

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY,
HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, VOORTREKKER STREET, CERES ON WEDNESDAY,
29 JULY 2026 AT 10:00**

**NOTULE VAN DIE RAADSVERGADERING VAN MUNISIPALITEIT
WITZENBERG, GEHOU OP WOENSDAG, 29 JULIE 2026 OM 10:00 IN DIE
STADSAAL, VOORTREKKERSTRAAT, CERES**

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 G Franse (DA)
Councillor JP Fredericks (VF Plus)
Councillor AL Gili (ANC)
Councillor GG Laban (Witzenberg Aksie)
Councillor JS Mouton (ANC)
Councillor MJ Ndaba (ANC)
Councillor L Ngwane (EFF)
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)
Alderman JJ Visagie (DA)
Councillor K Yisa (ANC)
Councillor J Zalie (ANC)

Officials

Mr D Nasson (Municipal Manager)
Mr HJ Kritzinger (Director: Finance)
Mr S Swartz (Director: Community Services)
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)
Ms M Arendse-Smith (Acting Manager: Administration)
Mr J Pieterse (Senior ICT Officer)
Ms J du Toit (Intern: Administration)

1. OPENING AND WELCOME / OPENING EN VERWELKOMING

The Speaker welcomed everyone present and requested Councillor L Ngwane 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)**

An apology for absence from the meeting was received from the Director: Technical Services.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the apology for absence from the meeting, received from the Director: Technical Services, be accepted.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die verskoning vir afwesigheid van die vergadering, ontvang vanaf die Direkteur: Tegnieke Dienste, aanvaar word.

**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: Special Council meeting 8 May 2026: Councillor KA Robyn
(3/1/2/1)**

Council unanimously resolved on 8 May 2026 that the application for leave of absence from the meeting, received from Councillor K Robyn, be held in abeyance until the next meeting for the submission and consideration of the written application for leave of absence.

A written application for leave of absence from Councillor K Robyn for the Special Council meeting of 8 May 2026 is attached as **annexure 2.3**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the application for leave of absence, received from Councillor KA Robyn, for the Special Council meeting held on 8 May 2026, be approved and accepted.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die aansoek om verlof tot afwesigheid, ontvang vanaf raadslid KA Robyn, vir die Spesiale Raadsvergadering gehou op 8 Mei 2026, goedgekeur en aanvaar word.

2.4 Consideration of application for leave of absence: Special Council meeting 26 June 2026: Councillor J Zalie (3/1/2/1)

A verbal application for leave of absence from the meeting was received from Councillor J Zalie.

Council unanimously resolved on 26 June 2026 that the application for leave of absence from the meeting, received from Councillor J Zalie, be held in abeyance until the next meeting for the submission and consideration of the written application for leave of absence.

A written application for leave of absence from Councillor J Zalie for the Special Council meeting of 26 June 2026, dated 29 July 2026, is attached as **annexure 2.4**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the application for leave of absence from Councillor J Zalie for the Special Council meeting held on 26 June 2026, be approved and accepted.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die aansoek om verlof tot afwesigheid vanaf raadslid J Zalie vir die Spesiale Raadsvergadering gehou op 26 Junie 2026, 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)**

Council's congratulations were conveyed to Councillor J Fredericks for his birthday on 13 July.

Council conveyed heart-felt condolences to Councillor J Fredericks and his family with the tragic loss of their beloved daughter-in-law.

NOTED

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

The Speaker noted the following:

- Councillors are encouraged to strive towards excellence in an effort to leave a well-documented legacy during the last stretch of their term.
- With the "silly season" being at hand, it could be a challenging time for Councillors, and Councillors are therefore requested to always maintain Council's integrity.
- Council celebrates Women's Day together with all women on 9 August 2026 and wish them well. Keep shining and breaking barriers wherever you may go.

NOTED.

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

The Executive Mayor conveyed the following:

- Condolences to all families in Witzenberg who have experienced the loss of loved ones as well as to Councillor J Fredericks for the loss his family has endured.
- This morning's Mayco caucus included discussions regarding policies, during which it was requested that the Consequence Management Policy be circulated to the Mayco members and to Councillors upon their request. Additionally, an update on the auction for the disposal of redundant assets of Council was also requested.

NOTED.

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

The Municipal Manager informed the meeting that an auctioneer was appointed and that the Department Finance is currently in the process of scheduling a date for the auction. The deadline for the departments to submit a list of assets requiring Council approval for write-off is Friday, 31 July 2026. Furthermore, that the T-shirts for Councillors have been distributed, and Councillors must provide the Department Finance with a mandate allowing deductions related to the jackets.

Councillor GG Laban requested the list of Councillors term status in relation to receive the titles Alderman or Alderlady, after which the Municipal Manager noted that the list will be tabled at the next Council meeting.

NOTED

Councillor K Yisa joined the meeting at 10:22.

4. MINUTES / NOTULES

4.1 Corrections to the minutes / Regstelling van notule

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

4.2 Matters arising from the minutes / Sake voortspruitend uit notule

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

4.3 Approval of minutes / Goedkeuring van notule
(3/1/2/3)

The following minutes are attached:

- (a) Special Council meeting, held on 8 May 2026: **Annexure 4.3(a).**
- (b) Council meeting, held on 29 May 2026: **Annexure 4.3(b).**
- (c) Special Council meeting, held on 26 June 2026: **Annexure 4.3(c).**

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

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

- (i) *Special Council meeting, held on 8 May 2026.*
- (ii) *Council meeting, held on 29 May 2026.*
- (iii) *Special Council meeting, held on 26 June 2026.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

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

- (i) *Spesiale Raadsvergadering, gehou op 8 Mei 2026.*
- (ii) *Raadsvergadering, gehou op 29 Mei 2026.*
- (iii) *Spesiale Raadsvergadering, gehou op 26 Junie 2026.*

**4.4 Outstanding matters / Uitstaande sake
(3/3/2)**

Number	File ref.	Item no. and date	Subject	Resolution
4.4.1	17/7/2/2	11.1 of 25-02-2026	Fire at Skoonvlei, Ceres	The disciplinary process is ongoing and the matter is postponed for continuation due to IT constraints.
4.4.2	1/3/1/25	8.4.1 of 26-02-2026	By-law: Rules of Order	That the matter be held in abeyance as there is no movement on the White Paper.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that notice be taken of the outstanding matters.

EENAPARIG BESLUIT

dat kennis geneem word van die uitstaande sake.

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

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKE

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

None / Geen

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) Performance, Risk and Audit Committee, held on 16 October 2025:
Annexure 7.1(a).
- (b) Performance, Risk and Audit Committee, held on 31 October 2025:
Annexure 7.1(b).
- (c) Committee for Technical Services, held on 11 November 2025:
Annexure 7.1(c).
- (d) Municipal Public Accounts Committee, held on 19 January 2026:
Annexure 7.1(d).
- (e) Performance, Risk and Audit Committee, held on 23 January 2026:
Annexure 7.1(e).
- (f) Committee for Housing Matters, held on 29 January 2026:
Annexure 7.1(f).
- (g) Committee for Technical Services, held on 10 February 2026:
Annexure 7.1(g).
- (h) Committee for Corporate and Financial Services, held on 17 February 2026: **Annexure 7.1(h).**
- (i) Committee for Local Economic Development and Tourism, held on 18 February 2026: **Annexure 7.1(i).**
- (j) Mayoral Committee, held on 23 February 2026: **Annexure 7.1(j).**
- (k) Committee for Community Development, held on 3 March 2026:
Annexure 7.1(k).
- (l) Committee for Housing Matters, held on 18 March 2026:
Annexure 7.1(l).

- (m) Mayoral Committee, held on 26 March 2026: **Annexure 7.1(m).**
- (n) Committee for Technical Services, held on 14 April 2026: **Annexure 7.1(n).**
- (o) Committee for Community Development, held on 16 April 2026: **Annexure 7.1(o).**
- (p) Committee for Housing Matters, held on 21 April 2026: **Annexure 7.1(p).**
- (q) Performance, Risk and Audit Committee, held on 24 April 2026: **Annexure 7.1(q).**

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 / Direktooraat Finansies

8.1.1 Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Reports of Directorate Finance: May and June 2026

**Artikel 71 Maandelikse Begrotingsverslae van Direktooraat Finansies: Mei en Junie 2026
(9/1/2/2)**

The following Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Reports of the Directorate Finance are attached:

- (a) May 2026 **Annexure 8.1.1(a)**
- (b) June 2026 **Annexure 8.1.1(b)**

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that notice be taken of the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Reports of the Directorate Finance for May and June 2026.
- (b) that the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Reports of the Directorate Finance for May and June 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 Reports of the Directorate Finance for May and June 2026.*
- (b) that the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Reports of the Directorate Finance for May and June 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.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

- (a) dat kennis geneem word van die Artikel 71 Maandelikse Begrotingsverslae van die Direktooraat Finansies vir Mei en Junie 2026.*
- (b) dat die Artikel 71 Maandelikse Begrotingsverslae van die Direktooraat Finansies vir Mei en Junie 2026 na die Portfolio Komitee vir Korporatiewe en Finansiële Dienste, die Prestasie-, Risiko- en Ouditkomitee en die Munisipale Komitee vir Openbare Rekeninge verwys word om kennis te neem of vir enige aanbevelings aan die Raad indien nodig geag.*

**8.1.2 Witzenberg Anti-corruption and Fraud Prevention Policy
(2/12/P)**

The Anti-corruption and Fraud Prevention Policy for Witzenberg Municipality is attached as **annexure 8.1.2**.

The Performance, Risk and Audit Committee resolved on 19 June 2026 to recommend to Council that notice be taken of the Witzenberg Anti-corruption and Fraud Prevention Policy and, after consideration, same be approved.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the Witzenberg Anti-corruption and Fraud Prevention Policy be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die Witzenberg Teenkorrupsie- en Bedrogvoorkomingsbeleid tot die volgende Raadsvergadering oorsaan.

**8.1.3 Internal Audit Charter with effect from 1 July 2026
(5/14/2)**

The Internal Audit Charter with effect from 1 July 2026 is attached as **annexure 8.1.3**.

The Performance, Risk and Audit Committee resolved on 19 June 2026:

- (a) that notice be taken of the Internal Audit Charter with effect from 1 July 2026 in terms of Section 166 of the Municipal Finance Management Act.
- (b) that the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee recommends to Council:

that notice be taken of the Internal Audit Charter with effect from 1 July 2026 and, after consideration, same be approved.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the Internal Audit Charter with effect from 1 July 2026 be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die Interne Oudithandves met ingang vanaf 1 Julie 2026 tot die volgende Raadsvergadering oorsaan.

8.1.4 Annual review 2026/2027: Witzenberg Whistleblowing Policy (2/12/P)

The Performance, Risk and Audit Committee resolved on 19 June 2026:

- (a) That the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee members submit their inputs to the Chief Internal Audit Executive for inclusion.
- (b) That the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee recommends to Council:

that the Witzenberg Whistleblowing Policy, after consideration, be approved.

The Witzenberg Whistleblowing Policy is attached as **annexure 8.1.4**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the Witzenberg Whistleblowing Policy be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die Witzenberg Fluitjieblaasbeleid tot die volgende Raadsvergadering oorstaan.

8.1.5 Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP): 2026/2027 (5/15/19)

The Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan for 2026/2027 is attached as **annexure 8.1.5**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council that notice be taken of the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) for 2026/2027.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that notice be taken of the Service Delivery and Budget Implementation Plan (SDBIP) for 2026/2027.

8.1.6 Draft IDP and Budget Process Plan for 2027 - 2032 (2/2/1)

In terms of Section 28 of the Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2000), Council must adopt an IDP and Budget Process Plan. The Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003) further stipulates that at least ten months before the start of the budget year, the Executive Mayor should table a time schedule outlining key deadlines in respect of the IDP/Budgetary process.

Section 29 of the Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2000) specifies that such a Process Plan must include:

- Programs that set out timeframes for the different planning steps;
- Appropriate mechanisms, processes and procedures for consultation with:
 - Local communities, both in terms of needs and priorities as well as consultation during development;
 - Organs of state, traditional authorities, and other role-players in the drafting process; and
- Binding plans and planning requirements, i.e. policy and legislation.

National Treasury has provided further guidance by the issuing of MFMA Circular 10. That circular provides specific guidance with regard to six distinct steps in compilation of the IDP and the annual Budget. The table below highlights these steps, with a brief description of each step:

Steps		Process
1	Planning	Schedule dates, establish consultation forums, review previous processes
2	Strategi- zing	Review IDP, set service delivery objectives for next 3 years, consult on tariffs, indigents, credit control, free basic services etc., and consider local-, provincial- and national issues, the previous year's performance and current economic and demographic trends etc.
3	Preparing	Prepare Budget, revenue and expenditure projections; draft Budget policies; consult and consider local-, provincial- and national priorities
4	Tabling	Table draft Budget, draft IDP and Budget-related policies before council; consult and consider local, provincial and national inputs or responses
5	Approving	Council approves the IDP, the Budget and related policies
6	Finalising	Publish the IDP, Budget and approve the SDBIP and performance targets

In capturing the above steps, this IDP & Budget Process Plan seeks to address, inter alia, the:

- Identification of areas requiring additional attention in terms of legislative requirements, proper planning processes and sound financial management;
- Inclusion of the most current census and own statistical data;
- Consideration and review of any other relevant and new information;
- Addressing comments received from the various role-players;
- Factor-in the shortcomings and weaknesses identified through self-assessment;
- Preparation and review of sector plans and its alignment with the IDP;
- Preparation and review of the Performance Management System (PMS);
- Updating of the 5-year Financial Plan; and
- Finalisation of the annual Budget and IDP in terms of the relevant legislation.

Pursuant to the above statutory requirements, a Draft IDP and Budget Process Plan for the 2027 - 2032 cycle is attached as **annexure 8.1.6**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that notice be taken of the Draft IDP and Budget Process Plan for 2027 - 2032.
- (b) that the Draft IDP and Budget Process Plan for 2027 - 2032 be published for public comments and inputs.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) *that notice be taken of the Draft IDP and Budget Process Plan for 2027 - 2032.*
- (b) *that the Draft IDP and Budget Process Plan for 2027 - 2032 be published for public comments and inputs.*

8.1.7 Amendment to Transport, Travel and Subsistence Allowance Policy (4/5/P)

A memorandum from the Director: Finance, dated 20 July 2026, is attached as **annexure 8.1.7**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that the current R3.14/km tariff in paragraph 3.3.1 of the Transport, Travel and Subsistence Allowance Policy is noted as no longer sustainable or sufficiently responsive to material fuel-price volatility.

- (b) that the amendment to paragraph 3.3.1 set out in section 5 of this memorandum is approved.
- (c) that the prevailing SARS prescribed reimbursable travel rate, currently R4.95/km from 1 March 2026, will apply to qualifying trips undertaken on or after 1 August 2026.
- (d) that qualifying trips undertaken before the date of this resolution remain subject to the tariff that was valid at the time of travel.
- (e) that future amendments to the SARS prescribed rate will be implemented administratively from the effective date published by SARS, without a further policy amendment, provided that the basis of the reimbursement remains unchanged.
- (f) that the Municipal Manager and Chief Financial Officer are authorised to incorporate the approved wording into the policy, update claim and payroll processes and issue the necessary implementation circular/communication.
- (g) that all claims remain subject to prior authorisation, the existing policy controls, available budget and applicable SARS employee-tax requirements.
- (h) that all other provisions of the Transport, Travel and Subsistence Allowance Policy remain unchanged.
- (i) that the amendment to the Transport, Travel and Subsistence Allowance Policy, after being workshopped and considered, be approved.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) *that the current R3.14/km tariff in paragraph 3.3.1 of the Transport, Travel and Subsistence Allowance Policy is noted as no longer sustainable or sufficiently responsive to material fuel-price volatility.*
- (b) *that the amendment to paragraph 3.3.1 set out in section 5 of this memorandum is approved.*
- (c) *that the prevailing SARS prescribed reimbursable travel rate, currently R4.95/km from 1 March 2026, will apply to qualifying trips undertaken on or after 1 August 2026.*
- (d) *that qualifying trips undertaken before the date of this resolution remain subject to the tariff that was valid at the time of travel.*
- (e) *that future amendments to the SARS prescribed rate will be implemented administratively from the effective date published by SARS, without a further policy amendment, provided that the basis of the reimbursement remains unchanged.*

- (f) *that the Municipal Manager and Chief Financial Officer are authorised to incorporate the approved wording into the policy, update claim and payroll processes and issue the necessary implementation circular/communication.*
- (g) *that all claims remain subject to prior authorisation, the existing policy controls, available budget and applicable SARS employee-tax requirements.*
- (h) *that all other provisions of the Transport, Travel and Subsistence Allowance Policy remain unchanged.*
- (i) *that the amendment to the Transport, Travel and Subsistence Allowance Policy, after being workshopped and considered, be approved.*

8.1.8 Consideration of approval of additional 5 MVA from Eskom (16/3/1)

Memorandum from Director: Finance, dated 21 July 2026:

"1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to procure an additional 5 MVA from Eskom.

2. Discussion

No new electricity consumers, including new low-cost housing, can be connected to the Ceres electricity connection as the maximum demand allowable has already been reached.

Additional capacity is urgently required to allow new businesses for local economic development and to provide electricity to new houses. The date when the additional electricity supply line from Eskom will be constructed has been postponed on many occasions by Eskom.

A quotation for an additional 5 MVA was received from Eskom with the following cost:

	Excl. VAT	Incl. VAT
Connection charge estimate	R28 468 113.20	R32 738 330.18
Electricity Accounts Guarantee Amount	R29 756 000.00	VAT not Applicable

The quotation is attached as **annexure 8.1.8.**"

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The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that the quotation from Eskom be accepted and that the cost be paid from the municipal budget.
- (b) that First National Bank be authorised to issue a guarantee to Eskom to the amount of R30 000 000.00 as security.
- (c) that consumers who want a portion of the additional capacity pay a contribution of R5 693.62 per kVA (excl. VAT) in addition to any other charges payable.
- (d) that the Accounting Officer, Mr D Nasson, be authorised to sign all the relevant documents.
- (e) that approval be granted for the necessary investment to be made at First National Bank in order for FNB to issue the Bank Guarantee to Eskom.

The Executive Mayor and Councillor Rooi were in favour of the recommendation as tabled.

Councillor AL Gili inquired whether the additional 5 MVA will provide electricity to the already built houses or would the municipality be able to build more houses. Furthermore, low cost housing applicants do not pay for services, so how will the municipality pay the loan back to Eskom.

Councillor AL Gili tabled a counter proposal and Councillor N Phatsoane seconded that the matter be held in abeyance.

The Speaker called for a vote on the matter and the outcome was as follows:

• Proposal in favour of additional 5 MVA (Councillors T Abrahams and J Rooi)	12 votes
• Counter proposal to hold the item in abeyance (Councillors A Gili and N Phatsoane)	7 votes
• Votes abstained	4 votes
• Absentees	<u>Zero</u>
TOTAL	<u>23</u>

The Speaker ruled in favour of the majority of votes that the recommendation be accepted.

RESOLVED

- (a) *that the quotation from Eskom be accepted and that the cost be paid from the municipal budget.*
- (b) *that First National Bank be authorised to issue a guarantee to Eskom to the amount of R30 000 000.00 as security.*

- (c) *that consumers who want a portion of the additional capacity pay a contribution of R5 693.62 per kVA (excl. VAT) in addition to any other charges payable.*
- (d) *that the Accounting Officer, Mr D Nasson, be authorised to sign all the relevant documents.*
- (e) *that approval be granted for the necessary investment to be made at First National Bank in order for FNB to issue the Bank Guarantee to Eskom.*

8.1.9 Proposed amendment of Contract 8/2/22/95: Hiring of trucks, plant and equipment in compliance with Section 116(3) of MFMA (Act 56 of 2003): Fuel price escalation/adjustment (8/2/22/95)

A memorandum from the Director: Finance, dated 21 July 2026, is attached as **annexure 8.1.9**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council that Contract 8/2/22/95 be amended to provide for Fuel Price Escalation/adjustment as set out in the table:

Contract no.	Contract description	Name of service providers	Contract period	Conditions or limitations on amendments
8/2/22/95	Hiring of trucks, plant and equipment for the Witzenberg Municipality	JC Services	18 December 2025 - 30 June 2028 (option to extend annually for a period not exceeding 30 June 2028)	Safe for the amendment of the contract. The contract shall be subject to the same terms and conditions as the current contract.
		Biue Rand Empire		
		DP All Purpose Vehicle Rental		
		Aqua Plant and Transport		
		Amila Investments		
		Kukhulu Plant Hire		
		Ekeni Investments		

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that Contract 8/2/22/95 be amended to provide for Fuel Price Escalation/adjustment as set out in the table:

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Notule: Raadsvergadering 29 Julie 2026

<i>Contract no.</i>	<i>Contract description</i>	<i>Name of service providers</i>	<i>Contract period</i>	<i>Conditions or limitations on amendments</i>
<i>8/2/22/95</i>	<i>Hiring of trucks, plant and equipment for the Witzenberg Municipality</i>	<i>JC Services</i>	<i>18 December 2025 - 30 June 2028 (option to extend annually for a period not exceeding 30 June 2028)</i>	<i>Safe for the amendment of the contract. The contract shall be subject to the same terms and conditions as the current contract.</i>
		<i>Biue Rand Empire</i>		
		<i>DP All Purpose Vehicle Rental</i>		
		<i>Aqua Plant and Transport</i>		
		<i>Amila Investments</i>		
		<i>Kukhulu Plant Hire</i>		
		<i>Ekeni Investments</i>		

8.2 Directorate Technical Services / Direktooraat Tegniese Dienste

8.2.1 Request to close alley: Erf 5585, Vos Street, Ceres Versoek vir sluiting van steeg: Erf 5585, Vosstraat, Ceres (16/4/2)

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Letter from Messrs Amazing Pies, dated 15 October 2025: **Annexure 8.2.1(a)**.
- (b) Memorandum from Manager: Town Planning and Building Control, dated 11 November 2025: **Annexure 8.2.1(b)**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council that the request to close the alley described as Erf 5585, Ceres be declined for the following reasons:

- (a) Erf 5585 is registered as a public place and, according to legislation, residents have a common right to public areas, which means free access cannot be restricted.
- (b) Erf 5585 is part of the network used by pedestrians.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

That the request to close the alley described as Erf 5585, Ceres be declined for the following reasons:

- (a) *Erf 5585 is registered as a public place and, according to legislation, residents have a common right to public areas, which means free access cannot be restricted.*
- (b) *Erf 5585 is part of the network used by pedestrians.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

Dat die versoek om die steeg beskryf as Erf 5585, Ceres te sluit, afgekeur word vir die volgende redes:

- (a) *Erf 5585 is as 'n openbare plek geregistreer en ingevolge wetgewing het inwoners 'n gemeenskaplike reg (common right) tot openbare areas, wat daarop neerkom dat vrye toegang daartoe nie beperk kan word nie.*
- (b) *Erf 5585 vorm deel van die netwerk wat deur voetgangers gebruik word.*

8.2.2 Electrical Infrastructure Maintenance Policy (16/3/P)

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Memorandum from Acting Senior Manager: Electro-Technical Services: **Annexure 8.2.2(a)**.
- (b) Draft Electrical Infrastructure Maintenance Policy: **Annexure 8.2.2(b)**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council that the Electrical Infrastructure Maintenance Policy, after being workshopped and considered, be approved.

The following matters were raised by Councillors:

- What has the municipality done to deal with illegal connections.
- The policy must include the review period and training stipulations as indicated at the workshop of 28 July 2026.

The Municipal Manager informed the meeting that illegal electricity connections will be disconnected throughout Witzenberg from August 2026.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the Electrical Infrastructure Maintenance Policy, after being workshopped and considered, be approved.

8.2.3 Approval of Water and Sanitation Services Policy (16/2/P)

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Memorandum from Senior Manager: Water and Sewerage, dated 20 July 2026: **Annexure 8.2.3(a)**.
- (b) Draft Water and Sanitation Services Policy: **Annexure 8.2.3(b)**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that notice be taken of the Water and Sanitation Services Policy.
- (b) that, after being workshopped and considered, the Water and Sanitation Services Policy be approved for implementation and execution within the Witzenberg municipal area.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the Water and Sanitation Services Policy be held in abeyance.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die beleid oor Water- en Sanitasiedienste tot die volgende Raadsvergadering oorstaan.

8.3 Directorate Community Services / Direktooraat Gemeenskapsdienste

8.3.1 Review of Witzenberg Policy on Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP) (4/1/1/P)

Memorandum from Manager: Local Economic Development, dated 17 March 2026:

"Background

The current Policy on the Expanded Public Works Programme (2013) is outdated and is in need to be reviewed in order to be aligned with the latest EPWP Phase 5 requirements as well as to address EPWP municipal administration.

Review

The Policy on the Expanded Public Works Programme was extensively reviewed, taking into consideration changing EPWP legislation, internal EPWP arrangements and the current EPWP Phase 5 that must be implemented. Inputs were also received from Senior Management and Managers.

The reviewed Policy on the Expanded Public Works Programme is attached as **annexure 8.3.1.**"

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 March 2026 to recommend to Council that the reviewed Policy on the Expanded Public Works Programme, after consideration, be approved.

Council resolved on 29 May 2026 that the reviewed Policy on the Expanded Public Works Programme be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting.

UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDED

that the reviewed Policy on the Expanded Public Works Programme, after consideration, be approved.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die hersiene Beleid oor die Uitgebreide Openbare Werke Program, na oorweging, goedgekeur word.

8.4 Directorate Corporate Services / Direktoraat Korporatiewe Dienste

8.4.1 Review and approval of Human Relations Policies (1/3/1/32)

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Report from Senior Manager: Human Resources, dated 8 July 2026: **Annexure 8.4.1(a)**.
- (b) Agreement with unions: **Annexure 8.4.1(b)**.
- (c) Recruitment and Selection Policy: **Annexure 8.4.1(c)**.
- (d) Probation Policy: **Annexure 8.4.1(d)**.
- (e) Employment Equity Policy: **Annexure 8.4.1(e)**.
- (f) Performance Management Policy: **Annexure 8.4.1(f)**.
- (g) Leave Policy: **Annexure 8.4.1(g)**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that notice be taken that the policies were endorsed by both unions, namely SAMWU and IMATU, and the employer and signed off by all relevant parties prior to submission.
- (b) that the following policies, after being workshopped, be approved:
 - (i) Recruitment and Selection Policy
 - (ii) Probation Policy
 - (iii) Employment Equity Policy
 - (iv) Performance Management Policy
 - (v) Leave Policy
- (c) that notice be taken that the consultation process was compliant with legislative requirements and conducted in accordance with established municipal procedures.

The following matters were raised by Councillors:

- What were the amendments to the policies and how will it be addressed.
- How many people were employed in the past two (2) years.
- If an additional one-month leave is taken after maternity leave, can UIF be claimed?
- Concerns raised that employees who will be partaking in elections are badmouthing the employer. How will it be dealt with and what if the person does not post, but verbally bad-mouths the municipality.

The Municipal Manager responded with the following:

- That the Council workshop minutes of 28 July 2026 will be distributed to all Councillors.
- UIF can be claimed if additional leave is taken after maternity leave.
- Discipline falls within the ambit of the Bargaining Council. If there is evidence of misconduct, the municipality does not have to wait until after the elections to institute actions. Circulars have been distributed to all and letters sent to those interested in partaking in the elections. The evidentiary burden, however, still exists and he who alleges must prove.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) *that notice be taken that the policies were endorsed by both unions, namely SAMWU and IMATU, and the employer and signed off by all relevant parties prior to submission.*
- (b) *that the following policies, after being workshopped, be approved:*
 - (i) *Recruitment and Selection Policy*
 - (ii) *Probation Policy*
 - (iii) *Employment Equity Policy*
 - (iv) *Performance Management Policy*
 - (v) *Leave Policy*
- (c) *that notice be taken that the consultation process was compliant with legislative requirements and conducted in accordance with established municipal procedures.*
- (e) *that information regarding the number of employees employed over the past two (2) years be availed to the Councillors.*

**8.4.2 Witzenberg Municipality Communication Strategy 2026 - 2029
(6/2/4)**

The Witzenberg Municipality Communication Strategy for 2026 - 2029, received from the Manager: Marketing and Communication, is attached as **annexure 8.4.2.**

The Committee for Corporate and Financial Services resolved on 9 June 2026 that the Revised Witzenberg Municipality Communication Strategy 2026 - 2029, provisionally be approved and, after being workshopped, be approved and accepted.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 27 July 2026 to recommend to Council that the Witzenberg Municipality Communication Strategy for 2026 - 2029, after being workshopped, be approved.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

That the Witzenberg Municipality Communication Strategy for 2026 - 2029, after being workshopped, be approved.

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

9.1 Memorandum of demands: Illegal immigrants
(12/1/2/1)

Two memorandums of demands from the Nduli residents and greater Witzenberg community, dated 30 June 2026 and 2 July 2026 respectively, are attached as **annexure 9.1**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) that notice be taken of the Memorandums of demands from the Nduli residents and greater Witzenberg community.*
- (b) that the Memorandums of demands from the Nduli residents and greater Witzenberg community be circulated to all departments for actioning where needed.*
- (c) that a committee be established to include representatives from all towns and that the nominations be submitted by the Chief Whips to the Speaker of Council.*

10. FORMAL AND STATUTORY MATTERS
FORMELE EN STATUTÊRE SAKE

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

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

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

The Speaker requested that all questions be submitted in writing prior to Council meetings in accordance with the standard ruling.

NOTED

12. COUNCIL-in-COMMITTEE / RAAD-in-KOMITEE

These items are dealt with in the confidential minutes.
Hierdie items word in die vertroulike notule hanteer.