

INSIGHTS FROM STRATEGY AND BUDGET REVIEW CURRENTLY UNDERWAY



Cllr Queen O. Kamati Her Worship the Mayor delivering the opening remarks.



Cllr Bernardus Araeb Chairperson of the Management Committee welcoming the participants.

The Strategy and Budget review workshop, lays the groundwork for transparency, accountability, and good governance. It further serves as a compass directing resource allocation towards addressing community needs. The Mayor, Her Worship Cllr. Queen Kamati emphasized the importance of punctuality, constructive dialogue, and collaborative problem-solving, emphasizing financial stewardship and transparency. "We need to allocate resources wisely," stated the Mayor. "The goal is to ensure that every dollar spent brings maximum benefits to the community. We are committed to financial stewardship and transparency and should always ensure that the budget reflects these values."

In light of budgetary concerns, Her Worship, Cllr Queen Kamati reassured Council and Executive Members of efforts to mitigate the impact on service delivery while exploring new revenue generation avenues. She challenged the Council and Executive members to not only identify priorities but also propose funding modalities for implementation, ensuring maximum benefits to the community.

The mayor concluded her remarks with a call to uphold values of Teamwork, Integrity, Customer Focus, Communication, Fairness, and Equity as Windhoek strives towards a Municipal Council all can take pride in, meeting the expectations of its residents.

In order to set the tone for the workshop participants had the privilege of listening to Mr Stanley Similo, Director General of the Namibia Broadcasting Corporation during the session, who was a guest speaker and shared insights from his professional journey and extensive corporate experience as the head of the national broadcaster. Among the key points of reflection, Mr. Similo emphasized the pivotal role of transparency through staff engagement in driving customer satisfaction, highlighting its significance in improving business operations and enhancing stakeholder perceptions. Another key highlight during day one session's proceedings is the presentation by Moses Matyayi, Chief Executive Officer of The City of Windhoek, who presented to the Council and Executive members the organizational and financial performance for the fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24 (quarter one and quarter two). Matyayi highlighted key findings and achievements realized to date by the council and challenges encountered during these periods, offering insights into the operations of our organization.

The Strategy and Budget Review 2024/25 session marks a pivotal moment in shaping the future of Windhoek, ensuring its sustainability and care for generations to come. The sessions will end on Friday, 19 April 2024.

The Municipal Council of Windhoek has embarked on a crucial phase of reflection, deliberation, and planning for its Strategy and the revision of its Estimates of Income and Expenditure (Budget) for the 2024/25 financial year in accordance with Section 83 of the Local Authority Act, Act 23 of 1992 as amended. The Annual Strategy Review presents an opportunity for the Council to assess its past performance, identify gaps, tackle challenges, identify opportunity and outline a realistic trajectory amidst evolving demands on our organisation. By identifying and addressing these issues, the organisation ensures the alignment between our Strategic Plan 2022 – 2027 and resource allocations through annual budgeting, essential for crafting strategies and solutions to optimize the organisational efforts in meeting the organisational objectives.

In the welcoming address, Cllr. Bernardus Araeb, Chairperson of the Management Committee, emphasised the importance of the session which serves as a cornerstone for promoting transparency, accountability, collective decision making, responsible governance, prudent financial management setting delivery standards and ensuring maximum returns for our community. He further underscored the significance of a shared commitment to shaping the future of Windhoek and the responsibility of decisions impacting both the present and future of the city and its community.

Complementing these sentiments, is Cllr. Queen Omagano Kamati, Mayor of Windhoek, who reflected on the notable



Mr. Stanley Similo - Director General of NBC, guest speaker.

achievements and challenges of the previous financial year in her opening remarks. Despite facing resource obstacles, the organization successfully serviced eighty-eight (88) even, constructed eight (8) houses under the Affordable Housing Programme, and built two hundred and fourteen (214) houses under the Informal Settlement Affordable Housing Programme during the last three quarters of 2023/24, amongst other notable achievements.

Looking ahead, Mayor Kamati stressed the imperative for Windhoek to adapt to the changing landscape, including the Fourth Industrial Revolution and global trends towards reporting on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) compliance. The Strategic Plan (2022 – 2027) endeavors for sustainable growth while preserving the city's unique character and environment.

