allowed me to go up to the mountain. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land!”*

I thank you.

Table 1. Consolidated Overview of the 2011/12 MTREF

MTREF					
Description	Audit Actuals 2009/2010	Adjustment Budget 2010/2011	Budget Year 2011/2012	Budget Year +1 2011/2012	Budget Year +2 2011/2012
	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000
Revenue	904 674	937 409	1 112 225	1 175 566	1 253 753
Expenditure	675 870	880 689	1 096 901	1 144 196	1 222 557
Surplus/Deficit	228 804	56 720	15 324	31 370	31 196
Total Capital Expenditure	177 775	281 978	475 850	258 729	239 787

Table 2. Operating Expenditure by Vote

Expenditure By Vote	Actual 09/10	Adjustment Budget 2010/2011	Budget Year 2011/2012	% in relation to 11/12 budget	Budget Year +1 2012/2013	Budget Year +2 2013/2014
Legislative Authority	6 049 018	43 992 346	42 411 645	4%	46 278 191	50 512 661
Office of MM	9 857 039	20 428 437	32 176 729	3%	28 871 804	31 181 026
Corporate Services	17 978 249	28 808 002	39 502 159	4%	42 227 407	45 163 931
Financial Services	173 105 368	281 625 916	379 358 265	35%	385 745 019	413 092 206
Municipal Infrastructure	280 011 908	286 649 500	341 221 487	31%	359 980 451	379 402 509
Community Services	33 527 528	37 180 639	46 122 163	4%	50 256 097	54 756 156
Public Safety	28 385 732	36 064 038	37 818 725	3%	40 791 805	44 021 753
Sports,Parks	17 017 757	22 473 534	24 941 429	2%	27 202 337	29 677 674
LED & Tourism	2 075 294	9 334 620	5 416 766	0%	5 726 243	6 055 057
Spatial,Housing Dev Plan	14 929 810	21 117 844	23 783 730	2%	25 548 864	27 459 849
MAP Water	92 932 000	93 014 000	124 147 533	11%	127 567 902	141 233 826
Total	675 869 703	880 688 875	1 096 900 632	100%	1 140 196 119	1 222 556 647

Table 3. Summary of the proposed increase

Description	Average Increase
Rates and Taxes	0.00%
Electricity	29.00%
Refuse	5%
Water	5.5%
General Tariffs	5%
Community Services	5%
Cemetery	0%
Advertising	5%
Sanitation	5.5%

Table 4. Medium Term Capital funding

Description	Amount allocated for 2010/2011	Amount allocated for 2011/2012	Amount allocated for 2012/2013	Amount allocated for 2013/2014
CAPITAL GRANTS	R'000	R'000	R'000	R'000
Integrated National Electrification Programme (Municipal) Grant	10 000	19 600	20 000	20 000
Expanded Public Works Programme Incentive grant for Municipalities	9 381	10 059	-	-
Regional Bulk Infrastructure Grant (Indirect Grant)	50 050	68 780	30 400	-
Municipal Infrastructure Grant	142 459	171 336	208 329	219 787
Total National Grants	211 890	269 775	258 729	239 787

Provincial Grants	18 344	17 500	-	-
External Loans	-	174 000	-	-
Own funds allocation	51 744	14 575	-	-
Total Capital Grants	281 978	475 850	258 729	239 787
		193 872		
		41%		

*National Grants = R269,775 m *External Loan funds = R174,000 m *Own funding –R14,5 m *Provincial Grants = R17.5 m

Table 5. List of Capital Project for 2011/2012

MIG CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	ALLOCATION 2011-2012	ALLOCATION 2012/2013	ALLOCATION 2013/2014
PMU ESTABLISHMENT	3 500 000	3 500 000	3 500 000
Tshiame Sewer Reticulation	1 593 551	-	-
MAKHOLOKWENG SEWER	10 000 000	10 000 000	
HARRISMITH WASTE WATER TREATMENT WORKS	10 000 000	35 000 000	29 000 000
VIP TOILET PROJECT PHASE 9	24 000 000	37 000 000	32 000 000
FOOTBRIDGES	2 700 000	5 000 000	5 000 000
THOLONG/KESTELL PAVED ROAD 4	17 000 000	17 000 000	-
PHUTHADITJHABA PAVED ROADS PHASE 2	10 341 964	7 500 000	7 500 000
TSHIAME PAVED ROADS PHASE 2	5 000 000	7 500 000	7 500 000
INTABAZWE PAVED ROADS PHASE 2	5 000 000	7 500 000	7 500 000
INTABAZWE PAVED ROADS PHASE 1	1 027 485		
DISASTER PARK PAVED ROADS PHASE 2	8 000 000	7 500 000	7 500 000
FENCING INFRA CEMETREIS PHASE1b	4 000 000	8 000 000	4 000 000
QWAQWA RURAL: WATER NETWORK PH2	40 000 000	35 000 000	40 000 000
INTABAZWE EXT 3 ROADS PHASE1	7 000 000	10 000 000	7 000 000
PHUTHADITJHABA STADIUM	8 500 000	-	
NEW INDOOR SPORT & RECREATIONAL FACILITY	7 000 000	10 000 000	10 000 000
CHRIS HANI WATER	-	-	18 000 000
RETENTION ALL PROJECTS	6 673 000	7 829 000	7 500 000
MANDELA PARK SEWER	-	-	16 787 000
QWAQWA RURAL PAVED ROADS PHASE 1			17 000 000
TOTAL MIG PROJECTS	171 336 000	208 329 000	219 787 000
	171 336 000.00		
	-		