

DECEMBER 2015

Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality

FINANCE MINISTER PAYS VISIT TO COUNCIL



Dr Ivan Meyer (Western Cape Minister of Finance), Ald Nicolette Botha-Guthrie (Executive Mayor), Ald Anton Coetsee (Speaker) and Cllr Dudly Coetzee, (Mayco member of Finance)

Stating that his intention was to "bring the budget to the people", Western Cape Minister of Finance, Dr Ivan Meyer, took the time to discuss Overstrand's allocation from provincial government for the 2015/16 fiscal year in detail when he addressed

issued a strict directive to compile a budget for the same timeframe that does not exceed inflation, a figure which currently stands at around 5%. This, she warned, means that "we will have to do more with less, sharpen our pencils and revisit productivity yet again."

This sentiment was echoed by Minister Meyer whose advice was that Council should focus on "game changers", in other words niche opportunities that will enhance growth, create jobs and facilitate skills transfer. In this regard, fish farming, abalone production, the marine centre in Kleinbaai and the harbour development in Kleinmond hold a lot of promise. Likewise, agri-processing, destination marketing and unlocking the possibilities inherent to broadband should be exploited to the full.

On the upside, Meyer also used the occasion of his visit to congratulate Overstrand on being recognised for its sound financial governance and for receiving a clean audit report for the second year running. He was also quite pleased with the municipality's growth, pointing out that it was the fastest growing municipality in the Overberg district and ranked third in the province for the period 2005-2013.

Council on Wednesday, 28 October 2015.

He then went on to brief Council on what to expect from the adjustment budget, as well as on how to prepare a 2016/17 budget that will be in keeping with the provincial medium-term revenue and expenditure framework, warning that a tough fiscal environment will necessitate fiscal consolidation over the next three years.

On tabling the 2016/17 IDP review during the same Council meeting, Executive Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie warned that the budget steering committee has been

Festive Greetings from the Mayor

Shortly, we'll be ringing in the Festive Season, with joyous merriment and celebrations the order of the day.

But, as the year rapidly draws to a close and we prepare for a well-deserved break, let us do so in the spirit of harmony and peace. Let us use this as an opportunity to spread goodwill amongst our friends and family and allow the central message of grace and love to resonate.

Then, too, despite being bombarded by highly commercialised messages aimed at fuelling our desire to shower our loved ones with gifts, good wishes and delectable fare, let us not forget the many who are less fortunate. I urge you to extend your charity to those in need and, in so doing, to bring some festive cheer to an otherwise bleak situation.

Most importantly, let us celebrate the season responsibly. For those who will be undertaking a journey to a remote holiday destination, I wish you a safe trip comfortable in the knowledge that you will adhere to the rules of the road and return safely. To our visitors, may your stay be a pleasant and memorable one.

Let us continue to work together to ensure Overstrand is an area free of crime, fear and injustice - a place that is the embodiment of a caring, respectful and tolerant society.

Lastly, may 2016 be a year of prosperity for us all - a year with plentiful rewards and few challenges.

Nicolette Botha-Guthrie, EXECUTIVE MAYOR



NEW JUNIOR TOWN COUNCIL INAUGURATED

On Thursday 22 October 2015, Overstrand's recently elected Junior Town Council for 2015/2016 was inaugurated during a rather poignant event held in the Hermanus Auditorium.

Following on Speaker Anton Coetsee's words of welcome, former junior town councillor Hope Botes, of Northcliff House, enthralled the attendees with her beautiful rendition of Hallelujah, whilst playing on the guitar.

Thereafter, outgoing junior mayor Johan van der Merwe took to the podium to thank Overstrand Municipality for the opportunities afforded him and his fellow junior council members, promising that "the skills instilled in us as learners during our term of office will be shared with other children at the respective schools" and declaring unequivocally that the outgoing council takes pride in being "associated with a municipality that is truly a centre of excellence".

Before moving on to welcoming the incoming junior council, Executive Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie took the time to thank outgoing junior council members and to hand each a certificate of recognition. Reiterating the fact that she is a passionate supporter of youth development, Botha-Guthrie added that she believes that the junior town



Ald Nicolette Botha-Guthrie, Executive Mayor: Overstrand Municipality; Cllr Rudolph Smith, Deputy Mayor: Overstrand Municipality; and Ms Unity Mtomile from the Enlighten Education Trust who will be managing the junior council on behalf of Overstrand in the year ahead.

council programme will serve the outgoing members well since they have been afforded the opportunity to explore their leadership potential and henceforth have a better understanding of how public affairs ought to be handled. "As tomorrow's visionary leaders, I believe you are now equipped to work towards ensuring the best interest of our society at large," she added.

The Mayor then introduced the incoming members, whilst handing out specially designed scarves bearing the municipal logo. Her message for the new incumbents, too, cut to the chase: "We particularly look towards the junior town council to provide insight into and to advise us on issues

ranging from teenage substance abuse and sexual activities to a lack of discipline and unruly behaviour, all of which could compromise the future of our youth. With the guidance of your mentors, you are going to play an integral role in promoting community service and good governance whilst raising awareness around important social issues, and we trust you will fulfil this calling as best you can," she said.

It was then time for the newly elected junior mayor Kaci van Romburgh, of Curro in Hermanus, to address the audience and state her vision for the year ahead. "I am pleased to be voted in as junior mayor for 2015/2016, and understand and

know the challenge that goes with the title. As an executive, we will try our utmost to uphold the Overstrand's values and we will represent our schools in a manner that will make our peers and schools proud," Kaci said.



Flanked by her two deputies, Phumeza Doda and Timo-Ben Lerm, newly inaugurated junior mayor Kaci van Romburgh delivers the first of many an impassioned plea on behalf of Overstrand's youth.

REST ASSURED: Overstrand's drinking water meets the highest standards and the quality of its effluent falls well within limits

A recent survey conducted by independent accredited laboratories revealed that potable water in Overstrand is of the highest quality. In fact, we comply 100% with code 0241 of the South African National Standard (SANS) for drinking water.

The results of Overstrand's nine water plants for the period April 2015 till September 2015 gauged against an array of bacteriological, chemical and physical parameters are reflected in the table below:

Description of test	Unit	Standard as per SANS 0241	Average test results for potable water test samples at								
			Buffelsrivier Rooi Els, Pringle Bay, Betty's bay	Kleinmond	Hermanus	Stanford	Gansbaai	De Kelders	Pearly Beach	Baardskeerdersbos	Buffelsjagsbaai
pH	pH units	< 5 to 9,7>	8.6	8.6	7.3	7.5	7.9	7.2	7.6	8.9	7.3
Electricity conductivity	mS/m	<170	43.9	37.8	46.2	75.5	113	89.3	50.3	52.7	169.7
Turbidity	NTU	<1	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.5
Colour	mg/as Pt-Co	<15	5.2	6	7	4	4.5	3.5	8	4.5	4.5
Total dissolved solids	mg/l	<1200	-	-	309.5	490.2	737.7	540.8	331	284.9	1115.3
Iron	ug/l as Fe	<300	31	37.3	68.8	24	26.8	25.8	41	87.3	24
Manganese	ug/l as Mn	<100	-	-	20.2	19	-	-	19.5	23	19
Aluminium	ug/l as Al	<300	124.3	282.5	231.8	12	253.7	12	36.3	13.7	12
E coli	Court/100ml	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Likewise, Overstrand's five water-treatment plants scored 94% when measured against an array of standards set by the Department of Water and Sanitation for effluent. In this instance, too, samples are gathered on a monthly basis for analysis by accredited laboratories. The results of these tests can be studied in the table below.

Description of test	Unit	DWA General Authorisation Standards	Average test results for final effluent test samples at:				
			Gansbaai	Hawston	Hermanus	Kleinmond	Stanford
pH	(pH)	5.5-9.5	6.2	7.7	7.2	7.6	7.3
Settleable solids	(ml/l)	-	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Electrical conductivity	(mS/m)	150	149.2	146.3	189.4	105.8	134.3
Faecal coliform bacteria	(count/100ml)	1000	0	30.2	226.5	70.5	856.8
Chemical oxygen demand	(mg/l)	75 Max	54.5	92.6	53.5	52	46.7
Ammonia nitrogen	(mg/l as N)	6 Max	0.5	10	1.7	4.2	1.1
Nitrate nitrogen	(mg/l as N)	15 Max	8.6	1.6	4.2	9.1	12.8
Nitrate nitrogen	(mg/l as N)		0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.2
Total suspended solids	(mg/l)	25 Max	10	18.1	19.3	11.7	11
Ortho-phosphate	(mg/l as P)	10 Ma	3.1	6.4	3.5	3.7	4.3

In all instances, should test results reveal that potable water and/or effluent not meet the specified standards, steps will be instituted immediately to rectify the matter and the requisite tests will be repeated time and time again until we can safely declare that the desired results have been obtained. The meaning of the red highlighted figures can be viewed on the website.

IEC ANNOUNCES FIXED-POINT REGISTRATIONS FOR THOSE AFFECTED BY MUNICIPAL BOUNDARY CHANGES

On the weekend of 2-3 December 2015, eligible voters who reside in areas affected by a shift in boundaries will be afforded a special target-specific opportunity to register in their newly demarcated wards in light of the upcoming 2016 local government elections.

Please be sure to study the details below. Should you reside within any of the areas/wards outlined below, do not miss this opportunity to ensure that you re-register in time so that you can cast your all-important vote in the upcoming local elections:

AFFECTED AREA	Gansbaai	Kleinmond - Mthimkhulu	Hermanus: Community Hall, Zwelihle Primary School, Qhayiya Secondary School, Lukhanyo Primary school		
Target-specific Registration Venue	Gansbaai Municipality	Mthimkhulu Village	Lukhanyo Primary School	Zwelihle Community Hall	Zwelihle Primary School
WARD	1	9	6	6	12

All enquiries in this regard can be directed to Mosili Koloko at the local IEC office on 028 312 1464/65.

FICA NOW A PRE-REQUISITE TO REGISTER/ LICENSE VEHICLES



As from 1 November 2015, everyone who wishes to register or license a vehicle will first have to comply with the provisions of the Financial Intelligence Centre Act, Act 38 of 2001.

In other words, Overstrand's Traffic Department will be unable to conclude any transactions relating to the registration or licensing of vehicles unless FICA has been verified on the eNaTIS system.

Accordingly, everyone who wishes to register or license a vehicle will be required to duly complete a NCP form and to submit necessary proof of identity and residence.

The NCP form (which is the short title for the form relating to a notification of change of address or particulars of a person or organisation) is comprised of two parts and will require all affected parties to submit (a) proof of identity and (b) proof of residence.

PROOF OF IDENTITY:

- In the case of South African citizens, a South African ID document or valid South African passport will be acceptable.
- In the case of foreign nationals, certified proof of a traffic register number as issued by the appropriate registering authority will be required.
- In the case of a business, certified copies of the CK (proof of registration) or the certificate displaying the business's registration number (BRNC) together with the proxy or representative's ID, valid South African passport or, in the case of foreign nationals, traffic register number will be required.

PROOF OF RESIDENCE:

- In the case of an individual, a utility bill [your municipal account] together with any statement (not older than 3 months) from a retail store, a cell phone service provider or the likes will be acceptable.
- Note that if that municipal account [the utility bill] has not been issued in your name, for instance where you are renting a property, the owner of the property must submit a sworn statement that you do, in fact, live there. Likewise, in instances where you reside in an informal or rural settlement, you will need a sworn statement from your ward councillor or municipality to confirm your residential address.

Should you need assistance in this regard or require any clarification, please feel free to contact Dieter Reichert on 028 313 5033 or Patrick Africa on 028 313 8166.

CLOSING OF MUNICIPAL OFFICES OVER FESTIVE PERIOD

Municipal offices, including libraries but excluding essential services, will close at 13:00 on Thursday 24 December and Thursday 31 December 2015, to reopen at 07:45 on Monday 28 December 2015 and Monday 4 January 2016 respectively.

BAGS-OF-LOVE MARKS ITS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

Originating from the Mayor's office, the idea behind the Bags-of-Love campaign is to bring a little Xmas cheer to needy families in our communities, and last year alone, around 1 700 bags were distributed to identified households in Hermanus, Zwelihle, Mount Pleasant, Hawston, Stanford and Gansbaai.

On launching this year's campaign, Executive Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie once again appealed to the business sector, churches, NGOs, municipal staff and individuals to generously support this worthy cause. For as little as R121, you can have your bag filled with essential grocery items and if you up that amount to R150, those items will be supplemented with a couple of Christmas treats.

With an appeal to "up the ante this year", the Mayor posed a challenge to donors to meet or better the number of bags donated by their counterparts. "Let's say I donate five bags. I will then challenge my fellow councillors to either meet that number or to better it. In this way, we can meet the needs of even more families and bring a little early Christmas cheer to those in need."

For more information on the campaign, joint convenors Des Collins and Terry McCarthy can be contacted on 082 824 1058 and 083 255 8614 respectively.

BE PREPARED, BE VIGILANT, BE RESPONSIBLE

That's the message from the Fire Chief as Overstrand fire department prepares itself to face conditions conducive to yet another devastating fire season.

The South African Weather Service predicts dry, windy conditions with high temperatures throughout the Western Cape this summer. These are conditions associated with runaway veld fires.

Seeing that Overstrand falls well within the boundaries of a fire-dependent ecosystem, it is important that everyone - residents and visitors alike - understand the associated dangers, take the necessary precautions and always act responsibly.

If you are a home owner, irrespective of whether you occupy the property permanently or let it during the holiday season, please run through the following checklist to help ensure all defences against the distressing consequences of a runaway fire are in place:

1. Clear the roof and gutters of leaves and other burnable materials.
2. Make sure no tree branches overhang your house - in particular, no tree branches should come within 6 - 10 m of any chimney.
3. Clear all deadwood and dense flammable vegetation from your garden - ideally, a green lawn or another form of fire-resistant vegetation should be maintained within a perimeter of at least 10 m around your home.
4. Keep a garden hose (at least 30 m in length) attached to an outside tap at all times - ideally, this hose should be rolled around a rack to aid quick transportation.
5. Make sure your fire extinguishers are functional and accessible and that everyone knows exactly where to find them.
6. Be sure to have an escape plan in place and conduct an evacuation drill to ensure everyone in the household is familiar with this plan and understand their roles - including those who have to take care of the family pets.

As much as the above can help safeguard your property and loved ones against runaway fires, there are also a couple of basic rules everyone ought to observe:

- **Never make a fire in strong, gusting winds**
- **Never leave open flames unattended**
- **Never allow children near matches or allow them to make fires**
- **Never leave any smouldering fires - extinguish all coals!**

Also, for the sake of safeguarding your own escape route and for the sake of allowing fire engines access to your property, make sure your driveway is vegetation-free and has an overhead clearance of at least 4 - 6 m.

Overstrand's Fire Chief Lester Smith pointed out the importance of ensuring that house numbers are clearly visible as every second count during an emergency response and hunting for the house that actually reported the emergency can waste valuable time.

In this beautiful but vulnerable part of the world everyone has to be fire conscious at all times. By working together and by reporting fires or smoke at first glance, you can save lives and prevent a devastating loss of property.

Report fire and rescue-related emergencies to 028 312 2400, or call Overstrand's 24/7 control room on 028 313 8111.

ALL SYSTEMS GO! SHIPSHAPE PUBLIC AMENITIES READY TO WELCOME HOLIDAYMAKERS

Overstrand's tried-and-tested operational plan will yet again ensure that residents and holidaymakers alike can look forward to enjoying safe, clean and well-maintained public amenities this Festive Season.

Temporary and seasonal workers have been appointed to help keep the beaches, ablution facilities, picnic sites, caravan parks, slipways and parking areas spick-and-span, while contractors have been appointed to, amongst others, operate kiosks and offer beach chairs for hire.

Grotto's Blue Flag-status will kick in on 1 December 2015 and remain effective till 31 March 2016. In the case of Hawston and Kleinmond, this status will come into effect on 15 December 2015 and remain effective till 15 January 2016.

Please note that no pets will be allowed on Blue Flag-beaches for the duration and that the consumption and/or possession of any alcoholic beverages are strictly prohibited in **all public areas including beaches**.

Life-saving and security services will be fully operational for the duration of the holiday season on the above beaches as well as at the two municipal swimming-pools, namely the one in Hawston (next to the camp site) and the municipal pool in Zwelihle.

Municipal law enforcement and traffic officials will ensure additional visibility and vigilance for the duration of the holiday season, while Overstrand's 24-hour control room - contactable on 028 313 8000/8111 - is fully geared to handle any emergency situation day or night.

OVERSTRAND'S HOLIDAY MENU SET TO DELIGHT ALL

- Be a true ambassador:
Make sure visiting family and friends
savour every delight.



Hangklip-Kleinmond | Hermanus | Stanford | Gansbaai

According to Cape Whale Coast, Overstrand's destination marketing organisation, our visitors - even expat grandkids - will find it difficult to complain of boredom whilst holidaying along our coast this summer.

Those who suffer from severe adrenaline surges can sandboard down the highest dune in South Africa; kayak along or zipline, across the Palmiet or cage-dive and meet a Great White face to face...

Those with an affinity for all things furry and feathery can delight in watching Young Master Penguin #1 trying on his step-out tuxedo for the first time or build their very own papier-mâché toy to entice big cats to play.

You could even set your visitors, old and young, a challenge - for instance: the first to spot the Small Five wins a box of chocolates from a renowned local chocolatier or the first to mark off the Marine Five on their "must-see" list wins an outing to the Klip Gat Caves...

And for those who prefer peace and quiet above all else, a leisurely picnic in a nature reserve or botanical garden, or while cruising down a river is highly recommended. Especially if the delights stowed away in the picnic basket include some of the delectable cheeses, wines, designer beers and other delicacies this area is renowned for.

With so much to do and to offer, the question is whether you will ever find time to visit the beach, build a sand castle or surf a wave or two?

If you, as a true Overstrand ambassador, want an update on the latest things to do, see and savour in our area, feel free to contact any of our tourism bureaux: Gansbaai 028 384 1439; Stanford 028 341 0340; Hermanus 028 312 2629; Hangklip/Kleinmond 028 271 5657



PORTRAIT IN PIANO

*Indulge in not one but two
recitals of Schubert sonatas
by a much-loved pianist*

Gustavo Romero, Professor of Piano at the University of North Texas, will yet again return to our shores to entertain Overstrand's music lovers with two recitals composed entirely of Schubert sonatas.

These concerts are scheduled for Sunday 20 December 2015 and Sunday 3 January 2016 and will commence promptly at 15:30 in Hermanus' Civic Auditorium.

Tickets are R120 (R60 for students). Book at BELLINI on 028 312 4988. Contact Secretary René du Plooy on 082 940 4238 for further enquiries.



Gustavo Romero

CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



- means saying "no" to single-use plastic bags

In South Africa, approximately 8 billion single-use plastic shopping bags are sold at a cost of around fifty cents each annually. Of those, it is estimated that around a quarter million are sold to Hermanus residents per month alone - not a good track record given that "protecting the environment" and "conserving biodiversity" seemingly rank tops when most Overstranders are asked about what they expect from their local government.

Here are a couple of facts to consider: Single-use plastic bags have a lifespan of around 20 minutes. Thereafter they are simply discarded and will most likely end up either at a landfill site, in a storm-water drain or, worse, in the ocean.

In case of the latter, these bags cause immense damage to marine life because birds, fish and the like become entangled in or choke on the material. What is not commonly known is that the particles released by the plastic bags act as a sponge for toxins in the ocean. Unfortunately, seabirds, whales, plankton and fish mistake those particles for food, with dire consequences.

No wonder, then, that as the custodian of our volatile ecosystem, Overstrand has heeded your call to "protect" and "conserve" by declaring war on single-use plastic bags.

Your contribution is quite simple: When offered a single-use plastic bag to cart your shopping home, say "No". Buy a reusable shopping bag instead.

Reusable bags are made of sturdy material, will last a lifetime, save you a lot of money and help keep our oceans litter-free.

PROTECT. EVERYONE CAN.

-Decline the bag. Go re-usable. Use your common sense.

Our Values



We belong



We care



We serve



..... Opportunities for all

..... Value the input of our communities

..... Economic growth for the benefit of all

..... Recreational activities in a safe environment

..... Sustain service excellence and productivity

..... Teamwork in achieving success

..... Recognising the needs of our diverse society

..... Acknowledge the need to conserve our bio-diversity

..... No to corruption and maladministration

..... Development within a sustainable environment