

MINUTES OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
ON **WEDNESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2007** AT 10h00

PRESENT : Councillors K Chetty (Chairperson), N Ahmed, P Bhengu, VP Jaca, KV Khambule, DI Lushozi, DH Ngubane, I Ngubane, K Olivier, RB Singh and BC Sokhela.

ABSENT : Councillors RP Ashe and H Zondi

ALSO PRESENT : Councillors M Chetty, J Lawrence and S Steele and Mr Andrew Layman (Representative from Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Business)

OFFICIALS PRESENT : Messrs R Haswell JP (Acting Municipal Manager), W Cooper (Municipal Manager's Representative), P Mashoko (Strategic Executive Manager: Infrastructure, Services and Facilities), D Gengan (Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth), S Zimu (Process Manager: Investment Attraction Retention and Expansion), I Ballim (Town Planner) and Dr J Dyer (Acting Manager: Municipal Enterprises) and Mrs M Rowland (Assistant Committee Officer).

1. ONSITE INSPECTION : FREEDOM SQUARE TAXI RANK

An on-site inspection was carried out at the Freedom Square Taxi Rank from 10h00 to 11h00.

The Project Manager of the Freedom Square Taxi Rank distributed notes and briefed Committee on the history and background, Administrator Avenue Transportation Hub, overall plan for Freedom Square, the current status of development, activity programme and other proposed ideas. One of the main aims being the future sustainability of the taxi rank. The final development stage of the Freedom Square Taxi Rank is the greening of the Square which is to be done in December 2007.

Committee expressed particular interest in the facts such as the use of local manufacturers and suppliers, the resolving of traffic congestion, areas for the washing of taxis, the number of traders to be accommodated as well as priority placing and categorising of the traders, management of the area and the security component of the Freedom Square Taxi Rank.

On leaving the site committee expressed their gratitude to the Project Manager and his team.

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Committee adjourned for tea at 11h00 and reconvened at 11h20
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2. WELCOME AND APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE

(Item 1 of the agenda)

The Chairperson welcomed all present, including I Ballim (Town Planner) and A Layman (Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Business), to the meeting.

Verbal applications for leave from the current meeting were received on behalf of Councillors Ashe and Zondi (Speaker of the District).
Councillor H Ngubane indicated that due to car troubles he may be required to leave the meeting early.

It was

RESOLVED

That Councillors Ashe and Zondi be granted leave from the current meeting of the Economic Development and Growth Committee.

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Economic Development and Growth Committee meeting held on 8 November 2006.

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Committee noted that Councillor Ahmed had been granted official leave from the meeting held on 8 November 2006.

It was

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Economic Development and Growth Committee meeting held on 8 November 2006 be confirmed.

4. **FORESTRY UNDERTAKING (9.4.2.1)**

(Raised verbally)

Committee noted that Natal Co-operative Timbers (NCT) had failed to abide by their commitment to beautify areas where harvesting was taking place.

It was

RESOLVED

That Acting Manager: Municipal Enterprises communicates with Natal Co-operative Timbers (NCT) regarding their commitment to beautify areas where harvesting was taking place.

5. **CITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS (CIDS) (24.1.1)**

Report by Strategic Executive Manager: Corporate Strategic Planning dated 11 December 2006.

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Mr Layman from the Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Business (PCB) congratulated the Msunduzi Municipality on the Freedom Square Taxi Rank development.

The Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth, the Town Planner and Mr Layman referred to the abovementioned report and briefed committee on the history, financial aspect, the legal framework and current state of the City Improvement Districts (CIDS).

The impact of National and Provincial buildings on the payment of levies and the rates rebates, and queries regarding the apparent contradictions in relation to the rates rebates, were raised by Committee.

Committee noted that any services supplied by the CIDS were to be over and above those supplied by the Msunduzi Municipality and were not to negate any responsibility of the Municipality.

The Municipal Manager's Representative advised Committee that it was not to be assumed that PCB would be the service provider for the CIDS and that procedures would need to be followed in the appointment of a service provider.

After much discussion, it was

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO
THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- (a) That the Bid Adjudication Committee be requested to appoint service providers to provide an administrative and project management function to both interim City Improvement District committees, ie the Downtown area along Church Street and the Church Street Mall area in order to give effect to the Municipality's policy framework for the Establishment of City Improvement Districts.
- (b) That the proposal by the Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Business for the Provision of Administration and Project Management Services in respect of two City Improvement Districts be submitted to the Procurement Manager.
- (c) That a moratorium be placed on the amount of R600 000, together with any interest, which has been transferred into the Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Business for use of the City Improvement Districts.
- (d) That, in the event that the Pietermaritzburg Chamber of Business is appointed as the service provider referred to in (a) above, the moratorium on the use of the funds mentioned in (c) above, be lifted.
- (e) That an amount of R100 000 be budgeted for in the 2007/2008 financial year to be paid to the Church Street Mall and Downtown City Improvement Districts (CIDS) equally as a grant in place of the levy; this grant to be paid once both CIDS have been registered and would be reviewed on an annual bases.
- (f) That the uMgungundlovu District Municipality as the overarching Local Authority should be invited as a roleplayer in the City Improvement District's initiative.

It was further

RESOLVED

(a) That the Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth consult with the Strategic Executive Manager: Finance regarding financing of the City Improvement Districts.

(b) That Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth submit an updated report on the Urban Development Zones (UDZ) to the next meeting of Committee.

6. **ATLANTA SISTER CITIES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE :
19-20 OCTOBER 2006 : ATLANTA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (7.1.3.2.2)**

Internal Minute by the Sound Governance and Human Resources Strategic Business Unit dated 16 January 2007.

(Page 8 of the agenda)

The Strategic Executive Manager: Infrastructure, Services and Facilities addressed committee and highlighted certain aspects mentioned in the combined report compiled by himself and the Director: Pietermaritzburg Tourism dated 13 November 2006.

Committee commended the Strategic Executive Manager: Infrastructure, Services and Facilities on the comprehensive report and took note of the contents thereof.

After brief discussion, it was

RESOLVED

That the Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth convenes a workshop, inviting any relevant roleplayers, to consider the report compiled by the Strategic Executive Manager: Infrastructure, Services and Facilities and the Director: Pietermaritzburg Tourism dated 13 November 2006, with a view to determine the direction the city is taking relating to economic development; a report thereafter to be submitted to the Economic Development and Growth Committee.

(Councillor Bhengu left the meeting during discussion on this item (12:21)).

7. **INFORMAL TRADE TASK TEAM**

Presentation by the Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth

(Item 15 of the agenda)

Committee viewed a presentation by the Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth. The presentation covered aspects of Informal Trade such as the history, bylaws, administration, challenges, key interventions and the way forward.

Committee acknowledged that Councillor H Ngubane was the Chairperson of the Informal Trade Task Team and nominated four councillors to complete the membership of councillors on the Task Team.

Committee was in agreement that other interested Councillors, who were not members of the Economic Development and Growth Committee, were able to request membership of the Informal Trade Task Team.

It was

RESOLVED

(a) That the Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth in consultation with the Chairperson of the Informal Trade Task Team convene a workshop within two weeks from the date of the current Economic Development and Growth Committee meeting (meeting held on 21 February 2007); all councillors to be invited to attend the workshop.

(b) That the Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth submits the proposed Terms of Reference, membership of officials, traders and other interested bodies to the Economic Development and Growth Committee in the first instance; to be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration.

It was further

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(a) That Councillors DI Lushozi, I Ngubane, K Olivier and BC Sokhela be appointed as members on the Informal Trade Task Team.

(b) That the Terms of Reference, membership of officials, traders and other interested bodies be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration in due course.

<p>AFTER MEETING NOTE: Notwithstanding that the Economic Development and Growth Committee resolved to appoint Councillor H Ngubane as Chairperson of the Informal Trade Task Team at a meeting held on 8 November 2006; the resolution was not sent to the Executive Committee for ratification.</p>

8. MINUTES OF THE MARKET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting held on 21 August 2006

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NOTED.

9. MINUTES OF THE AIRPORT PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE

Meeting held on 16 August 2006

(Page 52 of the agenda)

NOTED.

10. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN WARD 19 (24.1.1)**

Untitled letter from Ward Councillor VK Khambule dated 21 November 2006.

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It was

**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND
TO THE INVESTMENT FACILITATION TEAM**

That the untitled letter from Ward Councillor VK Khambule concerning economic development in Ward 19 be considered by the Investment Facilitation Team in the first instance.

11. **COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF RENTALS CHARGED AT REGIONAL AIRPORTS
(25.2.3.1.2.1)**

Report by Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth dated 6 December 2006.

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NOTED.

12. **COLONIAL BUILDING (12.2.2)**

Report by the Strategic Executive Manager: Sound Governance and Human Resources dated 31 January 2007.

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It was

RESOLVED

That the Legal Advisor writes a letter to Amafa KwaZulu Natal expressing the Msunduzi Municipality's concern at the current state of the Colonial Building and in the letter urges Amafa to expedite the restoration and renovation of the building, mentioning that Amafa has indicated that the plans for the restoration and renovation have been approved and that work was to commence in the near future, and, further, that the Colonial Building falls within the Church Street Mall City Improvement District identified by the Municipality as part of a collaborative initiative between the private and public sectors, to revitalize the City.

13. **MINUTES OF THE INVESTMENT FACILITATION TEAM**

Meeting held on 8 December 2006

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The Acting Strategic Executive Manager: Economic Development and Growth briefed Committee on certain items of the minutes.

Committee expressed discontent on the latest information of the Qokololo Development. Dissatisfaction was expressed on the delayed notification of the adverse effect the water table and wetland elements were having on the proposed development.

Committee suggested that relevant Ward Councillors be given the opportunity to be present in development meetings regarding their Wards.

Committee expressed the desire for an update on the Campsdrift Waterfront.

NOTED.

(Councillor Jaca left the meeting after the discussion on this item (13:51))

14. **OUTSTANDING MATTERS**

Report by the Sound Governance and Human Resources Strategic Business Unit dated 26 January 2007.

14.1 **INFORMAL TRADING TASK TEAM : ELECTION OF MEMBERS (9.4.2.1)**

It was

RESOLVED

That the item be removed from the report.

14.2 **COLONIAL BUILDING**

It was

RESOLVED

That the item be removed from the report.

14.3 **CITY IMPROVEMENTS DISTRICTS (CIDS) (24.1.R)**

It was

RESOLVED

That the item be removed from the report.

14.4 **TERMS OF REFERENCE : ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND GROWTH**

COMMITTEE (9.4.P)

It was

RESOLVED

That the item remains on the report.

14.5 **CHURCH STREET MALL (24.1.1)**

It was

RESOLVED

That the item remains on the report.

14.6 **ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS (25.2.3.1.1)**

It was

RESOLVED

That the item remains on the report.

14.7 **DRAG RACING (23.3.2)**

It was

RESOLVED

That the item remains on the report.

14.8 **INCORPORATION OF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS INTO EXISTING CONTRACT (25.2.3.1.1)**

It was

RESOLVED

That the item be removed from the report.

15. **MINUTES OF THE INVESTMENT FACILITATION TEAM**

Meeting held on 29 September 2006

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NOTED.

16. **MINUTES OF THE INVESTMENT FACILITATION TEAM**

Meeting held on 13 October 2006.

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NOTED.

17. **MINUTES OF THE INVESTMENT FACILITATION TEAM**

Meeting held on 10 November 2006 : For noting.

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NOTED.

18. **MINUTES OF THE AIRPORT PROJECT STEERING COMMITTEE**

Meeting held on 13 September 2006.

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NOTED.

The meeting terminated at 13:54

CONFIRMED

CHAIRPERSON

PIETERMARITZBURG