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80 Independence Avenue
WINDHOEK, NAMIBIA

Tel: (+264) 61 290 2615

e-mail: CEO@windhoekcc.org.na

www.cityofwindhoek.org.na

The Gateway to Endless Opportunities

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday, 27 June 2025

Highlights from the Municipal Council of Windhoek Ordinary Council Meeting, held on Thursday, 26 June 2025

1. Naming of a Street in Honour of the Late Mitiri Immanuel Hiskia Karuhumba

Council has approved to name an unnamed street in Auasblick Extension 1 in honour of the late **Mitiri Immanuel Hiskia Karuhumba** a distinguished educator, liberation movement stalwart, and community leader. The application, submitted by Mr Wilson C. Karuhumba through the Office of the Mayor and supported by the Heritage Committee, seeks to preserve and recognise the honouree's enduring legacy in the spheres of education, political activism, and community development.

Born in Gobabis on 9 September 1928, the late Karuhumba was one of the pioneering teachers in Windhoek's Old Location and went on to serve as Principal of Bethold Himumuine School until his retirement in 1988. His impact extended beyond the classroom, notably through a literacy programme supported by the Council of Churches in Namibia that helped prepare returning exiles for employment and integration. A committed supporter of the SWAPO liberation movement, Karuhumba's home provided refuge for activists, and he played a key role in reintegrating former combatants into Namibian society after independence.

Following consultations with the applicant and family, Council identified a suitable street currently referred to as 'Street 1A and 1B' in Auasblick Extension 1, connecting Jason Mutumbulua and Advocate Fanuel Kozonguizi Streets. Given the area's naming convention which honours individuals who contributed to Namibia's liberation and nation-building the location is considered fitting to memorialise Karuhumba's contributions.

The application aligns with Council's approved Street Naming and Renaming Guidelines and enjoys strong backing from institutions such as Bethold Himumuine Primary School, the Maharero Royal House, and the SWAPO Party.

This decision reflects the City's ongoing commitment to honour individuals whose efforts have significantly shaped Windhoek's history, identity, and development.

2. Renaming of Rolls Royce and Isabella Streets in Honour of Reverend Fred Abraham Joseph

Council has approved the renaming of Rolls Royce and Isabella Streets in Khomasdal to **Reverend Frederick Joseph Street**, in honour of Reverend Fred Abraham Joseph a revered faith leader, educator, and community builder whose contributions have left a lasting impact on the Khomasdal community and beyond.

The application, submitted by Mr Selwyn Welcome, through the Office of the Mayor and supported by the Heritage Committee, recognises Reverend Joseph as the founder of the Apostolic Mission Church situated at the intersection of the two streets. Since 1983, he has been a pillar of spiritual guidance, hope, and community empowerment during Namibia's most turbulent years and into its democratic era.

Born in South Africa's Eastern Cape, Reverend Joseph responded to a higher calling early in life, establishing congregations in underserved communities before relocating to Namibia. In Windhoek, he became known for his inclusive ministry and impartial sermons, particularly resonant among the youth and students of Augustineum. He was later elected as the first president of a unified Apostolic Mission Church in Namibia.

Beyond his pastoral duties, Reverend Joseph's leadership extended into education, serving on the boards of several institutions including Ella du Plessis High School, Gammams Primary School, Concordia College, and the Khomasdal Teachers Training College. He also served as Chairperson of the SWAPO Elders Council in 1988 and as a board member of the Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC), where he played a significant role in the post-independence transformation of religious broadcasting.

The application received overwhelming support from local residents and stakeholders, all of whom consented to the proposal. The renaming is also endorsed by Reverend James Fredericks of the Council of Churches in Namibia and former Ambassador Josua Hoebeb.

Although the original street names aligned with the area theme of vehicle brands and female names, Council found no significant historical or cultural attachment to the current names. In accordance with Council's Street and Place Naming/Renaming Guidelines (as amended), the change was found to be appropriate and aligned with Council Resolutions 76/04/2017, 156/05/2020 and 374/11/2018.

3. Motions

Two motions were tabled for consideration by Council and have been sent to the Management Committee for further deliberation. Both motions were moved by Councillor Maitjituavi Kavetu and seconded by Councillor Illse Keister. The motions are as follows:

- A request to address the concerns raised by the Shack Dwellers Federation groups in their pursuit of land ownership.
- A request to review and amend the existing lease agreements for the rental of residential erven in Okuryangava, Okahandja Park, Babylon, Havana, Otjomuise, Mix Settlement, and Goreangab.

Please take note that the above are only highlights of the council meeting. More details about all the items discussed are available on our website through this link: <https://www.windhoekcc.org.na/council-agenda/>

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ISSUED BY:
City of Windhoek
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Corporate Communications, Marketing, and Public Participation

For more information about this statement, please contact our Corporate Communication Section at Tel.: 061 290 3797 /2044, or email: cowcommunication@windhoekcc.org.na



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