

MINUTES OF THE HYBRID COUNCIL MEETING OF WITZENBERG MUNICIPALITY, HELD IN THE TOWN HALL, VOORTREKKER STREET, CERES ON FRIDAY, 29 MAY 2026 AT 10:00

NOTULE VAN DIE HIBRIEDE RAADSVERGADERING VAN MUNISIPALITEIT WITZENBERG, GEHOU OP VRYDAG, 29 MEI 2026 OM 10:00 IN DIE STADSAAL, VOORTREKKERSTRAAT, CERES

PRESENT

Alderlady EM Sidego (DA) (Speaker)
Councillor TE Abrahams (DA) (Executive Mayor)
Councillor JF Nel (ICOSA) (Executive Deputy Mayor) (Virtual attendance)
Alderman K Adams (DA)
Councillor WJ Alexander (PA)
Councillor P Daniels (DA)
Councillor S de Bruin (DA)
Councillor GJ Franse (DA)
Councillor JP Fredericks (VF Plus)
Councillor AL Gili (ANC)
Councillor GG Laban (Witzenberg Aksie)
Councillor JS Mouton (ANC)
Councillor N Nogcinisa (ANC)
Councillor J Rooi (Witzenberg Party)
Alderman HJ Smit (DA)
Alderman D Swart (DA)
Alderman JJ Visagie (Virtual attendance)
Councillor K Yisa (ANC)
Councillor J Zalie (ANC)

Officials

Mr D Nasson (Municipal Manager)
Mr HJ Kritzinger (Director: Finance)
Mr JA Steyn (Director: Technical Services)
Mr M Mpeluza (Director: Corporate Services)
Mr J Kolkota (Deputy Director: Finance)
Ms N Oerson (Chief Internal Audit Executive)
Mr W Mars (Manager: Financial Administration)
Ms R Hendricks (Manager: Communication and Marketing)
Mr H Taljaard (Manager: Town Planning and Building Control)
Ms M Arendse-Smith (Acting Manager: Administration)
Ms J du Toit (Intern: Administration)

1. OPENING AND WELCOME / OPENING EN VERWELKOMING

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

Die Speaker heet almal teenwoordig welkom en versoek raadslid J Fredericks om die vergadering met gebed te open.

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

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)

Written applications for leave of absence from the meeting were received from Councillors M Ndaba, N Phatsoane and K Robyn.

RESOLVED

that the written applications for leave of absence from the meeting, received from Councillors M Ndaba, N Phatsoane and K Robyn, be approved and accepted.

BESLUIT

dat die skriftelike aansoeke om verlof tot afwesigheid, ontvang vanaf raadslede M Ndaba, N Phatsoane en K Robyn, goedgekeur en aanvaar word.

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

No conflict of interest was declared.
Geen botsing van belange was verklaar.

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

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

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

Alderman D Swart, on behalf of Council, conveyed congratulations to the following Councillors and spouses on their birthdays:

❖	Councillor N Nogcinisa	6 April
❖	Councillor P Daniels	8 April
❖	Councillor W Alexander	12 April
❖	Mrs S Rooi	2 May
❖	Councillor N Phatsoane	2 June
❖	Councillor J Rooi	3 June
❖	Alderman K Adams	5 June
❖	Mr J Robyn	17 June
❖	Mrs E Smit	29 June
❖	Mrs M Abrahams	30 June

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

The Speaker conveyed the following:

- Gratitude was expressed to all Councillors and municipal administration for their contribution and efforts to survive the severe storm. It will indeed take time to fully recover from the devastation of the storm, but Witzenberg will survive and be able to function until then.
- A moment of silence was requested for the truck driver and the 83-year old gentleman who lost their lives during the storm as well as others who lost their lives during this period.

Councillor W Alexander conveyed a special word of thanks to the Municipal Manager, Mr D Nasson, for all his efforts and time given during the devastating storm.

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 the families who have lost loved ones, especially those who have lost their lives during the storm.

- Appreciation is expressed to the Councillors, Cape Winelands District Municipality, South African Police Services (SAPS), rescue teams and volunteers for their various roles played during the disaster.
- The electricity is not fully restored in Ceres, but communications have been restored.
- Thank you to those who assist on the roads, and critically more so with accessing Michells Pass.
- Mop up operations continue whilst the municipality continues to support the families who lost their homes during the floods. Assistance is, however, required as the municipality does not have the required funding to attend to all the devastation.
- The Executive Mayor requested that the Municipal Manager arrange a guided tour for the Councillors through all areas in Witzenberg that sustained damage during the storm. Furthermore, that communications in this regard be sent to all the Councillors who are interested in seeing the devastation first hand.
- Well wishes were extended to Councillors K Robyn and N Phatsoane as well as to the wife of Councillor J Fredericks, who are experiencing health challenges at this time and that care packages with well wishes for a speedy recovery be provided to them.

NOTED

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

The Municipal Manager informed the meeting that quotations for the T-shirts intended for Councilors were obtained and will be finalised during the month of June 2026.

NOTED

4. MINUTES / NOTULES

4.1 Corrections to the minutes / Regstelling van notule
(3/1/2/3)

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

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

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

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

The minutes of the Council meeting, held on 31 March 2026 are attached as **annexure 4.3**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the minutes of the Council meeting, held on 31 March 2026, be approved and signed by the Speaker.

EENPARIG AANBEVEEL

dat die notule van die Raadsvergadering, gehou op 31 Maart 2026, goedgekeur en deur die Speaker onderteken word.

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

Number	File ref.	Item no. and date	Subject	Resolution	Responsibility	Target date
4.4.1	17/7/2/2	11.1 of 25-02-2026	Fire at Skoonvlei, Ceres	Feedback will be provided at the next meeting.		
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 for further amendments after promulgation of the amended Structures Act.		

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that notice be taken of the outstanding matters.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat kennis geneem word van die uitstaande sake.

Executive Deputy Mayor, Councillor JF Nel, and Alderman JJ Visagie joined the meeting virtually at 10:25.

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

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

6. INTERVIEWS WITH DELEGATIONS
ONDERHOUDE MET AFVAARDIGINGS

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

7. DELEGATED POWERS / GEDELEGEERDE BEVOEGDHEDE

None / Geen

NOTED / AANGETEKEN

8. RESERVED POWERS / GERESERVEERDE BEVOEGDHEDE

8.1 Directorate Finance / Direktoraat Finansies

8.1.1 Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Reports of Directorate Finance: March and April 2026

Artikel 71 Maandelikse Begrotingsverslae van Direktoraat Finansies: Maart en April 2026 (9/1/2/2)

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

- (a) March 2026 **Annexure 8.1.1(a)**
- (b) April 2026 **Annexure 8.1.1(b)**

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that notice be taken of the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Reports of the Directorate Finance for March and April 2026.
- (b) that the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Reports of the Directorate Finance for March and April 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 March and April 2026.*
- (b) that the Section 71 Monthly Budget Statement Reports of the Directorate Finance for March and April 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: Rebates granted during 2024/2025 financial year (5/12/1/7)

A memorandum from the Director: Finance, dated 16 April 2026, is attached as **annexure 8.1.2**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council that notice be taken of the list of exemptions, rebates and reductions granted by the municipality during the 2024/2025 financial year.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the list of exemptions, rebates and reductions granted by the municipality during the 2024/2025 financial year be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die lys van vrystellings, afslag en verminderings wat deur die munisipaliteit gedurende die 2024/2025 finansiële jaar toegestaan is, oorstaan tot die volgende Raadsvergadering.

8.1.3 Quarterly Budget Statement Report [Section 52(d)]: 3rd Quarter 2025/2026 (9/1/2/2)

The Quarterly Budget Statement Report [Section 52(d)] for the 3rd Quarter of 2025/2026 is attached as **annexure 8.1.3**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that notice be taken of the Quarterly Budget Statement Report [Section 52(d)] for the 3rd Quarter of 2025/2026.
- (b) that the Quarterly Budget Statement Report [Section 52(d)] for the 3rd Quarter of 2025/2026 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 Quarterly Budget Statement Report [Section 52(d)] for the 3rd Quarter of 2025/2026.*
- (b) *that the Quarterly Budget Statement Report [Section 52(d)] for the 3rd Quarter of 2025/2026 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.*

**8.1.4 Finance: Budget 2026/2027 and Reviewed IDP 2026/2027
(5/1/1/25 & 2/2/1)**

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Memorandum from Director: Finance, dated 21 May 2026: **Annexure 8.1.4(a).**
- (b) Budget: 2026/2027 – 2028/2029: **Annexure 8.1.4(b).**
- (c) Budget Related Policies: 2026/2027: **Annexure 8.1.4(c).**
- (d) Reviewed IDP 2026/2027: **Annexure 8.1.4(d).**
- (e) Memorandum to Council regarding amendment of IDP 2022 – 2027: **Annexure 8.1.4(e).**

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that the annual budget of Witzenberg Municipality for the financial year 2026/2027; and indicative for the two projected years 2027/2028 and 2028/2029, as set out in the schedules contained in Section 4, be approved:
 - (i) Table A2: Budgeted Financial Performance (expenditure by standard classification).
 - (ii) Table A3: Budgeted Financial Performance (expenditure by municipal vote).
 - (iii) Table A4: Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue by source).
 - (iv) Table A5: Budgeted Capital Expenditure for both multi-year and single year by vote, standard classification and funding.
 - (v) That the capital budget be amended by transferring funds to include the following projects:
 - Renovations to building
 - Toilets for informal settlements
- (b) Property rates reflected in annexure (b) and any other municipal tax reflected in annexure (b) are imposed for the budget year 2026/2027.
- (c) Tariffs and charges reflected in annexure (b) are approved for the budget year 2026/2027.

- (d) that the Electricity Tariffs, as approved by NERSA, will be implemented by 1 July 2026.
- (e) The measurable performance objectives for revenue from each source reflected in Table A4 - Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue and expenditure) are approved for the budget year 2026/2027.
- (f) The measurable performance objectives for each vote reflected in SA8 are approved for the budget year 2026/2027.
- (g) that the new amended budget related policies be approved with implementation as from 1 July 2026:
 - (i) Tariff Policy
 - (ii) Property Rates Policy
 - (iii) Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy.
 - (iv) Cash Management and Investment Policy
 - (v) Consumer Payment Incentive Policy.
 - (vi) Municipal Supply Chain Management Policy
 - (vii) Petty Cash Policy
 - (viii) Indigent Policy
 - (ix) Budget Policy
 - (x) Budget Virement Policy
 - (xi) Asset Management Policy
 - (xii) Funding and Reserves Policy
 - (xiii) Cellular Telephone and Data Card Policy
 - (xiv) Borrowing Policy
 - (xv) Long Term Financial Plan Policy
 - (xvi) Transport, Travel and Subsistence Allowance
 - (xvii) Post-Employment Medical Aid Contributions
 - (xviii) Infrastructure Investment Policy
 - (xix) Cost Containment Policy
- (h) that cognisance be taken of the budget circulars and tariff tool issued by National Treasury and Provincial Treasury.
- (i) that notice be taken of the SIME/LG MTEC Integrated Planning and Budgeting Assessment and the responses by the municipality.
- (j) that the reviewed 2022 - 2027 Integrated Development Plan for implementation over the 2026/2027 financial year be adopted with the amended Municipal Spatial Development Framework as a core component on the following conditions:
 - (i) Proposed amendments to the 2022 - 2027 Integrated Development Plan be tabled for the reasons set out in the Memorandum to Council [annexure (e)] in line with the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act (32 of 2000) (MSA) and Regulation 3 of the Municipal Planning and Performance Management Regulations (MSA Regulations).

- (ii) The proposed amendments to the 2022 - 2027 Integrated Development Plan to be processed in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2000) and its Regulations, including the public participation period of no less than 21 days, including the circulation of the proposed amendments to the Cape Winelands District Municipality.

The Executive Mayor, Councillor TE Abrahams, tabled the finance budget and conveyed the following:

- The 2026/2027 finance budget underwent all necessary processes, as the draft budget was reviewed in a workshop by Council, Public Participation Process was facilitated through IDP meetings, after which the final budget was once again workshopped before being tabled for approval.
- It is noted that categories such as youth; homeless; disabled; elderly; environment; women; children; Agri Workers and foster parents have a great need and that the budget does not have the ability to address the need.
- Additional financial resources are required to implement programs, assist those in need and to create an environment for opportunities.

Councillor AL Gili conveyed the following:

- The Executive Mayor stated in his report that the municipality's collection rate has declined to 88 %, which is below the National Treasury norm of 95 %. It is acknowledged that the improvement of collection rates is needed to ensure financial sustainability, however, this must not come at the expense of the poor and vulnerable.
- The blocking of electricity meters may have enhanced debt recovery, although the municipality needs to consider the financial difficulties experienced by its residents. Furthermore, raising fees and tariffs during a time of elevated unemployment and increasing living expenses imposes an unfair strain on households that are already facing challenges.
- The Executive Mayor mentioned in his report that tariffs should remain within the financial reach of the community. However, this budget suggests increases that a significant number of residents cannot afford.
- The opposition remains concerned about whether strict credit control measures are improving collections. It was requested that the Directorate Finance provide a report on the impact of electricity meter blocking, including its effect on collection rates and vulnerable households.
- The opposition is further concerned that households earning slightly above R5 000 per month may soon lose access to indigent support due to increases in the national minimum wage, despite still facing severe financial hardship. This demonstrates that the municipality's support measures are not aligned with the economic realities experienced by residents.
- This budget, in its current form, does not adequately protect the interests of poor and working-class communities.

Councillor AL Gili proposed and Councillor J Mouton seconded that the Annual Budget of Witzenberg Municipality for the financial year 2026/2027 and indicative for the two projected years 2027/2028 and 2028/2029 not be approved in its current form.

The Executive Mayor, Councillor T Abrahams, proposed and Alderman K Adams seconded that the recommendations from (a) to (j)(ii) in the agenda be approved.

The Speaker called for a vote on the matter and the outcomes were as follows:

• Proposal: In favour of recommendation:	10
• Counter proposal: Not approve Finance Budget 2026/2027:	5
• Virtual votes:	1
• Votes abstained:	1
• Absentees:	<u>5</u>
TOTAL	<u>22</u>

RESOLVED

- (a) *that the annual budget of Witzenberg Municipality for the financial year 2026/2027; and indicative for the two projected years 2027/2028 and 2028/2029, as set out in the schedules contained in Section 4, be approved:*
- (i) *Table A2: Budgeted Financial Performance (expenditure by standard classification).*
- (ii) *Table A3: Budgeted Financial Performance (expenditure by municipal vote).*
- (iii) *Table A4: Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue by source).*
- (iv) *Table A5: Budgeted Capital Expenditure for both multi-year and single year by vote, standard classification and funding.*
- (v) *That the capital budget be amended by transferring funds to include the following projects:*
- *Renovations to building*
 - *Toilets for informal settlements*
- (b) *Property rates reflected in annexure (b) and any other municipal tax reflected in annexure (b) are imposed for the budget year 2026/2027.*
- (c) *Tariffs and charges reflected in annexure (b) are approved for the budget year 2026/2027.*

- (d) *that the Electricity Tariffs, as approved by NERSA, will be implemented by 1 July 2026.*
- (e) *The measurable performance objectives for revenue from each source reflected in Table A4 - Budgeted Financial Performance (revenue and expenditure) are approved for the budget year 2026/2027.*
- (f) *The measurable performance objectives for each vote reflected in SA8 are approved for the budget year 2026/2027.*
- (g) *that the new amended budget related policies be approved with implementation as from 1 July 2026:*
 - (i) *Tariff Policy*
 - (ii) *Property Rates Policy*
 - (iii) *Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy.*
 - (iv) *Cash Management and Investment Policy*
 - (v) *Consumer Payment Incentive Policy.*
 - (vi) *Municipal Supply Chain Management Policy*
 - (vii) *Petty Cash Policy*
 - (viii) *Indigent Policy*
 - (ix) *Budget Policy*
 - (x) *Budget Virement Policy*
 - (xi) *Asset Management Policy*
 - (xii) *Funding and Reserves Policy*
 - (xiii) *Cellular Telephone and Data Card Policy*
 - (xiv) *Borrowing Policy*
 - (xv) *Long Term Financial Plan Policy*
 - (xvi) *Transport, Travel and Subsistence Allowance*
 - (xvii) *Post-Employment Medical Aid Contributions*
 - (xviii) *Infrastructure Investment Policy*
 - (xix) *Cost Containment Policy*
- (h) *that cognisance be taken of the budget circulars and tariff tool issued by National Treasury and Provincial Treasury.*
- (i) *that notice be taken of the SIME/LG MTEC Integrated Planning and Budgeting Assessment and the responses by the municipality.*
- (j) *that the reviewed 2022 - 2027 Integrated Development Plan for implementation over the 2026/2027 financial year be adopted with the amended Municipal Spatial Development Framework as a core component on the following conditions:*
 - (i) *Proposed amendments to the 2022 - 2027 Integrated Development Plan be tabled for the reasons set out in the Memorandum to Council [annexure (e)] in line with the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act (32 of 2000) (MSA) and Regulation 3 of the Municipal Planning and Performance Management Regulations (MSA Regulations).*

- (ii) *The proposed amendments to the 2022 - 2027 Integrated Development Plan to be processed in accordance with the requirements of the Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2000) and its Regulations, including the public participation period of no less than 21 days, including the circulation of the proposed amendments to the Cape Winelands District Municipality.*

8.1.5 Finance: Writing off of interest and arrear monies: Household debt and other irrecoverable outstanding amounts (5/12/1/3)

Memorandum from Director: Finance, dated 21 May 2026:

"Purpose

The purpose of this report is for Council to consider the writing off of indigent households' debt and other irrecoverable arrear debt.

Legislature framework

In terms of Section 96 of the Municipal Systems Act (Act 32 of 2000), Council must collect all money that is due and payable to it. Subject to the provisions of the Municipal Systems Act. It also allows the municipality to compile and adopt a policy to give effect to this power to collect.

The Council adopted a credit Control and Debt Collection Policy on 28 May 2009, item 8.1.2(c). Amendments to this policy were approved at subsequent Council meetings.

The relevant portion is:

- 26.11 Whenever all the legal avenues and procedures listed above have been exhausted, or it becomes uneconomical to proceed further, the arrear amounts should be classified as irrecoverable and should be written off.
- 26.12 The Chief Financial Officer may forward a report to Council for the writing off of consumer debt, if such debts may be irrecoverable.
- 26.13 The Executive Committee, in terms of its delegated authority, may authorise the writing off of the debts whereinafter a report will be forwarded to full Council for ratification.
- 26.14 The Chief Financial Officer shall, as soon as possible after 30 June each year, or more regularly if requested by Council to do so, present to the Council a report indicating the amount of the arrears that have been written off during the financial year, together with the reasons for the write-off.

26.15 The Chief Financial Officer may write off debts if he is satisfied that:

- All reasonable steps have been taken to recover the debt, and the debt is considered to be irrecoverable, or
- He/she is convinced that recovery of the debt would be uneconomical.

26.16 Any debtors whose amounts are written off may be listed with the Credit Bureau and may not be permitted to enter future service contracts with the Council.'

The Accounting Officer of a municipality must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the municipality has effective revenue collection systems in terms of Section 64 of the Municipal Finance Management Act (Act 56 of 2003).

Section 118(1) of the Municipal Systems Act regulates the issuing of clearance certificates for the transfer of property and is quoted below:

'18. Restraint on transfer of property -

- (1) A registrar of Deeds may not register the transfer of property except on production to that registrar of Deeds of a prescribed certificate -
 - (a) issued by the municipality or municipalities in which that property is situated; and
 - (b) which certifies that all amounts that became due in connection with that property for municipal service fees, surcharges on fees, property rates and other municipal taxes, levies and duties during the two years preceding the date of application for the certificate have been fully paid.
- (1A) A prescribed certificate issued by a municipality in terms of subsection (1) is valid for a period of 60 days from the date it has been issued.'

Discussion

1. The total outstanding debt in respect of indigent households is R63 267 745.84. This amount includes the debt of the indigent households as per the ESKOM list.
2. The debt of indigent households awaiting approval (703 households) is R5 309 555.40.
3. An analysis was done during May 2026 on the outstanding debt, and it was found that debt to the value of R96 288 403.65 has prescribed and is irrecoverable. Debt becomes prescribed if no movement (no payments received) took place for a period of three years.

4. Clearance certificates were issued in terms of Section 118(1) of the Municipal Systems Act. The debt older than 2 years that was not recovered, amounts to R233,510.36.
5. The Chief Financial Officer is convinced that the recovery of the debt would be uneconomical as stated in 26.15 of the Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy.

Financial implications

The current provision of bad debt, excluding traffic fines, is R326 310 699,00 at the end of June 2025. The provision has already been created prior to this financial year."

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that the indigent debt to the value of R63 267 745.84 plus the debits raised till date of write-off be written off.
- (b) that the debt of households waiting on indigent approval to the value of R5 309 555.40 plus the debits raised till date of write-off be written off.
- (c) that prescribed debt to the value of R96 288 403.65 be written off.
- (d) that the credit electricity meters of indigent households be replaced with prepaid meters.
- (e) that the municipality's Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy be implemented in respect of all debt incurred after the write-off even if the household is indigent.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) that the indigent debt to the value of R63 267 745.84 plus the debits raised till date of write-off be written off.*
- (b) that the debt of households waiting on indigent approval to the value of R5 309 555.40 plus the debits raised till date of write-off be written off.*
- (c) that prescribed debt to the value of R96 288 403.65 be written off.*
- (d) that the credit electricity meters of indigent households be replaced with prepaid meters.*
- (e) that the municipality's Credit Control and Debt Collection Policy be implemented in respect of all debt incurred after the write-off even if the household is indigent.*

**8.1.6 Finance: Unauthorised expenditure: Financial year 2021/2022
(9/1/2/2)**

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Memorandum from Director: Finance, dated 19 March 2026:
Annexure 8.1.6(a).
- (b) Email messages from Director: Finance to Provincial Treasury:
Annexure 8.1.6(b).

Council unanimously resolved on 31 March 2026 that the matter be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting in order to engage with National and Provincial Treasury for their availability at the Ad hoc Committee meeting.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) *that notice be taken of the updated report relating to unauthorised expenditure.*
- (b) *that notice be taken that the budget for the 2021/2022 financial year was not exceeded and hence there should not have been unauthorised expenditure.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

- (a) *dat kennis geneem word van die opgedateerde verslag rakende ongemagtigde besteding.*
- (b) *dat kennis geneem word dat die begroting vir die finansiële jaar 2021/2022 nie oorskry is nie en dus moes daar nie ongemagtigde uitgawes gewees het nie.*

**8.1.7 Report of Performance, Risk and Audit Committee: Quarter 3 of
2025/2026 financial year
(5/14/4)**

The report of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee for the third quarter of 2025/2026 is attached as **annexure 8.1.7**.

The Performance, Risk and Audit Committee resolved on 24 April 2026 to recommend to Council that the report of PRAC for the third quarter of 2025/2026, after consideration, be accepted.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the report of the Performance, Risk and Audit Committee for the third quarter of 2025/2026, after consideration, be accepted.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die verslag van die Prestasie-, Risiko- en Ouditskomitee vir die derde kwartaal van 2025/2026, na oorweging, aanvaar word.

8.2 Directorate Technical Services / Direktooraat Tegniese Dienste

8.2.1 Resubmission: Lease and operation of Material Recovery Facility (MRF): Erf 364/82, Ceres (17/3/2)

A report from the Chief Financial Officer, dated 23 March 2026, is attached as **annexure 8.2.1**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 March 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that the Council resolution of 31 March 2025 be rescinded.
- (b) that the municipality continues to operate the Material Recovery Facility.

Council resolved on 31 March 2026 that the matter be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting.

Councillor GG Laban inquired if the facility is currently being operated by the municipality.

Municipal Manager informed the meeting that the facility is managed by the municipality. Furthermore, grant funding from Essen and MIC funding has been received for the facility with EPWP workers that is employed to work on the site.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) that the Council resolution of 31 March 2025 be rescinded.*
- (b) that the municipality continues to operate the Material Recovery Facility.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

- (a) dat die raadsbesluit van 31 Maart 2025 herroep word.*
- (b) dat die munisipaliteit voortgaan om die Materiaalherwinningsfasiliteit te bedryf.*

8.2.2 Draft Electricity Supply By-law for Witzenberg Municipality (1/3/1/10)

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Memorandum from Acting Senior Manager: Electro-Technical Services, dated 13 April 2026: **Annexure 8.2.2(a)**.

- (b) Public notice: **Annexure 8.2.2(b)**.
- (c) Draft Electricity Supply By-law: **Annexure 8.2.2(c)**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council that, after consideration, the Draft Electricity Supply By-law for Witzenberg Municipality be approved by Council.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that, after consideration, the Draft Electricity Supply By-law for Witzenberg Municipality be approved by Council.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat, na oorweging, die Konsep Verordening vir Elektrisiteitsvoorsiening vir Munisipaliteit Witzenberg deur die Raad goedgekeur word.

**8.2.3 Final Draft Witzenberg Municipal Spatial Development Framework:
2026 - 2031
(15/4/P)**

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Memorandum from Senior Manager: Town Planning and Building Control, dated 4 May 2026: **Annexure 8.2.3(a)**.
- (b) Public Participation Report: **Annexure 8.2.3(b)**.
- (c) Final Draft Witzenberg Municipal Spatial Development Framework for 2026 until 2031: **Annexure 8.2.3(c)**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that the Witzenberg Municipal Spatial Development Framework (MSDF) be adopted as part of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) in terms of Section 5 of the Witzenberg Municipality: Land Use Planning By-law (2015), read together with Section 34(b) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000).
- (b) that it be noted that all required statutory processes, in accordance with Section 29(1) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000), have been duly complied with.
- (c) that a notice regarding the approval of the Witzenberg MSDF be placed in the Provincial Gazette and media in terms of Section 20(1) of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act 16 of 2013).

- (d) that the approved Witzenberg MSDF as part of the Integrated Development Plan be submitted to the office of the MEC for Local Government in the Western Cape in accordance with Section 32 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000) and Section 14 of the Western Cape Land Use Planning Act, 2014 (Act 3 of 2014).

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) *that the Witzenberg Municipal Spatial Development Framework (MSDF) be adopted as part of the Integrated Development Plan (IDP) in terms of Section 5 of the Witzenberg Municipality: Land Use Planning By-law (2015), read together with Section 34(b) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000).*
- (b) *that it be noted that all required statutory processes, in accordance with Section 29(1) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000), have been duly complied with.*
- (c) *that a notice regarding the approval of the Witzenberg MSDF be placed in the Provincial Gazette and media in terms of Section 20(1) of the Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act, 2013 (Act 16 of 2013).*
- (d) *that the approved Witzenberg MSDF as part of the Integrated Development Plan be submitted to the office of the MEC for Local Government in the Western Cape in accordance with Section 32 of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act, 2000 (Act 32 of 2000) and Section 14 of the Western Cape Land Use Planning Act, 2014 (Act 3 of 2014).*

8.3 Directorate Community Services / Direktooraat Gemeenskapsdienste

8.3.1 Adoption of Ceres River Maintenance Management Plan and Water Use Licence (16/2/1/1/1 & 16/2/4)

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Memorandum from Acting Manager: Environmental Management, dated 24 February 2026: **Annexure 8.3.1(a)**.
- (b) Licence in terms of National Water Act: **Annexure 8.3.1(b)**.
- (c) Information document from Department Environmental Affairs and Development Planning: **Annexure 8.3.1(c)**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council that, after consideration, the River Maintenance Management Plan and Water Use Licence be adopted.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that, after consideration, the River Maintenance Management Plan and Water Use Licence be adopted.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat, na oorweging, die Rivieronderhoudbestuursplan en Watergebruiklisensie aanvaar word.

8.3.2 Revised Witzenberg Municipal Disaster Management Plan 2026 Hersiëne Witzenberg Munisipale Rampbestuursplan 2026 (17/7/2/1)

The following documents are attached:

- (a) Report from the Manager: Fire, Rescue and Disaster Management, dated 16 February 2026: **Annexure 8.3.2(a)**.
- (b) Revised Witzenberg Municipal Disaster Management Plan for 2026: **Annexure 8.3.2(b)**.

The Committee for Community Development resolved on 16 April 2026 to recommend to the Executive Mayoral Committee and Council that the Revised Witzenberg Disaster Risk Management Plan 2026, after consideration, be approved and adopted and included in the revised IDP.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council that the Revised Witzenberg Disaster Risk Management Plan 2026, after consideration, be approved and adopted and included in the revised IDP.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the Revised Witzenberg Disaster Risk Management Plan 2026, after consideration, be approved and adopted and included in the revised IDP.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die Hersiene Witzenberg Ramprisikobestuursplan 2026, na oorweging, goedgekeur en aanvaar word en in die hersiene IDP ingesluit word.

8.3.3 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 8.3.3.**"

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 31 March 2026 that the reviewed Policy on the Expanded Public Works Programme be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the reviewed Policy on the Expanded Public Works Programme, be held in abeyance until the next Council meeting.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die hersiene Beleid oor die Uitgebreide Openbare Werke Program tot die volgende Raadsvergadering oorstaan.

8.4 Directorate Corporate Services / Direktoraat Korporatiewe Dienste

8.4.1 Availing land for tented church services on ad hoc basis (17/7/4/3/3)

A memorandum from the Senior Manager: Legal Services, dated 20 May 2026, is attached as **annexure 8.4.1**.

The Executive Mayoral Committee resolved on 26 May 2026 to recommend to Council:

- (a) that Council approves the land identified for tented church services.
- (b) that the Directorate Technical Services be mandated to assess the cost of servicing the plots after which a further report will be tabled to Council.

Councillor A Gili enquired whether the availing of land for tented church services is meant for the entire Witzenberg or only certain areas, whereafter the Municipal Manager informed that an item will be tabled to Council in terms of Vredebes.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

- (a) that Council approves the land identified for tented church services.*
- (b) that the Directorate Technical Services be mandated to assess the cost of servicing the plots, after which a further report will be tabled to Council.*

EENPARIG BESLUIT

- (a) dat die Raad die grond wat vir tentkerkdienste geïdentifiseer is, goedkeur.*
- (b) dat die Direktoraat Tegnieuse Dienste gemagtig word om die koste van die diens van die erwe te bepaal, waarna 'n verslag aan die Raad voorgelê sal word.*

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

9.1 Report on flood damage: May 2026 (17/7/3/2)

A report from the Director: Technical Services with annexures is attached as **annexure 9.1**.

The Municipal Manager noted that the report on the flood damage has been rectified after there were duplications in the document, therefore the total value of damages sustained during the floods amounts to R488 million.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that notice be taken of the report on flood damage during May 2026.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat kennis geneem word van die verslag oor vloedskade gedurende Mei 2026.

**9.2 ZWASA project: Zero Organic Waste to Landfill Project
(17/3/2)**

A memorandum from the Senior Manager: Solid Waste and Cleansing Services, dated 26 May 2026, is attached as **annexure 9.2**.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

that the agreement between ZWASA and Witzenberg Municipality and the Zero Organic Waste to Landfill Project be approved.

EENPARIG BESLUIT

dat die ooreenkoms tussen ZWASA en Munisipaliteit Witzenberg en die Zero Organiese Afval na Vulliswerf Projek, goedgekeur word.

The Speaker pronounced a break from 11:30 until 11:47.

**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 informed the meeting that Councillor I Swartz has ceased to be a Councillor in the Witzenberg Council.

Councillors raised the following concerns:

- Gratitude was extended to the Executive Mayor, the Municipal Manager and municipal workers for their hard work during the disaster.
- Appreciation was expressed to Councillor J Zalie and Mr Chris Loubser for their flood relief contributions in and around Wolseley during and after the disastrous storm.
- Spaza shops overcharging on essential products like paraffin, candles and bread.
- Residents have expressed concerns regarding the varying prices charged by taxi associations at the Prince Alfred's Hamlet taxi rank and that it could lead to community unrest.
- Municipal employees working in the streets, but visibly failing to perform their duties as they should and resulting in overtime.
- The performance and discipline of Traffic and Law Enforcement officers in the execution of their duties in public is alarming and request that the Director: Corporate Services intervene and investigate whether they are fulfilling their responsibilities adequately and appropriately.
- The equipment at the municipal depot in Prince Alfred's Hamlet does not meet the required standards or it does not exist. It is requested that provision be made for a tractor with a wagon.
- An update is requested on the speed limit of the R303 road.
- Feedback is required regarding the speedbumps in certain roads.
- Whether the Manager: Fire, Rescue and Disaster Management was not supposed to be on duty on Monday, 11 May 2026 as she was not in the area on the day of the crisis.

The Municipal Manager responded with the following:

- That the matters of the taxi's will be brought under the attention of the Registrar and the Provincial Authority.
- A meeting will be arranged in terms of the Spaza shop concerns, where all relevant stakeholders will be invited and the Councillors informed.
- No update received regarding the R303 as the focus was on the storm of late, but will attempt to secure a meeting in the next week.

NOTED

12. COUNCIL-in-COMMITTEE

This item is dealt with in the confidential minutes.