

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY,
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, VOORTREKKER STREET, CERES ON WEDNESDAY,
25 FEBRUARY 2026 AT 09:00**

**NOTULE VAN DIE RAADSVERGADERING VAN MUNISIPALITEIT
WITZENBERG, GEHOU OP WOENSDAG, 25 FEBRUARIE 2026 OM 09:00 IN
DIE STADSAAL, VOORTREKKERSTRAAT, CERES**

PRESENT

Councillors

Alderlady EM Sidego (Speaker) (DA)
Councillor TE Abrahams (Executive Mayor) (DA)
Councillor JF Nel (Executive Deputy Mayor) (ICOSA)
Alderman K Adams (DA)
Councillor WJ Alexander (Patriotic Alliance)
Councillor P Daniels (DA)
Councillor S de Bruin (DA)
Councillor GJ Franse (DA)
Councillor JP Fredericks (Freedom Front Plus)
Councillor AL Gili (ANC)
Councillor GG Laban (Witzenberg Aksie)
Councillor JS Mouton (ANC)
Councillor MJ Ndaba (ANC)
Councillor N Nogcinisa (ANC)
Councillor N Phatsoane (ANC)
Councillor KA Robyn (GOOD)
Councillor J Rooi (Witzenberg Party)
Alderman HJ Smit (DA)
Alderman D Swart (DA)
Councillor IL Swartz (EFF)
Alderman JJ Visagie (DA)
Councillor K Yisa (ANC)
Councillor J Zalie (ANC)

Officials

Mr D Nasson (Municipal Manager)
Mr HJ Kritzing (Director: Finance)
Mr S Swartz (Director: Community Services)
Mr J Steyn (Director: Technical Services)
Mr M Mpeluza (Director: Corporate Services)
Mr J Kolkota (Deputy Director: Finance)
Ms N Oerson (Chief Internal Audit Executive)
Mr A Hofmeester (Manager: IDP)
Ms L Nieuwenhuis (Senior Manager: Legal Services)
Ms R Hendricks (Manager: Communication and Marketing)
Mr R Fick (Manager: Local Economic Development)
Ms M Arendse-Smith (Acting Manager: Administration)

Mr J Pieterse (Senior ICT Officer)
Ms J du Toit (Intern: Administration)

Other attendees

Mr N Coetzer (Work 4 a Living)
Mr A Nel (Work 4 a Living)
Mr M de Villiers (Ceres Business Initiative)

1. OPENING AND WELCOME / OPENING EN VERWELKOMING

The Speaker welcomed everyone present and requested Councillor J Fredericks to open the meeting with prayer.

NOTED

2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE AND CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION

**2.1 Consideration of application for leave of absence
Aansoeke om verlof tot afwesigheid
(3/1/2/1)**

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

**2.2 Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Declaration
Vertroulikheid en Botsing van Belange Verklaring
(3/2/1)**

The Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest Declaration is attached as **annexure 2.2**.

No conflict of interest was declared.

NOTED

**2.3 Consideration of application for leave of absence:
Councillor I Swartz: Council meeting 11 December 2025
(3/1/2/1)**

A verbal application for leave of absence from the meeting was received from Councillor I Swartz.

Council unanimously resolved on 11 December 2025 that the verbal application for leave of absence from the meeting, received from Councillor I Swartz, be held in abeyance pending the submission of the written application for leave of absence.

An application for leave of absence from Councillor I Swartz, dated 12 December 2025, is attached as **annexure 2.3**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the written application for leave of absence, received from Councillor I Swartz for the Council meeting held on 11 December 2025, be approved and accepted.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die skriftelike aansoek om verlof tot afwesigheid, ontvang vanaf raadslid I Swartz vir die Raadsvergadering gehou op 11 Desember 2025, goedgekeur en aanvaar word.

**3. STATEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENT OR MATTERS RAISED
MEDEDELINGS, AANKONDIGINGS OF SAKE GEOPPER**

**3.1 Gratitude, Congratulations and Commiseration
Waardering, Gelukwensing en Meelewing
(11/4/3)**

Councillor W Alexander, on behalf of Council, conveyed congratulations to the following Councillors and spouses on their birthdays:

- | | | |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| • | Mr Karel de Bruin | 15 January |
| • | Ms Fowzia Adams | 24 January |
| • | Ms Noluthando Ndaba | 3 February |
| • | Alderlady E Sidego | 16 February |
| • | Ms Aurenthia Daniels | 20 February |
| • | Alderman H Smit | 25 February |

NOTED

**3.2 Matters raised by the Speaker / Sake deur die Speaker geopper
(9/1/1)**

The Speaker conveyed the following:

- As of today, the distribution of agendas will be conducted electronically and hard copies will only be provided to Councillors who do not have devices. Councillors without devices are to engage with the Speaker in this regard.

- The Council meeting has been scheduled for earlier today to allow the Executive Mayor to present the Adjustment Budget to Council, as the Executive Mayor will be attending the State of the Province (SOPA) engagement in George.
- Condolences were conveyed to the families within the Witzenberg district who had lost their loved ones and a moment of silence was observed.

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

3.3 Matters raised by the Executive Mayor
Sake deur die Uitvoerende Burgemeester geopper
(9/1/1)

The Executive Mayor conveyed the following:

- Condolences were extended to all the families within Witzenberg who had lost their loved ones.
- Congratulations were conveyed to the individuals and organisations in sports, arts and culture from Witzenberg who were rewarded with certificates for excellence at Cape Winelands Sport Gala.

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

3.4 Matters raised by the Municipal Manager
Sake deur die Munisipale Bestuurder geopper

The Municipal Manager noted the following:

- That after the meeting the Upper limits of salaries resolution will be submitted to the MEC's office for approval.
- The service provider for the Councillors' jackets has been appointed and samples will be distributed for Council's review, after which an order will be made.
- The CANSA Relay will be taking place the weekend of 28 February 2026.

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

Councillor N Phatsoane joined the meeting at 09:24

4. MINUTES / NOTULES

4.1 Corrections to the minutes / Regstelling van notule

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

Councillor M Ndaba joined the meeting at 09:38.

4.2 Matters arising from the minutes / Sake voortspruitend uit notule (3/1/2/3)

The Council requested that a detailed report regarding the cyber attack, which occurred at the municipality in January 2026, be included in the agenda of the next Council meeting.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that a detailed report from the Chief Administrator: ICT regarding the cyber attack be tabled at the next Council meeting.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat 'n gedetailleerde verslag vanaf die Senior Administrateur: Inligting- en Kommunikasietegnologie rakende die kuberaanval by die volgende Raadsvergadering voorgelê word.

4.3 Approval of minutes / Goedkeuring van notule

The following minutes are attached:

- (a) Council meeting, held on 11 December 2025: **Annexure 4.3(a)**.
- (b) Council meeting, held on 28 January 2026: **Annexure 4.3(b)**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

That the following minutes be approved and signed by the Speaker:

- (a) *Council meeting, held on 11 December 2025.*
- (b) *Council meeting, held on 28 January 2026.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

Dat die volgende notules goedgekeur en deur die Speaker onderteken word:

- (a) *Raadsvergadering, gehou op 11 Desember 2025.*
- (b) *Raadsvergadering, gehou op 28 Januarie 2026.*

5. MOTIONS AND NOTICE OF SUGGESTIONS
MOSIES EN KENNISGEWING VAN VOORSTELLE

5.1 Notice of motion of exigency: Amendment of By-law pertaining to Swimming Pools and appointment of additional lifeguards at municipal swimming pools (8/1/R & 4/3/3/3)

A notice of motion of exigency from Councillor K Robyn, dated 11 December 2025, is attached as **annexure 5.1**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) that notice be taken of the motion.*
- (b) that a report related to the proposals noted in the motion be workshopped and tabled to Council.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

- (a) dat kennis geneem word van die mosie.*
- (b) dat 'n verslag ten opsigte van die voorstelle genoem in die mosie, by 'n werkwinkel bespreek word en daarna aan die Raad voorgelê word.*

5.2 Motion: Erf 6179, Sultana Crescent (Ward 3), Ceres (7/1/4/2)

A motion from Alderman D Swart, dated 30 January 2026, is attached as **annexure 5.2**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) that notice be taken of the motion.*
- (b) that a detailed report regarding the future usage of vacant properties in Witzenberg be tabled to Council by the Senior Manager: Legal Services.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

- (a) dat kennis geneem word van die mosie.*
- (b) dat 'n volledige verslag rakende die toekomstige gebruik van oop erwe in Witzenberg deur die Senior Bestuurder: Regsdienste aan die Raad voorgelê word.*

**6. INTERVIEWS WITH DELEGATIONS
ONDERHOUDE MET AFVAARDIGINGS**

**6.1 Presentation: Work 4 Living
(17/19/1)**

A presentation was made on 16 October 2025 at the meeting of the Committee for LED and Tourism by Work 4 a Living, a non-profit organisation that offers training for the unemployed to become fully equipped to join the workforce or start a business.

The Committee for Local Economic Development and Tourism resolved on 16 October 2025 that a Work 4 a Living presentation be made at the next Council meeting for further deliberations regarding assistance from the municipality.

Council enquired on the following:

- Whether the program is SETA accredited and whether it includes internships placements.
- How does the program accommodate those who do not have sponsorships or unable to afford to participate.

Work 4 a Living representatives responded with the following:

- The organisation is not SETA accredited and does not do internship placements, although there is an intern currently working at Work 4 a Living.
- Work 4 Living will support individuals who are highly interested and where possible, CBI will provide sponsorships. Facilitators will seek additional sponsorships for interested individuals, where possible.

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

7. DELEGATED POWERS / GEDELEGEERDE BEVOEGDHEDE

**7.1 Minutes: Committee meetings / Notules: Komiteevergaderings
(3/3/2)**

The minutes of the following meetings are attached:

- (a) Executive Mayoral Committee meeting, held on 28 July 2025:
Annexure 7.1(a).
- (b) Municipal Public Accounts Committee meeting, held on
4 September 2025: **Annexure 7.1(b).**
- (c) Performance, Risk and Audit Committee meeting, held on
2 October 2025: **Annexure 7.1(c).**
- (d) Executive Mayoral Committee meeting, held on 24 October 2025:
Annexure 7.1(d).

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that notice be taken of the minutes of the Committee meetings and same be accepted.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat kennis geneem word van die notules van die Komiteevergaderings en genoemde aanvaar word.

8. RESERVED POWERS / GERESERVEERDE BEVOEGDHEDE

8.1 Directorate Finance / Direktoraat Finansies

**8.1.1 Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Report of Directorate Finance:
January 2026
Artikel 71 Maandelikse Begrotingsverslag van Direktoraat Finansies:
Januarie 2026
(9/1/2/2)**

The Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Report of the Directorate Finance for January 2026 is attached as **annexure 8.1.1**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 23 February 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that notice be taken of the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Report of the Directorate Finance for January 2026.
- (b) that the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Report of the Directorate Finance for January 2026 be referred to the Portfolio Committee for Corporate and Financial Services, the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee and the Municipal Public Accounts Committee to take notice or to advise Council if deemed necessary.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) that notice be taken of the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Report of the Directorate Finance for January 2026.*
- (b) that the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Report of the Directorate Finance for January 2026 be referred to the Portfolio Committee for Corporate and Financial Services, the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee and the Municipal Public Accounts Committee to take notice or to advise Council if deemed necessary.*

**8.1.2 Finance: Adjustment budget and SDBIP Top Layer 2025/2026
(5/1/1/24 & 5/1/5/18)**

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Memorandum from Director: Finance, dated 13 February 2026: **Annexure 8.1.2(a)**.
- (b) Adjustment budget 2025/2026: **Annexure 8.1.2(b)**.

- (c) Budget schedules 2025/2026. **Annexure 8.1.2(c).**
- (d) Proposed adjustments: SDBIP Top Layer 2025/2026:
Annexure 8.1.2(d).

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 23 February 2026 to recommend to Council:

That the adjustment budget of Witzenberg Municipality for the financial year 2025/2026 as set out in the budget documents be approved:

- (i) Table B1 - Budget summary.
- (ii) Table B2 Adjustments Budget Financial Performance (by standard classification).
- (iii) Table B3 – Budgeted Financial performance (Revenue and Expenditure) by Vote.
- (iv) Table B4 Adjustments Budget Financial Performance (revenue by source).
- (v) Table B5 – Budgeted Capital Expenditure by Vote, standard classification and funding.

Council enquired on the following:

- Feedback regarding the Nduli library and the 110-Vredebes Housing project.
- Concerns were raised regarding the expenditure on security services and whether there are alternative ways of securing the assets of the municipality to save on the expenses related to security services.
- A comprehensive list of all capital projects from 2021 to present is requested to assess any potential funding shortages and to determine the liquidity of the municipality.
- Feedback requested regarding the funded project by the Department of Land Reform and Rural Development for the upgrading of sewerage pipes in Nduli.

The Executive Mayor and Municipal Manager responded with the following:

- All grant funding must be spent within the financial year and that the Adjustment budget will not affect the Nduli Library and 110-Vredebes housing project. Furthermore, the service provider for the building of the Nduli library will be appointed soon.
- The delay concerning the 110-Vredebes housing project was due to the Provincial Department of Infrastructure not providing the funding. Furthermore, it was stipulated that beneficiaries must be allocated prior to the commencement of construction.
- If additional funds are required for security services, provision will be made in the adjustment budget.

- The capital funding in the adjustment budget makes provision for the purchase of property for a cemetery and sport field in Op-die-Berg, as per Council resolution as well as the purchase of an office building. The capital projects will be discussed when the full budget is tabled.
- The tender for the upgrading of sewerage pipes was re-advertised and is a Department of Land Reform and Rural Development Supply Chain process. Information on the project will be provided to Council at the next meeting.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) *That the adjustment budget of Witzenberg Municipality for the financial year 2025/2026 as set out in the budget documents be approved:*
- (i) *Table B1 - Budget summary.*
 - (ii) *Table B2 Adjustments Budget Financial Performance (by standard classification).*
 - (iii) *Table B3 – Budgeted Financial performance (Revenue and Expenditure) by Vote.*
 - (iv) *Table B4 Adjustments Budget Financial Performance (revenue by source).*
 - (v) *Table B5 – Budgeted Capital Expenditure by Vote, standard classification and funding.*
- (b) *That the adjustments to the SDBIP Top Layer 2025/2026, as proposed by the Manager: Projects and Performance in his memorandum dated 10 February 2026, be approved.*

The Deputy Executive Mayor was excused from the meeting at 10:00.

Councillor I Swartz joined the meeting at 10:05.

8.1.3 Appointment of Chairperson: Performance, Risk and Audit Committee (5/14/4)

A memorandum from the Chief Internal Audit Executive, dated 12 February 2026, is attached as **annexure 8.1.3**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 23 February 2026 to recommend to Council that the appointment of Mr JJ Swarts as the Chairperson of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee for the period 1 February 2026 until 31 January 2029 be approved.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) *that the appointment of Mr JJ Swarts as the Chairperson of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee for the period 1 February 2026 until 31 January 2029 be approved.*
- (b) *that Council be invited to the next meeting of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee to meet the committee members.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

- (a) *dat die aanstelling van mnr. JJ Swarts as die Voorsitter van die Prestasie-, Risiko- en Ouditkomitee vir die tydperk 1 Februarie 2026 tot 31 Januarie 2029 goedgekeur word.*
- (b) *dat die Raad na die volgende vergadering van die Prestasie-, Risiko- en Ouditkomitee uitgenooi word om die komiteelede te ontmoet.*

**8.1.4 Report of Performance, Risk and Audit Committee: July until December 2025
(5/14/4)**

The report of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee for the period July until December 2025 is attached as **annexure 8.1.4**.

The Performance, Risk and Audit Committee resolved on 23 January 2026 to recommend to Council that the report of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025, after consideration, be accepted.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the report of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee for the period 1 July 2025 to 31 December 2025 be accepted.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die verslag van die Prestasie-, Risiko- en Ouditkomitee vir die tydperk 1 Julie 2025 tot 31 Desember 2025 aanvaar word.

**8.1.5 Annual report of Performance, Risk and Audit Committee to Council: 2024/2025
(5/14/4)**

The annual report of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee for the financial year 2024/2025 is attached as **annexure 8.1.5**.

The Performance, Risk and Audit Committee resolved on 23 January 2026 that the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee submits the signed report to the Municipal Manager for attachment to the final Annual Report of 2024/2025.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that notice be taken of the annual report of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee for the financial year 2024/2025.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat kennis geneem word van die jaarverslag van die Prestasie-, Risiko- en Ouditkomitee vir die finansiële jaar 2024/2025.

8.2 Directorate Technical Services / Direktooraat Tegniese Dienste

8.2.1 Draft Witzenberg Municipality Electrical Supply By-law (1/3/1/10)

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Memorandum from Director: Technical Services, dated 15 January 2026: **Annexure 8.2.1(a)**.
- (b) Draft Electrical Supply By-law: **Annexure 8.2.1(b)**.

The Committee for Technical Services resolved on 10 February 2026 that the Draft Witzenberg Municipality Electrical Supply By-law be workshopped by Council and thereafter be tabled to Council for consideration.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 23 February 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that, after being workshopped, Council approves the Municipal Electrical Supply By-law as tabled.
- (b) that Council authorises the Municipal Manager to:
 - (i) Publish the by-law as required by the Municipal Systems Act (Section 13).
 - (ii) Engage with relevant municipal departments (Legal, Technical, Finance, Communications) to implement.
- (c) that Council directs the Department Electrical Services to:
 - (i) Roll out a public information campaign.
 - (ii) Train staff on new standards and compliance protocols.
 - (iii) Monitor and report annually on bylaw enforcement outcomes and performance metrics.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) *that Council approves the Draft Municipal Electrical Supply By-law as tabled.*
- (b) *that a Public Participation Process be embarked upon and after public inputs have been obtained, the matter be referred back to Council for further consideration.*

8.3 Directorate Community Services / Direktooraat Gemeenskapsdienste

8.3.1 Proposed amendments to Indigent Policy (5/12/P)

Report from Director: Finance, dated 19 January 2026:

"1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to submit proposed amendments to the Indigent Policy for consideration to Council. The Indigent Policy is attached as **annexure 8.3.1**.

2. Legal framework

The qualification criteria for urban households to receive assistance are as follows:

- (a) The head of the household must be a South African citizen.
- (b) An application on the prescribed form, fully completed with the required information and signed, must be provided.
- (c) The household, except in the case of rural households, must receive an account from the Municipality of Witzenberg.
- (d) If the municipal account is not in the name of the people residing in the house the following procedures may be followed:
 - (i) An indigent application process to determine whether the household qualifies for benefits. If they qualify then:
 - A letter from the owner, or the executor of the estate, if applicable, authorising the municipality to open a service account in the name of the person residing in the house.
 - If the owner has died and an executor has not been appointed, all the children of the deceased must give permission with an affidavit that the account can be opened in the specific person's name.
 - In the case of municipal property, the Housing Committee will determine the lessee.
 - (ii) In exceptional circumstances the Municipal Manager can authorise the opening of an account in the name of the person residing on the premises. (When it is not possible to obtain approval from the owner/s or heir/s to open an account in the name of the people residing in the house).

- (e) The Municipal Manager is delegated to write off the old debt on the property if the property is transferred into the name of the beneficiary within 24 months after the approval of the indigent application.
- (f) No member of the household, except in the case of rural households which resides on the farm where he/she works and is not the owner, may own a fixed property other than the site on which the household resides; and
- (g) The household joint gross income may not exceed the level of R6,000.00 per month. The average monthly income for seasonal workers may be calculated by multiplying the monthly income with the number of months the person normally works and dividing the answer by 12. The monthly income for weekly wages may be calculated by multiplying the weekly wage by 4.3.
- (h) The household income as per paragraph 6.1.5 may be reduced with the monthly bond expenditure.
- (i) Two individual government pension (old age or disability) that exceeds the threshold as per 7.1 may qualify for the 100 % benefit if it is the only household income.
- (j) The Municipal Manager may approve a household as indigent in exceptional circumstances.
- (k) As a pre-requisite the municipality will install water demand management meters free of charge at indigent properties as a prerequisite to be registered as an indigent and all water leaks on the property will be repaired by the municipality at the cost of the municipality.
- (l) No applicants who have a mobile shop in their erven (whether they are the owner or operator of the shop or not) is eligible for any Indigent benefit.
- (m) No Indigent application will be approved if any illegal trading is conducted on the property.
- (n) Where there is a business operated by the main account holder or their spouse/ life partner, an affidavit must be accompanied stating that the income (profit) from the business is not more than the thresholds of the Indigent (100 % or 50 %) subsidy. Where discretion regarding this matter is needed, the application is to be referred to the Municipal Manager or Director: Community Services for approval.

3. Discussion

Some of the households in the Eskom area do qualify for indigent support, but they do not apply as they receive the free electricity units from Eskom based on the size of the electricity connection.

The households in informal areas do not receive accounts for municipal services and therefore do not apply for indigent support although they receive municipal services.

The abovementioned households are therefore not included in the official municipal statistics of indigent households."

Council resolved on 28 January 2026:

- (a) That the following paragraphs be added to the Indigent Policy:
 - (i) Paragraph 6.1.5.1: The households on the Eskom list for free electricity units automatically qualify for full indigent benefits.
 - (ii) Paragraph 6.1.5.2: The households in informal areas qualify for limited indigent benefits which excludes free basic electricity.
- (b) That the Indigent Policy will be dealt with at the next Council workshop for amendments to the policy.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 23 February 2026 to recommend to Council that, after being workshopped, the amended Indigent Policy be approved.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the approval of the amended Indigent Policy be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die goedkeuring van die gewysigde Deernisbeleid oorstaan tot die volgende Raadsvergadering.

**8.3.2 Availing and lease of land for Dunlop Business in a Box Initiative:
Erf 389 Tulbagh, erf 1640 Wolseley and portion of erf 5958, Nduli,
Ceres
(7/1/4/1)**

A memorandum from the Manager: Local Economic Development, dated 12 January 2026, is attached as **annexure 8.3.2**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 23 February 2026 that the matter be held in abeyance to clarify further processes.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the matter be held in abeyance to clarify further processes.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die aangeleentheid oorstaan om verdere prosesse uit te klaar.

8.4 Directorate Corporate Services / Direktooraat Korporatiewe Dienste

8.4.1 By-law: Rules of Order for meetings of Witzenberg Council (1/3/1/25)

The By-law on the Rules of Order for meetings of the Witzenberg Council and its Committees is attached as **annexure 8.4.1**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 23 February 2026 that, after being workshopped, the By-law on the Rules of Order for meetings of the Witzenberg Council be approved.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the By-law on the Rules of Order for meetings of the Witzenberg Council be held in abeyance for further amendments after the promulgation of the amended Structures Act.

9. URGENT MATTERS SUBMITTED AFTER DISPATCHING OF THE AGENDA DRINGENDE SAKE INGEDIEN NA AFSENDING VAN DIE AGENDA

9.1 Determination of upper limits of salaries, allowance and benefits of Councillors according to Government Gazette no. 54179 (5/11/1)

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Report from Director: Finance, dated 23 February 2026:
Annexure 9.1(a).
- (b) Government Gazette no. 54179 of 20 February 2026:
Annexure 9.1(b).

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

That in respect of the determination of upper limits of salaries, allowances and benefits of different members of municipal Councils:

- (i) *that Council notes the content of Government Gazette no. 54179.*
- (ii) *that sufficient funds are available to set the upward salary adjustment of Councillors with effect from 1 July 2025.*
- (iii) *that Council approves that Councillors be remunerated at the maximum allowances as per Government Gazette no. 54179.*

- (iv) *that Council approves the cell phone allowances for Councillors as determined in Government Gazette no. 54179 in the amount of R3 600.00 per month.*
- (v) *that Council approves the data allowances for Councillors as determined in Government Gazette no. 54179 in the amount of R317.00 per month.*
- (vi) *that those Councillors who assumed office before 30 June 2023 be remunerated according to a Grade 4 municipality, as per Government Gazette No 54179 dated 20 February 2026, as soon as the concurrence of the Provincial Minister for Local Government is obtained.*
- (vii) *that those Councillors who assumed office after 30 June 2023 be remunerated according to a Grade 3 municipality, as per Government Gazette No 54179 dated 20 February 2026, as soon as the concurrence of the Provincial Minister for Local Government is obtained.*
- (viii) *that the increase of total remuneration be approved retrospectively from 1 July 2025 subject to the concurrence of the Provincial Minister for Local Government.*
- (ix) *that the Provincial Minister for Local Government notes that Council have not implemented the latest upward allowance yet.*

10. FORMAL AND STATUTORY MATTERS
FORMELE EN STATUTÊRE SAKE

10.1 Feedback on matters of outside bodes
Terugvoering oor sake van buite-organisasies
(3/R)

The Speaker urged Councillors to provide feedback at the next Council meeting after attending the scheduled SALGA meetings in March 2026.

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

11. QUESTIONS and/or MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS
VRAE en/of SAKE DEUR RAADSLEDE GEOPPER

11.1 Fire at Skoonvlei, Ceres on 20 January 2026
Brand te Skoonvlei, Ceres op 20 Januarie 2026
(17/7/2/2)

A letter from Councillor J Mouton, dated 9 February 2026, is attached as **annexure 11.1.**

Response from Municipal Manager, dated 18 February 2026:

"The questions raised by Councillor Mouton are noted and will be responded to in due course. The matter is currently *sub judice* for the following reasons:

- (i) An internal investigation was launched of which the report is still outstanding. The information is still privileged and falls within the ambit of the Local Government Bargaining Council rules and agreement.
- (ii) The municipality has received a letter from Attorneys Joubert Van Vuuren Inc., notifying the municipality of their client's intention to institute a civil claim.
- (iii) The matter has been referred to Council's insurer who will be dealing with the claim on Council's behalf. In terms of the insurance contract no information that may have an impact on the claim can be divulged without the insurer's consent.

Councillor Mouton's enquiry will be listed under Outstanding matters and will be reported on as soon as there is no further prejudice for Council."

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that Council takes notice of the feedback provided.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die Raad kennis neem van die terugvoer verskaf.

**11.2 Vacancy: Interpreter and speed limit on R300 at Bella Vista intersections
(4/3/2/2 & 17/7/4/R)**

An email from Councillor J Rooi, dated 12 February 2026, is attached as **annexure 11.2**.

Response from Municipal Manager, dated 18 February 2026:

"The filling of the vacancy for the position of Interpreter is for both Council and the Administration. The John Steyn venue has been planned to make provision for a fully translation system. The inadequate budget is still a stumbling block for implementation.

The District Roads Engineer, who is responsible for the speed limit on the Bella Vista/Prince Alfred's Hamlet Road, has still not responded to the enquiry from Mr Elton Smit (the Cape Winelands District representative for Provincial Roads). As soon as we receive an update, we will communicate to Council."

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that Council takes notice of the feedback provided.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die Raad kennis neem van die terugvoer verskaf.

11.3 Additional matters and questions raised

The following matters and questions were raised by Councillors:

- Congratulations were extended to the two pupils of Ceres Primary, namely Joel Galant and Sania Lee, for their selection to the Boland Athletics team.
- Concerns were raised regarding the water running in the streets within the informal settlements of Tulbagh as well as the large pothole in the road from Nduli to Ceres town.
- The operation of illegal taxis continues to be a great concern for the residents of Koue Bokkeveld and it has been requested that Law Enforcement and SAPS take action to address the behaviour of the foreign taxi operators.
- Request for erection of speed bumps in Ward 1, Ceres was submitted in 2022, but was recently informed that there is no budget.
- Trucks are frequently utilising Zulch and Maritz Streets in Ceres, which causes damage to the road and also poses safety risks to children. Furthermore, that the park opposite Maritz Street is inundated with homeless people and starting to produce a stench.
- Requests that the condition of the road in Protea Avenue, Prince Alfred's Hamlet be examined as the road is busy collapsing.
- It was requested that Ward Councillors be involved in the housing allocation process as they are frequently being excluded from the process.
- Concerns raised regarding Spaza shops in Op-die-Berg that are not adhering to their designated closing hours, as criminal activities occur while the shop remains open.
- Feedback requested regarding the status of the Op-die-Berg cemetery.

The Speaker requested that all questions and matters raised by Councillors be submitted in writing to the Speaker's office.

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

12. ADJOURNMENT / VERDAGING

The meeting adjourned at 11:54.
Die vergadering verdaag om 11:54.

Approved on 31 March 2026 without amendments.

**ALDERLADY EM SIDEGO
SPEAKER**