

SUNSHINE NEWS

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City budget to restore service delivery

Cllr Tichaona Mhetu (holding brief case) with Mayor of Harare (3rd from left) and other Councilors and Council officials.

Staff Reporter

arare's ZWL\$32.7 billion budget for 2021 running under the theme "Restoring Service Delivery: Towards a Smart City" seeks to address key service delivery issues such as water availability, trafficable roads and effective waste management.

The financial plan comprises of a capital budget ZWL\$8,4 billion and a revenue budget of \$24.3 billion.

The tariff regime has largely changed to match the prevailing macro-economic fundamentals and informed by the need to provide service delivery to all.

Even if it has changed it still does not match the amounts paid by residents in the US dollar era where an average householder was paying between US\$30 to \$40 compared to RTGS\$1 7736 proposed in the budget.

The city intends to restore service delivery as witnessed by the huge investment into the water and sanitation sector.

Council allocated 57 percent of capital expenditure towards water and sanitation infrastructure and a recurrent budget to bolster infrastructure projects deemed crucial for the attainment of an upper middle income status by 2030. Council allocated ZWL\$4.76 billion to water, sanitation and hygiene.

Part of the allocation will be channelled towards optimisation of the city's sewer treatment plants and efforts will be made towards the rehabilitation of farms which are critical in the waste water treatment process.

For the roads programme Council allocated ZWL\$ 710 974 200.

The city acknowledges the amount is paltry and has asked Zinara to avail more funding for capital works for intended projects outlined in its Capital Development Plan 2022 to 2024.

The state of the city's roads remain deplorable largely due to the late disbursement of funds by Zinara and price variations caused by distortions in the market. *Cont. on Page 4*



NOTICE: REINSTATEMENT OF THE HUMAN CAPITAL DIRECTOR



Harare City Council has reinstated the Human Capital Director Dr Cainos Chingombe, who has been on suspension for the past three years. The decision to reinstate Dr Chingombe was made during a full council meeting held last week.

On his return Dr Chingombe announced key re-engineering strategies to curb systematic corruption, silo mentality and foster high performance teams to improve service delivery.

Dr Chingombe said he would fight corruption through system efficiency and synchronisation of service delivery roles across Council departments.

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Covid19 fight boosted



Hand washing stations donated by GOAL

Praisemore Vhudzi and Allen Matshalaga

City Health has hardened its fists against COVID19 pandemic. Recently council together with partners, GOAL and SAMS Investment installed 'step and wash' hand-washing stations at 15 schools in Mbare-Hatfield District.

Harare City health, chief environmental health officer Mr John Manyara said the support by partners would help in the fight against the pandemic.

"As you are aware that we are still in the midst of the COVID19 pandemic, Harare has most cases followed by Bulawayo and it is

Budiriro in Waste Separation at Source

Mercy Makuwatsine

The Budiriro community has been given an opportunity to separate waste at source and is now using two bins to separate their waste.

This came through a partnership involving council, Zero Waste Social Enterprises, Environmental Management Agency (EMA), Clean City and the community.

The launch which coincided with the National Clean Up campaign kicked off with a clean-up which targetted the clearing of illegal dumpsites in Budiriro 1, 3 and 5 shopping centres.

Hundreds of community volunteers participated in the clean-up. Speaking during the clean-up campaign, Zero Waste Social Enterprises Founder Mufaro Dzingai said the 2 Bin System enables the separation of waste at source.

Green bins are for recyclable materials such as paper, cardboard, plastics, cans and glass whilst the other black bin will be used for contaminated, medical, food waste among others.

"We have engaged council and EMA on how collection of the bins will be done.

"Residents will put the used bins at a collection points. Council will collect non-recyclable bins whilst our organisation will collect the recyclable bins," said Mr Dzingai.

Community Coordinator of Clean Ups in Budiriro Ivy Mukuku hailed the partnership and the 2 Bin System.

Budiriro West District Officer Stanley Gara encouraged Zero Waste Social Enterprises and the community volunteers to work hard to ensure the programme continues.

The launch was attended by Budiriro Constituency Member of Parliament Honourable Costa Machingauta, City of Harare officials, Clean City officials, EMA officials and Budiriro Community.

also a hot spot for cholera and typhoid outbreaks.

"We are working together with our partners like GOAL Zimbabwe to respond to the COVID19 pandemic as well as to prepare and prevent diarrheal disease outbreaks," he said.

He said council will assess whether schools had followed the laid down Covid19 protocols before opening.

"The Ministry of Health and Child Care working together with the Ministry of Primary and Secondary School has developed guidelines to be complied with by schools before classes open to ensure the safety of both learners and teachers.

"All school authorities are obliged to comply.

"Assessment of schools to check for compliance and adherence to these measures are currently being done by Environmental Health Practitioners," he explained.

In his closing remarks, he thanked the various stakeholders for their active partnership during this Global Crisis and urged other stakeholders to land a hand in fighting this pandemic and ensuring the safety of leaners and the country as a whole.

"We would like to thank Goal Zimbabwe and other stakeholders for this noble and kind gesture and hope they will continue to assist in the fight against Corona Virus and other diseases as this will ensure the safety of learners and Zimbabwe as a whole", he remarked.



NOTICE TO INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES

Notice is hereby given to commercial and industrial properties that produce trade effluent and directly or indirectly discharge it into the municipal sewer of the introduction of an annual trade discharge fee of USD500 or ZWL equivalent effective 1 January 2021.

The Trade effluent discharge licence fee is in accordance with the provisions of the Environmental Management Act (EMA) Chapter (CAP) 20:27 Section 59(1) which authorises local authorities operating a sewerage system to issue a prescribed fee to every owner or operator of a trade or industrial undertaking producing trade effluent and discharging in into its sewerage system.

This trade effluent discharge licence fee is over and above the monthly billed trade effluent charges which are dependent on the volume and quality of effluent produced.

Payment of the trade effluent discharge licence fee will be one of the requirements to be met before an existing or new business which produces industrial trade effluent is issued with a council business license.

A monthly penalty fee of USD\$300 or ZWL equivalent, which will be reviewed quarterly, will be charged with immediate effect, to every trade effluent producing industrial or commercial property operating without the prerequisite pre-treatment facility or facilities in violation of EMA CAP 20:27 Section 59(2) and the Urban Councils Act (UCA) CAP 29:15 of 1996 section 173(4) which require the proponent or owner of a trade or industrial undertaking to pre-treat their trade effluent before discharging it into the sewerage system.

The penalty fee shall continue to be charged until the concerned industrial or commercial properties install the requisite pre-treatment facilities to the satisfaction of council.

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Illegal activities in the City rile Government



Staff Reporter

Government is concerned with the way residents are consciously ignoring council by-laws settling themselves illegally, building homes from ground to roof with no permits, starting businesses along major highways, laying



bricks, sand and durawall wherever they wish among other ills, Provincial Development Coordinator Mr Tafadzwa Muguti has said. Addressing councillors and officials at Town House, Mr Muguti said council must address all matters head on and deliberately call out wrongs when there are perpetrated internally and externally. "We are seeing a great decay in the moral fibre of residents as they are no longer recognising what is allowed and not allowed by the City of Harare. Recently the Zimbabwe Republic Police lost one of their fellow officers along 4th street when he was run over by a Mushikashika driver," he said.

"It is sad that we have allowed our once great city to now be driven with such lawlessness. I am making an appeal to you all that we please reinstate ethical conduct and behaviour in our communities so that we can at least begin to shape the future as a smart city." He said President Emmerson Mnangagwa has openly declared war on all those who have and continue to be corrupt citizens. "Gone are the days when councillors and management could disre-

gard the Urban Councils Act and Regional Town and Country Act without consequences. To the councillors, it is vital that you learn, understand and appreciate the importance of these Acts."

No regularization without prosecution, Government

Staff Reporter

rovincial Development Coordinator Mr Tafadzwa Muguti has urged the City of Harare to be proactive and enforce eviction judgements passed in its favour.

The City of Harare have successfully received court judgements against land barons and also served eviction letters to illegal occupants some dating backs years.

"Surprisingly up to now there are not yet enforced. My office and the security services within the Province are at pains to understand why we are watching as people are building illegally only to then demolish after full construction. Enforcement should be proactive and not reactive. Let's be agile in our approach to protect open spaces and wetlands in our city," he said. "All illegal settlements should be evicted and those who have an opportunity to be regularized, planning should commence immediately through the Ministry of Local Government and Public Works.

"But kindly note there will be no regularization without prosecution. In every illegal settlement there is someone or a group of people who pocketed money for themselves. This is fraud and therefore arrests should be made. Those settled illegally should work with the municipality and Police in exposing land crimes instead of protecting criminals," he said.



Shoko in maiden SOWA address



Staff Reporter

Ward 44 Councillor Adonia Shoko has promised development in

Kuwadzana Extension.

Cllr Shoko promised to accelerate roads maintenance, maternity ward, market place and public toilets as part of his focus areas

He made the remarks when he delivered his inaugural State of the Ward Address (SOWA) at a well-attended event.

Stakeholders in the ward gathered at a historic event for the area where the second SOWA was delivered amidst high hopes and expectations for the suburb west of the city.

Stakeholders formed a committee and pledged to join hands with Cllr Shoko to undertake some of the projects.

"We have so many projects that we need to undertake, but I must emphasize that we have to take them one by one,

"We need to look at our priorities as a community and see which ones must come first. We do not want a situation where we carry out a lot of projects and in the end fail to complete a single one," said Cllr Shoko.

He singled out the market place and public toilet as his immediate projects which will start immediately and be expected to be complete in 3 months. The event was attended by Mayor Jacob Mafume, Ward 22 councillor Stanley Manyenga, local ward church leaders, business persons, different political groups and members of the community.

Procurement of new Fire Engines



Staff Reporter

COUNCIL is pushing for Government support to procure new fire engines and to facilitate the payment of relevant fees for the shipment of four donated engines.

Council last bought fire tenders 25 years ago and currently relies on donated equipment from Mr Peter Lobel, Operation Florian (UK) and the Insurance Council of Zimbabwe.

Presenting the 2021 budget proposal estimates today, Finance and Development Committee Chairperson Cllr Tichaona Mhetu appealed for Government support with foreign currency to pay for the shipment of four donated fire engines that were donated in 2017 by Operation Florian UK. The emergency services has five ambulances against a demand of 32. Presently council has 14 serviceable fire engines but requires at least 24. Council has three fire stations in Kuwadzana, Greendale and the main depot in Belvedere.

Plans are afoot to decentralize the emergency services to capacitate districts to respond to local emergencies. Such a plan requires more equipment.

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Public Safety and Security Services were allocated ZWL\$221 529 900, Social Services ZWL\$1 689 705, Governance and Administration Programme ZWL\$962 453 700, Natural Resources, Conservation and Management ZWL\$64 082 400, Total Capital budget ZWL\$8.4 bill and Revenue budget \$24.3 billion

Through restoring service delivery the city believes it will develop the springboard for the transformation of Harare into a Smart City. Presenting the City's Budget Statement yesterday Chairperson of the Finance and Development Committee, Councillor Tichaona Mhetu said the tariff regime might be painful, but it is necessary for the city to restore basic service delivery to its residents.

"Our expenditure is generally depended on the prevailing foreign currency auction system although our income remains largely local currency. "Furthermore, the 2021 Revenue and Capital Estimates before you were developed in a manner that aims to fulfil Council's 2021 Strategic Goals and our midterm focussed goal of attaining 75% customer satisfaction," he said.

Cllr Mhetu said the COVID 19 pandemic has had profound effects on the operations of Council and service delivery is at its lowest in the city's history as the outbreak affected local public health, and has had unprecedented impact on local economies.

This, he said, has resulted in very low revenue inflows against a great demand for services particularly in the WASH, Social Service and Roads Sectors.