



**MUNISIPALITEIT
MUNICIPALITY
UMASIPALA**

Press Statement

Issued by the Office of the Executive Mayor, Dr Ruben Richards
For immediate release (2 March 2023)

A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO FIX THE MUNICIPALITY

(2023, March 2nd) A NEW OPPORTUNITY TO FIX THE MUNICIPALITY. Press statement, 2 March 2023

Yesterday, 1 March 2023, at a lawfully constituted council meeting, a new political executive leadership team was elected, namely, Dr Ruben Richards (Executive Mayor); Dr John Hayes (Speaker) and Mr Andre Mouton (Deputy Mayor). They replaced Cllrs Farmer, Heins and Kamfer who have been in power over the past 7 or so months.

Yesterday, the new council also approved a Section 154 Support Plan which will see Provincial Government assisting the municipality with its many challenges. The Mayor has already made contact with the MEC for Local Government to request additional support for the Cederberg Municipality.

The municipality is without any permanent senior management. It is in effect a headless chicken at the moment – an Acting MM, with no senior directors.

The first official meeting of the Mayor, Dr Richards, on his first day in office was with the Acting Municipal Manager, Andries Titus to get a picture of the state of the municipality. Unfortunately, the picture does not look good. The long and short is that extraordinary effort will be needed to rescue the municipality from maladministration and financial ruin. Dr Richards has vowed to move with extra-ordinary speed to stabilise what some describe as a sinking ship namely the Cederberg Municipality.

“I appeal to all councillors, workers, residents and friends of the Cederberg to join hands with us, the newly elected leadership, to fix our broken municipality. I believe there are enough good and competent people willing to put their shoulder to the wheel so that a better and stronger Cederberg Municipality can emerge from the ashes of mismanagement, both administrative and political,” said Dr Richards, the newly elected Mayor.

The Mayor will regularly communicate and provide updates on progress.

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Persverklaring

Uitgereik deur die kantoor van die uitvoerende burgemeester, dr Ruben Richards
Vir onmiddellike vrystelling (2 Maart 2023)

'N NUWE GELEENTHEID OM DIE MUNISIPALITEIT REG TE RUK

Gister, 1 Maart 2023, tydens 'n wettig gekonstitueerde raadsvergadering, is 'n nuwe politieke uitvoerende leierskapspan verkies, naamlik dr Ruben Richards (uitvoerende burgemeester); Dr John Hayes (Speaker) en mnr Andre Mouton (onderburgemeester). Hulle vervang Cllrs Farmer, Heins en Kamfer wat die afgelope 7 of wat maande aan bewind was.

Die nuwe raad het gister ook 'n Artikel 154-ondersteuningsplan goedgekeur waarmee die provinsiale regering die munisipaliteit met sy talle uitdagings sal bystaan. Die burgemeester het reeds kontak gemaak met die LUR vir plaaslike regering om bykomende ondersteuning vir die Cederberg-munisipaliteit te versoek.

Die munisipaliteit is sonder enige permanente senior bestuur. Dit is in werklikheid 'n koplose hoender op die oomblik – 'n waarnemende MM, sonder senior direkteure.

Die eerste amptelike vergadering van die burgemeester, dr Richards, op sy eerste dag in die amp was saam met die waarnemende munisipale bestuurder, Andries Titus, om 'n foto van die stand van die munisipaliteit te kry. Ongelukkig lyk die prentjie nie goed nie. Die lank en kort is dat buitengewone pogings nodig sal wees om die munisipaliteit van wanadministrasie en finansiële ondergang te red.

Dr Richards het belowe om met buitengewone spoed te beweeg om te stabiliseer wat sommige as 'n sinkende skip beskryf, naamlik die Cederberg Munisipaliteit.

“Ek doen 'n beroep op alle raadslede, werkers, inwoners en vriende van die Cederberg om hande te vat met ons, die nuutverkose leierskap, om ons gebroke munisipaliteit reg te ruk. Ek glo daar is genoeg goeie en bekwame mense wat bereid is om hul skouer aan die wiel te sit sodat 'n beter en sterker Cederberg-munisipaliteit uit die as van wanbestuur, beide administratief en polities, kan kom,” het dr. Richards, die nuutverkose burgemeester, gesê.

Die burgemeester sal gereeld kommunikeer en opdaterings verskaf oor vordering.

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