

The Gateway to Endless Opportunities

MAYORAL REPORT

2023



Vision: To be a **Sustainable** and **Caring City** by 2027



**Cllr Joseph Uapingene
Mayor of Windhoek
2023**

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On behalf of the Windhoek Municipal Council and officials, I hereby present this Mayoral Report for the year 2023. The report provides our stakeholders and communities with insights into the performance and achievements of Council to deliver on our strategic intent and move towards being a sustainable and caring city by 2027. My greatest appreciation is extended to the residents of Windhoek and the employees of the City of Windhoek (CoW) for their support and cooperation this year.

This report constitutes updates on council resolutions taken and progress against the strategies and projects achieved, with the inputs from the seven Councillor Advisory Committees. The advisory committees serve as a mechanism aligned to the City of Windhoek's Strategic Plan (2023 – 2027) and are as follows: Land Delivery and Provision of Affordable Housing Committee; Formalisation of Informal Settlements and Integration of Groot Aub Committee; Provision of Basic Services Committee; Economic Development, Public Safety and Citizens Welfare Committee; Financial Sustainability, Performance Management and Policy Committee; Heritage Committee, and the External Relations, Mayoral Affairs and Cooperation Committee.

After the lapsing of the CoW Transformational Strategic Plan (2017 – 2022), the Councillor Advisory Committees continued to serve their purpose of ensuring seamless implementation of the new strategic plan. The following are the committee meetings that were held during the 2022/2023 Financial Year period:

Furthermore, the Municipal Council of Windhoek is a key stakeholder in ensuring the implementation and attainment of Government's Vision 2030 and National Development Plans (NDP's). During the process of developing our new strategic plan, we actively strived to ensure that the plan is aligned with high-level national documents, such as NDP 5 and the Harambee Prosperity Plan II. This alignment ensures that the organisation implements the strategic plan and automatically addresses the national goals. While financial resources may hinder the implementation of the plan, collective effort and collaboration with other stakeholders, rooted in a collective desire to prosper as a nation, are key enablers towards successful and timely implementation of our mandate.

The Municipal Council of Windhoek's mandate is derived from the Local Authorities Act, Act 23 of 1992 (as amended), Section 30 (1). In summary, the powers, duties, functions, rights, and obligations of a Local Authority are to:

- Supply water;
- Provide, maintain, and operate a system of sewage and drainage for residents;
- Removal of refuse;
- Establish and maintain cemeteries;
- Construct and maintain streets and public spaces;
- Supply electricity or gas (as per the Electricity Act, Act 2 of 2000);
- Establish, carry and maintain a public transport service;
- Establish housing schemes;
- Construct and lease to market houses, auction/sale rooms, stalls, and warehouses;
- Establish, operate, and maintain abattoirs, aerodromes, ambulance services, bands and orchestras, dipping tanks, museums and libraries, and traffic services;
- Acquire, hire, mortgage, and sell immovable property;
- Borrow money and accept donations;

Determined by notice in the Government Gazette: In terms of section 30 (1) (4) of the Local Authorities Act, Act 23 of 1992 as amended:

- Charges, fees, and other monies in respect of services;

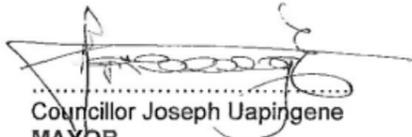
And generally; to do anything necessary or conducive to the exercising of its powers and enhancing the performance of its duties and functions in terms of the Local Authorities Act.

Bar chart 1: The amount Councillor Advisory Committee meetings during the 2022-2023 Financial Year



Considering the above priority areas, it is important to note that these can never be delivered successfully on their own, and so it remains important that we as a collective, (i.e. councillors, officials, and residents) work together in carrying them out as effectively as possible. We will continue to find ways to ensure that all officials, at some point, interact directly with our communities. Too often the single most important objective of the public service, i.e. of serving our people, becomes an abstract idea that is regarded as the exclusive domain of the political principals. As politicians, it is important that we focus our energies on the mandates from our respective political parties, but also promote our differences only as an indication of a strong democratic state, rather than an impediment to deliver services to our people. I believe we continue to grow and improve in this regard. I have certainly grown and learned

during my time as mayor and there are exciting times ahead for Windhoek. Through various cooperation agreements with our local, regional, continental, and international peers and partners we can look forward to opportunities for improvement in solid waste management, establishing a circular economy benefitting residents, sustainability in our use of scarce resources such as water, youth development, tourism, agriculture, energy, culture, transport, housing and many more. I wish the next mayor of Windhoek success in taking us forward and realising the huge potential of our capital city. Be assured of my continued support.


Councillor Joseph Uapingene
MAYOR



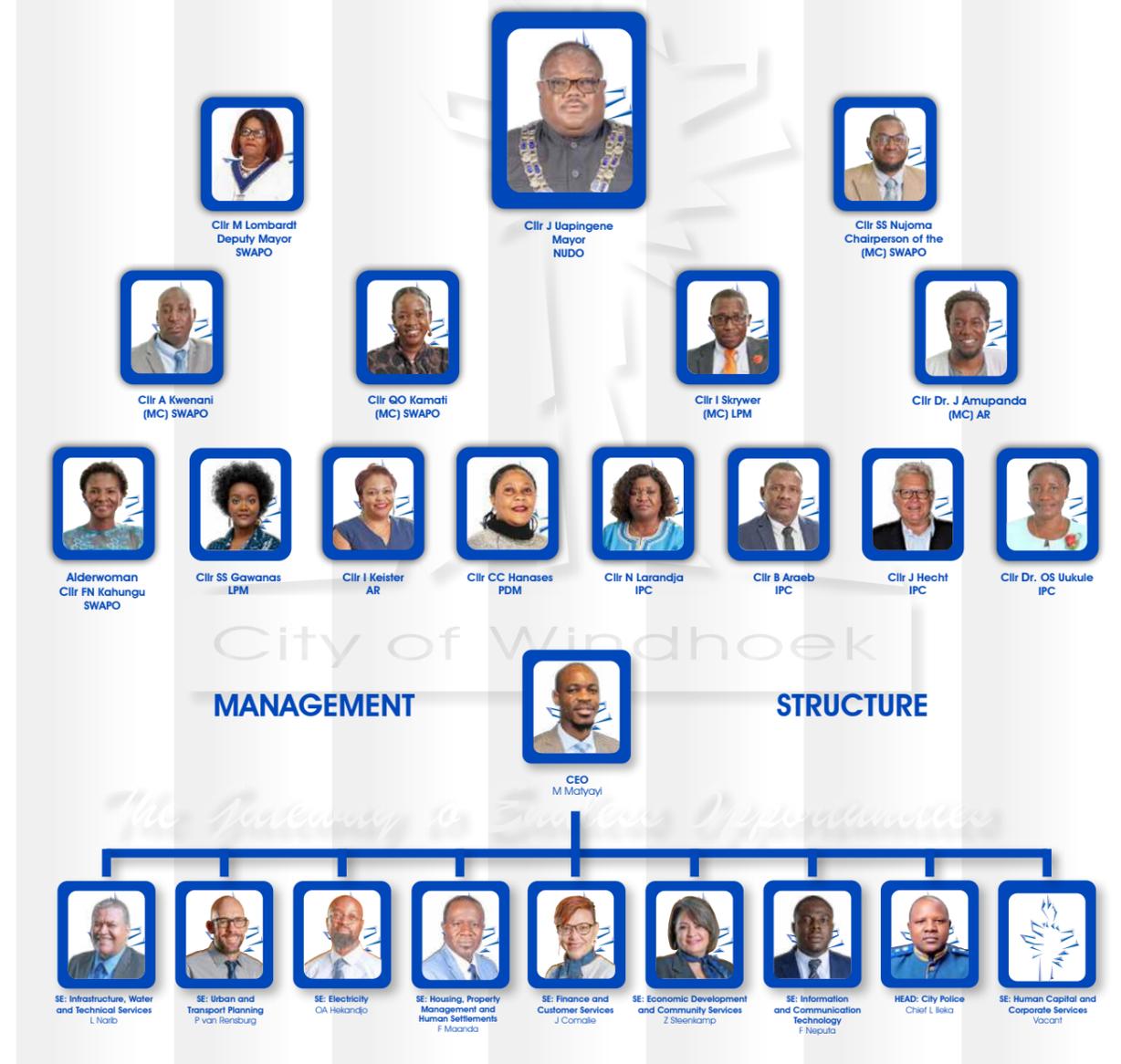
CITY OF WINDHOEK Council 2023

VISION

To be a Sustainable and Caring City by 2027

MISSION

To Enhance the quality of life for all our people by rendering efficient and effective municipal services.



1. STRATEGIC INTENT

1.1. Vision statement

The City’s vision addresses both national development goals and sustainable city concepts. Windhoek’s potential as the nucleus for economic growth, investment and social progression needs to be unleashed by a well-run, responsive, efficient, and financially responsive and environmentally sustainable city as reflected in the statement: “To be a sustainable and caring city by 2027.” In pursuit of the vision statement, we describe sustainable concepts through the four descriptions in the table below:

Table 1: Sustainable city concept descriptions

SUSTAINABLE CITY CONCEPT	DESCRIPTION
Financial	Sustain ourselves through revenue and tax sharing and funding from the Government of the Republic of Namibia for CAPEX, safety, early childhood development, and social projects.
Social	Inclusivity, quality of life and social progression emphasising the caring city concept, corporate social responsibility, and partnerships.
Economic	Enhance economic development (investment and creating and sustaining a favourable economic environment).
Environmental	A safe, healthy environment, and protection of current and future resources to minimise exploitation.

In pursuit of the vision statement, the City of Windhoek describes caring city as follows:

Table 2: Caring city concept

CARING CITY CONCEPT	DESCRIPTION
Caring city	We render efficient and effective basic services to ensure the dignity of all residents.

1.2. Mission statement

Our mission statement remains the same as before:

“To enhance the quality of life for all our people by rendering efficient and effective municipal services.”



1.3. Core values

The organisation adopted five values for the Strategic Plan (2022 – 2027). These values are uniquely crafted and supported by desired behavioural descriptions as indicated in the table below. Values represent the foundation of organisational culture and should be instilled into the fabric of the organisation. A behavioural value-based framework creates accountability in staff members, which ultimately impacts stakeholders’ perceptions and experiences of the organisation.

Table 3: Core values

CORE VALUES	DESCRIPTION
TEAMWORK	We work together towards a common goal and foster creativity, team spirit, trust, and mutual support.
CUSTOMER FOCUS	We render efficient, professional, and reliable services to all stakeholders by embracing Total Quality Management principles.
COMMUNICATION	Share clear, timely and relevant information in a transparent manner through regular communication platforms with internal and external stakeholders.
FAIRNESS AND EQUITY	We treat all staff and residents in a just and unbiased manner, whilst respecting individual differences, career aspirations, and needs.
INTEGRITY	Practising high standards of ethical behaviour, and duty of care.

2. OVERVIEW

In accordance with Section 11 of the Local Authorities Act, (Act 23 of 1992), as amended, the mayor of Windhoek is the political head of council and its chairperson. Like other elected municipal leaders in Namibia, the mayor and councillors of the Municipal Council of Windhoek (Council) have no executive powers and perform their duties on a part-time basis. In executing this mandate, the mayor is assisted by the deputy mayor and five Management Committee (MC) members. Under current legislation, the role of the mayor is largely ceremonial and is politically responsible for the city. For this reason, the daily administration of the Office of the Mayor falls under the Office of the Chief Executive Officer (OCEO). By provision of the said Act, the mayor is conferred with supervisory powers over Council in terms of policy direction and execution of all development programmes and projects of Council.



2.1. Powers and functions of the mayor

The powers and functions of the mayor are prescribed in Section 11 of the Local Authorities Act (Act 23, of 1992) as amended. In line with this statutory provision, the mayor, amongst other things, is the principal head and in consultation with Council should:

- Initiate and formulate planning and development policies;
- Closely monitor the implementation of the policies;
- Initiate and promote the creation of employment;
- Be accountable to the inhabitants of the local authority;
- In consultation with Council, investigate and endeavour to solve any issue pertaining to the local authority; and
- Be responsible for the promotion and creation of the social well-being of the inhabitants of the local authority.

Although being at the centre of political governance, the mayor does not make decisions in a vacuum. Instead, decisions are taken collectively with councillors, the chief executive officer, departmental heads, the public, staff, and key external stakeholders in the government and businesses sectors. Moreover, the mayor should spread goodwill and make public appearances at business and community forums. As the first citizen, the mayor also represents the City of Windhoek at ceremonial and national events.

2.2. Council

Further, in terms of Namibian law, a full local authority council serves a five-year term, whilst its office bearers (being the mayor, deputy mayor, and Management Committee-MC members) are elected every year. Council elected its office bearers for 2023, on 1 December 2022 as follows:

- Councillor (Cllr) Joseph Uapingene as mayor; and
- Cllr Magdalena Lombardt as deputy mayor.

Three out of the five MC members were also elected on 1 December 2022 namely:

- Cllr Austin Kwenani;
- Cllr Sam S. Nujoma; and
- Cllr Queen Kamati.

The remaining two MC members were elected on 2 March 2023 namely:

- Cllr Job S. Amupanda; and
- Cllr Ivan Skrywer.

This was followed by the election of the chairperson of the MC on 3 March 2023, namely, Cllr Sam S. Nujoma.

The table below reflects the attendance of Councillors at Ordinary Council meetings for the year 2023.

Table 4: Ordinary Council meeting* attendance for 2023

NAME	POSITION	January 2023	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023
1. Cllr J Uapingene	Mayor				√	√	√	√	√	√		√
2. Cllr M Lombardt	Deputy Mayor				√	√	√	x	√	√		√
3. Cllr SS Nujoma	Chairperson of Management Committee				√	√	√	√	√	√		√
4. Cllr JS Amupanda	Member of Management Committee				x	√	√	√	√	√		√
5. Cllr I Skrywer	Member of Management Committee				√	√	√	√	√	√		√
6. Cllr A Kwenani	Member of Management Committee				√	√	√	√	√	√		√
7. Cllr QO Kamati	Member of Management Committee				x	√	√	√	√	√		√
8. Alderwoman FN Kahungu	Ordinary Councillor				√	√	x	√	√	√		√
9. Cllr SS Gawanas	Ordinary Councillor				√	x	√	√	x	x		√
10. Cllr CC Hanases	Ordinary Councillor				√	√	√	√	√	√		√
11. Cllr N Larandja	Ordinary Councillor				√	√	√	√	√	√		√
12. Cllr I Keister	Ordinary Councillor				x	√	√	√	√	√		√
13. Cllr B Araeb	Ordinary Councillor				x	√	√	√	x	√		√
14. Cllr J Hecht	Ordinary Councillor				√	x	x	√	√	√		√
15. Cllr OS Uukule	Ordinary Councillor				x	√	√	√	x	√		√

*This table does not include Special Council meetings that were held during the same period.



2.3. Management Committee (MC)

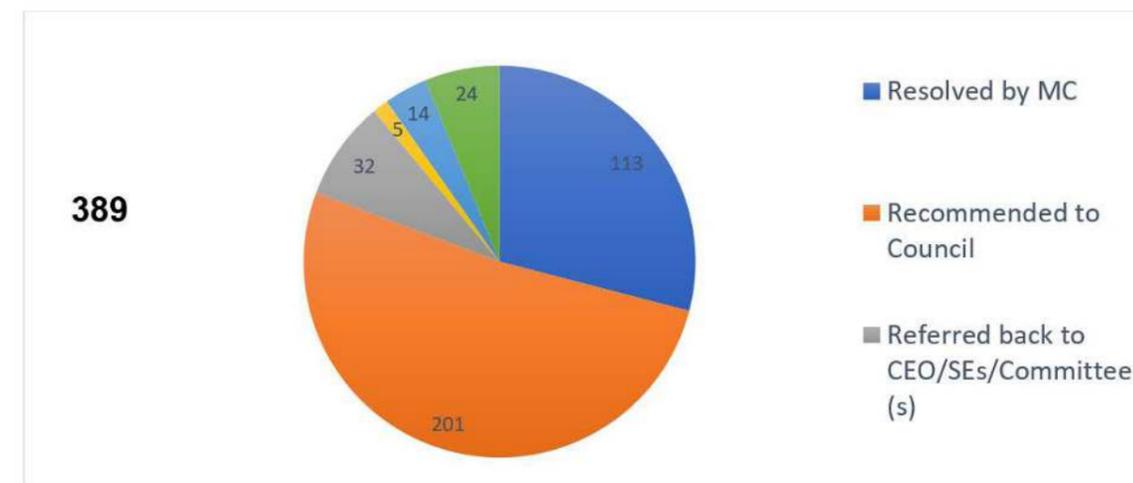
The Management Committee is constituted in accordance with Section 21 of the Local Authorities Act 23 of 1992 (as amended) and is a sub-committee of Council that ensures the implementation of Council decisions. It comprises five members elected amongst councillors on an annual basis, with the mayor and deputy mayor as ex-officio members. The Management Committee is also responsible for the final compilation of the budget for approval by Council. In addition, the Management Committee controls the expenditure of Council and reports at meetings of the Council on the exercise of the powers and the performance of the duties and functions entrusted by Council to them.

Table 5: Management Committee meeting attendance for 2023

NAME	POSITION	January 2023	February 2023	March 2023	April 2023	May 2023	June 2023	July 2023	August 2023	September 2023	October 2023	November 2023
1. Cllr SS Nujoma	Chairperson of Management Committee				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Cllr JS Amupanda	Member of Management Committee				x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Cllr I Skrywer	Member of Management Committee				✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Cllr A Kwenani	Member of Management Committee				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5. Cllr QO Kamati	Member of Management Committee				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

The pie chart below is a representation of the number of items that served at both the Management Committee and Council during the 2022/2023 Financial Year. The chart also illustrates color codes to represent the status of items that were dealt with during the reporting period.

Pie chart 1: Items that served at the Management Committee and Council during the 2022/2023 Financial year period



2.4. Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

As individuals, Council members have no direct administrative authority, but have complete authority over all affairs of the Municipal Council of Windhoek.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is the accounting officer and administrative head of the Municipal Council of Windhoek, including the administration of the Office of the Mayor. Following a two-year vacancy of the CEO position, the Minister of Urban and Rural Development (MURD) approved the appointment of a substantive CEO in November 2022. The incumbent CEO, Mr Moses Matyayi assumed duty on 1 August 2023.

3. HIGHLIGHTS OF 2023

3.1. Key resolutions, ordinary council meeting highlights and/or achievements for April 2023

3.1.1. Memorandum of Agreement between the Municipal Council of Windhoek and the Engineering Professions Association (EPA)/Namibian Adjudicators' List (NAL) and the associated costs

The Namibia Adjudicators' List (NAL), through the Engineering Professions Association of Namibia (EPA), is mandated from time to time to review its recommended fee and category structure. Due to the prolonged period since the last review, which was in 2010, the Engineering Professions Association of Namibia (EPA) began the review process for recommendations of a new proposed fee and category structure in June 2021, through consultation with the Namibia Adjudicators List Committee members and external stakeholders. The process was concluded, and the amended fee and category structure were approved by the Engineering Professions Association of Namibia (EPA) effective 25 October 2021. Council resolved that the renewal of the Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between the Municipal Council of Windhoek and the Engineering Professions Association of Namibia (EPA) for the period 2022 and 2023 be approved for signature by the Chief Executive Officer and Strategic Executive: Infrastructure, Water and Technical Services.



3.1.2. Exemption of properties from payment of assessed rates for the 2022/2023 financial year for non-ratable properties

The Local Authorities Act, 1992 (Act 23 of 1992), as amended provides under section 75, that all immovable property in a local authority area is ratable property except for exempted ones, which for purposes of this submission, are termed as non-ratable properties. For the purpose of the Act, non-ratable properties are vacant land owned by the Government or Regional Council, land or building occupied for public purposes belonging to the latter two, a property used exclusively for worship, and not for profit, school or hostel, a state library or museum, a property belonging to the State or state-aided health institution used as such, a local authority owned property, and any ratable property, which, upon application to Council in terms section 75 of the Act, may be exempted from time to time. A total of one hundred and ninety-four (194) applications were received for exemption for the 2022/2023 Financial Year. The applications are listed under List A (non-ratable properties by definition) and List B (properties qualifying for exemption under Section 75). Out of the applications received, eleven (11) applicants submitted their application after the due date, seven (7) applicants did not submit proof of ownership as required, and thirty (30) did not qualify for exemption per section 75 of the Local Authorities Act, 1992 (Act 23 of 1992), as amended. State-aided institutions such as schools, clinics and hospitals are handled in terms of section 75(1)(a)(iii).

Council resolved that exemption from the payment of assessment rates for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 as these properties are non-ratable by definition and that exemption from the payment of assessment rates for the period 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 be granted to the applicants on List B, as these properties qualify for exemption from the payment of assessment rates under section 75(1) of the Local Authorities Act, 1992 (Act 23 of 1992), as amended.

To ensure consistency in assessing exemption applications, Council per Resolution 35/02/2003 inter alia resolved as follows:

1. That the owners of properties that qualify for exemption from the payment of assessment rates continue to apply for such exemption annually by 31 May of each year.
2. Late applications be treated according to section 75(3) of the Local Authorities Act, 1992 (Act 23 of 1992).
3. Applications for exemption from the payment of assessment rates involving transactions which occur after 31 May be accepted provided there is adequate proof of the transaction having occurred after 31 May.
4. That all properties which are non-ratable as defined in the Local Authorities Act, 1992 (Act 23 of 1992) be inspected in April every year to confirm their status.
5. That the owners of properties, which are non-ratable by definition, need not apply for an exemption but should apply for confirmation.
6. That a list of non-ratable properties be compiled by 31 May of each year and submitted to the Management Committee.
7. That upon receipt of an application for either exemption or confirmation of the non-ratable sales the following procedure be followed:
 - Carry out an inspection of the property;
 - The activities on the property be noted;
 - Unannounced spot checks be carried out;
 - Where properties do not comply or a portion thereof does not comply, rates should be levied.

8. That the Strategic Executive: Planning, Urbanisation and Environment adds any new non-ratable properties created after the deadline of 31 May to the list of non-ratable properties after confirming the status of the properties.

3.1.3. Project update and request for the sourcing of funding: feasibility study, design and construction of the possible further optimisation of the Kupferberg general and hazardous waste disposal facility

The Municipal Council of Windhoek is tasked with the responsibility to ensure that all waste generated within the city is managed safely and optimally. For this reason, the Kupferberg waste disposal site is used for the disposal of all general and hazardous waste generated within the boundaries of the City. Thus, the provision of adequate space is crucial to ensure unhindered waste disposal service delivery. Current space estimates indicate the remaining life of the general waste disposal cell to be in the order of three and a half years, and that of the hazardous waste disposal cell to be in the region of about three years. Given that Kupferberg is the only site in Windhoek, it is of vital importance that investigations and development to avail landfill space for the disposal of waste are done well in advance to avoid the catastrophic possibility of not having landfill space for general and hazardous waste. It was therefore prudent to pro-actively commence with the relevant studies to investigate any potential for more optimisation of the current site and its surroundings to increase its lifespan, followed by the planning, design and construction of new cells to ensure enough time for developing the required infrastructure and facilities.

To date the following progress was made:

- Desktop Study, Environmental Impact Assessment and Technical Site Investigations were all completed, with an Environmental Clearance Certificate granted by the Ministry of Environment and Tourism;
- The Design and Development Plan was finalised with drawings for tender purposes issued; and
- Tender documentation is in progress (to be finalised), with project specifications and Bill of Quantities completed.

The project therefore is now moving into the construction phase and hence project budgeting and finance becomes vital to the successful implementation of this project. The construction phase generally takes about two years to complete, therefore should commence at least prior to the estimated remaining space falling below two years.

Council resolved that ring-fencing of the Kupferberg Landfill will require additional revenue (or alternatively a cut in expenditure) to fund the services currently cross-subsidised by Kupferberg and that the Kupferberg Landfill operation be ring-fenced to allow a stand-alone business case for sourcing funding of the construction phase.





Council will devise a mechanism to ensure that the revenue gap left by the ring-fencing of the project is addressed. The Strategic Executive: Finance and Customer Services in consultation with the Strategic Executive: Infrastructure, Water and Technical Services are sourcing external funding from suitable financing institutions on the ring-fence business model. As part of these efforts, DFI's and commercial banks were approached and the process is ongoing.

3.1.4. Nomination of Windhoek as a partner local authority in the technical co-operation project on Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Development (ISUD) and the need to enter into a memorandum of Understanding to formalise and regulate the relationship

The Government of the Republic of Namibia and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany held a round of negotiations on development cooperation on 17 and 18 September 2019 in which a number of projects were discussed for possible cooperation. The negotiations led to an agreement/exchange of notes between the two Governments. As a direct result of the negotiations, the Federal Republic of Germany committed grand funding to the tune of EUR 5 000 000.00, increased by a further EUR 1 000 000.00, for the implementation of technical cooperation on Inclusive and Sustainable Urban Development (ISUD). The objective of the project is to improve living conditions in informal settlements. The areas of cooperation for Windhoek are as follows:

- a) Participatory town and settlement planning:
 - Town-wide urban analysis;
 - Statutory planning documents (where applicable);
 - Settlement specific analysis; and
 - Settlement formalisation.
- b) Co-creating sustainable neighbourhoods:
 - Awareness raising;
 - Re-blocking of settlements and relocation (where applicable);
 - Co-ordination with greenfield development;
 - Planning for implementation and access to funding;
 - Neighbourhood Upgrading and development; and
 - Sustainable urban mobility.



On sustainable urban mobility, the potential of active mobility and public transport in Namibia is barely realised. There is limited awareness for sustainable urban mobility (SUM) and its relevance, in particular for the urban poor. The Municipal Council of Windhoek acknowledges the need for a new planning approach that provides sustainable, green and safer, non-motorised transport options for all residents, especially low-income earners, children, and the elderly. As a result, Council approved a Non Motorised Transport (NMT) Strategy inclusive of a design guideline for Windhoek, in 2019, forming a fundamental part of the Sustainable Urban Transport Master Plan (SUTMP) as from 2012.

Currently, the Windhoek, and indeed national, urban development overall model is strongly car-based and this needs various interventions such as:

- Across partner levels, there is a need for increased awareness and understanding for walking, cycling (non-motorised transport), and public transport, for a more inclusive and more sustainable management of Namibia's urbanisation.
- A tangible improvement of the preconditions for accessing mobility infrastructure and services must be achieved by integrating it with ongoing ISUD activities around town and settlement development.

Overall, the preconditions for the residents of selected informal settlements to access mobility infrastructure and services must be improved by creating a safe and convenient environment in which low-income commuters are persuaded to walk or ride a bicycle instead of taking a taxi. The City's implementation partner is the Ministry of Works and Transport.

3.1.5. Proposed schedule to prepare the statement of estimated income and expenditure for the 2023/2024 Financial Year

The budgeting process forms an integral part of the annual planning to focus on key projects required for the City. The current structure dictates that we engage the public and thus source their input. Our participatory budgeting has been practiced in the Municipal Council of Windhoek where all major capital projects emanated from resident requests directly and through resident representatives. This involves engaging many stakeholders, the first interaction being with the broad-based communities at public meetings, and consultations with the Khomas Regional Council (KRC) and its Constituency Development Committees, together with other key stakeholders. A workshop was organised where each department presented and defended their budget to Council to create a better understanding of the Municipal Council of Windhoek's Budget.

Council resolved to approve the participatory budgeting process of the Municipal Council of Windhoek and that Councillors and officials participating in the budgeting process ensure that stakeholder expectations are managed and to ensure that tariff adjustments are kept minimal. Appropriate initiatives will be taken to educate the communities of Windhoek on the intricacies of the Municipal Council of Windhoek budget estimates.





3.1.6. Inauguration of the City of Windhoek Junior Council

The Junior Council is a leadership development programme established by the City of Windhoek in 1999 mainly targeting Grade 11 learners from 37 Khomas schools, including private and public schools. The programme establishes a platform for young people to participate in decision-making. The City of Windhoek Junior Council 2023/2024 was officially inaugurated on 13 April 2023. The new Junior Council is headed by Junior Mayor Sylvia Shapumba from Windhoek High School, and she is deputised by Councillor Yanessa De Oliveira from Concordia High School.

As part of their action plan for the year, the Junior Council focused on environmental awareness (cleaning campaigns and Arbor Day), to help get Windhoek back to its number one spot of the cleanest city in Africa; uplifting the youth, such as teenage mothers, through teenage pregnancy awareness drives; cancer and HIV/AIDS awareness creation; and the Elderly Project which focused on raising educational awareness on the plight of elderly people in the city.

As part of the project titled 'Improving Solid Waste Management in Windhoek' the Junior Mayor, Sylvia Shapumba, joined Mayor Uapingene and other delegates from the City of Windhoek on a three-day visit to Durban, South Africa from 6 to 10 June 2023. The visit included workshops, site visits, and presentations about the waste management system in Durban. Durban was selected due to its already advanced waste management systems in place, including the operationalisation of several waste buy-back centres and waste beneficiation or incubation centres.

The Junior Council also engaged key stakeholders this year and visited the Office of the Ombudsman in August to brief the Children's Advocate, Heather Harker, on the Junior Council Programme and discuss cooperation opportunities, especially pertaining to children's rights. They also visited Parliament on 28 September 2023 - on the day of the Namibian Child. They met the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Loide Kasingo, to familiarise themselves with how laws are made before touring the parliament building.



The youth remains a priority for the City of Windhoek under our strategic objective titled 'Ensure quality of life for all our residents & stakeholders.' Under this objective we continued to develop the youth, including Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC's), and provided youth development training for qualifying schools

(Grades 10 to 12) which was achieved at 100% against our target. A total of 3100 Orphans and Vulnerable Persons (OVP's) were targeted to be supported, but during the reporting period (2022 – 2023 Financial Year) over 51,900 received relevant support. Our community libraries served a total of 98,000 residents for the year.





3.1.7. The retirement parade of Chief Abraham Kotokeni Kanime, outgoing head of Windhoek Municipal Police Service on 28 April 2023

The founding head of the Windhoek Municipal Police Service, Chief Abraham Kotokeni Kanime, retired on 28 April 2023, after 22 years of service. Chief Kanime joined the City of Windhoek in January 2001, and one of his critical tasks was to develop the concept document for the establishment of the Windhoek Municipal Police Service. Speaking on the occasion of his retirement parade, which was held on 28 April 2023, at the Windhoek City Police Headquarters, the outgoing chief of the Windhoek City Police stated that the establishment of the Windhoek City Police was not an easy task, however, he is grateful for the dedication put in by the departmental implementation committee and the contribution and unwavering support offered by His Excellency, Dr Sam Shafiqshuna Nujoma, Founding President of the Republic

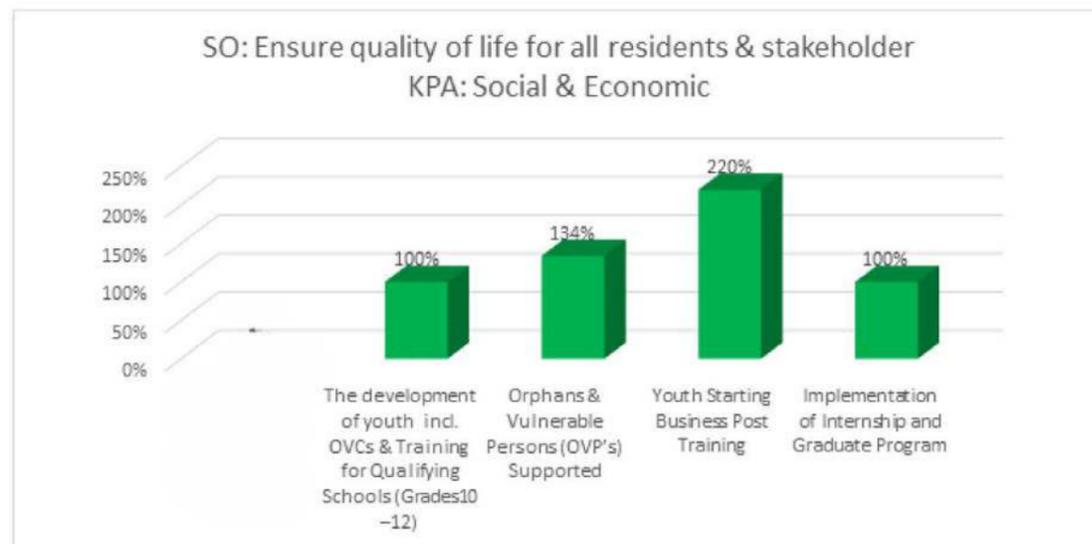


of Namibia and Father of the Namibian Nation, which culminated in the successful implementation of the Windhoek City Police Service. Chief Kanime said it has been incredible working with his team members and encouraged them to keep improving on the many, different programmes of the department. Reflecting on his 22 years of service, Chief Kanime indicated that he was confident that he did all he could to ensure that Windhoek remains safe for its residents and visitors. He said that he has created a formidable team that will ensure that the legacy of the Windhoek City Police continues.



For the youth starting their own businesses, post training was targeted at 40%, but 88% was achieved. The implementation of an internship and graduate programme was achieved at 100% against our target.

Bar chart 2: CoW strategic objective: Ensure quality of life for all residents and stakeholders. Key Performance Area: Social and Economic.



3.2. Key resolutions, ordinary council meeting highlights and/or achievements for May 2023

3.2.1. Appointment of the substantive Chief Executive Officer for the City of Windhoek

The Windhoek Mayor, Cllr Joseph Uapingene officially announced the appointment of Moses Matyayi as the new substantive Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the City of Windhoek, assuming duty on 1 August 2023. The appointment of a substantive CEO serves as a critical first step towards ensuring the stability of the organisation and that Council objectives and mandates are effectively executed. Council anticipates a smooth transition and will ensure that all checks, balances, and onboarding efforts occur through transparent and ethical means, for the good of the organisation and residents.

3.2.2. Motion - Councillors as development ambassadors and champions

Councillor Job Amupanda put forward a motion that individual councillors be allowed to conceptualise, mobilise, initiate and submit developmental initiatives/projects to the Council, which are aimed to assist the city in meeting developmental plans. The motion states that elected members of Council took an oath of office, with a code of conduct having been developed and passed individually. Code 3(1)(a) places an individual obligation to members of the council to 'represent the community of a local authority area as a whole.' Thus, individual members of the council have a role and obligation, particularly towards the development of the local authority area. The motion further submitted that the developmental projects to be initiated by councillors must have regard for the Local Authority Act, and Code of Conduct. According to the motion, the initiation of the developmental projects should be aligned to the strategic and annual plans of Council, and may not cause Council any financial implications, and are to be submitted to Council for approval. Moreover, the motion requests that the Office of the CEO and relevant heads of departments provide appropriate support to the council in the course of conceptualising and initiating these development initiatives. The motion was passed without objection and referred to the Management Committee.

3.2.3. Update on water supply to the Municipal Council of Windhoek and activation of the emergency borehole scheme

The water supply to the Municipal Council of Windhoek is affected through the three-dam system of the Von Bach, Swakoppoort and Omatako dams. These dams are all rain-fed, and thus, if there is no rain, there will be no inflow of water into these dams. Whilst the Municipal Council of Windhoek is highly reliant on bulk supply from NamWater, it has a limited supply of resources to augment this supply during normal supply and seasonal drought occurrences.

Although the Swakoppoort Dam's level is still 72,3% (May 2023), it is important to note that its water quality is poor, besides the fact that the transfer system which links it to the Von Bach Dam is very unreliable with regular interruptions. The current Swakoppoort Dam level is 57,3%. The Omatako Dam was virtually empty in May 2023 and is currently empty. The Von Bach Dam was at 26,8% capacity in May 2023 and is now at 19,7%. Taking the high evaporation rate into account, the available water in the three dams combined is not sufficient to supply Windhoek for a period of two years if no inflow materialises and the Windhoek emergency borehole scheme is not activated.



With respect to the current situation, the most relevant category to be declared going forward is Category C (water scarcity), which dictates that the Municipal Council of Windhoek should enforce water restrictions to be able to reduce water demand by 10%. The impact of this water demand management category on residents is that:

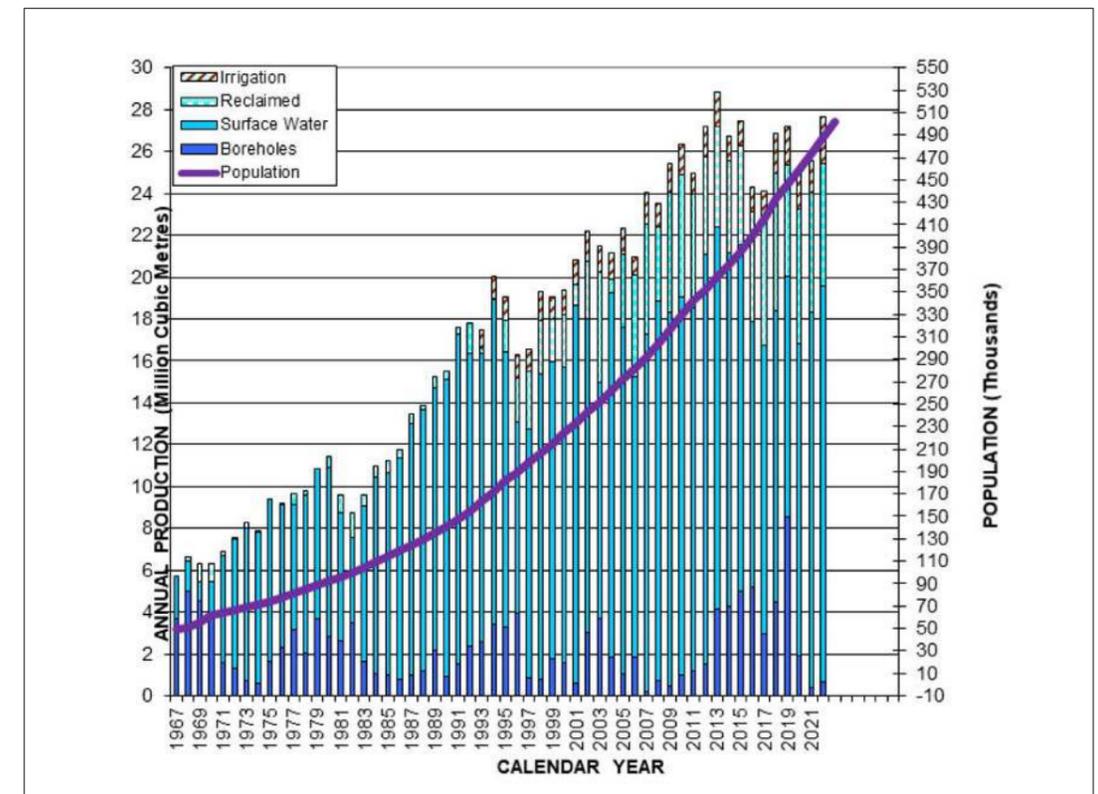
- Gardens may only be watered two times a week;
- Vehicles may only be washed using buckets - no handheld hoses;

- Swimming pools should be covered with pool covers at all times;
- No water features such as fountains are allowed to operate;
- Water reuse where possible is encouraged;
- Four block water tariffs move to a lower volume consumed per month before penalty tariffs apply - to encourage water saving;
- Residents are expected to do daily water meter readings to identify water leakages; and
- No water leakage rebate will be allowed.

Note: At the time of printing this report (November 2023) the dam levels were as follows:

- Swakoppoort Dam – 51,8%;
- Von Bach Dam – 16,7%; and
- Omatako Dam – 1,4% (considered empty)

Bar chart 3: Windhoek water production from different sources and population curve



3.2.4. Establishment of a trilateral cooperation relationship between the cities of Windhoek, Durban (South Africa) and the free Hanseatic City of Bremen (Germany)

Council resolved to approve the cooperation relationship between the cities of Windhoek, Durban (South Africa) and the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen (Germany). The cities of Windhoek and Bremen have been cooperating since 2000, building on a long, historic relationship that includes support for Namibia's independence by the people of Bremen. Likewise, within the global south, the cities of Windhoek and Durban have been exchanging on projects of mutual interest, primarily on environmental management, sanitation and climate change. It is important to note that both the cities of Windhoek and Durban are respective sister cities to the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen. Hence, to their symbiotic relationship and synergy, the three cities have been cooperating in an informal framework, and have shared stages on various international platforms.

On the occasion of the Municipal Partnership Conference for German Cities and their global south counterparts held in Dresden, Germany, which was followed by a co-ordination workshop held in Bremen in October 2022, the cities of Windhoek, Durban and Bremen echoed the realisation and overall need to formalise their mutually beneficial relationship. This partnership is aimed at exploring future common topics and projects under the overarching framework of implementing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) - a joint commitment for all three cities. The parties expressed a desire to cooperate in the following areas:

- Climate change and adaptation;
- Sustainable urban and economic development;
- Environmental protection and environmental health;
- Social cohesion and community development;
- Smart cities and digitisation; and
- Knowledge exchange.

As part of the trilateral cooperation, Windhoek, Durban and Bremen jointly submitted a proposal for third-party funding under a project titled 'Localising SDG's in Windhoek, Durban and Bremen: From Climate Partnerships to Trilateral Sustainability Partnerships.' The application received approval from the Service Agency Communities in One World (SKEW) in July 2023. The project focuses on technical exchange and experience sharing about localising the SDG's.

In August 2023, the Bremen-Durban-Windhoek trilateral technical project team met virtually for feasibility purposes and resorted to identifying the specific SDG's for implementation as part of this trilateral technical exchange project. From this engagement, the following focal SDG's were jointly agreed upon to form the basis of the joint report that will be produced at the end of the project:

- SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all;
- SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable;
- SDG13: Climate Action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; and
- SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.



A coordination conference for the project took place in Bremen, Germany from 15 to 21 October 2023. The aim of the conference was to deepen knowledge on reporting systems on sustainability and to localise areas for common, future projects within the tripartite cooperation. Her Worship, Deputy Mayor Magdalena Lombardt, led the City of Windhoek delegation to the conference.

3.2.5. Naming and renaming of streets

Council resolved to approve street names as follows:

- Road 4 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of the late Chief Kamaituara Kukuri and be known as Kamaituara Kukuri Street;
- Road 6 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of Judge Bryan O'Linn and be known as Bryan O'Linn Street;
- Sin Street in Dolam, Katutura to be renamed in honour of the late Ulrich Paulino;
- Road 12 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of the late Aaron Shihepo;
- An arterial or collector street in one of the extensions of the approved township developments of Farm Ongos no.38 to be named in honour of Gaeb Justus /Urehe //Garoeb, and be known as Justus //Garoëb Street;





- An arterial or collector street in one of the extensions of the approved township developments of Farm Ongos no.38 to be named in honour of the late Mvula Ya Nangolo;
- A street without a name in Oshetu Community (formerly known as Katutura Single Quarters) to be named Kapana Street;
- Road 3 in Goreangab extension 5 (Windhoek Waterfront Township Development) is to be named in honour of the late Emir Abdelkader;
- Road 8 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of the late national historical figure and liberation stalwart Jacob Marengo;
- Road 11 in Goreangab Extension 5 (Windhoek Waterfront Township; Development) is to be named in honour of the late John Nankudhu;
- One of the formal streets in any of the upcoming township development to be named after the late Elombe Brath;
- Section of Otjomuise Road (+_ 6km in length) that extends from Sam Nujoma Drive to be reserved and renamed in honour of the late Gaob Medusalag Xamseb;
- The street that has been approved to be known as Dr Theo Ben Gurirab Street in Elisenheim Lifestyle Village is to be named in honour of Gaob !Garikorob;
- Road 14 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of Festus Major Kamburona;
- A street in one of the extensions of the approved township developments of Farm Ongos no.38 is to be named in honour of honourable Ngarikutuke Tjirirange;
- The newly arterial road stretching from Sam Nujoma Drive leading to the upcoming township of the Ongos Valley is to be named in honour of the late Captain Jonker Afrikaner;
- Road 13 in Rocky Crest Extension 4 is to be named in honour of the late Karl Haukaa Kazondunge;
- The below-mentioned roads in Rocky Crest Extension 4 to be named as follows:
 - Road 2 Simon Hiskia Street;
 - Road 3 Josophat Gawa !Nab Street; and
 - Road 6 Frans Kambangula Street.



3.3. Key resolutions, ordinary council meeting highlights and/or achievements for June 2023

The council meeting in June 2023 focused on pertinent and outstanding human capital matters which were dealt with in-camera. During his official statement at the start of the council meeting, Mayor Uapingene said: *"It is imperative that we take clear decisions today that set a solid foundation, with adequate staff complements in critical functional areas. We must be deliberate in our efforts to balance the ratio of public servants to residents, and this means taking firm decisions to appoint the right candidates."*

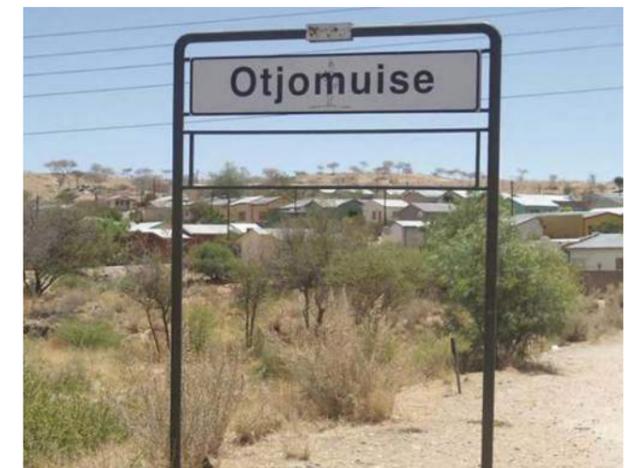
3.4. Key resolutions, ordinary council meeting highlights and/or achievements for July 2023

3.4.1. Need, desirability and layout approval for the township establishment on Farm 1033 (a portion of Farm 999) to be known as Otjomuise Extension 14

The Municipal Council of Windhoek approved the layout, the need, and the desirability to establish a township establishment on Farm 1033 (a portion of Farm 999), to be known as Otjomuise Extension 14. The township is designated for low-income groups and will serve as a relocation site for people from overcrowded informal settlements during the upgrading phase. The site Farm 1033 is located along Matshitshi Street, southwest of the Goreangab Dam and north of Otjomuise Extension 10. The farm is 35.8 hectares, comprising 126 erven that were created as a result of the subdivision of Farm 999 (a portion of Farm R/508) into Farms 1032, 1033, and the remainder.

3.4.2. Need, desirability and layout approval for the township establishment on the remainder of Farm 999 (a portion of Farm 999 of the remainder of Farm 508) to be known as Otjomuise Extension 15

The Municipal Council of Windhoek approved the layout, the need, and the desirability to establish a township establishment on the remainder of Farm 999. The township will be known as Otjomuise Extension 15. The township will be earmarked for low-income groups and equally serve as a relocation site for households from existing, overcrowded informal settlements when such settlements are being formalised. The remainder of Farm 999 is located along Matshitshi Street, southwest of the Goreangab Dam and north of Otjomuise Extension 10. The farm is vacant and is 23.3 hectares, and was created as a result of the subdivision of Farm 999 (a portion of Farm R/508) into Farms 1032, 1033 and the remainder.



Namibia is currently experiencing urbanisation and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future as long as urban areas are seen as a symbol of hope from abject poverty. Through Vision 2030, the country set itself a goal to become a developed country by the year 2030 and further, to have about 70% of its population urbanised.



In March 2020, the Municipal Council of Windhoek conducted a rapid numbering of informal structures in all the informal settlements. A total of 48 233 informal structures were recorded, 3 394 in the Khomasdal Constituency, 9 052 in the Moses \Garoëb Constituency, 21 241 in the Samora Machel Constituency, and 14 546 in the Tobias Hainyeko Constituency.

Sample surveys conducted in the four constituencies recorded an average household size of 3.8 persons per household. Using the average size of 3.8 persons per household, the number of people living in Windhoek's informal settlement is estimated at 183 285 inhabitants. Given the above, it is without a shadow of a doubt that the proposed development is highly needed to address informality and guarantee the project beneficiaries' security of tenure and access to basic services.

3.4.3. Reservation of a site on a portion of Farm 508 for government purposes for the construction of a health centre, primary school, secondary school, and a police station - Samora Machel Constituency

The Windhoek Municipal Council approved the reservation of a site on Farm 508 for government purposes to construct a health centre, primary school, secondary school, and police station for the Samora Machel Constituency. With only one primary school and no other public facilities, the largest informal settlement in Windhoek, which is home to an estimated 80,000 people, is severely lacking in public amenities. The Khomas Directorate of Education, Arts and Culture discovered three unregistered schools operating in the informal area of Goreangab with a population of about 800 learners. Parents cited long distances to existing schools as the reasons that made them opt for the nearby, unregistered schools. To address the situation, the directorate requested funds for additional classrooms from their line ministry to which an allocation of 84 classrooms was made with a construction period of 1 May 2023 to 31 August 2023. From a given total of 84 classrooms, 22 classrooms are reserved for the informal settlements of Goreangab.

The predicament faced by the directorate is that they do not have a site to construct a school and they fear that funds may return to the treasury. Without a need for further justification, the need for public services in the informal areas of Goreangab is urgent, to avoid a crisis.

3.4.4. Renaming the PA de Wet Building to Chief AK Kanime Building

Council approved the proposal for the renaming of the PA de Wet Building to Chief AK Kanime Building, the founding chief of the Windhoek City Police. The proposal for the renaming of the PA de Wet building to Chief AK Kanime building is in line with the ongoing need to pay tribute and honour to people who contributed to the uplifting of the Municipal Council of Windhoek and the Namibian society at large.

Chief Abraham Kanime served in the Namibian Defence Force from 1991 to 1994, later joining the Namibian Police Force in 2000, serving as station commander and regional commander. Kanime joined the City of Windhoek in 2001 and oversaw the establishment of the Windhoek Municipal Police Service (WMPS), leading to its successful implementation and becoming the founding chief of the WMPS. Kanime was the Chief of the WMPS from the department's founding until his retirement at the end of April 2023. He was devoted to promoting public safety and security while serving Windhoek and the Namibian people.



The name PA de Wet could not be successfully traced to identify who the person was. However, verbal confirmations and records at the National Archives indicate that PA de Wet was the first administrator of the Katutura Township during the implementation of the Segregation Policy. The Apartheid segregation law forced different racial groups to live and develop separately, which was declared an international crime by the International Convention on the Elimination and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid, adopted by the UN General Assembly in November 1973.

The Place and Street Naming/Renaming Policy makes provision to amongst others, recognise persons who have contributed to Windhoek and Namibia and noteworthy persons associated with the city or Namibia in general to strengthen community identity.



3.4.5. Request for approval of the Electricity Pricing Policy



The Windhoek Municipal Council approved Council's Electricity Pricing Policy. Before approval, the draft policy was submitted to the Electricity Control Board (ECB) for review before proceeding with internal consultations. The Electricity Pricing Policy provides a framework for the development of electricity tariffs, and serves as a guide for future tariff reviews in the medium to long term. The purpose of the policy is to give guidance to Council and the general public on how to apply the City's electricity tariff portfolio by outlining numerous, previously undocumented rules and requirements. It will help provide clarity on the tariff categories offered by Council and maps the way forward in meeting the needs of both customers and the Council. The goal of the policy, which is in line with the National

Electricity Distribution Tariff Study of 2018 and the National Connection Charge Policy, is to offer clients of the Municipal Council of Windhoek electricity at prices that are transparent and cost-reflective.

Tariffs for the Municipal Council of Windhoek are developed in accordance with guidelines provided by the ECB. NamPower's annual bulk purchase cost pricing signals play a significant role in determining the tariff adjustment. The City is required on an annual basis to submit its tariff approval application to the ECB in terms of Section 27 of the Electricity Act, 2007 (Act 4 of 2007). Within this framework, Council has the autonomy to develop electricity tariffs and tariff categories that consider the needs of its electricity consumers.

3.4.6. Request for approval of the Municipal Council of Windhoek Electrical Asset Maintenance Policy

The Windhoek Electrical Asset Maintenance Policy was approved by Council. The policy is aimed at providing the strategic position and guidelines for maintaining the electrical network of the Municipal Council of Windhoek. The maintenance of the electrical network assets at the correct interval ensures reliability, security of supply, and standard quality of supply to consumers, while ensuring the safety of persons and network equipment.

The Municipal Council of Windhoek operates a modern electrical distribution network consisting of various sub-systems/sub-stations. Electrical assets in the network undergo different levels of maintenance services or repairs in accordance with the regulatory requirement, manufacturers' guidelines, and Electricity Supply Industry (ESI) best practices. Correct maintenance services are essential to improve network availability and reliability in line with regulatory requirements as well as with Council's strategic plan. There are sets of accepted industry standards and guidelines for maintaining various electrical network assets which form the basis of this policy. The Electrical Asset Maintenance Policy contains the organisation's general and specific high-level guidelines for maintaining the entire network and its assets to function as one single system of electricity.

3.4.7. Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the e-Thekwini Metropolitan Municipality (Durban) in South Africa

Council resolved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Windhoek and the e-Thekwini Metropolitan Municipality (Durban). The two cities have been engaging on projects of mutual interest, primarily on environmental management, sanitation, and climate change.

Taking cognisance of these many, value-adding exchanges between Durban and Windhoek and the impending Windhoek-Bremen and Durban trilateral relationship, as well as the need to strengthen south-south cooperation, the two cities have been in discussions to formalise their co-operation. This intention has been on the table since 2019 following a visit to Windhoek by a Durban delegation and various technical consultations. Building on various exchanges, discussions, and consultations, the two cities by way of an MoU are expressing the desire to foster and promote the friendly relations between the Municipal Council of Windhoek and the e-Thekwini Metropolitan Municipality. The partnership is aimed at continuing the tradition of sharing knowledge and inspiring creativity through enlarging each other's horizons and working together on municipal service solutions. The parties, therefore, seek to cooperate in the following specific areas:

- Solid Waste Management;
- Information Communication Technology and Smart Cities Initiatives;
- Economic Development,
- Tourism;
- Heritage;
- Arts and Culture; and
- Environmental Management and Climate Change.

3.4.8. Integrated Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CoW- ICCSAP)

The Windhoek Municipal Council approved the City of Windhoek Integrated Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CoW-ICCSAP). Climate change is the most serious global challenge of our time. The Municipal Council of Windhoek like many cities in the developing world is already experiencing the impacts of climate change. This is further exacerbated by a high level of urbanisation and the proliferation of informal settlements. This has a direct impact on the Municipal Council of Windhoek's ability to provide efficient municipal services and build resilience to climate change.

Windhoek is one of the cities that will be most affected by climate change due to its aridity and socio-economic situation. All projections indicate that Windhoek will be much drier and warmer because of climate change, which in turn, will result in many climate-related impacts. Such impacts will include a reduction in water availability due to high evaporation rates and changes in rainfall patterns.

The impact on water resources will further be worsened by the high rate of urbanisation currently experienced in Windhoek and the lack of investments in alternative water sources. Windhoek is also vulnerable, because most of its water comes from open dams and underground sources. All these sources will be affected by climate change. It is against this background that the City mandated its Department of Economic Development and Community Services to develop the Municipal Council of Windhoek Integrated Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CoW-ICCSAP) to facilitate its response to climate change. To make sure that it is a Windhoek-wide strategy and to encourage the level of buy-in and partnerships necessary to transform Windhoek into a low-carbon, climate-resilient city, the strategy was prepared through extensive engagements with external stakeholders. Through this strategy and action plan, Windhoek will ensure that it plays its part in meeting local, national, regional, and international targets.



3.5. Key resolutions, ordinary council meeting highlights and/or achievements for August 2023

3.5.1. Arrival of the substantive Chief Executive Officer of the City



Windhoek Mayor, Joseph Uapingene, officially announced the arrival of Mr Moses Matyayi, the new Chief Executive Officer of the City of Windhoek who assumed office on 1 August 2023. During his first 90 days, Mr Matyayi undertook a comprehensive induction programme to familiarise himself and assess the environment. He met with all departments to engage with staff on all levels and gain insight into their experiences and suggestions on how to improve, streamline, innovate, and move the City forward.

Mr Matyayi will also probe the organisational culture, which is an area of interest to him. The organisation's culture and values, however, are important and must align with the ever-growing and increasingly sophisticated needs and expectations of residents and stakeholders.

The mayor is confident that under Mr Matyayi's leadership, the organisation will be able to address critical matters more effectively and consistently, especially in terms of financial sustainability, internal business processes, customer service, and organisational capability.

The organisation's culture and values, however, are important and must align with the ever-growing and increasingly sophisticated needs and expectations of residents and stakeholders.



3.5.2. Acceptance of the grant funding and donation to the Katutura Old Age Home by the Erich Köhne Trust

Council received funding of N\$11,416,548.84 for the Katutura Old Age Home from the Erich Köhne Trust which was founded in 2001 by the late Mr Köhne. The Katutura Old Age Home is registered with the Ministry of Health and Social Services as an old age home and managed under the City of Windhoek's Department of Economic Development and Community Services. The said home currently houses 25 residents.

The Erich Köhne Trust was intended to benefit residents of old age homes in Namibia who needed financial assistance to pay their monthly rentals, levies, or frail care. The trust's duration was set for ten years from the date of Mr Köhne's passing, on 27 June 2013, with the termination of the trust to take effect on 26 June 2023.

The Katutura Old Age Home received its allocated portion from the trust on 29 June 2023, and the funds will be used to cater to the physical well-being of the residents and caretakers in terms of healthcare, dietary needs, upgrading of the facility, security, and safety. These funds will also cover the payment of monthly rentals for older persons who cannot afford it, as well as medical prescriptions and living expenses. By providing critical financial assistance, the funds will ensure that the home is sustainable and that the needs of its residents are addressed.



3.5.3. Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the IUM



The Municipal Council of Windhoek approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the International University of Management (IUM). This MoU aims to formalise the longstanding relationship between Council and the IUM in matters related to academic training, skills development, and governance issues. The collaboration will focus on curriculum development, capacity building, and practical training such as job attachments and student internships. It is important to note that universities are essential in driving national development through knowledge and scientific research. By partnering with governmental institutions, universities can enhance integrated planning and reduce duplication of efforts and resource wastage.

3.5.5. Establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding between Council and the Berlin Energy Agency

The Municipal Council of Windhoek approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Berlin Energy Agency (BEA), a municipal-owned entity of the City of Berlin that offers modern energy solutions and services. The BEA has three business divisions: Consulting, Contracting, and International Know-How Transfer. Through this partnership, the Municipal Council of Windhoek and the BEA are collaborating on a feasibility study to develop a solar Photovoltaic (PV) mini grid for the Mix Informal Settlement, which is located in the Windhoek Rural Constituency. This initiative aims to provide electricity to the settlement in a more affordable and efficient way, as extending the electrical infrastructure in the area would require significant capital investment. The Berlin Energy Agency (BEA) team, led by its chief executive officer, Michael Griessler, visited Windhoek in November 2022 for a week-long engagement to discuss areas of cooperation, which are now outlined in the draft MoU.

3.5.6. Negotiations on development cooperation between the governments of Namibia and Germany

The Namibia-Germany negotiations on development were held in Berlin, Germany from 7 to 8 June 2023. Ms Wilhencia Uiras, Executive Director of the National Planning Commission (NPC), led the Namibian delegation during the negotiations. The Municipal Council of Windhoek was represented by Mr Clarence Rupingena, Strategy Advisor for SMART Cities and Transport, in the Office of the CEO, and Mr David Adams, Chief Engineer, Engineering Services, in the Department of Infrastructure, Water and Technical Services.

As a result of the negotiations, the Namibian Government was able to secure N\$1.1 billion in new funding from Germany. The funding targets various projects in Namibia, that focus on securing water supply and promoting sustainable urban mobility. The deal was signed in Berlin as both countries strengthened their bilateral ties. The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has committed to provide 51.5 million Euros (approximately N\$1.03 billion) for projects related to sustainable urban development, vocational training, climate change adaptation, and the protection of biodiversity and improved water supply in Namibia.

The Municipal Council of Windhoek, the implementing body that represents the Namibian Government on various projects, will designate staff members to carry out particular project-related tasks to free up necessary and constrained resources for crucial project inputs. Moreover, the Municipal Council of Windhoek is expected to abide by the established project implementation principles, to strengthen the sustainability of the development cooperation partnership.

3.5.4. Report on the status of the 25-megawatt solar plant project

Council is currently procuring a 25-megawatt solar plant in line with the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Act, 2017 (Act 4 of 2017). The request for qualification application, Bid No. W/RFQ/COW-101/2021 was advertised on 18 June 2021 and closed on 19 August 2021. Three bidders out of 30 were shortlisted to participate in the request for proposal stage. The three bidders are IJG-Akuo Suneg Consortium/IJG-IM, ChargeTech JV Sepco Electric Power Construction Corporation, and Alensy Energy Solutions (Pty) Ltd. The Department of Electricity in consultation with the Municipal Council of Windhoek's procurement management unit issued the request for proposals to the shortlisted bidders on 7 August 2023. The three shortlisted bidders have been invited to provide their best offers. The closing date is end February 2024.

The new revised project timeline is indicated as follows:

Table 6: Solar plant project timeline

Item	Previous date	Revised date
Request for Proposal (RFP) released	18 June 2021	Done
Request for Proposal (RFP) submission due date	19 August 2021	Done
Evaluation and shortlisting of potential Independent Power Producer (IPP)	24 October 2021	Done
Request for Proposal (RFP) released to the potential Independent Power Producers (IPPs)	18 November 2021	7 August 2023
Meeting with the shortlisted Independent Power Producer (IPP)	3 December 2021	October 2023
Request for Proposal (RFP) submission due date	18 February 2022	18 November 2023
Request for Proposal (RFP) evaluation and selection	18 May 2022	18 March 2024
Commencement of negotiation	19 May 2022	19 March 2024
Concluding contract award	18 October 2022	18 August 2024
Construction commence	19 October 2022	19 August 2024
Practical completion	18 April 2024	18 April 2026

The dates are indicative and can be shortened or extended depending on the speed and delays experienced.

A 25-megawatt MSB (Main Switch Board) Solar Photovoltaic project was also registered with the Public Private Partnership (PPP) Office and Electricity Control Board (ECB) registration is currently awaited.





3.5.7. Identification, nomination, and conservation of 1960 Katutura and Khomasdal houses as heritage assets

The Windhoek Municipal Council approved the identification, nomination, and conservation of seven houses in Katutura and Khomasdal that are over 50 years old to be declared as heritage resources. While the city centre has monuments and statues, there are no official heritage resources in Katutura or Khomasdal. The aim is to create a cultural precinct by developing a trail around the townships. The houses, located in the following locations and townships - Herero, Damara, Wambo, Donkerhoek, Gemengde, and Khomasdal areas - will be transformed to tell the stories of the social, political, and educational icons of the 1960s.

The City of Windhoek is establishing a project working group that will, amongst others, develop a guiding framework and criteria for the selection of the houses. The working group will also engage home owners of the identified houses, develop an application form that will include the donation/loan of artefacts of significance to substantiate the houses' storylines – including, but not limited to photographs, utensils, beddings, furniture and storage equipment - place public notices in local newspapers for public consultations and engage the community in the envisaged project area through public meetings. The working group will be tasked with assessing the houses to motivate their inclusion by documenting the history associated with a particular house, and then provide feedback to Council. The main goal of this project is to transform the Apartheid-era legacy of the Katutura and Khomasdal townships into vibrant hubs offering employment-creation opportunities as well as experiences for people to immerse themselves in Namibian culture and art. Ultimately a so-called 'cultural-historical route' will be developed that will document and promote heritage tourism in Katutura and Khomasdal respectively.

3.6. Key resolutions, ordinary council meeting highlights and/or achievements for September 2023

3.6.1. The City works on a proposal to write off debt

During the ordinary council meeting in September 2023 the Mayor of Windhoek, Joseph Uapingene, restated the council's position on the petition submitted by the Katutura Residents Committee. According to Mayor Uapingene, Council believes that RedForce is the viable option for debt collection on behalf of the city. He emphasised that the city charges 20% per annum on arrears, while RedForce charges only 10% on amounts paid.

Prior to the appointment of RedForce, clients' accounts were handed over to attorneys for further debt collection, which proved to be expensive and provided no guarantee of financial benefit to the City or the client. In contrast, RedForce only charges 10% of actual payments received by Council, making it a more financially feasible option. Mayor Uapingene also clarified that no pensioners' residential properties accounts are handed over to RedForce, and that no interest is charged on accounts handed over to RedForce for all residents except for the collection fee of 10% of each payment made.

The City is currently working on a proposal to write off debt for pensioners and interest for all residents. However, this process must be executed with caution to ensure long-term sustainability. The City is actively exploring various debt management methods and is bound by legal mandates such as the Prescription Act and interest charges as per the Local Authorities Act. Therefore, the City cannot freeze interest on arrears. Mayor Uapingene urged the public to familiarise themselves with the relevant amendments.

It must be noted that for pensioners' payment arrangements, the City charges only a 15% down payment instead of the 33.33% requirement as per the City's Credit Control Policy.

3.6.2. Council approves the Five-Year Electrification Plan for Windhoek's informal settlements

Council approved a plan to electrify approximately 4,000 households in Windhoek's informal settlements over the next five years (2023 to 2028). The Five-Year Electrification Plan intends to expand on the previous plan, which ran from 2017 to 2022. Council's Five-Year Electrification Plan is aligned with the Upgrading and Development Policy from the Department of Housing, Property Management & Human Settlement. The two frameworks emanated from the need brought about by the increase in informal settlements. As a city, we are compelled to respond responsibly to improve the quality of lives of our people in the inherited circumstances that we found ourselves in.

Since 2017, the City of Windhoek has been working to electrify houses in informal settlements, completing 3,515 service connections to date in the areas of Otjomuise, Havana, Goreangab, One Nation, Okahandja Park, Ongulumbashe, Babylon and Kilimanjaro. The electrification projects under the 2017-2022 plan were funded by the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development and NamPower, with a total capital investment of around N\$45 million.

Proposed areas for electrification consideration will be limited to demarcated erven situated within the informal areas indicated in the table below. These informal areas were identified in accordance with Council's Development and Upgrading Policy. The implementation of the 2023-2028 electrification plan is expected to cost between N\$15 million and N\$20 million per annum.

Work is ongoing and electrical contractors are finalising construction work for the electrification of the following areas:

- Havana Ext. 1 – Block 411-413, 301-319 & 321 (228 connections to be finalised);
- Havana Ext. 1 – Block 322-326 And Block 353-360 (214 connections to be finalised);
- Kilimanjaro – Block Erf 3315, Okuryangava (153 connections to be finalised);
- Okahandja Park B & C, Okuryangava (119 connections to be finalised); and
- Havana Ext. 1 – Block Erven 322, 358 & 359 (21 connections to be finalised).



Furthermore, the procurement of five high mast lights is in progress and will be installed in the following informal settlements to improve the public safety, in early 2024:

- Havana Dumping Site, Samora Machel Constituency;
- Goreangab Soccer Field (between the Dumping Site & Chinese Garden), Samora Machel Constituency;
- Behind Frans Indongo Primary School, Tobias Hainyeko Constituency;
- Eehambo daNehale Interlocks and Deeper, Tobias Hainyeko Constituency; and
- Sonderwater, Katutura East Constituency

Council approved the revised Five-Year Electrification Plan to guide the implementation of electrification projects for the next five years (2023-2028). Approximately 4,000 households are targeted for this period. Council requires funding of N\$15-20 million per annum to continue with our electrification projects, therefore, we are engaging various potential financial institutions for grant funding to assist with electrifying the targeted 4,000 households over the next five years.

Table 7: Summary of planned areas for electrification over the next five years

Informal Settlement Areas electrification five year plan (2023-2028)											
	CONSTITUENCY	ERF/PTN	AREA	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	ALTERNATIVE		
1	WINDHOEK RURAL		Mix Settlement (Mix Ext 1)		V						
			WINDHOEK RURAL	Groot Aub			V	V			
			ERF 3374	Otjomuise		V					
			ERF 3375	Otjomuise		V					
			ERF 3376	Otjomuise		V					
			ERF 3377	Otjomuise		V					
			ERF 1355	Otjomuise	V						
			ERF 3529	Otjomuise			V				
				Otjomuise EXT 6				V			
				Otjomuise EXT 7					V		
2	KHO MASDAL		Area opposite Otjomuise clinic						V		
			PTN 1018	FARM 508		V					
			PTN 1019	FARM 508		V					
		3	SAMORA MACHEL	PTN 1012	FARM 508		V	V			
					Goreangab Road relocation	Goreangab	V				
		Erf 1140	Havana	V							
		Erf 1141	Havana	V							
		PTN 1030 A & B	FARM 508		V						
		PTN 1026	FARM 508			V					
4	MOSES //GAROEB	PTN 1027	FARM 508			V					
			ERF 1028	Havana		V					
			ERF 1029	Havana		V					
			ERF 1035	Havana		V					
			ERF 1036	Havana		V					
			ERF 1039	Havana				V			
			ERF 1040	Havana				V			
			ERF 1041	Havana				V			
			ERF 1042	Havana				V			
			ERF 1024	Havana					V		
			ERF 1028	Havana					V		
		5	TOBIAS HAINYEKO	Okahandja Park C-D	Okuryangava		V				
				Okatunda PTN - B	Okuryangava		V				
Okatunda PTN - Y	Okuryangava			V							
Babilon & Kilimandjaro	Okuryangava				V						
ERF 3222	Okuryangava			V							
ERF 3221	Okuryangava				V						
ERF 3217	Okuryangava				V						
ERF3271	Okuryangava				V						
ERF 3197, 3198 & 3204	Okuryangava				V						
Ongulumbashe	Okuryangava						V				
One Nation	Okuryangava							V			
Okandundu	Okuryangava					V					
ERF 2968 Kapuka	Okuryangava										
Nauyala	Okuryangava								V		

3.7. Key resolutions, ordinary council meeting highlights and/or achievements for November 2023

3.7.1. Urban and municipal development grant funding to the Municipal Council of Windhoek from the African Development Bank

The Windhoek Municipal Council received a grant of USD485,000.00 from the African Development Bank through its Urban and Municipal Development Fund. The grant aims to assist Council in providing electricity to the peri-urban areas and enhancing its renewable energy capacity. The grant will allow the Council to accelerate the provision of electricity services in the peri-urban settlements around Windhoek.

3.7.2. Application to rename Hennie Laubscher Street in Olympia to honour of the late Brigadier General Karel Ndjoba

The Windhoek Municipal Council approved the application to change the name of Hennie Laubscher Street in Olympia to honour the late Brigadier General Karel Ndjoba. The request for the street renaming was made by Brigadier General Ndjoba's widow and children. The street is where the Ndjoba family lives and other households in the street all agreed to the renaming. The application followed the guidelines on street naming, which included consulting the affected parties and the public, through an expression of intention which was placed in two local newspapers, among other requirements.

According to his biography, Brigadier General Karel Ndjoba was a loyal, dedicated, determined, and disciplined soldier who played a significant role in transforming the defence system of Namibia after independence. He integrated former SWATF members into the national defence force, contributing to nation-building and reconciliation. He was also responsible for hoisting the Namibian flag on 21 March 1990 as a Company Commander of the Presidential Guard of Honour. He played a key role in developing training and fighting doctrines for the Namibian Defence Force. At the international level, he served as Defence Attaché to the Federal Republic of Germany, a position he held until his unexpected death in November 2014.



Photo for illustration purposes only.



4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, as we reflect on the past year, it is evident that our city has experienced a multitude of challenges and triumphs. The year gone by was marked by resilience, adaptability, and a collective determination to overcome the obstacles that came our way. We have witnessed the strength of our communities, the dedication of our public servants, and the collaborative spirit of our residents.

We faced the ongoing impact of the global pandemic, the persistent drought affecting our scarce water resources, economic fluctuations leading to an increase in the cost of living in Windhoek, and the imperative need to address social and developmental concerns. We worked tirelessly to safeguard the health and well-being of our residents, supported local businesses, and initiated projects aimed at fostering sustainable growth.

In addition, our commitment to transparency and inclusivity has fostered a sense of unity, enabling our diverse population to come together, voice their concerns, and actively participate in the decision-making process. We have made

significant strides in building an equitable city where everyone has a seat at the table and access to opportunities. We worked hard this year to capacitate the City to tackle these challenges with renewed optimism and determination. We will continue to work together to address the ongoing issues and seize the opportunities that lie ahead. Our city's resilience and ability to adapt in the face of adversity will undoubtedly be our greatest asset moving forward.

In closing, I would like to express my gratitude to the dedicated individuals who have supported our city's progress and to the residents whose unwavering spirit has fueled my humble efforts. I end this report with a quote from the Book of 2 Corinthians (9:8) *"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work."* As we move into the coming year, let us carry the lessons and experiences of the past year with us; guiding us as we work towards a brighter and more prosperous future for all. I so submit the, 2023 Mayoral Report, by way of concluding my term as Mayor of Windhoek.



5. ENGAGEMENTS 2023

As the principal head of Council and in consultation with councillors, I am tasked to meet various stakeholders and liaise with international bodies, meet diplomats, businesses, financial organisations, and other stakeholders, to build meaningful relationships and partnerships for the Council's agenda, in the broader context of development and service delivery. I am also entrusted to safeguard the interest of our residents and do so through constant engagements with officials and communities. My programme for the year was extensive and I hereby share some of the memorable highlights of 2023:

5.1. January 2023

a) The Municipal Council of Windhoek held a special council meeting on 19 January 2023 to elect a mayor and members of the Management Committee.



b) His Worship, Cllr Benjamin Mckay, the mayor of Lüderitz, paid a courtesy call on mayor Uapingene on 27 January 2023.

5.2. February 2023

a) On 16 February 2023, eight Windhoek residents received keys to their brand-new three-bedroom houses from the City of Windhoek. The eight houses are part of the pilot project for the implementation of the Windhoek Municipal Council Affordable Housing Programme which is focusing on middle-income earners. Speaking at the handing-over ceremony in Khomasdal, Minister of Urban and Rural Development, Erastus Uutoni, said today's ceremony was testimony to Council's commitment to exert all efforts to provide affordable accommodation to all residents and deliver on its developmental objectives, moving forward.





b) The First National Bank of Namibia paid a courtesy call on Mayor Uapingene on 15 February 2023 to congratulate him on his new appointment and explore areas of possible cooperation that the two institutions can undertake. The bank sponsored some of the projects in the city including the renovation of the clock tower in the Central Business District (CBD). FNB Namibia has expressed interest in funding housing projects that the City is undertaking, particularly the affordable housing initiative. Windhoek Mayor Joseph Uapingene, who expressed his gratitude for the courtesy call, said the City of Windhoek is looking for sponsorships of social projects such as the renovation of an orphanage house in Eros, which the City wants to turn into a safe house for street kids.



e) As part of his first 100 days in office as Windhoek Mayor, His Worship Joseph Uapingene paid his first familiarisation visits to various City of Windhoek developmental projects funded by international partners on 9 February 2023. He visited the Eros Maggie Sun House, the Nathaniel Maxuilli Library, the Aam Bee Dee Kindergarten, the Food Bank site, and the construction site of the Solid Waste Buy Back Centre. The mayor was accompanied by CoW officials, who briefed him on the various projects. The mayor expressed his appreciation towards our international partners for their support in funding some of the projects having a positive impact on the community.

c) Mayor Uapingene received a courtesy call from His Excellency Alberto de la Calle from the Embassy of Spain in Namibia at Town House on 15 February 2023, to discuss possible areas of cooperation, including promoting social development activities, particularly sports.



d) Mayor Uapingene received various courtesy visits from key stakeholders in early February 2023 to congratulate him on his election as CoW mayor and to establish working relations. These included His Excellency Alexis Bukuru, Ambassador and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Burundi in South Africa, and the First Ladies to the Indonesia and Egyptian Ambassadors - Lamia Lofty, Spouse of the Ambassador of Egypt and Anti-Riantini, Spouse of the Ambassador of Indonesia.





f) Sixty people received homes on 6 February 2023 in the Greenwell Matongo informal settlement. The houses were constructed under the Informal Settlement Upgrading Project (ISUP), a joint housing initiative between the City of Windhoek, the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development, The National Housing Enterprise, NHE, and the Khomas Regional Council. The project aims to formalise informal settlements in Windhoek by getting rid of iron zinc houses and building brick houses for beneficiaries at an affordable price. The Minister of Urban and Rural Development, Erastus Utoni, said during the event that Government is committed to delivering affordable housing to as many Namibians as possible, and the project is testimony to that commitment.

5.3. March 2023



a) On 28 March 2023, Ms Mariin Ratnik, Undersecretary for Economic and Development Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) of Estonia, led a high-level visit to Mayor Uapingene. Namibia is a priority partner of the Estonia Development Cooperation as established in the MFA's regional strategy for Africa for 2020–2030. The purpose of the visit was to strengthen Estonia's cooperation with the City as part of the country's national cooperation with Namibia, with whom diplomatic relations were established two decades ago.



b) On 25 March 2023 residents of Windhoek joined in the fun of the Wika carnival procession on Independence Avenue. Wika, a German carnival, has been celebrated since 1952 and this year's festival was celebrated under the theme "humor regiert" which means "humour rules." Speaking during the welcoming of the royal couple of Wika at Town House, Mayor Uapingene applauded the stakeholders of Wika carnival for their outstanding efforts in organising the carnival, stating that the festival embraces the humour, hope and goodwill of people of Windhoek. Cllr Uapingene expressed the hope that the festival will grow from strength to strength and that more, similar cultural festivities will take place in Windhoek in the future.

c) His Worship Leonard Hango, the mayor of the Oshakati Town Council, paid a courtesy call on Mayor Uapingene in March to congratulate him on his election as mayor of the City of Windhoek.





d) The Chinese ambassador to Namibia Zhao Weiping paid a courtesy call on Mayor Uapingene on 9 March 2023. Mayor Uapingene said the City of Windhoek has existing sister-city agreements with six Chinese cities, who have assisted Windhoek during the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic. The mayor expressed his appreciation for the assistance and support from the six cities, including Shanghai, Chongqing, Jinan, Nanjing, Nantong, and Suzhou. Mayor Uapingene said China and Namibia need to build mutually beneficial relationships where value is added to raw materials before they are exported.



5.4. April 2023

a) After a long absence, the Windhoek /Ae //Gams Arts and Cultural Festival made a welcome return on 28 April 2023. We held a morning procession to mark the start of the event. The Windhoek /Ae //Gams Arts and Cultural Festival 2023 was a live outdoor multi-disciplinary event. The festival will continue to create a platform for the understanding and appreciation of the arts, to ensure our creatives and small and medium enterprises remain resilient. As a Windhoek festival, collectively we will shape the Windhoek narrative and future generations will be culturally richer by inheriting the memories created by the Windhoek /Ae //Gams Arts and Cultural Festival.



e) On 6 March 2023, Mayor Uapingene received a courtesy visit from officials of the IVL Swedish Environmental Research Institute contracted by the City of Windhoek to conduct a pre-feasibility study, financed by the CoW and Smart City Sweden, on the proposed CoW waste-to-energy project. The Swedish Environmental Research Institute is a non-profit organisation that provides consulting services to businesses and organisations that require professional assistance with sustainability and the environment. The representatives of IVL have been engaging with the technical departments of the City since they were awarded the contract at the end of December 2022. Mayor Uapingene encouraged the team working on the project to do their best in finalising the task at hand in time.





b) A delegation from Stampriet Village Council paid a courtesy call to Windhoek Mayor Joseph Uapingene on 26 April 2023. The main aim of the visit from the delegation, led by acting chief executive officer, Bantholmaus April, was to deepen and formalise the collaboration between the two local authorities as per the draft Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions. Among the proposed areas of cooperation, the Stampriet Village Council wants the City of Windhoek's assistance in waste management as well as guidance to create more streams of revenue through agricultural activities and land sales.



c) A Rundu Town Council delegation led by Mayor Gabriel Kanyanga paid a courtesy call to Windhoek Mayor, Joseph Uapingene on 24 April 2023. According to Cllr Kanyanga, the main aim of their visit was to benchmark with the operations of the City of Windhoek's electricity department, because the Town Council is considering alternative power supply arrangements other than the current one it has with northern Namibia's Regional Electricity Distributor (NORED). "We came here to learn from you and to see how you are doing it as an independent electricity distributor as we prepare ourselves to become an independent electricity distributor for Rundu Town Council," said Mayor Kanyanga. The delegation noted that their trip was a result of extensive community engagement that the town council had with the residents regarding leaving NORED as the electricity distributor for the town.



d) We launched our exciting "sort and recycle your waste" programme in Luxury Hill, Katutura on 22 April 2023! This pilot ran from April to July 2023 and eventually, all of Windhoek's suburbs will join. The European Union is supporting the programme - which aims to make recycling easier and reduce the amount of waste that ends up in our landfills - with N\$36,8 million, which includes a new waste buy-back centre. MTC Namibia helped us create awareness around the programme within our communities and also sponsored the clear recycle bags that residents will use for sorting their waste. Thank you to all our partners for helping to make Windhoek a healthy, environmentally friendly, sustainable home for residents.





e) The City of Windhoek Junior Council 2023/2024 was officially inaugurated on 13 April 2023. The Junior Council for 2023 is headed by Junior Mayor Sylvia Shapumba from Windhoek High School. She is deputised by Councillor Yanessa De Oliveira from Concordia High School. The Junior Council is a leadership development programme established by the City of Windhoek in 1999 mainly targeting Grade 11 learners from 37 Khomas schools, including private and public schools, with the aim of creating a platform for young people to participate in decision-making. The programme also aims to equip the apprentices with knowledge of a local authority's work and empower them to participate in community initiatives. Speaking at the inauguration, Windhoek Mayor, Joseph Uapingene said the future of Windhoek and the country at large depends on the youth which is why it is important that they are represented at all levels of decision-making and adequately empowered to make an impact.





f) Church leaders from the Christ Embassy church paid a courtesy visit to Mayor Joseph Uapingene, the Mayor of Windhoek, on 5 April 2023. Pastor Lanre Alabi, the organisation’s director, was in Namibia for a week-long workshop with pastors and senior Christ Embassy church leaders from as far afield as Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, and Zimbabwe. “When I heard that your delegation was in Windhoek, I thought it well to officially invite you to enjoy the hospitality of our city,” Mayor Uapingene said. Pastor Alabi described Mayor Uapingene as a wise leader. “I have listened to your words and it is clear that you are guided by the Lord,” he stated. He additionally implored the CoW leadership to consider how to best support the youth. “If you plan for the children. You plan for the future,” he commented. Christ Embassy (also known as LoveWorld Incorporated or Believers’ LoveWorld) is a megachurch and Christian denomination founded by Pastor Chris Oyakhilome in 1987.

If you plan for the children, you plan for the future,

Pastor Lanre Alabi,
Christ Embassy



5.5. May 2023

a) The Windhoek Residents Mayoral Trust donated 500 winter school jerseys valued at N\$50 000 to vulnerable learners from various primary schools in Windhoek in May 2023. Officially handing over the donations, City of Windhoek Mayor, Joseph Uapingene, said it is important to assist the learners who lack the basic necessities to stay warm at school during the cold winter. The donation benefitted learners from the following primary schools: Tobias Hainyeko, Otjomuise, Baumgartsbrunn, Namibia, Khomasdal, Dordabis and Havana. “We believe that these jerseys will serve as a shield against the biting cold winter, offer comfort and protection, and enable all our learners to concentrate on their school work without the burden of harsh weather conditions,” says Mayor Uapingene. The Trust also donated N\$3,500 towards sport gear to a local sports club known as Tumella Athletics Club, and study grants worth N\$90,000 to university students. Cllr Joseph Uapingene stated that although the key mandate of the City is to provide municipal services, it is imperative to recognise the harsh realities and social welfare challenges facing the city’s residents, especially the unemployed and those living under impoverished conditions in the informal settlement.





b) The City of Windhoek and the Ministry of Sport, Youth and National Service today joined the British High Commission in celebrating the "Big Help Out" day on 8 May 2023 by cleaning the Havana soccer field and handing over soccer kits to local teams. The kits were donated by the Warrington Football Club from the United Kingdom. The Big Help Out Day marked the celebration of the coronation of the United Kingdom's King Charles and aimed to encourage people to partake in volunteering roles and make a difference in their community.



5.6. June 2023



a) Grade seven learners from the Njowa Nekoto Private School situated in the Uukwalumbe Village outside Okahao paid a courtesy visit to Windhoek Mayor Joseph Uapingene and the City of Windhoek Junior Councillors in late June. Mayor Joseph Uapingene welcomed the learners and their teachers to Windhoek and encouraged them to take their education seriously to ensure a better future. The visit was not only an opportunity for the learners to explore the inner workings of local governance but also a chance for them to experience the warm hospitality that Windhoek has to offer. Windhoek Junior Mayor, Cllr. Sylvia Shapumba briefed the learners on the structure and operations of the Junior Council and the various opportunities the Junior Council platform has to offer.



b) The sister cities of Windhoek and the Free Hanseatic City of Bremen, through a cooperation agreement signed in 2000 under the framework of the Namibia-German Friendship, secured funding from the European Union of EUR 2,237,845.00, approved in 2019, for the project titled: Improving Solid Waste Management in Windhoek. The project's objective is to contribute to an integrated, urban development and reduction of adverse environmental impacts per capita in Windhoek, in accordance with the relevant UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's). The project has three key outputs:

Output 1: Members of the Windhoek Municipal Council and senior administration officials in Bremen, Windhoek and Durban are more familiar with policies, legal frameworks and strategies geared towards waste minimisation, recycling and re-use in the three cities.

Output 2: New business models in the sector of waste recycling, re-use and reclamation are developed at the City of Windhoek.

Output 3: The population of the Windhoek is sensitized and engaged towards waste recycling.





As part of Project Output 1, and in line with the agreed Project Work Plan, the project organised a three-day visit to Durban, South Africa from 6 to 10 June 2023. The visit included workshops, site visits, and presentations about the local waste management system in Durban. Durban was selected due to its already advanced waste management systems in place, including the operationalisation of several waste buy-back centres and waste beneficiation or incubation centres.



d) Our Junior City Council - led by Junior Mayor Sylvia Shapumba - joined other volunteers and CoW employees on the morning of 3 June 2023 for a clean-up campaign targeting our north-western suburbs. The activity is part of our build-up to World Environment Day on 9 June. Her Worship Shapumba said: "It's part of our responsibility as the junior council to be part of civic affairs. Our hope is to raise educational awareness amongst the youth and to conduct outreach activities to educate, empower and promote community participation on civic matters."

5.7. July 2023

a) The Vivo Energy Windhoek Marathon was a huge success, with a large turnout and enthusiastic participation from local residents. The event took place on Saturday, July 29, 2023. Mayor Uapingene thanked Vivo Energy Namibia for its assistance and generous contributions, which will make a significant difference in the lives of vulnerable residents.



c) Former Windhoek Mayor, Muesee Kazapua, paid a visit to the office of Mayor Joseph Uapingene on 14 June 2023. Cllr Uapingene invited the former mayor so that he could tap into the knowledge and expertise acquired over the five years that Mr Kazapua served as Windhoek mayor.





b) Through our resource mobilisation efforts, the City of Windhoek, in collaboration with VISET Namibia, successfully secured funding from the Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) through the American Embassy for some much-needed improvements to our Onghendambala open market in Eveline Street. Thanks to the generous N\$332,886.00 provided by the U.S. Embassy the City completed the first phase of market upgrading on 21 July 2023. Mayor Joseph Uapingene stated: "We firmly believe that by supporting these vulnerable groups, they can evolve from micro to macro levels of business operations, making a significant impact on Namibia's economic development and overall well-being."



We officially handed over 30 brand new houses to their owners during the Informal Settlement Upgrading Pilot Project house handover in Havana on 14 July 2023.



5.8. August 2023

a) We launched the exciting Ebikes pilot project on 31 August 2023! For the pilot phase, 18 students from NUST and 18 students from UNAM will keep and use the electric bicycles for three months, while the project team evaluates the efficiency of cycling as a means to commute, look at the safety aspects, and make a comparison of the costs involved



for the students. If the pilot project is a success we will consider the use of the Ebikes for the wider public. Windhoek Mayor, Joseph Uapingene said at the launch of the pilot project: "As announced, Namibia has commissioned Sub-Saharan Africa's largest green hydrogen production project; therefore, green hydrogen-powered vehicles and other electric mobility transport modes are likely to shape the future of mobility in Namibia - replacing old vehicles that use conventional fuels. Namibia is the hub that will enable the beginning of transport transformation on the African continent. This is also demonstrated by the Ebikes4Windhoek project launch today, demonstrating the use of solar-powered batteries with the bicycles, that will be charged using the sun's energy."



b) South African singer, Jonathan Butler headlined this year's Windhoek Jazz Festival. This was revealed by Windhoek Mayor Joseph Uapingene as he launched the festival on 23 August 2023. The Windhoek Jazz Festival 2023 took place on 7 October 2023, at Windhoek High School's Vegkop Stadium.





c) The First Lady of Namibia (FLON), Mrs Monica Geingos welcomed our mayor, His Worship Joseph Uapingene, and his team to State House in early August. The delegation discussed possible partnerships around development interventions to help uplift our local communities, such as through food programmes, education, and health-focused initiatives. Thank you to the FLON for taking the time to engage us in the interest of our residents. We will continue to explore all avenues helping us to be a caring and sustainable city.



d) The Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Namibia, H.E. Dr Seyed Ali Sharifi Sadati said Namibia's relations with Iran date back to pre-independence and they have only gotten stronger after the country's independence. Dr. Sharifi made these remarks when he paid a courtesy call on Windhoek Mayor Joseph Uapingene on 3 August. Mayor Joseph Uapingene welcomed the delegation, remarking that he looks forward to exploring areas of cooperation with the sister city of Tehran.



5.9. September 2023

a) Several stakeholders joined the City of Windhoek to celebrate Car Free Day 2023 on 29 September 2023. This includes the Ministry of Health and Social Services, Telecom Namibia, IUM, Total Energies, UNAM, The Namibian, PowerCom, and TEN Farming. The Ministry of Health and Social Services won the award for the most participants while the City of Windhoek's Electricity department won the award for the most represented department.



b) The Annual under-13 Mayoral Cup Games took place at the Khomasdal Stadium on 23 September 2023. The competition opened with a colorful parade by the Windhoek City Police and it was officially launched by Windhoek Deputy Mayor Magdalena Lombardt. The Under 13 Mayoral Cup is hosted by the City of Windhoek in collaboration with the Khomas Region School Sports Office (KRSO). The event is part of the city's youth development initiative, which seeks to develop sports programs that benefit residents and keep young people out of the streets. Thirty-eight Windhoek schools took part in the competition in three sports codes namely, soccer, volleyball, and netball.





c) Mayor Uapingene and his delegation visited Berlin on the invitation of the governing Mayor of Berlin Mr. Kai Wegner, in mid-September 2023. During the visit, Mayor Uapingene signed the Golden Book of the City of Berlin. Both mayors also formalised their commitment by signing the Action Plan, outlining the future development of the partnership between Windhoek and Berlin. This collaboration is set to span areas like smart city initiatives, cultural heritage, startups, and the economy. The visit culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on a joint project titled 'Promoting Sustainable Energy Transition in Windhoek.' This partnership aims to promote sustainable energy practices, ensuring a greener future for generations.



e) The Windhoek Residents Mayoral Trust Gala Dinner took place at Town House on 8 September 2023. Thank you to all our wonderful guests for supporting the worthy cause of investing in improved livelihoods for Windhoek's vulnerable communities.



d) In September 2023 Mayor Uapingene visited Bremen to meet with Mayor Andreas Bovenschulte. Mayor Bovenschulte commented: "Since 2011, we've maintained an active climate partnership. I firmly believe that addressing the challenges of climate change requires international cooperation. I'm delighted to welcome Mayor Uapingene to Bremen as we embark on new joint initiatives." This includes exploring a trilateral cooperation among Bremen, Windhoek, and Durban. An ongoing project since March 2021, funded by the EU, seeks to enhance waste management and boost recycling rates in Windhoek. It stands as a testament to how sister cities can benefit from mutual learning.





f) Honourable Erastus Uutoni, the minister of Urban and Rural Development, joined us on 7 September 2023 at Town House during the signing of cooperation agreements with various Namibian local authorities focusing on economic cooperation opportunities. Mayor Uapingene highlighted the fact that these agreements are reciprocal and that Windhoek will benefit in various ways from forging closer ties with our peers countrywide. This is another example of how we seek cooperation in our efforts to become a sustainable and caring city by 2027.



Agreements were signed between the CoW and:

- Gibeon Village Council
- Gobabis Municipality
- Katima Mulilo Town Council
- Karibib Town Council;
- Keetmanshoop Municipality;
- Lüderitz Town Council;
- Maltahöhe Village Council;
- Mariental Municipality;
- Nkurenkuru Town Council;
- Okahandja Municipality;
- Okahao Town Council;
- Oranjemund Town Council;
- Rehoboth Town Council;
- Ruacana Town Council;
- Stampriet Village Council; and
- Tsandi Village Council.





g) The City of Windhoek took recycling to young people by hosting a recycling competition to teach school learners about the importance of waste management and a clean environment. Over 40 schools in Windhoek took part in the school recycling competition in which learners were required to showcase their recycling ideas and efforts and win exciting prizes. The competition was organised through the European Union-funded project titled 'Improving Solid Waste Management in Windhoek,' which the City is implementing together with the sister City of Bremen in Germany. A prize handover ceremony was held on 5 September 2023 at the Otjomuise Primary School for the pre-primary and primary schools with the best recycling ideas. Speaking at the event, Mayor Uapingene said he was delighted to see the youth taking centre stage in recycling efforts.



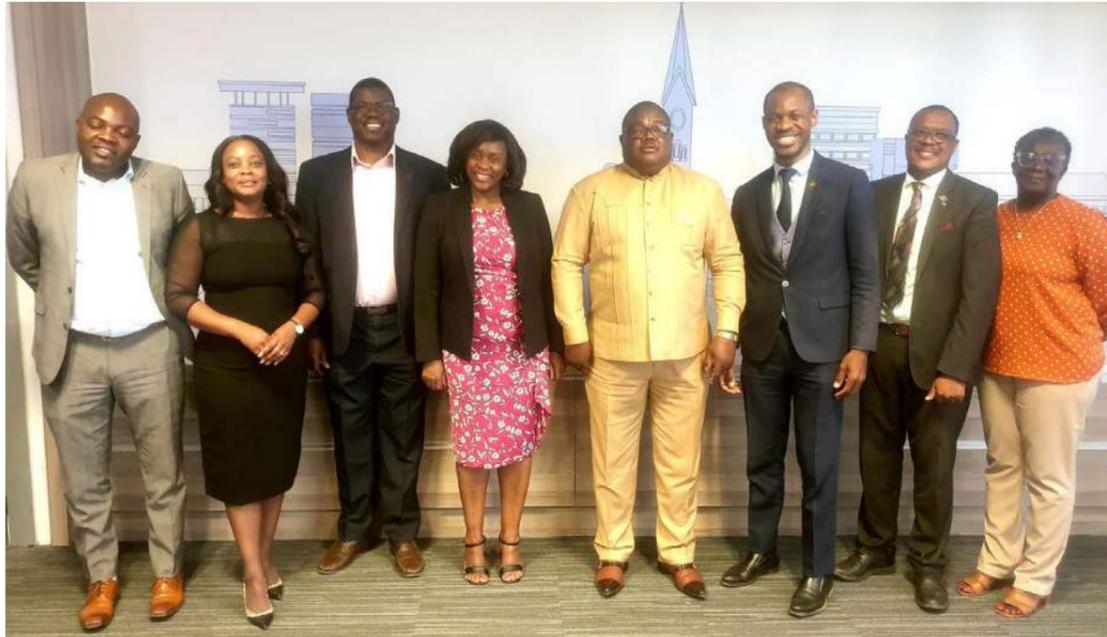
5.10. October 2023

a) Mayor Uapingene welcomed a delegation from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) at Town House on 31 October 2023. The group was led by Nuzhat Anwar, the IFC Senior Country Officer for Namibia and Botswana and also included Luanda-based Tiago Almeida, the IFC Senior Investment Officer for infrastructure and mining, amongst others. The IFC – a member of the World Bank Group – is the largest global development institution focused exclusively on the private sector in developing countries. They encourage growth, economic development, and job creation to improve the lives of people. Mayor Uapingene expressed his wish for support around the provision of electricity and water to Windhoek's informal settlements which have around 200 000 residents. The mayor undertook to facilitate further discussions between the IFC and the City's Finance and Electricity departments to explore cooperation opportunities in this regard.



b) A delegation from Okahandja led by Her Worship Kaunapawa Angula, and CEO Alfons Tjitombo visited Mayor Uapingene on 20 October 2023 to sign a cooperation agreement with the City of Windhoek. The agreement elaborates on areas of cooperation between the two local authorities in the areas of emergency services; land delivery and housing; an HR exchange programme; economic development and tourism; environmental health and management; laboratory services, policy development; and assistance with heavy equipment and machinery. Mayor Uapingene said he was surprised to learn that there had been no official agreement with Okahandja up to this point. "Now that the draft plan is done, we need to start working on the low-hanging fruits in our agreement to work together. In the meantime, we must plan and budget properly for the rest of the activities in the agreement going forward," said the mayor. Her Worship Mayor Angula said: "We are delighted to start building this relationship with the City of Windhoek, also with our successors in mind, so that those following in our footsteps can also benefit from it. We are especially looking forward to Okahandja receiving assistance in terms of heavy equipment and machinery, which is an area where we've experienced a lot of challenges." The agreement was signed at Town House in Windhoek.





c) Mayor Uapingene received a delegation from the National Housing Enterprise - Namibia (NHE) at Town House on 20 October 2023 to discuss ways of strengthening cooperation around land and housing delivery in Windhoek. The NHE visitors included their board chairperson, Ms Toska Sem, and CEO, Mr Gisbertus Makulu. His Worship Mayor Uapingene assured the delegation of the City's commitment to an MoU signed in September this year between the CoW, NHE, Khomas Regional Council, and the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development to work together in addressing the challenges around housing in Windhoek. "I agree that we need to re-strategise and accelerate our approach. Keeping in mind the City's limited resources, we need central government and the NHE to help us deliver. I'm also interested in the idea of a City Bank to help residents save to eventually pay for their own land and houses," said the mayor.

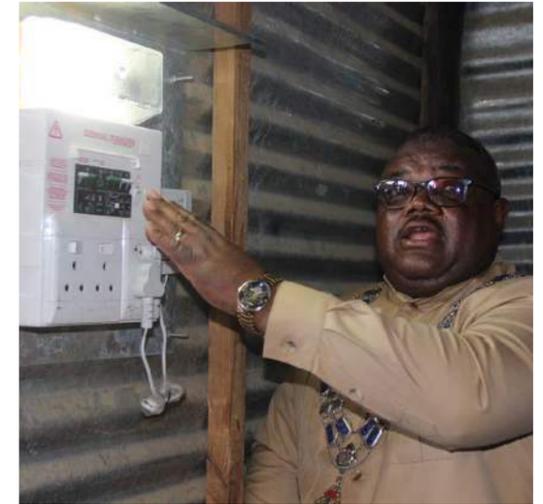
d) Windhoek Deputy Mayor Magdalena Lombardt went on a working visit to our sister City, Bremen, as part of the trilateral cooperation between Windhoek, Durban, and Bremen. The SDG conference and workshop took place from 15 to 21 October 2023. Deputy Mayor Lombardt paid a courtesy call on Kevin Lenkeit, a Bremen Member of Parliament and member of the Committee for International Relations, Cooperation and International Development initiatives along with Clr Nkosenhle Madlala, from the eThekweni Municipality, City of Durban. They discussed various projects focused on sustainable development and development exchange programmes focused on knowledge-sharing and youth engagement.



e) We switched on electricity to 162 houses in Havana extensions 6 and 7 on 17 October under the City's informal settlements electrification project. The project was funded by the Ministry of Urban and Rural Development. Under this project, the City of Windhoek has also electrified the following areas during the 2022/2023 Financial Year, namely:

- Babylon: Block Erf 3216, Okuryangava with 31 households connected to the grid.
- Otjomuise Extension 6 and 7 Phase II, Lushoto Street with 20 households connected.
- Babylon: Block Erven 3192 And 3193, Okuryangava where 76 households were connected.

In addition, 45 stalls were electrified at Herero Mall during the same period. Speaking at the event held in Havana, Mayor Joseph Uapingene said the Windhoek Municipal Council has recently approved the revised Five-Year Electrification Plan to guide the implementation of the electrification projects in informal settlements for the next five years (2023-2028). Under the revised plan, the City of Windhoek plans to electrify approximately 4 000 households in the next five years. According to the mayor, the plan will require funding of between N\$15- and 20 million per year and the City of Windhoek is engaging various stakeholders for funding.





f) The City of Windhoek in partnership with FNB Namibia celebrated Arbour Day on 13 October 2023 by planting trees along Independence Avenue in Katutura. The planted trees are part of the 400 indigenous trees/shrubs and 100 flower boxes that the FNB pledged to donate to the City of Windhoek over a three-year period. Speaking at the event, Windhoek Mayor Joseph Uapingene thanked FNB for their donation, adding that the gesture demonstrates the commitment towards combined efforts to combat climate change and create awareness amongst Windhoek's residents and appreciate the importance of trees in our city and around our public open spaces. The European Union donated two symbolic trees while the Ministry of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism announced a donation of 50 fruit trees at the event that will be planted at various schools around Windhoek.



g) The City of Windhoek in partnership with UNICEF Namibia and other stakeholders joined the rest of the world to commemorate the 2023 Health & Hygiene Promotion Month and Global Hand Washing Day on 12 October 2023. Speaking at the event, Windhoek Mayor Joseph Uapingene said the City of Windhoek has adopted the World Health Organization (WHO) handwashing initiative and used it as an opportunity to remind community members and food handlers, particularly at the City's open markets, about the importance and necessity of health and hygienic practices as a way to eliminate and reduce the spread of infections and diseases. As part of activities to promote hygiene in the City, our Health and Environment division conducted an evaluation of various City markets to assess their cleanliness. Based on the evaluation, Soweto Market was declared the cleanest market under the big/large market category, while Limbandugila Market was announced as the cleanest small market.



h) As part of our efforts to engage residents, the City hosts various public meetings throughout the year. At Brakwater, residents came out in numbers on 12 October 2023 for a consultation meeting at the Valley of Angels. The community, through the Brakwater Ratepayers Organisation, presented a 17-point list where they outlined their concerns that they want the City of Windhoek to look into. Mayor Joseph Uapingene promised that going forward, all efforts will be made to keep a consistent and open channel of communication with the community. He requested for more time to analyse the community's requests before providing feedback. "Give us a chance to go back and look into these matters to see how best we can solve them," he said.



i) The City of Windhoek in collaboration with the Namibia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NCCI) successfully hosted the 7th Windhoek Mayoral Business Forum (WMBF) on 11 October 2023. The WMBF is a bottom-up platform that aims to foster linkages and partnerships between the City of Windhoek and the business community in the City. This year, the forum was combined with the 2023 Windhoek Economic Development & Investment Forum and was held under the theme: "Safety and Security." Speaking on the theme of the gathering, Mayor Uapingene expressed his commitment to ensuring that Windhoek remains a safe place to do business. "As the Mayor of Windhoek, I am deeply committed to ensuring that our city remains a safe and secure haven for all who live, work, and invest here," he said. As part of the theme, several presentations were done by security clusters about security in Windhoek, including City Police, Namibian Police: Tourist Protection Unit, and Namibian Police: Cyber Crime Unit. The WMBF is a platform that allows for an open and transparent exchange of ideas, solutions, and commitments of resources, which is essential for local economic development and investment.





j) After a three-year break, the Windhoek Jazz Festival made an impressive comeback on 7 October 2023 at Windhoek High School's Vegkop Stadium. Despite its recent absence from the entertainment calendar, the festival drew an impressive turnout and featured an electrifying lineup of jazz musicians, including Ésmé Songbird, Savannah Afros, Najah, The Yesterdays, Suzy Eises, Erna Chimu, and internationally acclaimed contemporary jazz singer Jonathan Butler. The festival was graced by dignitaries, including the first couple, President Hage Geingob and First Lady Monica Geingos.



k) The Honourary Consul of Namibia in Cameroon, Clotilde Monkam Salou, and the Honourary Consul of Namibia in Equatorial Guinea, Rolland Faouzi Salou, paid a courtesy call on Mayor Uapingene on 5 October 2023. The two diplomats were seeking cooperation opportunities that Windhoek could collaborate with other sister cities in their countries of representation. Speaking during the visit, Mayor Uapingene said there are a lot of areas that the three countries can look into, such as culture, tourism, and musical exchanges. The Mayor noted that there is a need to unite African cities and work tougher to develop the continent. The two diplomats emphasised that they were looking at signing twinning agreements with the City of Windhoek, particularly in the areas of health and education. The City of Windhoek initiated a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Douala that needs to be reviewed and strengthened before signing.





The Gateway to Endless Opportunities

Thank You



This Mayoral Report is prepared annually by the Office of the Mayor. The office is a division within the Office of the CEO. The report outlines key highlights of the office in 2023. Please contact us for feedback, comments, or suggestions about this report at mayorsoffice@windhoekcc.org.na or phone us on **+264 61 290 3081**.

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