

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA NO. 1

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2019

at

19:00



**MUNICIPALITY OF SWAKOPMUND
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11.1.27 RE-ARRANGEMENT OF MONDESA HAWKERS ON ERF 525, MONDESA
(C/M 2019/07/25 - A 2/2/23)

Special Management Committee Meeting of 25 July 2019, Addendum 5.1 page 04 refers.

A. The following item was submitted to the Management Committee for consideration:

In all countries around the world, the poor demonstrate a strong ability to provide for their own needs in order to survive in difficult economic circumstances. One of their main survival strategies is the selling of goods on street sidewalks and open spaces. Accordingly the selling of fresh vegetables and fruits has become a common practice on the sidewalks of Mondesa and DRC. Women are greatly responsible for retailing fresh products which allows them to feed their families at lower costs and therefore contribute to their families' food security.

Informal food businesses contribute to food security by providing small quantities of affordable food products at convenient locations for poor consumers as well as providing employment and income to poor households; and bringing food nearer to residential areas furthest from the centre of town. It has become an attractive option for those seeking greater autonomy than formal employment and as a result it empowers marginalized members of society and contributes to fairer distribution of resources. The sector has expanded and has become a cherished part of the local culture, and even a valuable tourist resource.

Formal business sectors with higher operating costs and tax burdens, often wish to eliminate them because the competition influences their profits. For these reasons, law enforcement officials have frequently been negative towards informal food operators. The harassment of vendors leads to distrust of authorities who can best help them deal with such questions as health and sanitation.

The Health Services Department conducted an investigation into the possibility of re-arranging on Erf 525 Mondesa (in front of Owetu Bottle Store) to accommodate hawkers in that area. A meeting was held with the hawkers who also supported the initiative. The department has identified about 50 people selling vegetables and traditional foods on the sidewalks opposite the open market. The conditions of their sales is characterised by the limited access to basic services, including access to potable water and sanitation. Their unorganised activity adds to traffic congestion, safety problems and environmental pollution in the vicinity.

An investigation further revealed that the open space next to Erf 525, Mondesa (in front of Owetu Bottle Store) is Council's property.

A proposal is hereby submitted to re-arrange the space by mounting a wooden structure and laying paved floors in order to arrange the hawkers accordingly. A quotation was received from the Municipal Works Section,

and it is estimated that about N\$19 090.00 which includes labour will be required to lay the interlocks. Donations were sought from local businesses who are willing to donate pallets to erect a structure. It is further estimated that the structure with wooden cubicles will cost about N\$35 000.00 (N\$700.00 per cubicle).

It is therefore important to admit that informal business activities will be carried out in spite of the existing laws to stop them. By recognizing them, opportunities will be created for policies to be formulated in this regard as well as open doors for continuous engagements.

After construction the pilot hawkers market will hand over to the Community Development Services for registration and management. The following minimum requirements will be required for registration:

- Voters card
- Namibian Identification card
- Registration fee and signing of the contract (same as for the open market)

B. After the matter was considered, the following was:-

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) That the Management Committee grants permission for the Health Services Department to utilise the portion of Erf 525 reserved for road use, as a temporary venue for the hawkers to sell their products.
 - (b) That permission be granted to the General Manager: Finance to source for funds to cater for costs related to the re-arrangement of hawkers on Erf 525, Mondesa for the total amount of N\$54 090.00.
 - (c) That after construction the pilot hawkers market be handed over to the Community Development Services for registration and management with the following minimum requirements:
 - (i) Voters card
 - (ii) Namibian identification card
 - (iii) Pay minimum registration fee and signing of the contract (same as for the open market)
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