

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES



MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SWELLENDAM MUNICIPALITY HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY 2026 AT 11:00 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, RHENIUS STREET, SWELLENDAM.

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Yours sincerely

J. du T. Loubser

SPEAKER

DATE

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**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SWELLENDAM
MUNICIPALITY HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY 2026 AT 11:00.**

PRESENT:	Councillor	J. du T. Loubser H.F. du Rand A. Bokwana D. Julius D.J. Julius E.J. Lamprecht F. Kees G. Libazi I.H. Ferguson M.T.A. Swart	Speaker
IN ATTENDANCE:		E. Wassermann J. Etzebeth	Acting Municipal Manager Manager: Administrative Support Services

SECRETARIAT:

K. Opperman
A. Eksteen

RECORDING OFFICER:

K. Opperman

ALSO PRESENT

2 members of the public

1. OPENING AND WELCOME

At 11:00, the Speaker, Alderman J. du T. Loubser welcomed everyone at the Council meeting and declared the meeting duly constituted with a quorum present.

2. ELECTION OF ACTING SPEAKER, IF NECESSARY
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None

3. APPLICATION FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE
--

that leave of absence from the Special Council meeting held on Wednesday, 13 May 2026 be granted to Councillor J.A. Matthysen and the Municipal Manager, Mrs A. Vorster.

4. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS
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None

5. SPEECHES AND SUBMISSIONS

The Executive Mayor, Councillor H.F. Du Rand thanked the officials in the Infrastructure department who worked tirelessly throughout the night to attend to the vast damage caused by the extreme weather. He said that the administration would also do everything in their power to restore services as soon as it was possible. He presented a situation report on the status of the disaster as received from the Municipal Manager :

SWELLENDAM MUNICIPALITY SITUATION REPORT

13 MAY 2026

The following report provides an overview of conditions across the Swellendam municipal area following the extreme weather event of 11 May 2026.

BARRYDALE

No damage has been reported in Barrydale. Operations are continuing as normal.

SUURBRAAK

Electricity supply from Eskom remains unavailable. Localised internal electricity repairs are underway. The electricity network has sustained damage, including downed lines and poles.

The Water Treatment Works was damaged by a fallen tree. Water purification was compromised; however, repairs have been undertaken and water supply is gradually improving.

Street signage has been blown over, and the roof of the sports facility in Suurbraak has sustained structural damage and blown off.

Private properties within the community have also been affected, with several houses losing roofs and sustaining structural damage.

At present, 50 adults and 20 children are being accommodated in the Community Hall.

Cellphone reception is still a challenge.

BUFFELJAGS

Electricity remains unavailable due to the disruption of Eskom supply. This area is served directly by Eskom.

Water supply has been negatively affected. Water trucks are currently operating in the area.

Cellphone connectivity is compromised.

INFANTA AND MALAGAS

Electricity supply is unavailable due to Eskom supply challenges.

A voluntary evacuation advisory has been issued for areas south of Swellendam. These areas may become cut off due to rising water levels in the Breede River. The area around Lemoenfontein

towards Infanta is likely to become isolated. Warning notices have been disseminated to the affected communities.

Cellphone connection is compromised.

SWELLENDAM

All high-voltage lines have been repaired; however, a significant number of localised faults remain across the electricity network due to downed lines, poles, and trees. The Municipality has limited electrical personnel available to address the volume of faults, which is expected to result in extended outages. Areas containing old age homes are being prioritised.

One of Swellendam's main reservoirs, Bakenskop, was compromised during the extreme weather event. As a result, the service area supplied by Bakenskop will be without water today. A water truck is servicing the affected area in the interim.

The bridge on the N2 in Swellendam is experiencing high water levels, similar to those recorded in 2000. Provincial Traffic is monitoring the situation and will close the bridge if necessary. The community is being kept informed through social media updates.

There are numerous fallen trees in both Swellendam and Suurbraak. The Municipality has appointed contractors to assist with the clean-up. Damage to the electricity network, as well as street and traffic signage, is extensive. Repairs are underway.

The roof of the N2 sewerage pump station was damaged; however, the operation of the pump station has not been affected.

The Swellendam Caravan Park sustained extensive damage, including fallen trees and damage to several houses. Repairs to this area are currently considered a lower priority.

The Swellendam Sports Grounds also sustained extensive damage. Attention to this site will follow once essential services have been restored.

The community hall in Railton sustained fencing damage and minor structural damage.

List of trees fallen: Swellendam

Murraystr, Swellengrebelstr, Dierandstr, Coldreistr, Mike Mullerstr, Keeromstr, Hoek Rothmans en Voortrekstr, Voortrekstr by Moolmanshof, Van Staadenstr, Collegestr, Buitekantstr, Stasiestr, Van Eedenstr, Van Oudshoornweg, Glen Barryweg, Hermanus Steynstr, Drosdystr, Kerkstr, Faurestr, Lichtensteinstr, Qualbergstr, Mozambieckstr, Athlonestr, Allicestr, Andrew Whitestr, Krombergstr, Kommisionerstr, Trichardstr, Odendalstr, Karavaan park, William Robinsonstr, Kanonkop, Burskistr, Marloth pad en Weltevredestr

Sport complex at Church Street, Swellendam

List of streets without electricity

Cooper

Delphinium

Aanhuizen

Drosty

Kerk

Disa

Akasialaan

Coronation

Murray (gedeelte)

Voortrek (gedeelte)

Buitekant

Bethel

Keerom

Heemraad

Bruiski

William Robertson

Karavaanpark

Pronkertjie

Protea

Bergstraat

Alice

Disa

Ring

Gazania

Theunissen

May

Koster

Pronkertjie

Queen

SUURBRAAK, BUFFELJAGS, MALGAS & INFANTA

Die areas se kragtoevoer is afhanklik van Eskom toevoer. Eskom kan steeds nie 'n indikasie gee van wanneer hul die kragtoevoer na die areas sal kan herstel nie. Net soos in Swellendam is daar egter hoogspannings en laagspanningslyne op die munisipale netwerk wat beskadig of af is. Die Munisipaliteit moet hierdie punte een-een besoek en herstel. Daar is nie 'n spesifieke tyd vir die herstel nie, want dit hang af van wat gevind word wanneer die lyne weer lewendig gemaak word.

SWELLENDAM

Alhoewel die hoogspanningslyne almal herstel is, is daar nagenoeg 50 plekke waar die laagspanningslyne beskadig is. In sommige gevalle lê die lyne op die grond of het bome daarop geval en kables uit die grond geruk. Die Munisipaliteit se elektrisiteitspanne werk onverpoos om die toevoer te herstel, maar weens beperkte kapasiteit en die kompleksiteit van elke geval, kan ons nie 'n vooruitskatting maak van wanneer die krag in u area herstel sal wees nie.

Inwoners word bedank vir hulle geduld in hierdie verband.

SUURBRAAK, BUFFELJAGS, MALGAS & INFANTA

Electricity supply to these areas remains dependent on Eskom. Eskom is still unable to provide an indication of when supply will be restored. As in Swellendam, sections of the municipal electricity network have also been affected, with both high-voltage and low-voltage lines damaged or out of service. Municipal teams are required to inspect and repair these faults individually. At this stage, no definitive timeframe can be provided for restoration, as progress will depend on the conditions identified when the lines are re-energised.

SWELLENDAM

Although all high-voltage lines have been restored, approximately 50 locations remain where low-voltage lines have been damaged. In some instances, lines are lying on the ground, while in others, fallen trees have pulled cables from the ground. The Municipality's electricity teams continue to work intensively to restore supply; however, owing to limited capacity and the complexity of each repair, it is not yet possible to provide an estimated restoration time for individual areas.

The Municipality thanks residents for their continued patience and understanding.

He concluded that the water and electricity network remained first priority whilst other issues would also receive the necessary attention in due time.

The Speaker, Alderman J. du T. Loubser shared that the current situation with the Breede River overflowing as it did was a historical event as it has not been seen this excessively in many decades. He said that after the storm, further help and assistance would have to be provided to the affected communities. He added that the municipality should not just talk about providing help but needed to implement remedial action in communities affected.

Councillor D.J. Julius said that he believed that the Suurbraak community suffered the worst as a result of the severe wind storm in terms of families who lost their homes and requested that Council joined hands outside political party affiliations to try and help those families in dire need of the bare necessities.

The Speaker concurred with the request by Councillor Julius and indicated that the necessary arrangements should be made to co-ordinate and consolidate assistance to help those in need.

The Executive Mayor agreed with the Speaker about a collective approach between Council, NGO's, volunteers and all relevant roleplayers to assist those in extreme need.

6. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

6.1 Items submitted by officials of Council:

6.1.1

Item number A100. 13.05.2026

ADJUSTMENTS BUDGET: MEDIUM TERM REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FRAMEWORK 2025/2026 (APRIL 2026 UNFORESEEN AND UNAVOIDABLE BUDGET)

Report from the Director Financial Services:

Ms. E Wassermann

Department

Financial Services

Section

Budget

File number

5/1/1/20

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of the report is to submit the 2025/2026 Adjustments Budget in respect of the unforeseen and unavoidable expenditure to be incurred for the urgent repairs on 64 vandalised units of the Railton 950 Housing Project, utilising the Housing Reserve Fund.

FACTS AND BACKGROUND

On 3 March 2026, a formal letter was submitted to the Head of the Department of Infrastructure in the Western Cape, seeking approval to access the separate housing fund for urgent repairs to 64 vandalised units within the Railton 950 Housing Project. The estimated total cost for these repairs amounts to R950,150.30.

The Department of Infrastructure granted approval to utilise the Housing special fund for the repair work on the 64 vandalised units of the Railton 950 Housing Project, as attached as **Annexure A.1**.

The approval provided justifies an adjustment budget to be submitted in terms of section 29 of the Municipal Finance Management Act for Unforeseen and Unavoidable Expenditure.

DISCUSSION

Based on the above, the adjustments for the Housing Reserve Fund to be utilised for the repairs of the 64 vandalised units of the Railton 950 Housing Project are as follows to the 2025/2026 Budget:

Operating Expenditure

Department	Project	Item	Amount
INTEGRATED HUMAN SETTLEMENT	Repairs to Railton 950 Housing Project	Contractors: Building	R930 151
		TOTAL	R930 151

Operating Revenue

No adjustment required

Capital Expenditure

No adjustment required

Considering the above, the 2025/2026 budget is adjusted as follows:

Description	Adjusted Budget (Feb 2026)	Adjustments	Adjusted Budget (Apr 2026)
Total Revenue	R628 767 097	-	R628 767 097
Total Expenditure	R591 961 881	R930 151	R592 892 032
Total Capital	R102 886 847	-	R102 886 847

The B-Schedules will be distributed under separate cover **as Annexure A.2.**

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

In terms of section 28 of the MFMA (act 56 of 2003),

"Municipal adjustments budgets

28. (1) A municipality may revise an approved annual budget through an adjustment budget.

(2) An adjustments budget-

(c) may, within a prescribed framework, authorize unforeseeable and unavoidable expenditure recommended by the mayor of the municipality"

In terms of section 29 of the MFMA (act 56 of 2003),

"29. (1) The mayor of a municipality may, in emergency or other exceptional circumstances authorize unforeseeable and unavoidable expenditure for which no provision was made in an approved budget.

(2) Any such expenditure –

(a) must be in accordance with any framework that may be prescribed;

(b) may exceed a prescribed percentage of the approved annual budget;

(c) must be reported by the mayor to the municipal council at its next meeting; and

(d) must be appropriated in an adjustments budget.

(3) If such adjustments budget is not passed within 60 days after the expenditure was incurred, the expenditure is unauthorized and section 32 applies."

In terms of the Municipal Budget and Reporting Regulations: sections 23(4):

"23(4) An adjustments budget referred to in section 28(2)(c) of the Act must be tabled in the municipal council at the first available opportunity after the unforeseeable and unavoidable expenditure contemplated in that section was incurred and within the time period set out in section 29(3) of the Act. ."

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The funding for the maintenance is funded by the Housing Development Fund Reserve, as per the approval granted by the Western Cape Department of Infrastructure.

PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

None

COMMUNICATION IMPLICATIONS

None

COMMENTS FROM DEPARTMENTS:**Director: Community Services**

None

Director: Financial Services

As per the report.

Director : Infrastructure Services

None

Municipal Manager

None

RECOMMENDED

1. that the Council approves the adjustments as listed below for the 2025/2026 financial year:

Operating Expenditure

Department	Project	Item	Amount
INTEGRATED HUMAN SETTLEMENT	Repairs to Railton 950 Housing Project	Contractors: Building	R930 151
TOTAL			R930 151

Operating Revenue

No adjustment required

Capital Expenditure

No adjustment required

2. that the Adjustments Budget for the Financial year 2025/2026, as set out in the below-prescribed budget tables, be approved;
 - 2.1 Table B1 Adjustments Budget Summary;
 - 2.2 Table B2 Adjustments Budget Financial Performance (functional classification);
 - 2.3 Table B3 Adjustments Budget Financial Performance (revenue and expenditure by municipal vote);
 - 2.4 Table B4 Adjustments Budget Financial Performance (revenue and expenditure);
 - 2.5 Table B5 Adjustments Capital Expenditure Budget by vote and funding;
 - 2.6 Table B6 Adjustments Budget Financial Position;
 - 2.7 Table B7 Adjustments Budget Cash Flows;
 - 2.8 Table B8 Cash-backed reserves/accumulated surplus reconciliation;
 - 2.9 Table B9 Asset Management;
 - 2.10 Table B10 Basic service delivery measurement;
3. that the Adjustments Budget be placed on the municipal website and be submitted to Provincial and National Treasury.

DISCUSSION

The CFO, Ms E. Wassermann, stated that the item was tabled to confirm receipt of funding from the Provincial Department for repairs to the vandalised houses in the Die Boord housing development. She said that the funds were approved in terms of Section 29, in respect of unforeseen and unavoidable expenditure. She added that after the Mayoral Committee approved it an adjustments budget must be tabled within 60 days to Council for final approval.

The Executive Mayor, Councillor H.F. Du Rand expressed his concern that the residents would vandalise houses that were built to address a need in the community and that another amount of money would have to be allocated to repair vandalism.

Councillor M.T.A. Swart said that her concern was the neglect shown by officials by not completing the beneficiary process in time. She added that Council should exercise its oversight role.

The Speaker confirmed that all Councillors were in support of the recommendation as-is.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED

Item A100/13/05/2026

1. that the Council approves the adjustments as listed below for the 2025/2026 financial year:

Operating Expenditure

Department	Project	Item	Amount
INTEGRATED HUMAN SETTLEMENT	Repairs to Railton 950 Housing Project	Contractors: Building	R930 151
TOTAL			R930 151

Operating Revenue

No adjustment required

Capital Expenditure

No adjustment required

2. that the Adjustments Budget for the Financial year 2025/2026, as set out in the below-prescribed budget tables, be approved;
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- 2.8 Table B8 Cash-backed reserves/accumulated surplus reconciliation;
- 2.9 Table B9 Asset Management;
- 2.10 Table B10 Basic service delivery measurement;
3. that the Adjustments Budget be placed on the municipal website and be submitted to Provincial and National Treasury.

7. CLOSURE

The meeting adjourned at 11:23.