

BERGRIVIER BULLETIN

Quarterly External Municipal Newsletter



Council meets the public: Bergrivier Municipality's Council approved the 2023/24 to 2025/26 budget at a Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 30 May 2023 at the N. Otto Community Hall in Porterville. This was a first for the Municipality, where the Council went out to the public. Speaker Alderman Rhandall Swarts chaired the Council Meeting. The Municipality would like to thank all members of the public for attending this historic meeting. We serve with pride!

BERGRIVIER MUNICIPALITY'S 2023/24 - 2025/26 BUDGET HAS BEEN APPROVED BY COUNCIL

By Matthew Sheldon

"This is a budget for our communities".

So said Alderman Ray van Rooy, Executive Mayor of Bergrivier Municipality, during the delivery of his budget speech on Tuesday, 30 May 2023 at a Council Meeting held at the N. Otto Community Hall in Porterville. This was the first time Bergrivier Municipality took its Council Meeting to the public in a community hall.

Bergrivier Municipality's budget for the 2023-2024 financial year, totalling at R630 million, was approved by Council on 30 May 2023.

Van Rooy mentioned that preparing the final budget was a daunting task under the current economic circumstances, both locally and globally. "Our ability to deliver good quality services to our citizens are severely being hampered by Eskom's implementation of prolonged loadshedding throughout the country. The energy crisis has a direct impact on the economic growth and revenue of the Municipality", said Van Rooy.

Despite these challenges, the delivery of excellent services and improving the quality of life of all residents remains the number one priority for Bergrivier Municipality. The budget was drafted and aligned to needs of the communities we serve, as captured in the approved Integrated Development Plan (2022-2026).

The approved budget consists of the following:

- Capital Budget of R102,441 million; and
- Operating Budget of R527,674 million.

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In order to balance the budget under these challenging economic circumstances we are facing, increasing the tariff charges were unavoidable, but it was done responsibly after much deliberation.

Tariff increases which will take effect as from 1 July 2023:

- Water increases by 7%;
- Electricity increases by 15,1% (Subject to NERSA's approval);
- Refuse removal increases by 20%;
- Sewerage increases by 7%; and
- Property Rates **decreases** by 21% (due to the implementation of the new General Valuation Roll)

"In preparing the final budget, we also had to incorporate the guidelines provided by National Treasury. I can confirm Bergrivier Municipality's commitment to spend economically rather than spending the economy. It will be expected of the entire administration to continue to find alternative and innovative measures of ensuring service delivery without necessarily having to increase the cost to the taxpayer and consumer", Van Rooy boldly explained.

The Municipality will continue to support the vulnerable within the communities through the implementation of indigent subsidies to qualifying households, which will receive a support package consisting of 50 free electricity units, 6 kilolitres of free water and a 100% subsidised standard household refuse removal and sewerage tariff per month.

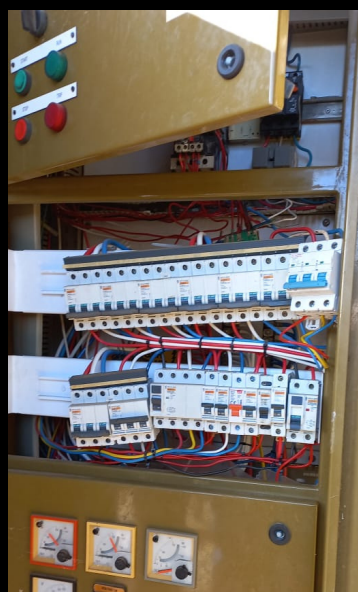
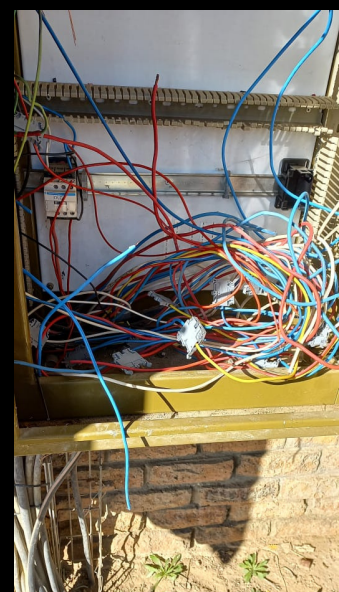
Van Rooy concluding his speech by thanking the Budget Steering Committee under the leadership of Councillor Daniels, the Municipal Manager, the Chief Financial Officer and the staff in the Strategic Services Department and Budget Office, Directors and other personnel who were involved in compiling the budget and related documents.

To view the full budget and other related documents, please visit the municipality's official website at www.bergmun.org.za or contact 022 913 6000. We thank the public for their vested interest in the budget.



There is no excuse for vandalism!

#stopvandalismnow



VELDDRIF WINS BERGRIVIER RUGBY CUP 2023

“Congratulations to all the teams that won their respective divisions, well played. It just shows that if you keep working hard, it ultimately and eventually pays off”. These were the words of Alderman Ray van Rooy, Executive Mayor of Bergrivier Municipality, who mentioned that the Rhino Park Stadium in Piketberg was packed to capacity during the Bergrivier Rugby Cup 2023 which took place on 8 April 2023.

Approximately 2 000 spectators flocked to the stadium to watch and support their favourite local rugby club. All the teams within the Bergrivier Municipal Area competed against each other (in their divisions) for top honours, a rare opportunity which they seldomly get, since many of these teams play in different regional leagues.

A total of 12 teams from across Bergrivier Municipality, namely Porterville; Piketberg; Wittewater; Velddrif; Goedverwacht; Redelinghuys; Piket-Bo-Berg; Eendekuil; Aurora and Moutonshoek, participated in the competition.

The tournament consisted of three divisions namely Division A (Mayor’s Cup); Division B (Chairman Cup); and Division C (Community Cup). The winner of Division A for the second time in a row was once again Velddrif Rugby Club, whilst Zebras from Piket-Bo-Berg won Division B for a second consecutive year and Aurora Rugby Club were the winners of Division C.

The best players on the day were as follows:

- Best forwards of the tournament – O. Musabaika (Mountain Eagles – Division C), C. Diedrich (Red Stars – Division B) and K. Adams (Piketberg Rugby Club – Division A);

- Best backline players: P. Springfield (Black Tigers – Division C), E. van der Byl (Zebras – Division B) and F. Afrika (Velddrif Rugby Club – Division A); and

- Overall best player of the tournament was B. Mbalula (Zebras – Division B).

Van Rooy explained that sports development is one of the Municipality’s top priorities and therefore invests resources into creating a platform for the sportsmen and women to showcase their talents and participate in an active lifestyle. “We can really be proud of the level of local rugby on offer in our backyard. It is my dream that we can see some of our local stars go professional and maybe one day see them on television,” said Van Rooy.

Van Rooy mentioned that the players’ humility and kindness towards him never ceases to amaze him. He is encouraged with the level of support for local rugby. “Sports can be the stepping stone to success, however, you have to be truly invested and dedicated. It also brings together different cultures and fosters life-long friendships. Support your local rugby players and clubs and let’s continue to encourage our youth to lead healthy and active lifestyles,” he said.

Van Rooy concluded: “We would like to take this opportunity to share our appreciation to the Bergrivier Sport and Recreation Association for their continuous support and partnership. Our deepest gratitude to the staff working at SAPS, our colleagues at Bergrivier Municipality, the sponsors, the volunteers, the participating rugby teams and, most importantly, thank you to all the fans both at the tournament and who watched online”.



Velddrif Rugby Club, the defending champions, were in keeping their title this year after being announced as winners of Division A at the Bergrivier Rugby Cup 2023.



Zebras from Piket-bo-Berg won Division B for the second consecutive year during the Bergrivier Rugby Cup 2023.



Bergrivier Munisipaliteit het op 25 April 2023, tydens 'n Raadsvergadering, amptelik totsiens gesê aan Neels "Sous" Rossouw, Bestuurder: Elektriesedienste, wat na 38 jaar van uitstekende lojale diens, afgetree het. Rossouw (65) was betrokke in talle dienslewering projekte oor die jare en het hard gewerk om die Munisipaliteit se visie te laat realiseer.

BERGRIVIER GROET ROSSOUW NA 38 JAAR SE DIENS

Bergrivier Munisipaliteit het op 25 April 2023 tydens 'n Raadsvergadering die geleentheid geneem om amptelik totsiens te sê aan Neels "Sous" Rossouw, wat 'n leeftyd in diens van sy gemeenskappe deurgebring het.

Een van Rossouw (65) sê laaste uitdagings voordat hy afgetree het, het in Julie 2022 gekom nadat Eskom langdurige vlak 6 beurtkrag geïmplementeer het, en opnuut in Januarie 2023. Rossouw en sy span het gesukkel om die twee reservoirs in Piketberg tot aanvaarbare vlakke vol te maak. Die Munisipaliteit kon nie inwoners van voldoende drinkbare water voorsien nie, omdat dit nie 'n minimum pomptyd van 19 uur per dag kon handhaaf nie.

Op hierdie stadium het Piketberg se Watersuiweringswerke en *Boosterstasie* geen ondersteunende kragopwekkers gehad nie en het baie ander munisipaliteite dit baie moeilik gevind om kragopwekkers aan te koop. In Januarie 2023, was kragopwekkers nie maklike items om in Suid-Afrika aan te skaf nie (veral die 880kWh wat benodig is).

Rossouw het hard gewerk om seker te maak dat die Munisipaliteit twee groot kragopwekkers kon kry, om die water krisis in Piketberg op te los. Intussen het die Munisipaliteit watertenkwaens by verskeie punte binne Piketberg ontplooi vir inwoners om drinkbare water (gratis) vir huishoudelike gebruik te verkry.

Teen die einde van Februarie (2023) het die twee reuse kragopwekkers in Piketberg aangekom en is dit geïmplementeer.

"Dit is die tipe persoon wie hy (Sous) is. Hy gee nooit op nie en het altyd 'n plan B as dinge nie uitwerk nie. Rossouw het altyd sy gemeenskappe 'n prioriteit gemaak en het baie keer laat nagte by die elektriese stasie of by enige ander insident waar krag betrokke was, deurgebring om herstelwerk te doen. Dit kos passie, deursettingsvermoë en 'n diep begeerte om met trots te wil dien," het Raadsheer Ray van Rooy, gesê.

Van Rooy het bygevoeg dat Rossouw is 'n fantastiese voorbeeld van 'n werknemer wat regtig Bergrivier Munisipaliteit se kernwaardes uitgeleef het.

Advokaat Hanlie Linde, Munisipale Bestuurder by Bergrivier Munisipaliteit, het genoem dat Rossouw 'n ongelooflike begrip het van hoe elektrisiteit en die netwerke funksioneer en kon altyd deeglike tegniese raad of terugvoering deurgee na 'n elektriese fout ontstaan het. "Ons is almal hartseer om so 'n wyse mens te verloor, maar ons wens hom alle sterkte toe met sy aftrede," het Linde afgesluit.

Rossouw het by Piketberg Munisipaliteit in 1985 aangesluit as Hoof: Elektriese Ingenieursdienste.

METERLESER HANG SY HANDSKOENE OP NA MEER AS 37 JAAR DIENS

Na meer as 37 jaar se diens het Christoffel Ockhuis (65), 'n bekende meterleser by Bergrivier Munisipaliteit (Porterville kantoor), afgetree.

Ockhuis het sy loopbaan by die Munisipaliteit begin as 'n algemene munisipale werker by die destydse Porterville Munisipaliteit. Dit is voordat die munisipaliteite geamalgameer het.

"Oom Christie" soos hy alom bekend is, het sy werk met absolute passie uitgevoer en het altyd 'n glimlag op sy gesig rondgedra. Die ervare kennis het hom instaat gestel om homself goed van sy taak te kwyt.

Advokaat Hanlie Linde, Munisipale Bestuurder by Bergrivier Munisipaliteit, het gesê dat hy (Ockhuis) een van die mees lojale, betroubare en hardwerkende werkers was ten spyte van sommige moeilike weersomstandighede. Dit is vir Linde moeilik om so 'n ervare en kennisvolle mens te verloor, maar sy respekteer wel sy wense en bid hom net voorspoed toe vir die toekoms.

"Eerlikheid, lojaliteit en respek teenoor jou werk en medemens is van kardinale belang. Ek het dit aangeneem as my lewensfilosofie en dit dien as trapklippe vir 'n lang en

sukcesvolle loopbaan. Verwyder alle negatiewe gedagtes en persone deur God se leiding en goeie guns," het Ockhuis afgesluit.

"Dit is die eienskappe van 'n trotse Bergrivier Munisipaliteit werknemer, wat bygedra het om vooruitstrewendheid in ons gemeenskappe te bevorder," het Raadsheer Ray van Rooy gesê.



Hier in die foto oorhandig die Finansies - afdeling 'n lang-diens sertifikaat aan die getroue Christoffel Ockhuis. Baie geluk!

ESKOM BEURTKRAG KWESSIE

Bergrivier Munisipaliteit se elektriese netwerke is tans onder geweldige druk wanneer toevoer na die dorpe aangeskakel word na Eskom beurtkrag.

Onder normale toestande is die elektriese aanvraag laer en meer stabiel. Tydens die Eskom beurtkrag koel warmwater silinders af en koelkaste se interne temperatuur verhoog. Sodra toevoer herstel word, skakel al die elektriese toestelle gelyk aan, wat veroorsaak dat die aanvraag vir elektrisiteit die beskikbare netwerk-kapasiteit oorskry. In sommige gevalle is die aanvraag dan dubbel die beskikbare kapasiteit.

Velddrif ondervind tans die grootste aanvraag na afloop van Eskom beurtkrag wat veroorsaak dat dele van die dorp vir langer tye af is. Soms word die Eskom netwerk-kapasiteit oorskry wat veroorsaak dat die Eskom skakelaar "trip" en die hele dorp dan weer sonder toevoer is. Onderbrekings in toevoer word deur tegnici herstel en neem dus tyd om te voltooi.

Die Monte Bertha voerder in Porterville se kapasiteit word ook oorskry, wat veroorsaak dat dele van hierdie area vir langer tye sonder elektrisiteitstoevoer is.

Piketberg se hoof toevoer "trip" ook tans in die Eskom substasie as gevolg van die oorlading van die netwerk.

Hiermee doen Bergrivier Munisipaliteit 'n ernstige beroep op inwoners om die volgende praktiese stappe te volg om die aanvraag vir elektrisiteit te verminder direk na Eskom beurtkrag.

- Skakel asseblief warmwatersilinders af tydens Eskom beurtkrag en eers 30 minute nadat die toevoer herstel is, weer aan;
- Wag 15 tot 30 minute voordat apparate soos stowe, verwarmers of lugversorgers aangeskakel word; en
- Stel alle batterystelsels (bv. ononderbroke kragbronne en sonkragstelsels met batterye) se omsetters om die batterye eers na 30 minute te begin herlaai.

Samewerking in hierdie verband sal tot voordeel van alle inwoners wees en die impak van Eskom beurtkrag help verlig.



**LOAD SHEDDING
POWER ALERT**





Hier is 'n groepsfoto van die Belgiese delegasie saam met leerders uit skole van Bergrivier Munisipaliteit op 'n jeugkamp in Kaapstad in April 2023. Almal het baie geleer tydens toer.

BELGIESE LEERDERS BESOEK BERGRIVIER

Bergrivier Munisipaliteit is sedert 2015 in 'n "stedeband" met Heist-op-den-Berg Munisipaliteit in België. Dit is 'n internasionale vennootskap waar beide partye leer van mekaar en beste praktyke uitruil. Die drie onderwerpe waarop die munisipaliteite tans fokus is vaste afval bestuur, jeugontwikkeling en publieke deelname.

'n Delegasie van België het op Vrydag, 31 Maart 2023 in Suid-Afrika geland. Die leerders van Bergrivier Munisipaliteit het saam met leerders van Heist-op-den-Berg die program aangepak. Die groep van Heist-op-den-Berg het gedurende hul verblyf geleer hoe dinge in Bergrivier Munisipaliteit gedoen word en het ook die geleentheid gekry om deel te neem aan verskillende aktiwiteite wat die jeug ontwikkel en bemagtig het.

Enkele temas is vir die program geïdentifiseer waarvan die belangrikste temas die "Sustainable Development Goals" is, en om mekaar se lewensomstandighede te leer ken. Een van die temas is ook om uit te vind hoe die jeug betrokke kan raak in sake van die samelewing, waar hulle 'n verskil kan maak in hul eie toekoms.





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Bergrivier Municipality is officially on Instagram. Follow us to get all the latest municipal news, project updates and stay notified about upcoming events.

BERGRIVIER MUNICIPALITY’S MAYORAL SOCCER CUP DRAWS BIG SUPPORT IN VELDDRIF

By Angelo Rickers

“Soccer is alive in Bergrivier Municipality. Well done to all the players and especially the winning clubs who performed exceptionally well on the pitch at this year’s Bergrivier Mayoral Soccer Cup”.

These were the words of Alderman Ray van Rooy, Executive Mayor of Bergrivier Municipality, who hosted the Bergrivier Mayoral Soccer Cup which was held at the Eric Goldsmith Sports Ground in Velddrif. This event took place on Freedom Day, 27 April 2023.

A total of 8 teams from across Bergrivier Municipality, namely Piketberg Spurs FC; Atlantic Rovers FC; Young Stars FC; Young Chiefs FC; Porterville Hotspurs FC; Yizo Yizo FC; Piketberg United FC and Rasta Milan FC, participated in this competition.

On a cold and misty Thursday morning (27 April 2023), approximately 300 spectators made their way to the stadium to support their favourite local soccer club. The Mayoral Soccer Cup was designed to create a platform to allow players an opportunity to showcase their talents and empower local clubs.

The tournament consisted of two divisions, namely Division A (South African Breweries League) and Division B (Local Football Association League). The final rankings for Division A (from top) were Atlantic Rovers FC; Yizo Yizo FC; Young Chiefs FC and Rasta Milan FC, whilst Young Stars FC won Division B and in second place was Piketberg United FC. Third place in Division B went to Porterville Hotspurs FC and in fourth was Piketberg Spurs FC. Emotions were high as all teams battled it out to be crowned as the winners of the Bergrivier Mayoral Soccer Cup.



Winners: Atlantic Rovers FC (Velddrif) were the winners of Division A at the Bergrivier Mayoral Soccer Cup 2023.

Van Rooy concluded that even though the tournament was very competitive, the clubs respected each other on the pitch and the matches were played with good energy and discipline.

The best players on the day were as follows:

- Best goalkeeper – Zidan Coetzee (Division A) and Thabo Tiba (Division B);
- Best midfielder of the tournament – Justin du Toit (Division A) and Emmanuel Kayster (Division B);
- Best defender – Sibongile Sikeyi (Division A) and Ephraim Tandyde (Division B);
- Best striker – Marius Gelant (Division A) and Bronwyn Koordom (Division B); and
- Top goal scorer of the tournament – McNeal Sauls (Division A) and Aymila Nkohla (Division B).

Van Rooy explained that sports development remains one of the Municipality’s top priorities. “By investing resources to create a platform of this standard, we will encourage the youth to showcase their talents and simultaneously participate in an active lifestyle,” said Van Rooy.

He concluded by saying: “We would like to take this opportunity to convey our appreciation to the Bergrivier Sport and Recreation Association for their continuous support and partnership. We would like to thank Riviera Hotel, OK Foods Velddrif, Charlie’s Brewhouse (Russel Foster), Tuboseal and Westland Fisheries, for their contribution towards the success of the tournament. A special thank you to all the participating soccer teams and, most importantly the supporters, who made this sporting event most memorable”.



Winners: Young Stars FC were crown as the champions of Division B.

REPORT FRAUD

“Members of the public are encouraged to report any fraud and/or corruption allegations to either the Executive Mayor, Alderman Ray van Rooy, on 083 657 9615, the Municipal Manager, Adv. Hanlie Linde on 022 913 6011 or the Internal Auditor, Cindy Ranna at 022 913 6002 or via e-mail: rannac@bergmun.org.za

The public can also contact the National Anti-corruption Hotline at 0800 701 701 or the Provincial Forensic Services at 021 483 0931 or via e-mail: Tip.Offs@westerncape.gov.za

All communication is treated with sensitivity and strictly confidential.

Cindy Ranna, Internal Auditor at Bergrivier Municipality.

Municipal Notice: Indigent subsidies

Bergrivier Municipality would like to invite everyone that would like to register as a household in need and are eligible for free basic services, to visit their nearest municipal office. Customers can apply for indigent subsidies if the total household income of all members of the household living on the premises is less than R5 000 per month. If you qualify, your monthly bill will be subsidized by up to R656.10. This amount includes 6Kl of free water. Come and find out how the process works. For more information on indigent subsidies, call Mabel Fortuin (Piketberg) on 022 913 6061 or Estralita Schreuder (Porterville) on 022 931 8420 or Simonia Philander (Velddrif) on 022 783 8304. We serve with pride and we are always there to help you!

Munisipale Kennisgewing: Deernis-subsidies

Bergrivier Munisipaliteit nooi graag almal wat as hulpbehoewende huishoudings wil registreer en vir gratis basiese dienste in aanmerking wil kom, om hul naaste munisipale kantoor te besoek. Verbruikers kan aansoek doen vir 'n deernis-subsidie indien die totale huishoudelike inkomste van alle lede van die huishouding (wat op die perseel woonagtig is) minder as R5 000 per maand is. Indien u kwalifiseer, sal u maandelikse rekening met tot soveel as R656.10 gesubsidieer word. Hierdie bedrag sluit 6Kl gratis water in. Kom vind uit hoe die proses werk. Vir meer inligting oor deernis-subsidies, skakel Mabel Fortuin (Piketberg) by 022 913 6061 of Estralita Schreuder (Porterville) by 022 931 8420 of Simonia Philander (Velddrif) by 022 783 8304. Ons dien met trots en is altyd daar om u te help!

BERGRIVIER MUNISIPALITEIT

ONWETTIGE STORTING IS 'N OORTREDING EN SAL BEBOET WORD

STOP DIT!



Meld onwettige storting onmiddellik aan by:

Wetstoepassing (Piketberg): 083 661 9253/ 083 226 1067

(Velddrif, Laaiplek, Noordhoek, Dwarskersbos): 083 272 4128

(Goedverwacht en Wittewater): 083 661 9253/ 083 226 1067

(Porterville): 083 922 5213

(Redelinghuys): 083 226 1067/ 083 661 9253

(Aurora): 083 272 4128

(Eendekuil): 083 922 5213



**Bergrivier Municipality /
Bergrivier Executive Council**

www.bergmun.org.za



PUT YOUR WASTE IN ITS PLACE

Recycling of Glass, Metal, Paper & Plastic
Place these items in your transparent/recycling bag.

3 EASY STEPS TO PREPARE RECYCLABLES

1
EMPTY

2
CLEAN

3
DRY



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Physical: 13 Church Street, Piketberg
www.bergmun.org.za

PUT YOUR WASTE IN ITS PLACE

GREEN WASTE

*Place the following items in your green bag or compost bin:
grass, wood chips, dead plants, tweaks, branches and leaves*

**DID YOU KNOW
THAT GREEN
WASTE CAN ALSO
BE PLACED INTO
A COMPOST BIN.**

If you are interested
in composting, contact
Jakkie Strümpher for
more information
@ 022 913 6130
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PUT YOUR WASTE IN ITS PLACE

ORGANIC WASTE

Place the following items into your compost bin: egg shells, fruit peels, vegetables, coffee sediment and newspaper

**IF YOU DO
NOT YET HAVE A
COMPOST BIN OR A
DEDICATED SPACE
FOR COMPOSTING,
PLACE YOUR
ORGANIC WASTE
INTO YOUR
BLACK BAG.**

Please note that meat, nappies and dog/cat litter are examples of items that must be placed into your black bag.



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