
**ADDRESS BY THE OUTGOING MAYOR OF LEPHALALE,
HER WORSHIP Cllr NR MOGOTLANA DURING THE
FIRST SITTING OF THE FOURTH COUNCIL OF
LEPHALALE MUNICIPALITY ON THE 02ND JUNE 2011.**

- Hounarable Speaker
- Hounarable councilors
- Municipal officials led by the Municipal Manager
- Leadership of sectors – Labour, Business, Sports and faith based institutions.
- Media houses
- Fellow South Africans

Good afternoon!

Honourable Speaker, in deed the Holy Scripture is correct when it states that there is a season for everything – there is time to meet and time to part. I was very used to this council, enjoying the robust debates that took place in this Council Chamber. For those who do not know, this chamber was a mental gymnasium; thanks to the outgoing Speaker who made sure that these debates were conducted in a professional manner; and the chief whip who will not hesitate to whip us into the line. What makes me proud is the fact that whatever the debates, never mind how hot it becomes, we were able to make sure that service delivery emerges victorious. Much as I feel I am going to miss this council chamber, I find solace in the fact that our constituencies have elected capable men and women to take the reins and take service delivery forward.

We are still fresh from the fourth local elections and we all know how tough the contest was, but we are proud that our elections has been declared free and fair by the international community. Now that the people have spoken through the ballots, those of us who have been tasked with the mandate of delivering services should hit the ground running. All of us who have been elected carry the same mandate. And the core mandate is service delivery. We might be from different political parties but we carry the same mandate.

The first African to receive Nobel Peace Prize Award, Chief Albert Luthuli, who was the eighth president of the African national Congress was right when he wrote in his autobiography titled Let My People Go that people of all races will eventually live together in this country before the end of this century because no one wants to destroy this beautiful country of ours.

In deed, ours is a very beautiful country; and Lephalale tops the list. This council is fortunate to be politically in charge of this beautiful part of South Africa. The area where one finds every thing from attractive natural founa and flora, the magnificent wildlife to a world class Petro Chemical cluster. And this is the municipality which this council has the responsibility to develop further.

The President of the country, His Excellency Jacob Zuma said the following when addressing the joint sitting of parliament in Cape Town on 10th February 2011. **I quote.**

“We have entered the 17th year of freedom, ready to continue the drive to make South Africa a successful and prosperous country, building on the foundation that was laid by President Mandela..... We have built a vibrant, fully functional Constitutional democracy.”

President Mandela was right. We can not afford to take a single wrong step in this Constitutional democracy for which so many of our torchbearers fought so much bravely for; with some of them paying the ultimate prize – death.

As local face of government you have three most important guiding tools to service delivery:

1. **The 1955 Freedom Charter:** This is the blue print of the better life which our people want.
2. **The Five 2009 Priorities:** Education, Health, Rural Development and Agrarian reform, Taking forward the fight against crime and Creating decent jobs.
3. **The declaration of 2011 as the year of job creation through meaningful economic transformation and inclusive growth.**

With these three as your guiding tool, surely you shall not lose the way.

As we work hand in hand with our communities we must never forget the HIV voluntary testing campaign that was initiated in April last year, especially because the Health Minister Motsoaledi and the Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe kick started the campaign by testing publicly and voluntarily here at our backyard, at Medupi power station.

With those words I wish you a fruitful and prosperous term.

I THANK YOU!

NR MOGOTLANE
Outgoing Local Mayor.