

Aloe



City of Windhoek

City of many faces

Issue 23 • October 2014



SENIOR CITIZENS CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR OLDER PERSONS IN WINDHOEK

Your contribution will be cherished forever.....Senior Citizens celebrating the International Day of Older Person in Havana organised by the City of Windhoek. In the picture are some of the elders posing with sun hats they received from the City.

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The City of Windhoek continues to demonstrate its commitments and contributions towards the wellbeing of its people. October 01st marks an International Older Persons day. The day was initiated by the United Nations General Assembly to recognise the achievements and contributions made by senior citizens towards the development of communities. This day is annually celebrated in the City of Windhoek since 2006.

This year's celebration was under the theme **"leaving no one behind: promoting a society for all"**. A theme is relevant in the sense that older persons play a significant role in any society and its development. His Worship, Cllr. Muesee Kazapua, Deputy Mayor of the City of Windhoek while addressing the elderlies, urged that, our older citizens shouldn't be made to feel un-wanted, or abandoned, because they are very special. This is part of

our African culture and a history that has evolved over centuries - a history that is based on the respect of elders, norms and ethics.

The Deputy Mayor also highlighted some of the City Council's efforts to mitigate challenges faced by our elders, indicating that Council already resolved in 2008 to exempt pensioners from paying bus fares, which means our senior citizens are not required to pay for bus services. The City of Windhoek also introduced a deliberate program, called the Older Persons Support Program aimed at promoting active aging and improving their living condition amongst others.

The day was celebrated at Kabila Community Center in Havana - Moses Garoeb Constituency, and the elders were treated to a special meal and they each received a sun hat.





Editor's Desk



Josua Amukugo
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Namibia is a blessed country with various historical sites that attract tourists to our beloved motherland. September concluded with the celebration of a national heritage week. Heritage plays such an important role in celebrating our history, contributing to a sense of belonging and the uniqueness of our country. These are the unique characteristics we need to teach our children.

I would further like to use this opportunity to thank our esteemed members of the public who made time to attend the public meetings organised by the City, in order to encourage public participation which the Council of the City of Windhoek has embraced since inception. We believe that residents should be afforded an opportunity to actively participate in the affairs of their city and to understand their civic responsibility. The public participation and interest can also be attested to the resident's attendance at the last Council meeting, which was very much commendable.

As a City, we continue to demonstrate our continuous commitments and contributions to the wellbeing of our senior citizens, as the City recently organized a celebration of 01 October, which marks the International Day for older persons in the World. Let us all make the social welfare of our senior citizen our concern.

Dear residents, let us continue "to enhance the quality of life of all our people", by working together in improving our society.

CITY EXTENDS SHEEBEN REGISTRATION GRACE PERIOD TO SEPTEMBER 2015

The City Council at its 9th meeting held on 29 September 2014 resolved to extend the grace period for sheeben owners to legalise their businesses before end of September 2015, in anticipation of the possible amendments /review on the Liquor Act and its Regulations by the national government.

The increased public outcry and the general observation regarding the mushrooming of sheebens in the City of Windhoek necessitated Council to set a two (2) year grace period for all illegal sheebens to be legalised and formalised, before strict control measures can be implemented.

Towards the end of Council's investigation and consultation into the shebeen mushrooming and problems in 2012, the National Council also initiated a consultation process with various stakeholders on issues with regarding the Liquor Act, 1998 (Act 6 of 1998). The National Council review process aimed was at looking into the problems posed by the current alcohol trade registration.

It should be noted however that, the normal control measures being implemented by the City Police and the Namibian Police (NamPol) will continue as usual.

I am once again pleading to you our esteemed residents, to create an enabling environment for our learners as they are busy writing their final examinations. Let us all play our part, in creating a conducive environment for them to study.

Last but not least, in this edition, we are sharing pertinent information

regarding how to ensure proper maintenance of our sewer line, in order to avoid continuous blockages as it has been experienced in several suburbs of our City recently.

Until next time, I trust you will find this edition of the Aloe worth reading and informative!



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The Aloe is produced by the Corporate Communications, Marketing, Tourism & Customer Care Division in the Office of the Chief Executive Officer. The public is welcome to make constructive submissions via the Editor's Column, and submissions should be forwarded to the following address.

If you wish to make comments, suggestions, contributions or advertise in the Aloe, send an e-mail to communication@windhoekcc.org.na or via post at PO Box 59, Windhoek, or visit our website for more information at www.cityofwindhoek.org.na

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CITY OF WINDHOEK AND POLYTECHNIC OF NAMIBIA SIGN AN AGREEMENT OF CO-OPERATION TO DEVELOP THE CITY'S SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Mr. Niilo Taapopi, Chief Executive Officer for the City of Windhoek shaking hands with Prof. Tjama Tjivikua, Rector of the Polytechnic of Namibia during the signing ceremony at the Polytechnic Hotel School.

On the 02 October 2014, the City of Windhoek and the Polytechnic of Namibia signed a Memorandum of Agreement towards the **"development of a promotional and sustainable tourism destination strategy"**. The strategy is aimed at harnessing the full potential of tourism to contribute towards development in Windhoek.

Windhoek is known as the gateway to the rest of Namibia, a City with a unique history and a melting pot of cultures, mountains, heritage attraction, nature reserves in a radius of less than 100km and conferencing facilities.

The approach to tourism marketing and development planning has been largely ad hoc and uncoordinated, and thus a need for the strategy.

Mr. Niilo Taapopi, Chief Executive Officer for the City of Windhoek speaking at the signing ceremony, explained that, it is an international practice to engage academic tertiary institutions to spearhead the research, data analyses and verification that inform the development of a sustainable tourism destination strategy.

He emphasised a great influences of municipalities over the social and economic wellbeing of local communities as well as to ensure that overall economic and social conditions of the destination are conducive to the creation of employment opportunities.

Tourism being the second largest contributor to the Gross Domestic

Product (GDP), Mr. Taapopi said "it should be noted that tourism is not a community service, but rather a commercial industry with a clear intent to attract visitors so that they spend their money at destination businesses and services."

Prof. Tjama Tjivikua, Rector of the Polytechnic of Namibia in his turn thanked the City of Windhoek for choosing the Polytechnic as a partner in developing the strategy.

He further indicated that, he has no doubt that the collaboration between the Polytechnic of Namibia and City of Windhoek will help generate more innovative ideas about how the City should be promoted as a mega tourist destination.





WINDHOEK RESIDENTS CELEBRATED HERITAGE WEEK UNDER THE THEME “EMBRACING OUR ROOTS”

This year Namibia celebrated the Heritage week from 22-27 September 2014 under the theme “**embracing our roots**”. The heritage week provided an annual opportunity to celebrate through the natural and historical sites, objects, art, craft, cuisine and traditional knowledge which has been preserved, protected and passed on through generations.

The main aim of the week is to encourage more Namibians to visit

Art Galleries, Heritage Sites, Museums, attend cultural performance etc. There were several activities organised in the capital with a special focus on celebrating Namibia’s cultural diversity as well as our biodiversity.

The City of Windhoek organised the Walk for culture activities, which attracted a number of participants who walked along Robert Mugabe and made stops at the Windhoek City Museum, Bank of Namibia, the Independence

Memorial Museum, Christuskirche, the Office of the Prime Minister, Parliament Gardens, the National Art Gallery of Namibia, Trans Namib Museum, the Kudu statue, pre-historic elephant relics, the Nama War Memorial at Zoo Park and more. Attendees were treated to performances by Black Melody Cultural Group and Djaupyu Siteketa Cultural Group, traditional food was on sale and Radio Energy broadcasted proceedings of the event from Zoo Park.



CITY OF WINDHOEK APPROVED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL COURT DEDICATED TO ROAD TRAFFIC AND MUNICIPAL BY-LAW OFFENCES

The City Council at its meeting held towards end of September 2014, approved the establishment of a special court to deal with road traffic and municipal by-law offences, as well as possible criminal cases such as robbery, housebreaking, theft out motor vehicle etc, that mostly affect residents and visitors.

The law enforcement agencies and the judiciary have been facing a huge problem regarding the backlog of both criminal, traffic and municipal by-laws related cases. The delay is attributed mainly to the lack of space for Court rooms, magistrate, prosecutors and lack of investigators as some of the

contributing factors in the effectiveness prosecution of culprits.

The need for a special court is overwhelming, as it is on record that the City of Windhoek has the potential to produce 4 000 traffic and municipal by-law related cases, with more than 6000 outstanding Warrants of Arrests. The City also has a stockpile of 70 000 Warrants of Arrests emanating from “contempt of court” charges as a result of offenders failing to appear in Court on the set date.

The implementation date for the special court was originally set for 01 October 2014. However there are still few steps to be undertaken such as the Memorandum

of Understanding that needs to be signed between stakeholders.

The Court will run as a pilot project for a year; and in the process it will provide the office of the Prosecutor General, the Chief of the Lower Courts, the major municipalities and other stakeholders with valuable information.

The City of Windhoek availed its building at the corner of Bismark Street and Sam Nujoma Drive, currently housing the City Police offices. This building will remain the City of Windhoek property and it will be seconded to the Ministry of Justice for Court usage.



RESIDENTS URGED TO SAFEGUARDS PLAY-PARKS AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES ...STOP VANDALISM AT OUR PLAY-PARKS



The City of Windhoek has recorded unabated vandalism at most of our play parks. The play equipments in these parks are meant for children of the age of 16 and below. They quench the thirst of lack for social and recreational amenities wherever the townships are being developed.

The public request Council to provide such facilities within their communities, suburbs and townships to prevent children from playing on dangerous roads, pavements and road shoulders. This is indeed a good gesture from the part of Council to provide such services to our residents. Yet, these facilities are not properly maintained and appreciated by the general public.

The City has tried every trick in the book to make the park equipments durable but to no avail. We started with rubbers, moved to wood, then iron, in all these instances taking into account the safety, health and wellness of our children. All of these got vandalised, broken, cut, bent, and even stolen. The following play parks are a major concern to the City of Windhoek: **Freedom Square Park, Sukkot Park, Mikka Shimbuli Park and UN Plaza Park** whose swings are ever vandalised. **Freedom Square** is completely vandalised. People take the wood for fire-wood, they block the water pipes for watering trees and sometimes the water is left to flow onto the street. This park once had green grass, today

it is bare. During site inspections, grown-up residents are seen playing on these children's equipment, and when advised on the purpose of the equipments, they confront our officials with all sorts of attacks and resistance. Many a time children fear visiting the parks, because of the people they find there who look very dangerous, intimidating and highly unfriendly.

The City of Windhoek encourages residents to use parks and recreational facilities for their intended purposes. As residents of this beautiful city, we take full responsibility of our parks by protecting them, guarding them jealously and reporting any suspected or unwanted elements in the park to the law enforcement.



CITY OF WINDHOEK NETBALL TEAM

The City of Windhoek Netball Team, would like to convey their profound gratitude to **Mr Parastus Nepolo**, the Managing Director of **Millenium Refrigeration & Electrical Services**

for his generosity in sponsoring the team with jackets, "Mr Nepolo, May the Good Lord bless your giving hands abundantly and may your business continue to prosper." The team

participated in the Southern African Inter-Municipal Sport Association (SAIMSA 2014) Games that took place recently in East London, South Africa.





HOW TO PREVENT SEWER BLOCKAGES

The City of Windhoek has recorded re-occurring problem of frequent sewer blockages in the City especially in our informal settlements.

This problem is showing no signs of improvement, and keeps presenting a serious health risk and an unpleasant surrounding.

Most of the blockages are caused by overloaded lines due to rapid population increase in these areas. To that effect, the City has been upgrading and replacing identified lines.

However, this intervention alone will not resolve the problem, and concerted efforts of which residents take full responsibilities of these infrastructures are desperately needed.

What are the main causes of sewer blockages?

Repeated evidence from the overflowing manholes in these areas, points to the following as the main cause of blockages;

1. Wrong items flushed in the toilet at residential premises

When we work on overflowing manholes, we retrieve various items that were likely flushed in the toilet at residential premises. These include items such as face towels, kitchen utensils, plastic bags, sanitary pads, condoms, etc.

2. Poor maintenance of rodding eye at residential premises

A rodding eye is a removable plug on a drain pipe which provides access for removing an obstruction by drain rods. At residential premises, it is often located outside the house.

If these are not properly maintained by the owners, they tend to allow entry of sand and other debris, especially

when cleaning the yard with hard brooms or water sprays. The sand is washed down and accumulates in municipal lines, causing blockages eventually.



Rodding eye

3. Vandalism of Sewer Manholes located along streets and river beds

Sewer manholes, especially those located along hidden river beds are often vandalized.

The covers are forced open and all sorts of items ranging from tyres, dead dogs, stillborn human babies, huge stones, etc. are dumped inside. Sewer blockages are again the end result.

How to prevent sewer blockage?

1. Wrong Items should not be flushed in the toilet or disposed of down the drain

The only thing that should ever be flushed down a toilet is human waste (urine and faeces) and toilet paper.

The following items should never be flushed in the toilet or disposed of down the drain, because they cannot be broken down in the sewer system, and they will eventually cause blockages.

- Disposable diapers
- Tampons and tampon applicators
- Sanitary napkins
- Cotton balls and swabs
- Mini or maxi pads
- Condoms

- Cleaning wipes of any kind
- Facial tissue or cloth
- Bandages and bandage wrappings
- Oil, fat or grease

In addition to the list above, the following substances should also not go down the drain, but should be disposed of correctly as they pose environmental and health complications:

- Unused drugs, or pharmaceuticals
- Paint, stains, wood preservatives, solvents, sealants and thinners
- Fertilizer, herbicides, pesticides, insecticides.
- Medical equipment and medicines

2. Rodding eye and private manholes at residential premises should always be kept in a good condition

Rodding eyes and private manholes should be kept in good condition to avoid entry of unwanted materials such as soil or other debris.

Storm water should not drain into these installations as it overloads the sewer system and brings in loose soil.

3. Vandalism of Sewer Manhole covers located along streets and river beds

Members of the community can help preventing these through the following:

- Taking note that, only designated municipality staff are allowed to open the public manhole covers. Members of the public should never temper with them in any way, as doing so is actually committing a crime that is liable for prosecution.
- Report suspected incidences of manhole tempering and opening manhole to the City of Windhoek's Bulk Water and Waste Water Enquiry office 061 – 290 2402.



Control Your Water



WINDHOEK IS NOT SAVING WATER!

During 2014, no water savings were achieved to date

The water meter, helps to control your water consumption.

By keeping regular records of your water consumption, the efforts to reduce consumption and save water can be measured. The aim is, to use 10% less water during October.

The water meter, helps to detect leaks. By keeping regular records of your water consumption, an unknown increase of water consumed, could reflect a leak.

To verify, close all valves and taps where water is consumed and verify (during one hour) that the water

meter reading remains the same. No change in the reading reflects a watertight installation.

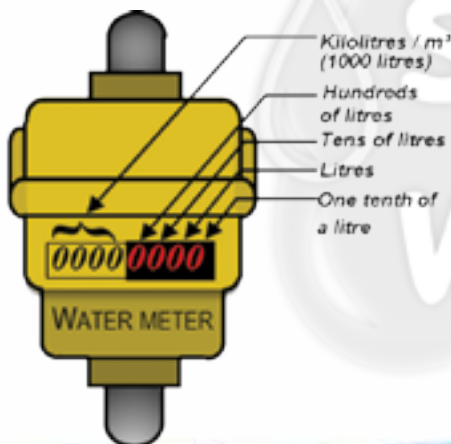
In case of a leak

Close the isolating valve on your side of the water meter. If the leak continues or for Municipal water leaks, **call the City of Windhoek at tel: 290-2402**

Report your mal-functioning water meter. The City of Windhoek is able to define the water consumed, even if the water meter is defect. In such a case, you may face a large account if not reported.

Read your water meter

The numbers before the coma, in black, on white are in (m³ or kl) Kilolitre. The numbers behind the coma, on red, are decimals of a kilolitre. **1000 Litres = 1 kilolitre.** (0000,0000) Underlined reflects litre.



Be responsible and keep the water meter accessible, don't dump sand or waste on the water meter.

Control the water consumed and saved:

- Read and calculate the water consumption for the current activity / period.
- Analyse the activity to reduce water consumed and implement water saving methods.
- Measure the improved activity's water consumption and calculate the water savings. The financial savings can also be calculated over a period of one year.
- You must save 10% water.

Share the responsibility to save water and avoid the burden of water restrictions.





THE WINDHOEK Jazz FESTIVAL 2014

Date: 15 November 2014

Venue: at the Hage Geingob Stadium

Time: gates open at 16h00

Price: Tickets will ONLY be sold at Computicket for N\$250.00. No tickets will be sold at the gate. Refreshments will not be allowed into the venue, you can however bring chairs and blankets.

kindly contact us at jazz@windhoekcc.org.na



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