

NGWATHE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

PUBLICATION OF BY-LAWS FOR PUBLIC NOTICE: STANDING RULES AND ORDERS BY-LAWS

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1. The following Standing Rules and Orders By-Laws for the NGWATHE Local Municipality contained in the Schedule hereto, are hereby in terms of [Section 13\(a\)](#) of the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act No. 32 of 2000 published for public notice.
2. Copies of the By-Laws will also be available for public notice at the libraries and Municipal Offices in Parys, Tumahole, Heilbron, Phiritona, Koppies, Kwakwatsi, Vredefort, Mokwallo, and Edenville during normal office hours. A copy of these By-Laws may also be obtained from the aforementioned offices at a nominal fee.

VANGILE JIM MATSHILA
MUNICIPAL MANAGER

SCHEDULE

CONTENT

[CHAPTER 1](#)

[1. Definitions](#)

[CHAPTER 2](#)

General provisions relating to council and council committee meetings

- [2. Determination of time and venue of meetings](#)
- [3. Determination of time and venue of ordinary council and committee of council meetings](#)
- [4. Determination of time and venue of special council and committee of council meetings](#)
- [5. Meeting by telephone or video conference](#)
- [6. Notice of council and committee meetings](#)
- [7. Councillors must supply municipal manager with an address](#)
- [8. Leave of Absence](#)
- [9. Appeal against refusal of applications for leave of absence](#)
- [10. Removal of a councillor from office for absence from meetings without leave](#)
- [11. Who may attend meetings?](#)
- [12. Attendance register](#)
- [13. Documents to be available at meetings](#)
- [14. General powers and duties of chairpersons](#)
- [15. Failure or refusal to exercise the powers or discharge the duties by chairperson at a meeting or hearing](#)
- [16. Status of chairperson at a meeting](#)
- [17. Presiding at the first council meeting after a general election](#)
- [18. Presiding at council and council committee meetings](#)
- [19. Presiding at council meetings when the position of speaker is vacant](#)
- [20. Conduct of members of the public at council or committee meetings](#)
- [21. Recording of proceedings during meetings](#)
- [22. Conduct of councillors during meetings](#)
- [23. Dress code](#)
- [24. Person speaking to address the chairperson](#)

- [25. Councillor to stand while speaking](#)
- [26. Duration and reading of speeches](#)
- [27. Councillor to speak only once](#)
- [28. Relevance](#)
- [29. Councillor's right to information](#)
- [30. Personal explanation, point of order and clarification](#)
- [31. Right of the municipal manager to have advice recorded in minutes](#)
- [32. Adjournment of meeting in absence of a quorum](#)
- [33. Adjournment of meeting before it completed its business](#)
- [34. Continuation of an adjourned meeting](#)
- [35. Temporary adjournment of meeting](#)
- [36. Agendas and minutes of meetings](#)
- [37. Minutes of meetings and summary of evidence at hearings](#)
- [38. Declaration of personal or pecuniary interest](#)
- [39. Order of business at ordinary council meetings](#)
- [40. Order of business at the first council meeting after a general election of councillors](#)
- [41. Order of business at ordinary executive committee meetings](#)
- [42. Quorum and Decision making](#)
- [43. Voting at council and committee meetings](#)
- [44. When a division is called](#)
- [45. Voting by secret ballot](#)
- [46. Equality of votes](#)
- [47. Closing of Meetings](#)
- [48. Procedure for closing meetings](#)
- [49. Rules governing closed meetings](#)
- [50. Opening a closed meeting](#)
- [51. Supplying information to the media](#)

CHAPTER 3

Deputations, petitions, objections, representations and questions

- [52. Deputations](#)
- [53. Petitions](#)
- [54. Attendance of council meeting by Auditor-General](#)
- [55. Objections and representations](#)
- [56. Questions of which notice had been given](#)
- [57. Questions during meetings](#)

CHAPTER 4

Motions or Proposals

- [58. Motion must be in written form](#)
- [59. Submission and limitation of motions](#)
- [60. Withdrawal and amendment of motions](#)
- [61. Right of introducer of motion to speak and reply](#)
- [62. Motion or proposal regarding the budget](#)
- [63. Motion or proposal regarding legislation](#)
- [64. Eligible proposals](#)
- [65. Amendment of motion or proposal](#)
- [66. Referring the matter back](#)
- [67. Deferring consideration of the matter](#)
- [68. Suspending a debate](#)
- [69. Putting the matter to the vote](#)
- [70. Proceeding to the next business](#)

CHAPTER 5**Councillors' declaration of financial interest, resignation and designation as full time councillors**

- 71. Councillors' declaration of financial interest, resignation and designation as full time councillors
- 72. Disclosure of declared interests
- 73. Resignations of councillors and vacancies in offices
- 74. Designation of full-time councillors
- 75. Report of the municipal manager with regard to full-time councillors
- 76. Applications by full-time councillors to undertake other paid work
- 77. Leave of full-time councillors

CHAPTER 6**Removal of office-bearers from office**

- 78. Removal of speaker
- 79. Removal from office of one or more executive committee members
- 80. Abolishing the executive committee during the term of the council
- 81. Removal of members of section 79-committees

CHAPTER 7**Language policy of the municipality**

- 82. Determination of language policy
- 83. Differentiation between languages for different purposes
- 84. Factors to be taken into account
- 85. Review of language policy

CHAPTER 8**Application of the code of conduct**

- 86. Investigating suspected breaches of the code
- 87. Consideration of the speaker's report by the council
- 88. Implementing the result of the vote
- 89. Investigating the matter further
- 90. Consideration of further report by council
- 91. Effect of appeal on a resolution
- 92. Breaches of these rules and orders and legislation relating to privileges and immunities

CHAPTER 9**Dissolution of the council**

- 93. Conditions for dissolution
- 94. Procedure for considering the dissolution of the council

CHAPTER 10**Committees****Part 1****Section 79-committees**

- 95. Report of the municipal manager before establishment of a committee
- 96. Consideration of the municipal manager's report
- 97. Determining the size of the committee

- [98. Election system and election of members of a committee](#)
- [99. Term of a committee and filling of vacancies](#)
- [100. Quorum and decision-making](#)

Part 2
Executive Committee

- [101. Making the decision to establish an executive committee](#)
- [102. Report of the municipal manager about an executive committee](#)
- [103. Considering the municipal manager's report](#)

Part 3
Advisory committees

- [104. Establishment and disestablishment of advisory committees](#)
- [105. Report of municipal manager about proposed advisory committee](#)
- [106. Consideration of the municipal manager's report](#)
- [107. Term of office of members](#)
- [108. Vacancies](#)
- [109. Quorum and decision-making](#)

Part 4
Ad hoc committee

- [110. Establishment and disestablishment of ad hoc committees](#)
- [111. Terms of reference of ad hoc committees](#)
- [112. Removal from office of members of ad hoc committees](#)

CHAPTER 11
Reports

- [113. Reports of the executive committee](#)
- [114. Delivery of reports of committees](#)
- [115. Submission of committee reports](#)
- [116. Considering a committee report](#)
- [117. Report on inability to comply with reporting requirements or any other duty](#)
- [118. Reporting about performance](#)

CHAPTER 12
Delegated powers

- [119. Reporting on exercise of delegated powers](#)
- [120. Review of decisions under delegated powers](#)
- [121. Review of delegated powers](#)

CHAPTER 13
General provisions relating to Public hearings, public meetings of voters and constituency meetings

- [122. Determination of time and venue of public meetings of voters](#)
- [123. Determination of time and venue of constituency meetings](#)
- [124. Public hearings](#)
- [125. Notice of public meetings of voters, constituency meetings and public hearings](#)
- [126. Repeal of By-Laws](#)
- [127. Date of commencement](#)

CHAPTER 1

DEFINITIONS

1. Definitions

In these rules and orders, unless the context otherwise indicates -

“administration” -

- (a) as an entity means the municipal manager and the other employees of the municipality;
- (b) as a functional activity, includes management and means the tasks that employees perform to enable the council to make and implement policies and bylaws

“agenda” means a list of matters to be considered at a meeting including reports regarding such matters;

“audit report” means any report submitted to the council by or on behalf of the Auditor-General with regard to the auditing of the municipality’s annual financial statements and accounting records;

“chairperson” means the chairperson of a meeting;

“code of conduct” means the code of conduct for councillors in [Schedule 5](#) to the Structures Act;

“collective executive system” in relation to a municipality, means a municipality contemplated in section 2(a) or (b) of the Determination of Types of Municipality Act 2000 (Act No 1 of 2000);

“Constitution” means the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa 1996 (Act No 108 of 1996);

“constituency” means -

- (a) for the purpose of a constituency meeting the residents in a ward in the municipal area;
- (b) for the purpose of a public hearing -
 - (i) a political party that contested a general election for councillors in the municipal area; and
 - (ii) any readily identifiable group of residents in the municipal area whether they are organised or not that share common economic or social interests or conditions;

“constituency meeting” means a meeting of the residents within a ward in the municipal area contemplated in rule 140;

“continuation meeting” means a council or committee meeting in terms of [rule 34](#) that takes place to complete the unfinished business standing over from a meeting that had not been concluded;

“council” means the municipal council of the municipality,

“**councillor**” means an elected or appointed member of the council;

“**departmental head**” means an employee of the municipality appointed by the council as departmental head of a department and includes an employee acting in the stead of such departmental head;

“**executive committee**” means the principal committee of the council that has a collective executive system;

“**Finance Management Act**” means the Municipal Finance Management Act 2000 (Act No 56 of 2003);

“**mayor**” means the chairperson of the executive committee and includes any member of the executive committee elected by the members of that committee to preside at meetings of the executive committee during the temporary absence or incapacity of the mayor;

“**MEC**” means the member of the executive council of the province responsible for local government;

“**motion**” means a written proposal;

“**municipality**” means a municipality to which these rules and orders apply;

“**municipal area**” means the area of jurisdiction of the municipality demarcated in terms of the Local Government: Municipal Demarcation Act 1998 (Act No 27 of 1998);

“**municipal manager**” means the head of the administration and accounting officer of the municipality appointed by the council and includes any employee of the municipality who acts in her or his stead;

“**newspaper**” means a newspaper registered in terms of any law, that is published at least weekly and that circulates within the municipal area and that had been determined by the council as newspaper of record;

“**petition**” means a written statement, proposal or grievance addressed to the municipality or an office-bearer or employee of the municipality and signed by more than five residents within the municipal area or a part thereof;

“**Property Rates Act**” means the Local Government: Municipal Property Rates Act 2004 (Act No 6 of 2004)

“**proposal**” means a draft resolution submitted orally by a councillor during a debate on any matter at a meeting of the council or any structure of such council;

“**public hearing**” means a meeting arranged by the council or the executive committee to solicit the views and opinions of members of the public and specific constituencies on a matter affecting the interests of the residents within the municipal area;

“**public holiday**” means a public holiday contemplated in the Public Holidays Act 1994 (Act No. 36 of 1994);

“**public meeting of voters**” means a meeting of which public notice had been given and which are open for all voters registered in the municipal segment of the national common voters’ roll relating to the municipality;

“**question**” means a question in terms of [rule 56](#) or [57](#) asked during a meeting of the council or any of its structures;

“**quorum**” means the minimum number of councillors and other members, if any, that must be present at a meeting before it may commence or continue with its business;

“**remuneration**” in relation to a councillor, means the salary and allowances determined by the council with the consent of the MEC which is payable to a councillor;

“**section 79 - committee**” means a committee contemplated in [section 79](#) of the Structures Act and includes a committee appointed by the council to assist the executive committee in terms of [section 80](#) of that Act;

“**speaker**” means the councillor elected as speaker of the council and includes any councillor who had been elected by the council as acting speaker during the temporary incapacity or absence of the speaker;

“**sustainable**” in relation to the provision of a municipal service, means the provision of a municipal service in a manner -

- (a) aimed at ensuring that revenues from that service, including budgeted subsidies for the service, are sufficient to cover the cost of -
 - (i) operating the service; and
 - (ii) maintaining, repairing, and replacing the physical assets used in the provision of the service;
- (b) aimed at ensuring a reasonable surplus or, in the case of a service provided by a service provider that is a business enterprise, a reasonable profit;
- (c) aimed at ensuring that the municipality or other service provider generates sufficient capital requirements for the performance of the service;
- (d) that takes account of the current and anticipated future -
 - (i) level and quality of that service;
 - (ii) demand for the service; and
 - (iii) ability and willingness of residents to pay for the service;
- (e) aimed at ensuring that the risk of harm to the environment and to human health and safety is minimised to the extent reasonably possible under the circumstances;
- (f) aimed at ensuring that the potential benefits to the environment and to human health and safety are maximised to the extent reasonably possible under the circumstances; and
- (g) aimed at ensuring that legislation intended to protect the environment and human health and safety is complied with;

“**Structures Act**” means the Local Government: Municipal Structures Act 1998 (Act No 117 of 1998);

“**Systems Act**” means the Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 2000 (Act No 32 of 2000)

CHAPTER 2

MEETINGS OF COUNCIL OR COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

2. Determination of time and venue of meetings

- (1) Meetings of the council or a committee of the council may not be held on a Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday unless exceptional circumstances prevail for doing the contrary in which case the Mayor and Speaker as the case may be shall determine the place, date and time for such special meetings;
- (2) Meetings of the council or a committee of the council or a public hearing must be held at a venue within the municipal area.
- (3) When determining the venue for a meeting or hearing the relevant person or body must take the following factors into account:
 - (a) the availability of room at the designated venue for members of the public and the media who wish to attend the meeting;
 - (b) the accessibility of the designated venue for members of the public and the media; and
 - (c) reasonable steps that can be taken to regulate public access to such venue.

3. Determination of the venue and time of ordinary council and committee of council meetings

- (1) The municipal Manager or, if there is not a municipal manager, a person appointed by the MEC - must determine the date, time and venue of the first meeting of the council after a general elections of councillors for the municipality which meeting must be held within fourteen days after the council had been declared elected
- (2) The speaker or the chairperson of a committee of the council as the case may be,
 - (a) must determine schedule of the dates, times and venue of meetings for a period of twelve months in advance.
 - (b) may at any time change the schedule dates, time or venue of meetings
 - (c) must inform the municipal manager as soon as the schedule has been determined or immediately after changing the schedule.
- (3) The meetings must be held in accordance with the schedules in 2 (a) provided that:
 - (a) the council must hold at least one ordinary meeting every three months; and
 - (b) not more than one ordinary council meeting may take place during any month.
 - (c) the executive committee must hold at least one ordinary meeting during any month;

- (d) no committee meeting may take place during an ordinary or special council meeting except with the express approval of the council; and
- (e) no section 80 committee meeting may take place during an executive committee meeting.

4. Determination of the venue and time of special council and committee of council meetings

- (1) The speaker or the chairperson of a committee of the council as the case may be, may at any time convene a special meeting on a date, time and venue determined by him or her.
- (2) The speaker or the chairperson of a committee of the council as the case may be, must, if a majority of councillors or a majority of the members of the committee who are councillors or as the case may be, requests him or her in writing to convene a special meeting, convene a special council or committee meeting as the case may be, on a date set out in the request and at a time and venue determined by him or her;
- (3) The speaker or the chairperson of a committee of the council as the case may be, must supply a copy of the request to the municipal manager.
- (4) As soon as the speaker or the chairperson of a committee of the council as the case may be has determined the date, time and venue of a special meeting, he or she must inform the municipal manager thereof.
- (5) A request to call a special meeting must set out the matter to be dealt with at that special meeting. No business other than that specified in the notice convening a special meeting or set out in the request referred to in sub-rule (1) may be dealt with at a special meeting.
- (6) Should the speaker or the chairperson of a committee of the council as the case may be, fail to convene a special council or a special committee of the council meeting in terms of sub-rule (2) the municipal manager must convene the meeting at the date set out in the request and at a time and venue determined by him or her.

5. Meeting by telephone or video conference

- (1) The municipality may hold a council or committee meeting using telecommunications or video conferencing facilities.
- (2) A meeting in terms of sub-rule (1) may only be held if -
 - (a) all the councillors who are required to attend the meeting concerned have access to the required facilities;
 - (b) practicable arrangements can be made for members of the public and the media to follow the proceedings of such a meeting;
 - (c) practicable arrangements can be made for keeping the minutes of the meeting; and the chairperson of the meeting so directs.
- (3) A meeting in terms of sub-rule (1) is subject to these rules and orders, provided that the venue stated in the notice of the meeting must be the places where councillors can access the facilities required for the meeting.

6. Notice of council and committee meetings

- (1) The municipal manager must, unless otherwise provided in these rules, at least five days before the stipulated time, whichever is the earlier, give notice in writing of the date, venue and time for the holding of an ordinary or special meeting or 48 hours notice due to urgency of matters to be discussed -
 - (a) of the council and its committees, including continuation meetings in terms of [rule 34](#), to every councillor, and departmental head;
 - (b) must publish particulars thereof in a newspaper in the manner determined by the council; and
 - (c) must place a copy thereof on the municipal notice board.
- (2) A councillor and departmental head to whom notice had been given in terms of sub-rule (1) is, until such date, venue or time is changed and written notice of such change has been given, required to attend the meeting stipulated in the notice without further notice.
- (3) A notice referred to in sub-rule (1) given to a councillor and a departmental head must contain the agenda for the meeting concerned (except in the case of a continuation meeting in terms of [rule 34](#)). In the case of a special meeting in terms of [rule 4](#), the agenda may contain only the matter that must be dealt with at the meeting.
- (4) A notice given in terms of sub-rule (1) to a councillor and departmental head is deemed read for the purpose of the meeting to which it applies.
- (5) The municipal manager must supply a copy of the schedules referred to in [rule 4\(4\)](#) and 140(2) to every councillor and departmental head.

7. Councillors must supply municipal manager with an address

- (1) Every councillor must, within two days after he or she had been declared elected or appointed, as the case may be, and thereafter as often as is necessary, supply the municipal manager in writing with an address within the municipal area or an electronic mail address to which official communications and notices must be sent.
- (2) The municipal manager may deliver a notice contemplated in [rule 6](#) or 142 to a person that appears to be over the age of sixteen at the address supplied in terms of sub-rule (1).
- (3) Non-receipt of any official communication or notice sent to an address referred to in sub-rule (1) or delivered in terms of sub-rule (2) -
 - (i) does not affect the validity of any meeting or proceedings of the council or its committees and
 - (ii) is not sufficient reason to be absent from the meeting concerned without leave of absence.

8. Leave of Absence

- (1) A councillor who -
 - (a) is unable to attend a meeting or hearing of which notice had been given; or
 - (b) is unable to remain in attendance at a meeting or hearing; or

- (c) will arrive after the stipulated time for a meeting or hearing must, at least twenty four hours before the commencement of the meeting or hearing, lodge with the municipal manager a written application for leave of absence from the whole or any part of the meeting.
- (2) As soon as it is possible for him or her to do so, a councillor who did not apply for leave of absence in terms of sub-rule (1) and who was absent from a meeting or hearing or a part thereof may, after that meeting or hearing lodge with the municipal manager a written application for leave of absence from that meeting or hearing. Such a late application for leave of absence must -
- (a) state the reasons for the late submission of the application; and
 - (b) the reasons for his or her absence from the meeting or hearing.
- (3) The municipal manager must inform the chairperson of the meeting or hearing concerned of any application for leave of absence.
- (4) An application in terms of sub-rule (1) or (2) is considered and granted or refused by -
- (a) the speaker, in the case of a council meeting;
 - (b) the mayor, in the case of an executive committee meeting or
 - (c) the relevant chairperson in the case of any other committee meeting.
- (5) Whenever an application for leave of absence in terms of sub-rule (1) or (2) was refused -
- (a) the relevant functionary must supply the reasons for the refusal; and
 - (b) the municipal manager must immediately after the meeting or hearing in writing inform the councillor concerned accordingly and supply the reasons for the refusal.
- (6) A councillor -
- (a) who fails to apply in terms of sub-rule (1) or (2) and is absent from a meeting or hearing he or she is required to attend; or
 - (b) whose application for leave of absence has been refused and is absent from the meeting or hearing he or she is required to attend; or
 - (c) whose application for leave of absence had been refused and who does not appeal in terms of [rule 9](#); or
 - (d) whose appeal had been turned down; or
 - (e) who did not sign the attendance register contemplated in [rule 12](#) is deemed absent without leave from the meeting or hearing concerned.
- (7) A councillor contemplated in sub-rule (6) must pay to the council a fine equal to 10 percent of that councillor's monthly salary, which fine must be deducted from the first next payment due to the councillor by the municipality unless that councillor had paid the fine in cash before such payment is made. A fine in terms of this sub-rule escalates at

a rate of 5 per cent for every subsequent absence without leave. The municipal manager must inform the councillor concerned in writing of the imposition of such fine.

- (8) The municipal manager must keep a record of all cases in terms of sub-rule (6) and must submit a written report thereon to the speaker at least once during every three month period.

9. Appeal against refusal of applications for leave of absence

- (1) A councillor whose application for leave of absence had been refused in terms of [rule 8](#) (6) may appeal against the refusal. Such an appeal must be -
 - (a) in writing; and
 - (b) lodged with the municipal manager within fourteen days after the date of the decision, provided that the council or the committee who must consider the appeal may condone the late submission of an appeal in exceptional circumstances.
- (2) The council considers an appeal in terms of sub-rule (1) in the case of absence from -
 - (a) a council meeting or public meeting or hearing
 - (b) an executive committee meeting;

In all other cases the executive committee considers the appeal.

- (3) A decision with regard to an appeal in terms of sub-rule (1) is final.

10. Removal of a councillor from office for absence from meetings without leave

- (1) Whenever a report submitted to the speaker in terms of [rule 8](#)(8) identifies a councillor that had been absent from three or more consecutive council meetings or three or more consecutive committee meetings which that councillor was required to attend; the speaker must in writing report the matter to the council at the first ordinary council meeting next ensuing.
- (2) The council must consider the report of the speaker in terms of sub-rule (1) and must give the councillor concerned an opportunity to state his or her case. As soon as a councillor has stated his or her case, he or she must leave the meeting whilst the council considers the matter.
- (3) If, after consideration of the matter, the council is of the opinion that the councillor was absent without a good reason, the council must resolve to remove the councillor from the council. If the council finds that the reason for the absence from any of the meetings was a good reason, the council may issue a formal warning to the councillor and determine the period during which the warning will be valid.
- (4) The councillor ceases to be a councillor on the date that the Council takes a resolution that the Councillor be removed from office.
- (5) The removal of a councillor from office or a warning does not exempt that councillor from paying any fine in terms of [rule 8](#)(7).

11. Who may attend meetings

- (1) Until the council or a committee closes a meeting, a meeting may be attended by members of the public, employees of the council and the media, provided that a public meeting of voters or constituency meeting or a public hearing may not be closed. An employee may only attend a council or committee meeting with the express prior approval of his or her departmental head.
- (2) Every councillor or member of a committee, as the case may be, must, from the time stipulated in the notice convening the meeting, attend every meeting of the council and public meeting of voters and public hearings and remain in attendance at such meeting unless leave of absence had been granted to him or her or he or she must leave a meeting in terms of the code of conduct.
- (3) The speaker and the mayor, as the case may be, may by virtue of their offices, attend and participate in any committee meeting, provided that -
 - (a) the speaker may not vote on any matter at a committee meeting;
 - (b) the mayor may only vote at an executive committee meeting;
- (4) Any councillor who is not a member of a committee may only attend a meeting of a committee with the express prior permission of the chairperson of that committee, which permission may not be unreasonably withheld.
- (5) The speaker or the chairperson of a committee, as the case may be, may invite any person to attend a meeting of the council or that committee, as the case may be.
- (6) The municipal manager and departmental heads of the municipality must attend public meeting of voters, public hearings, council and committee meetings, provided that the chairperson of a committee may after consultation with the municipal manager exempt the municipal manager or any departmental head from attending any meeting of the committee concerned or, if he or she is not exempted, grant leave of absence to him or her from any meeting of that committee.

12. Attendance register

- (1) The municipal manager must supply an appropriate attendance register at every meeting and hearing
- (2) Every councillor who is present at a meeting or hearing must sign the attendance register.
- (3) Any councillor who had been present at a meeting or hearing but who failed to sign the attendance register is deemed absent with out leave from the meeting concerned.

13. Documents to be available at meetings

- (1) The municipal manager must ensure that a copy of the municipal code referred to in [section 19](#) of the Systems Act, is available at every meeting. The municipal code must include -
 - (a) these rules and orders;
 - (b) the Constitution;
 - (c) the Structures Act;

- (d) the Systems Act;
- (e) the Property Rates Act;
- (f) the Municipal Finance Management Act;
- (g) the bylaws of the municipality; and
- (h) such other legislation as the council may determine from time to time.

14. General powers and duties of chairpersons

- (1) The chairperson at a meeting must -
 - (a) ensure that the meeting or hearing at which he or she presides is conducted in accordance with these rules and orders;
 - (b) when requested to do so, interpret these rules and orders;
 - (c) reject any motion, proposal or question which in his or her opinion -
 - (i) may lead to the discussion of a matter already contained in the agenda for that meeting;
 - (ii) advances arguments, expresses opinion or contains unnecessary tactless, incriminating, disparaging or improper suggestions;
 - (iii) may encourage, engender, advocate or aggravate hatred, discrimination, exclusion, restriction, ridicule, contempt or preference based on colour, descent, race, ethnicity, gender or religion so as to cause harm, hostility, degradation, violence or which insults, degrades, defames or encourages abuse of any racial, ethnic, gender or religious group, through the uttering of words, whether in writing or orally, or the performance of deeds;
 - (iv) contains unwelcome suggestions, innuendoes, remarks or hints of a sexual nature, sexual advances, comments with sexual overtones, sex-related jokes or insults or unwelcome graphic comments of another person's body;
 - (v) contains threatening, abusive or insulting language towards an employee which causes that employee harassment, alarm or distress due to any alleged, suspected or proven act, omission or statement by that employee in the exercise of any of his or her rights or the discharge of any of his or her duties so as to harass or cause or advocate unfair treatment of that employee;
 - (vi) does not pertain to the governance, administration or management of, or the conditions in, the municipality;
 - (vii) may be contrary to these rules and orders or any other law, including a bylaw of the municipality, or against the values generally existing in the community;
 - (viii) may have an impracticable result or cause uneconomical, inefficient or ineffective use of resources or will be incapable of execution; or

- (ix) may result in unauthorised expenditure;
 - (d) reject any motion, proposal or question regarding a matter -
 - (i) beyond the municipality's executive or legislative authority unless, on the face of it, the proposal intends to convince the meeting to make representations with regard to that matter to a body or institution which has such authority; or
 - (ii) which a decision of a judicial or quasi-judicial body is being awaited;
 - (e) reject any motion, proposal or question which -
 - (i) is not properly seconded;
 - (ii) on the face of it, may threaten or affect a fundamental right of any person; or
 - (iii) is unclear;
 - (f) reject any proposal that a part of a meeting or a meeting be closed that does not comply with [rule 47\(2\)](#)
 - (g) call the attention of any person at the meeting to -
 - (i) irrelevance, tedious repetition or language unbecoming; or
 - (ii) any breach of order by a councillor or such other person;
 - (h) submit every motion and proposal made and seconded to the vote;
 - (i) declare the result of any vote in terms of paragraph (h); and
 - (j) instruct any member of the public or media and any employee of the council who may be present at a meeting to leave the meeting when the meeting resolved to close any part of its session and not to return to it until the meeting continues in public.
- (2) The chairperson's ruling with regard to a motion, proposal or question is final. When a ruling is made, the chairperson must state the grounds for the ruling.
- (3) The chairperson's interpretation of the rules and orders or a ruling as to procedure is final, provided that -
- (a) if the interpretation or ruling is contested or called into question, the chairperson must, at the first meeting next ensuing, provide a written interpretation or ruling;
 - (b) a councillor may request that the chairperson provide a written interpretation or ruling at the first meeting next ensuing;
 - (c) the council or committee, as the case may be, may upon receipt of such written interpretation or ruling, consider the matter and amend or substitute the interpretation of the chairperson.
- (4) The chairperson may, in performing his or her functions and powers -

- (a) consult with the municipal manager;
 - (b) direct any person who is speaking to discontinue his or her speech or to desist from breaching the order or to discontinue making interjections;
 - (c) direct any person to apologise for or to apologise for and withdraw any allegation, statement or remark if it is unbecoming, unnecessarily tactless, incriminating, disparaging, improper, racist or sexist or inciting violence or injures or impairs the dignity or honour of a councillor or employee of the municipality;
 - (d) direct any person who persist in disregarding the chair or who obstructs the business at a meeting, to retire from the meeting; and
 - (e) instruct any person to leave a meeting if the meeting resolve to close its session or any part of it.
- (5) If a person refuses to retire from a meeting or hearing after having been directed in terms of sub-rule (4)(d) or (e), the chairperson may direct an employee of the municipality present at the meeting to remove that person or cause his or her removal and to take steps to prevent that person from returning to the meeting or hearing.
- (6) The chairperson may change the order of business at the meeting despite any provisions to the contrary herein.

15. Failure or refusal to exercise the powers or discharge the duties by chairperson at a meeting or hearing

- (1) whenever a councillor who attended a meeting or hearing is of the opinion that the chairperson at that meeting failed or refused to exercise any of his or her powers or to discharge any of his or her duties properly, he or she may direct a written allegation against the chairperson concerned to the municipal manager.
- (2) An allegation in terms of sub-rule (1) must quote the relevant rule or convention that had been breached or not fulfilled and must state to what extent it had been breached or not fulfilled.
- (3) The municipal manager must submit the allegation to -the speaker in the case of an allegation against the mayor; the mayor, in the case of an allegation against the chairperson of a section 79-committee; the council in the case of an allegation against the speaker and send a copy thereof to the councillor against whom the allegation had been made.
- (4) The relevant functionary or the council, as the case may be, must determine the time and place of the hearing when the matter will be considered and inform the municipal manager accordingly, provided that in a case referred to in -
 - (a) sub-rule (3)(b), the municipal manager must include the matter in the agenda for the first ordinary executive meeting;
 - (b) sub-rule (3)(c), the municipal manager must include the matter in the agenda for the first ordinary council meeting after receipt of the allegation.
- (5) The municipal manager must inform the councillor who made the allegation and the councillor against whom the allegation had been made of the time and place where the matter will be heard.

- (6) At the hearing the councillor making the allegation and the councillor against whom the allegation had been made must have the opportunity to state his or her case, to call witnesses, to examine any documents submitted and to cross examine any witness.
- (7) After the matter had been heard the speaker, mayor or the council, as the case may be, must make a ruling as to the most probable version of the event and make a finding.
- (8) Should it be found that an allegation against the speaker was true; the council must decide an appropriate penalty. Whenever the speaker finds that an allegation against the mayor was true, he or she must submit his or her finding to the council and recommend an appropriate penalty. Whenever the mayor finds that an allegation against the chairperson of a section 79-committee was true, the mayor must submit his or her finding to the executive committee and recommend an appropriate penalty.
- (9) An appropriate penalty may include a formal warning or reprimand. Whenever a formal warning is issued, the council or the executive committee must determine the period during which the warning is valid.

16. Status of chairperson at a meeting

Whenever the chairperson at a meeting speaks, any person then speaking or offering to speak must sit down, if he or she stood, and all persons in the meeting must remain silent so that the chairperson may be heard without interruption.

17. Presiding at the first council meeting after a general election

The municipal manager, or if there is not a municipal manager, a person appointed by the MEC, presides at the first meeting of a council after a general election of councillors until a speaker is elected.

18. Presiding at council and council committee meetings

- (1) With due regard for the provisions of these rules and orders, the speaker presides at every council meeting, the mayor presides at every Executive committee meeting and in the case of section 79 committees the relevant chairperson presides at every committee meeting where he or she is present.
- (2) Whenever the speaker, the mayor or the chairperson of a committee, as the case may be, is absent from or unable to preside at or during any part of a meeting, the council, the members of the committee must elect from amongst the councillors present at that meeting an acting speaker, mayor or chairperson for the duration of the speaker's, the mayor's or the chairperson's absence or inability.
- (3) The municipal manager presides over the election of an acting speaker, mayor and chairperson as the case may be in terms of sub-rule 2.
- (4) The council may not elect a member of the executive committee as acting speaker.
- (5) The Executive committee may not elect the speaker as presiding member in terms of sub-rule (2).
- (6) The section 79 committee may not elect the speaker or the mayor as chairperson in terms of sub- rule (2).

19. Presiding at council meetings when the position of speaker is vacant

- (1) Whenever the office of speaker becomes vacant, the municipal manager must call a special council meeting for the purpose of electing a speaker on a date and at a time and venue determined by him or her, except if the office of speaker becomes vacant during a council meeting, provided that such special council meeting must take place within fourteen days after the office became vacant.
- (2) The municipal manager presides over the election of a speaker in terms of sub-rule (1).
- (3) The speaker elected at a meeting in terms of sub-rule (1) serves as speaker for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

20. Conduct of members of the public at council or committee meetings

- (1) A member of the public or the media or an employee other than the municipal manager or a Departmental head attending a council or committee meeting may not -
 - (a) address the meeting at any time, unless he or she is a member of a deputation in terms of [rule 52](#);
 - (b) obstruct the business of the meeting;
 - (c) make any interjections;
 - (d) make unwelcome suggestions, innuendoes, remarks or hints of a sexual nature, sexual advances, comments with sexual overtones, sex-related jokes or insults or unwelcome graphic comments of another person's body;
 - (e) encourage, engender, advocate or aggravate hatred, discrimination, exclusion, restriction, ridicule, contempt or preference based on colour, descent, race, ethnicity, gender or religion so as to cause harm, hostility, degradation, violence or which insult, degrade, defame or encourage abuse of any racial, ethnic, gender or religious group, through the uttering of words, whether in writing or orally, or the performance of deeds;
 - (f) use threaten, abusive or insulting language towards an employee or display any writing, sign or other visible presentation which is threatening, abusive or insulting which causes that employee harassment, alarm or distress due to any alleged, suspected or proven act, omission or statement by that employee in the exercise of any of his or her rights or the discharge of any of his or her duties so as to harass or cause or advocate unfair treatment of that employee; or
 - (g) make unwelcome or obscene gestures.
- (2) Whenever a meeting resolves to close its session or a part thereof any member of the public, media and employee must leave the meeting immediately and not return to that meeting until it resumes as a public meeting.
- (3) A member of the public or media attending a council or committee meeting is subject to the authority of the chairperson of the meeting.

21. Recording of proceedings during meetings

Except for the purpose of writing the official minutes of a meeting by an employee, nobody

may, unless the express prior approval of the chairperson of a meeting had been obtained, make any recording, whether audio or visual or both audio and visual, of a meeting or any part thereof.

22. Conduct of councillors during meetings

- (1) The following conduct by a councillor during a meeting is deemed contrary to the provisions of item 2(b) of the code of conduct -
 - (a) to make unnecessary tactless, incriminating, disparaging or improper suggestions or express such opinions;
 - (b) to make unwelcome suggestions, innuendoes, remarks or hints of a sexual nature, sexual advances, comments with sexual overtones, sex-related jokes or insults or unwelcome graphic comments of another person's body;
 - (c) to make unwelcome or obscene gestures;
 - (d) to make or second a proposal that may be contrary to these rules and orders or any other law, including a bylaw of the municipality, or against the values generally existing in the community;
 - (e) to make or second a proposal that may have an impracticable result or cause uneconomical, inefficient or ineffective use of resources;
 - (f) to make or second a proposal that may result in unauthorised expenditure;
 - (g) to make or second a proposal on a matter on which the municipality has no executive or legislative authority unless the intention is to convince the meeting to make representations to an institution that has the required authority;
 - (h) to make or second a proposal that is calculated to or may threaten or affect a fundamental right of any person;
 - (i) to encourage, engender, advocate or aggravate hatred, discrimination, exclusion, restriction, ridicule, contempt or preference based on colour, descent, race, ethnicity, gender or religion to cause harm, hostility, degradation, violence or which insult, degrade, defame or encourage abuse of any racial, ethnic, gender or religious group, through the uttering of words, whether in writing or orally, or the performance of deeds;
 - (j) to incite imminent violence;
 - (k) to compel or attempt to compel employees or councillors by threats to partake in any actions against their will;
 - (l) to breach the order;
 - (m) to disregard the chair;
 - (n) to use threaten, abusive or insulting language towards an employee or display any writing, sign or other visible presentation which is threatening, abusive or insulting which causes that employee harassment, alarm or distress due to any alleged, suspected or proven act, omission or statement by that employee in the exercise of any of his or her rights or the discharge of any of his or her duties so as to harass or

cause or advocate unfair treatment of that employee; or

- (o) to make an allegation, statement or remark that is unbecoming a councillor or injures or impairs the dignity or honour of a councillor or employee of the municipality; or
- (p) to submit a motion or to request the municipal manager or any other employee of the municipality to formulate a motion that-
 - (i) may be contrary to these rules and orders or any other law, including a bylaw of the municipality, or against the values generally existing in the community;
 - (ii) may have an impracticable result or cause uneconomical, inefficient or ineffective use of resources;
 - (iii) may result in unauthorised expenditure;
 - (iv) falls outside the municipality's executive or legislative authority unless the intention is to convince the meeting to make representations to an institution that has the required authority; or
 - (v) is calculated to or may threaten or affect a fundamental right of any person.

23. Dress code

The council may by resolution prescribe a dress code for councillors attending meetings.

24. Person speaking to address the chairperson

A person addressing a meeting or hearing must address the chairperson of that meeting or hearing.

25. Councillor to stand while speaking

- (1) Unless otherwise directed by the chairperson of a meeting or hearing, a councillor addressing a meeting or hearing must stand while speaking.
- (2) If a councillor who is not speaking raises his or her hand while another councillor is speaking on a point of order or to make a proposal and the chairperson addresses such councillor, the councillor who speaks must sit down (if he or she stood) and remain silent until the chairperson has made a ruling on the point of order or the proposal.

26. Duration and reading of speeches

- (1) Unless expressly otherwise determined in these rules and orders, a councillor may not speak longer than ten minutes on any matter.
- (2) Except when a councillor is -
 - (a) delivering the speaker's or mayoral report or
 - (b) presenting the draft budget he or she may not read a speech, but may refresh his or her memory by referring to notes.

27. Councillor to speak only once

- (1) Unless expressly otherwise determined in these rules and orders, a councillor may speak only once on a matter.
- (2) The introducer of a motion or proposal may reply in conclusion of the debate but must confine his or her reply to answering to previous speakers.
- (3) The council may allow the mayor to make an explanatory statement prior to the consideration of any particular matter in the report of the executive committee or during the discussion of such report in reply to a specific question.

28. Relevance

- (1) A councillor who speaks must confine his or her speech strictly to the matter under discussion.
- (2) No discussion may take place -

which will anticipate a matter on the agenda unless the chairperson has granted leave to discuss two or more items at the same time or the municipal manager indicated in the agenda that two or more items should be considered together or on any motion or proposal that had been rejected in terms of [rule 14](#).

29. Councillor's right to information

A councillor has the right to request the municipal manager to supply such information as may be required for the proper performance of his or her duties as a councillor, including the making of a speech at a meeting or hearing. The municipal manager is not obliged to entertain any request for information where-

- (a) the information sought is privileged or confidential as defined in item 10 of the code of conduct;
- (b) in his or her opinion, the information sought constitute an invasion of another person's privacy;
- (c) the request is, in his or her opinion, unreasonable given the timeframe allowed for obtaining the information;
- (d) the information sought is a trade secret or confidential commercial information of a supplier to the municipality or a person seeking to become a supplier to the municipality; or
- (e) the request will, in his or her opinion, cause an extra-ordinary administrative or financial burden on the municipality.

30. Personal explanation, point of order and clarification

- (1) A councillor may, at any time during a meeting, whether or not he or she participated in a debate underway, rise -
 - (a) to a point of order in the event of a departure from these rules and orders or any law; or

- (b) to explain any part of his or her speech that may have been misunderstood; or
 - (c) to request that any part of a speech that he or she may have misunderstood be explained.
- (2) A councillor referred to in sub-rule (1) must be heard forthwith.
- (3) The ruling of the chairperson of the meeting on a point of order or a personal explanation is, subject to [rule 14\(3\)](#), final and may not be discussed.

31. Right of the municipal manager to have advice recorded in the minutes

- (1) The chairperson at a meeting must give the municipal manager an opportunity to address that meeting on any matter before the meeting in order to advise the meeting as to the eligibility of any proposal or motion before the meeting.
- (2) The municipal manager has the right to have his or her advice regarding any motion or proposal which may -
- (i) cause unauthorised expenditure; or
 - (ii) be beyond the authority of the municipality recorded in the minutes of the meeting where the advice was given.

32. Adjournment of meeting in the absence of a quorum

- (1) If there is not a quorum for the meeting present within 15 minutes after the time stipulated in the notice referred to in [rule 6](#), such meeting is not held but a continuation meeting is held in terms of [rule 34](#).
- (2) If at any time during the course of a council or committee meeting it is suspected that there is not a quorum present -
- (i) the chairperson must discontinue the proceedings immediately; and
 - (ii) cause the councillors present to be counted and if the suspicion is proved, the chairperson must instruct the municipal manager to ring the bell for one minute. If there is still no quorum five minutes after the bell had been rung, the chairperson must adjourn the meeting forthwith.
- (3) If the shortfall of councillors contemplated in sub-rule (2) is owing to the withdrawal of one or more councillors in compliance with the code of conduct, the chairperson must arrange that such matter be dealt with at the first meeting next ensuing and the unfinished business is dealt with.
- (4) If a sufficient number of councillors is present after the bell had been rung, the meeting continues, provided that the councillor who was speaking when the proceedings were discontinued, is, in his or her own discretion, entitled to start his or her speech from afresh.
- (5) Any business except a matter referred to in sub-rule (3) which had not been dealt with at a meeting that had been adjourned, must be considered at a continuation meeting contemplated in [rule 34](#), provided that any unfinished business arising from a special meeting, must be considered at the first ordinary meeting next ensuing unless the date of such ordinary meeting is later than the date contemplated in rule 34.

33. Adjournment of a meeting before it completed its business

- (1) A councillor may at any time during a meeting propose that the meeting be adjourned and must state the reasons for the proposal, provided that no councillor may more than twice during the same meeting propose that it be adjourned.
- (2) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) must be seconded by at least three councillors present at the meeting, provided that a councillor may not second a proposal to adjourn more than twice during the same meeting. Such a proposal lapses if it is not properly seconded.
- (3) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is carried if a majority of the members present at a meeting vote in favour thereof.
- (4) Whenever a meeting adjourns in terms of sub-rule (1) before it had finished the business stated in the agenda for that meeting, the meeting must resume as a continuation meeting in terms of [rule 34](#) to deal with any unfinished business unless the date of the first ordinary meeting next ensuing is earlier than the date referred to in rule 34 in which case the unfinished business of an adjourned meeting is dealt with at that ordinary meeting.

34. Continuation of an adjourned meeting

- (1) A continuation meeting is held at the same time and venue as a meeting that had been adjourned in terms of [rule 32](#) or [33](#) on a day seven days later, provided that if the said seventh day falls on a Sunday or public holiday, the continuation meeting must take place on the first workday after such Sunday or public holiday.
- (2) The agenda for a continuation meeting is the agenda for the meeting that had been adjourned.

35. Temporary adjournment of a meeting

- (1) A councillor may at any time during a meeting propose that the meeting be adjourned for a period proposed by him or her and must state the reasons for the proposal, provided that not more than two such proposals may be made during the same meeting and that no such adjournment may exceed thirty minutes.
- (2) Despite the provisions of sub-rule (1) the chairperson at a meeting may, if she or he is of the opinion that a third temporary adjournment of a meeting may facilitate the discussion and resolution of a matter, allow a third adjournment in terms of sub-rule (1).
- (3) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) must be seconded by at least three councillors present at the meeting, provided that a councillor may not second a proposal to adjourn more than twice during the same meeting. Such a proposal lapses if it is not properly seconded.
- (4) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is carried if a majority of the members present at a meeting vote in favour thereof.
- (3) The meeting resumes after the expiry of the period referred to in sub-rule (1) and deals with any unfinished business contained in its agenda.

36. Agendas and minutes of meetings

- (1) Subject to the provisions of sub-rules (2) and (5) only matters included in an agenda for a meeting may be dealt with.

- (2) A councillor may at any time during a meeting propose that sub-rule (1) be suspended to allow discussion of any matter not included in the agenda and must give reasons for his or her proposal.
- (3) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) need not be seconded and no debate about the proposal is allowed.
- (4) A proposal referred to in sub-rule (2) is carried if the councillors present at a meeting unanimously adopt it.
- (5) An urgent report received from the executive committee may be tabled and considered during a council meeting with the express prior permission of the speaker. An urgent report received from a section 79-committee may be tabled and considered at an executive committee meeting with the express prior approval of the mayor.

37. Minutes of meetings and summary of evidence at hearings

- (1) The municipal manager must keep, or cause to be kept, minutes of the proceedings of every council and committee meeting.
- (2) The minutes of a meeting must reflect -
 - (a) the names of the councillors attending;
 - (b) the names of the councillors absent with or without leave;
 - (c) the periods of absence during a meeting of a councillor;
 - (d) the names of the councillors voting respectively for and against any matter for the decision of which a division is called;
 - (e) the name of any councillor who demanded that his or her vote against any particular decision be recorded in the minutes;
 - (f) any adjournment of the meeting;
 - (g) any declaration of a personal or pecuniary interest by a councillor;
 - (h) any advice of the municipal manager regarding possible unauthorised expenditure or resolutions beyond the authority of the municipality; and
 - (i) the resolutions taken.
- (3) The minutes of a meeting must be delivered to the councillors with the notice of the ensuing meeting or prior to delivering such a notice.
- (4) Minutes delivered in terms of sub-rule (3) are deemed read with a view to their approval.
- (5) No proposal regarding minutes, except a proposal relating to the accuracy thereof may be allowed.
- (6) The minutes of a meeting must, if in order, be approved at the next ordinary meeting of the council or committee, as the case may be.

- (7) The chairperson of the meeting must sign the minutes upon approval. If the minutes are written on loose sheets, each sheet must be signed.
- (8) The minutes relating to any matter, which had been discussed and resolved in closed session, must be clearly separated from the minutes of that part of the meeting that had been conducted in public.
- (9) Any councillor or other person speaking at a meeting may request that his or her speech not be recorded. Upon receipt of such a request the municipal manager must cease such a recording.
- (10) The municipal manager must make, or cause to be made, a summary of the proceedings and evidence given at a public hearing and submit it at the first ordinary meeting of the council or the executive committee after the hearing.

38. Declaration of personal and pecuniary interest

- (1) A councillor wishing to declare a personal or pecuniary interest in terms of item 5 of the code of conduct must do so when the chairperson put the relevant item in the agenda to order.
- (2) No councillor may speak more than five minutes on the question whether his or her interest is so trivial or remote or irrelevant as to render a clash of interests unlikely.

39. Order of business at ordinary council meetings

The order of business at an ordinary council meeting, except the first meeting of the council after a general election of councillors, is as follows:

- (a) Opening
- (b) Applications for leave of absence
- (c) Official announcements of the speaker
- (d) Reports of the speaker in terms of [rules 10\(1\)](#) and [86\(4\)](#)
- (e) Applications and appeals from councillors in terms of [rules 9\(1\)](#), [71](#) and [76](#)
- (f) Reports received from the speaker
- (g) Motions of sympathy and congratulations by the speaker
- (h) Motions of sympathy and congratulations by other councillors
- (i) Deputations and interviews
- (j) Disclosure of interest
- (k) Minutes of the previous meeting
- (l) Questions of which notice were given
- (m) Report of the executive committee / committee reports

- (n) Implementation of council resolutions
- (o) Reports of decisions taken under delegated powers
- (p) Motions
- (q) Closing

40. Order of business at the first council meeting after a general election of councillors

The order of business at the first meeting of a council after a general election of councillors is as follows:

- (a) Opening
- (b) Applications for leave of absence
- (c) Election of speaker
- (d) Motion of congratulations of the municipal manager
- (e) Motions of congratulations from councillors
- (f) Acceptance speech of the speaker
- (g) Confirmation of type of municipality
- (h) Election of members of the executive committee
- (i) Election of mayor
- (j) Designation of councillor responsible for finance
- (k) Election of representatives in the district municipality
- (l) Designation of full-time councillors
- (m) Election of representative in SALGA's executive committee
- (n) Review of language policy
- (o) Review of delegated powers
- (p) Closing

41. Order of business at an ordinary executive committee meeting

The order of business at an ordinary executive committee meeting is as follows:

- (a) Opening
- (b) Applications for leave of absence
- (c) Official announcements

- (d) Motions of sympathy and congratulations
- (e) Disclosure of interests
- (f) Minutes of the previous meeting
- (g) Questions of which notice had been given
- (h) Matters deferred from the previous meeting
- (i) Reports of section 79-committees (if any)
- (j) Reports of the municipal manager
- (k) Deputations and interviews
- (l) Closing

42. Quorum and decision making

- (1) A majority of the members of the committee must be present before a decision on any matter may be taken.
- (2) No decision may be taken unless the council or a committee has sufficient information before it to take an informed decision. Such information must preferably be contained in a written report.

43. Voting at council and committee meetings

- (1) Voting in a council or committee meeting is by show of hands, unless a councillor requests a secret ballot on any question. When such a request is received the provisions of [rule 45](#) applies.
- (2) After the chairperson has declared the result of a vote a councillor may demand-that his or her vote against the decision be recorded or a division.
- (3) An entry of the declaration of the result of a vote in the minutes of a meeting is conclusive evidence of the result.

44. When a division is called

- (1) When a division is called in terms of [rule 43](#), all entrances to the venue of the meeting must be closed and no councillor may leave or enter the venue after the entrances had been closed until the result of the division was declared.
- (2) Immediately thereafter the chairperson of the meeting must repeat the motion or proposal, put the motion or proposal to the vote and take the vote of each councillor separately.
- (3) The chairperson must declare the result of the vote after all the councillors had been polled.
- (4) When a division is called, every councillor must vote for or against the proposal or motion in respect of which the division had been called.

- (5) A councillor who called for a division may not leave the venue of the meeting until the result of the vote had been declared.
- (6) An entry of the declaration of the result of a vote in the minutes of a meeting is conclusive evidence of the result.

45. Voting by secret ballot

- (1) A request in terms of [rule 43](#) that a secret ballot be held in respect of any motion or proposal, is carried if it is seconded.
- (2) The municipal manager must ensure that a sufficient supply of ballot papers that substantially comply with the following design, is available at each meeting:

For the proposal

Against the proposal

- (3) Immediately after the request that a secret ballot be held had been seconded, the municipal manager must give to each councillor present a ballot paper.
- (4) Upon receipt of a ballot paper the councillor must indicate his or her vote by clearly marking whether he or she is for or against the proposal concerned whereupon he or she must fold the ballot paper in half and hand it back to the municipal manager.
- (5) When all the councillors present has handed their ballot papers back, the municipal manager must determine the result of the ballot and inform the chairperson thereof.
- (6) The fact that a secret ballot had been held must be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.
- (7) All used ballot papers must be destroyed upon conclusion of the meeting.
- (8) An entry of the declaration of the result of a vote in the minutes of a meeting is conclusive evidence of the result.

46. Equality of votes

- (1) Unless a specific majority had been prescribed in respect of any matter or when a secret ballot is conducted or when expressly stated otherwise in these rules and orders, the chairperson at a meeting may cast a casting vote where there is an equality of votes on any question in addition to his or her deliberative vote.
- (2) Should there be an equality of votes after a division had been called and the chairperson refuses to use his or her casting vote, the matter must be referred back to the executive committee meeting.
- (3) Should there be an equality of votes after a secret ballot had been conducted, the matter must be referred back to the executive committee.
- (4) In all cases other than those mentioned in sub-rules (2) and (3) where there is an equality of votes and the chairperson refuses to use his or her casting vote, the matter must be referred back to the executive committee.

47. Closing of meetings

- (1) Recognising the need for transparency and open and accountable government the council or a committee may, with due regard for any provisions to the contrary in these rules and orders or any other law, resolve to close any part of a meeting for the public and the media.
- (2) A resolution in terms of sub-rule (1) may be made only -
 - (a) if a proposal in that regard had been made and is carried in terms of these rules and orders; and
 - (b) if the matter in respect of which the proposal had been made is a matter which concerns discussing or making public -
 - (i) a trade secret or confidential commercial information of any supplier of the municipality or any person offering to become a supplier of the municipality;
 - (ii) personal and private information of any councillor or an employee of the municipality;
 - (iii) the price the municipality may offer for the purchase of land;
 - (iv) the intention of the municipality to purchase land;
 - (v) any strategy to be used in defence or initiation of litigation against or by the municipality;
 - (vi) disciplinary proceedings against an employee of the municipality; or
 - (vii) any matter that may not be publicly disclosed in terms of a law; or c. to approve the minutes of any part of a meeting that had been closed.

48. Procedure for closing meetings

- (1) A councillor may, with due regard for the provisions of [rules 78](#) to 81, when an item in the agenda is put to order or at any time during the debate on an item, propose that the matter be further dealt with in closed session.
- (2) No seconder is required for a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1).
- (3) Despite anything to the contrary in these rules and orders, only the introducer of the motion may speak on the proposal for a period not exceeding five minutes and must during his or her argument state the reasons for the proposal.
- (4) The chairperson at the meeting, if he or she does not reject the proposal, must subject the proposal to the vote immediately after the introducer has spoken.
- (5) If the proposal is carried, the chairperson must determine when the matter concerned must be debated.
- (6) When the council or a committee, as the case may be, resolves to close a part of a meeting and subject to any determination of the chairperson in terms of sub-rule (5), all members of the public and media and municipal employees present at the meeting, except such employees as the chairperson may require to remain, must leave the meeting and may not return for the duration of the closed proceedings.

49. Rules governing closed meetings

- (1) When a meeting was closed in terms of [rule 48](#), the provisions of these rules apply to that meeting.
- (2) If a proposal in terms of [rule 48](#) is carried, the further debate on the matter, whether in closed session or public, is deemed a continuation of the preceding debate on the matter.
- (3) At the conclusion of a closed debate, the meeting automatically reverts to a meeting in public.

50. Opening a closed meeting

- (1) A councillor may at any time during a meeting that is closed propose that the meeting proceed in public.
- (2) No seconder is required for a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1).
- (3) Despite anything to the contrary in these rules and orders, only the introducer of the motion may speak on the proposal for a period not exceeding five minutes and must during his or her argument state the reasons for the proposal.
- (4) The chairperson at the meeting, if he or she does not reject the proposal, must subject the proposal to the vote immediately after the introducer has spoken.
- (5) If the proposal is carried, the meeting immediately resumes in public.

51. Supplying information to the media

- (1) The municipal manager may make confirmed minutes (excluding any part of such minutes with regard to a matter dealt with in terms of [rule 48](#)) and official agendas available to any interested person or registered newspaper at such fees as the council may determine or free of charge.
- (2) The municipal manager may, and if so instructed by the council or a committee must, make the confirmed minutes (excluding any part of such minutes regarding a matter dealt with in terms of [rule 48](#)) and official agendas available in the reference section of a public library in the municipal area.
- (3) The speaker or the mayor, in respect of the executive committee, may hold media conferences and briefings and issue media statements.
- (4) The municipal manager may, in respect of any matter included in the official agenda or the confirmed minutes of a meeting, issue media statements and convene media conferences and briefings.
- (5) A departmental head may, in consultation with the municipal manager, in respect of any matter within his or her department, issue media statements and call media conferences.

CHAPTER 3**DEPUTATIONS, PETITIONS, OBJECTIONS, REPRESENTATIONS AND QUESTIONS****52. Deputations**

- (1) Anybody who wishes to obtain an interview with the council or a committee of the council, must lodge a written application with the municipal manager. Such an application must state the representations the applicant wishes to make.
- (2) The municipal manager must submit the application to the -
 - (a) speaker in the case of an application for an interview with the council;
 - (b) mayor, in the case of an application for an interview with the executive committee; who may grant or refuse the interview or request additional information.
- (3) Whenever the speaker or mayor -
 - (i) grants an interview, she or he must determine the date, time and venue of the interview and the size of the deputation that may attend the interview; or
 - (ii) refuses an application, he or she must supply reasons for the refusal and inform the municipal manager of his or her decision.
- (4) The municipal manager must inform the applicant of a decision in terms of sub-rule (3).
- (5) If the subject matter of a application in terms of sub-rule (1) falls within the terms of reference of a committee the speaker may direct that the chairperson of the relevant committee consider the application.
- (6) If a committee conducts an interview and that committee does not have the power to dispose of the matter, the committee must submit its report and recommendations to the council or, in the case of a section 79-committee, to the executive committee.
- (7) During an interview only one member of the deputation may address the meeting except when a councillor asks a question whereupon any member of the deputation may respond.
- (8) Unless the council or a committee conducts an interview in closed session, the members of a deputation may remain in the meeting whilst the council or committee considers the matter after the interview had been completed.

53. Petitions

- (1) A councillor must submit a petition received by him or her to the speaker.
- (2) The municipal manager must inform the speaker of any petition he or she receives.
- (3) Any petition in terms of sub-rules (1) or (2) and any petition received by the speaker must be referred to the relevant committee, which may dispose of the matter.
- (4) If the committee to which the petition had been referred does not have the power to dispose of the matter, the committee must submit its report and recommendations to the council, provided that in the case of a section 79 -

committee, such a report and recommendations must be submitted to the executive committee.

54. Attendance of council meeting by the Auditor-General

- (1) Whenever the audit report is included in the agenda for a council meeting, the municipal manager must in writing invite the Auditor-General, the provincial treasury and the department responsible for local government to that meeting.
- (2) Despite any provisions in these rules and orders to the contrary, the speaker may change the order of business at a meeting referred to in sub-rule (1) to allow the Auditor-General to address the council and councillors to ask questions with regard to the audit report and audit findings.

55. Objections and representations

- (1) Whenever the municipality invites public comment, representations or objections with regard to any proposed resolution before the council or a resolution the council had taken, the municipal manager must designate a person who will be responsible for the receipt of such comment, representations or objections.
- (2) The person designated in terms of sub-rule (1) must within seven days after the closing date for comments, representations or objections, make a summary of the comments, representations and comments that were received (if any) and submit it to the relevant departmental head.
- (3) The departmental head must consider the summary and submit it, together with his or her report and recommendations to the municipal manager who must refer it, with his or her comments, to the council or the relevant committee, as the case may be.
- (4) The executive committee must consider the summary and report and recommendations of the departmental head and the comments of the municipal manager and submit the matter to the council together with their recommendations.

56. Questions of which notice had been given

- (1) A councillor may at any time submit a written question he or she intends to ask during a council meeting or a meeting of a committee of which he or she is a member to the municipal manager, provided that such question must be submitted to the municipal manager at least ten work days before the meeting where the question will be asked. A councillor may request the municipal manager, to assist him or her to formulate the question.
- (2) The municipal manager must immediately upon receipt of a question in terms of sub-rule (1), provide a copy thereof to the relevant departmental head and instruct him or her to prepare a reply to the question. The municipal manager may direct a departmental head to which he or she has sent the question to consult with any other departmental head before he or she prepares the answer.
- (3) Provided the question had been received at least ten workdays before the scheduled date of the meeting where the question would be asked, the municipal manager must ensure that the question and the answer thereto is included in the agenda for the first ordinary meeting of the council or committee next ensuing where the question will be asked.

57. Questions during meetings

- (1) A councillor may at a meeting of the council or a committee of which he or she is a member, ask a question-regarding a matter arising from or pertaining to an item contained in the agenda; or regarding the work of the municipality in general and that

does not arise from or pertain to an item in the agenda.

- (2) The chairperson of the meeting may allow the question if, in his or her opinion, it affects the interests of the residents within the municipal area and may respond to it or direct another councillor to respond to it.
- (3) No discussion of the question or the answer thereto is allowed.
- (4) If the answer to the question is unclear to the councillor who asked it, he or she may ask for, and is entitled to, an explanation of the answer.
- (5) If the question is answered, the councillor who asked the question may request, and is entitled, to a written reply within fourteen days from the date of the meeting. Such a written reply must be included in the minutes of the meeting where the question was asked.
- (6) The chairperson of the meeting where the question is asked may, with the concurrence of the councillor who asked the question, reply at the first ordinary meeting of the council or the committee next ensuing, as the case may be.
- (7) A question may only be asked during a meeting to solicit factual information and may not deal with matters of policy except the implementation of policy, nor seek to solicit an opinion or include or amount to a statement of fact.

CHAPTER 4

MOTIONS OR PROPOSALS

58. Motion must be in written form

- (1) A councillor may put a matter on the agenda of a committee of which he or she is a member or of the council by submitting a written motion to the municipal manager, provided that a councillor may orally request the municipal manager to include a motion in the agenda for the first ordinary meeting of such committee or the council next ensuing.
- (2) When the municipal manager receives an oral request from a councillor in terms of sub-rule (1), he or she must reduce the request to writing, or cause it to be reduced to writing and include it in the relevant agenda.

59. Submission and limitation of motions

- (1) With due regard for the provisions of sub-rule (4) a motion in terms of [rule 58](#) must be included in the agenda for the first ordinary meeting next ensuing of the council or the committee concerned, provided it had reached the municipal manager at least forty-eight hours before the date referred to in [rule 6\(1\)](#).
- (2) Only one motion of a councillor may be considered at a meeting.
- (3) If the introducer of a motion is absent during the meeting when the motion is put to the order, it is deferred to the ensuing ordinary meeting of the council or committee, as the case may be.
- (4) Any motion which -

contemplates the repeal or amendment of a resolution taken during the preceding three months; or has the same scope as a motion that had been rejected during the preceding three months may not be included in the agenda, unless it had been signed by at least three councillors in addition to its introducer.

60. Withdrawal and amendment of motions

- (1) With due regard for any provisions to the contrary in these rules and orders, the introducer of a motion may, at any time before the motion is put to the order at a meeting, withdraw it. A motion that had been withdrawn lapses without further discussion.
- (2) The introducer of a motion may, during a meeting where the motion is considered, request permission to amend the motion, which permission must be granted or denied without discussion.

61. Right of introducer of motion to speak and reply

The introducer of a motion in terms of [rule 58](#) has the right, if the motion had not been rejected or withdrawn, to introduce the motion and to reply.

62. Motion or proposal regarding the budget

- (1) The mayor must introduce the draft budget or a revised draft budget or a draft adjustments budget (in this rule the “draft budget”) at a council meeting -
 - (f) which may not be closed for the public and the press and
 - (g) of which at least ninety-six hours notice had been given, despite the provisions of [rule 6\(1\)](#).
- (2) The councillor who introduces the draft budget must address the following matters when he or she introduces that budget:
 - (a) The expected financial performance of the municipality for the financial year during which the draft budget is tabled and the reasons therefore.
 - (b) An evaluation of the municipality’s debt collection, credit control, indigent support and tariff policies, procedures and the implementation thereof.
 - (c) Any proposed strategies, plans and programmes to improve the financial performance of the municipality during the next financial year or the remainder of the current financial year in the case of a revised draft budget or draft adjustments budget.
 - (d) The procedure, with specific reference to community participation and consultation with different constituencies, which had been followed in compiling the draft budget.
 - (e) The impact that such participation and consultation and public hearings had on the draft budget.
 - (f) The priority needs in the community that will be addressed in the draft budget and how they were determined and quantified.

- (g) The factors, expectations and assumptions that influenced the draft budget.
 - (h) Key ratios of expected income from different sources of revenue to overall expected income and main expenditure groups to expected expenditure, differentiating between capital and operating expenditure.
 - (i) Proposals regarding borrowing, if any, and the likely impact of borrowing on rates, taxes, tariffs and charges,
 - (j) The extent to which the draft budget give effect to the municipality's integrated development plan.
 - (k) Proposals regarding increases in rates, taxes, tariffs and charges.
 - (l) Any other relevant matter.
- (3) A proposal that will cause an increase in expected revenue or a decrease in expected expenditure may not be put to the vote until the debate on the draft budget is exhausted. When the debate is exhausted and the councillor introducing the draft budget had replied to any proposals made during the debate, the proposals is put to the vote in the order they were made.
- (4) A proposal that will cause an increase in expected revenue or a decrease in expected expenditure changes the draft budget when it is carried.
- (5) A proposal that will cause a decrease in expected revenue does not change the budget until and unless a corresponding saving in expenditure is proposed and carried. If such proposal is not forthcoming, the meeting adjourns in terms of [rule 33](#).
- (6) A proposal that will cause an increase in expected expenditure does not change the draft budget until and unless an increase in rates, tariffs, charges or taxes that will cover the expected increase in expenditure is proposed and carried. If such proposal is not forthcoming, the meeting adjourns in terms of [rule 33](#).
- (7) If the amount saved or earned in terms of a proposal referred to in sub-rule (5) or (6) is insufficient to cover the expected shortfall, the draft budget is not amended but it is referred back to the executive committee and the meeting adjourns in terms of [rule 33](#).
- (8) At the continuation meeting in terms of [rule 34](#), any proposal contemplated in sub-rule (5) or (6) and the comment of the councillor introducing the draft budget with regard to it is debated.
- (9) The speaker must put each proposal referred to in sub-rule (7) to the vote when the debate in terms of sub-rule (8) is exhausted. Should any such proposal be carried, the draft budget is changed accordingly.
- (10) If no proposal as referred to in sub-rule (3) is made or immediately after the debate referred to in sub-rule (9) had been exhausted, the speaker must put the amended draft budget to the vote as a whole. If the amended draft budget is adopted, the budget is approved.

63. Motion or proposal regarding legislation

A motion or proposal before the council affecting the repeal, drafting or amendment of legislation must, before the council considers it, be referred to and considered by the executive

committee for its report and recommendations.

64. Eligible proposals

- (1) With due regard for the provisions of [rule 14\(1\)\(c\)](#) to (f), only the following proposals may be made during the discussion of any motion, proposal or matter contained in an agenda, namely -
 - (a) that the motion or proposal be amended;
 - (b) that the matter be referred back to the executive committee or the relevant committee for further consideration;
 - (c) that consideration of the matter be deferred;
 - (d) That the debate be suspended;
 - (e) that the matter be put to the vote;
 - (f) that the meeting continue to the next matter.
- (2) Any proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may only be subjected to the vote if it had been properly seconded.

65. Amendment of the motion or proposal

- (1) A proposal that a motion or proposal (hereafter the “original motion”) be amended, may only be made by a councillor during his or her speech on the original motion.
- (2) No councillor may make more than one proposal for the amendment of the same original motion.
- (3) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) must be relevant to the original motion and the chairperson must clearly repeat it to the meeting before it is put to the vote.
- (4) With due regard for sub-rule (5) more than one amendment of an original motion may be introduced. Every amendment introduced must be put to the vote at the close of the debate.
- (5) If a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) had been made, no other proposal may be made until its introducer had addressed the meeting. The councillor who made the proposal may address the meeting for five minutes on his or her proposal, but he or she has no right of reply. The seconder may not address the meeting on the proposal.
- (6) The introducer of the original motion may, when a proposal in sub-rule (1) had been made and its introducer had spoken in terms of sub-rule (5), address the meeting on that proposal without diminishing from his or her right to reply should that proposal be rejected. If a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is rejected, a vote must be taken on the original motion without any further discussion.
- (7) If more than one amendment on an original motion had been introduced, they must be put to the vote in the order they were made. If any amendment is carried, the amended motion or proposal takes the place of the original motion and becomes the motion or proposal in respect of which any further proposed amendments must be put to the vote.

66. Referring the matter back

- (1) A proposal that a motion or proposal (hereafter the “original motion”) be referred back, may only be made by a councillor during his or her speech on the original motion.
- (2) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may only be made during a council meeting in the case of a recommendation by the executive committee. A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may only be made during an executive committee meeting in the case of a recommendation of a section 79-committee.
- (3) If a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) had been made, no other proposal may be made until its introducer had addressed the meeting. The councillor who made the proposal may address the meeting for five minutes on his or her proposal, but he or she has no right of reply. The seconder may not address the meeting on the proposal.
- (4) The introducer of the original motion may, when a proposal in sub-rule (1) had been made and after its introducer had spoken in terms of sub-rule (3), address the meeting on that proposal without diminishing from his or her right to reply should that proposal be rejected. If a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is rejected, a vote must be taken on the original motion without any further discussion.
- (5) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may not be put to the vote until the mayor had addressed the meeting. If such proposal is carried, the debate on the recommendation must end and the meeting proceeds to the next matter.

67. Deferring consideration of the matter

- (1) A councillor who did not participate in the debate on a motion or proposal (hereafter the “original motion”) may at the end of a speech about the original motion propose that the matter be deferred.
- (2) The councillor who made the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may address the meeting for five minutes on his or her proposal, but he or she has no right of reply. The seconder may not address the meeting on the proposal
- (3) A proposal similar to the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may not be made within half an hour after the first proposal was defeated in respect of the same original motion.
- (4) The introducer of the original motion may, when a proposal in sub-rule (1) had been made and its introducer had spoken in terms of sub-rule (2), address the meeting on that proposal without diminishing from his or her right to reply should that proposal be rejected. If a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is rejected, a vote must be taken on the original motion without any further discussion.
- (5) If the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) concerns a recommendation of the executive committee, the matter must, if that proposal is carried, be included in the next report of the executive committee. If the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) concerns a recommendation of the section 79-committee, the matter must, if that proposal is carried, be included in the next report of the committee to the executive. If the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) concerns any other matter, the matter must be included in the agenda of the first ordinary council meeting next ensuing.

68. Suspending a debate

- (1) A councillor who did not participate in the debate on a motion or proposal (hereafter the

- “original motion”) may at the end of a speech about the original motion propose that the debate be suspended, provided that no councillor may move or second more than one proposal that a debate be suspended during any meeting.
- (2) The councillor who made the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may address the meeting for five minutes on his or her proposal, but he or she has no right of reply. The seconder may not address the meeting on the proposal
 - (3) A proposal similar to the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may not be made within half an hour after the first proposal was defeated in respect of the same original motion.
 - (4) The introducer of the original motion may, when a proposal in sub-rule (1) had been made and after its introducer had spoken in terms of sub-rule (2), address the meeting on that proposal without diminishing from his or her right to reply should that proposal be rejected. If a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is rejected, a vote must be taken on the original motion without any further discussion.
 - (5) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) must be rejected if the council or committee, as the case may be, is required by law to pass a resolution on the matter at or before a particular date.
 - (6) If a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is carried, the meeting must deal with the next item on the agenda. The item, in respect of which the debate had been suspended, must be placed first on the list of motions in the next agenda of the council or committee, as the case may be.
 - (7) At the resumption of a suspended debate, the introducer of the suspension must address the meeting first.

69. Putting the matter to the vote

- (1) A councillor who did not participate in the debate on a motion or proposal (hereafter the “original motion”) may at the end of a speech about the original motion propose that the matter be put to the vote.
- (2) The councillor who made the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may address the meeting for five minutes on his or her proposal, but he or she has no right of reply. The seconder may not address the meeting on the proposal
- (3) A proposal similar to the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may not be made within half an hour after the first proposal was defeated in respect of the same original motion.
- (4) The introducer of the original motion may, when a proposal in sub-rule (1) had been made and its introducer had spoken in terms of sub-rule (2), address the meeting on that proposal without diminishing from his or her right to reply should that proposal be rejected. If a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is rejected, a vote must be taken on the original motion without any further discussion.
- (5) The introducer of the original motion has the right, before the matter is put to the vote, to reply.

70. Proceeding to the next business

- (1) A councillor who did not participate in the debate on a motion or proposal (hereafter the “original motion”) may at the end of a speech about the original motion propose that the

meeting proceed to the next business.

- (2) The councillor who made the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may address the meeting for five minutes on his or her proposal, but he or she has no right of reply. The seconder may not address the meeting on the proposal
- (3) A proposal similar to the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) may not be made within half an hour after the first proposal was defeated in respect of the same original motion.
- (4) The introducer of the original motion may, when a proposal in sub-rule (1) had been made and its introducer had spoken in terms of sub-rule (2), address the meeting on that proposal without diminishing from his or her right to reply should that proposal be rejected. If a proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is rejected, a vote must be taken on the original motion or proposal without any further discussion.
- (5) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) must be rejected if the council or committee, as the case may be, is required by law to pass a resolution on the matter at or before a particular date.
- (6) If the proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) is carried the matter under discussion lapse without further discussion.

CHAPTER 5

COUNCILLORS' DECLARATION OF FINANCIAL INTEREST, RESIGNATION AND DESIGNATION AS FULL TIME COUNCILLORS

71. Councillors' declaration of financial interest, resignation and designation as full time councillors

- (1) A councillor must lodge a written application with the municipal manager to obtain the council's consent in terms of item 6(2) of the code of conduct.
- (2) The municipal manager must submit an application in terms of sub-rule (1) to the council at the earliest opportunity.
- (3) A councillor who submitted an application in terms of sub-rule (1) may not be present during the consideration of his or her application.
- (4) The council may not close its meeting whilst it considers an application in terms of sub-rule (1).
- (5) The council may grant or refuse an application and may impose conditions when it grants an application.
- (6) Whenever the council refuses an application in terms of sub-rule (1) it must state the reasons for its refusal.

72. Disclosure of declared interests

- (1) The municipal manager must compile a register of the financial interests of councillors declared in terms of item 7(1) of the code of conduct.
- (2) As soon as the municipal manager has completed the register referred to in sub-rule (1) he or she must submit it to the council.

- (3) The council must on receipt of the register in terms of sub-rule (2) during a closed meeting determine which of the declared financial interests must be made public having regard for the need for confidentiality and the need for public disclosure.
- (4) A councillor who has declared an interest that is recorded in the register may not be present during the consideration of the matter.
- (5) Any interest declared in terms of this rule that had not been made public, is confidential.

73. Resignation of councillors and vacancies in offices

- (1) A councillor may, by written notice signed by him or her and delivered to the municipal manager, resign-as councillor; or from any office he or she holds.
- (2) A councillor may resign from office at any time during a council or committee meeting by making a declaration to the council or committee in that regard, provided that the she or he must immediately after such a declaration, resign in writing. A declaration in terms of this rule may not be withdrawn.
- (3) If the resignation was that of the speaker, mayor or member of the executive committee, the council must as soon as the resignation of the councillor concerned in terms of sub-rule (2) had been reduced to writing, signed and given to the municipal manager, elect a speaker, member of the executive committee or mayor, as the case may be, despite the provisions of [rule 18](#) or [19](#), as the case may be.
- (4) A resignation in terms of sub-rule (1) or (3) may not be withdrawn and takes effect upon receipt thereof by the municipal manager.
- (5) The municipal manager must immediately upon receipt of a resignation of a councillor or when a vacancy arises in the council in any other manner report it to the speaker, except when the resignation or vacancy is that of the speaker, and to -

the mayor, in the case of a resignation of a member of the executive committee;
- (6) The municipal manager must ensure that any resignation or a report of any vacancy arising in another manner is contained in the agenda for the next ordinary council meeting after the vacancy arose.
- (7) The council must, at the meeting where a vacancy in an office of the council is reported, elect from amongst the councillors a successor for the councillor who left the vacancy. A councillor elected to an office in terms of this sub-rule serves for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

74. Designation of full-time councillors

Before the council considers designating any councillor identified by the MEC as a possible full-time councillor, it must obtain and consider a report from the municipal manager, provided that the municipal manager must submit such a report at the first meeting of the council after a general election of councillors.

75. Report of the municipal manager with regard to full-time councillors

- (1) A report in terms of [rule 74](#), must reflect on the extent of the powers and functions of the municipality;

- (a) the need to delegate those powers and functions to promote efficiency and effectiveness in their performance to a full-time councillor;
 - (b) proposed powers that could be delegated to a full-time councillor and where there may be more than one full-time councillors, the different powers that may be delegated to each of them;
 - (c) the reasons not to delegate any such power or function to an employee of the municipality;
 - (d) the available financial and administrative resources of the municipality to support the work of a full-time councillor or councillors, including the availability or cost of establishing and maintaining suitable office facilities, office equipment and secretarial assistance;
 - (e) the need for the economical, efficient and effective use of resources;
 - (f) the burden the workload of a full-time councillor may put on the incumbent;
 - (g) the need for coordination of decision-making;
 - (h) the need for the regular availability of a councillor to interview the public and visitors to the municipality;
 - (i) the need for close political supervision of, and accountability for, the administration;
 - (j) the likely improvement or deterioration of the relationship between the council and the administration;
 - (k) the need to establish and maintain sound relationships between office-bearers in the different spheres of government;
 - (l) the likely effect delegated powers may have on the enthusiasm and interest of councillors who are not full-time councillors; (m) the functions a full-time councillor must perform as a duty of office;
 - (n) the likely improvement or deterioration in the quality and speed of decision-making if an office is not a full-time office; (o) and any other relevant matter.
- (2) The report must contain recommendations with regard to -
- (a) the working hours of a full-time councillor as contemplated in [rule 76\(1\)](#);
 - (b) arrangements with regard to the provision of office facilities and equipment and secretarial support to the full-time councillor and a proposed budget for such facilities and services where they are inadequate;
 - (c) the powers that may be delegated to the full-time councillor and where there may be more than one full-time councillor, the different powers that may be delegated to each of them;
 - (d) the format, frequency and framework for reports on the activities of the full-time councillor and the exercise of his or her delegated powers;

- (e) the specification and clarification of the role and responsibility of the full-time councillor or councillors and the municipal manager and departmental heads of the municipality, with due regard for the statutory duties and responsibilities of the municipal manager; and
 - (f) any other relevant matter.
- (3) The designation of a councillor as a full-time councillor does not establish an employment relationship between the municipality and the councillor concerned.

76. Applications by full-time councillors to undertake other paid work

- (1) The council must, when it designates a councillor as a full-time councillor, determine the working hours for the office held by that councillor.
- (2) A councillor who was designated as a full-time councillor may apply for permission of the council to undertake other paid work (in this rule “private work”).
- (3) An application for private work must be lodged in writing with the municipal manager and must state the following:
 - (a) the nature of the private work the applicant wishes to undertake;
 - (b) an estimation of the demands such work will make on the time and availability of the applicant; and
 - (c) where such work will be performed.
- (4) The council may grant or refuse an application for private work, provided that -
 - (a) permission to perform private work may not be unreasonably refused; and
 - (b) when the council refuses an application it must state the reasons for its refusal.
- (5) The meeting where an application for private work is considered may not be closed.
- (6) The applicant may not be present at a meeting during the discussion of the application, provided that the speaker may request the applicant to supply such information as the council may request during that meeting. Whenever such a request is made to the applicant, the applicant may supply the requested information orally during the meeting.
- (7) The council may, before it considers an application for private work, request that additional information with regard to the intended work as may be necessary for the proper consideration of the application be submitted in writing.
- (8) The granting of permission to undertake private work is valid for only twelve months after which the councillor concerned must submit a new application and is subject to the following conditions:
 - (a) private work may only be undertaken outside the working hours contemplated in sub-rule (1);
 - (b) private work may not negatively influence the applicant’s performance in office or infringe on his or her official functions and duties;

- (c) no appointments or other arrangements in connection with private work may be made or conducted during the working hours contemplated in sub-rule (1);
 - (d) the applicant may not use the council's equipment, employees, facilities or material for his or her private work;
 - (e) the council's postal address, telephone and fax numbers and electronic mail address may not be used in connection with private work;
 - (f) private work may not cause the applicant to breach the provisions of the code of conduct;
 - (g) the councillor may not use his or her position with the council to recruit private work; and
 - (h) any other condition as the council may determine.
- (9) Any permission in terms of this rule does not exempt a councillor from complying with the code of conduct neither is such permission a defence against any allegation of a breach of the code.
- (10) An application for private work must be refused if, in the opinion of the council, there may exist, or there is likely to arise, a conflict of interest between the councillor's duties as a councillor and those of his or her private work.
- (11) The council may, by notice to the councillor concerned, withdraw its permission to perform private work if there was a material breach of the conditions stipulated in sub-rule (7) or a conflict of interest arise as contemplated in sub-rule (10). Such a notice must contain the reasons for the withdrawal and must site the breaches of the conditions that occurred.
- (12) Before the council issues a notice in terms of sub-rule (11) it must allow the councillor concerned an opportunity to state his or her case.
- (13) Any refusal of an application or a withdrawal of permission already granted is final and binding on the councillor concerned.
- (14) An application that had been refused may only be reconsidered after expiry of a period of six months from the date of the resolution refusing the application, provided the councillor concerned submits a new application. A new application for private work may not be considered within six months after permission to perform private work had been withdrawn in terms of sub-rule (11).

77. Leave of full-time councillors

- (1) A full-time councillor is entitled to -
- (a) 21 work days holiday leave with full remuneration after every completed year he or she occupied a full-time office of which 15 consecutive days must be taken within six months after the end of each such year;
 - (b) 10 work days sick leave with full remuneration during every completed year he or she occupied a full-time office, provided that the council may grant more sick leave to a councillor; and

- (c) such other leave with or without remuneration as the council may decide.
- (2) A councillor may not encash holiday leave to his or her credit.
- (3) A full-time councillor must apply for leave of absence for any period that she or he would not be or had not been available in the municipality during the working hours referred to in [rule 75\(2\)\(a\)](#).
- (4) An application for leave of absence in terms of sub-rule (1) must be in writing and must be submitted to the municipal manager.
- (5) The municipal manager must submit an application in terms of sub-rule (4) to the council at the first opportunity.
- (6) The council must approve the application, if it is an application for leave in terms of sub-rule (1). If the council approves an application for leave of the speaker or the mayor, the council must elect an acting speaker or mayor for the period of the absence of the speaker or mayor, as the case may be.
- (7) Leave to the credit of a councillor when he or she vacates office may not be paid out.

CHAPTER 6

REMOVAL OF OFFICE-BEARERS FROM OFFICE

78. Removal of speaker

- (1) A councillor (hereafter called “the initiator”) may by written motion, which must be seconded by at least three other councillors, move that the speaker be removed from office. Such a motion must be submitted to the municipal manager and may not be sent by electronic mail, telex or telegram. If such motion is transmitted by facsimile, the original must be delivered to the municipal manager within seven days.
- (2) The motion must contain a brief summary of the reasons for the motion.
- (3) A motion in terms of sub-rule (1) may, despite the provisions of [rule 60](#), not be withdrawn.
- (4) The municipal manager must, upon receipt of a motion in terms of sub-rule (1), forthwith send a copy to the speaker.
- (5) Unless the speaker resigns upon receipt of a motion in terms of sub-rule (1), he or she must forthwith upon receipt thereof determine the date, time and venue for a special council meeting in terms of [rule 4](#). The date of such a special meeting may not be less than fourteen and not more than twenty-one days from the date the speaker received a copy of the motion from the municipal manager.
- (6) Despite the provisions of [rule 6\(1\)](#) at least seven days notice of a meeting in terms of sub-rule (5) must be given to every councillor.
- (7) If the speaker resigns from office at any time before a meeting in terms of sub-rule (5) takes place, the motion lapses and the meeting does not go ahead.
- (8) The meeting may not be closed for the public or the media before a vote had been taken

on a motion in terms of sub-rule (1).

- (9) The municipal manager presides over the proceedings on a motion in terms of sub-rule (1) but he or she may not vote.
- (10) The speaker has the right and must be allowed the opportunity during the proceedings to
 - (a) respond to every allegation made in the motion and during the proceedings;
 - (b) call witnesses and to cross-examine any witnesses called by the initiator; and
 - (c) submit documents and to examine any documents submitted by the initiator, provided that if the speaker is not present during the meeting, the council may, in its sole discretion, continue with the proceedings. A proposal to proceed in the absence of the speaker is carried if a majority of the councillors of the municipality votes in favour of it.
- (11) With due regard for rules 26 and 27, the municipal manager must put the motion to the vote after the debate had been exhausted.
- (12) If the speaker at any time during the proceedings but before the motion is put to the vote, make a declaration in terms of [rule 73\(2\)](#), the proceedings are discontinued immediately and the motion lapses and the council proceeds to elect a new speaker despite any provisions to the contrary in these rules and orders.
- (13) If the motion is carried, the speaker is removed from office with immediate effect and the council proceeds to elect a new speaker despite any provisions to the contrary in these rules and orders.
- (14) A councillor elected as speaker in terms of sub-rule (12) or (13) serve for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.
- (16) If the motion is defeated, no motion forwarding the same allegations may be submitted within the next three months unless the council directs otherwise.

79. Removal from office of executive committee members

- (1) A councillor (hereafter called “the initiator”) may by written motion, which must be seconded by at least three other councillors, move that one or more members of the executive committee be removed from office. Such a motion must be submitted to the municipal manager and may not be sent by electronic mail, telex or telegram. If such motion is transmitted by facsimile, the original must be delivered to the municipal manager within seven days.
- (2) If the motion is not made in respect of all the members of the executive committee, it must state the names of the councillors who must be removed.
- (3) The motion must contain a brief summary of the reasons for the motion. If the motion is made in respect of two or more members of the executive committee it must contain a summary of the reasons for the motion in respect of each of them separately.
- (4) A motion in terms of sub-rule (1) may, despite the provisions of [rule 60](#), not be withdrawn.

- (5) The municipal manager must, upon receipt of a motion in terms of sub-rule (1), forthwith send a copy to the speaker and the members of the executive committee.
- (6) The speaker must forthwith upon receipt of the motion determine the date, time and venue for a special council meeting in terms of [rule 4](#). The date of such a special meeting may not be less than fourteen and not more than twenty-one days from the date the speaker received a copy of the motion from the municipal manager.
- (7) Despite the provisions of [rule 6\(1\)](#) at least seven days notice of a meeting in terms of sub-rule (6) must be given to every councillor
- (8) If the members of the executive committee or the members named in the motion resign from office at any time before a meeting in terms of sub-rule (6) takes place, the motion lapses and the meeting does not go ahead. If one or more, but not all, of the members of the executive committee or any councillor, but not all, named in the motion resign at any time before a meeting in terms of sub-rule (6) takes place, the motion lapses in so far as they are concerned but the meeting goes ahead in respect of any councillor who did not resign.
- (9) The meeting may not be closed for the public or the media before a vote had been taken on the matter.
- (10) The speaker presides over the proceedings on a motion in terms of sub-rule (1) but he or she does not have a casting vote if there is an equality of votes.
- (11) The councillors in respect of whom the proceedings take place has the right and must be allowed the opportunity during the proceedings to separately -
 - (a) respond to every allegation made in the motion and during the proceedings;
 - (b) call witnesses and to cross-examine any witnesses called by the initiator; and
 - (c) submit documents and to examine any documents submitted by the initiator provided that if any of the members of the executive committee in respect of whom the motion had been submitted is not present at the meeting, the council may, in its sole discretion, continue with the proceedings. A proposal to proceed in the absence of any councillor is carried if a majority of the councillors of the municipality votes in favour of it.
- (12) With due regard for [rules 26](#) and [27](#), the speaker must put the motion to the vote after the debate had been exhausted. The motion is put to the vote separately in respect of each of the councillors to which it relates.
- (13) If any councillor against whom the proceedings was initiated at any time during the debate but before the motion is put to the vote make a declaration in terms of [rule 73\(2\)](#), the debate is discontinued immediately in respect of him or her and the motion lapses in respect of him or her.
- (14) Every councillor in respect of whom the motion is carried is removed from office with immediate effect.
- (15) As soon as the proceedings had been concluded the council proceed to fill any vacancies in the executive committee despite any provisions to the contrary in these rules and orders. If the position of mayor is also vacant the council proceed to elect a mayor from amongst the members of the executive committee after any vacancies in the executive

committee had been filled.

- (16) A councillor elected as a member of the executive committee in terms of sub-rule (15) serve for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.
- (17) If the motion is defeated, no motion naming a councillor in respect of whom it had been defeated, forwarding the same allegations may be submitted within the next three months unless the council directs otherwise.

80. Abolishing the executive committee during the term of the council

- (1) The council of a municipality that has a collective executive system may at any time during its term and must when -
 - (a) such a recommendation is received from the executive committee; or
 - (b) a motion proposing that the executive committee be abolished, seconded by three councillors, is submitted consider abolishing the executive committee.
- (2) A motion in terms of sub-rule (1)(b) must be submitted to the municipal manager and may not be sent by electronic mail, telex or telegram. If such motion is transmitted by facsimile, the original must be delivered to the municipal manager within seven days.
- (3) A motion or recommendation in terms of sub-rule (1) must contain a brief summary of the reasons for the motion.
- (4) The provisions of [rule 79](#)(4) to (7), (9), (10) and (12) apply with regard to the consideration of a motion or recommendation in terms of sub-rule (1).
- (5) If a recommendation or motion in terms of sub-rule (1) is adopted or carried, the executive committee is abolished with immediate effect, the members of the executive committee is deemed to have resigned as such members effective from that date and the council operates as a municipality with a plenary executive system.
- (6) A motion, proposal or recommendation for -
 - (a) the re-institution of an executive committee that had been abolished; or
 - (b) the abolishing of the executive committee may not be made, submitted or considered within six months after a similar motion or recommendation had been adopted or defeated, as the case may be.

81. Removal of members of section 79-committees

- (1) A councillor (hereafter called “the initiator”) may by written motion, which must be seconded by at least three other councillors, move that one or more members of a section 79-committee (hereafter referred to as “the committee”) be removed from office. Such a motion must be submitted to the municipal manager and may not be sent by electronic mail, telex or telegram. If such motion is transmitted by facsimile, the original must be delivered to the municipal manager within seven days.
- (2) A motion for removal of the chairperson of a section 79-committee must be dealt with in terms of the procedure contained in [rule 79](#).
- (3) If the motion is not made in respect of all the members of the committee, it must state the

names of the councillors who must be removed.

- (4) The motion must contain a brief summary of the reasons for the motion. If the motion is made in respect of two or more members of the committee it must contain a summary of the reasons for the motion in respect of each of them separately.
- (5) A motion in terms of sub-rule (1) may, despite the provisions of [rule 60](#), not be withdrawn.
- (6) The municipal manager must, upon receipt of a motion in terms of sub-rule (1), forthwith send a copy to the speaker or the mayor and the members of the committee concerned.
- (7) The speaker must forthwith upon receipt of the motion determine the date, time and venue for a special council meeting in terms of [rule 4](#). The date of such a special meeting may not be less than fourteen and not more than twenty-one days from the date the speaker received a copy of the motion from the municipal manager.
- (8) At least seven days notice of a meeting in terms of sub-rule (7) must be given, despite the provisions of [rule 6\(1\)](#).
- (9) If the members of the committee or the members named in the motion resign from office at any time before a meeting in terms of sub-rule (7) takes place, the motion lapses and the meeting does not go ahead. If one or more, but not all, of the members of the committee or any councillor, but not all, named in the motion resign at any time before a meeting in terms of sub-rule (7) takes place, the motion lapses in so far as they are concerned but the meeting goes ahead in respect of any councillor who did not resign.
- (10) The meeting may not be closed for the public or the media before a vote had been taken on the matter.
- (11) The speaker presides over the proceedings on a motion in terms of sub-rule (1) but he or she does not have a casting vote if there is an equality of votes.
- (12) The councillors in respect of whom the proceedings take place has the right and must be allowed the opportunity during the proceedings to separately -
 - (a) respond to every allegation made in the motion and during the debate;
 - (b) call witnesses and to cross-examine any witnesses called by the initiator; and
 - (c) submit documents and to examine any documents submitted by the initiator provided that if any of the members of the committee in respect of whom the motion had been submitted is not present at the meeting, the council may, in its sole discretion, continue with the proceedings. A proposal to proceed in the absence of the any councillor concerned is carried if a majority of the councillors of the municipality votes in favour of it.
- (13) After the debate had been exhausted, the speaker must put the motion to the vote. The motion is put to the vote separately in respect of each of the councillors to which it relates.
- (14) If any councillor to whom a motion in terms of sub-rule (1) relates at any time during the debate but before the motion is put to the vote make a declaration in terms of [rule 73\(2\)](#), the debate is discontinued immediately in respect of him or her and the motion lapses in respect of him or her.

- (15) Every councillor in respect of whom the motion is carried is removed from office with immediate effect.
- (16) As soon as the proceedings had been concluded the council proceed to fill the vacancies in the committee despite any provisions to the contrary in these rules and orders.
- (17) A councillor elected as a member of the committee in terms of sub-rule (16) serve for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.
- (18) If the motion is defeated, no motion naming a councillor in respect of whom it had been defeated, forwarding the same allegations may be submitted within the next three months unless the council directs otherwise.

CHAPTER 7

LANGUAGE POLICY OF THE MUNICIPALITY

82. Determination of language policy

The council must at its first meeting after a general election for councillors review the language policy of the municipality in terms of [rule 85](#) and, where such policy does not exist, instruct the municipal manager to develop a draft policy and submit it to the council.

83. Differentiation between languages for different purposes

The council may determine that one or more languages be used -

- (a) for the purposes of local government in the municipality;
- (b) for internal written communications relating to the operations of the municipality;
- (c) for the preparation of agendas for, and minutes of, meetings;
- (d) during debates in council and committee meetings;
- (e) during public meetings of voters, constituency meetings and public hearings;
- (f) for written communication with persons communicating with the municipality, including the language or languages used for billing the municipality's debtors;
- (g) for public announcements and courtesy and official notices of the municipality;
- (h) for the promulgation of its bylaws;
- (i) for the compilation of the municipal code in terms of [section 19](#) of the Systems Act; and
- (j) on forms used or issued by the municipality.

84. Factors to be taken into account

When the council determines a language policy it must take the following factors into account:

- (a) The need to take practical and positive steps to elevate the status and advance the use of indigenous languages that are official languages in terms of [section 6\(1\)](#) of the

Constitution.

- (b) Language usage and preferences of the residents within the municipal area.
- (c) The practicability and expense of choosing any particular language or languages.
- (d) The right of an employee accused of misconduct to state his or her case during a disciplinary enquiry in a language of his or her choice and to have the proceedings at such enquiry translated to such language.
- (e) The dominant languages used by newspapers circulating in the area.
- (f) The right of everyone to use the language of their choice.
- (g) The economical, efficient and effective use of resources.

85. Review of language policy

- (1) The council may at any time review and amend its language policy, having due regard for the factors referred to in [rule 84](#).
- (2) The council must review its language policy upon receipt of a written request demanding such a review signed by at least one-third of the councillors.
- (3) A request in terms of sub-rule (2) must state the reasons for the demand and must contain proposals for any amendment, taking into account the factors referred to in [rule 84](#).
- (4) A request in terms of sub-rule (2) must be submitted to the municipal manager.
- (5) The municipal manager must submit a copy of the request to the speaker and must ensure that the request is contained in the agenda for the first ordinary council meeting next ensuing.
- (6) The speaker must submit a written report and recommendations about the request to the municipal manager, who must include it in the agenda for the meeting referred to in sub-rule (5).

CHAPTER 8

APPLICATION OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT

86. Investigating suspected breaches of the code

- (1) Whenever a written or oral allegation is made to the municipal manager or he or she has reason to believe that a councillor has contravened or failed to comply with any provision of the code of conduct (in this rule referred to as the “code”), he or she must report it in writing to the speaker. If such an allegation is made to a departmental head, she or he must report it to the municipal manager.
- (2) Upon receipt of a report in terms of sub-rule (1) and when the speaker has reason to believe that a provision of the code had been breached, he or she must -
 - (a) investigate the facts and circumstances of the case; and
 - (b) give the councillor concerned a reasonable period within which to respond in

writing to the alleged breach.

- (3) When performing an investigation in terms of sub-rule (2) the speaker may examine any official records and documents of the municipality and interview any person.
- (4) As soon as the speaker has completed the investigation he or she must submit -
 - (a) a written report, which must include his or her finding and recommendation; and
 - (b) the response of the councillor, if any, to the municipal manager for inclusion in the agenda of the first ordinary council meeting next ensuing. The municipal manager must immediately deliver a copy of the report to the councillor concerned.
- (5) If the councillor concerned fails to respond to the allegation within fourteen days after being invited by the speaker to do so, the speaker may submit his or her report without such comment.
- (6) The speaker makes a finding on a preponderance of probabilities.
- (7) If the speaker found that the councillor concerned breached the code and he or she recommends that -
 - (a) the council must apply to the MEC to suspend the councillor concerned for a period, he or she must make a recommendation as to the period of suspension;
 - (b) a fine should be imposed, he or she must make a recommendation as to the amount of such fine; or
 - (c) a warning should be issued, he or she must make a recommendation as to the period during which the warning should apply.
- (8) Nobody may victimise or threaten any person who gave evidence in an investigation in terms of this rule.

87. Consideration of the speaker's report by the council

- (1) The speaker must vacate the chair during any council meeting when a report in terms of [rule 86](#) is put to order.
- (2) Whenever the speaker vacates the chair in terms of sub-rule (1) the municipal manager must preside over the debate on the report.
- (3) The proceedings in terms of sub-rule (2) may not be closed for the public and the media.
- (4) After the speaker has introduced his or her report, the municipal manager must allow the councillor concerned to reply to the allegations and findings.
- (5) As soon as the councillor concerned has spoken, the matter is debated in terms of these rules.
- (6) Despite any provisions to the contrary in these rules and orders, the councillor concerned has a right to -
 - (a) reply to all the allegations made during the debate before the speaker replies;

- (b) examine any documents submitted by the speaker or any other councillor and submit documents in his or her defence; and
 - (c) call witnesses and to cross-examine any witness called by the speaker.
- (7) With due regard for the provision of [rules 26](#) and [27](#) the speaker must, after the debate had been exhausted, reply and propose -
- (a) that his or her report, findings and recommendation be accepted; or
 - (b) that his or her report and finding and a different recommendation be accepted; or
 - (c) that the council elect a committee to further investigate the matter.
- (8) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (7) need not be seconded.
- (9) After the proposal in terms of sub-rule (7) had been made, the municipal manager must put the proposal to the vote.
- (10) If the proposal in terms of sub-rule (7) is -
- (a) defeated, the matter is discontinued; or
 - (b) carried, the municipal manager must forthwith implement the resolution.

88. Implementing the result of the vote

- (1) If a proposal in terms of [rule 87\(7\)\(a\)](#) or (b) is carried and a fine is imposed, the municipal manager must deduct the amount of such fine from the first next payment of the municipality to the councillor concerned unless he or she has paid the fine in cash before such payment is due.
- (4) If a proposal in terms of [rule 87\(7\)\(a\)](#) or (b) is made and carried that the councillor concerned must be suspended or the councillor must be removed from the council, the municipal manager must forthwith make such an application to the MEC.
- (5) If the MEC on application of the council suspend the councillor concerned, he or she is, despite any rule to the contrary, deemed to be absent with leave from any meeting he or she would have been required to attend had he or she not been suspended.

89. Investigating the matter further

- (1) The council must immediately appoint from amongst its members an investigation committee of not less than three and not more than five councillors and appoint the chairperson of the committee if -
 - (a) a proposal in terms of [rule 87\(7\)\(c\)](#) is carried; or
 - (b) the speaker reported in terms of [rule 86\(4\)](#) that he found the allegation without any grounds and evidence was given during the meeting referred to in [rule 87](#) that the allegation may be true despite the speaker's finding, provided that the speaker may not serve as a member of the committee.
- (2) An investigation committee must be constituted in such a way that parties and interests reflected in the council are fairly represented in it.

- (3) The investigation committee must conclude its investigation not later than twenty-one days after its appointment.
- (4) When performing an investigation in terms of sub-rule (3) the investigation committee may examine any official records and documents of the municipality and interview any person. The investigating committee must consider the minutes of the meeting referred to in [rule 87](#) during its investigation.
- (5) The municipal manager must make a copy of the minutes of the meeting referred to in [rule 87](#) available to the councillor concerned as soon as possible after the meeting concluded.
- (6) The councillor concerned is entitled to make written submissions to the investigating committee, but the committee is not obliged to request the councillor's written comments on the allegations. The investigating committee must take account of the written response of the councillor concerned contemplated in [rule 86\(2\)](#) and any written submission made in terms of this sub-rule.
- (7) The municipal manager must make such reasonable administrative support as the investigating committee may require available to the committee.
- (8) As soon as the investigating committee has completed the investigation it must submit a written report, including its finding and any submission in terms of sub-rule (6), to the municipal manager for inclusion in the agenda of the first ordinary council meeting next ensuing. The municipal manager must immediately deliver a copy of the report to the councillor concerned.
- (9) The investigating committee makes a finding on a preponderance of probabilities.
- (10) If the investigating committee found that the councillor concerned breached the code it may recommend -
 - (a) that the speaker's finding and recommendation in terms of [rule 86\(8\)](#) be confirmed; or
 - (b) that the speaker's finding be confirmed and make a different recommendation.
- (11) If the investigating committee recommends that -
 - (a) the council must apply to the MEC to suspend the councillor concerned for a period, it must make a recommendation as to the period of suspension;
 - (b) a fine should be imposed, it must make a recommendation as to the amount of such fine; or
 - (c) a warning should be issued, it must make a recommendation as to the period during which the warning should apply.
- (12) Nobody may victimise or threaten any person who gave evidence in an investigation in terms of this rule.

90. Consideration of further report by the council

- (1) The provisions of [rule 87](#) apply, with the necessary changes, to the consideration of a

report of an investigating committee, provided that any reference in that rule to the speaker must be construed as a reference to the chairperson of the investigating committee.

- (2) The committee dissolves upon conclusion of the debate on its report during the council meeting.

91. Effect of appeal on a resolution

- (1) If the councillor concerned appeals against the finding or the penalty imposed by the council or against both such finding and penalty as described in [rule 87](#) before the municipal manager had deducted the fine, he or she must defer the matter until the result of the appeal is known.
- (2) If the councillor concerned appeals before the municipal manager could submit an application in terms of [rule 88](#)(4), the municipal manager must defer the matter until the result of the appeal is known.

92. Breaches of these rules and orders or legislation relating to privileges and immunities

Any alleged breach of the provisions of these rules and orders for which a specific procedure and penalty had not been prescribed or of legislation regulating the privileges and immunities of councillors, must be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of [rules 86](#) to 91.

CHAPTER 9

DISSOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL

93. Conditions for dissolution

- (1) The council may at any time after two years have lapsed since it was elected consider the dissolution of the council.
- (2) The council must consider the dissolution of the council if two years have lapsed after the council had been elected -
 - (a) upon receipt of a petition proposing the dissolution signed by not less than 500 voters; or
 - (b) upon receipt of a recommendation proposing the dissolution from the speaker, executive committee or
 - (c) when so directed by resolution of a public meeting of voters in terms of rule 141; or
 - (d) upon receipt of a motion proposing the dissolution from a councillor signed by at least one-third of the councillors in addition to the introducer of the motion; or
 - (e) when [section 139](#) of the Constitution is invoked in respect of the municipality.

94. Procedure for considering the dissolution of the council

- (1) Whenever any of the circumstances referred to in [rule 93](#)(2) arise, the speaker must determine the date, time and venue of a special council meeting in terms of [rule 4](#). The date of such a special meeting may not be less than fourteen and not more than twenty-one days from the date the petition was delivered, recommendation was made, resolution

was taken, motion was submitted or instruction received referred to in [rule 93](#)(2), as the case may be.

- (2) At least seven days notice of a meeting in terms of sub-rule (1) must be given, despite the provisions of [rule 6](#)(1).
- (3) A meeting in terms of sub-rule (1) may not be closed to the public and the media.
- (4) Despite any provisions to the contrary in these rules and orders the municipal manager presides over the debate of the petition, recommendation, resolution or motion, as the case may be.
- (5) With due regard for the provision of rules 26 and 27 the municipal manager must subject the petition, recommendation, resolution or motion, as the case may be, to a secret ballot in terms of [rule 45](#) despite the provisions of [rule 43](#) when the debate is exhausted.
- (6) The proposal is carried if two-thirds of the councillors of the municipality votes in favour of it.
- (7) The council is dissolved and all councillors vacate their seats immediately if the proposal is carried.

CHAPTER 10

COMMITTEES

Part 1

Section 79 - committees

95. Report of the municipal manager before the establishment of a committee

- (1) The council must, before it establishes and elects the members of a section 79-committee (in this part “the committee”), consider a report from the municipal manager regarding the proposed committee.
- (2) The municipal manager in preparing a report contemplated in sub-rule (1) must consider the need for the proposed committee, taking into account -
 - (a) the extent of the powers and functions of the municipality;
 - (b) the need to delegate those powers and functions to promote efficiency and effectiveness in their performance;
 - (c) the reasons not to delegate any such power or function to an existing committee or an employee of the municipality;
 - (d) the available financial and administrative resources of the municipality to support the work of the committee, including the preparation of agendas and minutes of the committee;
 - (e) the need for the economical, efficient and effective use of resources;
 - (f) the burden the workload of the proposed committee may put on its members;

- (g) the need for coordination of decision-making at the level of the council and its structures;
 - (h) possible measures to reduce the cross referral of matters between committees of the council, including the amendment of the terms of reference of one or more other committees; and
 - (i) the likely improvement or deterioration in the quality and speed of decision-making if the committee is established.
- (3) The report of the municipal manager must contain recommendations with regard to the matters listed in [rule 96](#) and the electoral system contemplated in [rule 98](#), despite any recommendation that he or she may make that the proposed committee not be established.
- (4) The municipal manager must submit his or her report to the executive committee.
- (5) The executive committee must consider the report and recommendations of the municipal manager and submit it, together with its own comment and recommendations to the council.

96. Consideration of the municipal manager's report

- (1) After the council considered the municipal manager's report and the comment and recommendation of the executive committee and the council decides to establish the committee, the council must -
- (a) determine the size of the committee;
 - (b) determine the terms of reference of the committee;
 - (c) determine the powers it delegates to the committee;
 - (d) determine the system for electing the members of the committee and elect the members of the committee in terms of that system;
 - (e) prescribe how often the committee must meet;
 - (f) consider authorising the committee to appoint persons who are not councillors or employees of the municipality as members of the committee; and
 - (g) prescribe how often the committee must submit a report to the council,
- (2) If the council at any time authorises the committee to appoint persons who are not councillors or employees of the municipality as members of the committee, it must- determine the qualifications, experience, specialised knowledge, demonstrated abilities or potential and other attributes such person must have to be appointed to the committee; determine the procedure for selecting and appointing any such person; and

determine the remuneration (if any) of any such person for serving in the committee and the conditions of such remuneration, provided that the council may decide that only the travelling cost, at tariffs determined by the council, and reasonable out of pocket expenses of such person in connection with his or her membership of the committee be paid.

97. Determining the size of the committee

- (1) No more than twenty percent of the councillors of the council or ten councillors, whichever is the least, may be elected as members of the committee provided that the committee must have at least three members who are councillors.
- (2) If the council authorises the committee to appoint persons in terms of [rule 96\(g\)](#) as members of the committee, it must determine the upper limit of the number of appointments that may be made, provided that -
 - (a) the number of councillors who may serve on the committee is reduced with a corresponding number; and
 - (b) the number of councillors serving in a committee always exceeds the number of persons who are not councillors in that committee.
- (3) No reduction of the number of councillors in terms of sub-rule (2) may be done if the committee has only three councillors as members, provided that the number of committee members who are not councillors or employees may not exceed two persons.

98. Election system and election of members of a committee

- (1) The members of the committee who are councillors must be elected according to a system that ensures that the parties and interests reflected in the council are fairly represented in that committee.
- (2) The speaker or mayor may not be elected as a member of the committee.
- (3) Immediately after the council determined the election system in terms of sub-rule (1) the council must elect the members of the committee.

99. Term of a committee and filling of vacancies

- (1) The members of the committee are elected and appointed, subject to sub-rule (2) for a term ending when the next municipal council is declared elected.
- (2) A member of the committee vacates office during the term of the council if that member -
 - (a) resigns as a member of the committee;
 - (b) is removed from office as a member of the committee in terms of [rule 81](#);
 - (c) ceases to be a councillor.
- (3) The council must, subject to [rule 98\(1\)](#), at the earliest opportunity after a vacancy occurred, elect and appoint another person to serve as member of the committee for the unexpired term of his or her predecessor.

100. Quorum and decision-making

- (1) A majority of the members of the committee must be present before a decision on any matter may be taken.
- (2) A question before the committee is decided if there is agreement among at least the majority of the members present at a meeting.

- (3) If on any question there is an equality of votes, the chairperson may exercise a casting vote in addition to her or his deliberative vote.

Part 2

Executive committee

101. Making the decision to establish an executive committee

- (1) The council must, at its first meeting after a general election of councillors, immediately after it elected the speaker, consider whether or not to establish an executive committee.
- (2) The council takes a decision in terms of sub-rule (1) only after it considered a report of the municipal manager in terms of [rule 102](#).

102. Report of the municipal manager about an executive committee

- (1) The municipal manager in preparing a report contemplated in [rule 101](#)(2) must consider the need for an executive committee, taking into account -
 - (a) the extent of the powers and functions of the municipality;
 - (b) the need to delegate those powers and functions to promote efficiency and effectiveness in their performance to an executive committee;
 - (c) the reasons not to delegate any such power or function to an employee of the municipality;
 - (d) the available financial and administrative resources of the municipality to support the work of an executive committee, including the preparation of agendas and minutes of the committee;
 - (e) the need for the economical, efficient and effective use of resources;
 - (f) the burden the workload of an executive committee may put on its members;
 - (g) the need for co-ordination of decision-making;
 - (h) the likely effect delegated powers may have on the enthusiasm and interest of councillors who are not elected to the executive committee; and
 - (i) the likely improvement or deterioration in the quality and speed of decision-making if an executive committee is established.
- (2) The report must contain recommendations with regard to -
 - (a) the powers that may be delegated to the executive committee;
 - (b) the format, frequency and framework for reports on the activities of the executive committee and the exercise of its delegated powers;
 - (c) the ceremonial functions that may be vested in the mayor;
 - (d) the electoral system and procedure to be used to obtain the result contemplated in

[section 43](#)(2) of the Structures Act;

- (e) the specification and clarification of the role and responsibility of the executive committee and the mayor on the one hand and the municipal manager and departmental heads of the municipality on the other, with due regard to the statutory duties and responsibilities of the municipal manager; and
- (f) any other relevant matter.

103. Considering the municipal manager's report

- (1) After the council considered the municipal manager's report and the council decides to establish an executive committee, the council must -
 - (a) determine the size of the committee in terms of [section 43](#)(1) of the Structures Act;
 - (b) determine the powers it delegates to the committee (if any);
 - (c) elect the members of the committee in terms of an electoral system determined by the council with due regard for the recommendation of the municipal manager;
 - (d) elect from amongst the members elected the mayor in terms of [Schedule 3](#) to the Structures Act;
 - (e) prescribe how often the committee must meet;
 - (f) prescribe the format, frequency and framework for reports on the activities of the executive committee and the exercise of its delegated powers;
 - (g) prescribe the ceremonial functions that may be vested in the mayor; and
 - (h) specify and clarify role and responsibility of the executive committee and the mayor on the one hand and the municipal manager and departmental heads of the municipality on the other, with due regard to the statutory duties and responsibilities of the municipal manager.
- (2) If the council decides, after it considered the municipal manager's report, not to establish an executive committee -
 - (a) the matter may not be considered again during the next three months; and
 - (b) the council operates as a municipality with a plenary executive system.

Part 3

Advisory committees

104. Establishment and disestablishment of advisory committees

- (1) The council may at any time appoint an advisory committee of persons who are not councillors or employees of the municipality in terms of this part.
- (2) The council may at any time disestablish an advisory committee established in terms of sub-rule (1).

- (3) The council must, before it establishes and appoints the members of an advisory committee consider a report from the municipal manager regarding the proposed committee.

105. Report of the municipal manager about a proposed advisory committee

- (1) The municipal manager in preparing a report contemplated in [rule 105](#)(3) must consider the need for the proposed committee, taking into account -
 - (a) the extent of the powers and functions of the municipality;
 - (b) the need to have professional advice when performing those powers and functions to promote efficiency and effectiveness;
 - (c) the reasons why the advice needed are not provided by the employees of the municipality or its other providers, including consultants;
 - (d) the available financial and administrative resources of the municipality to support the work of an advisory committee, including the preparation of agendas and minutes of the committee;
 - (e) the need for the economical, efficient and effective use of resources;
 - (f) the burden the workload of the proposed committee may put on its members;
 - (g) the need for co-ordination of decision-making at the level of the council and its structures;
 - (h) possible measures to reduce the cross referral of matters between committees of the council, including the amendment of the terms of reference of one or more other committees; and
 - (i) the likely improvement or deterioration in the quality and speed of decision-making if the committee is established.
- (2) The report of the municipal manager must contain recommendations with regard to the matters listed in [rule 106](#) despite any recommendation that he or she may make that the proposed committee not be established.
- (3) The municipal manager must submit his or her report to the executive committee
- (4) The executive must consider the report and recommendations of the municipal manager and submit it, together with its own comment and recommendations to the council.

106. Consideration of the municipal manager's report

After the council considered the municipal manager's report and the comment and recommendation of the executive committee and the council decides to establish the committee, the council must -

- (a) determine the size of the committee;
- (b) determine the terms of reference of the committee;
- (c) determine the advice it wants from the committee;

- (d) nominate the members of the committee;
- (e) appoint from amongst those members the chairperson of the committee;
- (f) prescribe how often the committee must meet;
- (g) prescribe how often the committee must submit a report to the council;
- (h) determine the term of the committee; and
- (i) determine the remuneration (if any) of any person for serving in the committee and the conditions of such remuneration, provided that the council may decide that only the travelling cost, at tariffs determined by the council, and reasonable out of pocket expenses of such person in connection with his or her membership of the committee be paid.

107. Term of office of members

The members of an advisory committee are appointed for a period determined by the council, subject to [rule 108](#).

108. Vacancies

- (1) A member of an advisory committee vacates office during a term if that member -
 - (a) resigns as a member of the committee; or
 - (b) is removed from office as a member of the committee.
- (2) The filling of a vacancy in an advisory committee is subject to [rule 106\(a\)](#).

109. Quorum and decisions

- (1) A majority of the members of an advisory committee constitutes a quorum for a meeting.
- (2) A question before the committee is decided if there is agreement among at least the majority of the members present at the meeting.

Part 4

Ad hoc committees

110. Establishment and disestablishment of ad hoc committees

- (1) The council or the executive committee may at any time establish an ad hoc committee to deal with or advise it with regard to a particular matter.
- (2) An ad hoc committee ceases to exist when -
 - (a) it furnishes its final report to the council or committee that established it; or
 - (b) the council or committee that established it, disestablishes it;

111. Terms of reference of ad hoc committees

The council or committee that establishes an ad hoc committee must determine the terms of reference of that ad hoc committee when it establishes it.

112. Removal from office of members of ad hoc committees

The council or committee that establishes an ad hoc committee may at any time remove one or more of the members from the committee.

CHAPTER 11

REPORTS

113. Reports of the executive committee

- (1) The executive committee must submit a report on its decisions and recommendations on the matters considered by it, at every ordinary council meeting.
- (2) A section 79-committee must submit a report on its decisions and recommendations on the matters considered by it at every ordinary meeting of the executive committee after it had a meeting.
- (3) Unless a matter is submitted to the council or the executive committee or for information only, the report of a committee on any matter must contain a recommendation.

114. Delivery of reports of committees

- (1) Except a report accepted by the speaker or chairperson in the case of a committee as a matter of urgency, a report of a committee in terms of [rule 113](#) is delivered to the council or the executive committee, as the case may be, together with the agenda for the meeting where it must be considered.

115. Submission of committee reports

- (1) The report of -
 - (a) the executive committee is submitted for consideration of the council; and
 - (b) a section 79-committee is submitted for consideration by the executive committee by the chairperson of the committee concerned, or a member of such committee designated by her or him, by proposing: "I propose that the report of the committee be considered".
- (2) A proposal in terms of sub-rule (1) -
 - (a) may not be discussed; and
 - (b) is deemed seconded once made.

116. Considering a committee report

- (1) When a report in terms of [rule 113](#) is considered the mayor must -
 - (a) put the matters contained in that report not disposed of by the committee in terms of its delegated or statutory powers, one after the other; and

- (b) thereafter put the matters disposed of by the committee in terms of its delegated or statutory powers, one after the other.
- (2) The mayor may alter the sequence of the matters dealt with in a committee report at his or her own discretion.
- (3) The section of a report referred to in sub-rule (1)(b) is considered in terms of rule 137.
- (4) The report and recommendation of a committee on a matter is deemed proposed and seconded.
- (5) When a recommendation referred to in sub-rule (4) is adopted, it becomes a council resolution.
- (6) During the consideration of a matter in terms of sub-rule (4) -
 - the mayor or chairperson of the committee or a member of the committee designated by him or her may speak for 10 minutes on any matter contained in such report despite any other provisions to the contrary herein contained; and
 - (a) a councillor may demand that his or her opposition to a recommendation and resolution be recorded in the minutes.
- (7) The chairperson of the committee concerned may at any time during the debate on a matter -
 - (a) request that the matter be withdrawn and referred back to the committee, as the case may be, for further consideration; or
 - (b) amend a recommendation contained in such report with the permission of the other members of the committee present.
- (8) Permission in terms of sub-rule (7) must be granted or denied without discussion.
- (9) A matter that is withdrawn in terms of sub-rule (7)(a) lapse without further discussion.
- (10) The chairperson of the committee may conclude the debate on the matter, provided that the chairperson of a committee may designate another councillor who is a member of the committee to conclude such debate.

117. Report on inability to comply with reporting requirements or any other duty

- (1) The municipal manager must report immediately to the executive committee if he or she is not able to comply with any of his or her reporting requirements or any duty in terms of -
 - (a) any legislation, including these rules and orders; or
 - (b) his or her contract of employment.
- (2) A report in terms of sub-rule (1) must state the reasons for the inability.
- (3) Whenever the reasons for the inability arise from the inadequate guidance, instruction, training or counselling, the report must state the extent to which such guidance,

instruction, training or counselling fell short of being adequate.

- (4) Whenever the reasons for the inability arise from a lack of co-operation from any departmental head or other employee of the municipality, the municipal manager must make appropriate recommendations as to prevent such an occurrence in future.

118. Reporting about performance

- (1) The municipal manager must, together with the report in terms of rule 133 submit a report on the implementation and results of the municipality's performance management system.
- (2) The report in terms of sub-rule (1) must, in addition to any matters prescribed in terms of the Systems Act, state -
 - (a) the development objectives of the municipality and the performance indicators and targets determined in respect of each of them;
 - (b) how progress was measured and the indicators applied
 - (c) the extent to which each of the performance targets had been achieved;
 - (d) the reasons for every difference between any performance target and the actual achievement thereof;
 - (e) recommendations for the improvement of performance where under performance against any performance target had been identified;
 - (f) recommendations for the increase in performance targets where such targets had been achieved;
 - (g) recommendations for the change of any performance indicator or development objective;
 - (h) the result and recommendations of the performance appraisal of the municipal manager and every departmental head during any period since the last report was submitted; and
 - (i) any other relevant matter.

CHAPTER 12

DELEGATED POWERS

119. Reporting on exercise of delegated powers

- (1) A committee, councillor or employee to whom a power had been delegated must report to the delegating authority on all decisions taken in terms of its delegated powers.
- (2) A report in terms of sub-rule (1) must be submitted -
 - (a) by the executive committee to the council together with its report in terms of [rule 113](#);
 - (b) by the municipal manager to the executive committee within fourteen days of the

end of each month; and

(c) by a departmental head to the municipal manager within fourteen days of the end of each month.

(3) A report in terms of -

(a) sub-rule (2)(b) must be incorporated into the report of the relevant committee to the council; and

(b) sub-rule (2)(c) must be incorporated into the report of the municipal manager in terms of sub-rule (2)(b).

120. Review of decisions under delegated powers

(1) The speaker must, after a report in terms of [rule 113](#)(1)(a) had been disposed of, put the matters disposed of by the committee, in terms of its delegated or statutory powers, one after the other.

(2) The speaker may alter the sequence of the matters dealt with in a report in terms of sub-rule (1) at his or her own discretion.

(3) During the consideration of a matter in terms of sub-rule (1) -

(a) the chairperson of the committee or a member of the committee designated by him or her may speak for 10 minutes on any matter contained in such report despite any other provisions to the contrary contained in these rules and orders;

(b) no proposal other than a proposal that the matter be referred back for consideration by the relevant committee may be made; and

(c) a councillor may demand that his or her opposition to a resolution contained in such report be recorded in the minutes.

(4) The chairperson of the committee concerned may at any time during the debate on a matter -

(a) request that the matter be withdrawn and referred back to the committee for further consideration; or

(b) amend a resolution contained in such report with the permission of the other members of the committee present in appropriate cases.

(5) Permission in terms of sub-rule (4) must be granted or denied without discussion.

(6) A matter that is withdrawn in terms of sub-rule (4)(a) lapse without further discussion.

(7) The chairperson of the committee, may conclude the debate on the matter, provided that in the case of a committee, the chairperson may designate another councillor who is a member of the committee to conclude such debate.

121. Review of delegated powers

(1) The municipal manager must, not later than the third ordinary council meeting after a general election of councillors, and thereafter as often as the council so requires, submit a

report on the delegated powers of the municipality to the council.

- (2) The report in terms of sub-rule (1) must be submitted to the executive committee
- (3) The committee must consider the report and recommendations of the municipal manager. The committee must submit the report, together with its comments and recommendations to the council at the first ordinary council meeting next ensuing.

CHAPTER 13

GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEARINGS, PUBLIC MEETINGS OF VOTERS AND CONSTITUENCY MEETINGS

122. Determination of time and venue of public meetings of voters

- (1) the speaker must -
 - (a) when so requested by petition signed by at least 250 voters; or
 - (b) in terms of a council resolution convene a public meeting of voters to discuss and decide a matter affecting the interests of the residents within the municipal area, provided that when the signatories on a request referred to in paragraph (a) are all from the same ward, the speaker may -
 - (i) convene a public meeting of voters only in respect of that ward; or
 - (ii) direct the councillor for that ward to convene a public meeting of voters in such a ward.
- (2) As soon as the speaker or the councillor contemplated in sub-rule (1)(ii) has determined the date, time and venue of a public meeting of voters, he or she must inform the municipal manager thereof. The date determined for a public meeting of voters may not be less than fourteen days after the date of publication of the notice in terms of [rule 6](#).
- (3) A request or resolution to convene a public meeting of voters must set out the matter to be dealt with at that meeting. No business other than that specified in the notice