

APRIL 2015

Bulletin

Official newsletter of the Overstrand Municipality



LOAD SHEDDING

CONTINGENCY PLANS FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES IN PLACE

In light of the difficulties Eskom is currently experiencing, Overstrand Municipality has ensured that a contingency plan is in place to cater for prolonged electricity interruptions and has tasked a dedicated team, reporting directly to the Municipal Manager, to monitor the situation at all times.

Some years ago when it became apparent that the national power giant might be in trouble, the Municipality furnished its head office and all satellite administrations in Gansbaai, Stanford and Kleinmond as well as the 24/7 control room with generators to ensure uninterrupted service to the public. The Traffic Department in Hermanus currently does not have the benefit of a generator, which means the eNaTIS and computerised fine system cannot be accessed during power outages. It is hoped that this situation will be addressed in the new financial year.

Given the deteriorating situation, the Municipality recently conducted an extensive evaluation on how Eskom's continued loading-shedding practice will impact its 69 water and waste-water installations, i.e. the purification works and pump stations dependent upon Eskom power.

Taking into account the impact load shedding will have on both the community and the environment, it was found that sewer pump stations were the highest risk areas. Although a number of these installations do have permanent standby generators, plans are now in place to deploy other resources such as mobile generators and sewer tankers to mitigate the impact of load shedding should conditions become critical.

In addition to making provision for the storage of additional fuel at depots and ensuring that generators' fuel levels are meticulously monitored, additional contingency measures include:

- Ensuring that all reservoirs are kept at the highest levels possible at all times, depending on water demands and pipe bursts;
- Continuously monitoring the levels of sewer pump stations connected to the telemetry system to enable the timely deployment of tankers/generators to minimise overflows; and
- Ensuring that the local environmental services division and the Department of Water and Sanitation are on board should it be necessary to practise standard operating procedures to contain or clean up any sewer overflows.

NO TRAFFIC LIGHTS? STOP!

Motorists are reminded that traffic lights are also affected by load shedding.

Whenever traffic lights are not operational, these crossings should be treated as four-way-stops.

During peak hours, traffic officials will man the major crossings and erect temporary stop signs to alert motorists. However, we appeal to all motorists to be especially vigilant at night.

As most of us can count the number of traffic lights in our area on one hand, surely we cannot claim that we were unaware of their existence. Thus, for the sake of everyone's safety - especially pedestrians - **don't** jump the light even though it's out!

WORKING FOR WATER ABET PROJECT RESOUNDING SUCCESS



Mayor Ald Nicolette Botha-Guthrie; Liezl Bezuidenhout, Manager Environmental Services; Tracy Sampson, Working for Water Project Manager; Coenie Groenewald, Municipal Manager; and Stephen Muller, Director Infrastructure and Planning.

With the aid of funding from the Department of Environmental Affairs, Overstrand was tasked by its Working for Water (WfW) partner to implement an ABET (Adult Basic Education and Training) project aimed at assessing and improving the literacy and numeracy levels of WfW beneficiaries and contractors.

Bulletin is proud to report that those who wrote the exam attained a hundred per cent pass rate despite trying circumstances and that Overstrand's commitment to the WfW's objectives earned it the Christine Fortuin Memorial Award for The Client of the Year.

With the aid of this ABET programme, many beneficiaries learned to read, write and do simple mathematics for the first time. Given that the eldest are close on sixty and that the entire team never once shirked their responsibilities, they are the ones deserving of our applause: Well done!

OVERSTRAND LIBRARIES LAUDED



Here Mayor Nicolette Botha-Guthrie, Municipal Manager Coenie Groenewald and Hermanus' Senior Area Manager Don Kearney share the spoils with Alette and Belinda.

In celebration of our colourful Cape, the provincial Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport hosts an annual awards ceremony to acknowledge those who keep the province's arts, culture, language, heritage,

museums, archives, geographical names and libraries sectors alive.

At this prestigious event, hosted on Monday 9 February 2015 at the Baxter Theatre, Overstrand's Hermanus library had the honour of being crowned Best Big Public Library, whilst Hawston library walked off with the honours as Best Public Library: Youth Services.

The largest of the eight libraries in Overstrand, Hermanus library is a much loved and appreciated "cultural asset" and plays an active role in community building. Hawston, in turn, has gone out of its way to cater for youth with special needs - an effort which earned it a special commendation by the Western Cape Minister of Cultural Affairs and Sport.

We are very proud of our dedicated librarians and their staff and wish to thank Alette Kotze, Hermanus, and Belinda May, Hawston, for their selfless devotion and enthusiasm!

MUNICIPAL FINES

HOW TO MAKE REPRESENTATION ABOUT MUNICIPAL FINES



Alleged offenders of traffic laws and municipal by-laws who wish to make representation to have their municipal fines either withdrawn or reduced, should take note of the following arrangements:

Before payment and/or court date:

- Any representation to reduce or withdraw a fine has to be in writing. Simply complete the standard form available from your local traffic department, the additional court or on the website www.overstrand.gov.za and attach a copy of the fine as well as any supporting documentation.
- To expedite matters, submit the above directly to the traffic department in question who will then capture all relevant details on their system and forward the representation to the Traffic or Law Enforcement Officer who issued the fine to gain insight into his/her version of events leading up to the fine.
- Once all evidence as set out above has been gathered, the matter will be referred to the Traffic Chief or his/her delegate for consideration. The latter will make a recommendation as to whether the matter warrants prosecution and/or whether the fine should be reduced or withdrawn.
- This recommendation is then forwarded to the Municipal Prosecutor for a final decision. In this regard, note that the prosecutor is not bound by the recommendations made.
- Once the Municipal Prosecutor has made a decision, all relevant documentation and details of the outcome will be returned to the relevant traffic department who will then inform the alleged offender of the result of the representation made.
- Should the alleged offender be dissatisfied with the findings/decision of the Municipal Prosecutor, the next step will be to arrange a date to appear in court on the given court date to arrange a trial date.

On the court date:

- As outlined above, any representation to reduce/withdraw a fine will only be heard if such a representation is made in writing. For this purpose, a standard form (see details above) must be completed in which the reasons for the reduction or withdrawal should be stated. This form must be accompanied by a copy of the actual fine, the control document (the document that will be used in court) as well as any supporting documentation.
- Once all the aforesaid documents have been lodged with the Clerk of the Court, he/she will immediately submit them to the Prosecutor for consideration who will make the outcome known without delay. If the alleged offender is dissatisfied with the outcome of the representation and does not wish to make a payment, he or she then has the option to appear in court to state his/her case before the court.
- Given that certain fines may be payable on the day of the court appearance, the court personnel will ensure, to the best of their ability, that these cases are attended to without delay. In instances where a fine has been reduced and the offender is still not in a position to settle that fine, he/she will be required to appear before the Additional Court to request the court for a postponement/deferment of payment.
- Note that only fine and warrant payments can be made at court, and that having been granted an opportunity to make a representation does not mean that alleged offenders are excused from having to attend court proceedings.

For more information on how to settle your traffic fine, contact Lesbury Smith, Lisl Carolissen or Carol Gardiner on 028 313 8174. Details of the routine of the Additional Court can be obtained by calling Zaza Hlazo on 028 313 8041.

STREET NUMBERS AMENDED

Please note that street numbers in the Overstrand area are being revised and that you may be affected. This information appears on your municipal account. Enquiries can be directed to Lee-Ann Rauch on 028 313 8910 or lrauch@overstrand.gov.za.

FIRE CHIEF SAYS THANK YOU



Lester Smith

Between Friday 27 February and Sunday 8 March, Overstrand Fire and Rescue was called out to attend to 29 incidents of fire in Hawston, Betty's Bay and Gansbaai.

Fire Chief Lester Smith would like to express his thanks to those members of the community, business owners, organisations, other departments within Overstrand and municipalities in the surrounds for the aid and assistance rendered and donations received.

As prevailing weather conditions are still highly favourable for runaway bush fires, he also urged residents to be extra careful with open fires.

We join Lester in giving thanks that his team was spared during this time, and our condolences go to the families of those fire fighters who lost their lives whilst fighting fires elsewhere in the Province.

GROTTO & VOËLKLIP RANK AMONGST TOP 25 BEACHES IN AFRICA!



Trip Advisor, an online travel guide where tourists can vote for their favourite beach based on a past experience, now lists Grotto in 13th and Voëlklip in 22nd place amongst the best beaches to visit on the African continent. Given that statistics reflected on this site are populated by data received from travellers the world over, and the fact that South Africa has to compete with "idyllic" destinations the likes of the Seychelles and Morocco, 'tis no easy feat to be ranked amongst the Top 25! Well done!

SPECIAL PUBLIC WARD MEETINGS ON THE DRAFT 2015/16 BUDGET

The public meetings will take place on the dates and time as indicated below:

Date	Time	Venue	Area	Ward
7 April 2015	18:00	Town Hall	Kleinmond	9
8 April 2015	18:00	Sandbaai Hall	Sandbaai	7
9 April 2015	18:00	De Wet Hall	Onrus	13
13 April 2015	18:00	Council Chamber	Gansbaai	1 & 2
14 April 2015	17:30	Auditorium	Hermanus	3
15 April 2015	18:00	Moffat Hall	Mt Pleasant	4
20 April 2015	18:00	Crassula Hall	Betty's Bay	10
21 April 2015	16:00	Angling Club	Pearly Beach	11
	18:00	Community Hall	Stanford	11
22 April 2015	18:00	Zwelihle Primary School	Zwelihle	5,6,12
23 April 2015	19:00	Thusong Centre	Hawston	8

Contact person: Ms Rita le Roux at 028 313 8074

OAK WELCOMES AUSTRIAN TRIO



On Sunday afternoon 26 April, OAK will host the TRIO FRIZZANTE from Austria. Marlies Gaugl (flute), Katarzyna Bieniasz-Morrison (cello) and Doris Lindner (piano) will wow the audience with the following works: Trio No 30 in F-Major (Haydn); Trio for flute, cello and piano (Martinů); Three Moments (Lang); Trio for flute, cello and piano, Op. 86 (Kapustin) and Trio in G-minor, Op 63 (Weber).



Concert starts at 15:30 in the Civic Auditorium, Hermanus. Tickets are R120 (R60 for students/scholars). Book at BELLINI GALLERY on 028 312 4988. Call Secretary René du Plooy on 082 940 4238 for further details.