PUBLIC SECTOR – LOCAL AUTHORITIES – CAPE.

1991

JULY – DEC.

R2 billion for dockland

Star 2/7/91

Finance Staff 263

More than R2 billion will have been channeled into the development of Cape Town's Victoria & Albert Waterfront project by the time it reaches completion 12 years hence.

The project, backed by Transnet, got under way in May 1989. R60 million has been spent thus far.

It has drawn nearly two million visitors since December.

The plans encompass a working harbour, retailing and entertainment facilities and office and residential precincts These include:

- A residential area (development to start in 1997) of 700 units around a new small craft marina with direct access to Table Bay.
- A marina with mooring for 400 yachts inside Table Bay's main breakwater.
- Hotels, restaurants, coffee shops, taverns, speciality shopping, a fish and fresh produce market, theatre, cinemas, a museum, brewery, boat rides and parking for 2700 cars. Some of these, including a hotel, are currently operational.
- An office park adjacent to the old Breakwater Gaol, which is being converted for UCT's Graduate School of Business.

Residential development behind the marina will start in 1993.

- A landscaped office park alongside a waterway stretching from the New Basin to the Foreshore

Says Transnet's Dr Anton Moolman: "The results so far are beyond our highest expectations.

"We regard our involvement as an investment in the economy, both on a macro scale, with the added tourist attraction for foreign visitors, and on a micro scale, with the increase in job opportunities afforded by construction work and commerce."

Councillor fined for negligent firearm use

263 CT 10/7/91

FINED . Lingelethu West town councillor Mr David Zono, who was fined R250 in Wynberg Regional Court yesterday for negligent handling of a firearm at a WCCA meeting in March last year, in which Mr Michael Mapongwana and a 15-year-old girl were injured. Picture HAROLD KING

Court Reporter

ONE of four Lingelethu West town councillors accused of attempting to murder assassinated civic leader Mr Michael Mapongwana and a 15-year-old schoolgirl in Khayelitsha last year, was yesterday convicted of negligent handling of a firearm

Mr David Zono was fined R250 and allowed to remain in possession of his service revolver — issued for the protection of the town councillors — after being convicted on the alternative charge.

The other councillors, Mr Livingstone Booi, Mr Morris Gxowa and Mr Vakhtshiwa Gocina, were acquitted after being found not guilty by regional magistrate Mr M S McCarthy.

Mr McCarthy said in his finding that he regretted news of the death of Mr Mapongwana, but that the town councillors had not attended the open meeting of the Western Cape Civic Association with the intent to murder him or injure anyone else.

He said the councillors attended the meeting as members of the public, despite friction between them and Mr Mapongwana's followers in the Western Cape Civic Association

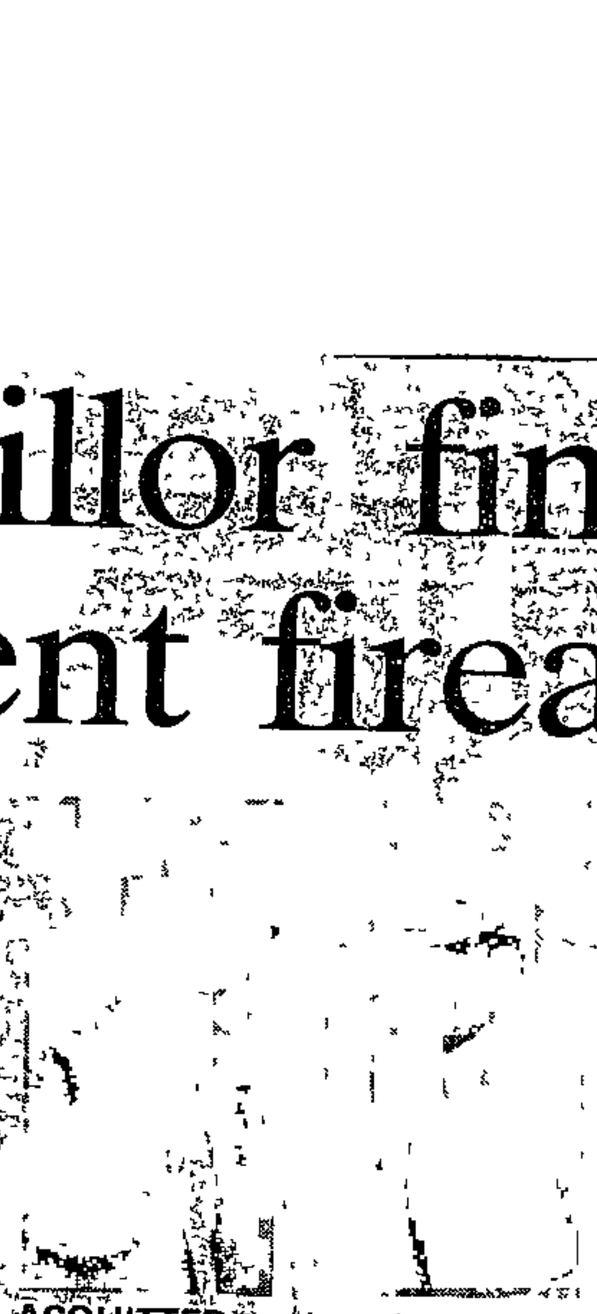
Mr McCarthy said the councillors — who were issued with 9mm revolvers and carried them "as a matter of course" — could easily have shot and killed people in the small hall in Town Two, Khayelitsha, had they wanted to.

He said two councillors admitted having fired shots in the crowded hall but they had insisted that Mr Mapongwana incited the crowd to attack them in his address as chairman

He said Mr Zono's firing of four shots was unnecessary in frightening off the crowd as two earlier shots fired by Mr Booi had already caused chaos, with people running in all directions

Mr McCarthy said the councillors impressed him as honest witnesses, and he believed their accounts of having fired into the air when they felt their own lives were in danger

Mr B Julius was the prosecutor Mr I Martin appeared for the councillors



ACQUITTED . Lingelethu West town councillors Mr Livingstone Booi and Mr Morris Gxowa (right) leave court after being acquitted on charges of attempted murder

Pictures ALAN TAYLOR

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Death row releases 'inconsistent'

DARIUS SANAI

GOVERNMENT was inconsistent in its release of death row prisoners, Lawyers for Human Rights (LHR) national director Brian Currin said yesterday.

Currin told reporters government should be reconsidering the cases of about 300 common law prisoners on death row who committed crimes "while living under the appalling conditions of the political situation".

The LHR was not calling for prison doors to be thrown open, but felt iniquities of apartheid meant that even common law crimes could be seen as politically motivated. B1 Dawn 10/7/91

He called for last year's moratorium on death sentences to be reimposed pending the formation of a new government, and criticised government for releasing policemen convicted of murder.

All six former death row inmates he knew to have been released following President F W de Klerk's announcement of a limited remission were white, and four were former policemen.

The LHR also released a petition yesterday signed by common law prisoners on death row appealing for the death sentence to be abolished and for their cases to be reconsidered

Currin said there were about 320 death row inmates in SA's jails.

Cape Town may shun local govt Act

LINDA ENSOR 263

CAPE TOWN — The executive committee of the Cape Town City Council decided yesterday to recommend to the council that it have nothing to do with the controversial Interim Measures for Local Government Act

The Port Elizabeth City Council is also expected to reject the Act

The executive committee's recommendation, if adopted, will mean the eight management committees under the council's jurisdiction will be at loggerheads with it over what structures should be used to negotiate a new system of local government.

The management committees recently asked the council to set up a joint negotiating forum to discuss a local government structure, as provided for by the Act B1 Dawn 10/7/91

But the executive committee believes that by providing for management committee representation on such a forum, the Act has given the committees a greater status than their community support deserves

It is believed that the management committees are prepared for a fight and plan to appeal to Cape Provincial Administrator Kobus Meiring should the council refuse to establish a negotiating forum

The Act does not empower the administrator to play an enforcing role — its provisions are not mandatory — but only a mediating one Should the appeal to Meiring not bear fruit the management committees intend making representations to Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing Minister Hernus Kriel and possibly President F W de Klerk

Councillor Clive Keegan said yesterday that the executive committee felt the Act had proved enormously divisive and had the potential to completely derail the negotiating process in urban areas

Hout Bay complex being redeveloped

SA's first harbour-front development, Mariner's Wharf at Hout Bay, is currently being extensively redeveloped.

On completion, it will include an upstairs restaurant with sea views, a nautical boutique arcade, a recreational area and new boardwalks

There will also be a general upgrading of facilities, including the quayside Seafood Bistro and the lobster and fresh fish markets.

The Mariner's Wharf and the Wharfside Grill restaurant are trading as usual during reconstruction.

The famous eating and shopping attraction was pioneered by Stanley Dorman, who has based the latest ideas on research of waterfront developments around the world.

The new upstairs restaurant will seat 250 people and includes four private diningrooms and an overhanging balcony "for sundowners"

The boutique arcade will house curio, gift, chandling and clothing shops

In keeping with its tradition, the Wharf's nautical interior design and decor will be extended to complement the local scene.

The building will also be given a maritime appearance.

Fraud docket opened after Ikapa audit

Crime Reporter (VBS) ARG 16/7/91

POLICE have opened a fraud docket to investigate possible corruption in the Ikapa Town Council following the suspension of an assistant accountant at the council.

The chief executive officer for Ikapa, Mr Kobus Olivier, said Mr Sarel Marais, an assistant accountant responsible for purchasing, was suspended after a preliminary external audit revealed irregularities two weeks ago.

Mr Olivier said the extent of the suspected fraud was not yet known, but could run into "hundreds of thousands of rands", although he thought that unlikely.

Mr Olivier said a security adviser had told him on June 26 that a company had been asked by one of his officials to inflate the price of certain goods ordered by the town council.

An external audit was then arranged and its preliminary report has been forwarded to the police.

City

263
CT 16/7/91

16/7/91

Exclusive
Cape Times

fraud probe

Huge township kickbacks

By CHRIS BATEMAN

THE chief buyer for the Ikapa Town Council in Guguletu has been suspended and police have launched a probe into suspected corruption in the township administration.

Police confirmed yesterday that a fraud docket had been opened

The Ikapa Town Council serves an estimated 350 000 residents in Langa Guguletu, Nyanga, New Crossroads and the KTC squatter camp and had an operating budget of over R60 million last year

The chief executive officer for Ikapa, Mr Kobus Olivier, yesterday confirmed that Mr Sarel Marais, an assistant accountant in charge of purchasing, had been suspended immediately after an initial external audit pointed to irregularities a fortnight ago

Mr Olivier said a chief buyer dealt with "maybe hundreds of thousands of rands" but emphasised that an accurate figure was as yet unavailable

A chief buyer was responsible for inviting telephonic quotations of R1 000 per transaction and written quotations of R5 000 per transaction, while a more senior official in the treasury department had first to approve purchases

While the probe had not revealed the likelihood of further suspensions so far, police were still investigating, he said

Mr Olivier said his head of internal security informed him on June 26 this year that a "certain firm" had been requested by one of his officials to "inflate" the prices of certain items ordered by the Ikapa Town Council

The following day he met a member of the auditor-general's office and the external audit was arranged

Police were probing whether there was any link between firms from which quotations were invited and whether any Ikapa officials received bribes or "kickbacks", Mr Olivier said

He said he had handed the preliminary external auditor's report over to police 12 days ago

He confirmed that one of the transactions being probed involved the buying of uniforms for security guards employed by the Ikapa Town Council

Without having a list of normal prices and the allegedly inflated prices, it was "very difficult" to gauge the extent of the irregularities, Mr Olivier said

He was also unable to say yet how long the alleged corruption had been going on

● Mr Marais joined the Ikapa Town Council over six years ago

Meiring battles 'taal' problem

(263) CT 20/7/91

THE Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, was repeatedly interrupted during a speech at a seminar on local government yesterday by delegates who demanded that he speak English instead of Afrikaans

Mr Meiring was speaking on the role and place of local level negotiations at the seminar, which was organised by Idasa and attended by representatives of councils and civics from throughout the Cape

As he began his introductory remarks in Afrikaans, a black delegate rose and asked that he speak in a language that everyone could understand

"I'll get to that in a minute My introduction is in Afrikaans, the rest of my speech is in English," Mr Meiring said

He continued in English but when he relapsed to Afrikaans another delegate rose to object

Mr Meiring replied that he would repeat his words in English, but when he again spoke in Afrikaans a short while later a third delegate rose to ask for a ruling from the chairman of the session, Idasa's West Cape regional director, Mr Dave Schmidt

"Could I propose that for this session the bulk of the discourse happens in English?" asked Mr Schmidt

'Disappointing'

Resumed his speech, Mr Meiring said the establishment of a local government system that was broadly accepted by all communities was a prerequisite for successful negotiations for a national constitution

He said in an interview afterwards that only the first page of his 12-page speech had been in Afrikaans The incident had been a "little bit disappointing"

"We have two official languages and I'm certainly entitled to speak in Afrikaans"

The seminar brought together former antagonists from community organisations and established authorities, who have begun tentative discussions aimed at reversing decades of racially based local government

Case studies of areas where progress has been made were presented for comparison

National Civics Interim Committee co-ordinator Ms Zohra Ebrahim said a major stumbling block to democratic negotiation was the state's insistence that it should retain control of the process It was vital, she said, that people felt that they were empowered to effect the final outcome if the eventual solution was to be a lasting one — Sapa and Staff Reporter

Act jeopardises 'one city' moves

South 25/7 - 31/7/91 (263)

By Mbuyiselo Mtsheketshe

THE Town Clerk of Port Elizabeth, Mr PK Botha, has condemned aspects of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act as "fundamentally undemocratic". Port Elizabeth is one of the centres whose "one city" initiative has been jeopardised by the controversial legislation

Speaking at an Institute for a Democratic South Africa (Idasa) conference on local-level negotiations, Botha said the statute, which was passed by Parliament on June 7, was not acceptable because it "technically allows the government to determine the negotiating process" Botha said that while there was consensus on the need for a new system of democratic, nonracial and autonomous local government, established through negotiation, there were "widely conflicting opinions" on who should initiate the negotiating process and who should participate

Negotiations in Port Elizabeth between the local authorities, civic groups and the ANC to establish a single nonracial city were at an advanced stage when the new legislation was introduced The act was also criticised by other speakers at the conference Only the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, said the statute's objective was to give local communities the opportunity to negotiate.

Speakers from the ANC and the National Interim Civic Committee (NICC) reiterated their rejection of the law. A member of the ANC Western Cape Regional Executive Committee, Mr Basil Davidson, said the drafting of the act did not involve any consultation with political groups outside of government structures

He said the act allowed for the continuation of de facto racially based local authorities, which was "likely to fuel conflict and violence"

Davidson, a town planner, said that if the government was genuinely committed to a democratic transformation, it should provide explicit guidelines for interim restructuring at local government level and rule out racially-based options.

R30 m

(263)

EXCLUSIVE: Ikapa Town

CONT →

ARG 27-7-91

ARG 27/7/91

CAPE SCAM

Council in multi-million investment swindle — Van Eck

(263)

ARG 27-7-91

MICHAEL MORRIS, Political Staff

CASH scams involving up to R30-million in State funds are being run by the Ikapa Town Council, which controls Guguletu, Nyanga and Langa, claims Democratic Party MP Mr Jan van Eck.

The alleged multi-million-rand investment swindle, says Mr van Eck, involves State bridging finance — funds from the government to help impoverished black local authorities to pay for essentials — being unlawfully invested in well-known banks.

Interest runs to between R500 000 and R1-million a month.

The scam claim, along with other serious allegations of corruption and mismanagement by certain officials of the Ikapa council, is at the centre of Mr Van Eck's latest call to Cape Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring to urgently appoint a commission of inquiry

Mr van Eck, who last night described the Ikapa Town Council affair as "outrageous", said the sources on which he based his claims were sound.

The council is already at the centre of a police fraud investigation An official, assistant accountant Mr Sarel Marais, who was responsible for purchases, has been suspended pending the outcome of the investigation.

Among elements of the police probe is the possibility that certain officials have been receiving bribes, or "kickbacks".

Controversy has surrounded black local government since its inception. Auditor-General Mr Peter Wronsley has highlighted gross deficiencies in financial management and control of black local government in annual reports for the past two years.

Mr Van Eck, MP for Claremont, has long campaigned for an investigation.

He told Weekend Argus he believed the Cape Provincial Administration was aware, but seemed to have "done nothing"

R12 000 a year

Ikapa, which serves about 350 000 people living in Guguletu, Nyanga, Langa and New Crossroads, does not have a quorum of councillors there were not enough candidates for all vacancies in the elections in October 1988

The council is run by an administrator appointed by the Province He is Mr Faan Naude, who is also the regional director of the Department of Community Development.

One of Mr van Eck's claims is that while he was told by Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring that Mr Naude did not receive a salary or allowance, he has since found out that Mr Naude was paid R12 000 a year, in six-monthly payments

Other claims include

- The alleged payment of bribes and kickbacks to officials by contractors whose goods or services are used by Ikapa council;
- Preferential treatment of white job applicants over better qualified black applicants;
- Irregular benefits paid to certain staff of the council; and
- Irregular upgrading of the salaries of certain officials.

The most dramatic claims, however, concern "the irregular investment with certain banks of amounts of about R20-million — the bridging finance — and a further R10-million, which may also be bridging finance".

Mr Van Eck said it was unlawful for bridging finance to be invested

He added "Even if only half the allegations are true, this is an outrageous situation which can be resolved only if the Administrator immediately appoints a high-level judicial commission of inquiry and independent auditors"

- Weekend Argus was unable to get official comment last night.

'Corrupt council' claims given to Meiring

(263) ARG 30/7/91

MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

ADMINISTRATOR of the Cape Mr Kobus Meiring has been given more information on allegations of corruption in the Ikapa Town Council and has been urged again to appoint a commission of inquiry.

Democratic Party MP for Claremont Mr Jan van Eck, whose claims of a multi-million rand State funds investment scam and other corruption were published in Weekend Argus, had a meeting with Mr Meiring yesterday afternoon

He and Mr Meiring were alone

Mr Van Eck said today he had given Mr Meiring further information, which had not been published, and which he believed underlined the necessity of an inquiry. He believed there was an attempt by the authorities to "pass the buck"

In statements yesterday, both Mr Meiring and the township administrator, Mr Faan Naude, said they were "not aware" of allegations of a funds investment scam, and, on the question of bribes or other corruption, appealed to Mr Van Eck to hand whatever information he might have to the police commercial branch

Mr Naude said Mr Van Eck was free to "scrutinise Ikapa's investment account" Mr Van Eck said he would not take up the offer

He added "There is no use in my going into a selective investigation A proper commission is far more capable and competent to go into the whole question I think this offer to me is an attempt to get the thing over with The point is that it is so complicated it needs to be investigated by experts

"Furthermore, a commission would be able to call witnesses and demand information that may not come to the surface otherwise

"My fears are not allayed by the statements from Mr Meiring and Mr Naude"

Khayelitsha council clashes with ANC women

VUYO BAVUMA
Staff Reporter

DEFIANT Khayelitsha councillors told an ANC Women's League delegation who called for their resignation that they were "housewives" who should "go home and cook"

In a four-hour meeting, marked by heated exchanges yesterday, the angry councillors said the ANC women "shouldn't try to take the butter from our mouths as we have fought very hard to attain it".

The meeting followed a march by thousands of ANC women in the township last week

The women called on the town clerk Mr Graham Lawrence and his councillors to resign and on Mr Lawrence not to return to the township.

They were protesting about an alleged terror campaign against ANC activists in Khayelitsha and claimed that Mr Lawrence and his councillors were responsible for killing political activists.

Yesterday the councillors said the women should "occupy the forests as we did and build their own area so that they can set up their own ruling body in it"

The councillors also said they would not resign because the violence in the township was not caused by them

They agreed that they were "not learned people" but said they had to be "faithful to our supporters who are also not learned".

Concerning the town clerk the councillors said if the "ANC is having any problems with him, they should report to us and we will decide to fire him".

After the meeting, Miss Nomatyala Hangana said the councillors were "sexist and undermined the women" during the meeting.

Vice-chairman of the Lingelethu West Town Council Mr George Magqaza said the situation in the country was that "people should talk about their differences.

"When the ANC held a march last week, we heard people insult us and now they are trying to force us to resign. This is puzzling us as we are supposed to be talking about our differences," Mr Magqaza said.

Ikapa head denies claim of big fraud

(263) CT 30/7/91

By CHRIS BATEMAN

IKAPA Town Council administrator Mr Faan Naude yesterday refuted claims of massive fraud within the council, made by Claremont MP Mr Jan van Eck, and invited him to inspect Ikapa's R43-million investment portfolio

The Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, also said he was "absolutely unaware" of any irregular bridging finance investments by the council as alleged by Mr Van Eck at the weekend

Mr Van Eck yesterday reiterated that he had information of bridging finance of up to R30 million "sitting in bank accounts for up to a year" and drawing interest of between R500 000 and R1 million per month This was irregular because the money was needed for essential expenditure in the townships which fell under the Ikapa Town Council (Guguletu, Nyanga, Langa and New Crossroads)

Investigation

Mr Naude said bridging finance could only be invested for nine months and was on 24-hour call

Mr Van Eck's allegations come within a fortnight of the Cape Times revealing that police were investigating Ikapa staff on possible fraud charges

The police probe flowed from the suspension of Ikapa's chief buyer, Mr Sarel Marais, during the council's annual external audit

Yesterday Mr Naude said all Ikapa funds were invested strictly in accordance with CPA dictates

"I invite Mr Van Eck to scrutinise Ikapa's investment portfolio so as to point out where such investments were made unlawfully," Mr Naude said

is . . a record win in the Blue Chip Challenge! Markus Reichardt, a management ith a mining house in Johannesburg, waves the cheque for R6 900 he won in Business Day's share game. He picked up a prize of R4 600, and also earned a s because he is a home subscriber

Picture ROBERT BOTHA

Meiring 'unaware of any council frauds'

BDay 30/7/91 (263)

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — Cape Administrator Kobus Meiring yesterday denied knowledge of an alleged R30m investment swindle by officials of the Ikapa Town Council which controls the townships of Guguletu, Nyanga and Langa

DP MP Jan van Eck claimed at the weekend that bridging finance provided by the state to black local authorities was being unlawfully invested in banks and earning interest of up to R1m a month He said it was unlawful for bridging finance to be invested

Van Eck urged Meiring to appoint a commission of inquiry into allegations which include claims of contractors paying council officials bribes and kickbacks, preferential treatment of white job applicants, irregular benefits for staff and the irregular upgrading of certain officials' salaries.

As the Ikapa council does not have a quorum of elected councillors, it is run by Cape Provincial Administration-appointed administrator Faan Naude.

Meiring said in a statement yesterday he was not directly responsible for the Ikapa Town Council and added that he was "absolutely" unaware of any irregularities in connection with bridging finance

"The allegation that it is irregular for a local authority to invest bridging finance, or any other monies at such authority's disposal, at a financial institution is completely devoid of truth As a matter of fact it would be extremely irresponsible if local authorities were not to do this

"Such investments must, however, be made at approved financial institutions according to certain prescriptions," Meiring said

All 8 mancoms get 'no' to talks forum

263
CT 31/7/91

Municipal Reporter

ALL eight management committees within Cape Town City Council's area of jurisdiction have asked the council to enter a negotiating forum with them — but their request has been turned down

The government has adopted the Interim Measures for Local Government Act to enable it to give legal force to "New-South-Africa-type" agreements entered into by white, coloured and black local authorities, and possibly also civic organisations

However, the council is not happy with the act Dr John Sonnenberg said it was a recipe for disaster as it contained "a triple veto" The administrator had one veto, the white local authorities had another and the management committees had the third, he said

Angry man and Labour neighbours

South 25/7 - 31/7/91 263

Labour Party man angry over squatters

By Thoraya Pandy

THE chairperson of the Manenberg branch of the Labour Party, Mr Yusuf Sampson, is concerned that the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) did not consult his party on the decision to grant land in the area to "such a large number" of African squatters

The CPA has allotted an open field bordering Manenberg and Guguletu to squatters presently living at Tambo Square in Guguletu

"The cultural differences between coloured and Africans are too great for us to work together," said Sampson, who also serves on the Athlone District Management Committee

The Management Committee circulated a petition objecting to the squatters being given land that Manenberg residents needed for housing.

The petition, with 900 signatures, was sent to the CPA

Upsetting

Sampson said he met with the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, three times to discuss the matter

"It is upsetting because there are about 2 000 people on a housing waiting list in Manenberg The land should be used to build houses for them "

A spokesperson for the CPA , Mr Van Heerden Heunis, confirmed that the meetings had taken place and the petition was received.

Heunis said the land fell within the legal jurisdiction of the Ikapa Town Council and if any land was vacant after the squatters moved in, it would be made available to the backyard dwellers in Ikapa

SOUTH interviewed residents living near the site and found that most were in favour of the move

Mr G Jacobs said "I have no problem with Africans staying here Everyone should have a house and live where they feel "

Another resident, Mrs M Menton, said she would have a problem if the squatters lived in shacks and not houses, but in principle had no problem with the move

Dissatisfaction

Mrs K Adonis, who expressed dissatisfaction with the move, said "The Tambo Square people should not stay here, facilities should be provided for the people of Manenberg on the land. They can get land somewhere else "

Meanwhile, the Manenberg Civic Association has start an awareness campaign informing and preparing residents in the area for the move

"The response from the community was relatively positive and most people do not have a problem with the move," a spokesperson said

The civic association had given its full support to the squatters and would assist them in any way possible.

A creche in Tambo Square which was recently built by the Women's League of Tambo Square and Wynberg will have to be broken down when the squatters are relocated

Mayoress may be paid allowance

263
ARGT 1/8/91

Staff Reporter

THE executive committee of the Cape Town City Council is to consider paying future mayoresses an allowance for their duties

The motion, moved by Mrs Ruth Ortlepp, was debated in committee at the monthly council meeting

A further motion to draw up a job definition for the mayoress was rejected

● A motion calling on the Regional Services Council to appeal to the regional plan branch of the RSC to take careful consideration over a decision on an alternative site for the Milnerton squatters was passed by the city council

Councillor Lewellyn van Wyk proposed the motion, saying none of the sites proposed facilitated economic development and the development of satellite cities without infrastructure was a mistake

He urged that sites closer to the city be investigated, particularly South African Defence Force land

● The city council has agreed to spend almost R2,5 million on a purpose-built building to house the mobile libraries service, the library service to old age homes and hospitals.

Councillor John Muir pointed out that the council had sold the building in Mowbray originally used for this purpose to the National Cancer Association at a discount of 90 percent and that a factory or warehouse could be bought and converted for less than half of the expenditure proposed on the new building

● Phase 2 of the Sunrise Beach development is to go ahead at a cost of R2-million and the Western Cape Regional Services Council is to be approached for financial assistance on the project

The proposal from the amenities and health committee allows for the provision of more facilities with an emphasis on picnic areas to alleviate overcrowding at Dalebrook, Danger Beach, St James and Muizenberg.

● Proposals for the renovation of Sea Point pavilion at a cost of R2,9-million, and the upgrading of Green Point Stadium at a cost of R2,8-million, were approved.

● An existing grant-in-aid of R59 127 to the Tygersdal Sports Club is to be increased to R65 000 on the understanding that future increases be frozen and the grant be reviewed annually with the objective that the club, for municipal employees, becomes more self-sufficient

Members pay R2 a month to belong to the club.

PE Municipality moves on lights arrears

263

South 1/8/-7/8/91

From Shadley Nash
Port Elizabeth

THE Port Elizabeth Municipality is to take over administering the electricity supply to the townships here — on condition that all arrears are settled.

An agreement to this effect was reached with the Ibhayi Town Council on Tuesday

At present, the town council owes the PE municipality more than R7-million for bulk supplies of electricity This figure increases by more than R1,5 million a month as residents continue to boycott service payments.

Port Elizabeth's town clerk, Mr Paul Botha, this week said the municipality would be responsible for the "upgrading of the electricity distribution network to the sprawling townships so that there is a cost-effective and efficient supply with no interruptions"

However, the takeover would take place in phases, area by area, as arrears were paid up

The announcement comes less than a week after the East Cape Civic Organisation (Ecco) and the Cape Provincial Administration agreed to the "freezing" of all rent and service charges arrears for the entire region, including Ibhayi.

In terms of an agreement between Ecco and CPA, accounts would be closed from Tuesday this week and new accounts opened at the beginning of August — PEN

Ravensmead anger over Parow council's attitude to negotiations

ARGUS 2/8/91 (263)

HENRIETTE GELDENHUYS
Staff Reporter

MASS mobilisation was necessary if negotiations with the "rightwing" Parow municipality continued to be unsuccessful, the Ravensmead Civic Association (Ruca) has warned.

Municipalities in the northern areas portrayed a face of the new South Africa, but when it came to discussing "real, hard-core issues," their rightwing sentiments blur their vision," said Ruca chairman Mr Bernie Petersen.

Parow mayor Mr Frikkie Knoetze's said the town council "adopts a neutral stance and does not harbour either right or left wing sentiments".

Negotiations with the municipality failed because they were unsympathetic to Ravensmead's problems and to the political changes in South Africa, Mr Petersen said.

"Either we persuade the Administrator to intervene to bring these rightwing municipalities, with their high RC (resistance to change)-factor, to the negotiation table, or we take the other option mass mobilisation."

He said Parow councillors were unaware of the bad living conditions in Ravensmead and rent and electricity boycotts might be the only way of forcing them to take Ruca's demands seriously.

The row between the municipality and Ruca was highlighted when a Ruca delegation marched to the Parow municipal offices on June 26, asking it to reconnect cut-off electricity supplies and subsidise the supplies of pensioners and the unemployed.

They also demanded the immediate upgrading of sub-economic flats rented from the council and said residents were not prepared to pay increased house rents.

The municipality described the march as "totally disorderly", and did not accede to any of the demands, but replied that they would meet two Ruca delegates, on condition that "no delegate speaks for more than 10 minutes".

Ruca interpreted the time limit as an insult. "How could we discuss 40 years of wrongs plus the plight of our people in 10 minutes?"

Mr Knoetze said the municipality's approach was based on practical common sense, orderly processes and sound administration.

263
CT 8/8/91

Council spends R200 000 on trips overseas

Municipal Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council has spent over R200 000 in the first half of this year on overseas trips for councillors and officials who travelled abroad on council business

Councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg criticised this expenditure yesterday, saying that "in the main, people are given these trips as a perk"

Yet executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander said officials from many levels benefited from the council's policy of approving occasional attendance at overseas conferences which the council believed would be in the best interests of the city

Benefits of attending such conferences were real, but they could not be measured quantitatively, Mr Friedlander said. Those who attended had to submit reports on their return

However, he believed that where there was no question of implementing anything that had been learned, "one has to draw the conclusion that these conferences are, in the main, a waste of time and money"

At a conservative guess, it cost ratepayers about R100 000 a year in officials' salaries alone if they were unproductive at conferences, he said

The list of council-funded trips is

G Oliver A conference of mayors in Israel	R17 563,41
G Oliver Visit to Taiwan, Hong Kong, Beijing	R21 122,00
J Stern Visit to Taiwan, Hong Kong, Beijing	R21 122,00
E Stott Official visit to India and China	R1 838,00
R Friedlander Local authority congress, Norway	R11 720,82
L Kreiner Fetched "Cape Town video" prize, US	R17 904,88
N Riley World local authority congress, Norway	R10 975,43
Tom de Bruin Containerisation study, Europe	R5 870,67
A Wentzel Computer conference, UK	R4 247,26
D Whitesman With the mayor to Far East	R16 502,00
A J Clayton With mayoral visit to Far East	R12 275,00
T Kerr With Mr Kreiner to video festival, US	R19 993,19
P de Tolly Metro growth study, Mexico and US	R14 534,56
W W Crous Metro transport conference, Rio, US	R11 337,60
E Spotten Metro transport conference, UK	R20 066,71
Total	**R207 073,53**

Trust turns down Cape Town council

(263)

CAPE TOWN.— The Cape Town City Council's application to the Independent Development Trust (IDT) for nearly R8m has been turned down

At the end of May the council applied for a grant of R7,95m for the development of 1 060 unserviced plots in Lavender Hill East

IDT housing director Ben van der Ross responded in a letter that his board of trustees had met on July 19

13 Aug 91

' Own Correspondent

to select applications

He said there were 404 applications representing 640 000 sites competing for the 100 000 available subsidies and many had to be turned down

However, the council's application would be retained on file and it would be able to reapply if more funds became available

(263) CT 12/8/91

Miami investment slammed

Staff Reporter

A CITY councillor and union officials yesterday slammed a proposed R100 million investment of the city council's pension fund in a United States shopping centre as "totally unacceptable".

Cape Town Pension Fund manager Mr Peter Littlefield said although it was "most unusual" for a South African pension fund to invest overseas, it appeared to be a "worthwhile" business venture.

Senior councillors and fund officials jetted to Miami, Florida, last week to investigate a possible investment in the R180m Miracle Centre Shopping Complex. The seven-day trip was financed by the Standard Merchant Bank, Mr Littlefield said.

City councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg said last night the council policy was local job creation and it was important to stimulate the local economy.

And Mr Salie Manie, Cape Town branch president of the 11 500-strong SA Municipal Workers' Union, said the money contributed by his members should be used to "get the local economy going".

Included in the party which left for Miami was chairman of the fund and former mayor Mr Louis Kreiner, town clerk Mr Donald Geyer, councillor Mr Norman Osburn, retired council official Mr Joe Kerr and representatives of the Standard Merchant Bank.

Pension fund considers US investment

CAPE TOWN — The Cape Town Municipal Pension Fund (CTMPF) is investigating a possible R100m investment in a R180m shopping complex in Miami, Florida — which could be a forerunner of similar moves by other pension funds

But the step has aroused the opposition of a municipal workers' body which believes the money should be invested in the local economy to Bdays 13/8/91

Standard Merchant Bank property assistant GM (property) Nic Corbishley, who arranged for pension fund advisers to visit the US to examine the investment, said SA's economic isolation meant its pension funds had lagged behind worldwide trends in investments

LINDA ENSOR

"If you look at pension funds in countries not restricted in the location of their investments, you find that up to 30% to 40% of the total investment portfolio is in areas other than the domestic base of the fund

"This is to protect the fund against setbacks in its own currency over time and to give it a broad spread of investments.

"SA pension funds have for many years had restricted opportunities and have fallen behind the times in this regard," Corbishley said (263)

The overvaluation of the rand and the 11% inflation differential meant that de-

☐ To Page 2

Pension Bdays 13/8/91

(263)

☐ From Page 1

preciations on an annual basis could be expected and that an offshore investment offered a very positive return for pension fund employees "I can't see this changing in the near future," Corbishley added

The seller of the property, which is partly SA-owned, paid for a seven-day visit by CTMPF's advisers — some of them city councillors — to the complex, which is being administered by employees of SA company Stocks & Stocks A 5% net annual return in rand terms is being guaranteed on the investment

However, Cape Town officials of the SA Municipal Workers' Union have objected on the grounds that the money should be invested, for example, in housing to help council workers who contributed to the fund

Ca

PE councillors to get 75% increase in pay

(263) CT 14/8/91

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH. — City councillors here are set to receive another massive increase in their allowances — this time 75% or more, phased in over the two-year period from January 1 this year.

Management committee and black town council members will receive the same pay rises.

Confidential proposals leaked to the Eastern Province Herald — marked "goedgekeur" (approved) — show that a Port Elizabeth city councillor's allowance, at present R1 200 a month, will be increased to R1 303 retrospective from January 1 this year; R1 471 restrospective from July 1; R1 786 from January 1, 1992 and R2 101 from January 1, 1993.

The mayor, who currently receives R4 800 a month, will get R8 405 a month, or R100 860 a year, in 1993, and his deputy's allowance will rise from R3 600 a month to R6 304 or R75 648 a year as will that of management committee chairmen.

All will receive increments dated from January 1 and July 1 this year, and January 1 in 1992 and 1993.

Those increases come on top on the 50% hike in councillors' allowances that were implemented in July last year

Port Elizabeth mayor Mr John Vieira has now been ordered by the Supreme Court to hold a public meeting to discuss last year's rise.

Further, they are linked to MPs' salaries as they stand at July 1, 1991, and with MPs virtually certain to receive an increase next year, councillors' allowances will rise proportionately.

That means that the minimum increase over the two-year period from January 1991 to January 1993 in Port Elizabeth will be 75% and could be considerably higher.

If MPs receive a 10% increase next year, the total increase for PE councillors between January 1991 and January 1993 will be 92,6%.

The proposed increases are contained in an annexure to the minutes of the United Municipal Executive's last meeting, and are expected to be ratified when the UME meets at Uvongo, Natal, next week

And, it is understood they have received the green light from Mr Hernus Kriel Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs, who stipulated that the increases must be phased in

A worker shovels water from one of the gravesites at the Guguletu cemetery. People have complained they have had to try and bury their loved ones in waterlogged graves

Picture OBED ZILWA, The Argus

Relatives 'forced to bury dead in watery graves'

(263) ARG 16/8/91

VUYO BAVUMA
Staff Reporter

RELATIVES complain they are forced to bury their loved ones in waterlogged graves in Guguletu's NY5 cemetery

They say the Ikapa Town Council did not drain water from pools in the area when the cemetery was extended four years ago

The graveyard is used mainly by families from Nyanga and Guguletu

Some people have resorted to digging holes over existing graves in the dry southern part of the cemetery and burying their dead on top of other coffins

Others choose to pay undertakers R675 — R100 more than the normal fee — to transport the coffins 12 km to Khayelitsha cemetery.

In some cases mourners remove water from graves with buckets They place dry shrubs and grass in the graves before they lower coffins into the ground

The residents blame authorities for not taking enough care in sorting out the problem.

Mr Patrick Myeki, who works at Mahlubi undertakers, in Guguletu, said the problem was distressing

"It shows the council doesn't care about the plight of black people There are dams near the cemetery but the water was never drained by the council

"The issue has been reported by the council but no effective steps have been taken"

Miss Nobahle Xabe of Guguletu said her family chose to bury her sister in a section where there were old graves

"We chose the place because it was the only dry area in the cemetery"

Spokesman for the residents Mr Goodwill Botha said a delegation had been sent to the council to protest

"The situation in the cemetery is unacceptable On Saturday we were forced to put a coffin in a grave although we could see there was still water in it

"The residents are angry about this and are demanding that the problem be solved immediately

The Ikapa Town Council could not be reached for comment

'Pay city's officials same as staff'

(263)

CT 16/8/91

By PETER DENNEHY

MAYOR-ELECT Mr Frank van der Velde said yesterday that he stood by the principle that councillors should not get better increases than they granted to their own council staff

He had been asked to react to news — as yet unofficial — that an increase for councillors is in the pipeline.

Last year Mr Van der Velde made an unsuccessful bid to limit councillors' 20% allowance increases to 13% He was trying to keep councillors' increases below the 14% that Cape Town municipal workers received after a 12-day strike

Yesterday he said that when the matter came before council he would assess the proposals against his own monthly costs

Mr Arthur Wienburg said he believed it was fair for councillors to receive allowances which not only covered their expenses but also reimbursed them for "lost opportunity costs", for the time spent on council business rather than on earning a living.

● Ordinary Cape Town city councillors get R1 200 a month at present, and the mayor gets a total of R4 800

Mayors expected to earn as much as MPs

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

(263) ARG 16/8/91

ALLOWANCE increases for councillors are to be discussed by the Cape Provincial Administration executive committee within two weeks

Allowances in the four provinces are to be brought on to a uniform scale and in some cases are expected to rise dramatically

By 1994 the allowances of mayors of large cities, including Cape Town, will match the pay scales of MPs — now in the R104 000-a-year bracket

Cape councillors' last increase was on January 1 last year. Ordinary councillors receive R1 200 a month, mayors and chairmen of executive committees R4 800 and deputy mayors and deputy executive committee chairmen R3 600

A CPA spokesman said the provincial department of local government was now examining recommended adjustments, which would be discussed by the executive committee at one of its Monday meetings in the next two weeks

The deputy-director of local government, Mr Peter Conradie, said allowance increases were being co-ordinated among the provinces.

He said a government directive that allowances be brought on to the same scales would be implemented this year.

Rondebosch ratepayers reach unity

(263) CT 16/8/91

By RAMOTENA MABOTE

HISTORY was made yesterday in Rondebosch East when two racially exclusive civic organisations, the Civic Association of Rondebosch East (Care) and the Rondebosch East Ratepayers' Association, merged to form one non-racial body

Mr Charles Redcliffe, chairman of the newly formed Rondebosch East Ratepayers' and Residents' Association (Rerra), said that the two organisations got together three months ago and formed an interim body that would draw up a new constitution.

Mr Redcliffe, a former regional chairman of the Labour Party in the House of Representatives, is also an executive member of the Democratic Party for the Western Cape

Principle

He said that although Care was non-racial in principle from its inception, the two bodies had earlier treated each other with suspicion, but it was "amazing" how they changed their attitudes

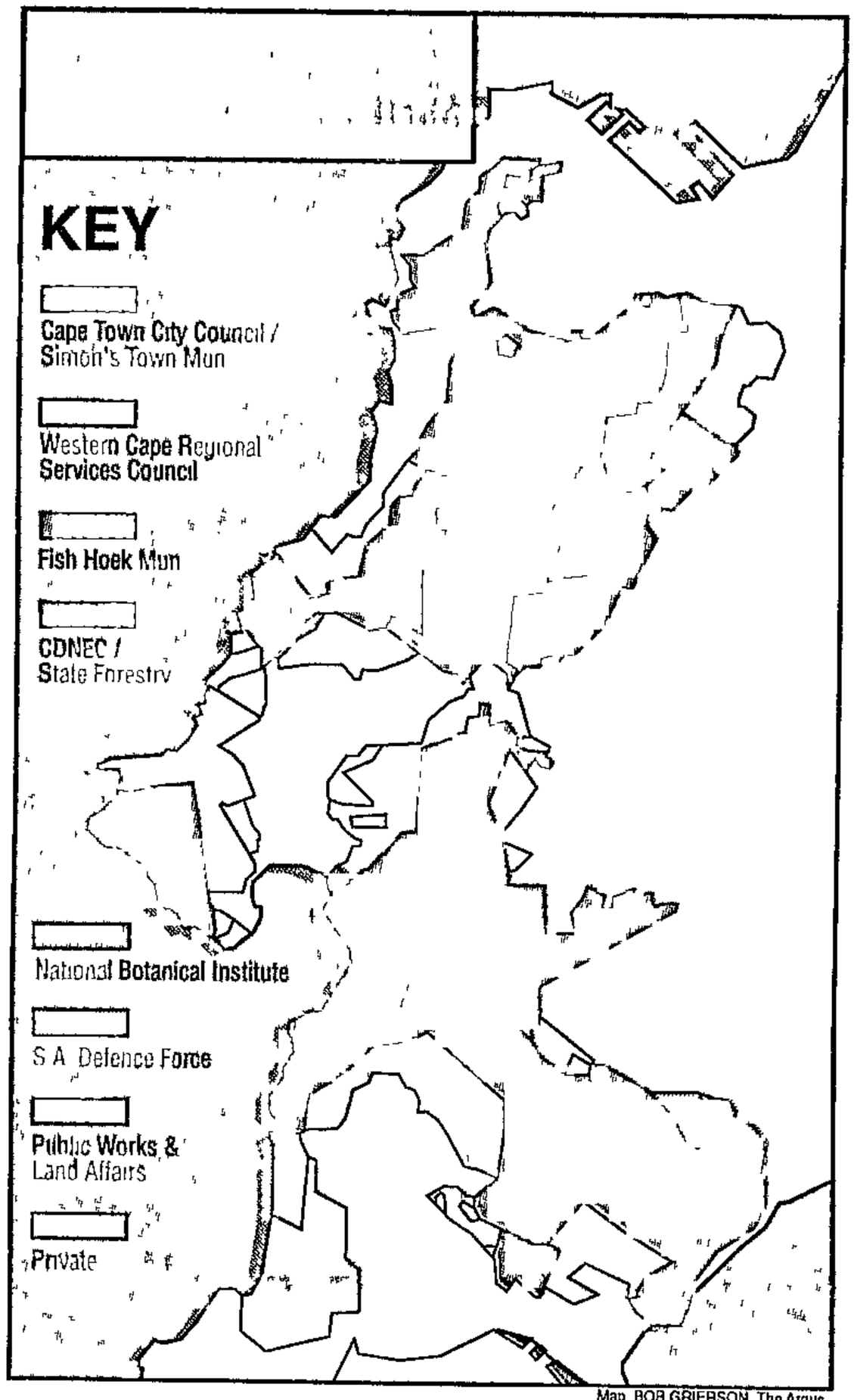
Mr Redcliffe said that Rerra had a membership of nearly 200, half of which attended yesterday's meeting

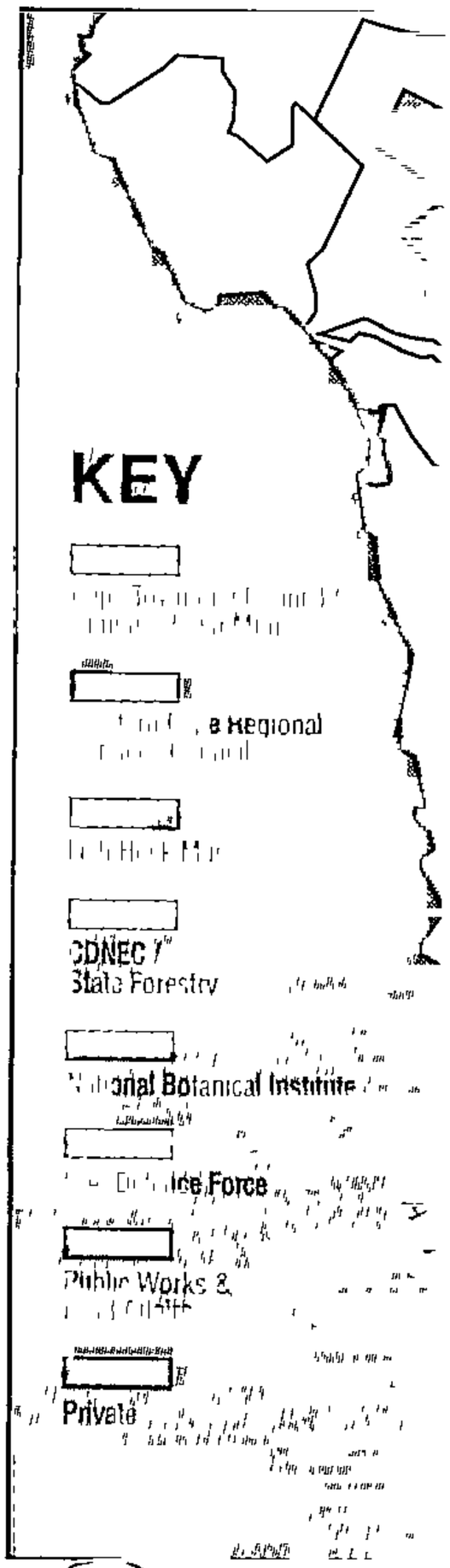
Councillor for Rondebosch East Mrs Ruth Ortlepp said that Rerra was the first non-racial civic organisation to be formed in the Cape since the scrapping of the Group Areas Act earlier this year

"This is a satisfactory experience for us (city council) to see people open their ranks to all after we had appealed to them to do so," said Mrs Ortlepp

Both Mr Redcliffe and Mrs Ortlepp said that up to 65% of the area's residents were white, the rest being "predominantly" coloured

Visions of Verwoerdian Bantustans visited on

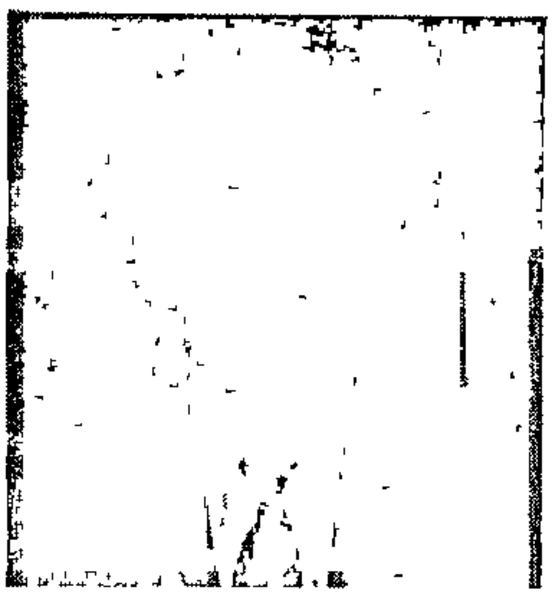




Map BOB GRIERSON The Argus

☐ **JIGSAW:** A horde of local and central government authorities and corporate and private landowners control parts of Table Mountain Cape Town City Council controls Newlands Forest, Lion's Head and Signal Hill and parts of the north face of the mountain, while the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry controls Cecilia Forest The Cape Provincial Administration department of nature and environmental conservation controls a stretch from Devil's Peak to Constantia Corner while the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs controls Rhodes Estate Kirstenbosch is the domain of the National Botanical Institute, while the Western Cape Regional Services Council reigns over the slopes above Hout Bay. The Defence Force possesses Llandudno Corner and the Noon Gun area on Signal Hill Further south, Fish Hoek and Simon's Town municipalities also hold pieces of the jigsaw

Melting pot of our herita ruined by toc many cooks



☐ **GORDON OLIVER ...** just adding another bureaucracy

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

IT looks like one of the old, crazed, Verwoerdian Bantustan visions of a myriad independent countries, a map drawn by a child on LSD.

The psychedelic chunks and splotches, however, represent the administrative fragmentation of Table Mountain

Finding this map was itself an illustration of that fragmentation Weekend Argus contacted the City Council and Western Cape Regional Services Council until, on the third try, it was provided by the Provincial Administration

This week, Mayor Mr Gordon Oliver added his voice to calls for more sensible and uniform control of the mountain

He disagreed with Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring's call for the running of the mountain by the National Parks Board

"This will just add another bureaucracy. If the money is available, give it to the City Council because we have the expertise to handle the mountain."

Walk along Tafelberg Road, just below the blockhouse rounding the corner, you will leave City Council ground, pass into Provincial Administration department of nature conservation territory and, not much further on, walk on to the turf of the Department of Public Works fairs

Mr Oliver and deputy ... van der Velde said part of ... agement problem was dif... of conservation

Just outside council ... vegetation is flourishing, ... sion measures do not match ... the city

Historical reasons lie ... ple mountain fiefdoms

Land bequeathed "to the ... mond magnate and Cape P... Cecil Rhodes is controlled by ... ment of Public Works and ...

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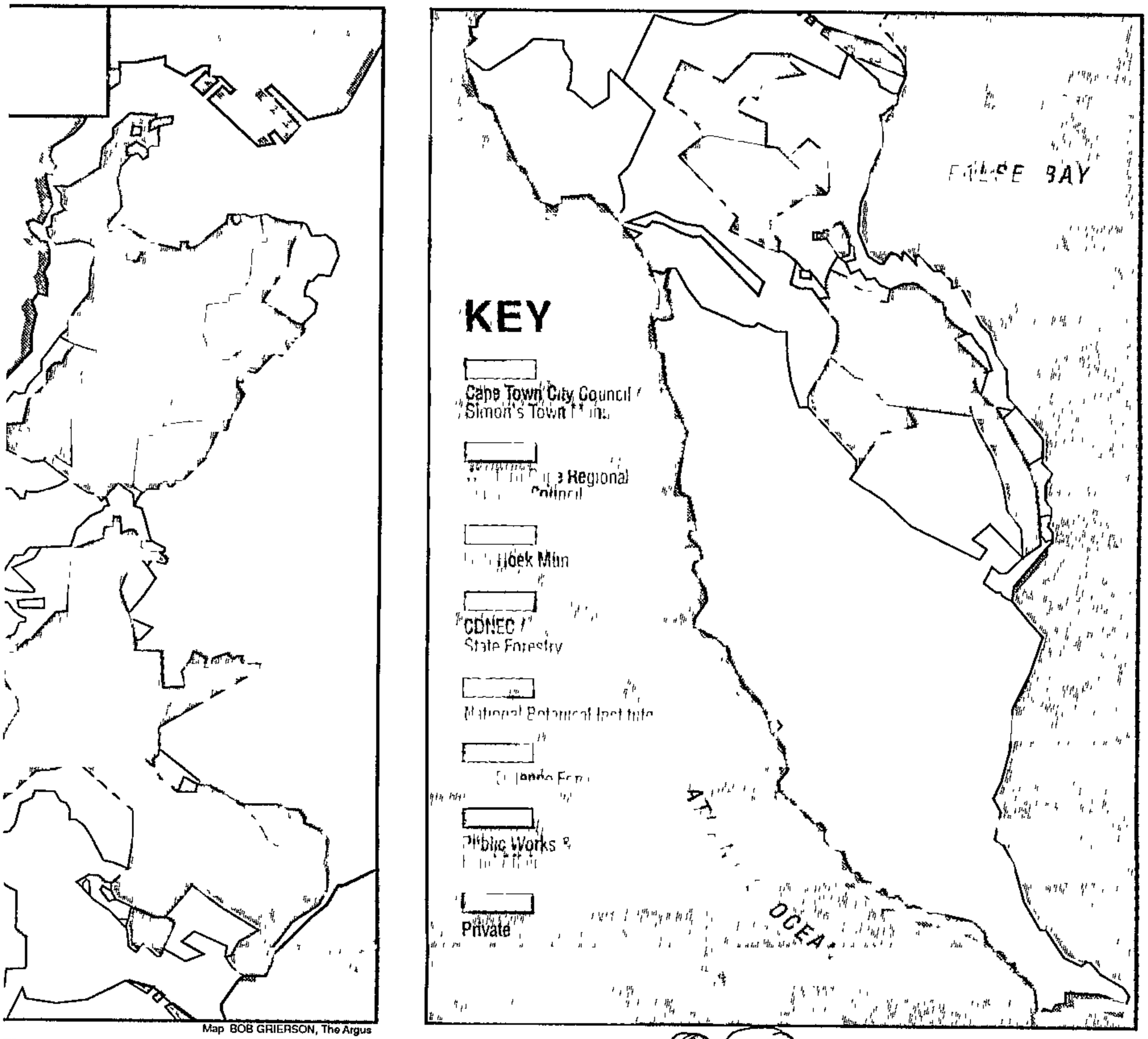
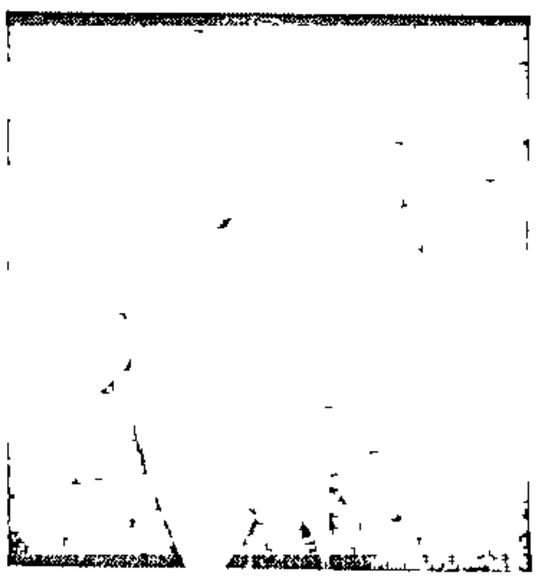
rdian Bantustans visited on the mountain



Map BOB GRIERSON, The Argus

263
ARGT 17/8/91

Melting pot of our heritage ruined by too many cooks



□ KOBUS MEIRING ... give it to the Parks Board

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CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

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"This will just add another bureaucracy If the money is available, give it to the City Council because we have the expertise to handle the mountain"

Walk along Tafelberg Road, just below the blockhouse rounding the corner, you will leave City Council ground, pass into Provincial Administration department of nature conservation territory and, not much further on, walk on to the turf of the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs

Mr Oliver and deputy mayor Mr Frank van der Velde said part of the split management problem was differing standards of conservation

Just outside council boundaries alien vegetation is flourishing, while anti-erosion measures do not match those done by the city

Historical reasons lie behind the multiple mountain fiefdoms

Land bequeathed "to the nation" by diamond magnate and Cape Prime Minister Cecil Rhodes is controlled by the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs

However, the Cecilia Forest plantation is controlled by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry

On top of the mountain, legislation splits "catchment area" land away from local authorities

The Western Cape RSC inherited former Cape Divisional Council land, including the Cape Point Nature Reserve

The Defence Department occupies the Noon Gun site and Llandudno corner, abutting respectively City Council and RSC ground

The comic opera range of fiefdoms would be amusing, but for one thing — bitter experience with past mountain fires has shown that sweeping infernos know no boundaries

Time to rethink position of 'mayoress'

263 CT 19/8/91

CIVIC DIARY

By PETER DENNEHY

MAYORESSES of Cape Town may soon get an "allowance" for the first time.

This was apparently the topic of a long discussion behind closed doors at the most recent City Council monthly meeting

The council resolved to refer the matter to its executive committee, which will decide on the quantum of the allowance and the drawing up of a job description

Once those things are done, it would seem to me a small step further to choose mayoresses on some new basis — in which no account is taken of who they happen to have married

Maybe this is a large step for traditionally minded people An obvious compromise would be to offer the task, or job, to the mayor's wife first Someone else could be appointed only if she does not want it

Cape Town is a cosmopolitan city, and part of being cosmopolitan is not being judgmental towards those who don't feel like playing the role of a traditional supportive wife, or any gender-determined role for that matter

I suspect that virtually all Capetonians would find it easy enough to accept a regular arrangement whereby the mayoress is not necessarily the wife of the mayor Our present mayor and mayoress are not married to each other

If a woman becomes mayor, her spouse is not expected to fulfil any public role This is patently unfair, and the way to rectify the situation must be to expect less of mayor's wives

I have not spoken to Mrs Trish van der Velde, who is expected to be our new mayoress next month, because if she did have any reservations about taking up the post I would be putting her on the spot

Besides, the issue here is broader than the choices of the individuals affected at present. However, they feel it is easy to imagine a situation in which someone might feel inconvenienced at having to abandon her own job just to meet social expectations that come her way as a result of her husband's appointment

Mayors, too, should benefit from an arrangement that takes social pressure off their spouses Remember Mr Peter Muller, who almost did not take up the mayoralty at the last minute four years ago because his wife Clara was ill?

He wanted to do the right thing by his wife and the council, and he must have felt torn The council reduced the social pressure, and everything worked out well in the end

What astonishes me is how all mayoresses up to now, including Mrs Joanna Stern, have served the city so diligently without being paid for it

I know it is an honour to serve the city in that way, but mayoresses are expected to do hard and stressful work Apart from the many public appearances and meetings, there is also fund-raising work Theirs is not an enviable lot

Town clerk told: Get out!

ARG 23/8/91 (263)

TAKE THIS: Mrs Mildred Lesia of the ANC hands over a petition to Colonel J Benadie Behind her is DP MP Mr Jan van Eck, Mrs Nomaindia Mfeketho, a South African Communist Party member, Mrs Rashida Abdullah of the ANC Women's League and civil rights lawyer and ANC national executive member Mr Dullah Omar

Pictures OBED ZILWA The Argus

VUYO BAVUMA
Staff Reporter

AN ANC Women's League delegation has told Khayelitsha's town clerk to "resign and not come to the townships again", minutes after thousands of people marched in protest against a "terror" campaign waged against political activists in the area

The women met Town Clerk Mr Graham Lawrence of the Lingelethu West Town Council at the offices of Mayor Mr Mali Hoza at Site B yesterday

They also claimed Mr Lawrence and the councillors were responsible for the killings in the townships

Mr Lawrence said he could not decide to resign on his own as he was employed by the council He would consult his bosses, Mr Hoza and the council

He admitted there had been problems between the residents and council and these were compounded "by the fact some councillors are not educated and cannot rule properly"

The women said they had given Mr Lawrence and his councillors until Thursday to decide on their demands

The march, organised by the ANC's Women's League, was attended by several prominent people, including ANC member Dr Alan Boesak, DP MP Mr Jan van Eck, and ANC national executive member Mr Dullah Omar

The protest action took place a week after at least seven people, including a mother and her children, were killed

Mrs Florence Tshuku and her sons Lundi, 18, and Mncedisi, 20, and her daughter, Abegail, 17, were shot dead and their house was petrol-bombed in Site C

Yesterday the marchers, some with South African Communist Party and ANC flags, sang anti-government songs and accused the Western Cape Black Taxi Association of allegedly being involved in the killing of community leader Mr Michael Mapongwana

Others carried placards which read, "De Klerk is referee of violence", and "Disband the CCB hit-squads and Askaris"

As the marchers moved towards Zola Budd Drive, a Bellville meat firm's vehicle was stoned and looted

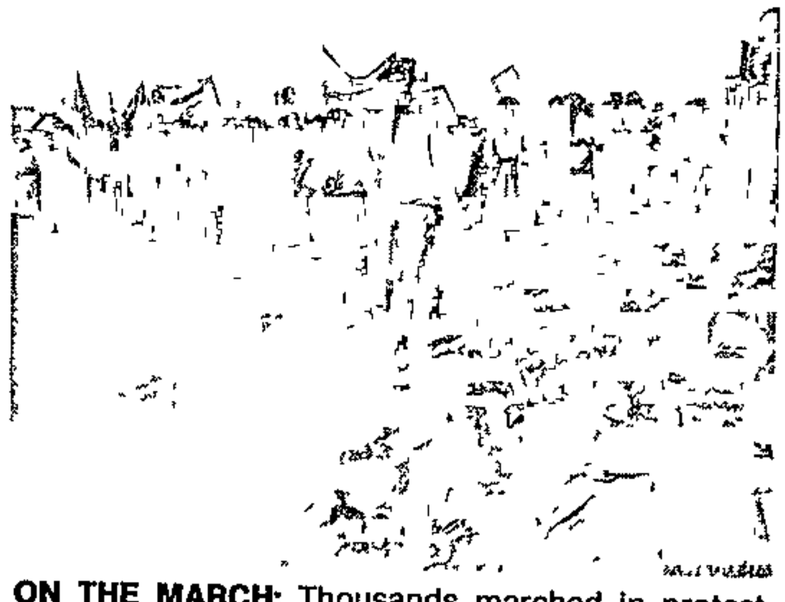
A shocked driver, Mr Wilson Kakaza of Nyanga, said he lost control of the vehicle as he tried to duck the stones

The vehicle overturned but he was not injured Later youths stole meat from the vehicle while Mr Kakaza was at a police station

At the gates of Khayelitsha police station, a group led by Women's League regional executive member Mrs Mildred Lesia handed a petition to Colonel J Benadie

The petition came from "concerned mothers who are deeply concerned with the killings of innocent children and activists" in Khayelitsha

It also cited 13 cases of ANC activists who were harassed by unknown people allegedly assisted by the police



ON THE MARCH: Thousands marched in protest against the "terror" campaign waged against ANC political activists

LADIES!!

SewKnit FASHION WORKSHOP

SEPTEMBER 3, 1991
The Forum
CAVENDISH SQUARE,
Claremont

SEPTEMBER 4
The Gymnasium
TYGERBERG TECHNIKON
Panorama Parow

SPEAKERS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

Knit Cut and Sew What's new with overlocking

Latest Computer Design aids for Knitting Machines Start your own Small Business, Wardrobe Planning
Other exciting topics

FIND OUT MORE

Tambo heads Fort Hare

ARG 23/8/91 (54)

EAST LONDON — ANC national chairman Mr Oliver Tambo will be installed as chancellor of

Violence harms care in township

(275)

EDWARD MOLOINYANE
Staff Reporter

Council is 'abdicating its duties'

By PETER DENNEHY
Municipal Reporter

TWO senior councillors differed sharply yesterday on whether agreements reached with "community organisations" on a weekend away in Caledon amounted to an abdication of responsibilities by Cape Town City Council.

Mr Clive Keegan, who attended the weekend discussions in his capacity as a Regional Services Council member, explained that the event had been organised by consultants Zille Shandler Associates as an opportunity for planners to get together with community organisations to secure their involvement in four projects.

One was related to metropolitan transport, another was a Wesgro inquiry into development possibilities, the third concerned the municipality's own growth strategy and structure plan, and the fourth pertained to the Regional Services Council's structure plan for its entire region

Among the organisations participating in the weekend discussions were the Western Cape Civics Association, the United Squatters' Association, the Hostel Dwellers' Association, Cosatu, the National Council of Trade Unions and the Development Action Group

These took part under an umbrella body called the Progressive Development Forum which has been formed to deal with development issues.

Mr Richard Friedlander, chairman of the council's executive committee, found he could not agree that community-based organisations should be involved in deliberations on the privatisation "of local services", nor that "the PDF should be consulted in this regard".

"Outside bodies could interfere with our relationship with our trade unions," he said.

Mr Keegan said the old-fashioned habit of clinging on to control of everything "must start going". Issues like privatisation had to be sensitively negotiated so that the country was not torn apart.

"We should be grateful that the PDF has come into being, and that we have secured its commitment to participation in planning processes," Mr Keegan said.

Mr Friedlander said he was afraid that at times the council was inclined to abdicate its responsibilities.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Cape Town campaign (263)

WIDE-ranging proposals to prepare Cape Town for the future were outlined by new Cape Town mayor Frank van der Velde in his inaugural speech yesterday

The proposals included the electrification of every dwelling in the Cape Peninsula, servicing 46 000 new sites every year for five years and building houses on at least 50% of them

He also suggested creating a mayor's task force to combat AIDS and coordinate care

B1Dmy4/91/91

SA gains 4 120 people

SA HAD a net migration gain of 4 120 in the first six months of the year, slightly less than the 4 896 in January to June last year, the Central Statistical Service said yesterday (236)

In the six months there were 6 456 immigrants (7 274) and 2 336 emigrants (2 378)

B1Dmy4/91/91

New city mayor has a plan for the future

(263) CT 4/9/91

By PETER DENNEHY

WIDE-RANGING proposals to prepare Cape Town for the future were outlined by the new Mayor of Cape Town, Mr Frank van der Velde, at his installation ceremony in the City Hall yesterday

In his inaugural speech, Mr Van der Velde said he supported the Old Mutual/Nedbank presentation of the choices the country faces, and advocated

- Electrification of every dwelling in the Cape Peninsula,
- Servicing 45 000 new sites in the Peninsula every year for five years,
- Building rudimentary houses on at least 50% of the sites,
- Promoting tourism aggressively, and entertaining tourists well,
- Creating a mayor's task force to combat Aids and co-ordinate care,
- Paying extraordinary attention to the process of negotiation at all levels

The new deputy mayor, Mr Clive Keegan, said he would take his own credo from a Daniel Burden quotation "Make no little plans, they have no power to stir men's blood Make big plans Aim high in hope and work."

Mr Keegan said Capetonians should be able to devise models of inner-city regeneration in District Six and Culemborg "which can be replicated throughout the developing world"

Dr David Bridgman, executive director of the pro-development organisation Wesgro, enthusiastically welcomed the mayor and deputy mayor's proposals

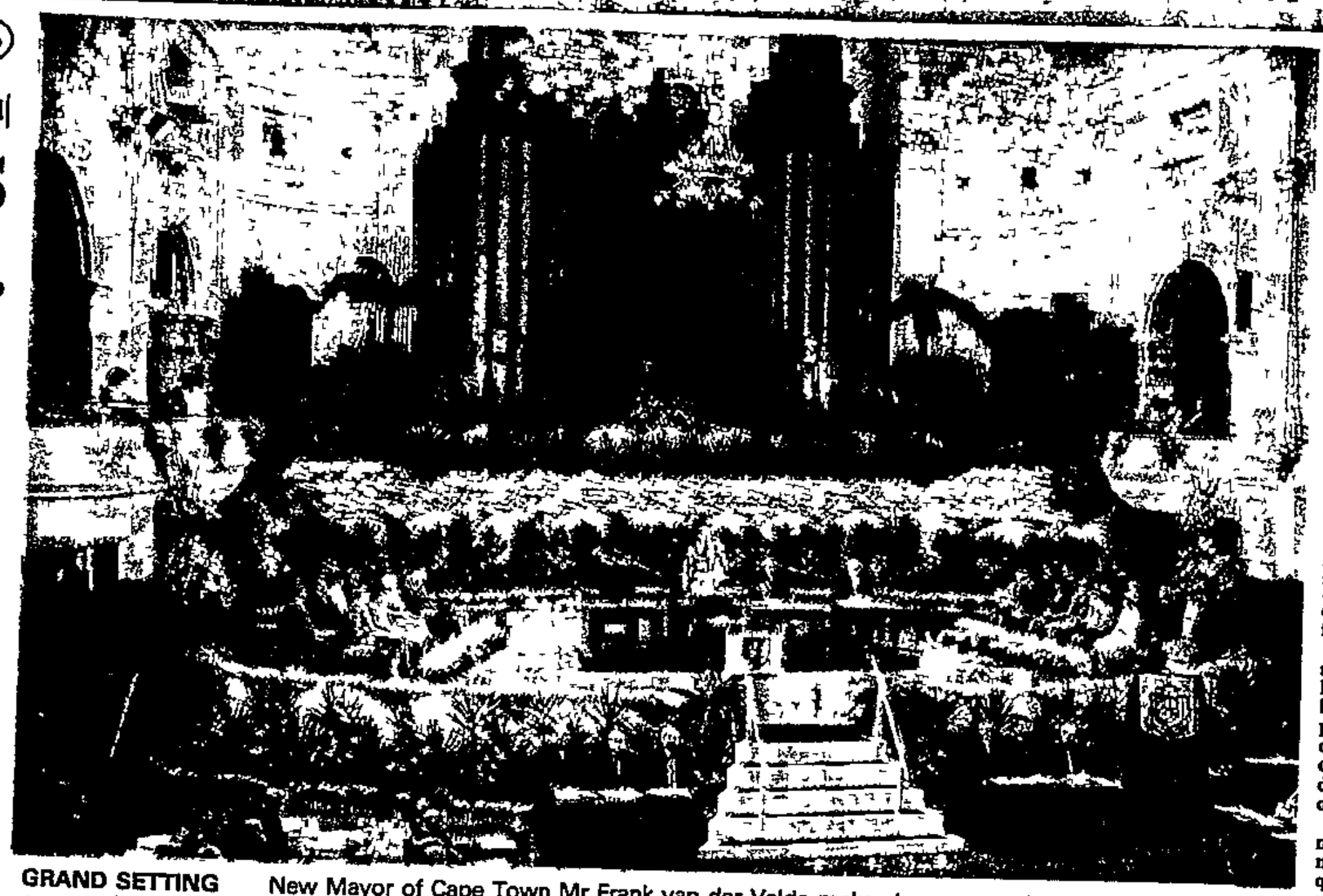
"We in South Africa have neglected for too long the crucial role that expenditure on social infrastructure and housing has in initiating economic growth and spreading its effects," he said

Electrification enabled large segments of the population to enter the economy through work they could do in their own homes and backyards

He disagreed with the view that expenditure on housing and electrification are consumption oriented rather than productive

- Mr Van der Velde pledged himself to continuing the principles espoused by Mr Gordon Oliver — in particular that "all have the right of the ballot, of access to this council and access to the services provided by a single tax base"

He hoped to hand over to a mayor and councillors elected democratically by all Cape Town's people



GRAND SETTING New Mayor of Cape Town Mr Frank van der Velde makes his inaugural speech in the City Hall against the backdrop of a floral display created by the council's Parks and Forests Branch Picture: BENNY GOOL

STEPPING DOWN Mr Gordon Oliver leaves the stage, wearing his mayoral chain for the last time, with the Town Clerk, Mr Donald Geyer, City Administrator Mr Gys Hofmeyr and the then mayor-elect Mr Frank van der Velde

DP DELEGATION Mr Jannie Momberg and Mr Jan van Eck were in the front row at yesterday's ceremony

ELEGANT TRIO Deputy mayoress Mrs Marilyn Keegan (left), outgoing mayoress Mrs Joanna Stern and mayoress Mrs Tricia van der Velde at the inauguration ceremony yesterday Behind them are two of the Van der Velde sons.

Dist Six comeback 'impetus' for city

Municipal Reporter

THE return of former residents of District Six to affordable accommodation there would give an impetus to the rest of the inner city's development, outgoing Mayor of Cape Town Mr Gordon Oliver said yesterday

He hoped the necessary consultations and planning would take place soon.

Looking back on his two-year term of office, Mr Oliver said he hoped he had contributed to the easing of potential conflict.

He believed it was essential that the council keep in touch with "the best leadership of the people who make up our city, whether they be church leaders, former detainees, workers or others"

"To this end we have moved amongst the community and held frequent meetings, both formally and on an ad-hoc basis, with community leaders in an effort to bond Capetonians around the shared purpose of improving the quality of life of our people"

PORTRAIT Mr Gordon Oliver

It was equally important to have an ongoing and good relationship and understanding with other tiers of government, Mr Oliver added.

He was heartened by the extent of the "bridge-building; facilitating, healing and restoring that has taken place" during the past two years

The city was indebted to Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring, who could not attend yesterday's installation ceremony, "for his personal interest and involvement" in the District Six land-swop solution, he said.

Mr Oliver said September 13, 1989, when Cape Town's big march took place, had been a proud day for the city

"We certainly succeeded then in sending a message to central government, to the country and indeed to the world.

"Weren't we all completely surprised and heartened at the government's response?

"We need to rededicate ourselves to a greater spirit of tolerance"

South Africa had suffered far too much at the hands of those who would not allow others the right to hold their own views or go about their own lives as they chose, he said

pe Times, Tuesday, September 10 1991 9

Grassy Park to sever ties with RSC

263

CT 10/9/91

Staff Reporters

GRASSY PARK residents have decided to try to sever their ties with the RSC and seek affiliation with Cape Town City Council because of the "exorbitant rates" that they say are charged by the RSC.

At a meeting in the Grassy Park Civic Centre late last month, organised by the Lotus River and Grassy Park Civic Association and attended by more than 700 residents, a unanimous decision was taken to have no further dealings with the RSC

Residents complained bitterly at the meeting about inadequate facilities and services Some roads had still not been tarred after 20 years, they said. A delegation of 10 was elected from the floor to have talks with the city council, but these have not yet taken place

When the Western Cape Regional Services Council was asked to comment yesterday, a spokesman asked for a fax to be sent to the chief executive officer. This has been done, but no reply has yet been received

City council spokesman Mr Ted Doman said it was possible that the residents could join the council, or they could form their own municipality, but the council would have to meet and decide on this

Rezoning bid gets Cape city planner's nod

B Days 11/9/91 263

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — Cape Town's city planner's department has recommended the approval of a controversial rezoning in Tamboerskloof despite strong opposition from thousands of residents

The dispute began in 1989 when Two Oceans Development submitted a proposal for an upmarket residential complex of 26 units terraced into the lower slopes of Signal Hill Each unit is likely to sell for over R500 000

The application proposed that the property, No 1 Kenmere Road, Tamboerskloof, be rezoned from single dwelling residential and public open space use to general residential use But objectors said it was conservationally intrusive as it was adjacent to the Table Mountain Nature Reserve and would lead to traffic congestion

According to a report which will be presented to a town planning committee meeting today, the city planner's department conducted an environmental impact and traffic assessment study and found that the proposed development maximised the site "in an environmentally sensitive manner"

The department recommended in favour of granting the rezoning subject to certain conditions, according to the report.

The department said objections seemed to be based on a "gut reaction" and on a lack of information regarding the development

The city planner's department "believes it is not a question of whether development should take place, but rather what this development should be.

"A coherent development of the site certainly offers greater opportunities to control development than does a piecemeal approach," the report said

It recommended that approval be granted subject to a detailed set of conditions which would ensure the development remained aesthetically pleasing, conservationally sound and not lead to traffic congestion

Plans for greater, non-racial city goes ahead

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

A NEW-style greater Cape Town with wider boundaries is one option the City Council will take to neighbouring municipalities for discussion

Another alternative for the future post-apartheid city would be metropolitan government with existing boundaries unchanged but a metropolitan "super-council"

This emerged from a press conference yesterday to release the final report of the council Ad Hoc Committee for an Open Cape Town

The recommendations, based on research by the five-member committee since June 1990, included

● An expanded democratic metropolitan city aided by central government funding for housing, health, education and transport

● Finding ways, via consultation and a review of existing legislation, to maintain standards without effectively continuing apartheid

● Briefing consultants to recommend "positive measures" to redress racial imbalances among council officialdom, especially at higher levels

● More community input in council decision-making

The report noted that while 10 ratepayers' and civic organisations were consulted in preparing the report, no meeting with the umbrella Western Cape Union of Civic Organisations was held

Committee member Mr Neil Ross said it was not that the civic body refused to meet the council, but that the organisation had not been ready to meet the council at the time the report was prepared

Executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander welcomed the report, adopted by the council after its completion in June, as an "objective survey of changes taking places and envisaged to take place" in Cape Town

Some matters, including the municipal franchise, had been referred for consideration to the committee's successor, the Ad Hoc Constitutional Committee

Committee chairman Mr Arthur Wienburg said the question of standards had been the "greatest point of agony" for the committee

De Pontes is struck off attorneys' roll

263 ARG 13/9/91

The Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH — Former National Party MP for East London City Peet de Pontes has been struck off the roll of attorneys.

An application for an order that De Pontes be struck off the roll was granted in the Grahamstown Supreme Court yesterday

De Pontes was found guilty in the Port Elizabeth Regional Court last November on charges of fraud, bribery, theft, forgery and uttering

All the charges related to deals he had with international financier Mr Vito Robert Palazzollo and attempts by De Pontes to conceal the illegal entry of Mr Palazollo into the country.

Grounds for the application were that the Law Society was the custodian of the prestige status and dignity of the legal profession and that the society had a duty to protect the interests of the public in dealing with attorneys.

In an affidavit De Pontes said he had been a non-practising member of the Law Society since April 1988.

Cape Town considers unity

B|Day 17/9/91

263

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — Far-reaching recommendations regarding standards, financing, community liaison and affirmative action on staff appointments are contained in a report on Cape Town's transition towards an integrated democratic city

The report, which has been adopted by the council, was drawn up by a committee of councillors under the chairmanship of Arthur Wienburg and released yesterday

The report is based on the recognition of the need to create economically viable, non-racial, democratic and redistributive local government

It proposes two levels of city government — metropolitan and local — and recommends that the metropolitan area includes the magisterial districts of Cape Town, Goodwood, Bellville, Kuilsriver, Wynberg, Simon's Town, Eersterivier, Kleinvlei, Macassar-Firgrove, Somerset West, Strand, Gordon's Bay and Stellenbosch The inclusion of Atlantis, Paarl and Wellington is still to be investigated

A constitutional committee is taking the investigation further and is looking at issues such as a municipal franchise. Wienburg says the next stage would be to get other municipalities involved to work out a broad consensus with which to approach government.

One drawback, however, is that the civic associations in the Western Cape Union of Civic Associations did not participate in the deliberations of the committee.

State

The report emphasises the city of Cape Town will not be able to accept the financial liability associated with an enlarged single city without additional funding from government in the form of a guaranteed tax base.

The state will have to accept responsibility for housing, health, education and major transportation schemes

The report says the issue of standards will be one of the most crucial facing Capetonians, but the council will not be party to proposals which under the guise of assuring or improving standards serve to protect existing privilege or foster discrimination.

One of the major issues of standards relates to problems of overcrowding, and the committee feels that existing legislation may be inadequate. A review of this legislation is proposed and resources to meet the need for housing are necessary.

The effectiveness of current enforcement procedures regarding bylaws on standards needs urgent review as present processes are too lengthy and the council is "toothless". The establishment of a municipal court to hear municipal cases is recommended

The report says council employees need urgent training to respond to complaints.

Affirmative action is necessary to redress the racial imbalance in the workforce, especially at higher levels The council has commissioned an investigation into affirmative action programmes.

The committee says the framework of the future form of local government should be high on the agenda for national negotiations as a prelude to local decisions.

Brits no longer find SA wine unpalatable

Own Correspondent

B|Day 17/9/91

LONDON — SA is the flavour of the month, according to the UK wine industry, and major food chains are rushing to fill their shelves

A report in the Sunday Times says supermarket giant Sainsbury's is introducing a SA wine to its extensive range and Tesco, which recently launched its first four, is topping up with another two next month.

Marks and Spencer's first two SA wines will be available this week, while Asda recently put three on its shelves.

"Recession-hit retailers seem terrified of missing out on what might just end up as the next great wine trend," says the report.

And it comes as no surprise. SA wine makers, who produce a massive surplus each year, are keen to sell and the weak rand makes prices attractive

Added to the impressive list of retail outlets are the bottle stores One chain, Victoria Wine, describes SA as "one of our major areas for development".

Of the stores which have been quietly selling through the sanctions years, are Waitrose — which has added two to its range — and the Thresher and Wine Rack chains which are looking at market possibilities for next year

Timing is at it's best now. Sanctions have gone, and added to this is the disastrous frost-bitten 1991 vintage from Europe — and price hikes over the past 18 months which show little sign of abating.

Committee to guard city standards

(263)
ct 17/9/91

By PETER DENNEHY

THERE is a danger of residential standards in the city declining, the ad hoc Committee for an Open Cape Town concluded yesterday.

Present by-laws affecting standards were inadequate to deal with this danger, the committee noted in its final report, tabled yesterday

Various by-laws needed to be reviewed to ensure they were up to date and adequate, and care had to be taken to ensure that suitably streamlined procedures existed for enforcing them properly

Mr Arthur Wienburg, who chaired the five-person committee, said at a press conference yesterday that, for example, there was currently no legislation controlling overcrowding The Slums Act had been abolished without being replaced by any similar measures, he said.

Asked whether the introduction of new standards in response to racial integration was not a form of discrimination, Mr Wienburg replied that the suggestions made in the report "have nothing to do with a post-apartheid society"

"It has to do with loopholes which exist," he said "There are problems with existing procedures We are toothless when it comes to controlling the deterioration of properties

"We did not say that because the Group Areas Act is going, we need to streamline our procedures," he added

Mr Wienburg's committee, on which Mr Chris Joubert, Mr John Muir, Mr Neil Ross and Ms Annamia van den Heever serve, came into being partly as a follow-up to another report on strategies for "making the integration process a positive experience for all"

Its formation was also a response to Mr Wienburg's request for orderly planning necessitated by the abolition of the Group Areas Act

The committee report, which has been adopted by Cape Town City Council, outlines the following "options" The council could be empowered to take action itself rather than prosecute offenders, a municipal court could be established, and the size of the premises inspectorate could be increased

OPEN CITY PLANNING (263)

Facing the future

Meeting the challenge of apartheid-free cities means far more than simply opening residential areas and municipal facilities to all — as Cape Town is discovering

The final report of the council's Ad Hoc Committee for an Open Cape Town, released this week, takes a peek into what lies ahead The report was never meant to be definitive and is not; instead, it highlights the sort of problems an open city is likely to face and makes some recommendations on how to tackle them FM 20/9/91

Two issues in particular dominate the maintenance of standards, and finance for an integrated city or metropolitan area

The committee says it became clear early on that "the question of standards would be one of the more crucial issues facing all Capetonians during the period of transition to a fully open city " Of major concern to all communities is that efforts must be made to ensure a quality of life acceptable to and based on standards agreed by as many residents as possible

However, the committee stresses that it based its consideration of the "very sensitive

(263) FM 20/9/91

issue" of standards on the belief that the city council "would not be party to any proposals which, under the guise of assuring or improving standards, were a disguise for protecting existing privilege or fostering racial or other discrimination "

But selling the maintenance of standards — important as it is — will undoubtedly be difficult Government, through its botched efforts in parliament this year to preserve white privilege under the guise of maintaining standards in residential areas, has clouded the debate Any effort to set minimum standards, unless widely discussed and agreed to by all involved, is likely to be viewed with racially tinged suspicion

The committee has had the courage to address the issue in fairly comprehensive detail which should serve as a basis for further consultation within the Cape Town community

The second key issue, finance, was not considered at any length and there were no proposals for other sources of finance in the (likely) event of the State being unwilling or unable to assist Cape Town (and other cities) to the extent the committee believes necessary

The committee pointed to certain prerequisites for finance including State responsibility for housing, health, education and major transportation schemes "It was emphasised that the City of Cape Town would not be able to accept the financial liability associated with an enlarged single city without sufficient additional funding from central government in the form of a guaranteed tax base "

However, it accepted that during negotiations on constitutional models for local government, the city will have to rely on traditional sources of income such as rates, user charges and tariffs

With local authorities at the end of the line in the wider constitutional debate, they are clearly severely disadvantaged when it comes to anticipating directions But it seems essential that they should become more active in trying to influence debates that will profoundly affect them and their residents, particularly in finance

The State will not come to their aid either now or in future — so innovative and imaginative suggestions are needed on how to provide for the have-nots without milking dry the haves ■

FM 2/9/91 (262) (263)

merely further polarise haves and have-nots

Part of the solution may be to dismantle what have in many cases become bloated local bureaucracies and privatise all but essential services that the private sector is unwilling or unable to render

Cape Town city councillor Arthur Wienburg, who chaired a recent investigation into a single municipality for the city (*Current Affairs* September 20), but who spoke to the *FM* in his personal capacity, believes the city needs to "get back to basics"

The council's functions should be rationalised Services such as refuse removal and electricity and water supply which account for tens of millions of rands in assets should be sold The proceeds should go into a revolving fund to finance housing and other essential services that a unified council will be expected to provide

Scaling down the size of the municipal bureaucracy would also release office space for rental to the private sector (the council's main office block is the largest in the CBD)

Wienburg says the private sector has been shown time and again to be more efficient than the public sector and would probably be able to provide many services cheaper and more efficiently than the council.

A problem, of course, is dismantling bureaucratic empires. Legislation dictates that councils are graded on the basis of expenditure, the more they spend the higher their grading — and salaries of officials and councillors are based on the grading

Community opposition to privatisation is an additional problem, but Wienburg is sure it can be overcome through negotiation and a clear setting out of how available resources could be used more effectively for socio-economic upgrading He believes the council could also improve cost efficiency through zero-based budgeting, instead of the current incremental system of simply increasing the previous year's budget by the maximum permissible

The need for Cape Town to find new sources of revenue is undeniable The main spending priority in the years ahead will be housing After the greater Durban area, the city probably has the highest percentage in SA of people in need of decent shelter

Wienburg says the current "crisis of expectation" will become a "crisis of affordability" which must be addressed as soon as possible. He believes the unfortunate experience of Harare municipality, which was faced with similar problems in the years after independence, should be a lesson to SA

Greater Durban, though facing massive socio-economic problems, appears to be the only city well positioned to cope with future demands on financial resources In 1957, far-sighted councillors and officials created a Consolidated Capital Development Fund (CCDF), which has grown to about R1bn Proceeds have included R220m from the sale to the Umgeni Water Board of the Durban Corp's water purification and conservation assets A similar fund operated by Cape

Continued on page 61

UNIFIED MUNICIPALITIES (262) (263)

Finding the funds

Should local authorities sell off unproductive assets worth billions to help finance essential socio-economic development? It's a question becoming increasingly relevant as the "new SA" draws near and city councils grapple with the problem of funding unified municipalities FM 2/9/91

Future local authorities are likely to be geographically redefined to include neighbouring townships for which they have not been financially responsible for years The development backlogs in most townships are huge and far beyond the present funding capacity of either local authorities or the State, yet local authorities in particular will be expected to meet the reasonable demands of disadvantaged communities

The question is how Even drastic increases in property rates and service charges would be insufficient in most cases and

continued from P56

Town is worth only R150m.

Durban's CCDF is used to fund council projects and saves millions in interest Though the loans bear market-related charges, half the interest is paid back into the CCDF and half goes to the rates and general services account to effectively subsidise rates accounts.

Durban is consequently believed to be the only city in Africa and one of few in the world that has no public debt — an enviable position on the eve of an era in which massive demands will be made on existing resources ■

FM 2/9/91 (262) (263)

CURRENT AFFAIRS

WESTERN CAPE — BUCKING THE TREND

FM 4/10/91

The economy of the western Cape grew at a rate of nearly 2% last year, compared to a fall of just under 1% for SA as a whole, according to the region's economic development promotion agency, Wesgro This estimate, made by local economists, is in line with developments during the first half of the Eighties when the western Cape outperformed the rest of the country

Wesgro CE David Bridgman says growth is the result of success in the region's export orientated sectors including fruit, some areas of fishing, clothing and some manufacturers of other finished products Together with a strong trend in property development, this boosted the western Cape and set a pace that is likely to continue for the rest of the decade

Bridgman says foreign investor interest in the region is growing, particularly in tourism, while potential SA investors from outside the region are showing increasing interest in technology-based businesses which have shown annual compound growth of 10% in the western Cape over the past five years

He adds that foreign investors are generally interested in joint ventures rather than their own operations Their main concerns about SA are political uncertainty, tax rates and productivity levels. They are attracted to the western Cape by the lifestyle it offers management, trade prospects and the good skills base.

Bridgman believes the obstacles to investment in the region are fewer than the rest of SA. "We could do even better if obstacles in the country as a whole weren't holding us back"

Great open city challenge is on

Cape Town, Durban vie to dump race laws

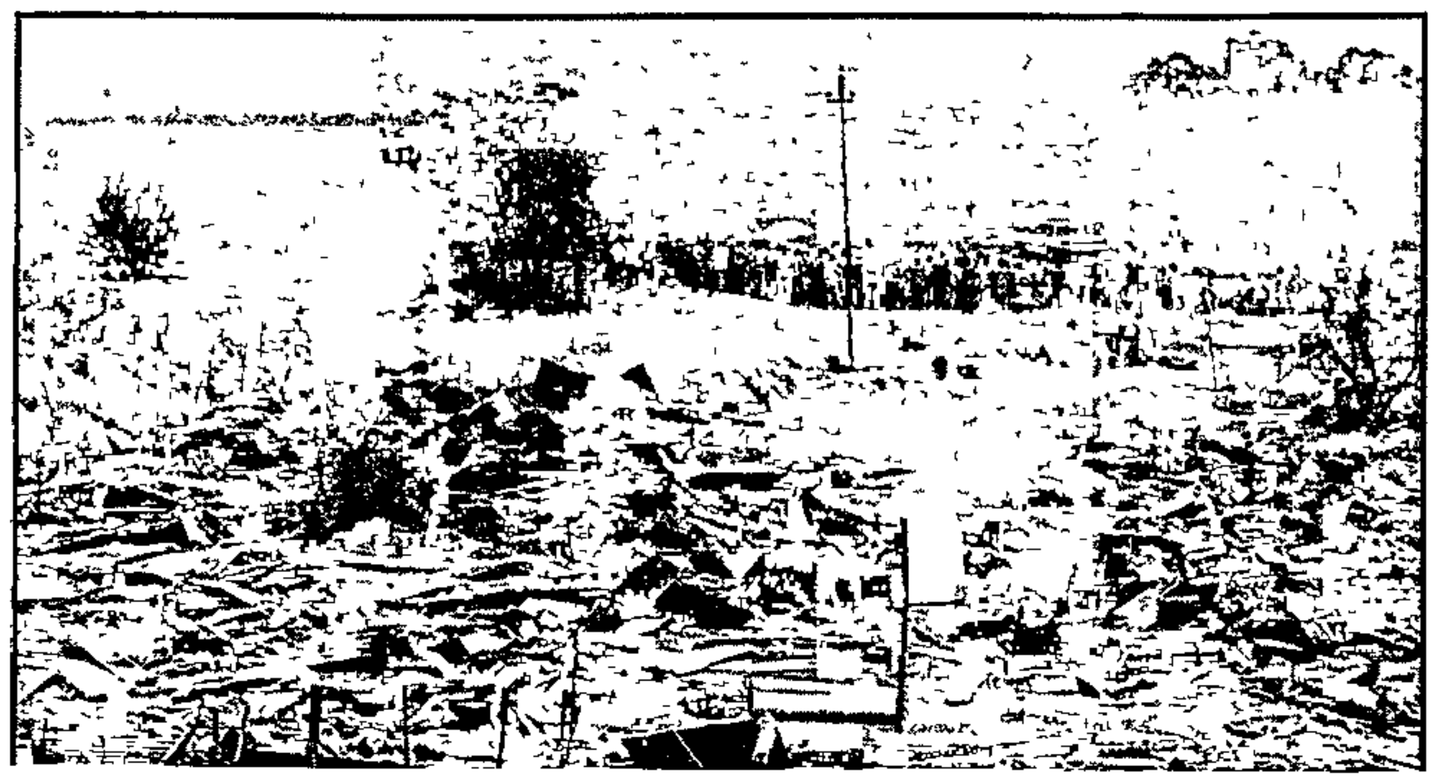
Star 5/10/91

263

OWN CORRESPONDENT

CAPE TOWN — Towns and cities throughout South Africa have been challenged to scrap all discriminatory by-laws immediately and not to waste time merely chipping away at them

The race is already on between Durban and Cape Town to see



Place of rest turns into place of cruel destruction

Star 5/10/91

AL-AMEEN KAFAAR

FOR THE past three years, residents of the Sgodiphola (place of rest) squatter camp, a few kilometres outside Fourways, lived undisturbed on the banks of the Jukskei River

But their daily routine came to an abrupt end earlier this week when they had to look on helplessly as a bulldozer flattened their shacks and belongings, killing dogs, chickens and pigeons in callous destruction No opportunity was given to remove belongings and pets

Veteran Democratic Party MP

The race is already on between Durban and Cape Town to see which city will be first to completely abolish discrimination.

Cape Town's civic leaders say their city remains in the forefront of the fight against apartheid at local government level.

Their claim is based on the city's long tradition of resistance to apartheid — even at the height of the apartheid era — and on the latest moves towards a fully democratic, apartheid-free "open city".

But Durban claims it is about to overtake all other South African cities. On Monday an innovative plan is to be placed before the city council which aims to scrap not just apartheid but all discriminatory by-laws "in one fell swoop".

It hopes to do this by way of "overriding by-laws" eliminating discrimination on grounds of race, religion and gender from its existing by-laws. The management committee is confident the plan will be accepted

Management committee chairman Peter Mansfield says the council could either spend months, even years, combing through 150 years of by-laws to seek out discriminatory measures, or it could solve the problem with a single "omnibus decision".

One fell swoop

"This will be an historic decision. Many cities, including Durban, have been chipping away at discrimination for years.

"But as far as we know this is the first time any city or other level of government in South Africa has decided to eliminate all discriminatory measures from its laws in one fell swoop," said Mr Mansfield

"We would like to issue a friendly challenge to other cities and other levels of government to follow suit There is no need for cities to wait for central government to make decisions for us. In this area ... cities are in a position to set an example to other levels of government."

Mr Mansfield said he was particularly pleased that the management committee had agreed to tackle the issue of gender. "In our race-obsessed society the issue of discrimination against women has all too often taken a very back seat."

Cape Town City Council sources said the city was proud of its long tradition of resisting all forms of discrimination. As a result of the city's persistent efforts, few, if any, discriminatory measures remained.

Dick Friendlander, chairman of the Cape Town City Council's executive committee, said the city had always had a policy of no discrimination

"It has always been our philosophy The only inhibition to the full implementation of our policy has been laws such as the Group Areas Act with which we had to comply when they were in force.

"Legally it is hoped that most, if not all, discrimination is now out Emotionally we are one people."

A clear expression of Cape Town's thinking and its commitment to non-discrimination was contained in recent statements on civil liberties in an "open Cape Town".

Pay rises for city officials spark anger

263 CT 7/10/91

Staff Reporter

THE top echelons of the city council are to receive pay hikes to bring their salaries up to the level of their private sector counterparts — angering the South African Municipal Workers' Union, which claims this makes a farce of earlier council claims that finances were depleted

In a brief statement yesterday, city council spokesman Mr Ted Doman confirmed the pay rises "We had an investigation into salaries and after comparing them to those in the private sector, we increased them to a certain level," he said

A city council source claimed yesterday that, over and above the 12,5% increase granted to the 16 000 workers in July, all departmental heads and those above this level would receive an 8,33% salary increase backdated to October 1 Between 300 and 400 senior officials would apparently benefit

Cape Town chairman of Samwu Mr Salie Manie said yesterday that during salary negotiations with the council in June, the union had requested a 20% across the board increase, eventually settling for 12,5% He said that the union had been told that finances were depleted

"Now they have suddenly found the money and it is possible that they have planned this all along In future we are not just going to accept that there is no money We will get experts in to look at the books," he said

City, province agree on promoting change

CT 9/10/91 263

Municipal Reporter

A TWO-PRONGED approach to promoting change has been agreed upon by senior officials of Cape Town City Council and the Cape Provincial Administration

While city council officials and their consultants liaise with the extra-parliamentary groups, those from the province will promote the process of negotiation within the present structures of local government

This was disclosed yesterday in a letter from the Administrator, Mr Kobus Meiring, to the Town Clerk of Cape Town, Mr Donald Geyer

In the letter Mr Meiring expressed disappointment at what he called the council's "unreasonable and unfortunate" rejection of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act

In terms of the Act, existing local authorities may come to agreements with each other — and even with other civic bodies if all existing local authority bodies agree to this — about running the cities in the interim period before the new constitution

Mr Meiring said he had committed himself in public to refrain from exercising the wide powers vested in him in the Act

Majority

Instead, he would allow local communities to decide through negotiation on institutional models that suited them He would merely promulgate these where he was convinced that they were the will of the majority of the community, he said

Mr Meiring invited the full city council to meet him for a sincere discussion of its attitude towards the act

Despite the disappointed general tone of his letter, Mr Meiring expressed his appreciation to the council for its efforts to promote negotiation with extra-parliamentary groups

"The deputy director-general community services has informed me about the parallel approach agreed upon between himself, Mr Gys Hofmeyr of your office and Ms H Zille, namely that my Administration will promote the process of negotiation within the present structures of local government in the Peninsula while your council does the same with regard to extra-parliamentary groups"

The object of this was to create the right climate for bringing together the parties concerned at a future date "while, in the meantime, close co-ordination will take place between ourselves"

ET 9/10/91

W Cape (263) gets 3 new local councils

Municipal Reporter

THREE new local councils, which will be represented on the Western Cape Regional Services Council, have been formed in Llandudno, Scarborough and Atlantis

This brings the number of local authorities represented on the Western Cape RSC to 65, according to an RSC spokesman

The Cape Provincial Administration has announced in a circular to all local authorities that the new bodies are Llandudno Local Council, Scarborough Local Council and Atlantis Industrial Area Local Council

Existing local authorities have until the end of this month to submit their objections — if they have any — to the formation of the new bodies

City Council in a quandary over standards

(263) CT 14/10/91

CIVIC DIARY

By PETER DENNEHY

THE maintenance of residential standards has recently become an issue of increasing concern to residents and councillors

At the most recent council meeting the majority of councillors voted to turn down an application for rezoning put in by someone who was seen to have allowed his Maitland property to deteriorate excessively

The vote appeared to be a response to strong motivating speeches by the local councillors, Mr Gerry Sullivan and Mr Clive Justus

Other examples of the same phenomenon — owner-sanctioned deterioration — were mentioned by Mr Ian Iversen and Mr John Muir Now a civic action committee has sprung up in Rosebank to preserve buildings which its members believe have been allowed to deteriorate

The issue is a complex one, with potential for causing division All the cases mentioned above have nothing to do with people's colour, but a Muizenberg landlord has claimed that colour may be a factor in another "standards dispute" in his suburb

The Committee for an Open Cape Town notes that "the introduction of new standards especially to deal with integration is to be avoided as it is rightly seen as a form of discrimination and is therefore counter-productive"

The committee — which came into being after Mr Arthur Wienburg correctly foresaw the demise of the Group Areas Act — has nonetheless recommended that council officials should undertake a review of legislation affecting standards

It wants to ensure that these are up-to-date and that suitable structures exist for enforcing them

Legislation affecting standards is catalogued in the report of the committee, which makes interesting reading It says, for example, that the Slums Act no longer applies universally

The House of Assembly repealed it in 1989 in respect of "declared white population group areas" According to Mr Arthur Wienburg, in these post-Group-Area days the Slums Act no longer applies anywhere

The Slums Act used to define an average suburban dwelling as overcrowded only if it accommodated nine persons of 10 years of age or more, and 19 persons of under 10

Now, it seems, there are no explicit overcrowding controls Yet there are still a Health Act, Building Standards and Environmental Conservation Acts, and a host of ordinances upholding standards

The Medical Officer of Health is of the opinion that ample legislation exists to preserve reasonable health standards — although he does add that difficulties are often encountered with enforcement

Maybe we can do without overcrowding controls, and rely on general health regulations instead Either way the officials who do review the legislation should consult with more than the 10 local ratepayers' or tenants' associations to whom the committee has already spoken

Ms Zohra Ebrahim, the National Civics Co-ordinator, says her organisation is not averse to addressing the question of standards

"We would like to see it done in consultation with all communities, and not just within the current municipal boundaries but within the metropole," she said

Closed council pay talks defended

(263) ALG 15/10/91

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter

CITY council executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander has defended today's closed-door meeting on increased monthly allowances for councillors on the grounds it is standard procedure

Councillors have been invited to air their views before the five-member committee on a Provincial Administration circular recommending their pay eventually be brought on a par with MPs' salaries.

The "secret" meeting sparked a row among councillors, some vowing to oppose increases and at least one, Mr Arthur Wienburg, declining the invitation to attend

Some councillors want all discussion on their allowances to be in the open.

The executive committee's recommendation on new allowances will be put to the city council for approval at its next full meeting.

Mr Friedlander said he favoured an "upward revision" of allowances.

"The case for revision has been scientifically investigated among municipalities ranging from grade one to 15 and I accept it," he said.

Mr Friedlander could not comment on how large the increases should be because he had not seen specific recommendations.

However, the executive committee recommendation would be based on the "general attitude" of councillors who attended the meeting.

Closed council pay talks defended

(263) AIG 15/10/91

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—Sapa-AP

Council thefts — report demanded

(263) CT 15/10/91

Staff Reporter

THE chairman of the City Council's executive committee, Mr Dick Friedlander, has asked the city administrator and chief of personnel for a full report to be presented by Thursday on alleged theft of council property

City Administrator Mr Gys Hofmeyr confirmed this yesterday in reaction to reports at the weekend that council employees had sold hundreds of thousands of rands' worth of municipal property to local scrapyards this year

He said he and chief of personnel Mr David Beretti held extensive discussions with Mr Friedlander about the thefts yesterday

Mr Hofmeyr said he was unable to quantify the council property stolen

He said it was not necessary to have submitted to exco a report drawn up four months ago by the council's security department (who staked out six scrapyards over an extended period)

He described the property, which began appearing in local scrapyards, as "manhole covers, copper pipes, tools and so on"

He confirmed that there had been meetings between the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) and council over "the very arbitrary and unfortunate manner" in which some suspects had been dealt with

The Mayor, Mr Frank van der Velde, said he had asked Mr Friedlander to make inquiries into the matter on reading press reports at the weekend

Secrecy at salary talks 'not sinister'

263 CT 15/10/91

Staff Reporter

THERE was "nothing sinister" in today's Exco discussion about proposed salary rises for council officials being secret as Exco could take no final decisions on the matter, Exco's deputy chairman, Mr Louis Kreiner, said yesterday

He was reacting to a storm of criticism which erupted at the weekend when it was learnt that today's Exco proceedings were scheduled to be on green paper (signifying confidential matters).

Mr Kreiner said the issue would be publicly discussed and decided on by the full city council at the month's end

Councillors, usually excluded from Exco meetings, had been specially invited as "a courtesy" to today's Exco meeting so they could give their input

Upgrading to MP level (salary and pensionable allowances) of mayors and Exco chairmen of Grade 15 local authorities was approved at national level earlier this year

The upgrading, which will include lesser pay hikes for all local government officials, will be phased in over three years

● At the top end of the scale, mayors and Exco chairmen now receiving a monthly R4 800 allowance would jump to R7 661 in January next year and to R9 013 in January 1993

Council meeting fails to decide about more pay

(263) ARG 16/10/91

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

A CONTROVERSIAL city council executive committee meeting held behind closed doors to discuss councillors' pay rises ended without a recommendation being made.

About 15 councillors, excluding the five executive committee members, attended the session yesterday to discuss proposals that monthly allowances be increased.

Chairman Mr Richard Friedlander said his committee would finalise a resolution on the issue as soon as possible.

The recommendation would be subject to the approval of the full council at an ordinary open meeting.

A provincial administration document and commentary on it by the city administrator's department were tabled.

The next scheduled exco meeting is tomorrow, but Mr Friedlander could not say whether new allowances would be discussed then.

All councillors were invited to attend yesterday's meeting but some declined on the principle that payment for publicly elected officials should not be discussed in secret.

"There has been a great deal of misunderstanding and misinterpretation of this whole matter," said Mr Friedlander.

"I am deeply disappointed that an exercise in handling what we knew was bound to become a sensitive issue has turned out like this."

Council forks out R½m

Staff Reporter (263) CT 16/10/91

CAPE TOWN City Council wrote out a R495 000 cash cheque to Epping Market agents the day after this amount in cash was dramatically stolen at gunpoint from market constables transporting it to a strongroom in a wheelbarrow

The council's public relations officer, Mr Ted Doman, confirmed yesterday that the council was responsible, as the money — belonging to market agents — was stolen while in city council custody a week ago

The council's chief insurance officer, Mr Tommy Sierra, said he wrote out a cheque "the very next day from our in-house insurance"

Mr Doman said the insurance fund was "designed to take this kind of pressure"

No disciplinary action was being taken against the market constables because there was no "dereliction of duty"

The council's director of security services, Mr John Fletcher, said a locked metal trunk chained to a wheelbarrow and containing the day's takings was being wheeled along a corridor when four armed men struck, firing random shots before loading the wheelbarrow and its contents into a bakkie

Nehawu wins recognition in Cape

Public sector workers in the Cape won an important victory this week when the National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union was officially recognised by the Cape Provincial Administration.

Nehawu general secretary Sisa Njikelana said the agreement was "the most comprehensive" of those concluded by the union with provincial authorities.

Nehawu is already recognised in the Free State and Transvaal.

The agreement commits the parties to developing "sound industrial relations practices". It recognises the rights of shop stewards and grants the union access to the CPA's premises, equipment and resources.

Unionists plan to mobilise ratepayers

263
ARG 19/10/91

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

CIVIC organisations and ratepayers' associations are to be mobilised against the Cape Town City Council by unionists who have lashed out at proposed increases for officials and councillors while essential services are frozen.

The SA Municipal Workers' Union is angered by 8,3 percent pay rises for top officials, proposed allowance increases for councillors, and the freezing of posts and cuts to essential services

Samwu chairman Mr Salie Manie said members were "extremely unhappy" and were being consulted on whether to launch industrial action.

Meanwhile, the union was planning a broad alliance against the City Council's behaviour

The 8,3 percent increase for top officials was effectively their second this year, because of the 12,5 percent average increases for all staff negotiated in mid-year

The pay hikes for top echelons mean that department heads will earn about R149 000, while permanent staff labourers are paid about R8 100 annually.

Effective from October 1, the increases would cost the city an extra R1,1 million, Mr Manie said

Meanwhile, 808 posts had been frozen and the union had backed down on its initial 20 percent wage increase demand because City Council executive committee negotiators said the city was short of money.

The union saw the increases in a serious light, coming when essential services like refuse collection were being downgraded

"Cuts in refuse removal affect advantaged communities just as they do disadvantaged communities," he said

Branch secretary Mr Roger Ronnie said the City Council had not kept to proper procedures by going ahead with the increases.

A request for an interview before the executive committee made a recommendation to the council had been rejected, he said

Samwu wanted the council to rescind the increases and make them part of the 1992 wage negotiations.

On the proposed increased allowances for councillors, Mr Manie said the City Council was taking decisions without consulting the community

"Most of the disadvantaged community have no direct representation, but the City Council does not seem to listen to even those who are directly represented," he said.

Increases to allowances were recommended in a Provincial Administration document, which said that by 1993 the allowances of mayors and chairmen of executive committees should match that of MPs

"The City Council, which has indicated it is experiencing problems by stating that funds for senior officials have still to be found, is not obliged to increase the existing allowances," Mr Manie said.

The City Council's "liberal image as portrayed in the media" was contradicted by the way it acted towards its staff, and the way it failed to consult the community

The executive committee is to meet behind closed doors on Tuesday to finalise a recommendation on allowance increases, to be put to council for decision at an open meeting on October 31.

Executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander was not available for comment

State drops case against councillors on murder charge

HENRIETTE GELDENHUYS
Weekend Argus Reporter

(263) ARGUS 19/10/91

THE State has withdrawn its case against nine Lingelethu town councillors charged with murdering rivals in Khayelitsha on election night, 1989.

Their most important witness was jailed in the Transkei in terms of security legislation there, and the State was not prepared to start the trial without him, the court heard.

Lingelethu town councillors Mr Magoloba Zono, Mr Ezekile Jezile, Mr Morris Gxowa, Mr Charlie Banti, Mr Vakutshiwo Goceni, Mr Livingston Booi, Mr Tunutso Vanto, Mr Jackson Nonjaca and Mr Welcome Mame, all from Khayelitsha, were charged with murder, arson and seven counts of attempted murder.

They were alleged to have petrol-bombed the house of the jailed witness, Mr Prince Gobingca, on election night, September 6.

They were also alleged to have killed his stepmother and attempted to kill his children and some of his friends during the alleged attack.

Mr M Bulinyanga, Mr Charles Mnikina and Mr Peter Mathole of Khayelitsha and Mr John Vincent Warrington and Mr Jan Frederik Wyngaard, Lingelethu town council workers from Goodwood — charged with the same offences — will also not be tried.

Mr M F Davids prosecuted. The accused were defended by Mr J Heuer. Mr M F Davids was on the Bench.

ago, of unsurpassable flavour.
bot- Such a brew is Castle Draught.
er in Genuine draught beer brewed
that the traditional way to give you

COUNCIL SELECTION PANEL MEMBER PAID DOUBLE THE SALARY FOR HALF THE TIME

Top city job goes to one of 'the team'

S/Times (CM) 20/10/91. 263

A COMMITTEE appointed by the Cape Town City Council to select a candidate for a senior post rejected dozens of highly-qualified applicants and chose one of its members for the job — at a salary more than double the advertised amount

By MARTIN WELZ

The three members of the committee, known as the Information Services Steering Team, were Town Clerk Mr Donald Geyer, City Planner Mr Neville Riley, and Mr Malcolm Buxton of P E Corporate Services, management consultants retained by the council to advise it on information strategy

DONALD GEYER
Town clerk

The team was set up last year to appoint a Director of Information Services The position was to carry a basic salary of R160 000 and was created in terms of the council's plan to integrate its computer and information systems

Details of how "The Team" awarded the contract are contained in council minutes — some of them confidential — which are in the possession of Cape Metro

The post was advertised extensively in October last year at a cost of more than R6 000 The travel costs of applicants invited for interviews added R3 300

Officially 58 applications were received, although some sources in the council are adamant that there were as many as 70 applicants Thirteen were selected to be interviewed by the committee

Among the applicants not invited for interviews were university graduates who had specialist qualifications and years of experience in top jobs in South Africa and overseas

In a special report to the council in December, P E Corporate Services recommended spending 17 percent more than council had budgeted for its planning programme. Most of this increase, it said, was because of the "urgent need to procure additional staff resources over the short term"

It said it expected to choose a Director of Information Services — one of the "staff resources" required — in January, no appointment was made

Interim

In April Mr Geyer reported to council that most of the applicants had been ruled out

He said that "to contain costs", the team had decided to ask the consultants, P E Corporate Services, if it would be "willing to release their consultant, Mr Buxton, to carry out the functions of Director of Information Services for six months as an interim measure"

It is understood the team played a significant role in P E Corporate Services's reply

"As I recall it, Mr Geyer suggested that Mr Buxton should be appointed," Mr Riley said yesterday

"Mr Geyer was the chief executive of the team Mr Buxton was the consultant who headed up the team"

In March, the company agreed to allow Mr Buxton to fill the post.

"We anticipate the role involving between two and three days of Malcolm's time each week at the discounted rate of R255 per hour," it said

"Assuming a minimum six-month period, the total cost would be between R106 080 and R159 120"

Recruit

The letter was signed by Mr Buxton, on behalf of P E Corporate Services' director of information technology

Exco approved the selection committee's proposal on April 22 and Mr Buxton began the job in May

Mr Buxton was paid an average of R33 762 a month for the first five months This was equivalent to an annual salary of more than R400 000 — 2½ times the advertised salary for the post The job occupied 16 days a month

Mr Geyer recently reported to Exco that an international consultant in management appointments had been asked to recruit a permanent appointment

Meanwhile, Exco has approved an extension of Mr Buxton's employment until "at least" December

Neither Mr Geyer, who is doing a course at the London School of Business, nor Mr Buxton could be reached for comment

Region well placed to cash in on growth

263

B/Day 21/10/91

CAPE Town and the western Cape economy is well placed to take advantage of growth strategies adopted by government, says Western Cape Growth Organisation (Wesgro) executive director David Bridgman.

He says a mix of strategies, including redistribution and export promotion, will be necessary to stimulate growth, and the western Cape's economy straddles both areas.

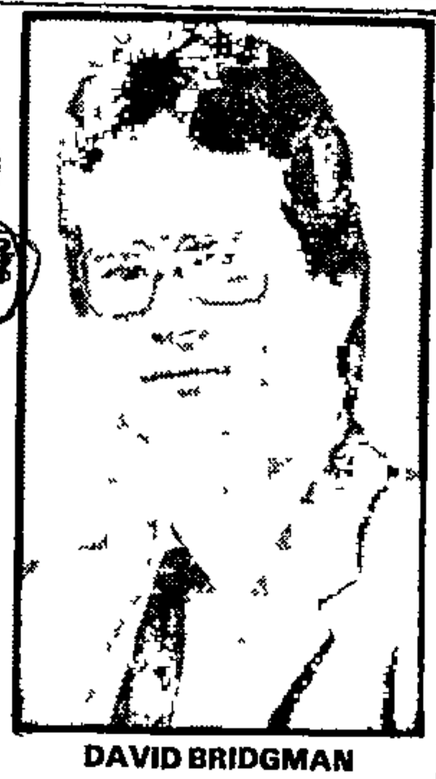
"On the one hand, the region's traditional strengths in agriculture, fishing and food processing, coupled to its strength in clothing, footwear and furniture, result in it supplying those products in demand by poorer people as they become better off.

"On the other hand, the region's traditional base in trade, coupled with its emphasis on light manufacture and value added products which can absorb the cost of transport up to the PWV market, mean it produces goods more easily exported

"Many local producers will recount that it is cheaper to transport their products to Europe or South East Asia than to Johannesburg," Bridgman says

Artisan labour also has the skills needed for a quality conscious export market.

"On top of all this, the region enjoys an opportunity to sell a broad range of its products and services not easily exported through its growing tourism sector"



DAVID BRIDGMAN

Bridgman says the effects of this scenario have already been felt, leading to the better performance of the metropolitan Cape economy compared to other SA cities.

"Many believe the diversity of the Cape economy and its ability to serve SA's twin economic imperatives of redistribution and exports will cause the regional economy to outperform that of the nation during the '90s."

Housing backlog is cause for concern

B/Day 21/10/91

HUGE backlogs in housing for the lower to middle income groups in the coloured community are not being addressed because of the exclusive attention being given to squatter housing, says Cape Town City Council's housing committee chairman Neil Ross says

"People are streaming into Cape Town from the Ciskei and Transkei and they tend to get preferential treatment in terms of housing, whereas people who have been established here for a lifetime are not getting the treatment that is necessary," Ross says

"The need for housing in the coloured community is enormous, but because coloured people don't live in squatter camps, this need is not being addressed

"Yet in every housing estate there is a squatter settlement within the housing estate itself People are living in shacks in the backyards"

The waiting list for council houses — only a rough indicator of demand — is running at about 40 000

The situation has become so hopeless that people don't even bother to put their names down on on a list which requires a waiting period of about eight to 10 years

This year the council asked the state for R67m for housing, but only received R17m and has only built about 200 houses

Last year, R54m was granted

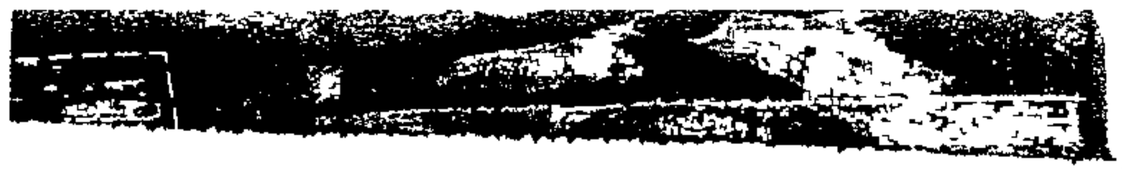
The council's application for finance in terms of the IDT's R750m capital subsidy scheme was unsuccessful.

Ross says another sad aspect of the housing situation is the failure to build rented accommodation

Poorer people need rented accommodation, rather than owning their own, he says.

TOWNSHIP DEVEL

PROPERTY AT DURBAN



Cape Town

Developments will change the city face

B1Day 21/10/91

FUNDAMENTAL changes are underway which will change the face of Cape Town

The redevelopment of District Six will see this apartheid wasteland become a residential suburb with a thriving community, while the planning for the foreshore will usher in a green area with trees, pedestrian malls and perhaps waterways

City planner Neville Riley says "Historically, the city has been structured on a colonial/apartheid model, which meant people who could least afford to be far away from job opportunities lived far away.

"Returning people to the city at an affordable level will be the guiding principle behind the development of District Six."

The development of the huge ICS/Power Station site is being jointly planned between the city council and developers Devland, who own abutting portions of the 5ha site

Riley says the overall design is largely in place, with public spaces, water features and building bulk being refined.

However, the manner in which the council will participate in the project has yet to be decided and public comment still has to be obtained.

Linkages

One of the central principles underlying the design was to create linkages between the CBD into the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront, in the form of landscaped pedestrian routes and open spaces

Designs for a water feature on the site are being refined and priced, as is the idea for a canal or water feature link into the waterfront

The bulk of the site is about 160 000m² and it is likely building heights will descend in the direction of the V&A and towards the harbour

"Much effort is being placed on calculating building heights and open spaces so as to avoid the bleak and windy conditions of the Foreshore and to create an intimacy more typical of the old town's grid," Riley says

The council is also working on a revamp of a zoning scheme for the remaining undeveloped part of the Foreshore, which presently prescribes in great detail the bulk and height of buildings as well as their exact shape and form

"The scheme is no longer appropriate. The existing Foreshore scheme was the product of the '40s, which envisaged Cape Town harbour as being predominantly a port for passenger liners.

"A monumental approach to planning was adopted, which proved to have major problems," Riley says

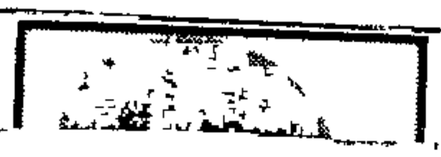
Another part of the council's town planning strategy is to dispose of its extensive landholdings in a way which optimises development.

A "proposal call" method has been devised which enables developers to respond to a brief laid down by the city planner's department

Then the best proposal is selected and a second more detailed proposal is called for

Riley says the benefit of the proposal call system is that the city planners get good ideas from the marketplace within the broad guidelines laid down

Region well



Housing backlog is

Beauty is a magnet for for the large corporates

CAPE Town has all the qualities to become the corporate centre of South Africa, says Western Cape Growth Organisation executive director David Bridgman

The beauty and charm of the city, which attracts droves of tourists annually, also provides a quality of life for executives which makes them wish to locate there.

Offering a wealth of recreational activities as well as all the amenities of a thriving metropolis, Cape Town is already home to large multinationals.

Assurance

All the petrochemical companies, Shell, BP, Caltex and Engen (formerly Mobil SA) have their headquarters in the city, which also houses the head offices of the biggest life assurance companies in SA.

Bridgman says 45% of all non-mining companies quoted on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange are headquartered in the Cape.

Cape Town City Council economic development coordinator Philip Theron says there has been a flood of inquiries from Japanese, Taiwanese, German, French and British government representatives and companies wishing to establish head offices in the city.

The SA Parliament is located in the city and will probably continue to be so under a new government and is thus well suited for foreign offices and trade consuls.

Quality

"In age of electronic communications, corporate headquarters can be well located in Cape Town, which offers managers a better quality of life, a factor which has become a key ingredient in attracting and keeping good managers," says Theron.

Wesgro considers it likely the normalisation of relations between SA and its international partners will see a large number of foreign corporations locating in Cape Town, which is well placed to capture more than its normal 18-20% share of such new offices.

The city, with a population of about 3-million, has all the infrastructures, such as an excellent harbour and rail, road and air linkages with rest of the country and the world

(263) ATEG 22/10/91

Council costs could soar

Big allowance rise proposed

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter

CAPE Town ratepayers' bill for increased allowances for city councillors could vault from R83 000 to R522 000 a year, according to an executive committee report

Exco meets today to discuss proposed allowance increases, the source of controversy and a public row between councillors since talks on the increases started behind closed doors this month

The administrator approved new maximum allowances for Cape Town, a grade 15 municipality, on August 26

In terms of the CPA directive, adjusted pay scales could be phased in over three years

A city treasurer's report said that if allowances were increased in terms of the CPA document

- The vote for the mayor's and deputy-mayor's allowance would increase from R7 692 in the 1990/91 financial year to R42 606 in the 1991/92 financial year
- In the same period, spending on allowances for executive committee and ordinary council members would go from R51 444 to R286 152
- The bill for management committee members would go from R24 480 to R193 680
- The "bottom line" of spending on allowances would rise from R83 616 in 1990/91 to R522 438 in 1991/92

The first adjustment would be backdated to January 1 this year and would be 70 percent of a member of parliament's salary and pensionable allowance

MPs' annual salaries rose in July this year by about 11 percent to about R108 153, including reimbursable allowances

From January next year the pay would be 85 percent of an MP's salary and allowance and from 1993 pay would match that of an MP

New pay scales for management committees were also published In Cape Town the grading of management committees and their allowances vary from grade four to grade 11

Chairmen and members of management committees of grade six and lower should be paid less than at present, but would be paid their existing allowances in terms of another clause in the CPA circular

At today's meeting exco will finalise a recommendation on increased allowances for debate and decision at the full council meeting on October 31

City treasurer Mr Eddie Landsberg is to report on how the proposed increased allowance would be funded

● See page 4

(263) ARG 22/10/91

Row escalates over councillors' increases

Municipal Reporter

SUGGESTIONS that the City Council executive committee was not acting in good faith in its handling of confidential talks on increased allowances for councillors are "at variance with the facts," says exco chairman Mr Richard Friedlander

But councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg has slammed closed-door exco sessions at which councillors can give their views as "a farce"

In a letter to The Argus, Mr Friedlander said all councillors were invited to attend exco meetings on allowance increases because of public interest in the issue

He said his committee decided in September that the matter would be debated and decided finally at an open meeting of the full council

The advantage of inviting councillors to "informal meetings" was that officials were allowed to address the committee and that councillors could speak more than once

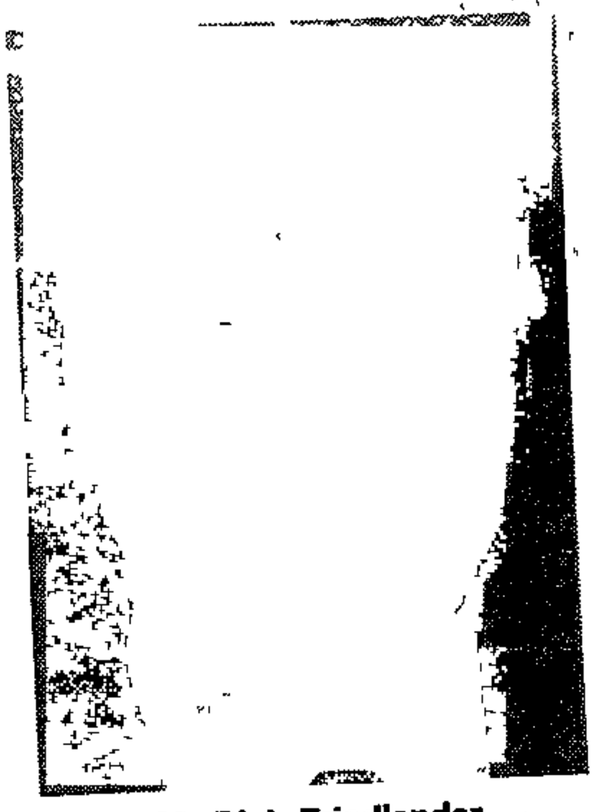
Procedural rules in ordinary open council meetings bar councillors from speaking more than once unless an amendment is tabled

Mr Wienburg said documentation on proposed allowance increases should have been put to the public and the Press for comment.

"Talk about Cape Town having an open government is made into nonsense by the extent to which the city is governed on green paper," he said

All confidential items are put on green paper and circulation of these documents is strictly limited

"I no longer attend exco meetings to which councillors are invited because they are a farce — the idea is to get us in and out as quickly as possible, and to get things off our chest in the hope we won't speak again in council meetings," Mr Wienburg said



Mr Dick Friedlander

Deputy-mayor Mr Clive Keegan said it would be improper for him to comment on a letter to The Argus from Mr Friedlander

In a statement, the SA Municipal Workers' Union said the discussion on increases to allowances should be debated in open council, and that communities be fully consulted

"The largest section of the population in Cape Town has no direct representation in the city council and therefore no say in how the funds of the city should be spent, yet are being further hit by a reduction of already inadequate services," the statement said.

While allowance increases were recommended in a Provincial Administration circular, the council was not obliged to increase existing allowances, Samwu said

Exco backs 12,5% pay rise for city councillors

263
Argus 23/10/91

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

ALLOWANCES for city councillors should be raised 12,5 percent and backdated to July 1, the council executive committee has recommended

The recommendation noted that the increase was provided for in this year's budget and would cost the ratepayer no extra money

The recommendation, to be put to the full council for a decision next week, was made at a 25-minute exco meeting yesterday

City treasurer Mr Eddie Landsberg said extra funds for the controversial increases recommended in a provincial administration document would be difficult to find

These increases, designed to bring top councillors on a financial par with members of parliament, would have cost ratepayers more than R300 000 this financial year

The only councillors at the meeting were the five exco members

Exco was not willing to go beyond a 12,5 percent recommended increase and dropped the option of backdating rises to January 1

The grading system for management committees, based on size of area, is expected to be retained

Council states case on thefts

(263) CT 25/10/91

Staff Reporter

THE city council has lost R200 000 worth of property between October last year and October this year as a result of thefts.

This was disclosed yesterday by city officials who addressed a press conference called by Exco to state the council's position on the thefts and answer allegations that it had taken a soft line on the thefts

The council said 12 officials had been arrested on allegations of theft in the second half of this year

Exco chairman Mr Dick Friedlander denied that there had been a six-month moratorium on dealing with officials suspected of theft.

He said the council and the SA Municipal Workers' Union agreedthat each case would be dealt with "in consultation with the director of personnel, pending the preparation and distribution of clear guidelines for dealing with suspected criminal action by employees"

"The trade unions expressed concern that inappropriate procedures had been used when dealing with certain officials suspected of criminal conduct

"As a result, the Town Clerk undertook to ensure that agreed procedures relating to the manner in which officials suspected of criminal action are to be dealt with should be clearly spelt out to all council departments"

Following proper investigation of each case, and if there was evidence of a crime, the matter was referred to the SA Police, Mr Friedlander said.

The council viewed the thefts in a very serious light and was doing everything in its power to halt the "increasing loss of public property through theft and vandalism", Mr Friedlander said

Scrapyards

Metal gratings had been removed from streets, aluminium railings had been ripped from bridges, copper wiring was removed and ropes on lifebuoys were also taken and have turned up at scrapyards, he said

The council investigated six scrapyards and found that in some cases council vehicles had been used to deliver the goods to the scrapyards, he said

Council tells of hiring of adviser

(263) CT 25/10/91

Staff Reporter

THE city council yesterday told how a consultant who served as its technical adviser was seconded from P E Corporate Services to fill the post of Director of Information Services when the council could find no one suitable

The council said that Mr Malcolm Buxton — who was a technical adviser to a council steering committee looking at the appointment of a director — ended up filling the key post until the end of the year

The firm is paid a R255-an-hour fee for work done by Mr Buxton. Over a period of five months — from May to September — the firm was paid R168 810 for 662 hours of work

The council asked the firm to second Mr Buxton to the position when the committee found that the applicants were unsuitable

Asked who screened the applicants, deputy town clerk Mr Colin Greenwood said "There was a specific team comprising the steering committee and other experts, including Mr Buxton who served from a technical point of view"

● Last night the managing director of the firm, Mr Martin Westcott, said they rejected inferences in earlier media reports that Mr Buxton "engineered or structured the situation to our own commercial advantage"

Council fights theft — 'it's not a perk'

(263) RDG 25/10/91

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

STOLEN goods are not a city council perk, says executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander.

At a Press conference yesterday, he rejected allegations that council employees were, in effect, being allowed to get away with crime.

Mr Friedlander said the council was "actively campaigning" against theft.

Personnel director Mr Dave Beretti said there were 12 arrests during a six-month period when interim measures for new criminal investigation procedures were in effect.

There was no six-month moratorium on dealing with officials suspected of theft, but there was a moratorium on summary arrests, and each case had to be handled in co-operation with the personnel director.

Mr Beretti said some city council officials accused of theft had been acquitted because of lack of evidence.

Theft and vandalism of city council goods was increasing and R200 000 had been "lost" in the past year.

An agreement with the SA Municipal Workers Union meant summary action, such as arrest, was avoided without internal investigation.

Thefts were reported to the police as required by law.

Metal gratings were being stolen, aluminium railings ripped from bridges, copper wiring stolen and ropes attached to life buoys were disappearing.

City engineer Mr Arthur Clayton had banned department vehicles from scrapyards.

COUNCILS FM 25|10|91

Cuts and hikes (263)

Cape Town City Council is heading for a major showdown with residents over plans to increase councillors' allowances at a time when rates and other service charges are expected to rise by 20% this year and some municipal services, including libraries and refuse removal, are being cut back to save money

The council has already bowed to pressure and will debate the proposed hikes openly on Tuesday Initially the discussion was to have been in camera

The increases are in line with government policy to allow a nationally uniform structure of allowances for town and city councillors based on the grading of municipalities. Grades range from 1-15 and depend on total spending

The increases must be phased in over three years and are retrospective to January 1 They provide for mayors — the top earners

continued

FM 25|10|91 (263)

— to be paid R9 013 a month (as much as MPs) by 1993

Several councils throughout SA have already implemented the increases though councils are not obliged to accept them

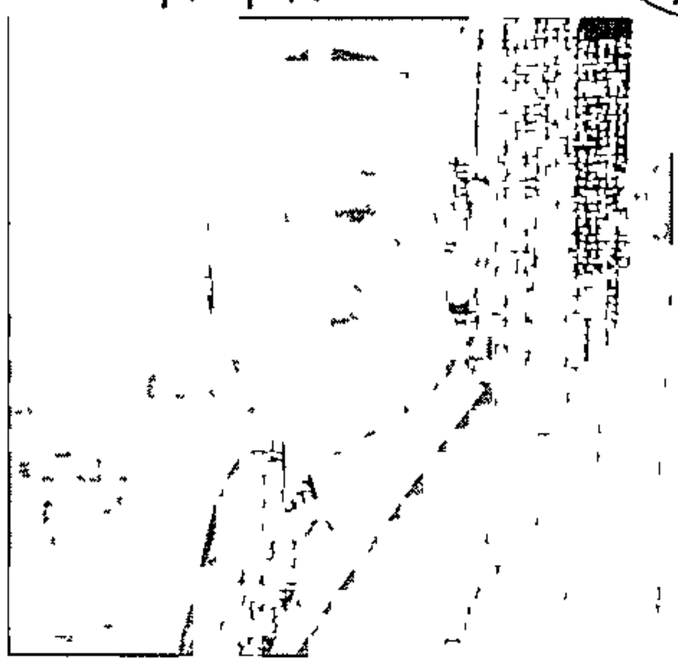
In Cape Town's case — a grade 15 municipality — allowances for ordinary councillors would rise from R1 200 to R1 357 retroactively to January 1 and from R1 357 to R1 577 retrospectively from July 1

From January 1 next year another hike to R1 915 would be allowed, followed by an increase to R2 253 at the beginning of 1993 — an 88% increase over two years The mayor's allowance would increase from R4 800 to R9 013 over the same period

The increases are also applicable to so-called coloured management committees, that represent what used to be coloured residential areas, but under the umbrella of the white city council The management committees also depend on grading to determine their allowances

Earlier this year Cape Town increased municipal rates by 16,5% and the levying of VAT on service charges is expected to put another 4% on ratepayers' costs

Attempts to increase councillors' allowances caused a major public outcry in Port Elizabeth this year and resulted in a successful application to the Supreme Court by Sol Schkolne, a local ratepayer, to force the mayor, John Vieira, to hold a public meeting



Cape's Meiring *final say over higher allowances*

to discuss the proposed increases

In a referendum residents overwhelmingly rejected the increases in a poll of only 7,4% Last week, however, the council voted to go ahead with increases and to refer the matter to Cape Administrator Kobus Meiring for a final decision based on the outcome of the referendum

In reaction to the decision Schkolne described the council as autocratic and nincompoops and a law unto itself

PE councillor and former Assocom president Rocky Ridgway said the low poll in the referendum, in spite of a high profile campaign against the allowances, showed that they were not a major issue for ratepayers

In PE, a grade 13 municipality, increases for councillors are from the current R960 a month to R1 949 by 1993

Outspoken Cape Town councillor Arthur Wienburg opposed the "secret" debate on the increases but believes a fair allowance for councillors is justified "But all should be seen to be done in the open I will not be party to any closed debate I believe it is immoral"

He has no doubt that councillors should receive allowances to cover out-of-pocket expenses and loss of business time If this didn't happen only the rich and retired could afford to be councillors, which would lead to "government by fat cats" He believes an amount of up to R2 000 would not be "out of kilter" However, Wienburg is opposed to retroactive increases

□ The uniform structure provides for a decrease in allowances for the lowest three grades on local authority Allowances for councillors in a grade one municipality should decrease from R360 to R77 with effect from January 1 and rise to only R324 by 1993

Allowances are based on an MP's salary Grade 15 mayors may earn 100% of it The allowance decreases by 6,75% for each step down the grading ladder to 5,5% of an MP's salary for grade one mayors ■

Town clerk in secret talks to fill top job

By MARTIN WELZ

SECRET negotiations involving senior Cape Town City Council officials have revived controversy about the council's efforts to appoint a director of information services

Following revelations in Cape Metro last week, the city council called a special press conference this week to defend its actions in engaging a management consultant at great expense to fill the post temporarily

The post was advertised last year and attracted scores of applications from highly-qualified candidates in a recruitment exercise that cost ratepayers more than R9 000 None of the applicants was found to be suitable

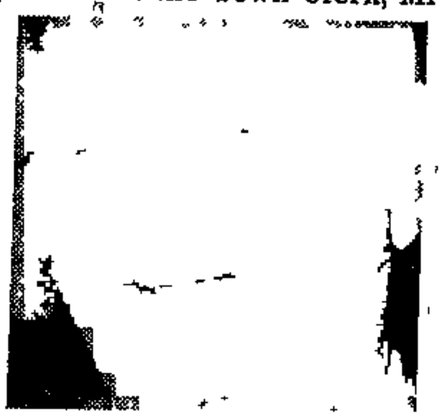
At the press conference, attended by executive committee (Exco) members and senior officials, it was said that in addition to the 59 applications officially received for the post, a number of "informal" applications had been made

After interviewing fewer than a dozen selected applicants, the council appointed Mr Malcolm Buxton, a consultant member of the committee responsible for screening applicants, as interim director

The council confirmed this week that it was paying Mr Buxton consultancy fees that were more than double the post's R160 000 annual salary

Exco chairman Mr Dick Friedlander said Mr Buxton had not been "the instigator of his employment", nor had his appointment been "a bad decision"

The City Planner, Mr Neville Riley, and the Deputy Town Clerk, Mr Colin Greenwood, said that the Town Clerk, Mr Donald Geyer, had selected a candidate for the post last year, but had been unable to persuade him to accept the appointment



DICK FRIEDLANDER
'Not a bad decision'

Both officials said they were aware that Mr Geyer — who is on a study visit to London — had reopened negotiations with "a major corporation" to secure this candidate

Cape Metro has established that the candidate is Mr Tony Hoffman, an assistant general manager with the Old Mutual Negotiations with Old Mutual to allow Mr Hoffman to accept the council appointment began three months ago

Despite this, the town clerk later reported to Exco that "it is intended to approach an international consultant on management search to initiate the recruitment of a suitable candidate"

At this week's press conference, officials confirmed that a firm of "head-hunters" had been engaged and would have to be paid its professional fee, even if it failed to recommend a successful candidate

"Arrangements are being made to finalise the short-list of candidates," Mr Friedlander said

It was unlikely that an appointment would be made before the end of the year and it was for this reason that it had been necessary to extend Mr Buxton's interim appointment, he said

Mr Friedlander denied any knowledge of the negotiations between the council and Old Mutual

Old Mutual's general manager, Mr Reg Munro, confirmed yesterday that these negotiations were in progress

"Mr Hoffman — one of five assistant managers who deal with computers at Old Mutual — is 54 and does not yet qualify for early retirement We are talking about a secondment deal," Mr Munro said

"Mr Hoffman will remain on Old Mutual's payroll, so it's a question of what the council will have to pay us for his services We're still trying to fix the price As far as we're concerned, only Mr Hoffman and Mr Geyer know about it."

Mr Hoffman is on holiday in George and could not be reached for comment

(265)

PE councillors to retain increases

ET 29/10/91

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH — City councillors voted in favour of retaining the increases they granted themselves on July 26, 1990 at an extraordinary council meeting held to discuss the results of the October 2 referendum yesterday.

The meeting was virtually a repeat of the regular council meeting held on October 18 this year, but which had to be ignored because of a technicality.

The decision was taken despite the referendum in which 92,3% of the 7,4% poll voted in favour of the proposal that the July 26 decision to increase councillors' salaries be rescinded.

The proposal added further that increases not donated to charity be refunded.

Councillors to call for resumed refuse service

(263) CT 29/10/91

By TOSH LEVETT-HARDING

TWO city councillors will call for a resumption of the twice-weekly refuse removal service at the monthly meeting on Thursday

They object to the council's plan to remove refuse only once a week, because of fears this will be detrimental to community health

A motion will be raised by Mr Arthur Wienburg asking that the resolution of May 21 this year, to reduce the removal service, be rescinded this is with "due regard to the potential health consequences which concern the Medical Officer of Health and the wishes of the ratepayers as vociferously expressed verbally and in writing"

Mr Wienburg will also

ARTHUR WIENBURG

move that the executive committee investigate and report on the question of reverting to the previous policy of twice-weekly refuse removals, which, he suggests, should be done until such time as containerisation is introduced and completed in areas selected for once-a-week removals

Mr Wienburg's motion will be seconded by Councillor Chris Joubert, who said he had received many letters and numerous phone calls from irate residents protesting at the once-weekly refuse removal plan.

Objections to the council's plan were raised recently at a meeting of the executive committee of the Green and Sea Point Traders Association and the Sea Point Resident's Association

Tourism concern

And at a meeting of the traders association at the President Hotel last Wednesday evening, the chairman, Mr Joubert, was once again urged to take action against the council's refuse removal plan before the festive season got under way

He said "The council is being penny-wise and pound foolish by turning Sea Point into a slummy area when we are all doing our utmost to improve it for the benefit of our expected tourists"

Increase in demand for repairs keeps harbour busy

CAPE TOWN harbour has experienced a marked upswing in ship repair contracts this year, says Portnet senior contracts manager Mr Tom Reid.

"Since January we have been handling almost one new ship each day," he said.

"Most stayed in Table Bay for a week or more and one of the largest vessels with which we have been involved recently was the 'Samnanger'.

"It is a 350 000 ton tanker which came into harbour for repairs to its hydraulic lines."

He said about 40 tons of scaffolding was used and 60 men worked overtime for six days.

ton vessel which had its bows smashed by the sea.

He said they were doing temporary repairs and final repairs would be undertaken in the Far East.

"She will be a flat-nose job when she leaves harbour in two or three weeks' time.

(263) MRG 11/11/91

Yes vote on councillors' allowances

Municipal Reporter

CITY councillors have voted 18 to 6 to increase their monthly allowances to R1 350, while the mayor and executive committee chairman will get R5 400 monthly. The increases are backdated to July 1.

Lengthy debate on allowance increases yesterday came after a row in council circles over the way the matter was handled by the executive committee, and SA Municipal Workers' Union demands that plans to increase allowances be dropped.

An invitation by executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander to all councillors to attend an Exco meeting to talk about the pay increases caused claims of "secret decision-making".

Among those who would not attend was Mr Arthur Wienburg, who unsuccessfully proposed amendments during yesterday's debate.

Opening the debate, Mr Chris Joubert said the mayor and executive committee had "practically" fulltime jobs.

Councillors deserved compensation for out-of-pocket expenses.

"If the ratepayers don't like it, they can vote us out at the next elections," Mr Joubert said.

Mr Wienburg said Exco members in particular should be paid a lot more. They were custodians of a billion-rand budget and directors of the city.

However, he opposed backdating increases to July 1, and proposed they take effect from today.

Mrs Eulalie Stott said councillors often had to employ people to stand in for them at work.

City councillors should be compared to Members of Parliament, but while both were public representatives, MPs sat for only six months while councillors sat for a full year, she said.

Mr Gordon Oliver said the council should not be sucked into the "gravy train mentality" of civil servants who looked for ways to pay themselves more.

Dr John Sonnenberg said if increases were not voted, the council would lay the foundations for future discord.

"We need a more visionary approach, for the day when a councillor's job will be fulltime," he said.

In terms of the increases, the monthly allowance for an ordinary councillor rises from R1 200 to R1 350, for the mayor and executive committee chairman from R4 800 to R5 400, and for the deputy mayor and deputy Exco chairman from R4 200 to R4 725.

Councillors opt for 12,55%

CITY councillors have accepted a 12,55% increase in allowances for themselves and management committee members — backdated to July 1.

Ordinary councillors' allowances increase from R1 200 to R1 350, the mayor's allowance from R4 800 to R5 400 and the deputy mayor's allowance will increase from R3 000 to R3 375

The increase for the chairman of Exco will be from R4 800 to R5 400, the deputy chairman's increase will be from R4 200 to R4 725 and other members' increases will be from R3 600 to R4 050

The city council elected to accept smaller increases than those recommended by the Cape Provincial Administration

Councillors felt that Exco members and the mayor should get greater increases because their work amounted to a full-time job (263) CT 1/11/91

Scrap pay hike, says union

CF 1/11/91 (263)

Staff Reporter

THE Mayor of Cape Town, Mr Frank van der Velde, was called out of a council meeting yesterday to meet shop stewards demanding that the pay hike for councillors be scrapped

Mr Van der Velde was joined in the discussion, which lasted almost two hours, by exco chairman Mr Dick Friedlander, town clerk Mr Don Geyer and director of personnel Mr Dave Beretti

Among the demands presented by the SA Municipal Workers Union shop stewards were that

● Council review and rescind a decision to pay 140 senior council officials an 8,3% increase over and above the 12,5% increase awarded to all staff.

● Council restore refuse collection, grass-cutting services, longer library hours and bathing amenities where they were cut

The council discussed the demands in closed session last night while union officials waited in the foyer for their response.

The council's executive committee chairman yesterday invited councillors to a special meeting to discuss the council's multi-million rand information services strategy

Mr Friedlander issued the invitation after councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg slammed the council for its inability to find a director of information services, for paying about R1 million in consultancy fees to PE Corporate Services over two years, and for paying the firm about R168 000 in fees for the secondment of consultant Mr Malcolm Buxton.

FM 1/11/91 (263)

The latest problems come as the council is battling negative public perceptions over attempts to raise councillors' allowances (*Current Affairs* October 25)

The latest crises have raised serious doubts about the council's ability to administer SA's second largest city and, say critics, are good examples of why municipal rates and services charges in Cape Town are among the highest in the country

The computer consultant saga is astonishing The council has been trying for nearly six years to develop an information systems strategy for its multimillion-rand computer network

PE Corporate Services (PECS) was appointed to investigate certain aspects of the strategy in June 1986 and reported later in the year. For more than a year the council then conducted its own inhouse study. It found that further investigations and development work were necessary

After considering proposals from a number of consultancies, PECS was again appointed to conduct further investigations at a fee of R470 000 The council also appointed a steering committee comprising senior officials to monitor the work

PECS completed its investigation a year ago and its report was approved by the council in January The council had hoped to appoint a director of information services — a key player in the development of the IS strategy — earlier this year at a salary of R160 000. But this did not happen, even though 58 people applied for the post, including a number believed to be highly qualified and experienced

According to council executive committee chairman Dick Friedlander, none of the applicants was "ideally suited to the requirements of this specific post" The steering committee decided to manage implementation of the PECS strategy itself "on an interim basis"

It became clear after two months that the director's post was pivotal and in May PECS was asked to redeploy its consultant Malcolm Buxton as an interim IS director His services for 16 days a month cost R255 an hour He is expected to remain in his interim post until the end of the year

City planner Neville Riley, a member of the steering committee, confirms that town clerk Don Geyer is negotiating with an IS specialist to take the post next year He is reported to be Old Mutual assistant GM Tony Hoffman It is understood that Hoffman was approached last year but was unavailable at the time. (When the *FM* asked Hoffman about this, he declined to comment)

The council denies that the process of advertising the director's post, interviewing applicants and appointing Buxton as interim director was merely an exercise to keep the seat warm for Hoffman who, it is understood, will be seconded from Old Mutual rather than employed by the council Critics are sceptical

The second controversy concerns allega-

CAPE TOWN FM 1/11/91

Info scrap (263)

The payment of more than R30 000 a month to a computer consultancy and the apparent inability to clamp down on inhouse theft have plunged Cape Town City Council even deeper into controversy

continued

against people suspected of crimes-and the town clerk has now ensured that all departments are aware of "agreed procedures"

He denies that crime is regarded as a perk of the job and says some officials have been prosecuted and convicted ■

serious problem Council security officials recently monitored eight (out of 31) scrap metal dealers in Cape Town over a five-day period and recorded 19 council vehicles paying visits

Clayton says all his department's vehicles — about 75% of the municipal fleet — are now banned from going to scrap yards The prohibition has not been extended to all council vehicles and there are allegations that workers in other departments are also involved in theft

Friedlander says reports that the council has concluded a secret deal with the union "to introduce complicated procedures that make prosecution virtually impossible" are incorrect The union was concerned that "the appropriate procedures" were being followed

tions that the council is taking a soft line on the theft of municipal property by council workers City administrator Gys Höfmeyr says about R200 000 worth of losses have been reported in the past year but not all of it has been as a result of theft by employees

Cast-iron stormwater drain grids worth about R63 000 have been stolen, says city engineer Arthur Clayton Most of them are believed to have been sold, to local scrap metal dealers Friedlander denies that a moratorium on prosecutions has been ordered to appease the municipal workers' union Council officials say there have been at least six arrests in the past year after reports to the SAP

However, it is clear that theft, or at very least the improper use of council vehicles, is a

R200-m yearly for Cape Town

CAPE TOWN — Provisional estimates indicate the use of Cape Town as an international supply base for research stations in the Antarctic may provide a capital injection of more than R200 million a year.

The Department of Environment Affairs said last week negotiations with the Soviet Union and Britain were advanced, and four other countries had approached the Government on the use of Cape Town as a permanent supply base.

The second Soviet Antarctic expedition in less than two months arrived last week — Sapa-Own Correspondent

Bad attitude, Meiring tells the city council

263

ARG 7/11/91

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter

ADMINISTRATOR Mr Kobus Meiring has accused the Cape Town City Council of a bad attitude in the latest salvo in a skirmish over the future of local government

An exchange of letters began when Mr Meiring announced two months ago that he intended setting up a management committee for Strandfontein

Slated as "politically ill-timed" by ward councillors Mr Abe Katz and Mrs Joye Gibbs, the move provoked a council letter to Mr Meiring deploring the decision

The row grew into an exchange over the controversial Interim Local Government Measures Act, which allows local authorities limited powers to "reform" local government

Groups which reject the Act include the ANC and the City Council

In a letter tabled at today's executive committee meeting, Mr Meiring said he was obliged to set up a management committee for Strandfontein because the community requested it

"Unfortunately your council fails or refuses to realise that I am obliged to function within the framework of existing legislation pertaining to local government"

Mr Meiring said that until there was a new dispensation he had to recognise the wishes of communities who wanted to use existing structures

"I am not prepared to obstruct the present system or to discourage the genuine attempts of communities to use the opportunities offered by the Interim Measures for Local Government Act"

Replying to criticism, he said the Act was not peremptory It provided a vehicle for non-racial, democratic local government for other communities, "evidence of which has lately become clear"

He said a council letter to him left the impression that the council "chooses to persist with an attitude which is not conducive to mutual cooperation"

Unification proposed for south Peninsula

REPRESENTATIVES from municipalities, local councils and residents' organisations met earlier this month to discuss the establishment of one local authority for the south Peninsula

Although several reservations were expressed — including the loss of autonomy and the fear of jeopardising Regional Services Council subsidies — most present were willing to cooperate and investigate the issue

Mandate

According to minutes tabled at the recent Fish Hoek Town Council meeting, the Mayor of Simon's Town, Councillor Charles Sanderoff, said he was particularly concerned about a loss of autonomy if "metropolitanisation" was imposed on the area

The Simon's Town council felt that one metropolitan area would not suit residents' requirements as it would be too large — a south Peninsula situation was more suitable, he said, adding that he was in favour of reviving discussion between all interested groups to get agreement on alternatives and start a forum from which to negotiate local government

The Mayor of Fish Hoek, Councillor Malcolm Wallace, stressed that each option should be investigated thoroughly and taken to the people for a mandate, before he could negotiate

Feedback

According to the minutes, the chairman of the Ocean View Management Committee, Mr Jusef Chothia, saw various stumbling blocks to negotiation but was particularly concerned about losing a RSC subsidy. He said he would motivate the committee to join in negotiations

Kommetjie Local Council representative Mr John Eilbeck confirmed that Kommetjie, too, was dependent on a RSC subsidy but was not averse to alternative local government.

It was agreed that a feedback meeting be held early next year after representative had analysed their situations and drawn up options for further action and setting up a forum

Manikkam challenge to mayor to 'resign'

(263)

CT 9/11/91

A MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE chairman challenged the Mayor of Cape Town, Mr Frank van der Velde, to resign yesterday as a row between the mayor and the committees escalated

The dispute started when some management committee members took exception to not being invited to Mr Van der Velde's installation banquet They asked for an explanation, but did not like it when they got it — Mr Van der Velde told them he did not approve of the management committee system as it was a manifestation of apartheid

Yesterday Rylands Estate Management Committee chairman the Reverend Edward Manikkam said he had told the mayor he had no right to adopt a "holier than thou" attitude as he himself had also been elected on a racially separate voters roll

Mr Manikkam said he had issued a challenge to the mayor and the city council "If you resign, we will resign simultaneously"

Geyer seeks fees waiver

263 CT 11/11/91

Municipal Reporter

THE Town Clerk of Cape Town, Mr Donald Geyer, has confirmed that he will ask the council this week if he may decline a personal income of about R16 000 a year in director's fees

He has been the principal officer of the council pension scheme since he was Cape Town's treasurer and he continued in this role after he became Town Clerk

Since the pension fund has large investments with Board Prop, Mr Geyer was invited to serve on its board of directors "about three years ago"

It is understood that this was an unusual step With the post went an income of about R8 000 a year in directors' fees Now he had been appointed a director of another company, Abcom, in which the municipal pension fund also had substantial interests Abcom was roughly the same size as Board Prop, so the directors' fees would be similar

The trustees of the pension fund had decided at their most recent meeting that Mr Geyer could keep the Abcom directors' fees as well

This decision had yet to be ratified by the council but Mr Geyer said yesterday that he expected the council would allow him to waive the fees

"Everybody is making a big fuss I would rather not be involved," he said

Identity crisis in Northpine

S/Times [CM] 14/11/91

2·63

By KURT SWART

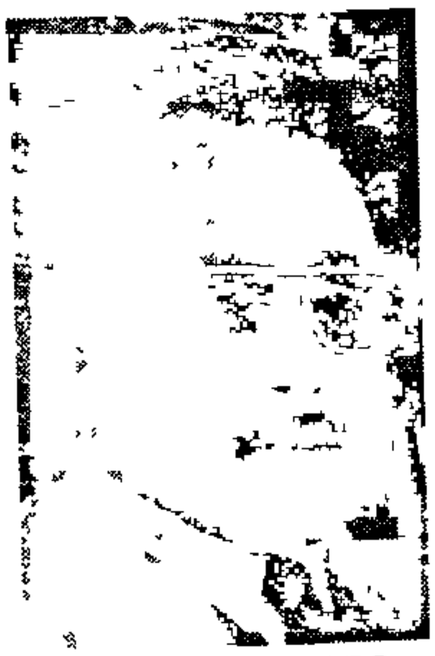
RESIDENTS of a northern suburb are suffering from an indentity crisis

Burdened by the bureacratic confusion and increased costs of being administered by no less than five local authorities, they are now demanding consolidation into a single municipality

"We are rather unique," said Mr Rodney Jacobs, spokesman for the Northpine Residents Association which is planning to step up its campaign — launched in July — to become part of the neighbouring municipality of Brackenfell

"Northpine falls under the Western Cape Regional Services Council, to whom we pay our rates and water bills," said Mr Jacobs

"But our electricity accounts are paid to Eskom, we fall under the telephone and postal code of Brackenfell, our cars are registered under Kuils River, we are serviced by the Kraaifontein police station and the section between the Brackenfell and Kraaifontein boundary — Old Paarl Road — falls under the Provincial Administration road engineer's department."



RODNEY JACOBS "Rather unique"

Mr Jacobs blamed the bureacratic confusion for the high cost of living of Northpine's 8 000 residents

"Our rates are R800 a year, whereas Brackenfell residents pay R600 to R1 000 depending on property valuations

"We pay 91c a kilolitre for water, which is to increase by 22 percent. If we fell under Brackenfell we would pay only 59c a kilolitre

"Electricity's basic cost is R23,84 Brackenfell pays only R13,32"

Northpine residents also say RSC fire tenders take 20 minutes to get to a fire because of the distance

"Most municipal fire brigades arrive in seven minutes"

The Northpine Residents Association is asking for the area to be incorporated into Brackenfell Municipality and also believe the Minister of Police should allow Northpine to fall under the Brackenfell SAP

"The Brackenfell police often arrive before the Kraaifontein SAP, who have a vast area to cover."

The changes would result in savings for the state as well as the public, Mr Jacobs said

Brackenfell town clerk Mr W P Visser said he had no objection but stressed he was speaking in his personal capacity and not on behalf of his municipality

"There is a legal snag as the RSC under whose jurisdiction Northpine falls must be empowered to approach the local authorities involved The Department of Local Government must provide the legislation but the other municipalities are free to start the ball rolling

The RSC referred questions about Northpine's excision to the House of Representatives

Complaints

A spokesman said "Northpine forms part of the local area of Scottsdene, which is administered by the Western Cape RSC on an agency basis on behalf of the Minister of Local Government, House of Representatives. The Minister's views will therefore have to be obtained in this regard"

The spokesman said the RSC would comment on residents' complaints of high service charges "at a later stage"

A spokeman for the Department of Local Government suggested that Northpine residents make their requests through the local management committee.

Pulling dorps out of the red

(263) ARGT 18/11/91

CPA probing plan to amalgamate small-town finances and services

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

A PROVINCIAL Administration committee is to investigate widening the boundaries of some rural municipalities to raise funds and provide much-needed services, to correct a "vacuum" left by the demise of divisional councils.

Chaired by Vredenburg-Saldanha town councillor Dr Wynand Malan, the investigation is a sequel to a probe which recommended amalgamating some rural municipalities to get them out of the red

Last year's investigation found some small rural municipalities were unable to keep on paying for separate infrastructures

The administration of small "non-viable" towns like Riebeeck Kasteel and Riebeeck West should be handed over to the nearest large local authority, in this case Malmesbury

CPA local government director Mr Okkie du Toit said the scrapping of the divisional council system had left a financial and administrative vacuum in the province

Farmers used the facilities of towns without contributing rates while there was no local authority to administer certain services, including building plan approval, minor roads and pest control

Regional services councils had taken over some former divisional council services on an agency basis, but other services "have just been hanging in the air", said Mr Du Toit

"Someone has to run these services and someone has to pick up the tab for them," he said

The Malan committee has to produce "definite recommendations" by March 30 and is to visit local authorities throughout the province during its investigation

A Cape Town City Council report said it was not clear at this stage to what extent, if any, the city council would be asked to assist

Council 'ready to make concessions' on refuse removal

(263) ARG 20/11/91

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THE city council is ready to make some concessions to cleansing workers unhappy about changes to the refuse removal system, but is not likely to revert to twice-weekly collection, says city engineer Mr Arthur Clayton.

Mr Clayton briefed an executive committee meeting yesterday after top city council officials met an SA Municipal Workers Union team over the controversy.

Afterwards he said a letter had been sent to the union indicating that the council might be prepared to make concessions.

The meeting ended with a union demand that the council "admit in writing" to breaking promises not to change the system without consultation.

Mr Clayton said the council had apologised "some time ago" and a fresh admission would not change anything

Union branch chairman Mr Salie Manie said the mood at council cleansing depots was "agitated" over what was seen as council reluctance to make concessions to workers allegedly suffering under the new system.

Workers in areas where collections had been cut back to once a week had complained about having to carry heavier bags, and risks to their health and domestic lives.

Mr Manie said the council team had told unionists they were prepared to appoint an independent industrial health monitor, but this was a "minor concession on a peripheral issue", he said.

"If the council could call urgent meetings over Avenue St Charles (the controversy over plans for flats in Fresnaye) they can meet urgently about our demands too," Mr Manie said.

Mr Manie said his union was due to meet community and ratepayers' organisations on a variety of issues.

Municipal duties 'not spelt out in law'

CT 21/11/91

By PETER DENNEHY (263)
Municipal Reporter

LEVELS of service that a municipality must provide to its ratepayers are not spelt out in law, city legal adviser Mr Barney Botha said yesterday

He was commenting on disputes about the phasing out of most of the council's grass verge cutting and the reduction in the frequency of refuse collection

"There are a lot of discretionary clauses in the law in this area," Mr Botha said "The Health Act imposes a duty on a local authority to try to maintain health and hygiene There is a legal assumption that the water that is provided may not be contaminated, but in general, charging rates does not impose specific obligations on a council"

Rondebosch East councillor Mrs Ruth Ortlepp said yesterday that the city council was responsible for the maintenance of grass verges "because they are the property of the council".

Some houses in the Cape metropolitan area are now being sold with conditions in their deeds of sale relating to the upkeep of the properties

● An expected statement from the city council on verge cutting was not finalised yesterday An announcement that will probably soften the blow is awaited.

Policy crisis 'stands in way of city's greatness'

(263)

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter ARGS 2/11/91

A POLICY crisis and lack of metropolitan authority stand in the way of dreams of greatness for Cape Town becoming reality, says deputy-mayor Mr Clive Keegan

Mr Keegan was speaking at the launch of the book *South African Cities — A Manifesto For Change*, produced by the University of Cape Town urban problems research unit and the Urban Foundation

A "patchwork quilt" of autonomous local authorities made attempts at coherent land use impossible, he said.

Other problems were the lack of a metropolitan authority for Cape Town to protect its sensitive environments, and political will to solve the crisis

Analysis and proposed solutions to urban development crises could not be limited to academic circles and had to get through to political decision-makers, Mr Keegan said.

"We must pluck ourselves from the political inertia and sloth which so often means books like this are left unread on dusty shelves."

He said the time had come when dreams of greatness for Cape Town could be turned into reality

"We can realistically dream of making Cape Town the only capital, the seat of the Organisation of African Unity, of important United Nations bodies, the Geneva of all Africa," Mr Keegan said

This would not happen by divine intervention but by deliberate planning, he said

● See Page 20.

‘People’ tackle city council

263
CT 22/11/91

Staff Reporter

A GROUP of 22 organisations, ranging from ratepayers' associations to community organisations, is hoping to force the city council to be more accountable to the people of Cape Town.

The group, which includes trade unionists and observers from the Democratic Party, met on Wednesday night

The 'meeting follows widespread dissatisfaction at contentious city issues, including

- Increases for senior city council officials, councillors and management committees' members
- Once-a-week refuse removals
- Cutbacks in services
- Theft of council property

South African Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) president Mr Salie Manie said yesterday the 22 organisations, including observers from the Democratic Party, the Green and Sea Point Ratepayers' Association and Diep River Ratepayers' Association, met at the civic centre

The union called the meeting because recent decisions taken by the city council had had a "very direct and negative impact on the community at large," said Mr Manie

"What was very clear at the meeting was the immense dissatisfaction at the way the city council is handling things and running the city, and their lack of accountability to the broader community," said Mr Manie

"What was also quite surprising was the white ratepayers who were equally fed-up with the lack of accountability"

It was agreed that a short-term mechanism, such as a "broad base community forum" should be formed to force the council to be accountable on civic issues

"There was also a call for the reintroduction of the twice-weekly refuse removal system and the services that were cut back, until such time that proper consultation is held with the people of Cape Town," said Mr Manie.

There will be another meeting on December 5 for more talks

'We have nothing to hide' — Exco

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

CAPE TOWN City Council executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander, facing a planned alliance to challenge council decisions, says the council has nothing to hide.

He was reacting to a plan for more than 20 trade unions and political and community organisations to council to book for "unilateral" decisions

The SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) is planning a "community forum" to pressure the council on various issues, including the continuing dispute over the cutback of some refuse collections to once a week.

The idea of the forum follows a Civic Centre meeting on Wednesday with various ratepayers and civic organisations, the Democratic Party, National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro), Samwu, and the Congress of South African Trade Unions.

A December 5 meeting will be held to finalise the formation of the organisation

Samwu branch secretary Mr Roger Ronnie told a Press conference that issues of concern to all at the meeting included the recent salary increases for top officials, once-weekly refuse collection, other service cutbacks, the high pay given to a firm of consultants for an interim director of information services, and the controversy over the theft of council property

Samwu branch chairman Mr Salie Manie said there was "unanimous agreement" that a short-term mechanism was needed to make city councillors and the corporate management team accountable to the people of Cape Town"

Cape Areas Housing Action Committee spokesman Mr Joe Marks said the planned forum would not be confrontational. It hoped to "make consultation the norm until we have had the chance to elect or reject our city councillors"

Rondebosch Civic Association chairman Mr Bill Sewell said ways had to be explored towards forming a broader civic movement involving residents irrespective of whether or not they had a municipal vote

Mr Friedlander said that all the issues referred to had already been fully addressed in conformity with council policy

"If there are ratepayers who require clarity or further information on these issues, this is readily available and they are welcome to approach the council," he said

He said there were established procedures for the settling of disputes and the council "could not understand" why these were not being followed

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Householders asked to double-up on refuse bags

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

AS sporadic industrial action continues to disrupt refuse removal, city engineer Mr Arthur Clayton has asked householders to "double-bag" refuse and sprinkle it with ammonia.

Mr Clayton said refuse collections were disrupted in different areas daily.

"It's a type of go-slow, with cleansing staff not completing their rounds, apparently on purpose," he said.

Uncollected refuse was left for the next collection.

In Mitchell's Plain and parts of the southern suburbs, this meant uncollected refuse lay around for a week.

"We need the public to co-operate by putting refuse in two bags — double-bagging it — and sprinkling ammonia on their refuse," Mr Clayton said.

There had been no further meetings between city council and SA Municipal Workers Union officials, but discussion of union demands to go back to twice-weekly collection throughout the municipality was continuing via correspondence, Mr Clayton said.

Samwu branch secretary Mr Roger Ronnie said the city council had sent a letter which said workers who did not do their duties would have pay docked.

This was a contravention of the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, and the city council should follow proper disciplinary procedures, Mr Ronnie said.

He said the industrial action was a "grassroots, spontaneous" reaction and had not been organised by Samwu.

"Workers have been walking behind trucks instead of running, and returning to their depots to have lunch instead of eating it on the road as they would normally," he said.

However, cleansing staff were keeping to full working hours, Mr Ronnie said.

See page 4.

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Council shuns reform plan

(263)

AEG 29/11/91

Independent consultants not wanted

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

CITY councillors have voted 19 to 10 against appointing independent consultants to investigate political and bureaucratic problems in the municipality.

Councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg said recommendations for reform by consultants in 1985 had been blocked by the council bureaucracy and "old guard"

Executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander said staff morale was at its lowest

Top management was working up to 17 hours a day and at weekends

Responding to criticism that Cape Town lagged behind other major cities on reforming its organisation, Mr Friedlander said Johannesburg had recently doubled its rates and had cut services

"If the wheels have come off the city council, Mr Wienburg is one of 34 councillors holding a wheelbrace," he said

To calls from Mr Wienburg to be tougher with unions, Mr Friedlander said their demands could not be "brushed aside" and handled arbitrarily

Dr John Sonnenberg called Mr Wienburg "Mrs Thatcher in drag" for suggesting a tougher stance on union demands

Deputy-mayor Mr Clive Keegan said the city council should not start organisational change when the country and local government were on the brink of wide-ranging reform

Mr Wienburg's repeated criticism was bad for staff morale, Mr Keegan said

Mr Wienburg said in response that the Johannesburg City Council had saved R10 million a year by reorganising its staff

Not all staff was useless, but morale was affected if some worked hard while others were "passengers"

Staff costs were increasing, while there was a "groundswell" from dissatisfied ratepayers, Mr Wienburg said

It was a "cop-out" to say no change should be made before the hand-over to a post-apartheid city council

"We must hand over a lean, mean and efficient city council to our successors," said Mr Wienburg

Director post for town clerk

(263)

Cr 29/11/91

Municipal Reporter

TOWN CLERK of Cape Town Mr Donald Geyer was given council permission yesterday to serve as a director on the board of a property company

He was invited to take up this directorship because he is the principal officer of the council's pension fund, and the fund owns a large slice of the company, Abcon Properties Limited

Mr Geyer has declined the directors' fees The executive committee yesterday recorded its appreciation of this

Mr Arthur Wienburg said he was not in favour of the council's most senior official taking on any responsibilities that would not benefit ratepayers Ratepayers would in effect pay for the time he was away from his desk

Mr Louis Kreiner, the pension fund chairman, was also appointed a director of Abcon

He said the pension fund would reimburse the council for Mr Geyer's time away

'Cheaper' info director

CT 29/11/91 EF (263)

Municipal Reporter

A DIRECTOR of Information Services for the Cape Town city council has been appointed for three years at a salary of R166 000 a year, or over R13 000 a month.

The appointment follows a public controversy over the R36 000 a month the council was spending on a consultancy firm which filled the post on an interim basis

The new director is Mr T M O'Brien, former director of computer services at the University of Natal

The director's post was a key position in the council because a substantial investment (of millions of rands) was being made in computer equipment, councillor Mr Richard Friedlander said in a report

Mr O'Brien has been appointed on a three-year contract

'Thatcher' gibe over costs

(263) CT 29/11/91

By PETER DENNEHY

RONDEBOSCH councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg was yesterday called a "Mrs Margaret Thatcher in drag" during a debate on restructuring of the city council.

Mr Wienburg had introduced a motion calling for consideration of the appointment of private consultants to "review all structures and the workings of the municipality" His motion was defeated 19-10 in a vote marked by a division among Democratic Party-inclined councillors

Mr Wienburg said there was a rumbling of dissatisfaction among ratepayers, because the council's costs were "getting out of hand" and "running away with us" This resulted in service cutbacks

He advocated running a "lean, mean, hungry and efficient administration", and not giving in to the unions Ratepayers, who were tired of the inefficient way the council managed its resources, would then get value for money, he said

Dr John Sonnenberg said that when he closed his eyes and listened to Mr Wienburg, he realised he was "listening to Mrs Margaret Thatcher in drag"

She had "bashed the unions and won" in Britain after being elected by the majority of voters there Yet this was South Africa in 1991, and it was crazy to try bashing unions here now

Mr Wienburg said in response that he had a great admiration for Mrs Thatcher What she had done for her country, "we can do for this council"

Deputy Mayor Mr Clive Keegan said a deep and serious malaise of loss of public faith in the City Council would not be resolved by restructuring or by publicly criticising council staff

The council's standing had never been at such a low ebb What was needed was a corporate vision, and the use of the council's budget process as a policy tool.

Mayoress to get councillor's allowance

(263)
CT 29/11/91

Municipal Reporter

CAPE TOWN's Mayoress is to receive an allowance equivalent to that of a councillor (R1 350 a month), whether or not she continues with her professional career during her term of office

The Cape Town City Council decided yesterday to take this unprecedented step, and to backdate the effect of the decision to September 1 this year

Mrs Patricia van der Velde, who has a Masters degree in Aids studies, was appointed in 1989 as manager of the Aids Training, Information and Counselling Centre (ATICC)

This is in the Civic Centre, but is run with funds provided by the central government

According to a council document which has come into the Cape Times' possession, her salary as the manager of the centre is R72 300 a year (including her bonus and transport allowance)

Mrs Van der Velde could not be reached at home yesterday evening, but it is understood that she will do both the Mayoress' job and the ATICC job

Both of these are considered full-time posts

Mayoress to be paid R1 350 a month

IRC (263) 29/11/91

Municipal Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council is to pay the Mayoress an allowance equal to that of a city councillor

A motion proposing the precedent-setting payment of R1 350 a month was passed without debate yesterday.

Mayor Mr Frank van der Velde left the council chamber when the item was tabled and Mr Clive Keegan chaired the meeting.

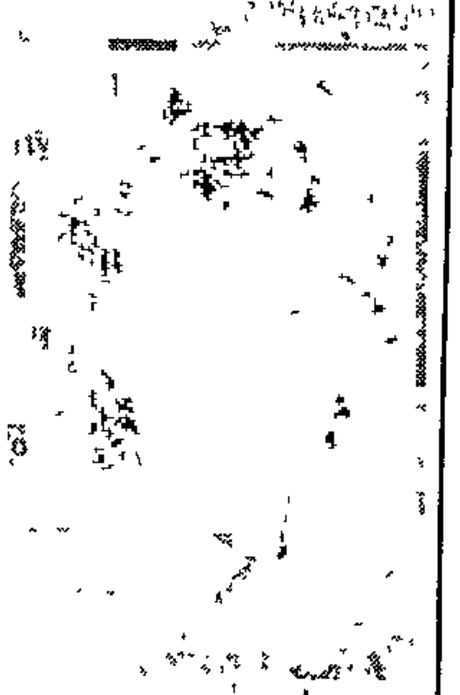
"As consort to the first citizen of the Mother City, which hosts many diplomats, dignitaries and important people, the Mayoress is expected to be well-informed on general matters and on civic affairs and to conduct herself in a manner which befits such office," an executive committee report said

This meant spending on clothes and personal appearance

The Mayoress was "hostess, ambassadress, marketing executive and social worker" and her task was in many ways equal in demand to that of a councillor

Women made up a quarter of the council, which meant there was a greater possibility that in future more mayoresses would be appointed

The allowance is to be paid whether or not the Mayoress continues her professional career during her term



Mrs Van der Velde

Rubbish dispute refuses to budge

263

PATRICK FARRELL
Weekend Argus Reporter

ARG 30/11/91

CAPE Town's erratic refuse removal service seems set to stay that way — at least for the time being.

This follows a deadlock in negotiations between the council and the refuse workers' union, the South African Municipal Workers' Union (SAMWU).

Although workers are collecting refuse, some cleaning staff are alleged to be leaving some rubbish behind on purpose.

The dispute has been simmering since the council decided to cut back services and introduce once-a-week refuse removal.

The union wants the twice-weekly removal reinstated because they claim workers face increased health risks from rubbish left lying for a week.

"Some workers at Mowbray reported an outbreak of skin rashes after the once-a-week collection was started," said union branch secretary Mr Roger Ronnie.

The council's executive committee chairman, Mr Richard Friedlander, said the council was meeting the union early next week to try to solve the dispute. Until then the situation would remain as it was.

He said at this stage the council was still considering whether to take action against the workers allegedly responsible for the erratic collections.

Mr Ronnie said the union would continue to support workers who were randomly collecting some bags of refuse on their rounds but leaving others.

Garbage talks go on council may get tough

ARG 4/12/91

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter

CITY council top management is to meet SA Municipal Workers' Union negotiators today in a continuing bid to resolve the refuse collection crisis — but is also considering tougher action

"We are looking at our options and considering our legal position," said executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander.

Asked if this included tough action against the union, he said all options were being considered

The go-slow tactics by cleansing workers — which union officials have said are spontaneous — have left piles of refuse bags in the city centre and suburbs.

Talks between city council management and the union ended inconclusively at 6.30pm yesterday

"The situation is not as simple as some would like to make out We have established procedures to deal with problems like this," said Mr Friedlander.

Reacting to calls by fellow councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg for disgruntled residents to dump their refuse at councillors' homes, Mr Friedlander said the suggestion was irresponsible

"We are doing everything in our power to resolve this, and whatever Mr Wienburg may think, we shall continue to follow legal procedures."

Mr Friedlander said the council was determined to get the controversial once-a-week changes to the refuse collection system working properly

"It has been pointed out more than once — and overlooked — that once-weekly refuse collection is the norm in other major cities," Mr Friedlander said.

Mayor Mr Frank van der Velde, who lives in Plumstead, one of the first areas to be affected by the new system, called for calm.

He called on residents to "remain calm and pull together and assist each other as in past crises.

"I am confident in the meanwhile that the negotiating team will find out what the union demands are. Demands have not been made," he said.

Mr Van der Velde said the union had not yet declared a dispute.

Call to 'trash' councillors

(263) CT 4/12/91

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

UNCOLLECTED garbage should be dumped at the homes of Cape Town's 34 city councillors until all the city's dirt problems have been normalised, councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg said yesterday.

"The people of Cape Town are white hot with anger that council is neglecting to perform one of its contracted duties in providing refuse removal service for the city," he said.

The people should also consider withholding the customary "Christmas box", and should call upon their councillors to provide them with the services they paid for, he added.

The city was in crisis and he believed a non-party political caucus should be formed to establish a meritocracy.

He felt that exco was "out of touch with reality" and was "playing tactical games with union while the city is chaos".

"Exco and many councillors are running scared of the trade unions and the matter should be put in perspective," he said

Deputy Mayor Mr Clive Keegan commented: "Given the fact that my own garbage is collected with extraordinary irregularity, I shouldn't think my neighbours would find much room to dump their garbage at my home."

On the question of withholding "Christmas boxes", Mr Keegan said he would "happily recognise" the services rendered by the cleansing workers if they were helpful and co-operative.

"I don't believe exco has appreciated yet the depth of public disillusionment with the way in which the city is being managed."

Exco chairman Mr Dick Friedlander was "not prepared" to comment.

● Rubbish angers residents — Page 10

Dustmen in work-to-rule to have wages docked

(263) ARG 6/12/91

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THE city council is to dock wages of cleansing workers taking part in the unofficial work-to-rule which has left refuse piling up all over the city.

Executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander has asked residents to take their uncollected refuse to cleansing depots

Municipal Workers Union branch secretary Mr Roger Ronnie said it seemed council management would dock wages according to the amount of work left incomplete — in the case of one area in Wynberg, this would be a whole shift's wages

He rejected council claims that legal procedures had been broken.

"As we see it, workers are keeping to their contractual obligations not to collect on both sides of the street at once, not to run behind trucks, and to take lunch at the depot," Mr Ronnie said.

The go-slow was not industrial action but perfectly legal behaviour, he said

In a letter to the union, city engineer Mr Arthur Clayton said employees who had "rendered imperfect service over the past week" would have wages deducted.

The inadequate service was seen as collective industrial action.

"We call on the union to exercise its responsibility by calling on its members to return to normal practice by completing their beats."

In a newspaper advertisement, Mr Friedlander said residents could choose to drop off domestic refuse at cleansing depots.

Security staff would accept deliveries after hours from people unable to drop off refuse during the day

● Mayor Mr Frank van der Velde said last night the city was the "filthiest" it had ever been and warned that more cuts to municipal services could be expected if dramatic rates increases were be to staved off

City councillors were taking "a lot of flak" about cutbacks in refuse collection and verge-cutting services but more cuts could be expected.

Administration costs were rising.

Trash clash looms as talks fail

By KURT SWART

A SHOWDOWN over garbage collection seems inevitable between the Cape Town City Council and municipal workers since crisis talks ended on Friday night without a solution

Further industrial action by the SA Municipal Workers' Union (Samwu) cannot be discounted after the failure of the talks and the decision by the council's Executive Committee (Exco) to dock the pay of workers engaged in a "go-slow", sources said

Workers are demanding a return to twice-weekly removals, claiming that halving collections has placed an "intolerable strain" on them because of the increased volume

At the same time there is a growing feeling among some councillors that Exco has mismanaged the situation

Workers launched a wildcat strike on Friday in protest against the council's announcement that it would dock pay

About 50 workers complained that between R11 and R88 had been deducted from their weekly wage packets

Consult

Samwu has warned that it is considering laying charges against the council because it believes the pay deductions are illegal

However, when the union's negotiating team met Exco on Friday night, it was agreed that the workers should end their sit-in over pay cuts, said Samwu branch chairman Mr Salie Manie

Samwu argues that workers are not on a go-slow but are working to rule after years of doing more than their service contracts stipulate

"The crux is that council's cleansing branch said it would not implement the new system without full consultation with the union," Mr Manie said "The department acted unilaterally"

A member of the council, Mr Arthur Wienburg, said some councillors were unhappy because Exco was not keeping them informed

"The feeling is that Exco is . is not being consistent," he said

He caused a stir this week when he suggested that residents dump their garbage bags outside councillors' homes

‘Refuse strike could be over’

263 CT9/12/91

Municipal Reporter

THE go-slow strike by council garbage collectors could be over, the city council says.

This follows a meeting between union officials and city council executive committee (exco) members which went on until late on Friday

Yesterday exco chairman Mr Richard Friedlander said that in the context of the discussions with the union officials, he was hopeful that normal services would be restored

He did not wish to say more

It is also believed that striking city cleansing workers have been offered their docked pay back — but only if they go back to work

About 400 of the council's 1 000 or so refuse removal workers sat in at five depots on Friday, in a wildcat strike sparked off by the council docking the weekly pay of 50 union members whom it alleged were on a "go-slow"

The union is unhappy with the switchover to once-a-week refuse collections (instead of twice), which it says were introduced without sufficient consultation with the workers

Deal

It also claims the changeover has had a negative impact on working conditions It denies embarking on a go-slow, but says its members are doing only what is legally required of them (working to rule)

It is understood that a proposed deal to end the labour unrest was put to the union negotiating team by the council team on Friday evening

It was then up to the union team to report this back to its members The council had apparently hoped that this report-back could take place over the weekend

Senior union officials could not be reached for comment yesterday.

Sources at the Samwu head office in Athlone yesterday said they knew of no mass meeting that had been called over the weekend They thought it would be impracticable to call one at such short notice

It therefore seems likely that at least some of the workers will begin their day today with a meeting or meetings to discuss the council's proposals

Last week, a handful of the workers said they were considering coming into town to demand their money this morning

Picture AP — Sapa-Reuter

Refuse shifts back to normal

263

CT 10/12/91

Municipal Reporter

COUNCIL refuse workers returned to normal shifts yesterday — but uncollected refuse bags in the city pointed to some still "working to rule"

Yesterday morning workers called off a sit-in at five Cape Town cleansing depots

SA Municipal Workers Union official Mr Stanley Brickwa said the workers had gone back to their tasks after consultations with shop stewards at the depots and that "everything is back to normal"

City engineer Mr Arthur Clayton said yesterday the council had never required of the workers that they should carry out their tasks on the run

"I sincerely hope this episode is over," he said "Everybody is back at work, but we still have to assess whether all the rounds were completed"

People who called the Cape Times yesterday said their refuse had not been collected

Mr George Frost of the Elizabeth Hospital (part of the New Medical Centre in the old Hamrad Building in Rose Street) said he had telephoned to complain about non-collection but the person who took his complaint could not say when the refuse would be collected

In Tamboers Kloof, rubbish bags which had been piled up on the corner of Milner and Upper Buitengracht had not been collected by the afternoon

Councillors say appeal over measures was 'disregarded'

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

263

THE Administrator and director-general of planning and provincial affairs have disregarded appeals by Cape Town City Council not to implement controversial measures in the Local Authorities Amendment Act

City councillors expressed fears that section eight of the Act allowed the Adminstrator to "legislate" for a city council without consulting it, and without following any legislative process

ARG 10/12/91

Sections one and two also caused concern by amending the 1985 Regional Services Council Act to allow representation of appointed "administrators" of black local authorities, or local authorities created in terms of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act

Town clerk Mr Don Geyer said the city council's opposition to the Interim Measures for Local Government Act was "well documented"

Voting by new bodies allowed on board at RSC meetings in terms of the Local Authorities Amendment Act could affect Cape Town's interests, he said

Replying to appeals against the proposed legislation, the director-general of planning and provincial affairs said South Africa was in transition

"The duration of this phase is vague, but one can reasonably presume a timespan of no more than about five years," he said

A dispensation would have to be negotiated, and sections one, two and eight measured against this background

The Administrator was "a functionary with a proven track record governing for the well-being of local government it is inconceivable that he would 'grasp' the opportunity to 'legislate' for whatever purpose, on behalf of any local authority," the director-general said

There would be consultation where possible, he said

Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring, who has already exchanged correspondence with Cape Town over the controversial Interim Measures for Local Government Act and the appointment of a management committee for Strandfontein, said he would not "unilaterally" use the powers given to him by the Local Authorities Amendment Act

"In the unlikely event that it may become necessary to exercise the powers in terms of the Act, I want you to feel reassured that it will be done with due consideration of the sensitivities involved," he said

Levy on all light accounts

By KURT SWART

A SUNDAY TIMES report two weeks ago conveyed the impression that only a 10-percent surcharge on overdue electricity payments fed the city council's R63,5-million trading surplus.

In fact the surplus is funded by a 10-percent levy included in every consumer's tariff, council spokesman Mr Ted Doman said this week.

The error occurred when deputy city treasurer Mr Neville Lomnitz responded to complaints that consumers were being charged VAT as well as a surcharge.

This week Mr Doman disclosed that the main source of the council's rates account — or trade surplus — was a hidden charge of about 10 percent.

This invisible tax was built into the basic rate and was not reflected on consumers' invoices. VAT was charged on the total.

If payment was late, a further 10 percent surcharge was levied on accounts exceeding R85.

Forum aim is to meet council on issues

(263)
ARG 16/12/91

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

ACCOUNTABILITY and service cutbacks will be the issues tabled when the Community Forum, the newly-formed umbrella organisation for civic, political and ratepayers associations, meets city council management

The forum, founded formally at a meeting at the Civic Centre earlier this month, elected an interim committee to seek a meeting with the city council

Convened initially by the SA Municipal Workers' Union, the forum was formed around the controversy over changes to the refuse collection system

Interim convener Mr Saleem Mowzer said it was envisaged that the forum would be the start of the process toward a more democratic society and accountable form of local government in the Western Cape

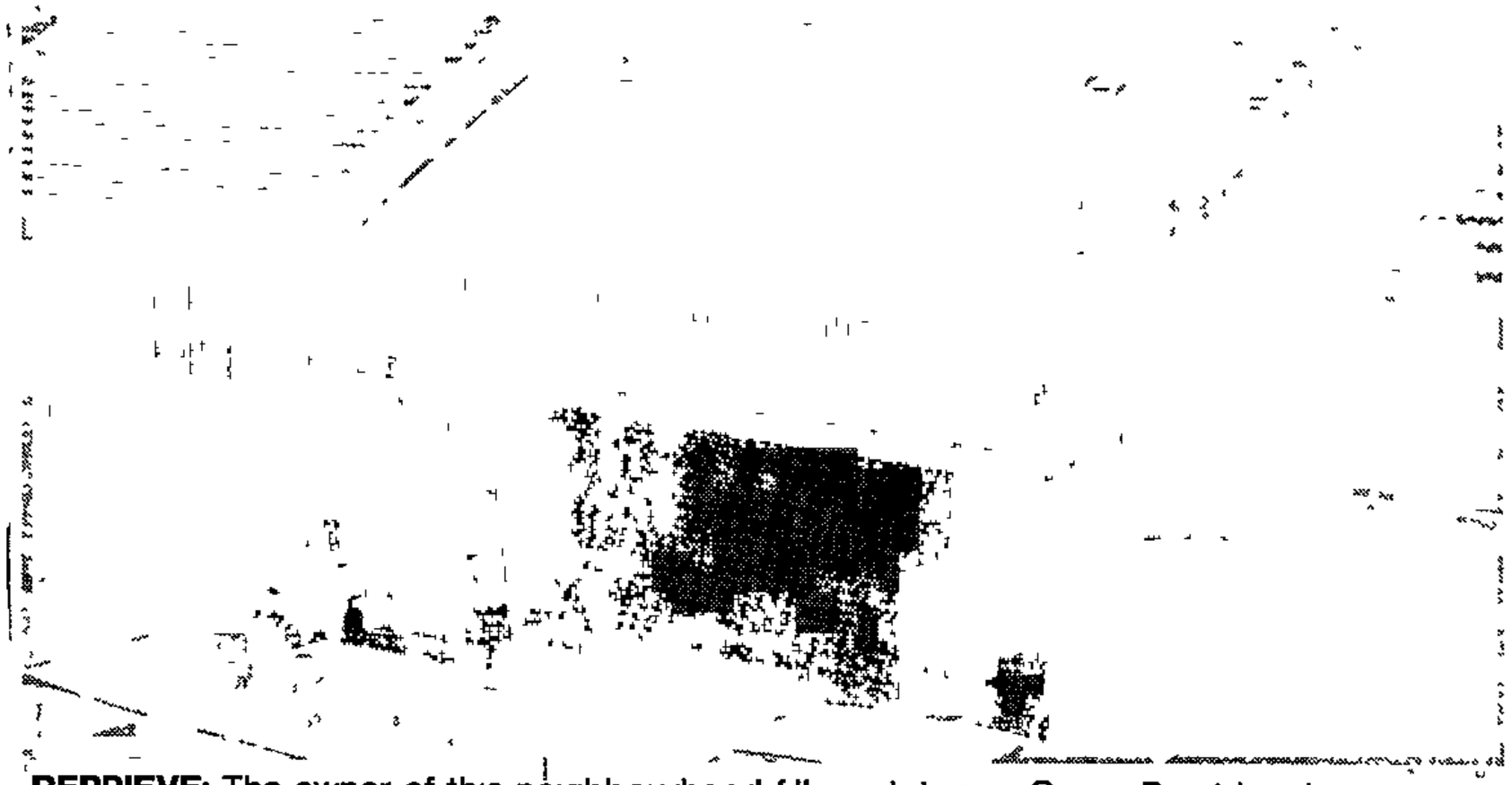
Issues at the meeting with the city council would be accountability, the cutback in services and the lack of services and amenities in certain areas, Mr Mowzer said

Member organisations of the Forum are the ANC, Atlantic Action Group, Belvedere Ratepayers, Heathfield Residents Association, Helpmekaar Ratepayers, Lower Gardens Ratepayers Association, Manenberg Civic Association, Movement for Christian Workers, Neighbourhood Watch, Observatory Civic Association, Rondebosch Civic Association, SA Municipal Workers Union, Strandfontein Civic Association, Thornhill Residents Association and the ratepayers' associations for Wards 4 and 16

City council to map strategy for post-apartheid Cape Town

263

ARG 20/12/91



REPRIEVE: The owner of this neighbourhood filling station in Green Point has been given permission from the city council to continue operating the business until he retires.

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THE city council, in co-operation with major city stakeholders, is to devise a strategic plan for the future of Cape Town

The idea of the plan, proposed at yesterday's city council meeting by Mr Llewellyn van Wyk, will be to review council procedures in preparation for post-apartheid local government, and restore public confidence in the council

Cape Town faced the "awful reality" of the growth of the metropolis and its needs, which were beyond the hope of those needs being met, Mr Van Wyk said

There was "unease" in the ranks of city councillors and a lack of public faith

Attempts by the council to prepare for the post-apartheid future were "valid and necessary," but many were "ad-hoc and episodic"

The idea of the strategic plan would not be to reorganise the bureaucracy or predetermine the role of trade unions, but to develop common vision of the future, Mr Van Wyk said

Ms Patricia Sulcas said the council was "remarkably participative" by South African standards

But most of the work about the future of Cape Town was being done by the executive committee and the corporate management team, a group of top officials

It was no use arguing that changes should be delayed until there was a new government, Ms Sulcas said

Executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander said his comittee had decided already that there should be a "brainstorming session" involving a wide audience

Mr Gordon Oliver said residents were "extremely angry, frustrated, confused and annoyed" with the city council

Councillors should not merely point accusing fingers at the executive committee, but should assist its leadership, Mr Oliver said

The Mayor, Mr Frank van der Velde "Sort of, hug a member of Exco?"

Mr Oliver "I'm sure he (Mr Friedlander) needs a hug from time to time"

Mr Arthur Wienburg said it was good to hear those in charge — the executive committee — admitting that there were problems

The council had not yet determined the exact nature of the problems, but investigating a strategic plan would help, Mr Wienburg said

Mr Peter Muller, the only city councillor to vote against Mr Van Wyk's proposal, said that what was meant by a "strategic plan" had not been defined properly

The city council constitutional committee was "scared of its own shadow" because they could not talk openly to all parties because of fear of African National Congress disapproval

Cape Town did not have a proper business plan and devising a strategic plan was putting the cart before the horse, Mr Muller said

Councillors to examine 'standing'

CT 20/12/91 (263)

Municipal Reporter

CITY councillors resolved yesterday to tackle the problem of their present standing among ratepayers by holding a workshop at which a "strategic plan" for the council can be formulated

Mr Llewellyn van Wyk, who proposed the motion, suggested that the invited parties should be councillors, the corporate management team and branch heads

All stakeholders in the city should be involved in the process, he said

Mr Van Wyk's motion, which suggests that the council should look into its own problems, was passed by 24 votes to 1

He said any organisation reached a stage when it had to review itself, its purpose and its future The council had found itself wanting "in respect of creating a post-apartheid local government dispensation"

The council was doing too much ad hoc crisis management, he said It needed a strategic plan

Mrs Annamia van den Heever said disillusionment with the council over refuse collections, grass-verge cutting and how much consultants were paid were "just symptoms" of a deeper malady that had arisen from public apathy and from the disenfranchisement of people who were not white

Former mayor Mr Gordon Oliver said councillors went through terrible anguish during the budgeting process because "our only objective seems to be to cut" The public out there was angry, confused and annoyed with councillors

Mr Peter Muller, who voted against Mr Van Wyk's motion, said the motion was "vague, misdirected, pie in the sky stuff". It seemed to him that a business plan was what was needed

(263) ARCT 21/12/91

Civic Centre crisis

In-fighting, loss of authority, 'tearing the council apart'

DI CAELERS, Weekend Argus Reporter

ALL is not well at Cape Town Civic Centre

Angry ratepayers almost daily heap complaints on the heads of city councillors and the councillors themselves admit that in fighting is tearing the council apart

At a time when Cape Town should be looking forward "to the arrival of the high ideals it's been expounding for decades, it has lost its moral and political authority', according to the Deputy Mayor, Mr Clive Keegan

Councillors put the problem down to inflationary pressures and doubts about their future roles in a transitional South Africa, but they agree on a more fundamental problem they have lost touch with the people who put them there

"The people are angry,' according to controversial southern suburbs councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg

There are some very fine councillors, but also a hell of a lot who just don't give a damn," he said

Mr Keegan, who in recent letters to the Press referred to the odium which besets the council", said the council like many other institutions, was undergoing numerous stresses, uncertainties and doubts about its future and present role, and that this was beginning to show

Energies tend to become blunted and you find indifference towards accountability coming in But at the root of the present problems lies council s constant failure to communicate with ratepayers,' he said

Cape Town ratepayers were "understandably annoyed when their refuse service was cut by half, library and swimming pool hours were reduced, and cutting of grass verges ceased, according to councillor Mr John Muir

The ratepayers as a body are not aware something is going to happen until it happens They're quite rightly annoyed when they compare the cuts in their services to the increases in councillors' pensions and allowances

"The public feels it is paying more and getting less"

Councillor and former mayor Mr Peter Muller said that at a time when council was "being virtually forced to cut down on some services which are very meaningful and visible to ratepayers as a result of the government's withdrawal of subsidies, it was imperative that they consulted and negotiated with the people affected

"I think we re not being very politic We have jumped on the gravy train in terms of increased councillors allowances, an allowance for the mayoress and increasing pension fund contributions when we re scraping the bottom of the barrel to provide basic services which every ratepayer is entitled to receive" he said

The city s executive committee chairman, Mr Richard Friedlander said the council had been 'overtaken by events in certain respects With inflation running at 16 percent throughout the 1980s, and us budgeting at two or more percent below inflation things have finally caught up with us"

He said Cape Town s user or consumer capacity had virtually doubled in 10 years, bringing all kinds of problems which were never expected "We are all desperately concerned at the lack of understanding of problems we and local governments throughout the country are facing in terms of limited resources and increased costs"

Weekend Argus referred councillors to particular issues relating to "questionable" council decisions highlighted recently

☐ The Town Clerk, Mr Don Geyer, who had been in office about 175 days, had been away from his post for 45 days, including 21 days at the London Business School on a course that cost the council R65 000

While Mr Wienburg branded this "totally unacceptable , Mr Muir and Mr Keegan agreed it was standard practice in the private sector for senior management to be sent on training courses

We would be neglecting our obligations if we did not send senior professionals to improve themselves and gain new skills, especially since we have been isolated from the rest of the world for so long," Mr Keegan said

☐ The council spent R1 376 sending an official to Pretoria to see the plans of the 7th Avenue St Charles development and to read the minutes of the appeal board hearing on it, only to be refused access to the minutes

Mr Keegan said this simply was not true "We went to inspect the plan, we did inspect the plan Mission accomplished"

He said the council had lost its'"capacity to convey our understanding of issues to ratepayers"

"Cape Town seems to have a particularly critical public, an argumentative community, which is a good thing in many ways It keeps councillors on their toes and gets idle bottoms off their chairs," he said

Picture HANNES THIART Weekend Argus

☐ **AMBULANCE DEMO**· Off-duty staffers of the Cape Ambulance and Rescue Service staged a placard demonstration in peak-hour traffic yesterday to highlight their simmering pay dispute — and were blamed for a road accident

Liquidation for Cape broking firm

LIBBY PEACOCK, Weekend Argus Reporter

CAPE Equity Brokers (Pty), which financed the surgical glove company Suretex, was provisionally liquidated after an application in the Supreme Court, Cape Town

The application was brought late yesterday by a director and shareholder of the company, Mr Ed ward Henry Harrington, who said in an affidavit that the company owed him R84 000 in arrears sal ary for the past seven months, at R12 000 a month

Cape Equity Brokers was not in a financial position to pay him, he said

Earlier yesterday morning Suretex was provisionally liquidated, also by Mr Harrington, Suretex, chairman and director

He said Cape Equity Brokers started business in 1989 under the name Growth Equities Marketing (Pty), which was changed to its present name in July 1990

The company had "traded profitably from inception', but its continued profitability was affected by "an article which appeared in The Argus early this month"

He said the consequences of the article had been "catastrophic" for the business, "to the extent that it has been obliged to cease trading completely"

The article had also linked Cape Equity Brokers to Fundstrust (Pty) and Suretex, he said (The final order for the liquidation of Fundstrust was given earlier this week)

Cape Equity Brokers found itself "in extreme financial difficulties" and was "totally illiquid" and unable to pay its debts, Mr Harrington said

Several summonses had been served on Cape Equity Brokers and two judgments taken against the company — by a Mr De Jager and Trust Bank Credit Card Division

The company's total assets were R1 179 915 and its total liabilities were R1 519 000 — so liabilities exceeded assets by R339 085

As more than 50 percent of the company's assets were made up of a loan to Suretex, which was also under provisional liquidation, this shortfall would "in fact prove to be far greater", he said

● In the earlier Suretex application, Mr Harrington had also said in an affidavit that an article which had appeared in The Argus and which suggested that the company "was in financial difficulty and its product of poor quality" had been "catastrophic" for Suretex

Mr Justice R Marais ordered return dates of February 10

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■ BLUE ROUTE CTR ■ CLAREMONT
■ FISH HOEK ■ GARDENS CTR

15 may have voted twice

S/Times (CM) (263)

By NORMAN WEST, Political Reporter

22/12/91

THE names of 15 people who may have cast more than one vote in the recent Athlone Management Committee by-election, have been handed to the Public Prosecutor

This has been confirmed in letters which the Returning Officer and Administrator of the Cape Town City Council, Mr G R Hofmeyr, sent to the candidates, Mrs Brenda Matthews of the National Party and Mr John Miranda of the Labour Party

The election, which took place on November 20, was won by Mr Miranda with 860 votes against Mrs Matthews' 792 — a majority of 68

The NP MP for Bonteheuwel, Mr Pat McKenzie, whose constituency includes the Athlone and District Management Committee, said he believed the investigation had uncovered "a big cheat"

"I believe the election results should be declared null and void", he said

The Nat MP for Retreat, Mr Gerald Morkel, who acted as special agent for Mrs Matthews, said "I am glad the matter is going to court This will expose the culprits Innocent people are sometimes influenced to vote twice because they know no better

"There must be sinister forces behind the duplicate voting and the law must take its course," said Mr Morkel, who led the breakaway of MPs from the LP to the NP during the last session of Parliament

Mr Kenny Lategan, national organiser of the LP and the person who co-ordinated the election campaign for Mr Miranda, said "It is too early to cast aspersions All we know is that the names of 15 persons appear on ballot papers at two polling stations, suggesting they voted twice

"They may, perhaps, be unaware of this and may not even have voted at all"

Asked to explain, Mr Lategan said "In the case of management committee elections, no proof of identity is needed Anyone can, therefore, pretend to be someone else

"If the name you give appears on the ballot paper, you are given a form and you make your cross and go to the next polling station

"Theoretically, therefore, anybody can vote in the name of a registered voter at all the polling stations

Picture: AMBROSE

Tough action over electricity arrears

S/Times (CM) 22/12/91 (263) (REG)

By KURT SWART

THE Cape Town City Council is to take a tougher line on electricity arrears which have seen Langa and Guguletu residents pile up a debt of R10 million

Action is to be taken against defaulters after January 6, once the holiday season has ended, according to council spokesman Mr Ted Doman

"We don't normally disconnect supply at this time of the year," he said

The problem of arrears was raised at this week's council meeting by Councillor Ian Iversen, who said he was sympathetic to most township residents as they had been hit by economic hardships and "hurting"

Growing

"There has to be a far more determined approach Council needs to find the will," Mr Iversen said

In an attempt to arrest the growing problem, the council engaged Aza Credit for a year from last November at a monthly fee of 15 percent of the debts collected or R8 000, whichever was the greater amount.

The agency was paid R361 717 in fees but the arrears increased by four percent from R7,2 million in the previous year to R9,9 million

Although this prompted criticism at Thursday's meeting, council voted to keep Aza Credit's services, subject to the agency's improving its performance

"It is the intention (of Aza Credit) to be more aggressive . aiming at least to contain the escalation in the arrears," City Treasurer Mr E D Landsberg said in his report.

He reported that arrears in Langa and Guguletu had grown from R3 337 326 to R9 943 998 between October 1988 and October this year.

Of the 9 500 consumers in these townships, only about 3 100 were making an effort to pay their monthly accounts

Although economics, and not a political boycott, was at the root of the problem, non-payment was unacceptable as it encouraged a "dangerous philosophy" that would create a legacy of disaster for the local government of the future, Mr Iversen said

Sixty percent of township commercial firms were behind with their accounts

"If these businesses are running at a loss, they should go out of business If Nyanga and Guguletu are about R10 million behind, this means the whole of the municipality is about R15 million in arrears.

"It also probably means that if the arrears were paid, electricity tariffs could be reduced by two or three percent for all consumers."

Satisfied

Mr Iversen said on Friday he was not wholly satisfied with the answers he had been given to the questions he had tabled

"Some of the figures don't add up For instance, the number of consumers is 68 short of the number of meters.

"It means our credit control system is not quite accurate We have let the situation drag on for too long."

Said Mr Doman. "The obvious action is to disconnect. There's no campaign to blot out Langa and Guguletu — we are acting against individuals"

In reply to criticisms that the council was spending money on Christmas lights while it cut supplies to impoverished consumers, he said the cost of festive lights in the city was "nothing compared with the millions owed in arrears".

● It also emerged that the municipality was owed R4,8 million in arrears on water accounts In 1990/91, R82 118 was written off

German couple jet in to wed on waves

By JANICE HILLIER

IT WAS a wedding with a difference when a Bavarian couple exchanged marriage vows on board a luxury yacht moored

Tough action over electricity arrears

S Time (CM) 22/12/91 (263)

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES — CAPE

1992 — APRIL

JANUARY — APRIL

FM 3/1/92
V&A DEVELOPMENT 263

Living space

The first homes at Cape Town's Victoria & Alfred Waterfront phase three development could come on stream in two years

The New Basin Precinct plan, unveiled last month and presented to the city council for consideration, is regarded as crucial to the long-term success of the development It includes the flooding of the old lower fuel storage tank farm to create a 5,2 ha pool to accommodate a marina, the construction of an aquarium, a Victorian-era railway station with an hotel set in a mixed-use area, and a canal with lock system and drawbridges

About 100 homes are planned initially They are likely to include private, self-catering and timeshare units Further phases of the waterfront development include many more homes

The plan also provides for the flooding of the upper tank farm and creation of a canal linked to the marina by locks The canal will eventually extend to the lower CBD It is envisaged that a light rail system will connect the waterfront to the city and possibly run on to Greenpoint and Sea Point later

The building programme sets late 1992 as the target date for the last tanks to be removed In the third quarter, excavation of the upper tank farm should begin The flooding of the basin is scheduled for the third quarter of 1993 and later the first residential units should be available

Detailed plans for each development within the New Basin Precinct still have to be submitted for council approval The first is expected to be the aquarium and its surroundings

The first phase of the Victoria and Alfred development, the Pierhead Precinct, was completed more than a year ago and officially opened in May The second phase, the Portwood Precinct, is under construction and includes Cape Town University's new Graduate School of Business and Victoria

Continue →

PROPERTY FM 3/1/92 263

Wharf, a speciality marketplace This phase is due for completion this year

☐ Plans for a cableway from the waterfront to the top of Signal Hill continue to draw fire (*Business & Technology* December 6) The Botanical Society of SA is concerned about the effect of the project on the environment and residents are forming a strategy to resist it

Property developer Arthur Quinton, whose luxury apartment is about 150 m from where the proposed cableway will climb Boundary Road in Green Point, is organising a committee of the chairmen of the bodies corporate of four blocks of flats in the vicinity

Quinton says about 200 flats are within 100 m "peering distance" of the proposed cableway He estimates the total value of the flats and 10 houses directly affected by the project to be R30m to R35m and believes R10m will be wiped off their value if it goes ahead

A meeting between residents and the cableway developers — 44 Dock Road Ltd and Table Mountain Aerial Cableway Co — yielded an assurance that other routes would be investigated ■

Vast plans for cable station

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — A multi-million rand entertainment complex, possibly with restaurants, shops and offices and possibly a 3-D cinema, is planned for the lower cableway station of the proposed Signal Hill cableway at the Waterfront

About R250m is being raised for the full cableway project, R200m of which is for the lower cable station and adjacent developments B1Day 10/1/92

Details of the complex were provided in a statement of intent submitted to the Cape Town City Council by the developers The Victoria & Alfred Waterfront Company has already agreed to the development of the lower cableway station site by the developers, the Signal Hill Cableway Company and 44 Dock Road Company

Consultants have been appointed to examine the environmental impact of the project and the public can start lodging objections as soon as the council has given the go-ahead

MLH Architects & Planners' Ken Sturgeon said yesterday UCT environmental unit's John Raimondo had been appointed to undertake an independent environmental impact study of the cableway

Sturgeon said workshops and public meetings would be held from next month The first meeting with residents of Boundary Road, who are up in arms about a potential invasion of their privacy, was held in December (263)

Public involvement in the planning is a high priority, Sturgeon emphasised

The developers anticipate that by the turn of the century, R10m would have been generated by levies on tickets, money which could be used for the environmental improvement of the Table Mountain chain

Development rights for the air space above Boundary Road and a lease for the crest of Signal Hill will be sought from the council Negotiations with the SADF which owns the Lion Battery and the crest of Signal Hill will commence soon

Rubbish risk

Cleansing cuts bring rats, flies, spills

263 CT 10/1/92

Staff Reporter

THE once-a-week garbage collection in Cape Town has led to an increase in rats, flies and rubbish spills.

This is according to a shock report from the city council's health department

There has also been an increase in complaints from people living in areas of the city where rubbish is collected only once a week. In parts where rubbish is still collected twice a week, the number of complaints has dropped, according to the report.

The once-a-week plan has provoked much criticism from the public

The health department's report recommends that the council extend the trial period by another three months before a decision is made to implement once-a-week removals

The acting Medical Officer of Health, Dr N M Durcan, who compiled the report, will make this recommendation when the report is submitted to the Amenities and Health Committee on January 13

In her report, Dr Durcan said health inspectors had covered 102 houses in pre-selected areas including Bergvliet, Meadowridge, Plumstead, Wynberg, Ottery, Wetton, Fairways, Elfindale, Trovato, Claremont, Bishopscourt, Newlands, Rondebosch, Rondebosch East, Kenilworth, Crawford and part of Athlone

The 583 observations recorded showed a 28,6% spillage, 6,6% excessive fly breeding, 1,5% increased rats and offensive odours in 6,5% of cases

Many complaints were received from the public These included complaints about rodents, the non-removal of refuse and alleged health-related complaints, she said

Complaints regarding rats and mice for the period under review were compared with the number of complaints over the same period last year and in the areas in which refuse removal was reduced to once a week there had been a 19% increase in complaints (from 201 to 240)

This was considered to be "highly significant" as the rest of the city where refuse was still collected twice a week showed a 14% drop in complaints of rats and mice, Dr Durcan said

The increase in rats and mice was "cause for concern" because if it did reflect a true increase in the rodent population because of the scaled-down system of refuse collection, the extension of the once-a-week service city-wide would be associated with an increase in these carriers of disease, she said

While the "go slow" action by cleansing staff may have led to many complaints, it also highlighted the vulnerability of the once-a-week service, Dr Durcan said

The high incidence of refuse spillage was "undoubtedly related" to the use of black plastic bags

Supporters of the once-a-week system have said it would reduce the risk of spillage as the bags would be open to abuse only once a week.

Because of the importance of public health and confusing factors caused by industrial action, Dr Durcan recommended that a further three months' observation be continued in the experimental area before the once-a-week system was extended to other areas

Inside:
CABLEWAY PLANS PUSHING AHEAD See PAGE 3
GOLD SOARS TO $357,05 See PAGE 8

Bi-weekly refuse service to resume?

Staff Reporter

TWICE-WEEKLY refuse collection may be reinstated in the experimental once-a-week collection areas following a report by the city's acting Medical Officer of Health. CT 11/11/92

According to the report from Dr Nula Durcan, the trial system has led to an increase in rats, flies and rubbish spills

The 583 observations recorded showed a 28,6% spillage, 6,6% excessive fly breeding, 1,5% increase in rats and offensive odours in 6,5% of cases.

In an earlier report, the assistant town clerk in charge of amenities and health, Mr Dawie de Villiers, said the twice-weekly collection practice may be reinstated, but declined to comment further

Findings that the once-a-week collection method posed a serious health threat "come as no surprise", to councillor for Rondebosch, Mr Arthur Wienburg

"Cape Town is not a first-world city It is inhabited by mixed cultures And, if we don't look after the health and sanitation of the city now, the health hazard is going to turn into a health disaster," he said.

However, Dr Durcan has recommended that a further three months' observation be continued in the experimental areas before the once-a-week system is implemented in other areas.

Trash city heading for 'health disaster'

ST Times (CM) 12/11/92 (263)

CAPE TOWN could slide into a "health disaster" unless it pays serious attention to its health hazards, the city councillor for Rondebosch, Mr Arthur Wienburg, has warned

Flies, rats and spills have increased with the city's trial once-weekly refuse removal system, according to a report by the acting Medical Officer of Health, Dr Nula Durcan.

The negative findings listed in the report have come as no surprise to him, says Mr Wienburg.

Dr Durcan said that of 583 observations made, spillage had been recorded in 28,6 percent, excessive fly breeding in 6,6 percent and offensive odours in 6,5 percent.

In addition, rats had increased in 1,5 percent of cases.

Earlier, the assistant town clerk in charge of amenities and health, Mr Dawie de Villiers, said twice-weekly collections might be reinstated in the trial areas.

Caucus plan for council

S/Times [CM]
263
12/1/92

By RAYMOND JOSEPH

SEVERAL city councillors are attempting to form a caucus cutting across political lines in an attempt to form a power block within the Cape Town council to formulate policies to "effectively carry the city into a new South Africa"

Sources said "at least 13 councillors" — out of 34 — had already been approached and many had expressed an interest "in discussing the matter further"

One of the councillors working behind the scenes to form the new caucus said "The intention is to concentrate on the macro, rather than micro, issues We hope to draw up a manifesto which members of the caucus will be asked to sign and adhere to But councillors will have a free vote on micro issues, so that none can abuse the caucus's power to get things done for their own areas and ratepayers

"We will concentrate on establishing a meritocracy which would look at prioritisation of council's funds and resources, proper budgetry controls and issues like mapping out a vision for the future of the city and the strategy to be employed in getting there"

The move comes at a time when public confidence in council is at one of its lowest ebbs in recent years, following a series of controversies which have led to criticism from many quarters

The row over the decision to cut garbage collections in the southern suburbs from twice to once a week shows no signs of abating and this week it was fueled further by a report that there has been an increase in rats and flies since the new measures were introduced

Over the years, there have been several attempts to form a DP-controlled caucus within council, all unsuccessful A majority of councillors are sympathetic to the DP

The latest attempt was late last year when a "high-powered DP parliamentary delegation" and councillors sympathetic to the party met in Cape Town.

Confirming the meeting, a DP source said "Cape MPs are very divided on the issue of a political caucus operating in the council, although there has been a fair degree of contact between the DP and councillors"

One of the reasons the DP has shied away from such a caucus was "because of the situation in Johannesburg, Randburg and Sandton councils", the source said These administrations had acted "with arrogance and had isolated themselves from ratepayers" causing the party severe damage

and control services on a

design the new control room so that if we decided to change to such a setting it would not be that what we are building now will be of benefit to us in the future," Mr Dolby said.

Once-a-week to remain

JOHN YELD, Staff Reporter

THE city council's controversial decision to reduce refuse collections in some areas to once a week is unlikely to be extended before a further three-month observation period — unless full containerisation is introduced first. (263) ARG 14/11/92

A proposal to this effect by the acting medical officer of health, Dr Nula Durcan, was accepted by the amenities and health committee yesterday.

It must still go to the full council for approval at the end of the month.

In a report to the committee, Dr Durcan said there had been numerous complaints, both to the council and the media, following the experimental introduction of the weekly service.

"The increase in complaints about rodent activity in these weekly collection areas was significant as there had been a corresponding decrease in twice-weekly collection areas, her report said.

"This is cause for concern in that if it reflects a true increase in rodent population as a consequence of a reduced refuse removal service, then the further extension of such a reduced service across the city will be associated with an increase in these vectors of disease."

The "go-slow" by cleansing staff was probably responsible for many of the complaints, but this highlighted the vulnerability of the once-a-week service to industrial action, the report said.

The high incidence of refuse spillage in the experimental areas was linked to unsatisfactory black plastic containers.

Advocates of the once-a-week system believed reducing the frequency of the service would reduce spillage as the bags were "open to abuse" on one instead of two days a week.

But environmental staff had not reported any increased spillage in twice-weekly collection areas, and it was believed that owners — worried about missing the once-weekly collection — could be putting their refuse out too early, the report stated.

Introduction to Computers

Residents in 'no' vote on local councillors

ET 16/1/92 (263)

By CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

THE Tokai Residents' Association executive committee has passed a unanimous vote, effectively of no confidence, in respect of the four councillors who represent the area on the Local Council of Constantia Valley

They are Mrs Joan Shapiro, Mrs Yvonne Wood, Mr Douw van Popta and Mr R R Skibbe, who responded with shock to the move

In a recently released statement, the association slammed the councillors for supporting the rezoning of the Allandale Holiday Cottages development in Zwaanswyk, and accused them of "not applying their minds" to the issue

The history of the development stretches back to 1960 when the site-owner converted outbuildings for accommodation without the council's approval

'Rubber-stamp'

Conditional approval was obtained, subject to the council's continued approval, which effectively protected the other residents, who, according to the association, will lose this protection along with the rezoning

The association stated "The committee, which registered as an objector on the basis that the residents of Tokai did not wish residential properties to be rezoned to enable a business to be formalised, feels that once again a rubber-stamp exercise was effected without the councillors having applied their minds"

It claims the conditional clauses imposed by the town planner will not be enforced as there is nobody to monitor them and that they would be difficult to prove legally and are therefore worthless

TRA chairman Mr Stan van Wyk stated that the councillors did not discharge their duty as they did not meet with or discuss the rezoning with the registered objectors or the ratepayers' executive before deciding

In a joint statement, the councillors concerned said the charge that they had not applied their minds was "unfounded"

Site inspections

They said "We were elected to represent the interests of the whole community and we take this very seriously

"We had several meetings to discuss this issue, and spent many hours debating it and examining objections in great detail Several site inspections of Allandale were made

"In supporting the rezoning we recognised a situation which has existed for 32 years and we also took the opportunity to impose additional controls to protect the whole community These allow a reduction in the allowed maximum number of guests, a restricted staff complement and stringent development controls"

The final decision on Allandale rests with the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Works, who will handle objections

City's projects worth R704m

LINDA ENSOR (263)

CAPE TOWN — Major developments worth R704m were under construction in Cape Town, city council development co-ordinator Philip Theron said in a report submitted to the council's executive committee yesterday.

This represents a growth of 19% over the R591m projects under construction at end-December 1990. Major developments worth R440m were completed in 1991.

"Despite the continuing recession in which the economy finds itself, development and building activity in Cape Town is maintaining a high level of activity," Theron said

Noteworthy projects commenced over the last year included the Victoria Wharf speciality marketplace at the Waterfront (R105m), the Sea Street office development (R100m), Metropolitan Life Centre (R75m) and more than R105m of residential development on the Atlantic coastline. BTimes 17/11/92

Shaping up for a

w/mail 19/11 - 23/11/92

263

BOOK REVIEW:
SOUTH AFRICAN CITIES:
A manifesto for change
by D Dewar and RS Uytenbogaardt
(University of Cape Town)

ANYONE who has had a take-away pizza delivered to their front doorstep in New York but failed to achieve the same here will have come to grips with one of the shortcomings of South African cities. they are too spread out to be efficiently serviced

This is one the of the arguments presented in this fourth and culminating publication in a series about the future of South African cities, albeit without this trite example

According to Dewar and Uytenbogaardt, who are attached to the Urban Problems Research Unit at the University of Cape Town, the "urbanisation explosion" occurs predominantly among the poor, leading to increasing unemployment and inequality in the big cities

"Dominant urban planning and management practices in South Africa are based largely either on simple ideological considerations of race separation or on conventional planning wisdoms developed ... in Western Europe and the USA." The authors question both these practices.

Firstly, they believe that although political orders will change, "the human issues raised by urban growth will not". Based on this premise they believe it is neccessary to develop an urban theory which is "humanist ... and thus capable of transcending political ideologies".

Secondly, they believe that planning solutions which have been developed in the context of the First World are bound to prove inappropriate in a developing country such as South Africa

The largest portion of the book is devoted to describing how this can be achieved:

●By ensuring a balance between primeval nature, the rural and the urban This means the best land should be set aside for conservation while the worst is improved by being built upon

●By establishing a town plan which provides an over-all guide without inhibiting "the positive freedom for individuals to act". This will guarantee maximum diversity and complexity

●By creating urban environments that are "equitable" or accessible to everyone in the city.

●By structuring ribbons of intense activity along roads, pedestrian networks and railway lines incorporating shopping, working, living and communal facilities These high-intensity, and high density environments will ensure "high levels of ser-

new South Africa

vice, opportunity, convenience and interaction".

●By ensuring "continuity of the urban fabric" to blur the artificial boundaries between areas This is relevant to apartheid planning practice which created unnatural buffers between the white city and surrounding dormitory townships.

●By increasing density to counteract urban sprawl The authors argue that this is a prerequisite for an effective public transport system W(Mail 17/11-23/11/92

The real value of Dewar's and Uytenbogaardt's manifesto is to be found in the appendixes at the back of the book. Here they apply their theories to greater Cape Town and develop the embryo of a new town-plan

The starting point is what the authors identify as "good" in the existing plan of the Cape Town· Main Road, Lower Main Road and the railway line ribbons that structure activity through the southern suburbs Extending the geometry of these routes, they drape a large grid over the rest of greater Cape Town, extensive enough to envelope all its far-flung townships

This achieves urban continuity, establishes routes along which activities can cluster, and provides a legible pattern along which public transport and public buildings can be structured

While the planning tendency internationally is to contain cities or even encourage independent satellites, Dewar and Uytenbogaardt advocate a plan that can only make Cape Town bigger and more unmanageable This is understandable in a political context where the rallying cry has been for "one city" and "one tax base".

To advocate that Mitchell's Plain or Atlantis become independent cities would be to echo apartheid planning and deny township inhabitants access to the adantages of urban life

This is why, notwithstanding the authors' bona fide "humanist" intentions, the context in which they are operating inevitably politicises their plans.

Their manifesto demonstrates the futility of trying to transcend ideological considerations Few town planners are ever presented with a a blank slate on which to sketch out their schemes

The starting point for design is the existing, which is always politically based

Notwithstanding these criticisms, if Dewar and Uytenbogaardt's plans were to be implemented, Cape Town wo''ld be a better place for many more of its citizens And that is the acid test of any town-planning exercise

Melinda Silverman

First residents plan own by-laws

ET 18/1/92 (263)

By PETER DENNEHY
Municipal Reporter

THE first steps have been taken in Cape Town towards a neighbourhood rule system in which groups of 100 or more home-owners can make their own by-laws to "preserve the character and use" of their areas.

The 140-member Claremont-based Vineyard Civic Association (VCA), formed last year, has already submitted its own draft schedule of building by-laws to the city council

This is the first such application in the country to have been submitted under legislation that came into effect last year

Many of the VCA members are disillusioned with the council, particularly over its allowing businesses to creep into residential areas, according to its chairman, Dr Charles Jacobs

The VCA's proposed by-law sets a maximum building height (6m) and maximum floor space (160m²), it bans sub-divisions and the erection of more than one building per plot, it gives a neighbourhood committee of six a right to refuse rezoning applications, and it puts the onus on persons charged with contravening regulations to prove that they were not doing so

The VCA asked the council to ensure that its building by-law was promulgated in the Official Gazette "with effect from January 1 1992"

This has not yet been done Dr Jacobs says this is because a difference of opinion has arisen between the VCA and City Legal Adviser Mr Barney Botha

'Lowering the tone'

In terms of the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act No 108 of 1991, a majority of home-owners in any neighbourhood may, by agreement, lodge draft by-laws with the council There must be a minimum of 100 members, and 50% of home-owners in their "area of jurisdiction" must be members

The by-laws can deal with a host of issues such as orderly use of amenities, determination of norms and standards, maintenance of residential premises, prevention of overcrowding and election of a neighbourhood committee of six Anyone who contravenes such by-laws may be fined R1 000 or jailed for a month

Mr D G Cunningham, who helped constitute the VCA, said its formation was a response to the new South Africa It would ensure that new people moving into an area would not "lower the tone" by, for example, operating panel-beating concerns or advertising agencies from homes

But Dr Jacobs said it arose out of disillusionment with the council New by-laws would help stop big business — such as Norwich Life — from getting properties in residential areas rezoned for business

City administrator Mr Gys Hofmeyr said yesterday that the proposed by-law did not comply with the statute in certain respects, so it had been sent back.

The council had expressed its unhappiness with the "own by-law" legislation last year, when it first came up under the Residential Environment Bill (now scrapped)

"Councillors were conscious that there could be a plethora of different by-laws within the municipality which could lead to inconsistencies and difficulty in enforcement," he said

"Concern was also expressed that this legislation may be an attempt to entrench apartheid privilege under a different guise Integration should not lead to special legislation"

Non-racial local government forum

By KURT SWART

THE prospect of achieving non-racial local government for Cape Town before the end of the year is to be discussed by the broadly-based civic grouping, the Community Forum, and the city council's executive committee on Wednesday

The forum, which regards itself as representing the "citizens of Greater Cape Town", was formed late last year in response to growing community disenchantment with the city council's "unilateral decisions and lack of consultation and accountability" S/Times [CM]

Members of the forum's steering committee intend pushing for a nonracial interim local government before the end of the year and are confident that Wednesday's meeting will be a significant step in this direction 19/11/92

Councillor and Exco member Mr Neil Ross said the council considered Wednesday's discussions "important", but would not disclose what it envisaged for the meeting

"The process is open-ended, and we welcome any initiative leading to wider participation," Mr Ross said

The forum is an umbrella grouping representing 25 civic and community organisations, across racial divides, from the Cape Flats to Rondebosch and Sea Point

A member of its steering committee, Mr Bill Sewell, said the forum had two objectives to tackle issues like the lack of facilities, as seen against "questionable" council spending, and to establish a relationship that would lead to a democratic council by the end of the year (263)

"At his inauguration the Mayor, Mr Frank van der Velde, declared himself a caretaker mayor and his council a caretaker council," Mr Sewell said

"We believe that some sort of interim arrangement can be achieved this year

"Statements made by council and its Exco over the years indicate that they are in favour of this The council credo speaks of full participation for all The time is right to sit down in a constructive way and decide how to make this happen

"An Exco member told me privately that a time frame would be difficult to achieve, but we believe that within a couple of months an interim structure could be established"

The first step would be a debate on the coming council budget, said Mr Sewell

Asked if council foresaw a working relationship with the forum, Mr Ross said "The matter is open-ended The principle of accountability is one I agree with

Suburb makes laws

THE first steps have been taken in Cape Town towards a neighbourhood rule system in which 100 or more home-owners can make by-laws The 140-member Claremont-based Vineyard Civic Association (VCA) has already submitted its draft schedule of building by-laws to the city council

Sday 20/1/92

(263)

Refuse: Council says it's sorry

21/12/92 CT (263)

THE Cape Town City Council has apologised to the public for "not explaining its plans sufficiently well" when it introduced once-a-week refuse collection

It took out a half-page advertisement in the Cape Times yesterday headed "Not too big to say sorry"

In the text of the advert the council argued that once-a-week collections had been introduced to help avoid a rates increase of 25%

Community Forum to meet council

Staff Reporter

THE newly-formed Community Forum — which hopes to achieve a democratic non-racial local government for Cape Town before the end of the year — meets the executive committee of the city council today (263)

A forum spokesman said the talks would focus on the council's "non-accountability" to and "lack of consultation" with communities CT 22/11/92

Mayor Mr Frank van der Velde said the council was "fully committed to a non-racial local government and it welcomed the opportunity to debate the issue".

'Democratic local government possible in a year'

(263)

South 23/11 - 29/11/92

By Sabata Ngcai

A NONRACIAL, fully representative local government for Cape Town can be established within a year, the Cape Town City Council said this week.

This proposal was raised at a meeting between the Council's Executive Committee and the Community Forum on Wednesday.

The Forum, a grouping of broadly-based community organisations, declined to discuss the proposal "until the local government issue had been settled at national level and until the demands made in its memorandum to the Council had been met".

The Forum's memorandum dealt with the cut-back in the council's services, lack of services and amenities, consultation and negotiation with council employees and the council's lack of consultation and accountability.

The council said it believed in working with a community on a basis of mutual understanding of the other's problems it had undertaken "to seriously consider all points raised in the memorandum" and promised to report back as soon as possible.

Cape council lobbies for nonracial local govt

B'day 23/11/92 LINDA ENSOR (263)

CAPE TOWN — The Cape Town City Council hopes to have a nonracial democratic local government in place within a year.

Discussions yesterday between the council's executive committee and community organisations over fully representative local government again reached deadlock.

But mayor Frank van der Velde said the committee would proceed with its attempts to get a democratic local government body in place within a year.

The Community Forum which represents about 25 civic, community and trade union organisations including the ANC and Cosatu, yesterday refused to participate in discussions over local government until the issue had been resolved at national negotiations and until the city council had met its demands on the provision of services and amenities.

The forum complained about the cut-back in council services, the lack of services and amenities, the lack of consultation and negotiation with council employees and the council's lack of consultation and accountability.

But Van der Velde said while the council was attacked for a lack of accountability, its attempt to overcome this by establishing a non-racial local government was opposed.

He said the cutbacks would be reviewed at the end of the month.

'Democratic' council call

263 CT 23/11/92

By PETER DENNEHY

THE Cape Town City Council's executive committee proposed yesterday that it should work towards having "a fully representative, non-racial local government" for the city within a year

It made this suggestion during a meeting with the Community Forum, an umbrella organisation representing 25 civic and community groups based in neighbourhoods "across the spectrum", from Camps Bay to the Cape Flats

The forum had 15 delegates at yesterday's meeting and the council team comprised 35 people, including the mayor, deputy mayor, town clerk, heads of various departments and several visiting councillors

The council reported after the meeting that the forum had declined to discuss the executive committee's proposal "until the local government issue had been settled at the national level"

The forum also decided that demands it had made of the present council should be met first

Among these were that twice-a-week refuse removals be reinstated, grass verges cut regularly by the council, that library and swimming bath hours be extended again, that the council spend more on community facilities in poor areas, that the council be accountable to all the people of Cape Town, and that it consult its own employees regularly on matters affecting them

According to a council statement issued late yesterday, the executive committee undertook to consider all the points raised in the forum's memorandum and at the meeting

It would report back "as soon as possible", the executive committee said It believed in "working together with the community on the basis of mutual understanding of each other's problems"

Mr Saleem Mowser, a spokesman for the forum, said all the constituent bodies agreed that local government constitutional matters had to be addressed at national level

He said the executive committee had given no undertakings on any of the demands However, it had said it would take the forum demands back to the full council for discussion

Asked whether the forum was not a strange amalgamation of organisations, some of which used to belong to the Mass Democratic Movement and some of which were conservative, Mr Mowser said they "did not necessarily hold the same political views", but took up issues upon which they all agreed

Wienburg slates councillors

By ANDRE KOOPMAN

SOME city councillors were more concerned with travelling abroad, cocktail parties and buying back pensions than the interests of the city, councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg said last night

Mr Wienburg was speaking to residents who packed the Southfield civic hall to voice their displeasure with the council.

Residents formed a committee last night, which a member said had as its eventual aim the forming of a federation of committees to oust the council

In a strongly worded speech Mr Wienburg said some councillors had been on the council so long that they felt they were not accountable to their constituents and had become "arrogant"

"Some of them have not fought elections for years, even decades," he said

He said the council claimed that it was strapped for funds to collect refuse twice a week — yet found no difficulty in finding R1 million to buy back pensions.

Forum stalls talks on mixed council

ST Times (CM) 26/1/92 (263)

By KURT SWART

THE Community Forum has hit its first stumbling block with the city council's proposal that a non-racial local government be established within a year

The proposal was raised by the council's Executive Committee when the two met on Wednesday, but the forum declined to discuss it, saying it did not have a clear mandate on the question

Last week, a spokesman, Mr Bill Sewell of the Rondebosch Civic Association, said the forum would push to begin negotiations immediately with the council to establish a non-racial authority within a year

Agree

This week, however, interim convener Mr Saleem Mowzer denied that this was the Community Forum's official stance

Although many of its members held the view that a non-racial authority should be established as soon as possible, it was not shared by all affiliates, Mr Mowzer said

"In our draft memorandum, we initially thought we would address this question, but the main issues agreed on at our first meeting in November were cutbacks in services and amenities and the council's lack of accountability to the people of Cape Town

"We were given a specific mandate to address council on these issues"

The forum's 15-member delegation made little headway in its discussions with Exco on Wednesday

"The meeting began at 11am and ended inconclusively at 1 45pm," Mr Mowzer said

"At that stage council was not prepared to give an undertaking to reinstate services As we deadlocked around this the forum found it extremely difficult to proceed with the rest of the items on the agenda

"Council went to the extent of admitting that it was not representative of the people of Cape Town Its unwillingness on our demands indicates a lack of good faith"

Exco then proposed that the forum consider discussing with it interim measures for non-racial local government and the possibility of implementing one man, one vote elections within a year

The forum delegation asked for a 10-minute recess, after which it told the council it could not discuss the proposal as it did not have a mandate

The question would have to be addressed eventually, Mr Mowzer said

"At such a sensitive stage in the history of our country some delegates feel that we cannot take decisions on our own and that the question of a new democratic local authority is linked to the national negotiations.

"I'm not saying we will not take up the issue If the majority of affiliates are in favour of discussing it with the council, then this is what we will do"

The Community Forum is to meet on February 3

Demands

Confirming the proposal, council spokesman Mr Ted Doman said "The forum declined to discuss it until the local government issue had been settled at national level and until the demands made in its memorandum to the council had been met"

Exco had undertaken to consider the demands and would report back "as soon as possible"

One-time refuse run to continue

Municipal Reporter 263 MG 31/11

AN independent consultant is to be appointed to monitor a further three-month trial period of once-weekly refuse collection.

Meanwhile, the city council has approved buying more 240 litre containers, although a final decision on where these will be used has not been made

A "public relations exercise" about once-weekly collections is to start soon in a bid to avoid controversy and confusion.

A city council report said industrial action had made it difficult to assess the success or failure of the once-weekly system implemented in September .

A city health department report said further observation was needed before the frequency of removals was reduced in any other parts of the city, unless containerisation was to be used in these areas.

Rats and spillage were problems

Mr John Muir said bags were often put out on the wrong day because of confusion.

Deputy mayor Mr Clive Keegan said that while most other cities had once-weekly collection, the "inept way" it had been introduced in Cape Town had caused public anger.

Controversial council move to limit spending

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter

CIVIC purse-strings have been snapped shut by city councillors in a precedent-setting order to top management to limit this year's rates increase to between 15 and 16,5 percent

However, city councillors have warned the move is likely to mean service cuts — probably of the kind that sparked public ire last year

The controversial move provoked strong debate at yesterday's council meeting, with a motion by executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander to base spending on department needs being defeated by 15 votes to nine

Mr Friedlander's motion — based on an item moved off the confidential green agenda for public debate at the meeting — would have signalled a reversal of an idea mooted in November to revolutionise council budgeting

His motion would have meant basing spending on department needs to maintain current levels of service

At issue was whether or not to draw up a budget based on resources or demands — in other words, whether the council should limit itself to the money it has or decide what it wants and try to find it

Those who argued for a resource-based budget said it was time to call a halt to spiralling spending

Arguments for included

● Mr Arthur Wienburg "Setting a target of 15 to 16,5 percent offers the flexibility to balance priorities Otherwise you are giving a signal to staff to go on a spending spree"

● Mr Kenneth Penkin "We are faced with the choice of saying to staff 'tell us what you want' or 'we will tell you what Joe Public can afford'"

● Mr Peter Muller "Let us live within our means Everyone in this country lives beyond their means and we must not let that be an excuse to join them."

● Mr Joe Rabinowitz "There is an impression that there is unlimited money available, falling from some horn of plenty We can have only what we can pay for"

Opponents of the measure argued that using the purse-strings to choke departments would mean service cutbacks and declining standards

● Mr Leon Markovitz "Setting parameters like this is financial suicide"

● Mr Neil Ross "Mr Wienburg's rhetoric is highly misleading He has produced no evidence that resource-based budgeting is not inflationary"

● Mr Llewellyn van Wyk "It is not merely a matter of supply or demand but a matter of priorities At 15 percent to 16,5 percent, you may be matching inflation but there will be no capacity to match the growth of the city"

After Mr Friedlander's motion was defeated, the council adopted a motion by Mr Wienburg that the city council adopt a "resource-driven" budget, as recommended by the city treasurer, with a predetermined property rate increase limited to 15 to 16,5 percent

Purse strings shut

CITY

263 Aug 31/1/92

STAR 1/2/92

Cape council owed R11-m

263

MORE than R11 million in outstanding electricity accounts is owed to the Cape Town City Council. About 90 percent is owed by 85 250 domestic consumers No breakdown could be given of how long accounts had been outstanding because the municipality's computers could not cope with the task, the council said — Sapa

Plundering city council criticised

ARG 1/2/92 (263)

CAPE TOWN city bureaucrats appeared to regard local ratepayers as cash cows with bottomless resources that they could plunder at will to fund their generous management style, said property personality Theodore Yach

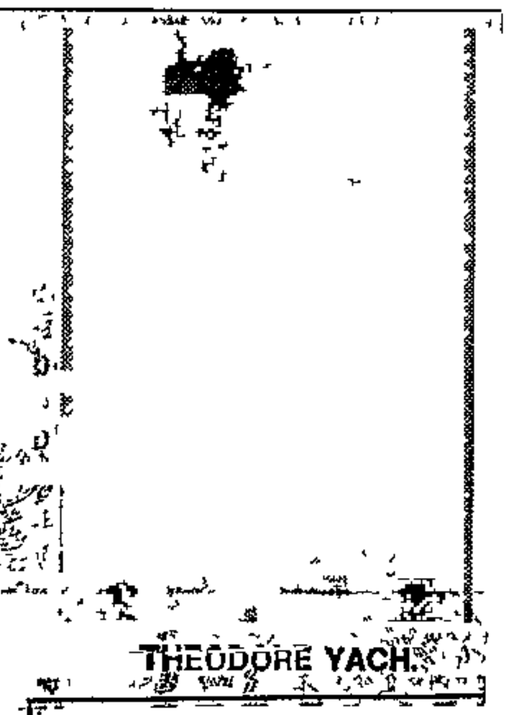
Mr Yach who is managing director of Seeff Commercial Properties was responding to the announcement that Cape Town's rates were to rise by 16,5 percent

"There is an alarming tendency in South Africa for both local and central government to cut the financial cloth to fit the suit instead of cutting the suit to fit the rate income cloth," he said

The fact that it appeared as though services were also to be reduced highlighted an urgent need for Cape Town's departmental heads to look inwards at their structures and administration before calling on the public to fund excesses

"John Citizen is paying more and more for less and less services, because it is easier to use a credit card and pay later than pay cash at the till," Mr Yach said

Supporting the call by councillor Arthur Weinberg for a "resource driven" budget, Mr Yach said that normal growth and redevelopment which increased rate income coupled with fair and equitable valuations should be enough to fund the City budget. "Increasing rates is just too easy," he added



THEODORE YACH.

PE council folds

THE Eastern Cape's largest black local authority, the Ibhayi City Council (ICC), has finally run out of money.

The Port Elizabeth Municipality indicated this week that should the ICC collapse, it would take over the bulk services to the townships — and ICC staff face retrenchment.

The accumulated debt was caused by rent and service charge boycotts.

The municipality is demanding more than the R15-million owed by the ICC for arrears in service charges. Last week it obtained a court order and seized more than R3-million from the ICC's bank account.

And on Wednesday two construction companies filed applications with the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court for the liquidation of the ICC — which surprisingly went unopposed.

ICC officials also face fraud charges.

— Pen

City council caught in debt 'crisis'

CT 7/2/92

By ANDRÉ KOOPMAN (263)

THE Cape Town City Council is in the grip of a debt "crisis" that appears to be spiralling out of control

The council is owed R20 million in electricity arrears with a further R4 million believed to be outstanding in rents

It is highly unlikely the debt will be written off, deputy city treasurer Mr Ronnie Grace said last night, but in a worst-case scenario other electricity consumers would have to pay the arrears

He said people could not pay their accounts because they could not find jobs

About R10,8 million was owed in electricity arrears by people living in Langa and Guguletu Another 85 000 consumers owed the other R10 million

He said staff members had been sent to meet people on a "one-to-one" basis to try and recover the debt Several meetings with residents' and tenants' associations had also been held

Two black towns in Eastern Cape are heavily in the red

263

ARG 7/2/92

The Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH — Black local authorities in two Eastern Cape cities are in deep financial trouble

Ibhayi Town Council in Port Elizabeth is bankrupt and unable to pay its workers and bulk water and electricity supplies to Rini Town Council have been cut by the Grahamstown City Council.

Two companies applied for the liquidation of the Ibhayi council in the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court yesterday They claimed Ibayi owed them R1,2 million

Two weeks ago, the Port Elizabeth City Council seized Ibayi's assets and bank balances to offset a R15 million debt

Last Friday, Ibhayi was unable to pay its workers and the Cape Provincial Council had to pick up the tab

Port Elizabeth town clerk Mr Paul Botha said unless drastic measures were taken in the next two weeks, Ibhayi would cease to function

It no longer had any income, fixed assets or capital.

He said the Port Elizabeth municipality would provide essential services to Ibhayi residents if asked to do so by the administrator, but it could not shoulder the town council's financial burden and the province would have to offer bridging finance

Mr Botha said the municipality would not consider cutting off supplies to the area

Local government MEC Mr Pieter Schoeman said the province was concerned about Ibhayi's financial position and a full investigation was underway.

Residents of Grahamstown's black townships stayed away from work and school yesterday to protest against water and electricity being cut.

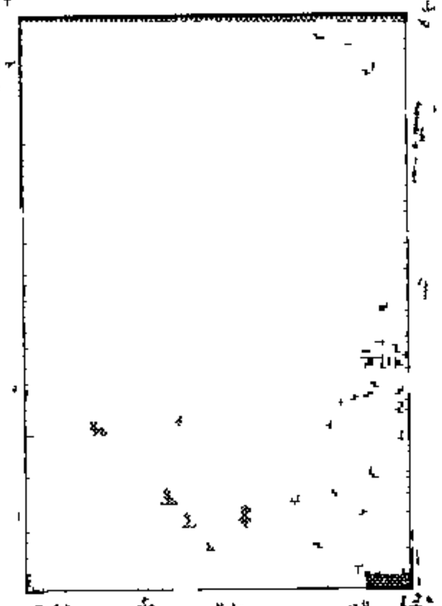
Grahamstown City Council turned off the bulk supplies when the Rini Town Council failed to meet a final deadline for the payment of R334 760 in arrears

Yesterday, residents and pupils marched to the offices of the Rini Town Council in the Joza township to stage a sit-in decided at a mass meeting

Grahamstown Civic Association (Graca) media end publicity officer Lizo Zakhe said when the deputation arrived at the offices they found a heavy presence of police and reconsidered their decision

Chris can build despite council

(263)



Alterations approved . . Professor Barnard

CAPE TOWN — Professor Chris Barnard has become the second celebrity to have building plans approved after they had been turned down by Cape councils

In December 1990 Professor Barnard's application to change the existing building on his Coast Road, Tableview, property to three unit complexes was rejected by Milnerton municipality

Koos Albertyn, Ministerial representative for local goverment, housing and works in the Western Cape, has, however, overruled the decision

Milnerton municipality spokesman Arno Vorster said the council had voiced its displeasure at being overruled.

At the end of last year opera singer Mimi Coertse's plans for her Bloubergstrand holiday home were rejected by the local council because neighbours said it obscured their sea view. This decision was also overruled — Sapa

STAR 7/2/92

Belhar renters dumped in street

ARCT 8/2/92
(263)

Tygerberg Bureau

MORE than 20 people were evicted from their homes in Belhar after the Regional Services Council allegedly broke an agreement made with the Belhar Advice Office.

Scores of children sat on heaps of furniture piled outside Chestnut Place, Belhar, waiting for their parents to return from work

Four families were evicted on Thursday and, according to the advice office, 14 more families are to be evicted.

A meeting was held in August between the RSC and the advice office to discuss arrears in rent and the eviction of residents last year, said an advice office spokesman

"It was agreed evictions would be suspended. Residents would pay rent and a portion of arrears each month, depending on their circumstances," said Miss Wedaad Isaacs of the advice office.

"The people who do the evicting have no regard for the residents' property. Locks on the doors are broken to get in and then the furniture is put outside their doors The locks are changed so they can't get back in," claimed Miss Isaacs.

One of the families returned home on Thursday night to find the remains of their belongings strewn outside their flat

However, the chief executive officer of the Western Cape RSC, Mr C Mocke, said in a statement that the Belhar Civic Association and the RSC had agreed that action would not be taken against defaulting tenants — if mutually acceptable arrangements were made by the tenants to repay rental arrears

Evictions continue in spite of agreement with RSC

"The council did not break any agreements, as tenants who had come forward to make arrangements had not been evicted," said Mr Mocke.

"Families in Chestnut Place had been evicted for either being in illegal occupation or for rental arrears."

A RSC social worker was appointed to assess residents' incomes and expenditures and reasons for their arrears.

(12)

However, one Belhar resident, whose family includes three sickly children, all under the age of 10, said her family had kept its part of the agreement with RSC.

Mrs Fagmida Khan said "My husband is a builder who earns R190 a week when he gets work. We were told that we owed the council R1 500 We've paid R60 every week since the agreement was made, but now we've been thrown out"

Miss Isaacs said the fate of the families was unsure. Many parents were working and could not be reached to be informed of the evictions.

Council in bid to end debt crisis

(263) CT 8/2/92

Staff Reporter

THE city council was "desperately seeking" solutions to the electricity debt crisis, Exco chairman Mr Dick Friedlander said yesterday.

He said it would be "terrible" to cut off electricity to consumers who owe about R20 million in arrears

The council disclosed earlier this week that people living in Langa and Guguletu owed R10,8m in arrears, and a further 85 000 consumers owed R10m

Mr Friedlander said the electricity department was separate from the general city services and the debt crisis would not infringe on other accounts such as rates

The council was meeting the Ikapa Town Council, the Regional Services Council and other administrations to find solutions It has been suggested that electricity pay meters be installed in homes, he said

Installing pay meters would be expensive but in the long term this system would benefit the city, he said

City councillor Mr Chris Joubert said the city was in a debt crisis because the council was not handling the administration of electricity well

He said it was "absolutely unsatisfactory" that people who paid their bills and were battling financially, had to bear the burden for those who did not pay

Council "must get tough" and install electricity meters, said Mr Joubert

City councillor Mrs Joye Gibbs said the council had done nothing towards creating a negotiating forum which would turn Cape Town into one city

She said the problems in the township needed to be addressed as there were rumours that the non-payment of electricity could be a political action

"We can't sit around We have a problem and we have to listen to the people's problems, which may be that the electricity rates are too high, unemployment or an attitude problem," said Mrs Gibbs

● The Stellenbosch Regional Services Council has reported that more than 2 000 families in Blackheath, Blue Downs and Eerste River owe more than R16m in outstanding electricity, rent and water accounts

Kimberley breaks new ground

STAR 10/2/92 (263)

Kimberley's civic leaders have decided to seek a new future for their town as they form SA's first nonracial municipality

By PETER WELLMAN

THE WIDE, flat veld around Kimberley is so tough that the historic footsteps of yesterday's diamond digging heroes simply bounced off it

So there was not much to go on when the city's civic leaders started seeking their path to the future together

Kimberley sits on a skewed axis from Johannesburg in the north east to Cape Town in the south-west Its links with the rest of the country lie mostly in an eastern semi-circle, shaped rather like the protractor in a school maths set, although there are places like Upington situated behind it

Wrestling with creating one city, and one tax base, for Kimberley's whites, Galeshewe's dormitory-city blacks, and the coloured and Indian areas, the civic leaders may find that their pathway outwards, to the future, will bring others in to see how South Africa's first non racial municipality is created

Former mayor Ronnie Bauser, a retired De Beers divisional manager, is central to this process As deputy mayor, he convened the September 26 meeting last year between the segregated civic structures and business leaders that set up four integrated working groups and gave real impetus to the unification process

A unified but interim council is planned next month to structure nonracial municipal elections in September next year, and most of the haggling will centre on this

There are too many councillors (41 for the four racial structures at present) The other main issue is some sort of power sharing versus a straight one person, one vote election which critics say would see Galeshewe's 100 000 blacks calling the shots There are 36 000 whites and 52 000 coloureds and Indians

The September meeting was tagged a mini-Codesa, but it differed from its big brother in that political parties were not invited

Leaders of the various communities feel this will avoid delegates falling back on declared party positions, leaving them free to get on with a task that has created an edge normally missing from multiracial discussions at civic level

Mr Bauser, a big man with an air of softness about him that is belied by his directness says his council started the one city process quite simply because the national trend is in that direction and Kimberley does not want to be left behind

That sentiment is to be expected from a council split 9-2 for the National Party against the Conservatives, with one independent (although campaigning is not done on formal party tickets)

But there is not much danger of being left behind — Kimberley is making the running

The foresight of the council has been praised by its opponents on the Left. the Kimberley Civics Association, based mainly on the Galeshewe civic, and the region's ANC leader, Ruth Mompati

Civics spokesman Solly Legodi, articulate and precise, has no lights and an outside toilet, so he has a vested interest in the merger producing an upgraded Galeshewe

But he is also concerned about white fears of the merger He mentions last year's successful rents and services boycott in Galeshewe, to show his organisation's strength but seems anxious to avoid being seen by whites as a threat

One person he wants to reassure in particular is the city's maverick white ratepayers' association chairman, Billy Cavanagh, who is stirring things up with claims that Kimberley faces a 40 percent rates rise even without the merger

He also claims that white ratepayers are going to have to pay the costs of Galeshewe's boycott and bail out its bankruptcy, and that Eskom is leaving town

The Kimberley council says bluntly that this is rubbish Galeshewe's boycott debt which may be as high as R5 million, will have to be paid by township residents, the city council is in the black, and Eskom is staying

This sort of sniping is a bit messy, but is probably to be expected where new ground is being broken

Outside the chamber offices nothing much seems new, but Rosetta's escort agency is breaking new ground, too 'We are the only one in town boasted the receptionist while two tall women sat lazily in armchairs The neighbours entertainment consists of sitting on the stoep to see who the customers are

Kimberley's negotiators know where they want to go, the problem is how to get there But they are determined that this time, the footprints on the veld will sink in and stay there for future generations to follow □

On the move Kimberley is pioneering the one-city concept, with its bid to merge with neighbouring Galeshewe

151 council workers 'missing'

PORT ELIZABETH — The audit report on the financially ailing Ibhayi city council contained startling revelations of large amounts of money missing, and 151 "missing" employees whose names were included in the computer print-out of employees

Commenting on four council accounts, the auditors said they were unable to obtain the bank statements for the accounts from the council and had to obtain copies from the banks themselves

CT 10/2/92

Not reconciled

"We are still missing the name of the institution and whereabouts of a bank statement for an investment of R3 million, which was apparently made during the year These funds were eventually redeposited into the council's bank account"

Commenting on the Salary Control Account for the financial year ended June 30, 1990, the auditors said this account was not reconciled throught the year A difference of R380 000 remained unexplained

The total salary expense was found to be R376 090 more than the summary the auditors had prepared

The auditors had found unmatched copies of receipts amounting to R659 000 for monies paid to Ibhayi by the SA Police (263) (263)

Region well suited to take off

263

South 13/2-19/2/92

GROWTH in the Western Cape economy during the next decade will depend on factors which could have a positive or negative impact.

The population in the greater Western Cape (up to Namaqualand, Beaufort West and George) is approaching four million, significant enough for the development of local industries. But expansion of them will be dependent on national and international markets.

The absence of base minerals has prevented the establishment of heavy industry and encouraged manufacturing of "high value-low weight" goods

The lack of other minerals and basic energy resources prevented the formation of capital intensive mining and electricity generating projects (except for Koeberg), thereby further strengthening the search for high value-added manufacturing as well as the growth of non-manufacturing sectors.

As in industry, agriculture has not been dominated by one product, but geographic, climatic and historical factors allowed the growth of a range of production subsectors, suitable for local as well as export markets

Historical factors and political forces have made the Western Cape an important centre for government and semi-state activities, even though the capital is located in the PWV area

The population structure and a relatively well-developed secondary and tertiary educational infrastructure have brought about a relatively well-educated and skilled labour force.

In the absence of large enterprises, heavy industry and a large mining sector, small business has had more scope to unfold and the region has been far more dependant on this to generate employment and wealth.

The region has not suffered from the worldwide decline in traditional growth sectors like mining, base metals, iron and steel, electricity generation and staple food export production.

Newer growth forces — high technology, upmarket clothing, tourism, education, printing and publishing, light industrial consumer goods, processed agriculture, financial and professional services and the informal sector — are established here

Girl from Ipanema or the Cape Flats?

South 13/2 - 19/2/92

263

COULD Cape Town become a South African Rio de Janeiro? Economic experts believe the city could improve its economic growth if it models itself on the South American metropolis

Economic growth in the Western Cape slowed down during the sixties and seventies — its share in the national product and income gradually slipped from 12 percent to below 10 percent.

"This occurred at a time when certain, mostly artificial, stimuli — like decentralisation benefits and large state-financed projects — accelerated growth in other areas, while disincentives, like the coloured labour preference policy and the lack of heavy industry, dampened growth in the Western Cape," the Growing the Cape report said.

"Difficulties in entering export markets and the lack of systematic support or encouragement of small enterprises further dampened economic growth and structural transformation

"However, since the mid-eighties nationwide forces for change have attained the upper hand as far as activating this region's growth potential is concerned," said the report

The region's greatest strength now is a rapidly expanding population and purchasing power, the balanced nature of the economy and its wide resource base, export potential, tourism potential and the region's capacity to improve labour and managerial skills.

"Viewed in international perspective, it would seem inappropriate to compare the Western Cape with the famous 'success cases' of island or seabed enclave economies like Singapore, Hong Kong or Taiwan, where the regions coincide with the country and historic as well as socio-political factors have resulted in unique development paths," the report read

"More appropriate would seem to be the Californian coast, Rio de Janeiro, Vancouver and possibly some of the north African and central American port-towns.

"In each case, local entrepreneurs were forced to focus very strongly on exports, tourism, tertiary education and training, a sophisticated services sector, the pensioners' market and, the public sector, without any particular sector playing an all-out dominating role." In this context, parallels can be drawn between Cape Town and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil's six-million coastal metropolis and former capital city, the report argues

Rio's relative significance in Brazil's economy has also declined, due to a shift of government departments to Brasilia, the concentration of industrial growth in Sao Paulo, a decentralisation of financial institutions and the declining significance of its large harbour — a worldwide phenomenon.

At the same time, tourism has developed as one of the key sectors in the metropolitan economy, the informal sector is booming, low-income squatting has led to the development of vast new housing estates far out of town, the urban physical infrastructure is under severe strain and social problems like crime, child neglect, drug abuse and gang warfare are widespread and possibly still increasing

The urban economic structure also reveals a very strong tertiary sector, a relatively small primary sector (fishing and agriculture) and certain leading industries in the secondary sector (like clothing, leatherwork, high technology, machinery, publishing and printing, as well as food and beverages)

"While many Capetonians may hesitate to make such a comparison, hoping that the Western Cape will perform better than Rio in terms of employment, economic growth and quality of life for its inhabitants, it nevertheless seems important to understand similarities in underlying structures and strains," the report said.

"As far as the rapid influx of rural Africans — a direct parallel to Rio's rural-urban migrants of the sixties — is concerned, the absence of nearby homeland areas has a significant effect on the pattern of local economic growth, making it more closely comparable to the Rio situation.

"Thus, bearing in mind these comparative perspectives, we have to explore how the Western Cape can equip itself to face the challenges which will arise in the next decade. From an economic perspective these challenges relate to the rate of regional economic growth, job creation, income and wealth generation and the funding of public sector functions," the report said.

)STS

th plunge

Introducing VAT on total contract costs has had a neutral effect on building costs because VAT is recoverable by a vendor

Rode estimates non-residential building costs grew 7% between the fourth quarters of 1990 and 1991 If VAT had not replaced GST, the growth would have been about 13%. Growth in 1992 is forecast at between 9% and 13%

In contrast, home building costs are expected to rise by 16% this year, after an estimated 11% increase in 1991. The reason is primarily the anticipated 2% drop in mortgage bond rates, which will enable contractors to expand margins as more people can afford to build homes ■

CAPE TOWN

Search for a haven

The perception of Cape Town as a haven, in an increasingly crime-ridden and politically unstable SA, is sustaining investment in commercial and residential property in the city despite the recession.

So says city council development co-ordinator Philip Theron He adds. "Major developments worth R704m were under construction at the end of last year compared to R591m for the corresponding period in 1990 Buildings valued at R440m were completed during 1991 "

He says the medium-term outlook is also good "Some very big developments are being discussed by council and it's encouraging that a number of them are in the CBD, which has lagged in new development " Details of the developments are still confidential

Theron attributes the interest in commercial property investment to a reassessment of Cape Town's potential to accommodate corporate headquarters. The high quality of life and relative security compared to some other metropolitan areas is attracting not only an increasing number of businesses, but individuals as well — as reflected in the stability of the medium- and upper-priced residential markets

Theron says since March 1986, 191 major commercial, industrial and residential projects valued at just over R2bn have been completed in Cape Town Major developments under construction include:

☐ The UCT business school complex at the V&A waterfront (R40m),

☐ Murray & Roberts' Pier Place office development on the foreshore (R35m),

☐ Equikor's Belmont office village in Rondebosch (R52m);

☐ The V&A company's Victoria Wharf speciality marketplace at the waterfront (R105m);

☐ Metropolitan Life's new head office on the foreshore (R75m), and

☐ Old Mutual's Sea Street office development in the city (R100m)

What Theron does not say is that the oversupply of office space in Cape Town CBD is increasing, particularly in A- and B-grade accommodation

According to the *New Office Developments* report (of Real Estate Surveys) released last week, the Cape Peninsula had 21 new office projects under way by the fourth quarter of 1991, totalling 77 729 m² of rentable space due to be completed by the end of 1992 Of this, no fewer than 33 169 m² were unlet in December 1991 For 1993, a total of 63 500 m² of new accommodation is planned to be completed.

Compared to Durban CBD, and Rosebank in Johannesburg and Sandton, Real Estate Surveys research director Erwin Rode says Cape Town CBD's take-up performance during 1991, though improving, has been poor

On the industrial side, where prime rentals are showing a slight downward tendency nationally, the Peninsula has bucked the trend. Rentals for unit sizes of 1 000 m² and more have shown an increase in 1991, with vacancy levels also marginally lower However, rentals for 500 m² units in this area did follow the national trend and were somewhat down from last quarter's levels

Rode concludes that the western Cape economy now has to deliver the goods — and this is not expected to happen overnight ■

OLD DURBAN STATION

Green light

Work has started on transforming one of Durban CBD's eyesores — the old Durban Station — into a R24m luxury office block

The Victorian building at the junction of Pine Street and Soldiers Way has stood derelict since the new station was built near Greyville Various plans for renovation, incorporating an office and shopping complex, have been mooted but come to naught

Peggy Daley, regional manager for developer Ampros, says erection of the hoardings has begun so that the facade can be secured during demolition of much of the interior. Some of the period woodwork, particularly an old staircase, is being restored

Daley adds 'The plan now is for about 5 000 m² of offices in a stand-alone structure We believe the building, in a prime location, will be ideal for a corporate head-

Mystery of missing 151

AUDITORS investigating corruption in the Ibhayi City Council are seeking an explanation for 151 missing employees. 263

The auditors, Wessel, Greeff and Strydom, said in a report that while reconciling the salary control account, the names of employees included in a computer list could not be traced to their personal files. Apres 16/2/92

"At this stage no explanation has been received from Ibhayi regarding these missing employees."

The auditors also say a discrepancy of R380 000 "remains unexplained".

The embattled council faces liquidation as two construction companies have filed applications in the Supreme Court claiming the council owes them over R1-million.

The court applications were made just days after the Port Elizabeth City Council seized over R3-million in cash and movable assets.

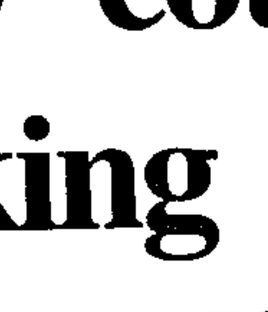
The council is now virtually defunct and unable to provide even elementary services

Broken vehicles with flat tyres litter the council yard.

Refuse has not been removed from the sprawling township for two weeks, sparking fears of a health problem. — Pen

City council is lacking sense of impending crisis

CT 18/2/92 (263)



Pattern of Politics

By HERMANN GILIOMEE

WHEN Johannesburg and Soweto decided to establish the Metropolitan Chamber in April last year it was said that they had peered into the abyss before doing so By contrast, Cape Town and the Cape Flats are gazing at the mountain and are getting precious little done

It was the very real prospect that administrative collapse, political conflagration and even epidemics might follow the termination of municipal services that forced not only Johannesburg and Soweto but several other towns and townships to embark on local negotiations to find solutions to urgent problems

Since its establishment, the Metropolitan Chamber of Johannesburg has made impressive strides in negotiating an end to the rent and services boycotts and an improvement in the quality of the services Any settlement still has to win grassroots approval to stick but several cities are coping with pressing challenges in a pragmatic and innovative way

Bad debt

In Cape Town there is also a crisis but a quite different response deputy Mayor Clive Keegan summmed it up succinctly "There is no sense of urgency despite all the huge potential for political conflict Cape Town may be heading towards a major crisis but this is not impacting on the public mind"

A bad debt of about R20 m is merely one of the manifestations of the crisis Several million rands in rent arrears is owed by tenants of council houses on the Cape Flats The two relatively small African townships of Langa and Guguletu owe the city more than R10 m in electricity arrears Two-thirds of the consumers in these townships make no effort to pay, justifying in the words of a report of the City Treasurer "a more aggressive approach to disconnections"

There is as yet little sign of such an approach Senior city councillors have in public expressed great reluctance to embark on disconnections Some call this compassion, others a lack of political will which will surely exacerbate the crisis By contrast, Stellenbosch Regional Services Council has just reached an agreement with the Western Cape ANC to cut the electricity of about 800 non-paying households in the Blue Downs area, lying between Cape Town and Stellenbosch

Bridging finance

There are several reasons for the lack of a sense of impending crisis in Cape Town In other provinces the drying up of bridging finance from provincial authorities has forced municipalities to cut electricity supplies In Cape Town there has been no similar process

White ratepayers here have not benefited from bridging finance to help resolve the financial crisis of the townships for which the city is responsible In Cape Town, more than in other cities, the willing ratepayers have subsidised those who don't pay for rent or electricity

LAWRENCE SCHLEMMER· There are two approaches to urban transition in South Africa

CLIVE KEEGAN Huge potential for political conflict in Cape Town but no sense of urgency

Since there is no prospect of whites-only municipal elections taking place again, the city council does not have the wrath of the willing ratepayers to spur it into action before the next election

But there is another, perhaps more profound, reason for Cape Town's inability to address boycotts and embark on an interim restructuring of local government As Lawrence Schlemmer argues in his contribution to the important new study *Apartheid City in Transition* (Oxford University Press) there are two approaches to urban transition in South Africa over the short to medium term One is the liberation approach which entails the urgent and immediate elimination of all the structures put in place by the current government

Valiant resistance

The other is the *realpolitik* view which holds that a successful transition requires "a trade-off between existing patterns and the demands for their elimination", between "transformation and continuity" This implies that it does not make sense to alienate those structures and constituencies with the experience and resources to make our future cities work.

Cape Town City Council falls exactly between the two stools Its long and often valiant resistance to apartheid structures, such as the introduction of group areas and coloured management committees, compels it to reject the mechanisms provided by the Interim Local Government Act of 1991

This makes possible the convening of a body of all major parties, both inside and outside the "system", for negotiations on an interim restructuring of local government Such negotiations will almost certainly produce settlements in which largely white wards and municipalities become components in a future metropolitan federation

White interests

Some Cape Town councillors still entertain the idea that the city council could become the vehicle for the non-racial liberation of the Cape Town metropolitan area They have in mind integrated electoral di-

tions on an interim restructuring of local government Such negotiations will almost certainly produce settlements in which largely white wards and municipalities become components in a future metropolitan federation

White interests

Some Cape Town councillors still entertain the idea that the city council could become the vehicle for the non-racial liberation of the Cape Town metropolitan area They have in mind integrated electoral divisions — for instance joining Pinelands and Langa in a single ward

To overcome the expected tough resistance from its white constituences and white interests, liberal whites in Cape Town would need as a partner a strong and well-organised ANC in the Western Cape — which is exactly what the ANC is not in the region

Alternatively, it would need Codesa or a future ANC government to impose a rigid non-racial framework for local government across the country

But that is not the way the country is going Every day it is becoming clearer that a spirit of *realpolitik* is pervading Codesa The NP and the ANC desperately need each other — and a settlement — and are acting purposefully to achieve it This means South Africa will not be getting "liberation" — at least not in the immediate or medium-term future Instead, political progress will be incremental and messy, building at least partially on existing structures and divisions.

Little progress

At local levels, this will mean cities having to sit down in mini-Codesas and painfully face up to the task of negotiating settlements which address the rights and duties of all their citizens The new politics also requires a substantial amount of political will, one that is both responsive to those pressing their rights and tough on those shirking their duties

In a chapter in *Apartheid City in Transition* on the one-city initiatives, Doreen Atkinson comments on Cape Town that it is "extraordinary that the most progressive city council has made so little progress in attracting the interest of opposition movements to negotiate about the urban order"

There is an explanation for this puzzle Cape Town City Council was once ahead of the other cities because it represents some of the good qualities of the Cape the liberal respect for the individual, compassion for the oppressed and political moderation It is now falling behind because of some of the less attractive Cape qualities' smugness, self-righteousness, and the sly habit of passing *slapgatgeit* off as a virtue

Cape Town may have to peer into the abyss as well before it catches up with the world passing it by

□ *Herman Giliomee teaches politics at UCT*

Cape Town ignores abyss and gazes at Mountain

STAR (263) 18/2/92

The Pattern of Politics
HERMANN GILIOMEE

WHEN Johannesburg and Soweto decided to establish the Metropolitan Chamber in April last year it was said that they had peered into the abyss before doing so By contrast, Cape Town and the Cape Flats are gazing at the Mountain and getting little done -

It was the prospect that administrative collapse, political conflagration and even epidemics might follow the termination of municipal services that forced not only Johannesburg and Soweto but several other towns and townships to embark on local negotiations to find solutions to urgent problems

In Cape Town there is also a crisis but a different response Deputy Mayor Clive Keegan sums it up "There is no sense of urgency despite all the huge potential for political conflict Cape Town may be heading towards a major crisis but this is not impacting on the public mind"

A bad debt of about R20 million is merely one of the manifestations of the crisis Several million rand in rent arrears are owed by tenants of council houses on the Cape Flats

The two relatively small African townships of Langa and Guguletu owe the city R10 million in electricity arrears Two-thirds of the consumers in these townships make no effort to pay, bringing, in the words of a report of the City Treasurer, "a more aggressive approach to disconnections"

There is as yet little sign of such an approach Senior city councillors have in public expressed great reluctance to embark on disconnections By contrast, the Stellenbosch Regional Services Council has just reached an agreement with the Western Cape ANC to cut the electricity of about 800 non-paying households in the Blue Downs area

There are several reasons for the lack of a sense of impending crisis in Cape Town In other provinces the drying up of bridging finance from provincial authorities has forced municipalities to cut electricity supplies In Cape Town there has been no similar process

White ratepayers here have not benefited from bridging finance to help resolve the financial crisis of the townships for which the city is responsible In Cape Town, more than in other cities, the ratepayers have subsidised those who don't pay rent or electricity

Since there is no prospect of whites-only municipal elections taking place again the City Council does not have the wrath of the willing ratepayers to spur it into action before a next election

But there is another, perhaps more profound reason for Cape Town's inability to address boycotts and embark on an interim restructuring of local government As Lawrence Schlemmer argues in his contribution to the study, "Apartheid City in Transition" (Oxford University Press), there are two approaches to urban transition in South Africa over the short to medium term One is the liberation approach which entails immediate elimination of all the structures put in place by the current Government

The other is the realpolitik view which holds that a successful transition requires "a trade-off between existing patterns and the demands for their elimination", between "transformation and continuity"

This implies that it does not make sense to alienate those structures and constituencies with the experience and resources to make our future cities work

The Cape Town City Council falls between the two stools Its resistance to apartheid structures compels it to reject the mechanisms provided by the Interim Local Government Act of 1991 This makes possible the convening of a body of all major parties, inside and outside the "system", for negotiations on an interim restructuring of local government

Some of the Cape Town councillors still entertain the idea that the City Council could become the vehicle for the non-racial liberation of the Cape Town metropolitan area They have in mind integrated electoral divisions — for instance joining Pinelands and Langa in a single ward

To overcome the expected tough resistance from its white constituencies, liberal whites in Cape Town would need as a partner a strong and well-organised ANC in the Western Cape — which is exactly what the ANC is not in the region

Alternatively it would need Codesa or a future ANC government to impose a rigid non-racial framework for local government across the country

But every day it is becoming clearer that a spirit of realpolitik is pervading Codesa The NP and the ANC desperately need each other — and a settlement — and are acting to achieve it This means that South Africa will not be getting "liberation" — at least not in the immediate or medium-term future

On local level this will mean cities having to sit down in mini-Codesas and face up to the task of negotiating settlements which address the rights and duties of all their citizens

The new politics also requires a substantial amount of political will, one that is both responsive to those pressing their rights and tough on those shirking their duties

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Cape Town may have to look into the abyss as well before it catches up with the world passing it by □

● **Herman Giliomee teaches politics at the University of Cape Town**

my latest announcement I have not yet given attention to this aspect

†Mr J H HOON But why did you not say that on *Agenda* last night? [Interjections]

†The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE Order!

Mr R M BURROWS Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister's reply, do I understand that he exercised a discretion to open a school as a model B school when they did not reach that total, is now exercising a discretion to convert the model B school to a model C school without a vote, and may he exercise a discretion in the Act to take the model C school back into the State's fold? Do I understand that correctly? [Interjections]

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, that hon member is always very bright, but this time he is unfortunately mistaken [Interjections]

Pupils assessed on sliding scale

*3 Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education and Culture †

(1) Whether his Department is conducting or has conducted an investigation to determine how pupils can be assessed on a sliding scale, based on the average annual income of parents at a particular school, with regard to the operating expenditure, excluding staff expenditure, of the school concerned, if so,

(2) whether he has taken any decisions in this regard, if so, (a) what do these decisions comprise and (b) how will they affect parents financially,

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B60E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(1) The Department is investigating different methods of funding, taking into account the needs of each parent, school and/or community on a continuous basis The possibility which is referred to in the question is also being investigated,

(2) no,
(a) and (b) fall away,

(3) no

Mr R M BURROWS Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister's reply and in the light of his statement on Monday, in which he indicated that funds would be made available in the case of needy children whose parents could not meet the compulsory school fees, and the indication from the hon the Minister in interviews that means testing would be utilised, will the means test be a common one, nationally, or will it be adjudged in the light of either the community or the school's particular fee structure? What will the hon the Minister be looking at?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I believe I will have to opt for a means test on a national basis, but then there should be enough flexibility so that particular circumstances prevailing in a particular community can also be taken into consideration

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament

Disestablishment of teaching posts in 1992

*4 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture

(1) Whether he or his Department has made any calculations regarding the number of teaching posts that will have to be disestablished in 1992, if not, why not, if so, what is this number,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B65E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(1) The matter is receiving continuous attention The hon member is kindly referred to the joint statement which was released by me and the hon Minister of National Education on 17 February 1992,

(2) a statement has already been released

Bloubergstrand/Paarl: decisions of Ministerial Representative

*5 Mr J H MOMBERG asked the Minister of Local Government †

(1) Whether he has taken cognisance of recent decisions of the Ministerial Representative (Western Cape) in respect of local authority decisions on land and

buildings in Bloubergstrand and Paarl, if so,

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B100E

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

(1) Yes

(2) Yes

The consideration of appeals in terms of section 44 of Ordinance 15 of 1985 and subsequent regulations, have been assigned to the Minister of Local Government House of Assembly, who in turn assigned that power to the Ministerial Representative

The decision of the Ministerial Representative is final until such time as this decision is reviewed by the Supreme Court

The Ministerial Representative is requested to supply reasons if it is deemed to be in the public interest

An investigation into new legislation is presently being undertaken in connection with township development and spacial management It appears from the principles which have already been released to be addressed is that the decision must be public and that reasons for decisions be made known It then appears that the legislation should include measures regarding the handling of disputes

It is accepted that disputes are inherent to the processes of considering matters on special management and the legislation should therefore contain measures that will assure that disputes are resolved in an independent, just and reasonable manner The acceptable principle of an independent hearing must certainly apply in this regard

New questions

Cape School Board area: adoption of models

*1 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Culture

Whether all schools in the Cape School Board area have adopted one of the new models A, B, C or D, if so, when did the last school adopt one of these models, if not, (a) which schools have not done so and (b) which of those schools have not held a ballot amongst their parents?

B128E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

No,

(a) Harfield Road Pre-primary School, Claremont
Molteno Road Pre-primary School, Claremont
Red Cross Hospital Pre-primary School, Rondebosch
Mary Kihn Primary School, Observatory
Robben Island Primary School, Robben Island
Simon van der Stel Primary School, Wynberg
Tenterden Primary School, Wynberg
Laerskool Zwaanswyk, Retreat
De Grendel Special School, Milnerton

(b) Harfield Road Pre-primary School, Claremont
Molteno Road Pre-primary School, Claremont
Red Cross Hospital Pre-primary School, Rondebosch
Mary Kihn Primary School, Observatory
Robben Island Primary School, Robben Island
Simon van der Stel Primary School, Wynberg
Tenterden Primary School, Wynberg
De Grendel Special School, Milnerton

The other schools have obtained permission to implement model B

Parow School Board area. adoption of models

*2 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Culture

Whether all schools in the Parow School Board area have adopted one of the new models A, B, C or D, if so, when did the last school adopt one of these models, if not, (a) which schools have not done so and (b) which of those schools have not held a ballot amongst their parents?

B129E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

No,

cont --

Councillors' cars seized

263

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH — Six Ibhayi city councillors' cars, including that of mayor Mr Mhlobo Jemsana, have been seized by the Port Elizabeth municipality.

Late last month the municipality confiscated R3,17 million from Ibhayi's bank accounts, following a Supreme Court order in December that Ibhayi pay R12m it owes the municipality for services such as electricity and water.

ST 20/2/92

253

Montagu rage as State overrules business ban

ARG 24/2/92

JOHN YELD, Environment Reporter

MONTAGU town councillors are furious about being overruled by a government official who upheld an appeal against the ban on further businesses in historic Long Street.

The controversial decision by Mr Koos Albertyn, ministerial representative (Western Cape) in the Department of Local Government, Housing and Works, to grant a business licence for a listed national monument, is one of several recently in which he has overruled local authorities.

These include approving changes to the Table View home of Professor Chris Barnard and extensions to the Bloubergstrand home of former opera diva Mimi Coertse, and allowing a sub-division of a property on the slopes of Paarl mountain.

Montagu town councillor Mr Louis Kachelhoffer said Montagu's Long Street was thought to be one of the three most important historic streets in South Africa. Because of this, the council had decided several years ago that no more business licences would be allowed.

Last year, a national monument was sold and the new owners applied for a business licence.

Mr Kachelhoffer said: "This was naturally refused because of the declared policy and protests by neighbours and other parties."

The owners appealed and Mr Albertyn overruled the council, in spite of protests from the council, several residents and organisations, the provincial roads engineer and the National Monuments Council.

"At no time did a representative of the government travel to Montagu to investigate the situation ... nor were any of the protesters contacted or consulted in any way. No reasons were given," said Mr Kachelhoffer.

APPROVALS FM 21/2/92

Albertyn the overlord (263)

Local Government Minister Leon Wessels was due to be questioned in parliament this week about a series of actions by his western Cape ministerial representative Koos Albertyn — in which Albertyn reversed controversial property decisions by the Milnerton and Paarl town councils

The Democratic Party's Jannie Momberg wants Wessels to explain Albertyn's behaviour

He says it is unacceptable that decisions by an elected local authority can be overturned in an "undemocratic" manner by a higher authority — without explanation

These actions in particular have angered Momberg and local authorities in the western Cape

FM 21/2/92

☐ In Milnerton Albertyn overturned the local council's refusal to allow certain alterations to beachfront houses owned by opera singer and SABC board member Mimi Coertse and former heart surgeon Chris Barnard, and

☐ In Paarl he reversed a council decision to refuse permission to a local farmer to rezone land for residential development on the slopes of Paarl Mountain overlooking the town, (263)

Right of appeal

Property owners or developers have the right to appeal to a higher authority — in these cases Albertyn — if they are unhappy with local authority decisions The ministerial representatives don't have to give reasons for their decisions Ministerial representatives are part of the tricameral constitutional arrangement They are meant to assist particular Ministers with certain duties previously under the jurisdiction of provincial authorities

A number of local authorities in the western Cape are understood to be concerned by the way in which Albertyn has been using his powers

But Albertyn says his decisions are not final — and if anyone was dissatisfied they could appeal to the courts He declined to comment further pending the replies by Wessels this week ■

City Council honour for David Bloomberg

263

ARG 27/2/92

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

CONTROVERSIAL former Cape Town Mayor Mr David Bloomberg, the subject of extradition attempts by the Transkei in connection with corruption allegations, has been honoured by the city council

Mr Bloomberg, based in London since 1989, attended a City Hall function this week at which a reception room was named in his honour.

During his acceptance speech, Mr Bloomberg gave as his reason for moving to London medical attention needed by his wife Toby

Mrs Bloomberg had a kidney transplant 11 months ago

The ceremony, hosted by acting Mayor Mr Clive Keegan, was attended by leading civic personalities and new Judge President Mr Gerald Friedman

There was no reference to the Transkei gambling rights saga during either Mr Keegan's or Mr Bloomberg's speeches

Mr Bloomberg was a member of the city council from 1969 to 1988, and was mayor from 1973 to 1975.

He was noted for his outspoken views and opposition to apartheid

With Mr Sol Kerzner, he was at the centre of a controversy in 1989 during an investigation into alleged bribery of Transkei officials

In May last year, Transkei applied to the SA government to extradite Mr Bloomberg and Mr Kerzner to face charges related to an alleged R2 million bribe paid to Chief George Matanzima, but Minister of Foreign Affairs Pik Botha said it would be up to the Department of Justice to decide on extradition

Mr Bloomberg said he and his wife regarded Cape Town as a home and had retained SA citizenship

He said he was honoured to have the City Hall reception room named after him

"No apartheid legislation was passed within the hallowed precincts of this building

Mr Bloomberg founded the Barn Theatre in the 1960s, piloted the privatisation of the Cape Town Symphony Orchestra and played leading roles in the founding of Captour and the Cape Festival

He is the second member of his family to have a room in the City Hall named for him the former Mayor's Parlour was previously renamed the Abe Bloomberg Parlour, after his father and fellow former mayor

During the ceremony he quipped "You could have also renamed Table Mountain Bloom Berg"

MINISTERIAL APPROVALS

FM 28/2/92

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Being open is fair

The law that gives ministerial representatives the power to overturn property-related decisions by local authorities (*Property* February 21) is under review, according to Local Government Minister Leon Wessels. In a reply tabled in parliament to questions by the DP's Jannie Momberg, Wessels says changes to legislation will provide for decisions by ministerial representatives to be public and motivated.

Several recent decisions by Wessels' western Cape ministerial representative Koos Albertyn — in which he reversed property decisions by the Milnerton and Paarl town councils — caused widespread anger Momberg describes Albertyn's actions as undemocratic

These decisions attracted considerable publicity.

☐ In Milnerton Albertyn overturned the local council's refusal to allow certain alterations to beachfront houses owned by opera singer and SABC board member Mimi Coertse and former heart surgeon Chris Barnard, and

☐ In Paarl he reversed a council decision to refuse permission to a local farmer to rezone

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land on the slopes of Paarl Mountain overlooking the town for residential development.

Albertyn is not obliged to give reasons for his decisions

In his replies to Momberg's questions Wessels says the decision by ministerial representatives is final "until such time this decision is reviewed by the Supreme Court" Reasons for decisions were requested only "if it is deemed to be in the public interest."

He says proposed legislation should also contain mechanisms to ensure that disputes are resolved in an independent, just and reasonable manner· "The acceptable principle of an independent hearing must certainly apply in this regard" ■

Councillor refuses to budge from chamber

Municipal Reporter 263

COUNCILLOR Mr Leon Markovitz said he was prepared to "risk losing his pension" by staying in the council chamber yesterday to vote on a matter even when legal advice had been received that he should leave

He had no financial interest whatsoever in the matter, he explained, so he did not see why he should excuse himself.

Moments earlier, Deputy Mayor Mr Clive Keegan, who chaired yesterday's monthly meeting, had shocked several of the councillors when he said the legal adviser had pointed out that any councillor who had objected to an application before it came up at a council meeting ought not to vote

"Our proceedings may be assailable in law if certain councillors do not withdraw from the chamber," he warned

CT 28/2/92

Both Mr Markovitz and his ward councillor, Mrs Patricia Sulcas Kreiner, remained in the chamber for the voting The council is still awaiting independent legal opinion on the matter

New Cape authority in making

(263)
CT 29/2/92

By PETER DENNEHY

THE Cape Town City Council and other interested parties are about to embark on a process leading to a non-racial metropolitan government

This process is due to start within the next two weeks

Deputy mayor and constitutional committee chairman Mr Clive Keegan announced at a press conference yesterday that two major working papers on metropolitan restructuring had been drawn up

These were both approved by the council this week and submitted to Codesa yesterday They will also be circulated widely for comment within the city

"We believe Cape Town is best equipped to be the voice of local government at Codesa," said Mr Keegan, who has been stung by recent criticism that Cape Town is no longer playing a leading role in countrywide progress toward establishing non-racial metropolitan cities

The discussion documents did not set out the council's own views, Mr Keegan said, but they explored different options which the council was willing and ready to negotiate

He said Cape Town had its own problems which prevented the formation of a metropolitan negotiating forum like the one that existed on the Witwatersrand

Local government was far more fragmented here, with 74 different "authorities" in Greater Cape Town at the last count

The extra-parliamentary community in Cape Town was also deeply divided and apparently not yet ready to negotiate at metropolitan level, Mr Keegan said The Cape tradition of non-collaboration was still deeply entrenched

Last year's idea of a major Metropolitan Conference involving all interested bodies and authorities had therefore been dropped in favour of workshops The first of these would be held under the auspices of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for SA (Idasa) on March 10

Civics form single body

CT 23/9/92

23

Staff Reporter

DELEGATES from the majority of Western Cape civic structures yesterday dissolved their organisations to form an new amalgamated civic body — the Civic Organisation of the Western Cape (COWEC)

The new body, which is a co-ordinating structure, will continue with established civic programmes of addressing issues of gangsterism, the taxi war and housing

Secretary for the new body, Mr Roseberry Sonto said that COWEC will use the same pattern of organising from a street level through to a regional level

"Through our new co-ordinated structure we hope to broaden our area of operation and therefore be more effective," he said

The new body aims at forming a single national structure

Secret Green Paper reveals plan to sell council land

CIVIC DIARY

By PETER JENNEHY

A "GREEN PAPER" report from the Cape Town City Council — which makes interesting reading — has come my way.

Items on green paper are the ones that members of the media are not supposed to see — generally because they deal with delicate legal or personnel matters, or with the council's own property transactions, as in this case.

The report deals with a housing committee decision to sell some council land on the Cape Flats The interesting part of the report is a sentence which reads:

"Investigations have been undertaken to identify all vacant land other than land set aside and still required for the development of future amenities."

The context in which it appears makes its significance clear. A few lines above, it reports that the housing committee "resolved to sell" certain council-owned tracts of land, and requested the city planner's department "to report on what other areas of land in Athlone are available for disposal"

City planner Mr Neville Riley recommends, in the report, that authority should be given to his department to sub-divide certain plots and offer them for sale to people on the housing waiting list in the area

Now I have no doubt that the council is consulting properly and at length about these matters with people in the neighbourhoods most immediately affected.

I think it is great that the council is getting back into housing in a "pro-active" way, adapting to new financially-straitened circumstances, implementing new ideas, densifying the city and freeing-up under-utilized land.

But I have a problem with keeping items like this on green paper It seems to me there may be a major campaign under way to sell-off public land, which in a real sense belongs to all of us, whether white or black, ratepayer or rentpayer.

This sell-off is happening in Clifton, Camps Bay and Bakoven; it nearly happened in the Bo-Kaap as well, and it is also taking place at Pelican Park and elsewhere.

I know that the council tells some of the immediate-neighbourhood people it deals with not to go to the press. This is unfair, because such major policy issues are the concern of all of us — including the press

The Cape Town municipality is our asset, and if it is to be whittled away, stripped down, or made "leaner and meaner", we all want to have a say in whether this should be done, and if so, how.

City councils want to be heard at Codesa

LINDA ENSOR 263

CAPE TOWN — The Cape Town and Durban city councils are lobbying for local government structures to be included on Codesa's agenda.

The Cape Town City Council submitted a working document on local government options to Codesa on Friday to stimulate debate, and is pushing for local government representation at the talks.

The council's working document deals with the options available for metropolitan boundaries, the structure of local government, the provision of services, finance and the system of voting.

Cape Town deputy mayor Clive Keegan said at a news conference on Friday that the voice of organised local government should be heard at Codesa.

"It seems to me that you cannot discuss a new constitution at Codesa without discussing a structure for local government,," he said. Alternatively, Keegan suggested a parallel working committee of Codesa be established to discuss local government.

Talks between local political and civic bodies about a metropolitan government for greater Cape Town have failed to get off the ground for a number of reasons, one of which has been the demand by the ANC that a constituent assembly decide the issue of local government structures. B/Day 2/3/92

Keegan cited other reasons for the failure of local talks taking place as being the difficulty of finding negotiating partners; the great fragmentation of local government in greater Cape Town, which has a total of 74 local government bodies; and the deeply divided extra-parliamentary community which lacked high calibre local leadership and had a desperate lack of negotiating skills and resources. Furthermore, there was a deeply embedded tradition of boycott and non-collaboration in the western Cape.

The council's special task force on metropolitan restructuring has so far prepared two working papers on metropolitan restructuring. The latest report was approved by council last week and over the next month ways of promoting the process of local negotiation will be looked at.

Cape Town kept a low profile to foster reform of local government

HELEN ZILLE, a public relations consultant to Cape Town City Countil, responds to Hermann Giliomee's contention on this page on February 18 that Cape Town is lagging behind Johannesburg in working towards post-apartheid structures of local governmment.

THE time has come to address a growing perception that, compared with other cities, "precious little" is happening in Cape Town to tackle the challenge of transition to a post-apartheid local order

This perception, expressed by Hermann Giliomee in his column (Cape Times, February 18), took root when the Johannesburg Metropolitan Chamber was established last year and gained momentum as various local authorities in Western Cape launched their own "negotiation initiatives"

The predictable result has been that just about everyone, from World Bank emissaries to local businessmen and political commentators, is asking "Why not in Cape Town?"

The assumption behind the question is that if only Cape Town City Council would bestir itself to take the lead, as befits South Africa's most liberal city, it could become "the vehicle for the non-racial liberation of the Cape Town metropolitan area", as Giliomee ringingly phrased it

This is a serious contention, which warrants closer examination Before responding, it is necessary to say I am, among other things, a consultant to the city council My purpose, however, is not to defend the council but to attempt an honest analysis from the inside track I shall suggest that an evaluation of the evidence leads to precisely the opposite of Giliomee's conclusion no city in this country can match Cape Town City Council's record for initiating local negotiations across virtually every facet of urban transition

Ignorance

This process has been unfolding for more than three years, often in close consultation with community-based groups in the city It has purposely been kept low-profile because the process would not have survived any suspicion that the council was trying to make political capital out of it The downside of discretion, however, is a measure of public ignorance, which can be as damaging as unsought publicity

It must be conceded at the outset that Cape Town has not made rapid progress in *constitutional* negotiations, which are but one facet of local transition To most political commentators, however, constitutional negotiations are not just the Real but the Only McCoy. Without spending time challenging this assumption, it is important to note that, were it up to the city council alone, Cape Town would have had a constitutional negotiating forum as far back as 1985/6

At that time, when the city was in political turmoil, the council retained Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, now chairman of the Johannesburg Metropolitan Chamber, to canvass the possibility of initiating local negotiations towards a democratic local government system

Rejection

After extensive consultations, Dr Slabbert concluded that this was not possible, primarily because the "extra-Parliamentary organisations" (as they were then known) unambiguously rejected any form of "local option" in the absence of a national political settlement Since Slabbert's survey, the city council has repeatedly renewed its offer of constitutional negotiations, most recently following the promulgation of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act

Each time, the response from important sectors of the Cape Town community has remained the same local constitutional negotiations must proceed within a framework negotiated at national level When the time is ripe, local negotiations will proceed on a metropolitan-wide basis, not piecemeal or between various local authorities and civic associations

In the face of this response, Cape Town City Council could have followed the path chosen by some other white local authorities and negotiated with willing partners, such as management committees Instead, the council has recognised that local constitutional negotiations must, from the outset, include representatives from both sides of the system/struggle chasm This divide still runs deep in non-collaborationist Cape Town and has barely been bridged by the negotiation era of the newish South Africa

Suspicion

This ongoing constitutional paralysis has weighed heavily on an increasingly frustrated council, eager to step boldly into the era of constitutional negotiations Waiting has become even more difficult at a time when other councils are being publicly lauded for taking the bold initiative of negotiating with management committees

It is ironic that certain white local authorities, who, during the years of emergency rule, were not exactly exerting themselves to initiate broad-based negotiations should now be claiming to lead the field in a sort of constitutional 100 m sprint

Sooner or later, when they fail to find the finish line, they will realise they are actually on an ultra-marathon, in which pacing and strategy prove more important than an initial burst of speed

But the essential point is that local negotiations should not be demeaned by a first-past-the-post approach This attitude has merely engendered community suspicion that some of the Western Cape's 12 white local authorities are in great haste to negotiate settlements with their neighbouring coloured communities, intending to validate these agreements through the Interim Measures Act, thus divesting themselves of wider responsibili ty in a rapidly urbanising metropolis

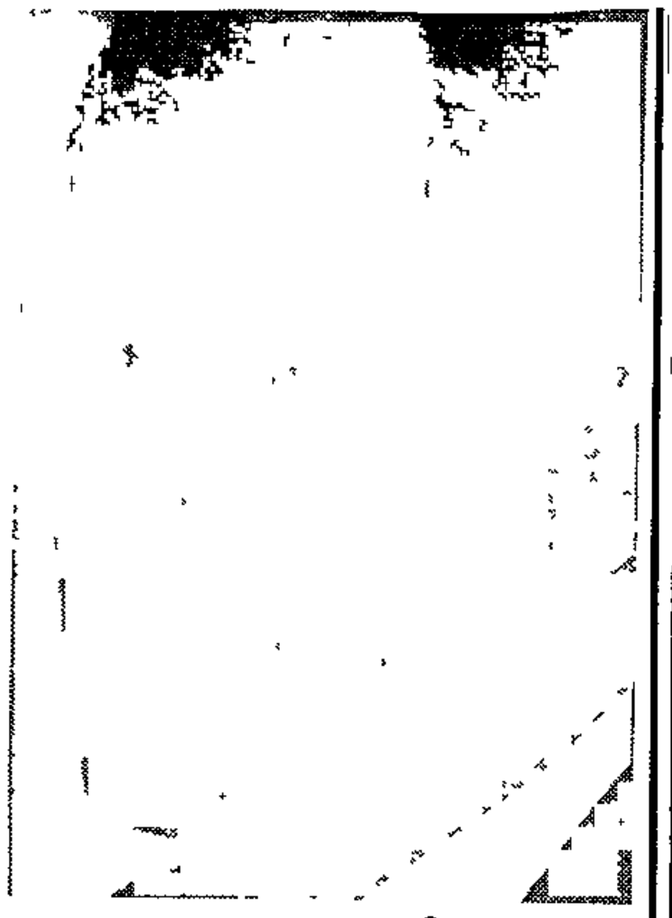
Slow progress

This perception is currently doing more than anything else to apply the brakes to the process of local constitutional transition I hope, however, the logjam of local constitutional negotiations will be broken when a national interim government is installed This should happen within months of a positive referendum outcome

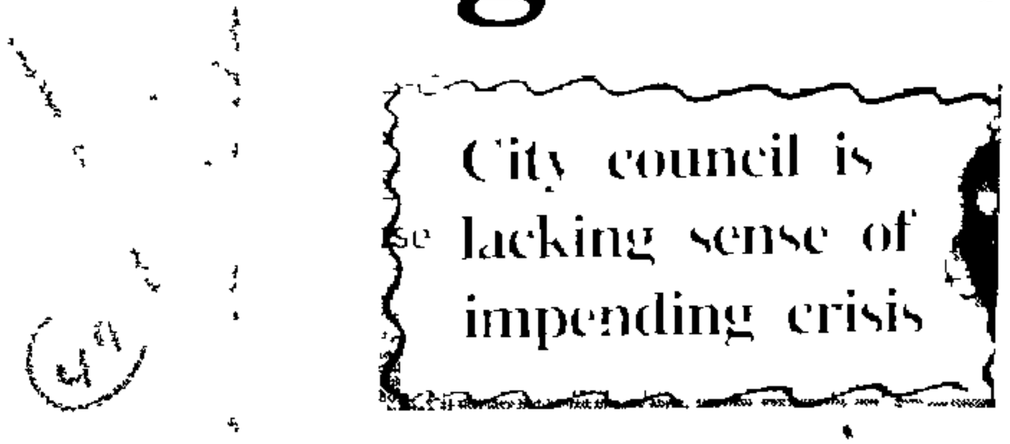
Until then, constitutional transition in the Western Cape will make slow progress But that doesn't imply inaction A great deal of preparation remains to be done by all actors and the council has not been idle A year ago it appointed a high-powered task force of senior officials to research options, across a range of issues, for metropolitan transition The task force's report was recently published and is to be circulated to all parties, with the primary aim of stimulating informed debate on local transition

The city's corporate management team is also researching various options for managing the process of transition, which will also be widely canvassed

But it would be a major mistake to concentrate solely on the constitutional aspects of transition Transition proceeds sector by sector, as most serious scholars of the process understand And, sector for sector, it would be interesting to establish whether any city in the country has done as much to initiate negotiations as Cape Town City Council In almost every area of local government jurisdiction — planning, housing, transport, sport and recreation, economic development, inner city re-development — extensive efforts are being made to give community representatives a direct role in shaping policy during the transition period



FREDERIK VAN ZYL SLABBERT Canvassed negotiations towards a democratic local government system and concluded this was not possible because the "extra-Parliamentary organisations" rejected the "local option"



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CT 3/3/92

CAPE TIMES

3-3-92

Latecomer

In some of these areas significant progress has been made, culminating in the establishment of joint decision-making structures In others, the process remains in the politically complex initial stages The common thread running through all of them is the council's desire to move faster In every instance, the pace is dictated by its negotiating partners

The notion that negotiations can simply be initiated and directed by official bodies was never valid In a period of transition it is absurd The Johannesburg City Council did not initiate the Johannesburg Metropolitan Chamber Community organisations, backed by strong service organisations, were the driving force behind it Indeed, the Johannesburg City Council, now reaping so many PR benefits from the chamber's existence, was a somewhat reluctant latecomer

Every concession that community organisations have demanded and won in the metropolitan chamber — from the franchise to participatory metropolitan planning — has been offered, up front, by the Cape Town City Council As yet, there have been insufficient takers

Transition, however, is not a time for point-scoring Our metropolitan area, so deeply divided across many fronts, is the most structurally fragmented and politically complex in the country Those who advocate realpolitik would do well to take note of these realities

Housing for Schweppes site

263
CT 6/3/92

By PETER DENNEHY

AT least 80% of the Albion Spring site, also known as the old Schweppes site, off Main Road in Rondebosch, should consist of medium-density housing not more than three storeys high

This requirement was set out in council documents to guide architects and developers to draw up plans to redevelop the 1,8 hectare council-owned site

More than 60 architects and developers attended the briefing yesterday The council has called on the private sector to put forward competing suggestions for the redevelopment. It intends to sell the site to the developer with the best scheme An offer to purchase the property has to form part of each proposal

In documents from the council yesterday the land is called "the last remaining strategically located residential site in Rondebosch" One estimate has put its value at R7 million

AERIAL VIEW . . . This photo shows the extent and location of the Albion Spring (Schweppes) site.

Extra staff to handle cheques

(263)
CT 7/3/92

Municipal Reporter

FIVE new permanent members of staff are to be taken on in the city treasurer's cash office to ensure that the council will never again lose up to R7 500 a day in interest on undeposited cheques.

Over the past year and more, nine members of staff from that particular office have been seconded to other posts, senior council officials admitted yesterday

Council staff cutbacks, together with some other factors, led to a maximum backlog of some 30 000 undeposited cheques at the height of the problem at the end of last year, executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander said yesterday

The backlog was subsequently cleared up in just over two weeks.

Town clerk Mr Donald Geyer, deputy city treasurer Mr Peter Lever and executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friendlander declined to estimate the value of the cheques at the height of the backlog

A less cautious council source put it at R15 million Yet Mr Lever said most of the cheques had a value of between R90 and R400 This means the 30 000 cheques were likely to have been worth between R2,7m and R12m

The cash office supervisor who brought the matter to the attention of his bosses estimated that R7 500 per day in interest was being lost

Mr Friedlander said this estimate could not be extrapolated into theoretical losses for a lengthy period.

At yesterday's press conference, Mr Friedlander also responded to allegations by Mr Arthur Wienburg that questions he had put in January about the backlog had been answered in "half-truths" or less

Mr Wienburg had asked for how long the (backlog) situation had been going on He had been told that the situation had developed in late November 1991

Yesterday Mr Friedlander acknowledged that a similar problem, but not on such a large scale, had existed in April 1991.

However, he said, "I am assured by the city treasurer that (the answers given to Mr Wienburg) are correct on the basis of the problems existing at the time the questions were raised" Mr Wienburg's first question had been about the then-current backlog

● Almost R2 billion is paid to the Cape Town City Council each year in rates, electricity and water bills, and 89% of this comes in in the form of cheques Each year, 3,2 million receipts are issued, half of them for cheque payments Some 97 000 cheques are processed monthly through the cash office

An unofficial source said yesterday that some cash office staff used to work overtime "every second Saturday" last year

'Council' photos raise eyebrows

Municipal Reporter 263 CT 7/3/92

STAFF at a photographic shop smelled a rat recently when a batch of pictures being developed "on the city council's account", costing about R250, were clearly not the sort of photographs the council takes

"I understand it was a portfolio for something," said councillor Mr Chris Joubert "I did not see the pictures, but I asked him if they were of nude women and he said no" He could not say what the pictures were about

Nonetheless, his informant was sure that development of the pictures should not be paid for by the council, so Mr Joubert took the matter to city administrator Mr Gys Hofmeyr

Yesterday Mr Hofmeyr confirmed that information had come to him via a councillor "indicating that there may have been some impropriety connected with the printing of photographs on an order from the council"

Little support for city plan

263
ARG 7/3/92

JEAN LE MAY
Weekend Argus Reporter

THE city council's preliminary plan for Greater Cape Town has been approved in principle by the African National Congress — but town councils in the area have brushed it off or ignored it

The ANC's main reservations are about the piecemeal way in which the city council is going about restructuring Instead of individual city recommendations, the ANC would like to see the issue of metropolitan and regional government thrashed out by a national commission which would establish countrywide criteria

A Cape Town City Council task force, in a working paper released last week by deputy mayor Mr Clive Keegan, tentatively proposed a single metropolitan government under which would fall everything this side of the Hottentots-Holland mountains

The ANC's comments came through Mr Thozamile Botha, head of the organisation's department of local and regional government and a member of the national executive, who runs a local government policy research project at the University of the Western Cape

Mr Botha told Weekend Argus that he accepted the challenge made by the task force to the ANC to "move from a level of principle to the practical"

"We covered much of the ground in the constitutional document relating to local and regional issues which we released last week," he said.

"A structure must be created which will monitor and evaluate systems proposed by the local areas

"At present, under the Interim Measures for Local Government Act, such proposals have to go to the Administrators We'd like a more neutral structure, one which would include other interested parties

"It's a matter for regret to me that the government has said it will take part in no more forums and that everything must be channelled through Codesa. Codesa is entrusted with negotiating central government structures

"We feel that when an interim government is put in place it would benefit from the findings of a national commission which has been negotiating local government reforms"

Referring to the ANC's document on local government, he said that it had suggested three tiers of government, central, regional and local

"Under such a system Greater Cape Town may well come together in a metropolitan unit with Bellville, Parow, Atlantis, Stellenbosch and Somerset West/Strand

"This area has access to considerable resources which will greatly improve its claims to autonomy," he said

Other comment on the task force's proposals were more specific

Dr Robert Cameron, lecturer on local government and public administration in the department of political studies at UCT, said the task force appeared to favour a two-tier metropolitan authority with the power in the upper tier

"One of the financing systems suggested in this arrangement, could cause a lot of controversy," he said

"All funds go to the upper tier which then distributes funds on a basis of need That makes accountability difficult and could also be politically controversial. The politically rightwing municipalities to the north of Cape Town can't just be wished away"

Another objection was that the proposed metropolitan authority could become "as remote from the community as the present government is now, as remote as Pretoria"

"It also seems that much of the power would be given to the metropolitian authority at the expense of the future non-racial local authorities.

"I'd like to see greater emphasis on bureaucratic accountability A metropolitan authority and, for that matter, a city council can be as heavy-handed as a government department. For instance, some of the Cape Town City Council's recent actions have been appallingly heavy-handed"

It looked as if the task force would like to wish the RSCs away, too, said Dr Cameron "But the State seems to be moving towards turning the RSCs themselves into metropolitan authorities I foresee conflict there"

Dr Cameron did not say so, but the inference was clear the Cape Town City Council had ambitions of becoming the hub of such a metropolis.

Asked whether these ambitions in fact existed, the town clerk, Mr Donald Geyer, denied it vigorously

"Not at all," he said "The city council merely decided to look at all the options. One of the options was, for instance, that there could be a constellation of local authorities."

This was an ongoing exercise, he said. Ultimately the task force would come up with a final report in which recommendations were made, but the next phase was to talk to other local authorities, civic associations and extra-parliamentary bodies, none of whom had been consulted up to now The mayor of Stellenbosch, Dr Ras Taljaard, said he had not seen the task force's working paper but that the town council had in the past decided to keep well away from any proposals for a Greater Cape Town He refused to give any reasaons

Mr Laurie Groenewald, town clerk of The Strand, refused to make any comment at all

Council underspent on budget

ST Times (Cm) 8/3/92 (263)

By EVE VOSLOO

CAPE TOWN City Council expenditure was nearly R86 million short of the amount budgeted for in 1990/1991, and the greatest shortfall in spending — R32,21 million — was in housing "due to a severe cutback in state funds"

In a review of the last financial year by the city treasurer, released last week, Mr E D Landsberg said the total capital budget was set at R318,75 million but only R232,99 million was spent

Apart from the shortfall in spending on housing, other departments also spent less than their budgets, mainly because of delays in starting and progress on major projects

Capital expenditure by the council was broken down in the report as R113 732 on rate and general services, R19 331 on housing, R1 246 on the abattoir, R46 122 on electricity, R8 457 on the market and R44 105 on water

In terms of the council's operating account, R134 095 was spent on amenities and cultural activities, R125 480 on health, R176 135 on infrastructural and related services, R58 754 on protection services; R39 508 on housing, R450 522 on electricity and R136 153 on water

Business, civic leaders to attend growth talks

S Times (CN) 8/3/92

TOWNSHIP leaders as well as top executives from various major companies are expected to attend the Growing the Cape workshop on April 1 which aims to define strategies for the economic development of the Western Cape for the next five years

The original date was March 17 but this has been changed to April 1 to avoid clashing with the referendum

The executive director of Wesgrove and co-convenor of the workshop, Dr David Bridgman, said

"Knowing the results of the referendum will give delegates to the workshop a clearer view of the political and economic factors which will influence the future of South Africa and our particular region"

He said the venue, the Cape Town Civic Centre, was unchanged

Dr Bridgman was confident the unemployment problem — a major focus of the workshop — could be overcome if all leaders in the region worked together

A BALL FOR BEARS . . young Ursula Theebis, left, from Grassy Park and Zoanidaah Waggie from Mitchells Plain gathered their grizzlies for a Teddy Bear's Picnic in the Gardens today. The festivities, part of the Cape Festival, start at 10am and end at 4pm. Children of all ages are invited to treat their teddies to a party today Picture: JACK LESTRADE

Extra staff hired to bank council cheques after row

S/Times (CM) 8/3/92 263

By EVE VOSLOO

A ROW in the Cape Town City Council about cheques piling up in boxes and being banked late, has culminated in five extra staff members being hired in the department responsible.

But the councillor who raised the issue, Mr Arthur Wienburg, says there is no guarantee that the situation will not arise again

The row started when Mr Wienburg tabled questions in a council meeting asking if it was true that the city treasurer had a backlog of over a month of cheques sent in to pay for council services

The Chairman of the Executive Commitee, Mr Dick Friedlander, replied that the backlog had developed in late November 1991, grown in December and been resolved by January 15 this year

At the time council officials estimated lost income at R7 500 a day

At the next council meeting Mr Wienburg said the answers to his questions had contained "blatant untruths" as the backlog had in fact started in April 1991

This week Mr Friedlander, Town Clerk Mr Don Geyer and Deputy City Treasurer Mr Peter Leyer held a press conference at which Mr Friedlander said the council received 100 000 cheques a month

Payment of electricity, water and rates to the council in 1991 amounted to R2,2 billion of which 89 percent was paid by cheque

The backlog in banking had first arisen in April when there were staff shortages and public holidays

In November and December a backlog developed again because nine staff members had been transferred to other departments

The backlog grew to about 30 000 cheques

Mr Friedlander said five new staff members were to be appointed and an external auditor was checking how the cashier's department was run

The situation was under control and cheques received would be banked the next day but due to extreme volumes at month-end, limited delays may still occur for a few days.

Mr Wienburg said yesterday this was unacceptable

He said he had been told "untruths and half-truths" and the situation was not yet resolved

Health officers launch new professional organisation

ST Times (Cty) 8/3/92

By KURT SWART

HEALTH officers in the Western Cape plan to launch a professional body this month to represent their interests, following the launch of a national health officers' association late last year

Mr Johnny Slingers, chairman of the steering committee, said a preliminary meeting was held at the Peninsula Technikon in Bellville last Saturday to discuss the launch of the new organisation

This followed the formation of the Southern African Association for Environmental Health Officers (SAAEHO) at Soshanguve in Pretoria on September 30 last year

Said Mr Slingers "The first national council meeting was held in Kimberley at the end of November last year and was attended by delegates from all over Southern Africa, including the Western Cape

"The meeting last week served as a report-back to fellow health inspectors as well as a forum to discuss the formal launch of a Western Cape region of the SAAEHO"

The local SAAEHO steering committee is calling on all health officers in the Western Cape and neighbouring areas to register and attend the launch at the Peninsula Technikon at 2pm on Saturday, March 21

For further information call Mr Johnny Slingers and Mr Emmanuel Rusford on ☎ 952 7640 and 959 6366 respectively

The new body will be the first organisation of its kind run on a non-racial basis, said Mr Slingers

Environmental health officers, or health inspectors, are responsible for disease control, hygiene, environmental health and "community involvement and upliftment"

The association, "a professional body for professional people", will be a rival grouping to the predominantly white Health Officers' Association of South Africa

The accusation that the Mother City is making little effort to move towards transition is false, writes **Helen Zille**

Cape Town is so far ahead it seems to lag behind

263 STAR 10/3/92 263

THE time has come to go on record to address a growing perception that in Cape Town, compared with other cities, "precious little" is being done to tackle the challenge of transition to a post-apartheid local order

This perception, expressed by Professor Hermann Giliomee in a recent column, took root when the Johannesburg Metropolitan Chamber was established last year, and gained momentum as various local authorities in the Peninsula launched their own "negotiation initiatives"

The predictable result has been that just about everyone, from World Bank emissaries to local businessmen and political commentators, is asking "Why not in Cape Town?"

The assumption is that if only the Cape Town City Council would stir itself to take the lead (as befits South Africa's most liberal city) it could "become the vehicle for the nonracial liberation of the Cape Town metropolitan area", as Professor Giliomee ringingly phrased it

This is a serious contention, which warrants closer examination Before responding it is necessary to say up front that I am, among other things, a consultant to the Cape Town City Council My purpose, however, is not to defend the council, but to attempt an honest analysis from the inside track

I shall suggest that an evaluation of the evidence leads to precisely the opposite of Professor Giliomee's conclusion no city in the country can match the Cape Town City Council's record for initiating local negotiations, across virtually every facet of urban transition This process has been unfolding over more than three years, often in close consultation with community-based groups in the city

It must be conceded that Cape Town has not made rapid progress in *constitutional* negotiations, which are but one facet of local transition To most political commentators, however, constitutional negotiations are not just the Real, but the Only McCoy. It is important to note that were it up to the city council alone Cape Town would have had a constitutional negotiating forum as far back as 1985/86 At that time, when the city was in political turmoil, the council retained Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, who now chairs the Johannesburg Metropolitan Chamber, to canvas the possibility of initiating local negotiations towards a democratic local government system

After extensive consultations, Dr Slabbert concluded that this was unachievable, primarily because the "extra-parliamentary organisations" rejected any form of "local option" in the absence of a national political settlement Since Slabbert's survey, the city council has repeatedly renewed its offer of constitutional negotiations, most recently after the promulgation of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act Each time, the response from important sectors of the Cape Town community has remained the same

The Cape Town City Council could have followed the path chosen by some neighbouring white local authorities and negotiated with willing partners, such as management committees Instead, the council has recognised that local constitutional negotiations must, from the outset, include representatives from both sides of the system/struggle chasm Waiting has become even more difficult at a time when other councils are being publicly lauded for taking the bold initiative of negotiating with management committees

It is hoped, however, that the logjam of local constitutional negotiations will be broken with a national interim government installed This should happen within months of a positive referendum outcome

Until then, constitutional transition in the Western Cape will make slow progress But that does not imply inaction A great deal of preparation remains to be done by all actors, and the council has not been idle A year ago it appointed a high-powered task force of senior officials to research options, across a range of issues, for metropolitan transition The task force's report was recently published and is to be circulated to all parties, with the primary aim of stimulating informed debate on local transition

The city's Corporate Management Team is currently also researching various options for managing the process of transition, which will also be widely canvassed

But it would be a major mistake to concentrate solely on the constitutional aspects of transition Transition proceeds sector by sector, as most serious scholars of the process understand And sector for sector, it would be interesting to establish whether any city in the country has done as much to initiate negotiations as the Cape Town City Council

In almost every area of local government jurisdiction — planning, housing, transport, sport and recreation, economic development, inner city redevelopment — extensive efforts are being made to give community representatives a direct role in shaping policy during the transition period In some of these areas significant progress has been made

The notion that negotiations can simply be initiated and directed by official bodies was never valid In a period of transition it is absurd The Johannesburg City Council did not initiate the Johannesburg Metropolitan Chamber Community organisations, with strong technical back-up were the driving force behind it □

● *Helen Zille is a Cape Town-based consultant*

Cape Town unveils waterfront plans

263

B/Day 10/3/92

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — Imaginative plans for the further development of the city's waterfront — including a canal, a hotel, offices, a residential complex and pedestrian walkways — were approved by the Cape Town City Council's town planning committee yesterday.

Under discussion between City Lodge Hotels and the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront company is a 160-room City Lodge hotel on the site

The proposals include the prospect of outdoor cafes along the canal, landscaped walkways and palm trees lining the central road, Dock Road, which is being constructed and upgraded at a cost of R14m Provision has also been made for a light rail link with the Cape Town CBD

V & A Waterfront Co MD David Jack said yesterday the cost of the development — expected to take four or five years to complete — and ways of financing it, had not yet been worked out in detail

The plans relate to what is called the Gateway Precinct, an area of about 7,8ha at the entrance to the waterfront. About 10% of this area could eventually comprise the canal-wide enough to carry two-way traffic in water taxis and small power boats The ultimate hope is for the waterway to extend right into the CBD, forming a link between the city and the waterfront through the ICS Power Station site

"There is a need to have a highly visible and visually exciting gateway to the V & A waterfront," the plan document says

The plans are built around and incorporate the remains of the Amsterdam Battery, which was constructed by the Dutch as protection against sea attacks All that remains today of the battery is a portion of the rear rampart and entrance walls, the foundations of the caretaker's house and one of the ordinance stone walls within a section of the courtyard

About 38 000m² would be available for office development while the use of the existing 600m² KIC warehouse for an exhibition hall or conference centre is possible A major infrastructural aspect of the project would be the diversion of Cape Town's main interceptor sewage pipe.

The Cape Town Chamber of Industries, the SA Property Owners Association, the SA Institute of Architects and the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce have all expressed support for the plans and recommendations.

Western Cape development

B Day 11/3/92

THE AECI Pension Fund and RMS Syfrets believe the development of a R150m shopping centre at the intersection of the N2 and the main road linking The Strand, Somerset West and Stellenbosch will be successful

However, property industry spokesmen have expressed concern at the large number of retail developments coming on line, though they acknowledge the opportunities in niche markets.

The pension fund announced recently it would develop the centre RMS Syfrets will act as development managers and leasing co-ordinators for the first phase of 36 000m² lettable space

The centre will be anchored by a major food chain and two fashion stores, and will offer a 1 000-seat cinema complex and 90 shops, with trading expected to begin in September 1993

AECI Pension Fund recently bought the site from AECI in a deal that includes an option to buy more land for expansion Development rights were approved by the Western Cape Regional Services Council in December

"The centre will be successful as it will be designed with the tenants' needs in mind, and the catchment area includes The Strand, Somerset West, Stellenbosch, Gordon's Bay and the coastal region as far as Hermanus," said RMS Syfrets MD Patrick Flanagan

Environmental impact studies had been undertaken by Parker and Associates

Cape Town needs R92m conference centre, study finds

B Day 11/3/92 (263)

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — The Cape Town City Council has been told the city needs a R92,8m conference centre

Kessel Feinstein Consulting was asked by the council last August to evaluate the optimum size of a convention centre in Cape Town, how it should be financed and where it should be located

The findings were submitted to the council's executive committee yesterday The council decided to wait until full proposals for the development of the station deck were submitted before deciding on a conference centre, as these proposals also include plans for such a centre.

Kessel Feinstein said the foreshore power station site was the best location for a conference centre to accommodate about 2 000 delegates, with a site near the civic centre the second best choice It said a conference centre would provide considerable direct and indirect spinoff benefits for the local economy The city would need more hotel rooms to cope with the increase in the demand for accommodation associated with a conference centre.

"The regional economy can expect to receive a fillip of around R270m a year by way of incremental and indirect spending and this excludes the stimulant that a R90m building project extending over 19 months will provide"

Growing

The regional geographic product would increase by about 2% and a centre would also create about 1 200 jobs.

The study found Cape Town was the preferred SA destination for international conferences and the third choice after Johannesburg and Sun City for domestic conferences The report said the global conference industry was estimated to be worth $90bn and was growing by 8%-10% a year It could be worth R400m a year in SA "Our tentative estimate is that a new Cape Town conference centre might attract around 4%-5% of the total market which we estimate could amount to about 180 000 delegate days a year"

A profit after management fees but before depreciation and finance costs of R800 000 in the first year, increasing to R2,3m by year five, was projected

"This level of profits is however far too low to justify the large capital investment in the physical facilities. Assuming the project is financed by a 20-year loan at 17,5%, the annual repayment of interest and capital will exceed the cashflow from the business by around R18m-R19m a year This deficit would have to be borne exclusively by the city in the absence of any grant or subsidy."

The report recommended the city council finance the project with assistance perhaps from the provincial administration and government

History made as town council goes non-racial

(263) CT 13/3/92

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

REFORM history was made in Citrusdal yesterday when it became South Africa's first non-racial town council in terms of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act of 1991

Going against the grain, the white town council and coloured management committee have been holding joint monthly meetings since August 1990 and voted in November last year to dissolve to become one town council

The 17-page agreement will be promulgated in the Provincial Gazette today

Under the leadership of mayor Mr Louis Röntgen, the joint 10-member town council will conduct municipal affairs until the next scheduled municipal elections due to take place in 1993.

Guests at yesterday's special ceremony were the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, the Piketberg MP and Minister of Economic Co-ordination and Public Enterprise, Dr Dawie de Villiers and Wupperthal MP in the House of Representatives Mr Chris Wyngaardt

Mr Meiring said the new council was a "monument for peace, progress and peaceful co-existence" and a "real barometer for constitutional reform"

"Let's build a Cape Province on a strong system of local government which can serve as a foundation for further state reform on regional and national level," said Mr Meiring

He said Citrusdal had said "yes" to reform

After the ceremony Mr Röntgen said the CP and AWB had been asked to join the town's negotiating forum but had declined

He said there was no ANC branch in town, but there were some members on the Citrusdal Action Committee which participated in all contact meetings

The new council had a "lot of problems" to sort out but the town had a sound infrastructure where most roads were tarred and electricity and sewage services were available to most homes

NEWS IN BRIEF

BIDay 13/3/92

Council makes history

THE first nonracial town council set up in terms of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act was inaugurated in Citrusdal in the Cape yesterday (263)

Following a November agreement, the existing town council voted to dissolve to be reconstituted as a nonracial local authority

Mayor Louis Rontgen is to stay on until the municipal election scheduled for October next year

One town, one council gives Citrusdal place in history

263
ARG 14/3/92

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

CITRUSDAL Mayor Mr Louis Röntgen, a fervent supporter of a Yes vote in the referendum, said it was coincidence that his town had become the first in South Africa to have a non-racial local authority so close to the poll

Soon after a ceremony this week in which the town council and management committee dissolved themselves to re-form as a non-racial council in terms of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act, Mr Röntgen donned a "Yes-Ja" button to chair a National Party meeting

In an interview, he said race was a "non-issue" in Citrusdal but the town had wanted to move urgently on local government reform because of pressing social problems such as the housing shortage and tuberculosis

Asked why only the town council and management committee were involved in the new council, he said the Citrusdal Action Committee "an aggrieved group" had taken part in a negotiating forum to set up the new council, but had left after a disagreement over whether an election should be held

The Action Committee wanted an election for new town councillors, but this was rejected because of the expense

In the 1988 municipal elections, the percentage poll for the town council was 60 percent and for the management committee 61 percent

According to an agreement signed this week, the town council will have 12 members drawn from the management committee and the old council and will keep the present mayor, deputy mayor and administration

The town council will continue to sit until the next municipal elections due in October next year

Mr Röntgen said he was keen that people in surrounding rural areas who had no political representation be included in the new town council, which at present represents a town of 3 450

He said it was a coincidence that the establishment of the non-racial town council came so close to the whites-only referendum

"We wanted to set it up in January, but there were administrative delays and then the Administrator and MPs said they wanted to attend, so we held it back until they were available," Mr Röntgen said

Now, he said, Citrusdal wanted to be left in peace to determine solutions for its future

"We want to work as a community to do the right thing for all our people," he said

Town councillors said in interviews they hoped the new system would work and serve the town adequately

There were moves to set up a non-racial town council before the Act was passed

Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring said Citrusdal had "said Yes" and was now "the oldest municipality in the new South Africa"

The official notification about the new town council appeared in Friday's Provincial Gazette

(Report by C A Sawyer, 122 St George's Mall, Cape Town)

Citrusdal's 'non-racialism' gets the ANC's back up

Sowt 14/3-19/3/92

263

By Mbuyiselo Mtsheketshe

CITRUSDAL went "non-racial" this week when the coloured management committee and the white municipality disbanded to forge a new non-racial municipality

But the ANC was unimpressed by the move, slamming it as "opportunistic apartheid restructuring"

ANC regional executive member Mr Basil Davidson said the ANC did not believe the amalgamation would create a non-racial local structure as community representatives were not consulted

In terms of the Interim Measures of Local Government Act white local authorities and management committees can amalgamate and form a single local authority structure

An agreement to disband the two Citrusdal bodies and form the first non-racial municipality in the Cape was due to be signed on Thursday at a council meeting

Scheduled to attend the meetin were Minister of Economic Coordination and Public Enterprises, Dr Dawie de Villiers, and the Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring

Citrusdal town clerk Mr Jacques Carstens said the bodies signed an agreement in November last year to form one council

An interim committee comprising 12 members will be established to manage the area until non-racial elections are held in October this year

Carstens said there had been no problems with the disbandment "as the residents were in favour of it"

Davidson said the unilateral restructuring of the municipality by whites under the Interim Measures of Local Government Act "was opportunistic and would not be supported by the majority of the people in the area"

"This amounts to an apartheid restructuring of the town where a minority holds onto their privileges"

Davidson said the ANC believed the creation of democratic city, restructured to equalise access and opportunities for all the people, would be created when there was a "natural phasing in" of non-racial local government

The ANC rejected the Interim Measures Act and would not participate in the process initiated in terms of the Act, he said

Non-race government for city draws closer

(263) CT 16/3/92

CIVIC DIARY

By PETER DENNEHY

DESPITE the reluctance of the ANC and like-minded organisations to negotiate now at local level, the prospect of non-racial local government for Cape Town is drawing closer

City Council consultant Ms Helen Zille and her partner, Mr David Shandler, delivered a paper on this topic at an Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa (Idasa) meeting last week.

They said that Dr Donald Craythorne, head of the Cape Provincial Administration's directorate of constitutional affairs, favoured a scenario in which all white city councillors and coloured management committee members resign, wards are redelimitedand an election for an interim non-racial council is called

He believes this should be followed by negotiations with representatives of Langa and Guguletu to include those suburbs

Langa and Guguletu have long been part of the Cape Town municipality It seems to me that the deracialising process would have greater legitimacy if it were done all at once, rather than between whites and coloureds first, and blacks only after the whites and coloureds have agreed to it.

The latter is the procedure envisaged by those who drew up the Interim Measures for Local Government Act. In Cape Town the use of this mechanism (the act) to attain nonracial local government has been widely rejected.

Yet it would be interesting to see what the ANC and the civics would do if the Cape Town City Council and its management committees were to resign and hold a non-racial election.

Would they urge ther members not to stand for election and to stay away from the polling booths? This would surely be a tough political choice

The ANC's objections to de-racialising under present legislation are set out in a document that emerged from a meeting of ANC local government experts last weekend

The ANC feels that the CPA is trying to "balkanise" local government in Cape Town Where the Cape Town municipality is concerned, turning non-racial more-or-less within present boundaries should run smoothly But then attempts to push Bellville and Kuils River to "merge and incorporate Khayelitsha" could lead to civic conflict.

If constitutional problems can be sorted out so that all adults in the municipality can vote, it would be tempting to press ahead with deracialising — even under the Interim Measures Act — and leave problems like boundary disputes and the composition of the metropolitan authority for later

Rash of municipal elections on cards?

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

263 ARG 17/3/92

MORE than half of the local authorities in the Cape are poised to follow Citrusdal by setting up non-racial joint decision-making forums.

This could mean a rash of municipal elections ahead of those due next year.

A Provincial Administration spokesman said 127 of the 212 local authorities had written to the Administrator to say they intended using the Interim Measures for Local Government Act.

Sections of the Act provide for setting up joint decision-making procedures, for joint council meetings and for single town councils.

Indications were most would opt for fully integrated town councils, as in the case of Citrusdal.

"In other cases, elections might take place and the members of management committees and councils will not merely be taken in to the newly established council," the spokesman said.

Of the 127 local authorities who had written to the Administrator, 56 had asked for "technical assistance" in preparing legally viable agreements.

Four had been sent to the Administrator and were being processed for proclamation, the spokesman said.

The CPA refused to disclose the names of the local authorities as this would be "premature".

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Councils meet 'faceless' man

(263) CT 17/3/92

Staff Reporter

THE "faceless official" at the centre of overturning decisions by Peninsula town councils revealed himself to local mayors, town clerks and councillors yesterday

Decisions by the Ministerial Representative in the Department of Local Government, National Housing and Public Works, Mr Koos Albertyn, have recently angered many elected representatives

Mr Albertyn's department is the final arbiter on appeal to plans for homes or developments which have been turned down by local councils

In February the department overturned a veto by the Milnerton town council on extensions to the homes of celebrities Professor Chris Barnard and opera singer Mimi Coertse, in Table View and Bloubergstrand, respectively

In spite of angry protests by neighbours and the town council, no reasons for the go-ahead were given by Mr Albertyn, and the matter was raised in Parliament.

At a briefing he called for local officials yesterday Mr Albertyn said investigation into the best system of appeals was under way

In future reasons would also be given for rulings

Pinelands councillor Mr Hans Schultz said his council had to contend with a situation in which local councillors, who were in touch with residents, were overruled by "a group of faceless officials"

"In Pinelands we object to second dwellings on a single plot, as these could turn our area into a slum

UNDER PRESSURE
Mr Koos Albertyn.

"When we are overruled, we are told we are not entitled to any reasons We want local input, not decisions by faceless officials"

Former mayor of Simon's Town Mrs Nicki Holderness said the appeal system was criticised in her town

She suggested that the Cape should adopt a system like Natal's, with presentations being made by those for and against an appeal

Afterwards Mr Albertyn said it seemed the feeling of the meeting was that the appeals system should be changed

"I think we will take the best of each of the systems in the four provinces," he said

● In February Mr Albertyn said he considered 255 cases last year In nearly 75% of cases the local authority decision was accepted, consensus was achieved in over 18%, and there was disagreement in only 7% of cases

"As long as you are reasonable in your decisions, you won't have difficulty with us," Mr Albertyn assured him

Moses Mayekiso to head national civics

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Veteran trade unionist and Civics Association of Southern Transvaal chief Mr Moses Mayekiso has been elected president of the new national federation of township civic organisations

The SA National Civics Association was launched in Uitenhage at the weekend

Mr Mayekiso was elected in absentia Sources said he scored a clear victory over ANC local and regional government department head Mr Thozamile Botha In an interview yesterday, Mr Mayekiso said he missed the launch as he had to be in his home town, Alexandra, where violence has raged since March 8

He said the new federation would decide whether township civics should participate in Codesa In an apparent reference to Cosatu's programme of action, he said the federation would support "actions by progressive organisations" (263) CT17/6/92

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 27 on 27 March 1990 and Question No 55 on 15 March 1991, any persons have been detained, arrested, charged and/or convicted in connection with the alleged murders of 16 persons, whose names have been furnished to the South African Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, if not, why not, if so, (a) what are the names of the persons (i) detained, (ii) arrested, (iii) charged and/or (iv) convicted in connection with each of these alleged murders and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B332E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

No, nobody has yet been charged or convicted for the alleged murders, because no evidence could be obtained to connect anybody with the cases

(a), (i), (ii) and (iv) Fall away

(b) 9 March 1992

Note

As a result of Mr Dirk Coetzee's confession regarding the murder on Griffiths Mxenge, a warrant for his arrest was issued The warrant of arrest was cancelled on 1 October 1991 by the Attorney-General of Natal Alfred Nofomela, who was condemned to death, also alleged that he was involved in the murder of Griffiths Mxenge The Attorney-General of Natal intended to institute charges against Nofomela, but the charge has been preliminary withdrawn Nofomela also appeared before the Harms Commission in connection with his and Dirk Coetzee's allegations The ruling of the Judge is common knowledge

Prostitution

135 Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Law and Order

(1) How many women were arrested for prostitution during the course of 1991,

(2) whether these women were tested for sexually transmitted diseases, if not, why not, if so, how many of them were found to be HIV-positive?

B339E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1) 2 061

(2) No, the South African Police has no authority to subject women to such tests

Investigation: Ibhayi Town Council/Municipal Police Force

142 Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister of Law and Order

(1) Whether, with reference to the reply to Question No 17 on 14 May 1991, the investigation into the affairs of the (a) Ibhayi Town Council and (b) Ibhayi Municipal Police Force has been completed, if not, (i) why not and (ii) when is it anticipated that it will be completed, if so, what are the findings,

(2) whether any interim reports have been received, if so, what are the relevant details,

(3) whether (a) any charges have been laid as a result of the above investigation and (b) any of those charged have appeared in court, if so, (i) (aa) what charges and (bb) against whom have they been laid and (ii) what are the names of those who have appeared in court,

(4) whether any of these persons have been convicted, if not, why not, if so, what are their names?

B355E

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1), (2), (3) and (4)

Because of the number of cases involved and the various stages of the investigation, it is not possible to answer the question point by point but rather as a whole

The investigation of the following cases has already been completed

New Brighton CR(A) 28/8/90 — fraud
New Brighton CR(A) 29/8/90 — fraud
New Brighton CR(A) 38/8/90 — corruption
New Brighton CR(A) 327/1/91 — fraud
New Brighton CR(A) 328/1/91 — fraud
New Brighton CR(A) 329/1/91 — fraud
New Brighton CR(A) 282/1/92 — extortion
New Brighton CR(A) 30/8/90 — fraud
New Brighton CR(A) 31/8/90 — fraud
New Brighton CR(A) 326/1/91 — fraud
Louis le Grange Square CR(A) 491/1/91 — fraud

(In my reply to Question No 17 on 14 May 1991 the case reference was given as Louis le Grange Square CR(A) 479/1/91)

The investigation of the cases Algoa Park CR(A) 5/9/88, New Brighton CR(A) 34/8/90 and New Brighton CR(A) 35/8/90—fraud—has been completed The Attorney-General declined to prosecute

Regarding the cases New Brighton CR(A) 279/3/88—corruption against the Town Council and New Brighton CR(A) 36/8/90—corruption against an employee of the Town Council, the investigation has not been completed

— The reason why the investigation has not been completed, is because the accounting records of the Town Council of Ibhayi is being audited by an auditing firm at present Their final report has not been submitted According to the auditing firm it will still be a considerable time before the audit is completed, as the books of Ibhayi were not kept up to date

— It is not possible to determine when the investigation of the two cases will be completed

The investigation of the following cases has not been finalized

New Brighton CR(A) 324/2/92—fraud—goods obtained with false Town Council order forms

New Brighton CR(A) 438/2/92—fraud—tender documents forged

In order not to delay the police investigation, the relevant auditing firm has already submitted two interim reports which show alleged fraud and corruption, and the investigation is nearly completed

In the cases New Brighton CR(A) 28/8/90, 29/8/90, 38/8/90, 327/1/91, 328/1/91, 329/1/91 and 282/1/92 *supra* the accused have been charged

— They have already appeared in court However, the allegations against them were provisionally withdrawn on instructions from the Attorney-General

— The cases New Brighton CR(A) 30/8/90, 31/8/90, 326/1/91 and Louis le Grange Square CR(A) 491/1/91 *supra* is with the Attorney-General at present for his decision

In the following cases the accused have already been found guilty and sentenced

New Brighton CR(A) 32/8/90—the State versus Phılda N Msimango—fraud

New Brighton CR(A) 33/8/90—the State versus Mxolix F Sosi—fraud

In the case Louis le Grange Square CR(A) 522/9/90 Jacobus Johannes Nieman was charged with corruption He was acquitted as the State could not prove corruption to the satisfaction of the court

Ore-berth, Port Elizabeth

143 Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister for Public Enterprises,

(1) (a) What is the capital investment of South African parastatal bodies in the ore-berth in Port Elizabeth Harbour and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished,

(2) (a) what is the life-span of the mechanized system currently in use at this ore-berth, (b) when is it due for refitting and (c) how much will this refitting cost?

B356E

The MINISTER FOR PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

The Managing Director of TRANSNET LIMITED has furnished the following information in reply to the hon member's question

(1) (a) R21,9 million

(b) As on 11 February 1992

(2) (a) The remaining economic life-span is approximately 15 years

(b) Refitting/maintenance is done on a continuous basis

(c) Approximately R3 million is budgeted under operating expenditure for refitting/maintenance per year

Port Elizabeth Airport

144 Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister for Public Enterprises

cont --->

Trip to Nice was to promote city

Municipal Reporter

MAYOR Mr Frank van der Velde says his recent trip to Nice was an opportunity to market Cape Town "aggressively".

Speaking at the annual Mayor's Award for Service Excellence ceremony, Mr Van Der Velde said service was one of the keys to making Cape Town a successful global tourist destination.

"One of the factors that will sell Cape Town as a tourist venue is Capetonians themselves — an aggressive, couldn't-care-less attitude will mean we shall not be a tourist venue."

There were 50 nominations for the prize this year, of which 25 were given prizes

Hotels and guest houses featured prominently among winners, while prizes were given to a furniture store which put out a banner welcoming visitors, people who arranged holiday accommodation, and one for cleaning a bus before taking tourists to the Waterfront

Winners were

Satour's visitor information bureau at the Golden Acre, Captour's Strand Concourse office, Mrs Mimi Hendriks of the Stellenbosch Publicity Association and Ronald Scott Interiors

Mike's Kitchen in the Golden Acre, Josephine Mill Museum, the Waterfront Trading Company, Movie Makers Television and Film Producers, Mr Edward Kelly of City Tramways and Mr Gert Vollmer of Church Square Security.

The Ritz Protea Hotel, The Don Protea Hotel, The Cellars Country House Hotel and Mr Neil Markovitz of the Victoria and Alfred Hotel

The Peninsula All-Suite Hotel, the Dennegeur Guest House, St Johns Lodge in Sea Point, Cashel Bed and Breakfast, Mrs Kay Luyt, Mr Ian McLean, Balletique and Mr Jan Venter

Three prize-winners did not attend the ceremony De Helderberg Co-op Winery, Warrant Officer Nicolaas Loubser of the police detective branch and Rieses Delicatessen.

26
ARC

chance
Mayor
1/9/3/92

BETTERMENT FEES

Sapoa fights back

FM 20/3/92 263

Cape Town City Council has recommended to Cape Administrator Kobus Meiring the reintroduction of betterment fees. These are payable by property owners when their land increases in value because of rezoning

The move could increase considerably the cost of developing land and is opposed by the SA Property Owners' Association (Sapoa).

In addition, council officials are currently preparing a proposal for cost-related fees for rezoning which will push up development costs even further.

Until 1985, betterment fees were levied under the 1934 Townships Ordinance at a rate of 50% of the increased market value of the land as a result of rezoning The measure was scrapped when the Land Use Planning Ordinance (Lupo) was introduced in 1985

If it is re-introduced, it will mean, for example, that if a piece of land is rezoned from residential to business and the value is deemed to have increased from R100 000 to R500 000, the owners will be liable for a betterment fee of R200 000.

Council officials argue that the current system is inequitable Lupo abolished betterment fees but retained the concept of payment by the city council of compensation for the loss of development rights when, for planning reasons, it wishes to restrict owners who want to develop zoning rights to their full extent.

But Sapoa Western Province regional chairman Lori Colussi says the scrapping of betterment fees was a trade-off to the industry in return for the acceptance of the lapsing of all existing zonings not utilised, in 2001

"Sapoa will regard any attempt to reintroduce (betterment fees) as a breach of good faith on a deal that was negotiated during the early part of 1980, culminating in the acceptance of Lupo by all concerned"

He says it was accepted at the time by investors and local government representatives that betterment fees were a "most undesirable," unfair and unreasonable form of tax "The development potential of a site is invariably already discounted in the value of the site at any given time, so it is unfair to impose tax at a specific time chosen by the authority based on an 'enhancement' as a result of rezoning — a possible change in land use would always have been on the cards"

Colussi says the "trade-off" assisted local authorities in ridding themselves at no cost over 15 years of zonings considered undesirable (previously they had existed *ad infinitum*) He says the council's proposal is contrary to all free-market principles and the decision should be rescinded

According to provincial officials at the time, betterment fees were scrapped to "reinforce the market mechanism" and remove "distortions" from the property market

But in a report to the council's town plan- continued

 FM 20/3/92 263

ning committee, city planner Neville Riley said expectations that Lupo would eliminate "sudden jumps" in value due to rezoning had not been realised and "substantial windfall profits" were being made from successful rezonings

Riley said "theoretical suppositions" relating to the operation of a free market in urban land were "highly simplistic." It had been shown internationally that it was extremely difficult to eliminate the "windfall and wipeout phenomenon" which went hand-in-hand with a development control system based on zoning

But unlike systems operating elsewhere in the world which contributed to the smoother functioning of the land market, Lupo was based on the concept of "Euclidean zoning" (separation of land uses) which inevitably leads to situations of relative scarcity and consequent disparities in land values between different zones

Riley said the levying of betterment fees would allow local authorities to be more "courageous" in curbing undesirable development and, if necessary, paying compensation He acknowledged that betterment fees would add to capital and holding costs, possibly discourage investment in Cape Town and cause disputes over the extent of increased values

The proposed introduction of cost-related fees for rezonings and other council services, such as subdivisions and departures from town planning schemes, is in line with a recent amendment to Lupo

Riley said the cost of processing a simple application ranges from R1 000-R2 000, but can be as high as R100 000 for a large and complex application, at council's expense ■

Apartheid poll system ended

~~3 col~~ (262) CT 20/3/92

By PETER DENNEHY

THERE will be no more whites-only municipal elections, Local Government Minister Mr Leon Wessels said yesterday

The announcement makes it likely that scheduled elections for coloured management committees and black local authorities will be postponed until they too can be run on a non-racial basis

Speaking at the opening of the United Municipal Executive (UME) congress in Cape Town, Mr Wessels also announced that the government was committed to the principle of "one-city-one-tax-base"

Public relations officer for the Minister, Mr Johan Smit, said local elections were likely to be postponed until at least 1994

In the meanwhile, councillors will retain their seats, and by-elections will be unaffected

Mr Smit said municipal elections would be postponed "until interim measures and a final dispensation can be finalised"

Urgent discussions on local government would take place at Codesa, he said

Mr Wessels said the government now believed it had a clear mandate to carry out its policy of one tax base for cities

● Participation in negotiations for a new local government dispensation was even more important than the end result, Cape Town Mayor Mr Frank van der Velde told the congress

● The UME is to review "neighbourhood rule" provisions of the Abolition of Racially Based Land Measures Act with a view to asking the government to repeal them These provisions enable a group of over 100 residents to force their local authority to ensure that bylaws "to protect norms and standards" are enacted

One of the delegates said the government had introduced the measures as a result of UME representations when the Group Areas Act was seen to be on the way out Nonetheless, most delegates were in favour of the review

● Mr Mike Hands, legal adviser to the Natal delegation, reported that small business expert Professor Louise Tager had agreed that one of the provisions of the Businesses Act — which will extensively deregulate street hawking — was "a bit much". She will look into having it changed

Mr Hands said if the law was changed, some dubious draft regulations put out recently by the CPA (saying that hawkers can trade in some areas only if the local authority consents) would be rendered legal

● All primary health care functions are to be devolved to local authorities, in most cases from provincial administrations, the UME heard yesterday.

All delegations except the Free State's accepted this in principle, providing they could also have "financial assurances"

Mr Harm Kruger, president of the OFS Municipal Association, said the state wanted to rid itself of this responsibility because it had no money

Dr Willie Conradie, an adviser to the UME, said "This is the new health dispensation If we wait until all uncertainties are cleared up we will wait forever"

Mayor: I'll be glad to hand over

CT 21/3/92 (213)

Staff Reporter

THE Mayor of Cape Town, Mr Frank van der Velde, will be happy to hand over the reins to a person "elected by all the people"

He was reacting to the government's announcement on Thursday that there would be no more whites-only municipal elections

"I was only elected by a portion of the population and I have always said that I regard myself as a caretaker mayor," he said yesterday

"I believe we must proceed with local government negotiations as quickly as we can. The final decision will come out of Codesa, but we have got an awful lot of ground to cover now with background work and research"

He said municipal boundaries would have to be re-defined and local government and extra-parliamentary bodies would need to be consulted

The Mayor wlcomed the commitment of the government to a policy of "one city, one tax base"

● Delegates at the United Municipal Executive (UME) conference in Cape Town agreed yesterday that their main task for the year ahead was to gain representation at Codesa on the future of local government

Mr Iain Davidson, a Johannesburg city councillor, said that in his chamber's dealings with Codesa "it had become apparent that there was a lack of expertise concerning local government at Codesa"

Mr Richard Friedlander, chairman of the executive committee of the Cape Town City Council, stressed that the UME should waste no time in preparing for negotiations on this issue

● The announcement that the government intends making membership of the Pension Fund for Municipal Councillors compulsory caused upheaval at the UME conference. At present each local authority can establish its own fund

The Free State and the Transvaal accepted the proposed amendment but the Cape and Natal were opposed

Civics aim for end to violence

South 21/3-26/3/92

The recently-launched national civic organisation is evidence of a trend of unity among black communitites, reports **Sechaba ka Nkosi**

Moses Mayekiso

WHITE SOUTH Africans may be divided into "Yes" and "No" camps as seen in this week's referendum on reform, but black communities are uniting at grassroots level

Evidence of this trend is the launch of the national civic organisation in Uitenhage last weekend.

The event was the culmination of years of work by the National Interim Civics Committee (NICC) to bring local branches from 14 regions into one national body — the South African National Civics Organisation (Sanco)

Almost all the community organisations and liberation movements, including the Pan-Africanist Congress (PAC) and the Azanian People's Organisation (Azapo), are represented in the regional committees of Sanco

In other branches, like the one in Alexandra township near Johannesburg, the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) is also represented

Sanco secretary-general Mr Dan Sandi says the civic movement is a representative forum where nonracial unity can be attained.

"One becomes a member of the community organisation because one is a resident, thus the whole movement takes the nature of every resident being a civic member and every civic member a resident," says Sandi.

Sanco sees itself playing an important role in ending the violence and in working towards and participating in an interim government.

Its president, Mr Moses Mayekiso, says "We know the feeling of the people on the ground, and everyone has to swallow political affiliations for the sake of the socio-political empowerment of our people"

Mayekiso beat ANC expert on local government Mr Thozamile Botha by 48 votes to become the president of the organisation

The civic movement has been at the forefront of the anti-apartheid opposition

Civic organisations were key players in the anti-apartheid struggle of the mid-eighties and helped bring about the collapse of many racially divided structures like the Black Local Authorities (BLAs)

But they are still paying a price for the gains they have made Many of the BLAs joined the IFP and civic leaders have been targeted for assassinations

Mr Sam Ntuli, Mr Michael Mapongwana, Mr Sipho Hashe and Mr Qaqawuli Godolozi are some of the civic leaders who have been brutally murdered by hit squads

Whether the new national civic organisation can play a meaningful role in the transition remains to be seen.

But the very launch of Sanco is a huge step towards unity among blacks

"We will do everything in our power to defend all the gains made so far and we will not rest until BLAs are gone and replaced by nonracial local governments," says Sandi.

Sanco had an important role to play in the One-City debate, another executive member Mr Henry Fazzie said

"They are in the position of informing authorities about the needs of the people and how they see development, their role is not to replace elected local authorities but to inform them," Fazzie said.

He warned, however, that civics should not sign any agreements at a local level as this may have "implications for national negotiations"

Other members elected to top positions in Sanco are.

vice-president Mr Lechesa Tsenondi, of the Transvaal,

assistant secretary Mr Penrose Ntlonti, from the Border;

treasurer Mr Thobile Gidigidi, of the Transkei Civic Association,

publicity secretary Mr Maxwell Mamase, of the Port Elizabeth People's Civic Association and regional director of the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa—*AIA and Pen*

Feud delays unity in Western Cape

South 21/3-26/3/92

UNITY AMONG all civic organisations in the Western Cape seems unlikely to be achieved in the near future

The Western Cape United Squatters Association (Wecusa) has vowed to stay out of the unity process as long as the "long-standing issue of attacks on its members by the Western Cape Civic Association (WCCA) remains unresolved"

This stand and the related allegations follow Wecusa's absence from the launch of the Civic Organisation of the Western Cape (Cowec) two weeks ago

Wecusa was a member of the regional interim civics committee, which was charged with bringing about a merger between the WCCA, the Western Cape Hostel Dwellers Association (WCHDA), Wecusa and the Cape Areas Housing Action Committee (Cahac) to form Cowec

Wecusa regional vice-chairperson Mr Enoch Madywabe said "Before the merger, the WCCA burnt down shacks of our members and a vehicle belonging to Wecusa at Green Point in Khayelitsha

"When we reported the matter to the interim committee, a meeting attended by WCHDA, Cahac, Wecusa, the ANC, WCCA, Cosatu was convened

"Wecusa members told the meeting they could not forfeit their right to operate among the shack dwellers as we had a long history of co-operation with them.

"We found that the WCCA was jealous that we were operating among the shack dwellers They said they had a right to operate in the shacks"

Madywabe said the meeting decided that the WCCA should operate in the townships and not in the squatter settlements

When Wecusa had demanded that the burnt vehicle be replaced, an ANC national official, said he would take the matter to his national executive committee, but had not reported back.

Madywabe said that after the shack dwellers had been allowed to return to their areas the shacks were burnt down again, resulting in the death of three people.

"We have been trying in vain on various occassions to get the WCCA to sit down and resolve the matter with us," Madywabe said.

"Since then we suspended our participation in the interim committee. We feel that we cannot engage ourselves in unity talks with WCCA until the matter of the harassment of the shack dwellers has been addressed"

Madywabe said Wecusa found there was no trust between the organisations as one member was engaged in acts of violence against Wecusa.

He said that a week before the launch of Cowec, two men from the WCHDA and two men from the WCCA approached Wecusa and said there would be a launch of a united civic the following week.

The men said they represented an "organising committee" for the launch This kind of behaviour further bore testimony to the fact that the regional interim civic committee cannot be trusted," he said.

"How can Wecusa, being a member organisation, be told that there would be a launch without being involved in the decision-making?

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Despite SOUTH's attempts for two weeks to get comment on Wecusa's allegations, Cowec's secretary and chairperson refused to respond.

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Cape is point of focus in local authority talks

South 21/3 - 26/3/92 (263)

Blacks will have to pay for municipal services in an integrated city, the ANC's spokesperson on local government, **Thozamile Botha**, told a seminar on options for the Cape Peninsula

IN THE LATEST attempt to get negotiations for a single, non-racial local authority in the Cape Peninsula off the ground, the ANC has called for a "national representative conference between the government and all those organisations which are committed to building an intergrated city"

The call for the "non-government controlled conference" was made by Mr Thozamile Botha, the ANC's national convenor on local government, at a seminar on "Future Local Government Options for the Cape Peninsula" The seminar was hosted by the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa (Idasa) Botha said apartheid policies had not only failed, but had produced "acute inequalities and structural deficiencies in South African society"

"In the sphere of local authorities these policies have produced distinct geographic, racial, ethnic and resource inequalities

"Today, we cannot resolve South African problems without addressing the differences between black, white, coloured and Indian communities and the structural problems thereof"

Taking a short cut in solving these problems would lead to democracy being a slogan rather than a reality

Botha said that in a fact-finding mission, the World Bank had discovered that white local authorities had well-developed financial systems and practices

"The large white local authorities consistently generate operating surpluses, financing almost 90 percent of their capital expenditure from internal funds and financial sector borrowing

"In contrast, the Black Local Authorities (BLAs) operate on large budgetary deficits"

Botha said the deficit for BLAs in 1988/89 exceeded R472-million

The main reason for their bad perfomance was not only inefficiency, corruption of officials and the effect of the rent boycotts, but also the small size of the revenue base in the black townships

Given the population sizes of these townships and the fact that the main industrial and commercial sectors are based in and continue to subsidise white areas, deficit problems could not be resolved without major structural adjustments for local authorities in entire cities, towns and rural communities

Botha said that in any normal society it was expected that end-users contribute to capital and operating costs, "but due to the abnormality of our society this did not always happen"

"This culture of non-payment is, inter alia, driven by the inadequacies of the apartheid policies," Botha said.

He said the envisaged conference between government and other players should be guided by the perspectives of the major political players involved in national constitutional negotiations

"A process of consultation among the major players should take place to decide who should participate in the preparatory committee of such a conference," Botha said

Urban Problems Research Unit director Ms Vanessa Watson said existing local authorities and forms of administration and planning evolved at a time of plentiful resources

"They closely followed models developed in First World countries and were directed at serving a small and middle-class population," she said

"Institutions and forms of management will have to undergo a major re-orientation if they are to respond appropriately to the dynamics of the future city"

Watson said they would have to become development orientated as opposed to control orientated with the focus of urban management being the promotion of opportunities for survival.

"The re-orientation programme would require the participation and efforts of the entire city population, and the establishment of a forum where this can occur is an obvious starting point," said Watson.

Thozamile Botha Photo Dynamic Images

Community Health And Development Organisations' Forum

Presents an open day on Saturday, 28th March 1992

Venue: Eyona Shopping Centre, NY1, Guguletu

Time: 08h00 till 17h00 (5pm)

Theme for the day

The Way to a Brighter Future
Indlela Eya Kwikamva Eliqaqambileyo

Activities of the day are:

1 Information desks by various organisations
2 First aid demonstrations and other health programmes
3 Child accident prevention programmes
4 Poetry/drama
5 Kitchenwear, jersey, duvets, pottery, rugs, bags, traditional wear
6 Musical bands/gumboot dance etc.

For further information please contact Wankie Maqetuka at 347174 or George Penxa at 9340595 or 9340806

Your presence will be most welcome!

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Soult 21/3-26/3/92

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Non-race polls — and the local government dilemma

(263) ARG 25/3/92

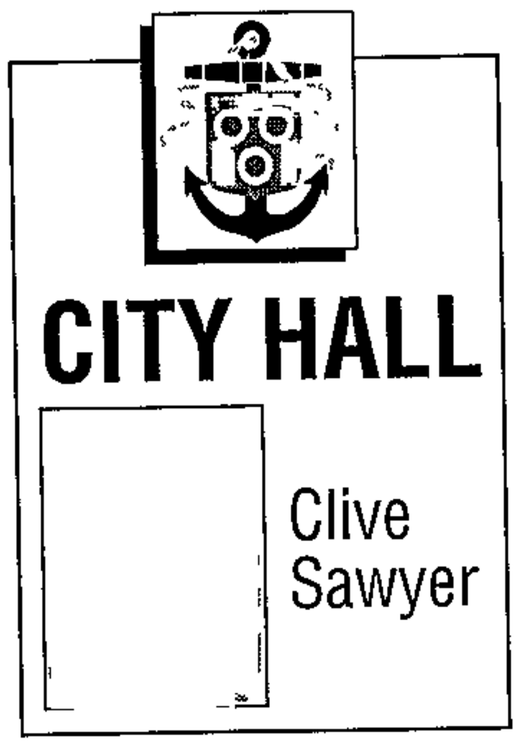
WATCHING local government progress into the future is rather like watching a tortoise plodding carefully a particularly cruel gauntlet

Central government seemed to sabotage its own Interim Measures for Local Government Act with last week's announcement that there would be no more racially-based local government elections

Suddenly, a central government directive seemed to supplant the "local option" path which government spokesmen claimed was promoted by the Act.

Recently, Citrusdal set up a non-racial council in terms of the Act, by the simple expedient of amalgamating its management committee and white town council

Liberals and sceptics viewed the event as not worth the fuss made of it



Probably, it was not an auspicious start that the new council took their seats without benefit of a further election, which some members of the community had demanded while the new dispensation was being negotiated

Certainly, the Citrusdal syndrome is a contradiction of the post-referendum announcement, because however well supported individual councillors may have been in the 1988 municipal elections, they are the product of racial polls

The Act itself has been controversial, and Cape Town City Council has been exchanging correspondence regularly with the Administrator on provisions which they find objectionable.

Speaking to United Municipal Executive delegates last week, mayor of Cape Town Mr Frank van der Velde said the Act should be scrapped

Seated next to him, Minister of Local Government Mr Leon Wessels, who had earlier announced the demise of racial elections, looked inscrutably ahead at the serried ranks of municipal heavyweights

By the way, a Natal delegate's suggestion that the UME open its ranks to all was not welcomed with enthusiasm

But then, such a step would be difficult because none of the city and town councils present have any members who are not white

Next month, the Cape Province Municipal Association will undoubtedly face a similar call at its meeting in East London It is hard to see how members will be able to stave off such a bid — which would be far from the first of its type.

Meanwhile, I learned from the Administrator's office, local authorities throughout the province are keen to cling to Citrusdal's coat-tails

Out of 212 local authorities in the province, 127 have applied to use provisions of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act, which would allow them to do all sorts of things ranging from joint decision-making to setting up a single council

Indications were that most would opt for "fully integrated" councils.

That could mean a set of local government elections throughout the province, from sea to shining sheep

And in terms of the policy statement, they would have to be non-racial Or do I have the wrong end of the tortoise?

But there is a question that taxed the minds of UME delegates, and it is a fair one — what about by-elections?

Mr Wessels said there would be no local elections until it was possible for them to be non-racial, and his office confirmed this meant the 1993 polls would be postponed until further notice

Transvaal delegates said they had asked their Administrator, and he had said that the law stands death or resignation means a by-election must be held

If one of the august number of a town council was called to the Great Chamber in the Sky, an Administrator could find himself in a dilemma

Allowing a council to go ahead with a whites-only by-election would contradict stated central government policy.

Allowing a non-racial election could be challenged in court as a contravention of laws sadly still on the statute books

Of course, Cape Town City Council could test the waters quite easily· if all 34 members resigned, precipitating 34 by-elections they could address a number of issues at once, from the strength of ratepayer confidence in them to whether the chamber would at once be a more democratic place

While this is an entertaining idea (I said entertaining, not laughable) it is not really desirable

There are no non-racial voters' rolls and too many questions about how they should be drawn up remain

There is no unanimity on how new mechanisms and structures should be put in place, with Cape Town concentrating on developing a democratic and credible process while other councils opt for seemingly quick solutions

The UME were right to raise the by-election question — but if the next representative produced by a by-election is to be truly representative, government and other tortoises are going to have to show a swift turn of speed.

Conditions for 'crisis payouts'

(263)

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

ARG 26/3/92

STRICT conditions are to be imposed before grants are paid to crisis-hit black local authorities, Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring said.

The government announced recently that grants would be given to local authorities so that essential services could continue, in a bid to curb further unrest.

The grants were "definitely not to finance lawlessness, but to prevent a large-scale catastrophe and misery in certain local communities", Mr Meiring said.

Conditions include freezing of posts and all vacancies in "crisis" towns, cutting back of consumer services to set limits, announcement of the reasons to affected communities, and the immediate suspension of maintenance at houses where rent and service charges were not being paid.

Other conditions were regular and efficient rendering of accounts for rent and service charges, increase of revenue collections, cutting back of spending, and "resolute" protection of infrastructures.

These steps would help to defuse the present crisis, he said.

CLIFTON BUNGALOWS

Testing the price

The sale of what are widely regarded as the most sought-after residential properties in SA — the Clifton bungalow sites in Cape Town — is headed for a long legal battle

Leaseholders are trying to make the city council sell the properties at prices set six years ago

The 170 sites on the beach at Clifton are leased from the council at nominal rentals but long-term leases, including the modest bungalows on the sites, now sell for much more than they would have in 1986 when the council decided in principle to sell the sites

Prices were set at around R200 000 They were regarded as steep then but not unreasonable.

Technicalities delayed the sales Earlier this year, the council decided to test the market by selling three vacant sites and one which had a bungalow They fetched a total of R2,6m

The plots ranged in size from 371 m² to 520 m² and the prices from R550 000 to R750 000 at an auction attended by about 350 people

The prices were regarded as exceptional in view of the strict conditions of sale. you must build within two years of transfer, resale before building is restricted, as is size and height of buildings and vehicular access from the road

The auction was seen as an indicator of how the council could peg prices when it eventually sells the other plots But bungalow owners say legal opinion is that the council cannot raise the prices from the 1986 level.

After the auction, the council decided to let its executive committee determine the prices It is understood that the committee is

Continued →

still considering the issue

Meanwhile, bungalow residents have applied for a court order to compel the council to sell the sites at the 1986 prices. The council says the prices were not fixed and it will oppose the order

City administrator Gys Hofmeyr says the case will probably take some time to go to court. ■

No visitors allowed without permission at Lutzville

South 28/3-2/4/92 263

By Donald Zake

RESIDENTS OF the coloured area of Lutzville on the West Coast are compelled to sign a lease forbidding them to have visitors without the written permission of the white municipality

Town clerk Mr Jannie Carstens said the lease was a "completely ordinary agreement that has been in force for years" but that it was being revised and would be put to residents for their comments before being finalised

"We don't want to be negative or unsympathetic," he said this week, "but there are numbers of houses which are absolutely overpopulated, and then we sit with the problem"

The chairperson of the Lutzville Civic Association, Mr John van der Westhuizen, said in an interview that the contract "takes away your democratic right that you have in this country"

He said in addition to the clause on "bona fide visitors", there was one providing that only people who worked in Lutzville could occupy the houses

Carstens said it had already been decided to scrap the second clause, and said the municipality did not enforce the clause on visitors

Its purpose was to prevent visitors from staying on and becoming permanent occupants, which could result in two- or three-roomed houses being occupied by 10 or 12 people.

This was "totally logical and justifiable"

Carstens also said there was a clause in the contract stipulating that a person would not be allowed to occupy a house unless he had fixed employment

"The idea is that a man must not roam around and be without a job"

He said although this entitled the municipality to evict a person who lost his job, it would be "absolutely unfair" to do so

What it meant in practice was that preference was given on the waiting list for homes to people who had jobs

Coloured residents of Lutzville owed more than R140 000 in rent arrears and service charges

Carstens said the community was consulted on the contract at the meeting on Sunday March 22, and that a revised version would be published for comment

Business and civic leaders for talks on Cape growth

ST Times (CM) 29/3/92

ABOUT 300 business and civic leaders are expected to attend the Growing the Cape workshop in the Cape Town Civic Centre on Wednesday

They include not only market-demand-driven industrial sectors such as clothing, food processing, construction materials, printing and durable consumer goods but relatively new or specialised growth sectors such as high-tech products, scientific equipment, upmarket boutique clothing, jewellery, cosmetics and pharmaceutical products

With vigorous inward as well as export orientated industrialisation programmes, the Western Cape should be able to maintain a growth momentum in all these subsectors during the next few years, says Wesgro in its invaluable working guide, South Africa's leading edge? — A guide to the Western Cape economy, published this week

It points out that the swing towards smaller enterprises and the informal sector is likely to become more pronounced in the region, given the consolidation of African urban settlements and the growing number of small-scale self-employment ventures in "coloured" and white communities

The guide focuses on selected subsectors

● Clothing This is regarded as the most important industry in the Western Cape, with considerable growth potential in local, national and export markets

● Textiles "With concerted, industry-wide strategic planning, better co-operation between clothing and textiles operators, and pragmatic market-orientated support from government, the sector should be able to increase its contribution to the economy of the Western Cape"

● Food "Foreign exports are significant for canned products and markets on the African continent may be set to expand"

● Beverages Soft drinks production is likely to grow rapidly due to rising local demand and the export potential for fruit juices The wine sector could experience slower growth locally but exports may achieve a breakthrough

● Printing and publishing This is likely to expand over the medium term through the growing population, increasing literacy and new education policies

● Wood processing and furniture Growth opportunities include basic household furniture for low-income consumers and high quality wood, steel or plastic furniture, as well as the renovation of antiques, for upper-income local, national and export markets

● Petrochemical, industrial chemical and plastics industries In these and subsectors such as pharmaceuticals and cosmetics the region could, if properly prepared, establish a distinct niche in national and export markets

● Fabricated metal products, machinery and electrical industries, together with scientific instruments and electronic equipment

● Pleasure boats and fishing vessels The former seem well placed for expansion in local/national demand and exports, and in the latter case production for export could be a medium-run challenge

The guide points out that although the Western Cape is poorly placed for north-eastern neighbours, the road links with Namibia and Botswana, sea links along the West African coast — for example, Angola and Nigeria — and air links with all parts of the continent should enable the region to capture a significant share of trade and other business opportunities

The following benchmarkets are suggested for consideration

● A population growth rate not exceeding 2,6% a year

● Gross geographic product of at least 3,5% a year

● The creation of 40 000 new, identifiable jobs a year during the next few years

● An increase of 5 to 7% a year in total exports from the Western Cape

● A 10-year programme (incorporating annual targets) to speed up provision of the social-infrastructure needs of black low-income households

Rates change to follow schools?

CT 30/6/92

CIVIC DIARY

By PETER DENNEHY

ADOPTION of a system of separate charges — over and above rates — for sewerage and refuse removal may be hastened in Cape Town by changes taking place in the administration of schools

This odd connection is made in a recent report from the City Treasurer's office

It notes that under current legislation, white schools which will soon change to Model C will no longer have to pay property rates once ownership of the schools has been transferred to their governing bodies.

The potential loss of rates revenue, if all 284 educational institutions in the municipality go this way, would amount to R4,8 million.

'Review needed'

"The applicability of charges for specific services would then have to be considered," the report says.

It seems unlikely that such charges would be imposed only on schools.

Some 55 private schools in Cape Town are already exempt from rates, but they are charged for sewerage and refuse removal on the basis of what these services cost on average throughout the city per rand of municipal valuation.

"The actual formula for calculating such charges now needs to be reviewed as Council may wish to look at options open to it for charging more realistically for those direct services," the treasurer's report says.

"It is quite possible that separate service charges may be introduced for sewerage and refuse removal in the future, although Council has agreed to defer a decision on this principle until completion of the general revaluation of the city in 1993."

Mr Richard Friedlander told the United Municipal Executive recently that the general trend, supported by the Permanent Finance Liaison Committee, was to move away from rates exemptions

The city must collect rates, so why should some properties be exempted?

Parents are going to have to pay more at the newly-private schools This will be partly because the government will no longer pay the property-rate contribution that it used to pay to the council and the council will have to get the funds it needs through other avenues.

One is already beginning to hear of how parents are going to struggle to keep educating their children in schools which used to be white.

It does not help them to point out that the governing body is getting a valuable property free and they are lucky not to be paying for it.

Excluded?

Is this large-scale privatisation necessary or fair? Will it not deprive the government of control over education?

Imagine if a governing body does not pay its service charges Will the council be able to have a school sold in execution of debt? What happens to education then?

Those who cannot afford public schools — and that is most of us — look set to be excluded from a lot more schools in future.

ARG 31/3/92

Council image under fire from ombudsman

~~3b2~~ 263

Mr Grainger Heugh

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

BUCK-PASSING and bad communication with the public is hampering the image of the city council, says municipal ombudsman Mr Grainger Heugh

City council officials' failure to keep the public informed about the progress of inquiries or applications was causing irritation and discontent

Curtness and unhelpfulness were also problems, said Mr Heugh in his annual report

Tabled at today's city council meeting, the report said it was "patently clear that the image of the council has suffered severely"

Commenting on the report, town clerk Mr Don Geyer said action by the corporate management team had led to an improvement in officials' dealings with the public, but the "whole aspect of communication, internally and externally" had to be reviewed

Clear policy and effective strategy for dealing with various stakeholders was needed

"The recent spate of unfavourable Press reports would certainly indicate that this aspect needs to be addressed with urgency," Mr Geyer said

The ombudsman handles complaints allegedly caused by maladministration or malpractice

Mr Geyer said the cost of having an ombudsman was "a small price to pay for ensuring that a R1,4 billion a year organisation guards against malpractice, maladministration and unnecessary bureaucracy"

In his report, Mr Heugh said he dealt with 100 cases in 1991, compared with 90 in 1990 and 82 in 1989

Cases investigated included all branches of the council

"In none was there evidence of malpractice or dishonesty," Mr Heugh said

Most were based on allegations of slow response to complaints or of refusal to respond because it was the responsibility of some other person or section

"There were instances of 'passing the buck' or 'duck-shoving' as it is sometimes styled in administrative quarters," Mr Heugh said

Interim replies to the public were important

Supervisors should guard against "formal and often stereotyped and curt replies being sent out to members of the public, often by junior and relatively inexperienced personnel, which caused frustration and offence and gave the council a poor image," he said

Commenting on his own role, Mr Heugh said ombudsmen were likely to play an increasingly important part in all levels of government as South African society changed.

Mr Heugh, a former town clerk, has been ombudsman for seven years

Mayor backs negotiation

LOCAL Government Minister Mr Leon Wessels intended to use fiscal measures to discipline those who chose not to apply the racially-based Interim Measures Act, Mayor of Cape Town Mr Frank van der Velde charged yesterday.

(243) CT 114492

If such measures were needed, he said, "surely they should be aimed at disciplining those who fail to pursue the path to real non-racialism".

The mayor believes that the appropriate path to non-racialism for Cape Town is through negotiation involving all with a stake in the metropolitan area — not through the procedures laid down in the act.

Council cancels Founders Day festivities

ARG 1/4/92

Municipal Reporter

THE city council has cancelled its Founders Day celebrations because it would be "divisive" to focus on a one-sided, Eurocentric founding of Cape Town.

Mayor Frank van der Velde said he had consulted the Netherlands Ambassador and the Van Riebeeck Foundation and they agreed with the move.

The decision, proposed by acting executive committee chairman Mr Louis Kreiner, was accepted unanimously at yesterday's city council meeting

Mr Kreiner said that while embarking on a process of unification, it would be divisive to focus on a one-sided Eurocentric founding of Cape Town

"It would therefore be more appropriate for there to be no public celebration by the council on April 6 until a non-racial, democratic local authority can decide on the issue," he said.

Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring said he had not been officially informed and could not comment.

"I haven't been officially informed and don't know the reasons for cancelling the celebrations

"I believe that Founders Day commemorates an important day in the history, not only of the Cape but of the entire country It is an event worth commemorating," he said

Ibhayi council collapses

(263)

ARG 1/4/92

The Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH — The Ibhayi City Council here has finally collapsed. All 17 members of the council have resigned, paving the way for the Cape Provincial Administration's regional representative to appoint an administrator to take over the role of the council.

The move paves the way for a joint administration between the Port Elizabeth municipality and Ibhayi.

A single, non-racial and democratic city council for the greater Port Elizabeth area is already being negotiated at a one-city forum of community leaders.

The resignations of the councillors follows the collapse of the council in the face of widespread allegations of corruption and a Supreme Court order enabling the Port Elizabeth Municipality to attach the council's assets and property in order to recoup money owed to it for services.

R19 200 to be spent on gold badges for city aldermen and freemen

(263)
ARG 1 14/9/92

Municipal Reporter

CITY councillors have voted to spend R19 200 on nine-carat gold badges for aldermen and freemen of the city

Opposing the spending, Mr Ian Iversen said it was "excessive" in tough financial times

The badges looked like primary school badges, he said

Mr Arthur Wienburg said people trying to scrape together money to pay rates would be upset at the expenditure.

"Design something costing R100 and let aldermen and freemen pay for it themselves," he said

It was an "embarrassment" that the executive committee spent time deliberating about badges, Mr Wienburg said

Mayor Frank van der Velde said the matter had been handled by the ad-hoc civic honours committee before being referred to the executive committee

Mrs Joye Gibbs called for "recycleable" badges.

Acting executive committee chairman Mr Louis Kreiner said recognition was due to people who had rendered 20 years' service to the city

"I did not think I would have to stand here defending that honour," he said.

R2,8-m to boost investment in W Cape

(263)

ARG 1/4/92

Municipal Reporter

A WESGRO programme to draw foreign investment to the Western Cape is to get millions of rands funding from local authorities.

The Western Cape Regional Services Council is to give R1,5 million a year for three years, Cape Town City Council R500 000 a year for three years, while smaller town councils will give R800 000

Mr Gordon Oliver said during the city council debate on the spending "If ever there was a need for marketing the Cape, it is now"

Mr Llewellyn van Wyk, council representative on Wesgro, said the region's economy had to be kick-started by attracting investment to combat unemployment

"Half of our rates comes from businesses — we owe it to them," he said.

Other city councillors opposed funding the programme until more detailed information was given about exactly what Wesgro intended to do

Town clerk gets go-ahead on directorship

Municipal Reporter

TOWN clerk Mr Don Geyer has been given permission to serve as a director of Damill Properties Share Block (Pty) Ltd

Damill Properties is owned by the Cape Town Municipal Pension Fund, which has as its sole asset 129 Beach Road, Sea Point

Mr Arthur Wienburg attempted to block permission, saying Mr Geyer was a senior official who should devote his time to his municipal duties.

Report on land took 11 years

Municipal Reporter ARG 1/4/92

THE city planner's department took 11 years to report on the sale of land in Paarden Eiland.

This emerged from the utilities and works committee report to the city council at its monthly meeting yesterday

The council advertised in August 1981 for objections to the sale of the land, part of a substation site in Auckland Street.

The Paarden Eiland and Metro Association asked the council to set it aside for parking.

Representations by the association and then-councillor Dr Jack Joffe led to the utilities and works committee adjourning the matter for a report by the city planner's department

And there the matter rested Or, rather, slept

On February 6, the city administration department reported the city planner was in favour of developing the site, instead of using it for parking.

The city engineer and city electrical engineer were said to have no objection.

Yesterday Mr Arthur Wienburg said "It was big of the city planner to find the time to report after 11 years"

Mrs Eulalie Stott said "things turned up", including public inquiries and Mr Wienburg's questions, that hampered staff in their duties.

Sceptical councillors cried "For 11 years?"

263

'No' to assessors

Municipal Reporter

A REQUEST by the Department of Justice for local authorities to provide assessors for magistrates' courts has been turned down by the Cape Town City Council.

The request was aimed at finding "suitable people from all cultural groups" to assist magistrates.

Why city cancelled Founders Day event

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

MAYOR Frank van der Velde said his own sentiments, difficulty in finding guest speakers and a small response to invitations to the Founders Day ceremony led to its cancellation

He confirmed he had discussed the proposal to cancel Monday's events with various parties before it was put to the city council yesterday

Mr Van der Velde declined to name everyone with whom the proposal had been discussed, but said he had talked to the Netherlands Ambassador and the Van Riebeeck Foundation ARG 2/4/92

"The cancellation was not made to offend anyone and was not meant as a slight to the Dutch community," he said.

Recruiting a guest speaker had been difficult and the response to invitations was small (263)

But even before public misgivings emerged about the ceremony, Mr Van der Velde's own sentiments were that it was inappropriate and divisive

Western Cape looks at development forum

263

LINDA ENSOR

CAPE TOWN — A steering committee to explore the possibilities of establishing a regional development forum for the western Cape is to be established.

The forum could link up with the national economic forum which is being set up. B/Day 2/4/92.

This emerged from a conference yesterday of about 300 representatives from business, local government, trade unions, civic associations and extra parliamentary groups. The conference was organised by the Western Cape Growth Organisation (Wesgro).

The steering committee will consist of representatives of business, labour, local and central government, civic associations, extra-parliamentary groups and Wesgro

The conference broke up into six working groups to look at urgent issues facing the western Cape. Several proposed that specialised task forces be established to look at specific issues such as economic development, housing, urban development, poverty and education

One group looked at the competitiveness of business and felt a forum was necessary to discuss ways of improving competition and developing an export culture.

Factors identified as undermining the international competitiveness of the region's manufacturing sector included the tariff structures on intermediate goods, the cost of quality management and lack of skills.

In his opening address at the conference, Peninsula Technikon Rector Franklin Sonn called on government and business to implement affirmative action programmes to address the inequities of the past.

He accused white businesses of competing unfairly with black business by opening up in townships.

Regionalism is aim of new Exco member

(263)
ARG 2/4/92

GRAHAM LIZAMORE
Staff Reporter

CONTROVERSIAL, ebullient and determined are some of the adjectives associated with Mr Peter Marais, the new MEC in charge of works and traffic control in the Cape.

Mr Marais, who was inducted as member of Exco by the Judge President, Mr Justice G Friedman, said he considered his appointment a great honour because he would be involved in decision-making at a regional level.

He said it was vital to establish strong regional government because he believed constitutional adjustments would have to start at this level

"If we can't sell regionalism to the public, the only option is to choose between partition and a unitary state If we don't want either we have to make sure regionalism works," he said.

Asked how his enemies would see his appointment, Mr Marias said he could not be everything to everybody

"I am either left, right or middle, but I am never all three at the same time," he said

He said he was not afraid of controversy because he believed anybody who was not committed simply took up space.

"I like to commit myself and in a polarised South Africa anybody with a firm point of view will always have enemies," he said

Mr Marias, who belonged to the United Democratic Party and the Labour Party before joining the National Party, said he had been appointed to Exco on merit

His record showed that former President PW Botha had considered him good enough to be a member of his Economic Advisory Council and, in 1977, former Consitutional Affairs Minister Mr Chris Heunis appointed him to the commission investigating local government.

He was a member of the President's Council and President De Klerk had considered him good enough to appoint him as one of the 12 delegatges to Codesa

He said he believed in the political philosophy of the National Party and its vision for a future South Africa.

"I can't defend the past — but I can help build the future. I am now in the engine room where the decisions are being taken," he said.

The Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, said Mr Marais had been appointed by Mr De Klerk following the takeover by the National Party of the House of Representatives Mr Marais replaced the Labour member on Exco, Mr Ben Samuels

CPA to cut services after rent boycotts

South 4/4 - 9/4/92

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By Sabata Ngcai

IN A DRASTIC step, the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) plans to curtail, and in some cases suspend, services at houses where rent and service charges have not been paid

Residents in affected areas could expect cuts in, among other things, refuse removal and the supply of electricity and water

CPA spokesperson Mr Van Heerden Heunis could not say which areas would be targetted but said "the failure to pay rent is predominant in black areas"

He said curtailment of services, "to take place as soon as possible", could mean that areas which had twice-weekly refuse collection would have this cut back to once a week.

CPA said "Local authorities now have no option but to curtail rendering essential services drastically or to sue individuals for debt"

Some local authorities were incapable of paying creditors because of the rent boycott, and there were cases where movable assets of local authorities had been confiscated and where applications for sequestration had been made

The statement said the government and CPA were aware of the seriousness of the problem "and comprehensive steps, therefore, had to be taken to prevent the total collapse of infrastructures"

CPA said additional funds made available by the government would be paid out "according to very strict guidelines and conditions"

These conditions include, "the curtailment of consumer services to specified limits, immediate suspension of maintenance work at houses where rent and service charges are not being paid, and maximal increase of revenue collections and cutting back of expenditure"

ANC assistant secretary Mr Willie Hofmeyr said "It is totally unacceptable for CPA to take such unilateral and high-handed action We demand that the steps envisaged by CPA should be negotiated with the community and other organisations before they are implemented"

Civic Organisation of the Western Cape publicity secretary Mr Welcome Zenzile condemned the plans and said "If CPA unilaterally proceeds with curtailment and suspension of services, we would definitely challenge that"-

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Waste at Cape hospital chemists slammed

CT 8/4/92

STAFF shortages in hospital pharmacies led to "unethical behaviour, waste and unacceptably inadequate control over very expensive and sometimes dangerous medicines", Port Elizabeth Central MP Mr Eddie Trent said yesterday.

And, he emphasised, all the evidence pointed to money being wasted rather than saved as a result of the shortage of staff.

Mr Trent noted that although the state was the single largest purchaser of medicine, only 12,3% of the total number of registered pharmacists were employed by the public sector.

These pharmacists were handling approximately 80%, by volumne, of medicines used used in South Africa. "This ratio is ridiculous."

The outpatient pharmacy facilities at Groote Schuur Hospital were "grossly inadequate", Mr Trent said in a statement "Any visitor to the pharmacy on the ground floor of the out-patient block on any Tuesday or Wednesday just before lunchtime will see long queues of patients standing in a line at the dispensary hatch."

Mr Trent, who has conducted a survey of conditions at hospitals throughout the Cape, said that "ethical rule No 1" of the Pharmacy Act expected a pharmacist adequately to counsel each patient on the correct use of his or her medicines.

"The reality at peak hours at this and every other hospital in the Cape is that most patients are processed as fast as it is possible to process them merely to get them going."

Meiring hits at red tape

CT 8/4/92 (263)

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

CAPE ADMINISTRATOR Mr Kobus Meiring yesterday slammed the unnecessary duplication and red tape created by the "extremely unsatisfactory" relationship between strong central and toothless provincial governments in South Africa.

The current system also created confusion among both officials and the public, he told Parliament during the debate on the Cape Province's budget yesterday

Mr Meiring said the current dispensation "certainly does not contribute to efficient service or to community confidence in adminstrative process or government"

He said the four provincial administrations were not governing bodies in the true sense of the word but merely administrative arms of the central government

He was thankful that the most important role-players in designing the new constitution were underlining the importance of strong and autonomous regional government.

These arms of government should be financially independent and democratically elected "They should generate their own sources of income, supplemented by statutory, fixed-formula treasury contributions"

Self-defence plea in fatal stabbing

Staff Reporter

HE had stabbed a man in self-defence as he was grabbed from behind and heard a knife clicking

Councillors to hike own allowances

CT 8/4/92 (263)

By PETER DENNEHY

RATEPAYERS can brace themselves for a substantial increase in councillors' allowances from July 1.

The size of the increases has not yet been decided

Council spokesman Mr Ted Doman confirmed yesterday that provision was being made in the council budget for the coming year — now being drawn up — for an allowance hike that will bring councillors up to the maximum permitted by the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA)

A formula has already been laid down by the Administrator-in-Executive of the CPA to bring the top council allowances up to the level of the salaries paid to Members of Parliament, over a three-year period

From early last year, mayors and executive committee chairmen of the biggest cities were supposed, in terms of the formula, to get allowances of 70% of the salary of an MP (then about R9 000 a month)

This year, they are supposed to get 85% of the salary of an MP, and next year 100%

Allowances of ordinary councillors — now R1 350 a month in Cape Town — and those of management committee members are all linked to the top salaries

Cape Town had not made provision for steep increases in councillors' allowances last year, so it kept its increases down to 12,55%

The mayor's total allowance is thus now R5 400, which is about 63% of an MP's salary, rather than the 70% set out by the formula

Mr Doman said it seemed that provision would be made in the budget to bring the top allowances up to this year's maximum allowed percentage of 85% of an MP's salary.

The mayor's salary would require about a 35% increase — about double the current rate of inflation — to bring it up to that level, according to calculations on data held in the files of the Cape Times

Mr Doman was unable to say how much more an ordinary councillor would get, but he agreed that the increases in general would have to be large to make up for last year's shortfall as well as to bring them up to the maximum allowed this year

However, he added that councillors would not receive back pay

B/Day 8/4/92

Towns face fiscal threat

CAPE TOWN — Fiscal measures could be used to force local authorities to set up joint local administrations if they had not done so by the target date of January 1, 1993, Cape Community Development MEC Koos Theron said yesterday (263)

Twenty-five such forums were being set up voluntarily through negotiations, and two towns, Citrusdal and Riversdal, had already amalgamated their coloured and white municipalities, he said during the provincial budget debate.

Theron said urbanisation had increased by more than 70% in the Cape Peninsula and surrounding region since 1985, compared with 40% elsewhere in the province. About 82% of the Cape Province's black population was already urbanised, and the influx to towns and cities could be expected to drop considerably.

Local authorities split along racial lines were no longer viable. Efforts had been made to set up joint local authority negotiating forums. If these forums were not established by January 1 next year, fiscal measures could be used "to get them there" — Sapa.

Township spending exceeds income

SIXTEEN of the 18 black townships in the Western Cape had a budgeted income that was less than 50% of their budgeted expenditure last year, DP provincial affairs spokeman Mr Jan van Eck said yesterday

Speaking during the debate on the Cape Province budget in Parliament, he said there was no end in sight to the financial and administrative collapse of black local authorities across the province.

Although these authorities were virtually all heavily in debt, 43 of 93 townships budgeted for an income in the 1990-91 financial year that was less than 50% of what they had budgeted to spend

In the 74 black residential areas where there was a local government structure, 90 councillors filled a potential 422 posts

Traffic control had also almost completely collapsed in black townships Only 11 of the 93 black local authorities in the Cape employed traffic officers

If the 44 traffic officers employed by the Ibayi Council in Port Elizabeth, the remaining 92 councils had only 12 traffic officers between them, he said

City Mayor earns more than others

CT 9/4/92 (263)

By PETER DENNEHY

ALLOWANCES for the Mayor and city councillors in Cape Town are higher than those of their counterparts in Johannesburg and Durban.

Yet the level of the allowances in Cape Town is still below what has been recommended by the provincial administrations, which hopes to bring mayoral allowances into line next year with the salaries of MPs

According to Cape Town City Council spokesman Mr Ted Doman, the allowance of the Mayor of Cape Town is R4 050 a month plus the R1 350 he gets as an ordinary councillor, amounting to a total of R5 400 a month

Durban's communications officer, Ms Jennifer Andrews, said yesterday that their mayor's allowance amounted to R5 280 a month

Mr Christo Bredenkamp, a public relations officer from Johannesburg, said the personal allowance of the mayor there was to R3 489 a month, but he also had an ordinary councillors' allowance of "about R1 200", bringing the monthly total to about R4 689

Councils are graded into 15 different categories according to their size, with Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban all falling into grade 15

For each drop in grading, there is a 6,75% drop in the top councillors' allowances

By January next year, the provincial administration anticipates that the mayor and the chairman of the executive committee of a grade 15 local authority will each get allowances of R9 013 a month

Councils are not obliged to follow the provincial guidelines, however

Outcry over MEC's speech

CT 10/4/92

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

NEWLY appointed Cape MEC Mr Peter Marais was in hot water yesterday following his controversial assertion that it would be unfair for squatters to enjoy the same voting rights as ratepayers.

Mr Marais, a former Nationalist member of the President's Council, was promoted two weeks ago to MEC for Works, Transport and Traffic Control when President F W de Klerk fired Labour Party members from the provincial executive

But in his first major speech in his new position Mr Marais caused an outcry among opposition MPs and embarassment among his NP colleagues when he aired his views on squatter rights in Parliament this week.

Speaking during the Cape provincial debate, Mr Marais said, amid interjections, that he could not support a one-person one-vote system in which squatters enjoyed the same voting rights in an election for a future city council "as home-owners with properties worth R200 000 or more"

He went on to question whether fellow MPs would be satisfied with a situation where "those that live in motor-car wrecks on an open piece of land got control of the city council because they are in the majority" and could then prescribe how much tax should be paid

The Democratic Party spokesman for provincial affairs, Mr Jan van Eck, said yesterday that Mr Marais should be made to repudiate his "insulting" statements or be fired

A spokesman for the administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, said yesterday that both Mr Meiring and the MEC with responsibility for squatters, Mr Koos Theron, had stated repeatedly that squatters could not be wished away and that established communities needed to develop a keener understanding for their plight

The spokesman, Mr Van Heerden Heunis, said that "to the extent that statements made by Mr Marais did not reflect this view, there will have to be discussion between him and the administrator as quickly as possible"

Keegan against council pay rise

(263)

CT 10/4/92

Municipal Reporter

DEPUTY mayor of Cape Town Mr Clive Keegan said yesterday he was one of a "sizeable group" of councillors who were opposed to an increase in councillors' allowances

"There is bound to be a motion about this at the next council monthly meeting," he said

He and the group of like-minded councillors would meet next week to review the matter and to ensure it came up at the council meeting

"We may decide that ordinary councillors should not get an increase at all for a year, but there are various other possibilities A decision taken last October may also be reviewed," Mr Keegan said

He was referring to a council decision that "with effect from July 1, 1992 the allowances paid to councillors be linked, by the percentage then applicable, to the salary and pensionable allowance of an MP in terms of the provisions in (a provincial) circular and that adequate provision be made therefor in future in the Estimates of Income and Expenditure"

Council sources indicated yesterday that the total remuneration package of the mayor of Cape Town was lower than that of the mayor of Johannesburg and probably also than that of the mayor of Durban

Investigator not identified

B1 Day 10/4/92

STEPHANE BOTHMA

POLICE have refused to name the senior officer appointed to conduct the new investigation into the 1989 murder of Soweto physician Dr Abu-Baker Asvat

The investigation was launched after allegations linking Winnie Mandela to the slaying were published this week.

Lt-Col Johan Mostert said yesterday the investigating officer would not be identified to prevent the media from pestering him and hampering the investigation

The police said all media inquiries about the matter would be handled by police headquarters in Pretoria

In 1989 Thulane Dlamini and Cyril Mbatha were sentenced to death for murdering Asvat during a robbery

But there were allegations this week in the US newspaper, The Christian Science Monitor, that the state was in possession of a statement claiming Mandela had offered to pay R20 000 to one of the murderers after the doctor's death

Mostert said the new investigation would involve studying statements made by the two murderers.

But it was not known at this stage if personal interviews with them would be conducted

Both men were currently being held in Pretoria Central Prison, said Mostert

Statements about the events would also be obtained from others, Mostert said On completion, the docket would be handed to the Attorney-General for a decision

Key witness in Mandela trial returns to SA

B1 Day 10/4/92

STEPHANE BOTHMA

A KEY State witness in the 1991 Winnie Mandela kidnap and assault trial, Gabriel Pelo Mekgwe, who was "kidnapped" the day before he was to testify, is back in SA

Mekgwe was allegedly abducted from the Soweto Methodist Church manse in February last year, resulting in the postponement of the trial and the initial refusal to testify of two other key witnesses, Kenneth Kgase and Thabiso Mono

Police sources confirmed Mekgwe was in the country, but said they were not investigating the matter because Mekgwe had not laid a charge of kidnapping

At the time of the alleged kidnapping, media reports claimed Mekgwe was abducted by ANC members

He was allegedly later traced to an ANC "safe house" in Harare but was moved to Zambia after SA asked for his repatriation

New Cape MEC sparks outcry

263

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — Newly appointed Cape MEC Peter Marais was in hot water yesterday over his assertion that it would be unfair for squatters to enjoy the same voting rights as ratepayers B1 Day

Marais, a former Nationalist member of the President's Council, was promoted two weeks ago to MEC for Works, Transport and Traffic Control after President F W de Klerk fired Labour Party members from the provincial executive 10/4/92

Marais' first major speech in his new post caused an outcry among opposition MPs and embarrassment among his Nationalist colleagues this week Speaking during the Cape provincial debate, Marais said he could not support a one man, one vote system in which illegal squatters enjoyed the same voting rights in an election for a future city council "as homeowners with properties worth R200 000 or more"

He asked whether fellow MPs would be satisfied with a situation where "those that live in motor car wrecks on an open piece of land got control of the city council because they are in the majority" and could then prescribe how much tax should be paid and how it should be spent

DP spokesman for provincial affairs Jan van Eck said yesterday that Marais should be made to retract his "insulting" statements about squatters, or be fired

"We cannot have a person with such a hostile attitude towards a large percentage of people in the Cape in such a position of responsibility It will undermine all faith among squatters towards the Cape Provincial Administration"

April 11 to April 16 1992

Grahamstown wants own fifth provinee

South 11/4-16/4/92 (263)

By Bulelwa Payi

THE Grahamstown Ratepayers' Association has called on the government to declare the Eastern Cape a fifth province, with Grahamstown as its capital

The association this week said there had been pressure for the separation of the Eastern from the Western Cape for a "very long time"

"And now that it is the state's declared intention to intensify regional development, as indicated by the debates at Codesa, it would seem such separation is imminent," the association said in a statement

The statement said the proposal was supported by the MP for Albany, Mr Errol Moorcroft, mayor Mr Steve Birt, town clerk Mr Lionel Pienaar and Mr Jan Breitenbach of the 1820 Foundation

It said governmental headquarters did not have to be sited in large industrial towns

While the city could not compete with Port Elizabeth and East London in industrial growth, it had special claims to make the proposal viable, said the statement

These included.

- the infrastructure such as Rhodes University and "universally acclaimed" research institutes,
- famous schools,
- the South African Library for the Blind,
- and a large black population, which in terms of poverty and unemployment was a bigger problem than that facing other small towns

A meeting with Moorcroft, the ANC, farmers and representatives of all associations and various institutions would be held this weekend to discuss the matter — **Ana**

Secret city caucus to go public?

S/Times [Cape Metro]

12/4/92

(263)

By EVE VOSLOO

A SECRET caucus of city councillors who are disturbed by the direction Cape Town's administration has been taking is believed to have influenced several decisions at the last city council meeting

The caucus, to which at least 11 out of 34 — or about one third of elected councillors — are understood to belong, is on the verge of going public, possibly as early as this week. Significantly, no members of Exco have been invited to join the group.

The councillors are concerned about the way the city is being run — "or NOT being run" and believe the council "is not preparing for the realities of the new South Africa"

They wish to take "positive" action to "rectify the ills which are affecting the running of the city and which have led to an unprecedented loss of confidence on the part of ratepayers"

Among those believed to be in the caucus are Mr Arthur Wienburg and Deputy Mayor Mr Clive Keegan

Mr Wienburg is known to have tried for some time to establish a political caucus on the council, first of PFP and then DP councillors

The new caucus, however, cuts across party political lines and has apparently been geared to focus on "macro" issues of policy and finance rather than "micro" issues, which will prevent councillors using it to get things done for their own areas and ratepayers

Approached this week, Mr Wienburg declined to comment other than to confirm that a caucus existed

He is known to be unhappy with the city's administration and recently cited the furore over unbanked electricity payment cheques as an example

This week Mr Keegan would say only that a group of councillors have been meeting "informally" to discuss the council's direction, but "not to act as a ginger group trying to hammer individuals"

At the last council meeting, the caucus is believed to have influenced several decisions, including

- Blocking a request by the Cape Town magistrates for council personnel to sit as assessors on the basis that officials were needed at their posts
- Amending a proposal that R140 000 be spent on a public address system for Green Point Stadium by having a condition attached that a tariff be charged for use of the system to help defray the expense.

At the meeting a councillor believed not to be part of the caucus said "it was clear that this move has been orchestrated"

- Speaking out against costly gold badges to be presented to aldermen

The proposed increase in city councillors' allowances is likely to be an issue on which the caucus will act as a "united front"

This week Mr Keegan was reported to have said that he "and a sizeable group" of councillors were opposed to the increases

Secret revolt on lavish spending rocks council

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

(263) ARG 13/4/92

THE formation of an 11-member caucus group opposed to allowance increases and lavish spending has created tension among city councillors.

Councillors in the group were to have disclosed its existence in reaction to Ombudsman Mr Grainger Heugh's report on interest lost from unbanked rates cheques.

The caucus has been an open secret in the council in recent weeks, and excluded councillors are understood to have criticised organisers.

A member of the group said a councillor who had been denied membership had been apparently bitter at his exclusion.

"We chose who we wanted as members, and we had different reasons for choosing each member. One or two were angered at being left out," he said.

Members include the deputy mayor, Mr Clive Keegan, and councillors Mr Arthur Wienburg, Mr Gordon Oliver, Mr Peter Muller, Mrs Joye Gibbs, Mr Abe Katz, Mrs Isobel Edelstein, Mr Rupert Hurly, Mr Clive Bilski, Mrs Ruth Ortlepp, and Mr John Muir.

Mr Oliver and Mr Muller are former mayors and Mr Muir chairs the town planning committee.

Platforms of the caucus include concern at the running of the cleansing service, opposition to increased councillors' allowances and to spending R19 200 on golden badges for aldermen and freemen of the city.

It was expected that the running of the cleansing service and recent requests for additional finance would be the focus at the group's first collective public action at this month's council meeting.

Members accepted a declaration of intent that included running the municipality on an effective, cost-efficient basis, using business principles, "while being conscious of responsibilities towards less fortunate ratepayers and citizens".

Other platforms are

- Ethical integrity as a vital prerequisite,
- Members to serve ratepayers whenever reasonable and possible,
- Government of the municipality be open and accessible to all,
- Communications between the city council and ratepayers be open, swift and understandable.

Council group oppose rises

CT 13/4/42 (263)

Municipal Reporter

A GROUP of eleven Cape Town city councillors have come out against pay rises for councillors and council expenditure

The group also expressed profound concern yesterday at the crisis of confidence and credibility between the council and the people of the city

The group members are Mr Clive Keegan, Mr Arthur Wienburg, Mr Gordon Oliver, Mr John Muir, Mr Peter Muller, Mrs Ruth Ortlepp, Mrs Isobel Edelstein, Mr Rupert Hurly, Mr Clive Bilski, Mr Abe Katz and Mrs Joye Gibbs

They oppose increases in councillors' allowances and want to overturn a decision to have gold badges — costing just under R20 000 — made for senior councillors

The chairman of the executive committee, Mr Richard Friedlander, said last night "The way that council policy is formed is that all 34 councillors take decisions, by majority, on what they believe is in the best interests of all ratepayers We have operated that way for 150 years

"I hope every item will still be considered on its merits Any councillor or group of councillors who wish to air a suggestion can do so through the normal channels

"We should have a collective responsibility towards the needs, aspirations and problems of ratepayers"

The "caucus" group said they had come together to ensure the council's active commitment to the following principles

- The municipality must be run in an effective, cost-efficient manner on business-like principles while being conscious of our responsibilities towards our less fortunate ratepayers and citizens"
- Ethical integrity is a vital prerequisite of local government
- As public representatives we make ourselves available to serve our ratepayers whenever reasonable and possible
- Government of the municipality should be open and accessible to all
- Communications between the council and ratepayers must be open, swift and understandable
- Public participation in decision-making must be practical and thorough and as extensive as possible

The group said the council should overturn a decision to provide for higher councillors' allowances from July this year, and agree to introduce no increase in the forthcoming financial year

Mayor welcomes caucus

263
CT 14/4/92

Municipal Reporter

THE Mayor of Cape Town, Mr Frank van der Velde, yesterday expressed sympathy with the aims of the council caucus group by saying only his position stopped him from joining.

He said it would be unethical for him, as chairman of council, to align himself with any pressure group and that was the reason why he was not on the group But it seemed to him that many of the views expressed in the forum were similar to his own

"I have no problem with groupings as such I believe this sort of development is quite healthy," Mr Van der Velde said

He was reacting to an announcement by 12 city councillors that they had formed a group to promote various aims, such as running the council in a cost-efficient manner on business principles

They are understood to have formulated a motion to overturn a council decision last October which provides for a substantial increase in councillors' allowances

He was pleased that the caucus did not appear to be party-political as most municipal issues cut across political boundaries

He hoped that the caucus would lead to a more broadly-canvassed response to issues and produce constructive plans, rather than merely protesting on the sidelines

"Protest policy is over now — we are entering the era of creative struggle Sometimes individuals resort to 'grandstanding', or adopting public poses, but they don't necessarily pull together for the common good," he added

● The caucus is comprised of Mr Arthur Wienburg, Mr Clive Keegan, Mr Gordon Oliver, Mr John Muir, Mr Peter Muller, Mrs Joan Kantey, Mrs Ruth Ortlepp, Mrs Isobel Edelstein, Mr Rupert Hurly, Mr Clive Bilski, Mr Abe Katz and Mrs Joye Gibbs

Councillors plan to reject golden badges

(263)

Argus 14/4/92

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

AT least two of four city councillors eligible for a golden alderman's badge this year plan not to accept it.

The six badges — another two councillors will become aldermen next year — and three badges for freemen of the city will cost R19 200, spending which is the focus of a row within the council.

Councillors who have served for 20 years and former mayors are given the title "alderman".

Mrs Joan Kantey, a member of a caucus opposed to lavish spending, said she was "not one for titles".

"I do not want the badge, and if I am offered the choice of paying for it myself I won't because I cannot afford it," she said

Mrs Bronnie Harding said she would accept the badge if the cost came out of her own pocket "but I certainly do not expect the city to pay for it".

She said she would support a motion, planned by Mr Arthur Wienburg, to refer the matter back to the executive committee in a bid to halt the spending.

Mr Joe Rabinowitz said he would consult other councillors before deciding on whether to support the motion, but it would not matter whether he got the badges or not.

"I'm not much one for badges and bulldust," Mr Rabinowitz said.

Dr John Sonnenberg, the fourth councillor who will have 20 years' service in September, said he regretted the matter which had become "unpleasant and distasteful".

It would be ungracious to refuse to accept the badge if it was offered, but he did not really care whether he got it or not.

Dr Sonnenberg said he had opposed the introduction of the system of aldermen.

He would not oppose the matter being referred back to exco.

ARG 14/4/92

Exco urges land sale to Unisa

(263)

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THE city council executive committee has recommended approval of the sale of vacant land next to the former Roeland Street jail to the University of South Africa (Unisa)

The land, measuring 5 600sq m, is bounded by Roeland, Canterbury and Glynn streets

The sale is subject to approval by the full city council

In other decisions at yesterday's meeting, the executive committee

- Recommended paying R370 000 compensation for the loss of two dams which will be caused by the Palmiet River water augmentation scheme
- Agreed to pay R15,000 to have two escalators outside the Cape Town Civic Centre removed.

Officials said the council had spent an "abnormal" sum of money on repairing the escalators, which were often blasted by sand and dust.

- Approved appointing three permanent and 10 temporary administrative assistants in the city treasurer's department to speed disconnections of electricity payment defaulters
- Asked the environmental advisory committee to investigate "noxious waste" in Table Bay Harbour.
- Asked the environmental advisory committee to investigate proposals for a road to be built from Paarden Eiland across the Black River to Klein Zoar

KAMA SUTRA

Discover the sexual secrets of the east and learn the art of love.

Councillors slate caucus 'posturing'

CT15/4/92 (263)

TWO councillors, Ms Annamia van den Heever and Mr Ian Iversen, have slated the recently-formed council caucus, charging that they are involved in "hysterical posturing" while the city is "in a crisis"

The caucus group released a statement at the weekend saying they were opposed to allowance increases, and believed in integrity and in public participation in decision-making

The two councillors, representing Ward 10, said in a statement that they both believed the council should be run on "an open accountable, effective and cost-efficient basis"

"We will, however, not entertain attempts to align accountability to a select group of privileged voters with protection of white privilege We believe our record speaks for itself"

They said reports had created the impression that all those councillors, "who have not joined or been allowed to join the much-vaunted secret council caucus do not support the cost-effective running of the city

"Both of us believe that until the city is run by a legitimate authority, elected by all its people, there will be no resolution of issues such as those now debated"

They said they did not support increases in councillors' allowances

"The city of Cape Town is in a crisis The crisis will not be solved by hysterical posturing assisted with superficial press reporting"

Timetables 'ready soon'

SPOORNET yesterday apologised for the delay in the supply of extra timetables for suburban trains in the Peninsula.

Spokesman Mr Rudi Roelofse said the delay was due to computer changes in train numbers. He said Spoornet did not want to ask the SA Rail Commuter Corporation to print new timetables when there was still another change to be made.

He said the change in train numbers would not inconvenience commuters as the times would remain the same.

He promised that the new timetables would be ready "very soon".

Non-racial election first for Kimberley?

CT 15/4/92 Own Correspondent (263)

JOHANNESBURG — Kimberley is expected to announce South Africa's first non-racial municipal election next month

Kimberley city council spokesman Mr Coenie de Swart said 12 wards in Greater Kimberley would be contested with two councillors representing each ward An announcement was expected in early May

Mr De Swart said the council had suspended the 1974 Cape Municipal Ordinance No 24, thereby scrapping racial limitations on voters

Kimberley was one of the first cities to establish a joint administration with neighbouring black, coloured and Indian townships In October 1990 the council took over financial and administrative control of Galeshewe township, but retained two separate budgets in the interim

The results, said Mr De Swart, had been "unbelievable", with more than 78% of Galeshewe residents paying tariffs and rent on a regular basis

Pattern of Politics

By HERMANN GILIOMEE

Council stand on symbols raises questions

(263)

CT 16/4/92

IN ITS wisdom the divided Cape Town City Council decided not to participate in the most recent Founder's Day celebrations in Cape Town, which had been held for the past 80 years at the foot of Jan van Riebeeck's statue It has also announced that it will not take part in the wreath laying ceremony until a non racial, democratic government in Cape Town can decide about the issue

There are two issues at stake here, one symbolic, the other political Any future local or national settlement will stand or fall not only on the substantive constitutional agreements but also on the handling of symbolic issues

The most divisive issues in the white "compact" represented by the Union of South Africa concerned symbolic issues, such as the choice of a capital, the Flag Controversy and links to Britain and the Empire

In the South Africa of the 1990s the symbolic issues on the agenda will include the status of ethnic languages, the names of streets and towns and airports, ethnic or national holidays, sports emblems and national symbols

Santayana once spoke of the "deadly significance of symbols" and well he might because groups make symbolic demands in order to have the legitimacy of their role in history and politics affirmed, especially where that role is contested by others To reject or insult symbols is to assault the very dignity of a group

Paradoxical

A leader such as Mr Nelson Mandela, with his acute sense of history, is particularly sensitive to this In an interview I recently had with him he stressed that the new South Africa cannot keep its disproportionate number of "white" public names but he was equally emphatic that changes affecting any symbolic issue, whether a name of a public place or facility or an official holiday, would have to be carefully negotiated

For this reason he would not even entertain the demand of a minor ANC office bearer that while Pretoria could remain the capital city its name should be changed to Mamelodi

Consider by contrast the paradoxical position of the Cape Town City Council On the one hand it wants a new forum for local government to be negotiated nationally, but on the other it has taken a decision on Founder's Day despite the fact that it is very much a national issue how the city council of the Mother City honours the day

How much and how wide-ranging was the council's consultation before it decided not to participate in the Founder's Day celebrations? Is there any support for the view that such participation would signal a concentration on the "unilateral, Euro-centric founding of Cape Town"?

Professor Richard van der Ross, recipient of the honorary citizenship of Cape Town, expressed his disappointment about the council's decision A main speaker on a previous Founder's Day celebration, he has on occasion spoken of the great diversity of Cape Town's founders, ranging from Harry the Strandloper (Autshumato) to Jan van Riebeeck

Little progress

Dr Van der Ross issued a warning that bodies should be careful not to reject on communities excluded from them "viewpoints that may not be there but which may be generated by feelings of guilt and the hope of finding acceptance with such communities"

There is also a political dimension to the council decision, for one can well ask what the council itself is doing to bring about a non-racial government As Helen Zille noted in her article on this page, the council has made commendable progress in introducing consultative planning which takes the views of communities fully into account.

However, the council has made very little progress in constitutional negotiations The reason? It believes that local constitutional negotiations can only proceed after a framework has been negotiated at national level As a result the council has not even got as far as convening a proper conference in which various local and provincial authorities and civil associations could meet to exchange views

In this respect Cape Town is unlike the metropolitan centres of Johannesburg, Durban and Port Elizabeth

Meanwhile the city council seems to have granted the ANC an effective veto on important local government initiatives, which raises questions as the ANC, according to polls, forms a minority party in Cape Town

The council, more than any other city council, is still in the grip of the bitter conflicts it had with the Nationalist government over its destructive apartheid policies Hence its opposition to the Interim Measures for Local Government Act.

However, the council's present stand cannot be taken seriously In the Transvaal, provincial and local authorities are engaged in local government negotiations in 74 towns and in only three are the models of the Interim Measures Act used

Soul-searching

In Cape Town, bodies ranging from the Athlone Management Committee to organisations to the Left of the ANC are making a similar demand disband all local authorities (including the city council), hold non racial elections and start negotiating

Furthermore, the council cannot hide behind Codesa Negotiations there are turning out to be a laborious exercise All that can be expected from it on local government is the spelling out of the most general of principles

White local government authorities which negotiate in good faith with black organisations know full well that it is highly unlikely that Codesa would negate a local settlement which enjoys popular support.

While the city council deserves every bit of praise and respect for its past stand against the now defunct apartheid system, it clearly has some soul-searching to do Does its non-participation in Founder's Day indicate that the only value still uniting it is its opposition to apartheid and its willingness to block any initiative from the provincial or central government?

It is time we heard the answer

ANC rejects all-race city council plan

ET 16/4/92

Own Correspondent (263)

JOHANNESBURG — The ANC in Kimberley yesterday rejected the proposed establishment of a non-racial city council on the grounds that it would be making use of outdated apartheid structures, an ANC spokesman said

ANC regional organiser Mr Pakes Dikgetsi said his organisation objected to the "marriage of multiracial structures" such as black local authorities and the coloured management committee with the white city council

The council this week confirmed it expected to announce elections next month for a non-racial, greater Kimberley council

Councillors meet over criticisms

(263)

CT 16/4/92

Municipal Reporter

CITY councillors held a special meeting yesterday to address the public's perception of the council following ratepayer's criticisms on several issues

Yesterday's working group meeting was a result of a motion by Mr Llewellyn van Wyk late last year that the council should formulate a strategic plan The meeting was closed to the press

Town clerk Mr Donald Geyer said after the meeting that a start had been made on formulating a "mission for the future", and analysing strengths and weaknesses

● The executive committee has recommended that at least some answers must be given to Mr Arthur Wienburg, a member of the caucus group committed to cost-efficiency

Whether all of the questions will be answered will be up to the full council to decide

Mr Wienburg had asked to be told of "all the internal working groups/committees and groups by any other name which exist in council".

Mr Geyer said that working groups and teams were continually formed and disbanded to deal with specific problems

"The corporate management team is of the view that to respond to councillor Mr Wienburg's request would demand a mammoth exercise costing the council a significant amount of money, possibly several thousand rands, and would serve no useful purpose".

However, the executive committee decided that Mr Wienburg should be given answers about the main groups at least — those that meet regularly — but it would leave the rest to the full council

Mayor speaks on caucus

THE Mayor of Cape Town, Mr Frank van der Velde, said yesterday that he wished to make it clear that even if he were to sympathise with views expressed by a "caucus" group within the council, he would not join or align himself with any group "as I believed it would be unethical for me to do so as I was chairman of the council."

Referring to a Cape Times report he said he had not said that only his position stopped him from joining the group, nor had he welcomed its formation. He had said he had no problem with the formation of groupings as such.

(263) ANG 16/4/92

Council start to a 'mission for future'

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THE alliance within the city council is gearing up for next week's monthly meeting, committed to "playing the ball and not the man", said member Mr Arthur Wienburg.

The full council met yesterday behind closed doors to discuss strengths and weaknesses in the face of ratepayer discontent over several issues.

The meeting, of members and non-members of the alliance, was the result of last year's motion by Mr Llewellyn van Wyk calling for a strategic plan for the city.

A spokesman said yesterday's meeting meant a start had been made to devising a "mission for the future".

In an interview yesterday, Mr Wienburg rejected the idea that the action group, formed around issues related to council spending, was a "secret caucus".

The group has confirmed its existence in a Press statement.

"There is nothing secret about us, and while we may seem like a caucus there is no whip and no disciplinary procedures," he said.

The group had met informally so far but planned more frequent meetings in future.

It would be in action at the next city council meeting when deputy mayor Mr Clive Keegan would table a motion about the cleansing service, while Mr Wienburg would table at least two.

One was intended to reverse controversial plans to spend R19 200 on golden badges

Asked about the ripples caused in council circles by the formation of the group, Mr Wienburg said there were councillors whose "noses were out of joint", but the alliance intended to focus on issues, not personalities.

"We intend to act constructively, tackling issues in a way meant to benefit ratepayers," he said.

Meanwhile, the minutes of the October city council meeting at which approval was given to the programme of raising councillors' allowances to match those of MPs shows that the vote was 18 to six.

Scrutiny of the record shows that the 12 councillors now in alliance did not all debate on the same side

Members of the alliance are Mr Keegan, Mr Wienburg, Mr Gordon Oliver, Mrs Joan Kantey, Mr Peter Muller, Mrs Joye Gibbs, Mr Abe Katz, Mrs Isobel Edelstein, Mr Rupert Hurly, Mr Clive Bilski, Mrs Ruth Ortlepp and Mr John Muir.

The main motion — approval of the programme of increases linked to MPs' salaries — was voted on by a show of hands so there is no official record of how individual councillors voted.

During the debate, Mr Wienburg proposed that the introduction of the increases not be backdated to July.

This was defeated by 16 votes to nine.

The nine councillors who voted against backdating the increases were Mrs Edelstein, Mrs Bronnie Harding, Mr Hurly, Mr Muir, Mr Oliver, Dr John Sonnenberg, Ms Van den Heever, Mr Frank van der Velde and Mr Wienburg

Those who were against the amendment, and in effect voted for backdating the increases were: Mr Bilski, Mr Richard Friedlander, Mrs Gibbs, Mr Ian Iversen, Mr Chris Joubert, Mr Clive Justus, Mr Keegan, Mr Louis Kreiner, Mr Leon Markovitz, Mr Muller, Mr Norman Osburn, Mr Kenneth Penkin, Mr A L J Powell, Mrs Eulalie Stott, Mrs Patricia Sulcas Kreiner and Mr G M Sullivan.

een on May 1, 2 and 3

for The Flitestar spokesman

and said four flights from Jo-

cision to cancel flights where the demand is for less than 50% of the available capacity," she said

ANC rejects new council

263

THE ANC in Kimberley yesterday rejected the proposed establishment of a nonracial city council on the grounds that it would be making use of outdated apartheid structures, an ANC spokesman said

ANC regional organiser Pakes Dikgetsi said his organisation objected to the "marriage of multiracial structures" such as black local authorities and the coloured management committee with the white city council

ADRIAN HADLAND

The council this week confirmed it expected to announce elections next month for a nonracial, greater Kimberley council

Kimberley town clerk Coenie Nolte said yesterday he would send a formal proposal to Cape Administrator Kobus Meiring seeking permission to form a single nonracial council, Sapa reports An agreement would be signed on Wednesday establishing a single council

● Comment. Page 6

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Symbolism in the Mother City

STAR 16/4/92

(263)

The Pattern of Politics
HERMANN GILIOMEE

IN ITS wisdom, the divided Cape Town City Council decided not to take part in the most recent Founders' Day celebrations in Cape Town, which has been held for the past 80 years at the foot of Jan van Riebeeck's statue It also announced it would not take part until a non-racial, democratic government in Cape Town could decide about the issue.

There are two issues at stake here the one symbolic, the other political Any future local or national settlement will stand or fall not only on the substantive constitutional agreements but also on the handling of symbolic issues The most divisive issues in the white "compact" represented by the Union of South Africa concerned symbolic issues, such as the choice of capital, the flag and links to the Empire

In the South Africa of the '90s, the symbolic issues on the agenda will include the status of ethnic languages, the names of streets, towns and airports, ethnic or national holidays, sports emblems and national symbols

Santayana once spoke of the deadly significance of symbols and well he might because groups make symbolic demands in order to have the legitimacy of their role in history affirmed

A leader like Nelson Mandela with his acute sense of history is particularly sensitive to this He recently stressed that the new South Africa cannot keep its disproportionate number of white public names, but was equally emphatic that changes affecting any symbolic issue would have to be carefully negotiated

For this reason he would not even entertain the demand of a minor ANC office bearer that while Pretoria could remain the capital city its name should be changed to Mamelodi

Consider by contrast the paradoxical position of the Cape Town City Council (CTCC) On the one hand, it wants a new forum for local government to be negotiated nationally, but, on the other, it has taken a decision on Founders' Day despite the fact that it is very much a national issue how the council of the "Mother City" honours the day How much and how wide-ranging was the CTCC's consultation before it decided not to take part in the celebrations?

Professor Richard van der Ross, recipient of the honorary citizenship of Cape Town, expressed his disappointment about the decision A main speaker at a previous Founders' Day celebration, he has on occasion spoken of the great diversity of Cape Town's founders, ranging from Harry the Strandloper (Autshumato) to Jan van Riebeeck

Professor van der Ross issued this warning a body must be careful that it does not project on communities excluded from that body viewpoints which may not be there but may be generated by feelings of guilt and the hope of finding acceptance

There is also a political dimension to the council decision, for one can well ask what the CTCC itself is doing to bring about a non-racial government As Helen Zille has noted on this page, the CTCC has made commendable progress in introducing consultative planning, which takes the views of communities fully into account

However, the council has made very little progress in constitutional negotiations The reason? The council believes local constitutional negotiations can proceed only after a framework has been negotiated at the national level As a result, the CTCC has not even got as far as convening a proper conference in which various local and provincial authorities and civic associations could meet to exchange views

Cape Town is the only one of the four metropolitan centres in this position Johannesburg has the Metropolitan Chamber, Durban the multiparty Operation Jumpstart concerned with the administrative and economic development of the city, and Port Elizabeth the Talks Forum and management committee which includes representatives from the five major political parties

There appear to be three reasons why Cape Town is lagging behind Firstly, the civic associations there have been greatly weakened by the repression of the '80s and there is a lack of negotiating partners in the city

Secondly, the CTCC seems to have granted the ANC an effective veto on important local government initiatives Such a step raises questions in Cape Town, where the ANC, according to polls, forms a minority party

Thirdly, the CTCC more than any other city council is still in the grip of the bitter conflicts it had with the Nationalist Government over its destructive apartheid policies Hence its opposition to the Interim Measures for Local Government Act

However, the CTCC's present stand cannot be taken seriously In the Transvaal, provincial and local authorities are engaged in local government negotiations in 74 towns and in only three the models of the Interim Measures Act are used In Cape Town bodies ranging from the Athlone Management Committee to groups to the left of the ANC are making a similar demand disband all local authorities, hold non-racial elections and start negotiating

Furthermore, the CTCC cannot hide behind Codesa All that can be expected from it on local government is the spelling out of the most general of principles

While the CTCC deserves every but of praise and respect for its past stand against the now defunct apartheid system, it clearly has some soul-searching to do Does its non-participation in Founders' Day indicate that the only value still uniting it is its opposition to apartheid and its willingness to block any initiative from the provincial or central Government? It is time we heard the answer □

Crisis of confidence in council says Wienburg

263 ARG 18/4/92

263 ARG 18/4/92

Con

'Tail wagging the dog, Exco out of control'

JEAN LE MAY
Weekend Argus Reporter

ONE of the biggest problems with the City Council was that the executive committee allowed itself to be manipulated by senior officials, said one of the 12 councillors who this week formed a group whose aims were to run the city on a cost-effective basis

"It's a case of the tail wagging the dog. The executive committee has lost control," said Mr Arthur Wienburg councillor for Rondebosch and stormy petrel in the council

"The real bosses of the council are the corporate management team, the heads of departments together with the Town Clerk They pull the strings and the executive committee dance like puppets

"Officials make the decisions All matters involving money are discussed by council, but proposals go first to the officials and if they don't like the look of them, that's the last you hear of them.

"For 20 years the matter of amalgamating the city's leisure departments, which would save at least R1 million a year, have died at birth Another proposal to consolidate accounts for rates, water and electricity which could save R2 million a year has been stalled for years"

Mr Dick Friedlander, chairman of Exco, said he did not believe Mr Wienburg's allegations were valid

"We depend enormously on the input and advice of our senior officials, especially now that so many more responsibilities are being placed in the hands of major cities such as Cape Town," he said

Mr Wienburg said the line taken up to now by the group showed "only the tip of the iceberg"

"Our concern goes much deeper than the issues highlighted so far," he said in an interview with Weekend Argus

Stressing that he was speaking for himself and not on behalf of the dissenting group, Mr Wienburg said that as he saw it, the group was not formed merely to handle the issues of refuse removal, councillors' allowances or the expenditure of R19 000 on gold badges

"These are getting our attention at the moment, but we started to talk to one another some time ago

"There is a decay in standards and an attitude in which one is conditioned to accept that there will be a decline in services This is unacceptable Ratepayers have a right to expect top-class service They have a right to expect that their public representatives will act in a conscientious and timeous manner which they, the ratepayers, believe does not happen and has not happened for a long time."

A deep-seated cause of concern is that the city council, like the government, was overloaded with its own civil service, employing 15 000 people, said Mr Wienburg. Pay and perks took up a staggering 67 percent of the city's budget

It was a matter of priorities.

"Exco has not set priorities This week they had the first meeting of councillors and senior officials to draw up a strategic plan for the city.

"Its purpose was to set up workshops for them to give their views and to try to create a mission statement and a vision — fancy words I left after two hours because I thought it was a complete waste of time

"We have a crisis of confidence and it's a time for action, not for fine talk. I'm tired of talk, I want to see action I want to see it discussed how we're going to cut down on the wanton waste of public money This should be tackled as a matter of urgency and it's not being tackled"

As an example of "the tail wagging the dog," Mr Wienburg quoted lack of progress made by a committee appointed to review the council's "Rules of Procedure", of which he is a member.

"This is not a life-and-death issue, but it is a typical example of how the council works.

"I wrote to the committee chairman, Mr Friedlander on September 6 last year saying the committee had met about a year previously and asking whether some decision could be taken

"The chairman wrote back saying he had asked for an update of the present status of the matter This is ridiculous — he's the chairman of the executive and the chairman of this committee, and he didn't know it!

"Then I received a copy of a letter from an official saying that decisions provisionally adopted by the committee were with the city's legal adviser That was in October In November I still hadn't heard, so I wrote back asking for a draft copy of th revised rules of procedure to be sent to me

"No reply. I wrote again Everything done in the civic centre takes weeks and months instead of days

"That matter was more than a year old and quite obviously it hadn't moved

"In January, I was told the matter has been referred to the city administrator for urgent attention Eventually, and this was discourteous, instead of getting a reply from the chairman, I got a reply from the town clerk's office saying there were policy matters which his office did not have the power to resolve and if necessary he would convene a meeting.

"But it's not an official's business to convene meetings I wrote to the chairman saying this was a perfect example of the problem we have with the Exco. I said that instead of his talking and making sure that the matter was resolved, he let it to drag on until it suited the officials to do so

"I said the executive committee had lost track of the matter and was happy to leave it in abeyance. I said the reply given by the town clerk was not acceptable and that it should not take a year for this matter to be resolved

"I said officials were allowed to dictate the pace Councillors should dictate the pace and give a deadline by which it was expected the matter would be accomplished. Officials were allowed to run the council they way they wanted to

"'It was clear', I wrote, 'that the chairman was not in control and was happy to acquiesce in the whims and dictates of the officials.'

"If there were problems I expected them to be referred to the committee. Decisions in these matters should be taken by the council, not by officials

"If the officials had problems they could not solve, I suggested, perhaps I myself or friends who hold political office in other places could bring their talents to bear"

The whole matter was left for officials to deal with at their own pace", he said.

"It is now April and I still have not received a satisfactory reply to a request I made last September"

ARGUS

18-4-92

Row over council's big bucks

(263)

JEAN LE MAY
Weekend Argus Reporter

MRG 18/4/92

ANOTHER controversy has arisen over the employment of a firm of highly-paid consultants by the Cape Town city council

It was disclosed this week that the council was trying to reduce a fee of R31 000 for 200 hours work which it undertook to pay a firm of business consultants

The reason given for the reduction was that some of the work the firm was hired to do was found to be "unnecessary"

The council has been hammered in the past for hiring highly-paid consultants Last year a part-time director of information services cost the council R168 000 for five months' work

The latest controversy is about a firm hired as "conflict-resolving" facilitators of the council's proposal to upgrade the city's green lung, the historic Company Garden

Asked if attempts to reduce the fee were related to criticisms of the city council's too-lavish expenditure, a council spokesman said "not necessarily"

The facilitators' fee, which amounts to R155 an hour, was disclosed to Weekend Argus by deputy mayor Mr Clive Keegan.

The firm which got the job for the Gardens upgrade is the husband-and-wife team of John Fowkes Management Consultants, of which the partners are Mr Fowkes and his wife Sandra

Weekend Argus has established that the firm also was employed by the city council as facilitators of the Kalk Bay development plan for a fee of R20 800

Mr Fowkes confirmed that the fee agreed upon was R31 000 which, he said, was in line with fees recommended by their professional association, the SA Foundation for Conciliation

He confirmed that negotiations to reduce it were under way but could not say what the final sum would be

His firm had organised a public meeting and had held several meetings with interest groups, he said A special report-back meeting was still to be held, but it had been decided to cancel a number of workshops

"The workshops were unnecessary because people in the various interest groups turned out to be quite clever at formulating their own ideas," he said

The firm had nothing to do with actually planning a Gardens upgrade but only with getting public acceptance for it, said Mr Fowkes

"The change taking place in South Africa means getting public participation in the decision-making process," he said

"You often find that people are not good at communicating with each other and it helps to have professional help in conflict resolution"

Mrs Fowkes had done courses in conflict-resolving in the United States and Germany with specialisation in environmental matters

He said his qualifications were in business management from the University of Cape Town's Graduate School of Business

Mr Neville Riley, chief of the council's planning department, confirmed that that negotiations were in train to reduce the Fowkes's fee because there had not been as much involved as had been anticipated

He defended the use of conflict-resolving facilitators because, he said "South Africa is in a transitional period and it is most important to have consensus among the disparate groups in the emerging political structure."

The council will spend a total of R550 000 on consultants' fees this year, he said

Kimberley seeks the green light to go grey

263
ARG 18/4/92

KIMBERLEY — Kimberley is bidding to become South Africa's first totally integrated city, town clerk Mr Coenie Nolte said this week

Mr Nolte said in a telephone interview the Kimberley city council would send a formal proposal to provincial administrator, Mr Kobus Meiring seeking permission to form a single non-racial council as early as next month

"Once it is approved there will be no reference to race in anything that we do, nothing," he said

But the local branch of the African National Congress vowed to block the move to integrate the separate white, black, coloured and Indian local councils

"It is totally unacceptable to us," said ANC spokesman Mr Pakes Dikgetsi "They are talking about the amalgamation of apartheid structures that have been discredited by the people

"Apartheid government must go, but it must be replaced by structures negotiated by organisations that have the confidence of the people," he said

Mr Nolte said progress towards non-racial city government had started with the integration of the separate administrations created under apartheid to manage the affairs of the city's whites, coloured people, Indians and blacks

He said the 41 elected members of the four councils would sign an agreement on Wednesday to abolish the race-based bodies and form a single council as soon as possible consisting of 24 members

All 12 white councillors would stay on until the first election, together with seven of the 12 black councillors, four of the 12 coloured representatives and one of the five Indian members

He said Kimberley had about 80 000 black, 45 000 coloured, 35 000 white and 1 500 Indian residents He said the make-up of the interim council was based on the contributions of each community to the city budget

The new council would divide the city and its townships into 12 wards and draw up a voters' role for a one-person, one-vote municipal election in September next year, he said

Mr Wessel Rabbets, an official in the Cape provincial administration said the province would welcome the proposal — Sapa

Put 'hold' on city limits

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

ARC 18/4/92 (263)

APPLICATIONS by various areas to be included in Cape Town municipality should be put on hold until the city council devised a uniform policy on incorporation, the city council executive committee has been told

Residents of Grassy Park, Lansdowne, Wetton, Philippi, Turfhall Park, Ascot, South Park, Pineacres and Mandalay/Merrydale have asked that their areas be incorporated in the council's jurisdiction

A report by the town clerk said other local authorities, including the Western Cape Regional Services Council, were "considering the future" of areas bordering Cape Town, including Llandudno, Hout Bay, Ruyterwacht, Wetton and Zeekoevlei

The corporate management team, chaired by town clerk Mr Don Geyer, said it was unlikely the council would have enough money to provide services in all these areas

"Especially in less privileged areas where infrastructural facilities may require considerable additional expenditure to bring them up to standards similar to those elsewhere in the municipal area"

The applications should be held over until there was a uniform policy for urban areas which did not have municipal status, said the team

Basin of bitterness

Sowth 18/4-23/4/92 263

THE SCENIC Hottentots Holland Basin is the most recent squatter flashpoint in the Western Cape

Conflict over where to settle a growing squatter population has pitted an angry Strand municipality and ratepayers' association against the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) and the Somerset West town council

The controversy was sparked by a proposal of the CPA to develop a site-and-service camp in the Strand near the Lwandle hostel and a neighbouring suburb called Die Bos

There has been a dramatic upsurge in squatter settlements in the area in the past five years From the Sun City squatters in Sir Lowry's Pass to the controversial Waterkloof settlement, the number of squatters has increased by about 70 percent in the past three years This is a result not of migration alone but also of problems with more formal accommodation like farm cottages, hostels and backyard rooms.

A Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) investigation reveals that more than half the shack dwellers lived in the area before they moved to their present settlements.

The growth of highly visible squatter areas prompted anxiety and anger from other residents, including isolated farmers who feared a crime wave

The realisation that the squatter problem was not going to disappear forced the local authorities to come together in a forum to find a suitable site to relocate the squatters

The CPA rejected a proposal from a joint committee of local authorities in the basin to establish a transit camp in a remote part of Sir Lowry's Pass An area called Vlakteplaas was subsequently identified by the committee but then bought for residential use by the Strand municipality which has now offered to sell the area to the CPA.

The CPA's decision, taken on the advice of a professional consultancy, to build a permanent camp for the basin's squatters near Die Bos suburb was last year ratified by the cabinet.

Within two weeks of the news, the ratepayers collected 2 000 signatures for a protest petition

Mr Dick Olivier, spokesperson for the ratepayers' association, says he is bitter, like other residents, about the turn of events

"We are very angry and upset The proposal is not a permanent solution The area designated is very small and cannot possibly accommodate all the squatters Soon they will be wanting land elsewhere in the area," said Olivier

Crucial to the residents' concerns is that the proposed site is within 400 metres of Die Bos suburb

The Group Areas Act may have gone but in the eyes of the municipality and residents the area is a "white suburb", or as Mr Olivier puts it, a "formerly European area"

At a heated meeting in the Strand town hall a few weeks ago, residents expressed their fears and dismay "We won't be able to stay at home on our own or let our children play in the street," said one woman.

Mr Jac Pienaar, who lives on the beachfront, said while the issue did not directly affect him, he could understand why people were upset

"It is a very emotional matter People are worried about the value of their houses and their quality of life After all, who would want squatters next door?"

Businessmen in the area are torn between the buying power of the squatters and fears that the Strand's status as a premier Afrikaner holiday resort will be affected adversely

Olivier says the government has betrayed Strand residents

"They promised us Lwandle would not be expanded. Now they are building a squatter camp in the Strand," Olivier says

Even the ratepayers realise that the squatters can't simply disappear

They advocate that the authorities opt for the Vlakteplaas site but they have little hope that the CPA or government will hear their views

The squatters are aware of their pariah status

"We don't really want to move to a strange area but we are not welcome here in Waterkloof," says Miss Patience Kleinbooi

"They will have to allow us to have our homes We have nowhere else to go," says her friend, Patricia

According to a report published by the HSRC, much of the conflict is a result of the technical approach of the authorities and the multiplicity of local authorities in the area

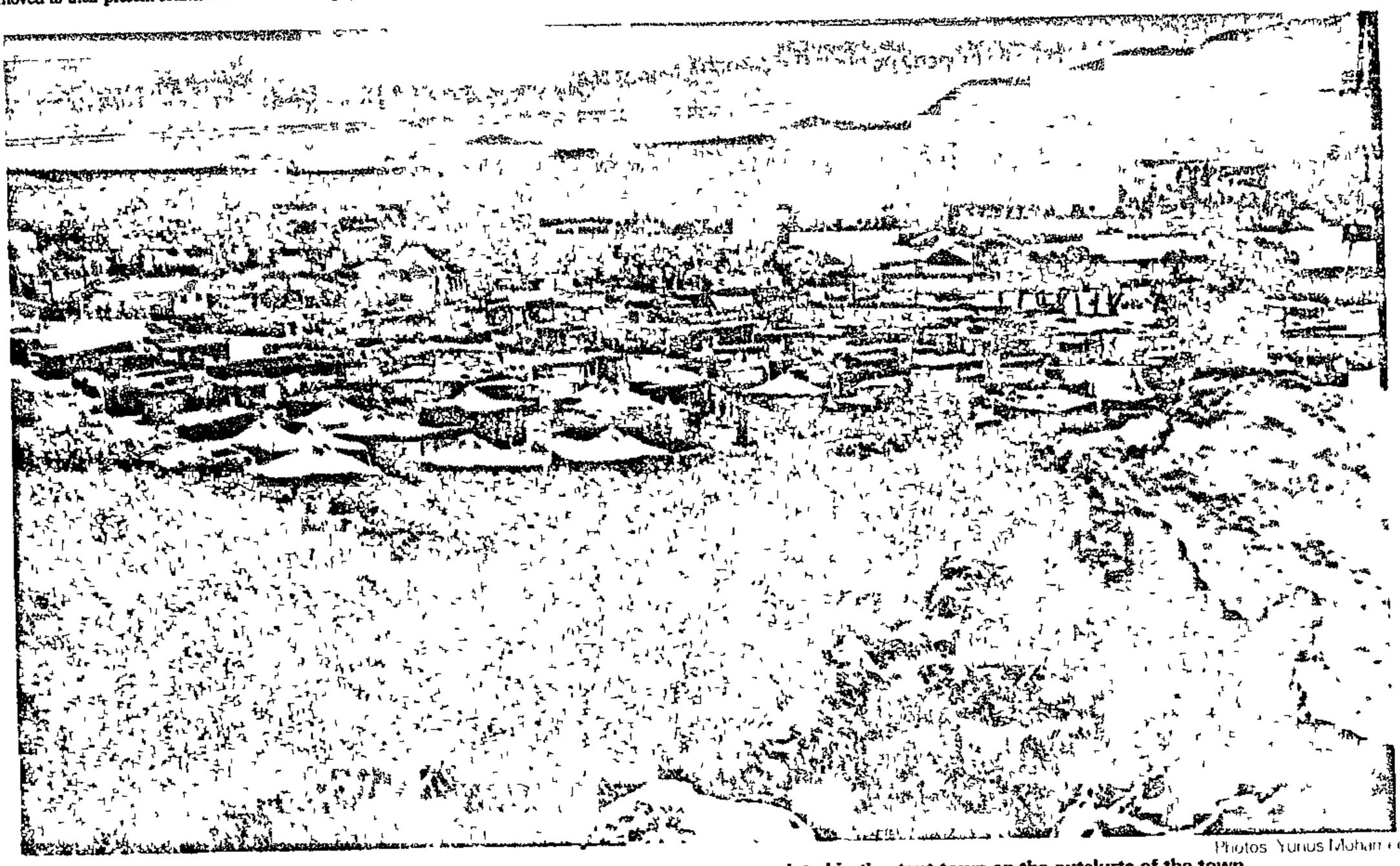
In addition to the RSC, the basin has three municipalities, four management committees, one town committee and one coloured interim committee.

The result has been that each has feared being saddled with the problem and decision-making has tended to come from above at provincial and national level.

Tensions between Wecusa and the Hottentots Holland Interim Squatters and Civics Association have also not facilitated dialogue.

The HSRC report notes that discussion has focused on a single site rather than identifying several parcels of land.

"This has had the effect of intensifying conflict," the report comments



Photos Yunus Mohamed

INFORMAL SETTLEMENT IN APPLE KINGDOM Squatters in Grabouw are accommodated in this tent-town on the outskirts of the town

Squatters force white authorities, residents to face realities

South 18/4-23/4/92

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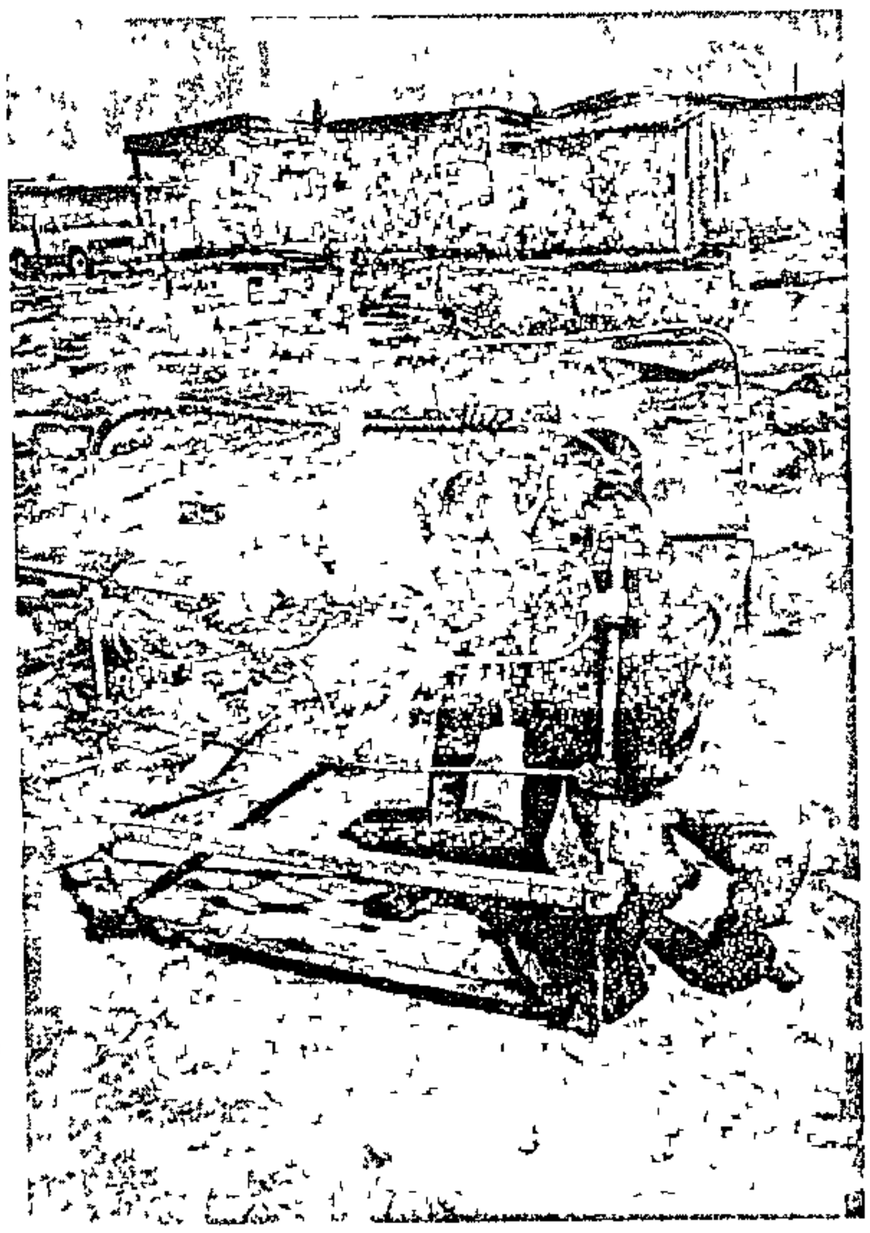
Chiara Carter Associate Editor

Growing demands for land and housing are being forced on white local municipalities and property owners The second part of a three-part series gives an overview of how these groups are facing up to this challenge



FACING RELOCATION Children at Waterworks camp, Grabouw about to be moved to a served site

SQUATTERS HAVE brought white local authorities and residents face to face with harsh realities and many are finding the adjustment process traumatic

Municipalities, large and small, are having to square up to growing demands for land and shelter from the very people they once thought could be wished away or at the very least deported to a distant homeland

According to the census figures almost half the African population lives in urban areas By the year 2010, this figure is predicted to have grown by a further 25 percent

The issues presented by ongoing urbanisation and the vestiges of apartheid policy are proving complex.

Town clerks throughout the Cape cite the relaxation of the coloured labour preference policy and influx control as the key explanation for the dimensions of the squatting problem, but not all of those in need of shelter are African or newly urbanised.

If the provision of accommodation is a headache for the authorities, it is a nightmare for property owners who were previously shielded from the issue

"Not in my backyard" is a syndrome among farmers and owners as well as the not-so-well-off who fear the social and economic consequences of a shack next door

Squatters are not good news for the property market.

According to estate agents, the proximity of squatters decreases property value by between 25 and 40 percent

Poverty and deprivation also bring with it social problems and it is a frequent refrain that the theft rate rises

problems South 18/4-23/4/92

then persuade people to move to serviced sites a reasonable distance from their camps and work."

Another problem is an outraged reaction from residents already living in the vicinity of a proposed site-and-service scheme with the CPA often caught between squatter organisations on the one hand and local municipalities and ratepayers on the other

Theron says the CPA has learnt the hard way the importance of pro-active thinking but the authorities alone cannot solve the demand for affordable shelter

"The dimensions of the problem are vast. A picture of the land and housing crisis in the Cape can only be gloomy," Theron says.

It is not only suburbs on the outskirts that face the problem Several of Cape Town's plushest resorts are presently grappling with the complex dynamics that a highly visible squatter community brings

● In Marina Da Gama, an idyllic waterside development near the False Bay coast, residents were up in arms over the City Council's plans to upgrade and relocate the neighbouring Vrygrond squatters

The Residents' Association claimed the plan would devalue the R200 million marina by half and threatened to sue the council for R100 million if it went ahead

● In nearby Noordhoek a squatter community, which has waged a lengthy battle for the right to live in the area, is accused of devaluing property

● The Milnerton council is grappling with a highly visible squatter camp at the Marconi Beam site in Montague Gardens. The squatters cover the full range of South African society, including poor whites

While the municipality's attempts to relocate the squatters have been met with suspicion from support groups which say the community should be integrated, not segregated, Milnerton has not exactly welcomed the squatters with open arms

Says resident Ms Maria da Silva "These people have brought with them crime and unhygienic living Once they are allowed to stay permanently, you are looking at the growth of a huge township Meanwhile, the proposed development of townhouses is not taking place Had we known there would be squatters in Milnerton, we would have gone to live somewhere else"

The Boland, West Coast and Northern Cape as far as Port Nolloth have all been grappling with squatters for several years

● Grabouw was the centre of controversy earlier this year when balaclava-clad workers removed structures from the Waterworks squatter camp in a move to force people to relocate to another site earmarked by the municipality for a site-and-service area

The town clerk of Grabouw says while things have calmed down since the demolitions, the town is still struggling to adjust to what he says is "a growing tide" of people moving into the area He attributes this to the severe drought which is forcing labourers off the land to seek seasonal work in the area and Grabouw's proximity to Khayelitsha.

● In Villiersdorp, a conservative-leaning town near Cape Town, the clash between squatters and the authorities has been still sharper with the municipality determined to avoid providing Africans with family accommodation.

● Malmesbury, in the Western Cape wheat-belt, is one step ahead

Until now, the only accommodation for Africans has been a compound which the town clerk, Mr Coenie Van Rensburg, describes as "highly unhygienic"

Designed to accommodate about 300 single men, the hostel has become home to as many families

Now the families are to be moved to 200 — 300 serviced sites on the outskirts of Malmesbury — a location which Van Rensburg says is part of the natural expansion of the town

"They will have one of the best views squatters have anywhere in the country," he says

Says Van Rensburg "If white residents are unhappy, we have not heard anything about it The high visibility of the new site might mean some murmurings but we don't anticipate any more than that."

"While it is impossible to give everyone a house because of financial limits, we hope the new serviced sites are a step towards ensuring that people live in better circumstances"

● If Malmesbury illustrates that conflict and squatting is not synonymous, then Hout Bay's squatting saga is a ray of light in what is often a very gloomy tunnel

It is now less than a year since squatters won the right to stay in Hout Bay, a scenic fishing port and tourist attraction where splendid Cape mansions are the norm

While the contrast between affluence and poverty remains, those heated days are just memories

Mr Dick Meter of the Hout Bay Advice Office says there is no longer a conflict situation in Hout Bay The community of the transit camp, Imizamo Yethu, meets regularly with the Ratepayers' Association in a "relaxed and amicable" atmosphere

A conservative property-owners association which sprang up at the height of the crisis to demand the eviction of the squatters, has itself disappeared

The community, together with consultants, is presently looking for further suitable pockets of land where squatters and those living in over-crowded conditions in backyard shacks and hostels in the harbour area can live

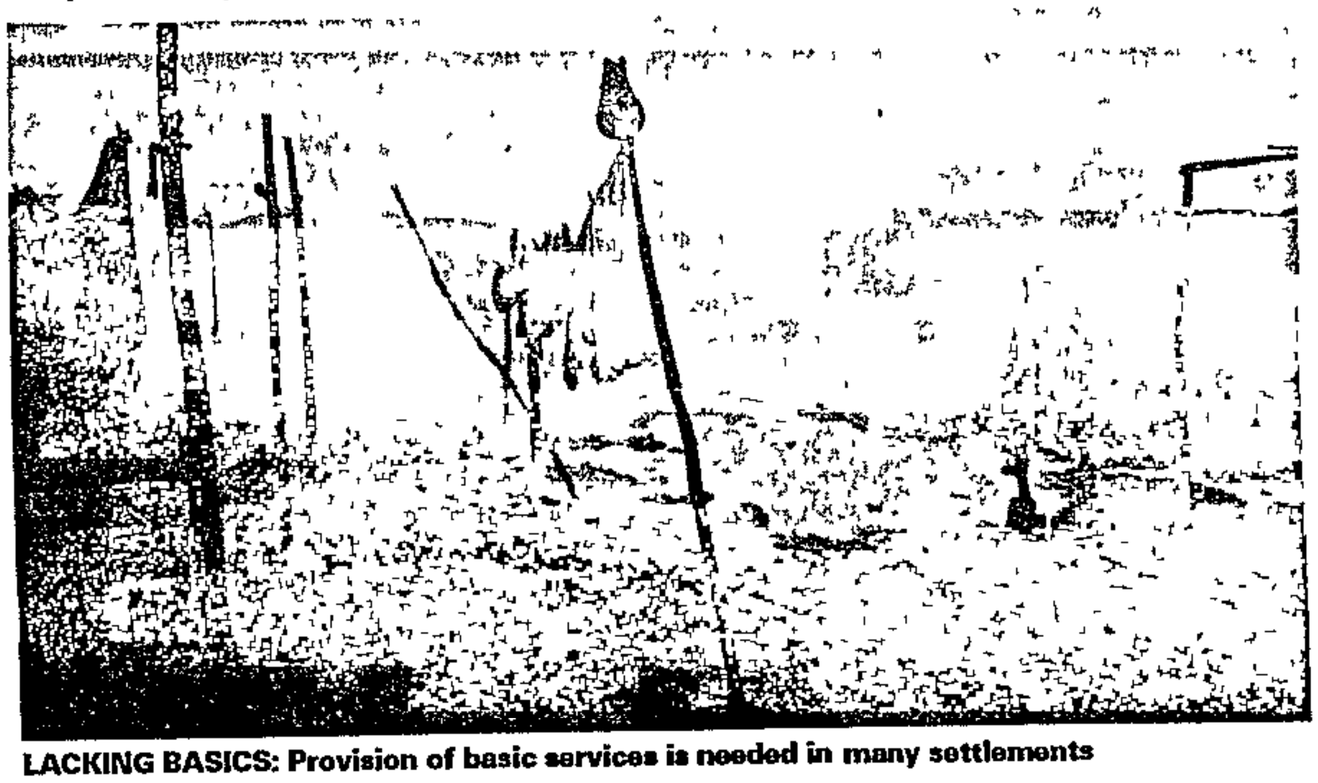
It is hoped that identifying small parcels of land will facilitate integration and the creation of a single if diverse community

The experiences at Marina Da Gama, Malmesbury and Hout Bay are likely to be shared by many other areas in the near future

The government at the end of last year revealed a master blueprint for low-income housing in the Cape area aimed at catering for a population growth of 1,2 million over the next 20 years Areas targetted include Milnerton-West Coast, Durbanville-Kraaifontein, Hout Bay, Noordhoek, Fish Hoek, Simon's Town and the Cape Flats

According to government estimates, a minimum of 6 000 hectares of land will have to be found by the year 2010

Whether the expansion of areas designated for informal housing will follow the experience of Hout Bay or result in sharp conflict depends not least on the relationship built between squatters and residents



LACKING BASICS: Provision of basic services is needed in many settlements

CPA favours pro-active approach to Cape's housing

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A THICK TOME listing almost 3 000 priority projects lies on the desk of Mr Koos Theron, the MEC for Housing in the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA).

On the walls of Theron's office hang maps of townships and squatter areas This tranquil room in the heart of safari-suited bureaucracy is the unlikely eye of the storm.

The CPA has to deal on a daily basis with a critical land and housing crisis and Theron is grimly anticipating that the situation can only worsten

He argues the only feasible approach is for the authorities to move pro-actively.

"The only option is to manage urbanisation We must identify sufficient land where the poor can settle and service the sites so that newcomers and those seeking accommodation can be directed to demarcated areas rather than settling in an ad hoc and illegal fashion without even the basic services."

With this in mind two parallel forums, which Theron dubs a "two-legged" forum, meet regularly to discuss development

The one includes the ANC, PAC, Wecusa and the Western Cape region of the South African National Civics Organisation; the other the Lingelethu West and Crossroads town councils

The CPA, the Regional Services Council (RSC) and the Cape Town municipality (CCC) are members of both.

Theron is at pains to point out that the CPA's primary responsibility is to identify, develop and service sites since the onus for dealing with illegal squatting rests firstly with the property owner and then with the local authority.

The CPA also has the overall responsibility for managing, and hence strategising, urbanisation.

Land, finance and a national housing policy are the big three questions

According to Theron, there are about 850 000 families in the Cape currently without access to even a serviced site About R4,6 billion is needed to address the backlog.

Says Theron: "We can't even provide serviced sites for everyone let alone housing.

"When the coloured labour preference policy and influx control went, it was as though a wall had collapsed. We are making progress but there is not enough money or staff to remedy the situation overnight."

The CPA hopes the recommendations of the government's De Loor working group, will provide a policy framework He says land is not a limitless resource "We need to look at densifying settlement in already-established areas and placing people closer to the city centre and job opportunities".

The CPA has prioritised 2 900 projects for implementation over the next five years

One of the first is the provision of services and facilities to the Driftsands squatters led by Mr Johnson Nxgobongwana

Other current projects include the upgrading of Crossroads, servicing 60 000 sites in Khayelitsha, a site-and-service scheme in Philippi East for the Crossroads community and the second phase of development in Kraaifontein

The process of providing a site-and-service area or upgrading a settlement often involves relocating an already existent squatter community.

Theron says the reasons for not doing an on site intervention vary but are often based on practical considerations

"Our approach is to negotiate with the community on an ongoing basis

"We usually identify land and

Cape's housing problems

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Johnson Nxgobongwana

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"Our approach is to negotiate with the community on an ongoing basis.

"We usually identify land and then persuade people to move to serviced sites a reasonable distance from their camps and work."

Another problem is an outraged reaction from residents already living in the vicinity of a proposed site-and-service scheme with the CPA often caught between squatter organisations on the one hand and local municipalities and ratepayers on the other.

Theron says the CPA has learnt the hard way the importance of pro-active thinking but the authorities alone cannot solve the demand for affordable shelter.

"The dimensions of the problem are vast. A picture of the land and housing crisis in the Cape can only be gloomy," Theron says.

LACKING BASICS: Provision of basic services is needed in many settlements

Bringing council time and costs into question

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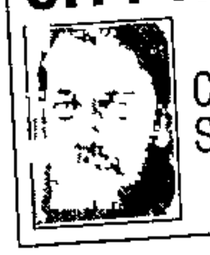
CITY HALL



Clive Sawyer

THE blossoming of new forms of local government may mean the withering of some traditions

While the demise of some already stultified traditions is to be welcomed — considering that no golden badges could be dished out if there were no aldermen, just plain old councillors — it will be well worthwhile maintaining others

Which brings us to the question of the questions.

Keen readers of Bagehot and other admirers of that diffused mess infused with its own genius, the British constitution, will be well aware of the tradition of Prime Minister's Question Time

A marvellous facility for the British, allowing them to know as much as might be known of The Facts, from the shooting of unruly tribesfolk in the farflung empire to the most arcane activities of the Home Office

"Questions will be asked in the House," the British can cry, in the knowledge they will be answered

In this country, that tradition was diminished in the House of Assembly when ministers refused to answer questions on the grounds the facts would endanger national security

And now city council leadership, in its hesitation to answer a set of questions Mr Arthur Wienburg asked of the chairman of the executive committee, is calling the tradition into question

The corporate management team claimed answering the questions — about council internal working groups — would cost thousands of rands and use up valuable working hours.

Heavens, of course yes, those hours are needed for talking about golden badges and secret societies, and whatever *do* the ratepayers think of us, less than what we shall do about it

It is well known Mr Wienburg's questions are costly to answer, even though the costing has been called into question by another councillor

He has also sinned by asking for opinions and surmises instead of facts

But at the last municipal election he was sent forth to be allowed to ask those questions on behalf of those ratepayers allowed to vote, and a refusal to answer him might seem a snub to them too

It is perhaps a pity Mr Wienburg is at the centre of this particular controversy, if only because it might provoke in some circles the ONWA reaction (Oh No, Wienburg Again)

The principle is at stake, and it could be any other city councillor involved if the practice of tabling questions stretched further across the green chamber

Some might argue that there are other ways of getting information, the informal chat, or personal checking of records

But this hallowed way guarantees the information is freely available to the public

Exco has recommended that at least some of the questions be answered

It is a pity even that it has been discussed

□□□

DURING the 1988 municipal elections, a certain candidate was canvassing in the southern suburbs

As a resident opened his door, she brightly introduced herself and braced herself to launch into her election manifesto

"I do hope you're opposed to the kind of illegal parking we have over there," the ratepayer interrupted, pointing to a motor car parked on the pavement

"But that's my car," she said

"Goodbye," said the ratepayer as he closed the door.

She is on the city council today, elected with at least one less vote than she might have attracted

Constantia 'no' to union with Cape Town

(263)

CT 23/4/92

THE Local Council of Constantia Valley (LCCV) has strongly rejected suggestions that the area consider incorporation in the Cape Town municipality

The point was made at last week's council meeting where the LCCV was asked by the Malan Committee of Inquiry to submit proposals regarding the demarcation of rural areas — including those falling under local councils — and their incorporation into local municipalities

At the meeting, chairman Mr Andrew Ross-Munro pointed out that Constantia was viable and could stand on its own

Incorporation

Of all the councils that previously fell under the divisional council, Constantia was the only one which generated enough rates income to pay its own way

He said "Constantia is implacably opposed to being incorporated into the City of Cape Town and is a member of the committee considering the possible creation of a South Peninsula Authority

"There are also no adjoining areas which could be incorporated unless one considers the Hout Bay/Llandudno areas"

In a report tabled at the monthly council meeting, Chief Executive Officer for the LCCV Mr Chris Steytler said local government depended on two foundations — the principle of public participation and "the services principle"

He said "As regards public participation, it is generally accepted that the larger the local government structure, the less possibility exists for public participation If Constantia is taken as an example, the community is served by 12 councillors This obviously makes for better communication and participation

"If Constantia was to be incorporated into Cape Town, it is unlikely to have more than two wards or councillors"

'Ironic'

He said the LCCV had "admirably succeeded" in taking control of its own affairs as it determined its own spending priorities, approved its own budget and determined the rates payable

"It is ironic that, whereas the concept of ward councils is being propagated at one government level, another level of government is pursuing the abolition of this very concept," he added

The Malan Committee, appointed in October 1991 by the Administrator-in-executive committee, is supposed to have reported on the matter by the end of this month

Income

Any decisions made will have profound effects on the application of democratic government in the future

Constantia Valley planner Mr Henry Aikman told the Constantiaberg & False Bay Review this week that the income/expenditure for the current financial year was about R12,9 m

He said "Of this, 95% comes from rates, 2,5% from surplus bonds and 2,5% from sundry fees and tariffs

"Over 26% of this goes to the Regional Services Council for administration costs, 26,1% is spent on refuse removal and sewerage and 13,9% is spent on road and stormwater drain maintenance"

Ire as council proposes letting the grass grow

(263) CT 23/4/92

Staff Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council is likely to make maintenance cuts to 280 city sports fields in an effort to reduce spiralling costs

The move by the Parks and Forests Branch to save R600 000, proposed at a city council executive committee meeting on Tuesday, has been slammed by ratepayers

Mr Frank Helm, chairman of Ratepayers in Revolt, said anything that was beneficial to the public was neglected by the council

On the other hand "Sixty-six council employees earn salaries of over R100 000 annually and the heads of the various departments earn over R149 000 a year"

The cost-cutting measure was proposed by Mr Peter Rist, who said R600 000 could be saved by downgrading maintenence costs at sports grounds

"There will be a slight downgrading of maintenence on all grounds by cutting down on fertilisers, using less water and not mowing fields as often as before," he said

The committee supported the proposal, which is likely to be approved when the budget is announced

(263) ARG-23/4/92

Clash over planning of Western Cape's future

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

MANAGEMENT committee members have charged they are being left out of planning the Western Cape's metropolitan and tourism future

This emerged during discussion of two items at the Western Cape Regional Services Council meeting yesterday

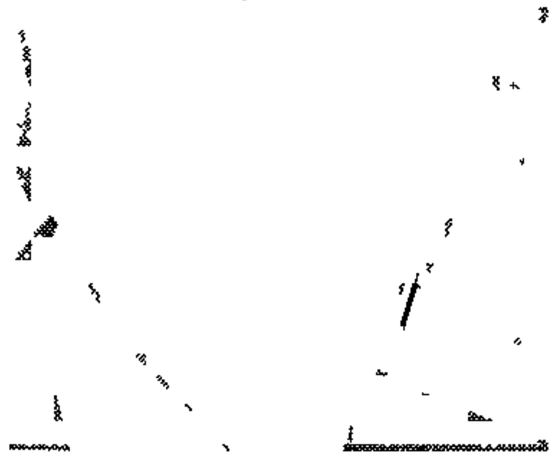
Retreat management committee member Mr C C Jacobs clashed with land usage and transport planning committee chairman Mr Clive Keegan over arrangements to meet community-based organisations to discuss the metropolitan development framework.

"Who are these community based organisations?," Mr Jacobs asked.

Mr Keegan said the list included civic associations, the Western Cape United Squatters, the African National Congress "and a range of people not involved in mainstream politics in the Western Cape"

Mr Jacobs objected to the organisations being called "popular"

RSC chairman Mr Pietie Loubser said "popular" did not mean the organisations were well-liked but that they were people-based



Mr Clive Keegan

Mr Keegan said planning of metropolitan development had been reported to the RSC "month after month for 18 months" and management committees had every opportunity to comment

Mr Loubser said he wanted to "issue a warning" that councillors should not lean too much in the direction of community-based organisations, ignoring others.

During a debate on bodies to be represented on a steering committee on setting up a Western Cape regional development forum, Mr Jacobs appealed for more RSC representation on the committee

Convened by Wesgro, the steering committee is to include representatives of Cosatu, Nactu, the ANC, PAC, Cape Town City Council, smaller municipalities and agriculture and business

Mr Jacobs asked why the RSC would have one representative when civic organisations would get three

Mr S W Oliphant of the Cloetesville and Ida's Valley management committee said it seemed civics always got preference.

Mr S M Mayekiso of Kaya Mandi management committee said he wanted his remarks on the matter to be recorded "in committee" — behind closed doors

Mr Loubser ruled that the item be discussed in committee

Rebel council caucus rejects meeting offer

(263) ARG 24/4/92

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter

MAYOR of Cape Town Mr Frank van der Velde has agreed to chair a proposed meeting between rival city council "caucuses" — but the 12-member caucus has turned down the invitation to attend as a group.

Mr Van Der Velde is one of two out of 34 councillors who has not allied himself with either caucus.

Responding to the invitation for an informal council meeting early next week, Mr Arthur Wienburg said he and his 11 allies would not attend as a group.

The invitation was made by the alliance of 20 city councillors "to discuss matters of common concern".

However, while some councillors refused outright to go to the proposed meeting, there were indications others would attend.

Spokesman for the 20-councillor alliance, Mr Norman Osburn, said there were "positive and negative" indications about attendance at the meeting. No date and time had been set, "because we first have to reach consensus on whether or not to meet".

It was hoped to convene the meeting early next week. The monthly city council meeting is scheduled for Thursday.

Mr Wienburg said he doubted there was any useful purpose to attending the meeting.

Mr Osburn said he did not want the 20 city councillors who yesterday issued the invitation to the meeting to be seen as a group.

If the meeting was held, it would not be "one group versus another".

Meanwhile, it is reliably understood some councillors have been upset by recent Press reports and comment about the advent of the "caucus" of 12.

There is concern that councillors who are not members of the "caucus" might be seen as not endorsing the aims of the 12.

The 12 bound themselves to a declaration of intent that included cost-effective and democratic running of the municipality.

In their statement yesterday, the 20 councillors — who include four executive committee members — said they shared public concern that the city council should put its limited resources to the most effective use.

The statement said they were committed to open, representative, competent, tolerant and accountable local government.

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Caucus rejects meeting

263

CT 24/4/92

Municipal Reporter

"NON-CAUCUS" members of the Cape Town City Council have invited the dissident "caucus" group to a meeting — but the invitation has been turned down

The council was rocked early last week when a group of 12 councillors went public with a set of principles to which they committed themselves

Yesterday most of the non-caucus councillors issued a press statement announcing their intention to call on caucus members to discuss matters of common concern with them

Those who put their names to the non-caucus group statement were: Mr Richard Friedlander, Mr Louis Kreiner, Mr Sol Kreiner, Mr Leon Markovitz, Mrs Eulalie Stott, Mr Nic Basson, Mr Hugh Frost, Mrs Bronnie Harding, Mr Ian Iversen, Mr Clive Justus, Mr Norman Osburn, Mr Kenneth Penkin, Mr Tony Powell, Mr Joe Rabinowitz, Mr Neil Ross, Dr John Sonnenberg, Mrs Patricia Sulcas-Kreiner, Mr Gerry Sullivan, Ms Annamia van den Heever and Mr Llewellyn van Wyk.

Mr Arthur Wienburg, of the caucus group, said he had told Mr Norman Osburn that the caucus "did not see an upside (benefit) for the ratepayers" in the proposed meeting so the invitation had been turned down

263
ARG 25/4/92

Council ire over integrity

Chris Joubert

Budget to the bone — butcher Joubert

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

NON-ALIGNED city councillor Mr Chris Joubert says the formation of caucuses is "absolutely wrong".

Mr Joubert is one of two out of 34 councillors who has not joined either of the recently formed alliances in the city council

The other is the Mayor, Mr Frank van der Velde.

Mr Joubert said he was opposed to excessive councillors' allowances, unnecessary employment of consultants and overseas trips, in line with the principles favoured by the caucuses.

"But while I have no problem with think-tanks, I think it is absolutely wrong to form caucuses to make people vote as a body on issues," he said.

"I will align myself with anyone who can convince me of the merits of their argument," Mr Joubert said.

Meanwhile, he planned to take on spending on civic functions and lunches at next week's council meeting

It was possible to cut the city catering budget by 75 percent, he said.

Mr Joubert, a butcher, is to table a motion calling for council to find ways to cut the catering budget "to the bone".

He will table questions asking for details of the cost of civic functions and lunches.

We're not casting aspersions — rebel

JEAN LE MAY
Weekend Argus Reporter

EMBATTLED city councillors under attack from their colleagues have reacted with indignation to a mention, in the manifesto of the 12 dissenting councillors, of the need for "ethical integrity" in the operations of the council.

All the dissenting councillors got letters from the chairman of the executive council, Mr Dick Friedlander, saying this could be interpreted as casting aspersions on the integrity of councillors and officials.

Mr Friedlander asked for any such instances of lack of integrity known to councillors to be reported to Exco.

Mr Abraham Katz, one of the dissenting councillors, confirmed to Weekend Argus that he got a letter

"Our mission statement was not intended to cast aspersions on anyone," he said "We said we wanted to see all council dealings carried out with ethical integrity"

Meanwhile, the gold badge issue, which has aroused a hurricane of protest from ratepayers, is on the agenda for this week's council meeting It is likely the decision to spend R19 200 on the badges could be reversed in the face of public protest

The gold badges were among issues raised briefly during a Radio Good Hope broadcast yesterday in which Councillors Friedlander, Wienburg, Markowitz and Cape Town journalist Mr Tony Robinson took part

One of the potential recipients of the gold badges for aldermen and freemen of the city is former mayor Mr David Bloomberg — now living in Britain — who, in January 1989, admitted to the Harms Commission of Inquiry into gambling rights in Transkei that he had paid a bribe of R2-million to the-then Chief Minister of Transkei to help hotel magnate Mr Sol Kerzner get casino rights for the Wild Coast Sun

Warrants of arrest for Mr Bloomberg and Mr Kerzner were issued in 1990 by Transkei Attorney-General Mr Christo Nel on charges of corruption, fraud and giving false evidence

A 1991 extradition request from Transkei for Mr Bloomberg's return was still being considered by South African authorities, Weekend Argus was told this week by a spokesman for Minister of Justice Mr Kobie Coetsee

And, a committee of the Law Society of the Cape of Good Hope interviewed Mr Bloomberg in connection with the Transkei allegations The interview was informal and no finding was made, according to a spokesman

A gold badge, if it materialises, will not be the first honour bestowed on Mr Bloomberg by the city council In February, when he returned to South Africa for a short visit, a reception chamber in the city hall was named after him at a reception hosted by acting mayor Mr Clive Keegan.

Mr Bloomberg did not seek re-election in the 1988 municipal election, citing the intrusion of politics into local government for his decision

However, there was speculation at the time that he was reacting to publicity about his involvement in a Transkei gambling rights inquiry conducted by Mr Gerald Alexander SC, the findings of which led to the appointment of the Harms Commission.

The publicity surrounding the Alexander Commission did, however, lead to Mr Bloomberg being asked to resign from the board of the Metropolitan Life insurance company When he refused, his directorship was terminated by the board.

Councillors look to the future

JEAN LE MAY
Weekend Argus Reporter

CAPE Town City Council is not dragging its heels when it comes to preparing for local government in the new South Africa, according to assistant city administrator Mr Chris Glaum.

He said the council had made a substantial contribution to working groups of the United Municipal Executive (UME) which were preparing submissions to Codesa.

"The working groups do not consist only of officials We get city councillors involved wherever possible," he said

Cape Town was represented on UME working groups and on a special group made up of representatives of big cities, he said.

All the working groups had put in written submissions to the UME Mr Glaum said he was a member of the working group on the constitution which met this week in Durban.

"The Deputy Mayor, Mr Clive Keegan, was unfortunately unable to attend, so I was the only representative from Cape Town," he said

The group had prepared a constitutional model and he was examining the draft.

A special task force of officials had prepared two working papers on the future of metropolitan government in the Western Cape and these had been submitted to the UME.

A third paper was being prepared

Inefficiency claims cause council row

263

ST Times [Cape Metro] 26/4/92

THE Cape Town City Council has paid R108 694,34 to a retired official to compile a list of properties owned by the city — and although the task was started in 1988 it is not yet complete

A report on a sub-station owned by the council in Paarden Island, which it was planning to sell, took 11 years to complete

A proposed rationalisation of the city's leisure and recreation departments is also not completed 20 years after it was planned — although it could save the city R1-million a year

Delays in banking cheques for electricity account payments have cost the city more than R250 000 in lost interest.

By EVE VOSLOO

These examples were quoted this week by city councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg as examples of council inefficiency

But the chairman of the executive committee, Mr Dick Friedlander, said in an interview that he did not think the city was being run inefficiently

"Cape Town, like other cities in South Africa, is in a Catch 22 situation," he said

"The city and its population is growing, which increases the demand for services, but at the same time there is a recession and a cutback in government subsidies.

"We are trying to accede to the demands of ratepayers but it is a difficult situation"

Ridicule

He said that in any large organisation such as the city council, things happened which caused concern

"When they are brought to our attention we rectify them as soon as possible"

Mr Wienburg said it was "laughable" to say that the city was being run efficiently

"If the city is not inefficient, how does Mr Friedlander explain the examples quoted above and how does he account for the barrage of public complaints which abound daily and the ridicule which the council faces in letters to the press?" he asked

"It is time that this ostrich-like head-in-the-sand attitude ends and that Mr Friedlander faces the fact that there is a lot seriously wrong with the running of council

"Unless strong measures are taken immediately we are heading for disaster.

"One aspect would be bankruptcy"

In other developments this week Mr Friedlander and 19 other councillors issued a statement objecting to a manifesto issued by 12 councillors who last week made public that they had formed a caucus to try to ensure that the council was run with "ethical efficiency" on a cost-effective basis

In their statement the 20 councillors said they were aware that there was genuine concern at the council's ability to guide the city "through this period of transition" but that while they recognised that there were defects in the operation aspects of the council which needed to be addressed urgently, "we regret that a group of councillors have seen fit to isolate themselves from colleagues who have long shared similar concerns and beliefs"

Mr Friedlander wrote a letter to all 12 members of the caucus saying that if they knew of any unethical conduct on the part of any councillor or official they should inform him or the town clerk of this forthwith "in fairness to 22 colleagues on the council and some 16 000 council employees"

Group of 12 to meet 20 other councillors

ST 27/4/92 (263)

Municipal Reporter

MEMBERS of the Group of Twelve or "caucus" within Cape Town City Council are to meet with fellow councillors soon, it was decided at a meeting of the group yesterday

Two weeks ago, the non-party political group of 12 councillors issued a public statement committing themselves to cost-efficiency, ethical integrity, open government and running the council on business-like principles

Deputy Mayor Mr Clive Keegan, a member of the group of 12, said that as far as the group was concerned, its members could meet other councillors "as a group, or as individuals, or as a delegation"

Yesterday's group of 12 meeting was prompted by an invitation by a non-caucus group of 20 councillors to a meeting to discuss the implications of the formation of what was seen as a caucus

Last week Mr Arthur Wienburg, a member of the group, said he saw no benefit for the ratepayer in attending such a meeting Yesterday Mr Keegan said Mr Wienburg had been speaking in his private capacity

The group of 12 does not have an official leader

Mr Keegan said some of the members of the group of 12 had not been informed of the proposed meeting with the 20 Proper notice would be required

City slammed

(2&3) CT 28/4/92

Meiring hits at 'irresponsible' spending plans

By PETER DENNEHY and BRONWYN DAVIDS

THE Administrator of the Cape, Mr Kobus Meiring, has launched a stinging attack on Cape Town City Council, describing it as financially irresponsible.

He said yesterday that it was also "extremely regrettable" that the council had cancelled this year's April 6 Founder's Day ceremony

Opening the Cape Provincial Municipal Association (CPMA) congress in East London last night, Mr Meiring said having gold medals made for council members, approving allowances for mayors' wives and undertaking unnecessary journeys "were not actions reconcilable with responsible financial management" in present times

In his address, Mr Meiring did not specifically mention Cape Town City Council in connection with these issues, but as far is known no other city council has been publicly criticised for them

Mr Meiring also said he would keep the tradition of a Founder's Day wreath-laying ceremony in Adderley Street alive by presenting it himself

He also said the blame for unpopular decisions on salary increases for councillors should not be shifted on to the CPA

'We shall have to stop placing the blame for unpopular steps, such as increases in councillors' allowances, at others' doors," he said

He said he found it "extremely regrettable" that Cape Town City Council had cancelled this year's April 6 Founder's Day ceremony

"I have no desire to cross swords with the city fathers of the Mother City about the merit of their decision, but to my mind Jan van Riebeeck's arrival at the southern tip of Africa was indeed a historic occasion in the development of our entire country, and one which should be commemorated annually

"I have therefore decided to keep the annual Founder's Day ceremony at the bottom of Adderley Street alive by presenting it myself — as Administrator of the Cape — in future"

The Mayor of Cape Town, Mr Frank van der Velde, said yesterday that he had explained to Mr Meiring his reasons for recommending to the council that the ceremony should not be held this year

"If he wishes to make political capital out of this, so be it. I think the public needs to be aware of one fact The Administrator did not even reply to my invitation to attend (when the ceremony was still scheduled to take place)

"The members of his executive committee did reply, but they declined to attend"

Mr Van der Velde said he had not responded up to now to some criticism of the council decision as he had not wished the ceremony to be divisive, or to be brought into political debate

On the question of the councillors' medals and related issues raised by Mr Meiring, Mr Van der Velde said "I find it strange that the Administrator has found it necessary to involve himself in petty local issues at the Cape Municipal congress when there are such major issues such as how to rationalise the 64 local authorities in the south-western Cape or how to overcome the huge housing deficit or how to counter the epidemic of tuberculosis or how to counter the housing backlog — all issues on which Cape Town is suffering as a result of past policies of the government and of present serious cutbacks by the state in subsidies to local authorities"

Deputy Mayor Mr Clive Keegan said Mr Meiring had articulated the "points of unhappiness which are at present the stuff of contention between this council and its ratepayers"

"Certain of the matters raised by Mr Meiring will be debated by council at its monthly meeting on Thursday, while others will enjoy attention in weeks"

Councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg said "It is gratifying to see that Mr Meiring has identified himself with the ratepayers' concerns for the gross inefficient and mismanagement of ratepayers' resources in the city council

"I now call upon him to launch an investigation into the running of the municipality That way he will be putting his money where his mouth is and doing something constructive about the problem"

● Councils criticised for late statements — Page 9

Olympic gold medallist? No, actually I'm a City Council gold medallist

'Highest calibre' of person needed for local government

CLIVE SAWYER Municipal Reporter

EAST LONDON. — Many companies and some government departments put pressure on employees to run for local government, the Cape Province Municipal Association was told.

A proposal by the Adelaide Town Council that the government be asked to instruct companies and government departments to allow employees to stand for office was referred to the CPMA executive committee.

Adelaide mayor Mr P J Luttig said the highest calibre of person was needed for local government.

The public was unwilling to get involved and pressure by companies and the state made it worse, he said.

Mr Attie Adriaanse of Parow said that forcing companies to allow employees to stand could cause chaos in severe economic times.

Some institutions could not afford to have employees away from work for up to three days a week, he said.

● The CPMA referred a proposal — to change eligibility for membership of voters' rolls in the wake of the demise of the Group Areas Act — to its executive committee and the United Municipal Executive.

Beacon Bay said "members of other race groups" were asking for municipal votes because they had bought property in previously whites-only areas.

UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
SALDRU LIBRARY
14 MAY 1992

Cape Town under fire for ignoring amalgamation Act

ARG 29/4/92

INHUYS MEETING: President de Klerk and former Nigerian of state, General Olusegun Obasanjo, before discussions ynhuys. The general is in South Africa to address a confer- e of the South Africa Foreign Trade Organisation (Safto).

uth killed by 'dead' bullet

... Correspondent

LONDON. — A youth was under seemingly freak circum- by an R1 bullet that was re- to have been lying in a street William's Town.

bullet was picked up by a man told the police that he dis- it by holding it in a pair of tinsnips and hitting it with a hammer. The man, who was employed by Corner Fisheries on Market Square, claimed he had found the bullet outside the shop

He told the police that when he discharged the bullet it had hit the youth who was standing about a metre away

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

(263)

EAST LONDON — Councillors from all over the Cape — and the president of the Cape Province Municipal Association (CPMA) — have attacked the Cape Town City Council for its refusal to apply the Interim Measures for Local Government Act

ALthough a motion qustioning the appropriateness of the Act was proposed by Parow, Cape Town came in for all of the flak

Cape Town's position was stoutly defended by mayor Mr Frank van der Velde and executive committee chairman Mr Richard Friedlander

There was drama at the end of the debate when Mr Van der Velde demanded that CPMA president Dr Danie Schumann call a formal vote on the issue, even although Dr Schumann had ruled that the congress move on to another item

The vote was lost with the only visible hands raised against it among the more than 500 delegates being those of the Cape Town delegation

Opening the debate, Parow mayor Mr Frikkie Knoetze said that while progress had been made using the Act, doubts lingered

The Act allows councils to form negotiating forums to set up new local authorities, including amalgamation with management committees

Citrusdal and Riversdale have set up amalgamated councils using the Act

"There is suspicion that all our efforts will be futile because of Codesa, that it is a waste of money, that heightened emotions will spoil discussions, that anything we do now will be taken apart in future, and that those outside the process will ignore or sabotage it," said Mr Knoetze

Mr Van der Velde said delegates had to understand that the process had to be inclusive.

Negotiations in Cape Town were being inhibited by the Act because some groups would not talk to the city council unless it was scrapped

From the chair, Dr Danie Schumann said "The problem with Cape Town is that they refuse to use the Act"

To applause, he told delegates "Others who have used it are succeeding They have included coloured management committees"

Dr Schumann appealed to councillors to "make the fullest use" of the Act

"There will always be a local option — don't worry — we will always have the chance to have our own charter in our own area," he said

A Swellendam spokesman said they intended holding elections in the near future for a new, nonracial council

Dr Schumann said it was "risky" to hold elections because details for local government polls still were to be worked out at Codesa

CPMA vice-president Dr Wynand Malan said Cape Town City Council had always spoken in favour of integrated councils, but now would do nothing while "all the rest of us" were negotiating

Port Elizabeth city councillor Mr F H Kotze said it was not suprising the Administrator had "acted so sharply against the Mother City", a reference to Mr Kobus Meiring's attack on the city at the congress opening on Monday night

Mr Friedlander said in response to the "great attack" on Cape Town, that the council did not like the Act and felt it would not work in the Peninsula However, they were not opposed to other councils trying it

Mrs Eulalie Stott said that "if those sitting here had listened to me and opposed removing people of colour from the voters' roll in 1972, we would not be discussing this". This drew an unfriendly rumble from delegates.

Facelift makes Cape Town fairest city

B|Day 29/4/92

(80) (263)

JONO WATERS

THE revitalisation of Cape Town's CBD has renewed confidence in the city and should serve as a role model for other SA cities, says Anglo American Property Services (Ampros) research department in its April review.

"Hand-in-hand with the Victoria & Albert redevelopment has been the refurbishment of older buildings and the construction of new ones by the public sector, showing their confidence in the city," says the review

Office vacancies, currently 10,4% for Grade A, 9,4% for Grade B and 4,6% for Grade C, are expected to be taken up as political confidence grows and the economy picks up.

Ampros adds that the tourism industry can be expected to boom

The review looked into present and proposed projects likely to enhance the area Among them are

☐ The Victoria Wharf with 140 speciality shops, 16 restaurants, a fish market and 11 small 60- to 120-seater cinemas due to be opened by December;

☐ The 60 000m² Devland site on the foreshore, which will connect with the Victoria & Albert Waterfront It may include an international hotel,

☐ A residential area of 700 units around a small-craft marina at Granger Bay, planned to start at the end of 1997,

☐ A marina with moorings for 400 yachts inside Table Bay's main breakwater;

☐ The redevelopment of the Portswood Ridge business park,

☐ The Pierhead Precinct in the heart of the historic working harbour, with parking for 2 700 cars,

☐ The Alfred Marina in the old quarry due to be flooded in 1993 It will be overlooked by restaurants, hotels and an aquarium; and

☐ The landscaped office park, Amsterdam Battery, alongside a waterway which stretches from the New Basin towards the foreshore.

Seeff Organisation Holdings chairman Lawrence Seeff said he welcomed the developments, but with caution

Further developments should be tenant-driven, he said

Pam Golding executive director Mike Bisset said Cape Town was fortunate that it had the old buildings and harbour to restore

(263) ARG 29/4/92

Exco calls for council to drop gold badge idea

JOHN YELD Staff Reporter

THE city council's controversial decision last month to buy 9ct gold badges for aldermen and freemen at a cost of R19 200 should be rescinded, the executive committee has recommended.

At its monthly meeting at the end of March, the council accepted an executive committee recommendation to buy six formal and six informal alderman's badges and three freeman's badges struck in 9ct gold, as well as three dies.

The council agreed that new aldermen would be awarded sets of badges, and existing aldermen could buy them at their own expense.

New and existing freemen would each be awarded a freeman's badge.

The decision provoked a public outcry and strong criticism from some councillors and the Administrator, Mr Kobus Meiring, who this week indirectly accused the council of irresponsible financial management in an address to the Cape Provincial municipal congress in East London.

The council's executive committee is now recommending that last month's decision be rescinded and that it re-investigates the issue.

The recommendation, which will be put to the council at its monthly meeting tomorrow, reads:

"In the light of public comment on the council's decision, representations have been made to your executive for the council to consider having the badges struck in a less expensive material.

"Your executive has received propositions in this regard and is of the opinion that council should consider reviewing its decision."

Rondebosch councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg has a motion on tomorrow's agenda calling for the council, "sensitive to the public outcry", to rescind its decision and for the executive committee to investigate having the badges struck in a cheaper metal and to report on the cost and implications.

Another new plan for garbage collection

CAPE Town ratepayers could be faced with a separate bill for garbage collection in future

In a report the city council's utilities and works committee said this should be investigated as a "matter of urgency".

The suggestion comes after a decision last year by the council to scrap bi-weekly garbage collection and replace it with once-a-week collection.

In the council executive committee's minutes chairman Mr Dick Friedlander was quoted as saying it might be opportune for cleansing services "to be excised from the rate account."

● Full report — Page 5

(23)
CT 29/4/92

Garbage collection fee proposed

Staff Reporter

RATEPAYERS could be faced with a separate bill for garbage collection in future, says an Exco proposal

In a report the utilities and works committee said separate billing for cleansing should be investigated as a "matter of urgency".

Last year's decision to scrap twice-weekly collections and replace them with collections once a week was met with indignation by ratepayers. The rates were not reduced as a consequence

In Exco's minutes Mr Friedlander was quoted as saying "because of the high demand for the cleansing service by the general public it might now be opportune for such service to be excised from the rate account"

Mr Friedlander said this would be replaced by a "special cleansing fee" as was the practice in Johannesburg and Goodwood

The Exco report says the cleansing services' impact on rates represented R62 516 134 in 1990/91, R75 571 475 in 1991/92 and will cost R84 206 340 in 1992/93.

263 CT 29/4/92

Council cash office slated

Staff Reporter

CITY ombudsman Mr Granger Heugh says the city council's cash office is badly run It is blamed for losing the city over R286 000 in interest on unbanked cheques in the second half of last year

Mr Heugh's criticism follows the attack by Cape administrator Mr Kobus Meiring on the council for being "financially irresponsible"

Mr Heugh's investigation into the functioning of the city treasurer's cash office — which handles R2 billion annual takings — will be debated at the council's month-end meeting tomorrow

The city's external auditors, Deloitte Pim Goldy, found that in the last six months of 1991, R286 446 in interest was lost

Mr Heugh found that

- There was a progressive deterioration in staff morale and motivation
- Owing to a lack of cash office staff backlogs inevitably occurred at the end of each month
- Top management had been negligient in promoting change to meet the increasing demands and additional responsibilities imposed on the department
- From 1989 until his retirement in 1991 the head of the department, referred to as the chief cashier, had been absent for 276 working days
- Of the 116 staff 16 were absent on any given working day
- Senior management were perceived by staff to lack the skills required to manage effectively and did not work as a team

Mr Heugh said "The recurring crisis in the cash division and the need to switch staff continually to fill gaps created an image of a make-shift organisation and corroded any sense of pride of performance in many of them

"There seemed to be a lack of communication with the upper echelons of management of the city treasurer's department

"An element of doing only what they were compelled to do — going slow or working to the book — pervaded the division.

"Union influence became increasingly evident and much time seemed to be spent in formulating grievances, with a consequent decline in productivity"

Exco: Defer pay linkage

Staff Reporter

THE LINKAGE of councillors' salaries and pension allowances at the MPs' rate should be considered only during the compilation of the 1993/94 budget, an Exco report will recommend to the council tomorrow.

A 1991 government circular stipulated that from 1993 councillors' salaries could be pegged at 100% of the MPs' salary and pensionable allowance

The circular said in 1992 the "maximum allowances" of a councillor's salary and pensionable allowance could be pegged at 85% of an MP's

Exco recommended allowances paid to councillors should not be increased during the 1992/93 financial year

Allowances made to management committee members should continue in accordance with the grading system with no increases for the year.

Say on island sought

Staff Reporter

THE city council is to seek representation on a government body to chart Robben Island's future

The island, in transition to a tourist attraction, could reap the city R230 million annually and create 12 000 new jobs, says an Exco report to be delivered to the council tomorrow

The council will apply for representation on working groups

The Minister of Correctional Services intended eventually to transfer the control of the island to the National Parks Board, the report said But the minister stressed that the "municipality of Cape Town is a major body to be consulted"

Badges plan shelved

Staff Reporter

A CITY COUNCIL project to cast 9-carat gold badges for former mayors and councillors at a cost of R19 200 has been shelved

Following a public outcry over the expenditure, an Exco report to be tabled at tomorrow's council meeting recommends that more "appropriate" badges be decided on

The report recommends the "manufacture of appropriate Alderman and Freeman badges".

The initial proposal was for the manufacture of six formal and six informal Alderman badges plus three Freeman badges and three dies.

R3m contract for Spescom

ANDREW KRUMM

ESKOM has awarded electronics company Spescom a R3m contract to supply locally developed radio-controlled fault-finding and control systems to monitor rural electricity networks from a central location, doing away with time-consuming manual inspection.

Spescom technical director Viv Crone said the Sentinel system was developed in conjunction with Eskom engineers specifically for rural use

It consists of a manned control centre — which uses graphic displays — and field units with radio-controlled reporting and alarm systems

Crone said radio-controlled monitors could identify faults such as power lines broken in a storm, isolate them, and restore power to the electricity network within minutes.

The system could also be used to control water supply systems or pipeline networks

Crone said it had all the features of more costly systems Spescom would focus on exports as international markets opened up.

Act on local govt must go — ANC

THEO RAWANA

THE ANC yesterday demanded the immediate withdrawal of the Interim Measures on Local Government Act and the speedy creation of a multi-party commission with executive functions to replace those of appointed township administrators.

ANC national executive committee member responsible for local government Thozamile Botha told a news conference in Johannesburg his department had decided last month that a national negotiation forum should formulate a temporary legal framework to replace the Act.

The Act provides for local authorities to negotiate new structures While the ANC does not oppose such negotiations, it beheves the Act allows white and black municipalities to unilaterally restructure.

The meeting had adopted a programme of action, including mass action, to ensure that all the demands were met by government, Botha said Organisations represented at the meeting included the ANC Women's League, SA Communist Party, Cosatu, the SA National Civics Organisation and the SA Muncipal Workers' Union

Botha said the multiparty commission's functions would include the monitoring of unilateral restucturing by white local authorities and ensuring that all local authorities adhered to a set of guidelines of local negotiating principles

The meeting had also noted the current crises at local level had been exacerbated by the ultimatum issued by Local Government Minister Leon Wessels urging local authorities to create joint administrations by year end or face penalties

"It was also noted that using the Act and other related apartheid legislation as a framework for local negotiation has enabled unrepresentative white and black local authorities to proceed with unilateral restructuring that could have long-term detrimental effects on the future of a non-racial and democratic government"

He said the Kimberley City Council was restructuring despite concern voiced by civic associations in the region and the ANC, and Port Elizabeth, where 800 workers were "retrenched as a result of unilateral local government restructuring"

The meeting called on government to sign a protocol agreement together with community and political organisations committing itself to the immediate withdrawal of the Act, the end to all unilateral restructuring at local level, a moratorium on retrenchments until a proper and negotiated process of rationalisation can be implemented, and the immediate establishment of a national negotiations forum to formulate a temporary legal framework to replace the Act

DEPARTEMENT VAN NASIONALE OPVOEDING

No. 1177 **30 April 1992**

WET OP NASIONALE GEDENKWAARDIGHEDE, 1969

(No 28 VAN 1969)

VOORLOPIGE VERKLARING VAN NASIONALE GEDENKWAARDIGHEID DIE VICTORIAANSE WOONHUIS, TE FELIXSTRAAT 1225, MOUNTAIN VIEW, PRETORIA

Kragtens artikel 5 (1) (c) van die Wet op Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede, 1969 (Wet No 28 van 1969), verklaar die Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede hierby die Victoriaanse woonhuis, te Felixstraat 1225, Mountain View, Pretoria, soos volledig hieronder beskryf, voorlopig tot nasionale gedenkwaardigheid

Beskrywing

Die Victoriaanse woonhuis, gelee op die Resterende Gedeelte van Gedeelte 20 van Erf 376, in die dorp Mountain View, Pretoria, Registrasieafdeling JR, Transvaal

Transportakte T59994/1990, gedateer 12 September 1990

G. S. HOFMEYR,
Direkteur Raad vir Nasionale Gedenkwaardighede

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL EDUCATION

No. 1177 **30 April 1992**

NATIONAL MONUMENTS ACT, 1969

(No 28 OF 1969)

PROVISIONAL DECLARATION OF A NATIONAL MONUMENT THE VICTORIAN DWELLING, AT 1225 FELIX STREET, MOUNTAIN VIEW, PRETORIA

In terms of section 5 (1) (c) of the National Monuments Act, 1969 (Act No 28 of 1969), the National Monuments Council hereby provisionally declares the Victorian dwelling, at 1225 Felix Street, Mountain View, Pretoria, as fully described below, to be a national monument

Description

The Victorian dwelling, situated on the Remaining Portion of Portion 20 of Erf 376, in the Village of Mountain View, Pretoria, Registration Division JR, Transvaal

Deed of Transfer T59994/1990, dated 12 September 1990

G. S. HOFMEYR,
Director National Monuments Council

DEPARTEMENT VAN PLAASLIKE REGERING EN NASIONALE BEHUISING

No. 1178 **30 April 1992**

ONDERSOEK NA DIE VOORGESTELDE VERANDERING VAN DIE REGSGEBIED VAN DIE PLAASLIKE GEBIED VAN BLUE DOWNS DEUR DIE INLYWING VAN DIE BLACKHEATH NYWERHEIDSGEBIED

Kennis geskied hiermee ingevolge artikel 7G (1) van die Wet op die Bevordering van Plaaslike Owerheidsaangeleenthede, 1983 (Wet 91 van 1983), soos gewysig, dat die Administrateur van die Kaap die Goeie Hoop ingevolge artikel 7F (1) (a) van die gemelde Wet, die Afbakeningsraad vir Plaaslike Owerheidsgebiede versoek het om ondersoek in te stel na en hom van advies te dien oor die wenslikheid of andersins van die voorgestelde verandering van die regsgebied van die Plaaslike Gebied van Blue Downs deur die inlywing van die Blackheath Nywerheidsgebied Die gedeelte grond soos voorgestel vir inlywing by die gemelde regsgebied word hieronder beskryf

Die versoek, asook kaarte waarop die betrokke gebied aangedui word, lê ter insae by die kantoor van die Sekretaris van die Afbakeningsraad vir Plaaslike Owerheidsgebiede, Meintjiesgebou 111, Meintjiesstraat 92, Sunnyside, Pretoria, en by die volgende kantore

Direkteur Administrasie
Wes-Kaapse Streeksdiensteraad
Alexanderstraat
STELLENBOSCH

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND NATIONAL HOUSING

No. 1178 **30 April 1992**

ENQUIRY INTO THE PROPOSED ALTERATION OF THE AREA OF JURISDICTION OF THE LOCAL AREA OF BLUE DOWNS BY THE INCORPORATION OF THE BLACKHEATH INDUSTRIAL AREA

Notice is hereby given in terms of section 7G (1) of the Promotion of Local Government Affairs Act, 1983 (Act 91 of 1983), as amended, that the Administrator of the Cape of Good Hope has, in terms of section 7F (1) (a) of the said Act, requested the Demarcation Board for Local Government Areas to hold an enquiry into and to advise him on the desirability or otherwise of the proposed alteration of the area of jurisdiction of the Local Area of Blue Downs by the incorporation of the Blackheath Industrial Area The portion of land proposed to be incorporated into the said area of jurisdiction is described below

The request, as well as maps indicating the area concerned, are open to inspection at the office of the Secretary of the Demarcation Board for Local Government Areas, 111 Meintjies Building, 92 Meintjies Street, Sunnyside, Pretoria, and at the following offices

Director Administration
Western Cape Regional Services Council
Alexander Street
STELLENBOSCH

Dorpsbestuurder
Melton Rose Dorpskantoor
Gannastraat
Kleinvlei Dorp
EERSTERIVIER

Direkteur-generaal
Provinsiale Administrasie van die Kaap die Goeie Hoop
Kamer 5–15
Waalstraat
KAAPSTAD

Skriftelikê besware teen of vertoe in verband met die voorgestelde inlywing van die betrokke gedeelte grond, kan voor of op **25 Mei 1992** by die Sekretaris van die Afbakeningsraad vir Plaaslike Owerheidsgebiede, Privaatsak X644, Pretoria, 0001, ingedien word

Die Afbakeningsraad sal op die ondergemelde datum, plek en tyd vergader om enige verdere getuienis en vertoe aan te hoor van diegene wat besware en vertoe na aanleiding van hierdie kennisgewing indien

Datum

10 Junie 1992

Plek

Melton Rose Dorpskantoor, Gannastraat, Kleinvlei Dorp, Eersterivier

Tyd

10 00

Beskrywing van voorgestelde grondgedeelte wat by die regsgebied van die Plaaslike Gebied van Blue Downs beoog ingelyf te word

Begin by die oostelikste baken van Gedeelte 3 van Plaas 438, administratiewe distrik Stellenbosch, daarvandaan noordooswaarts met 'n reguit lyn, tot by die suidwestelike baken van Gedeelte 106 van die plaas Wimbledon 454, daarvandaan noordooswaarts met die grense van Gedeeltes 150, 268 en 98 van laasgenoemde plaas langs sodat hulle in hierdie gebied ingesluit word, tot by die punt waar die noordooswaartse verlenging van die noordwestelike grens van laasgenoemde gedeelte die noordoostelike grens van genoemde plaas Wimbledon 454 kruis, daarvandaan suidooswaarts met laasgenoemde grens langs, tot by die punt waar dit die noordooswaartse verlenging van die suidoostelike grens van Gedeelte 104 van genoemde plaas Wimbledon 454 kruis, daarvandaan suidweswaarts met die grense van laasgenoemde gedeelte en Gedeeltes 267 en 7 van genoemde plaas Wimbledon 454 langs sodat hulle in hierdie gebied ingesluit word, tot by die suidelikste baken van laasgenoemde gedeelte, daarvandaan suidweswaarts met die suidoostelike grens van Gedeelte 47 van genoemde plaas Wimbledon 454 langs, tot by die oostelikste baken van Gedeelte 1 van laasgenoemde plaas, daarvandaan suidweswaarts met die grense van die volgende eiendomme langs sodat hulle in hierdie gebied ingesluit word Genoemde Gedeelte 1 en Gedeeltes 14, 15, 35, 22, 46, 21, 11, 20, 19, 31, 30, 5, genoemde Gedeeltes 30, 31, 19, 20, 11, 21, 46 en 22, Gedeelte 28 en genoemde Gedeelte 14, almal gedeeltes van genoemde plaas Wimbledon 454, tot by die noordelikste baken van laasgenoemde ge-

Town Manager
Melton Rose Town Office
Ganna Street
Kleinvlei Town
EERSTE RIVER

Director-General
Provincial Administration of the Cape of Good Hope
Room 5–15
Wale Street
CAPE TOWN

Written objections against or representations with regard to the proposed incorporation of the relevant portion of land may be lodged with the Secretary of the Demarcation Board for Local Government Areas, Private Bag X644, Pretoria, 0001, on or before **25 May 1992.**

The Demarcation Board will meet at the undermentioned date, place and time to hear further evidence and representations from those persons who lodged objections and representations in pursuance of this notice

Date

10 June 1992

Place

Melton Rose Town Office, Ganna Street, Kleinvlei Town, Eerste River

Time

10 00

Description of the proposed portion of land intended to be incorporated into the area of jurisdiction of the Local Area of Blue Downs

Beginning at the easternmost beacon of Portion 3 of Farm 438, administrative district of Stellenbosch, thence north-eastwards in a straight line to the south-western beacon of Portion 106 of the farm Wimbledon 454, thence north-eastwards along the boundaries of Portion 150, 268 and 98 of the last-mentioned farm so as to include them in this area, to the point where the north-eastward extension of the north-western boundary of the last-mentioned portion intersects the north-eastern boundary of the said farm Wimbledon 454, thence south-eastwards along the last-mentioned boundary, to the point where it intersects the north-eastward extension of the south-eastern boundary of Portion 104 of the said farm Wimbledon 454, thence south-westwards along the boundaries of the last-mentioned portion and Portions 267 and 7 of the said farm Wimbledon 454 so as to include them in this area, to the southernmost beacon of the last-mentioned portion, thence south-westwards along the south-eastern boundary of Portion 47 of the said farm Wimbledon 454, to the easternmost beacon of Portion 1 of the last-mentioned farm, thence south-westwards along the boundaries of the following properties so as to include them in this area The said Portion 1 and Portions 14, 15, 35, 22, 46, 21, 11, 20, 19, 31, 30, 5, the said Portions 30, 31, 19, 20, 11, 21, 46 and 22, Portion 28 and the said Portion 14, all portions of the said farm Wimbledon 454, to the northernmost beacon

deelte, daarvandaan noordooswaarts met die noordwestelike grens van Gedeelte 47 van laasgenoemde plaas langs, tot by die oostelikste baken van genoemde Gedeelte 3 van Plaas 438, die beginpunt

G. M. VAN GINKEL,
Sekretaris Afbakeningsraad

(Verwysing. 12/2/9/2/36)

of the last-mentioned portion, thence north-eastwards along the north-western boundary of Portion 47 of the last-mentioned farm, to the easternmost beacon of the said Portion 3 of Farm 438, the point of beginning

G. M. VAN GINKEL,
Secretary: Demarcation Board

(Reference 12/2/9/2/36)

DEPARTEMENT VAN STREEK- EN GRONDSAKE

No. 1175 **30 April 1992**

WYSIGING VAN DIE GIDSPLAN VIR DIE KAAPSE METROPOOL HOTTENTOTS-HOLLANDKOM

Kragtens artikel 6A (19) van die Wet op Fisiese Beplanning, 1967 (Wet No. 88 van 1967), gelees met artikel 37 (1) (d) van die Wet op Fisiese Beplanning, 1991 (Wet No 125 van 1991), wysig ek, Andrew Fourie, Adjunkminister vir Streekontwikkeling, hierby die Gidsplan vir die Kaapse Metropool. Hottentots-Hollandkom, soos bekend gemaak by Goewermentskennisgewing No 2467 van 9 Desember 1988, deur die gebruiksaanwysing van Plase 855, 860/3 en 966, Administratiewe distrik Stellenbosch, waarvan die ligging by benadering aangetoon word op die kaart in die bygaande Bylae, vanaf "landbou" na "kleinhoewe" te verander

A. FOURIE,
Adjunkminister vir Streekontwikkeling

DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL AND LAND AFFAIRS

No. 1175 **30 April 1992**

AMENDMENT OF THE GUIDE PLAN FOR THE CAPE METROPOLITAN AREA: HOTTENTOTS-HOLLAND BASIN

Under section 6A (19) of the Physical Planning Act, 1967 (Act No. 88 of 1967), read with section 37 (1) (d) of the Physical Planning Act, 1991 (Act No 125 of 1991), I, Andrew Fourie, Deputy Minister for Regional Development, hereby amend the Guide Plan for the Cape Metropolitan Area: Hottentots-Holland Basin, as made known by Government Notice No. 2467 of 9 December 1988, by changing the designation of Farms 855, 860/3 and 966, Administrative District of Stellenbosch, as approximately indicated on the map in the accompanying Schedule, from "agriculture" to "smallholdings"

A. FOURIE,
Deputy Minister of Regional Development

(263) 30/4/92

(263) ARG 30/4/92

Exco chief hits back at critics

Cape Town City Council's activities are under attack from all sides — from within and without. Today the chairman of Exco, Mr DICK FRIEDLANDER, answers the critics:

RIGHTEOUS INDIGNATION AND VISIONS OF THE FUTURE

SOCIETIES undergoing a process of reform inevitably experience strain between citizens and those who are responsible for their governance. And the more fundamental the process of change, the greater the strain

This is because periods of change arouse great expectations among those who justifiably hope to secure substantial benefits from the changes that are occurring, and great and equally justifiable anxieties among those who fear the losses which change may bring

In endeavouring to meet these challenges any council in this situation has to try simultaneously to allay fears and fulfil hopes

In South Africa, we are obviously undergoing a period and a process of change which is generating political strain Frustrations and fears are consequently to be expected, they affect politicians themselves no less than the general public

We are aware that the need to reach peaceful and negotiated settlements to disputes in this country must override the difficulties involved

What is much less clearly understood is the strain which the reform process has placed on our local government

This strain is made much worse by the fact that we are engaging in reform at a time when resources are exceptionally scarce Local government has much less money in real terms and many more clients today than a decade ago

Matters are made more difficult not only because local government has limited resources but has a de facto responsibility to all who live or work in Cape Town This implies duties which go beyond the interests of only those who have hitherto paid rates and voted in council elections

Shortcomings in the operations of local government, whether the fault of the City Council or due to factors like inflation which are beyond the council's control, impact very directly and immediately upon ratepayers

This scenario has no better laboratory than Cape Town in recent weeks In 30 years on this council, I have never known as intense and determined an effort to discredit the city

And yet, there is little discussion about macro-issues, or the vision of the present council that Cape Town can, and must, become a thriving international capital in which all its peoples have fair access to equal political rights, wealth and the benefits of an efficiently administered, compassionate city government

The City Council's important contribution to Codesa, its long-standing commitment to those disadvantaged by discrimination, poverty or ill-health, its acknowledged role in regional socio-economic development, and its pro-active promotion of international relationships, are all designed in the words of our present deputy Mayor, to lift Cape Town to its deserved status as the "Geneva" of Africa

However, reference to our "ethical integrity", for example, in this context is unacceptable and baseless This is evidenced by the fact that in the 100 complaints investigated by the city ombudsman last year, he found NOT ONE case of dishonesty or malpractice — an outstanding record for an organisation as varied and large as ours.

Other criticisms in recent weeks are dealt with point-by-point later in this article

It must be said that opposition, criticism and public debate, are fundamental characteristics of a democracy, and, as a life-long liberal democrat, I uphold with utmost vigour the rights of all citizens to criticise

All we ask, as a council is a fair hearing and a consistent interest in the affairs of the city which would have the effect of reducing knee-jerk responses by some who do not have the context, history and all the information at their disposal

If the political strain which we are all currently under is to be creative, we need mutual understanding of our problems throughout the community and an awareness that we all share the responsibility of trying to resolve them

The fact that we live in times of stress, politically, socially and economically, is of course, no excuse for incompetence, idleness or complacency But it is something we all need to be aware of if the stress of change, its anxieties and frustrations, are not to overwhelm us, divide us and deflect us from the task of building a prosperous and successful common society in the Western Cape

If we do recognise that this stress is something common to us all, such recognition will stimulate a more intelligent and productive approach to our problems and will enable us to see them as challenges rather than as millstones around our necks

1. Services taken over by the Regional Services Council

In a leading article in The Argus on April 13 it is claimed that many functions the City Council used to perform have been taken over by the Regional Services Council

This is absolutely incorrect Not a single service offered by the City Council to its ratepayers has been relinquished to any local authority

2. Unbridled expenditure

Spending by the City Council is controlled by various means Major decisions are taken by full open council through ordinary democratic vote Some decisions are delegated to officials, but these are always open to scrutiny either as part of a public record or through approved and rigorous auditing procedures

3. Amalgamating leisure services

The amalgamation of leisure services is being investigated by a committee of which Councillor Wienburg is chairman The matter is being examined positively on the basis of advice from experts. The preliminary report recently tabled indicates problem areas which must be addressed

4. Consolidating city accounts

The consolidation of council accounts has been under consideration for some time and, recognising the advantages, council adopted a policy and decided to proceed with the implementation Council initially adopted the principle of investigating the acquisition of a specific software package However, as an in-depth information technology study was being carried out, it was decided to postpone the purchase of the computer software required so as to ensure compatibility with any major future developments This study was completed in 1990 and alternative software packages are being evaluated against that originally recommended The delay in evaluation was caused by the relevant staff having had to transfer their activities to the introduction of value added tax A report will be submitted to council in the near future.

5. Badges for aldermen and freemen of the city

The City Council decided by democratic vote in 1974 to introduce the system A councillor becomes an alderman when he is elected mayor or when he has served 20 years as a councillor. Such a councillor receives no reward other than the courtesy title of alderman and a lapel badge to indictate this fact

Whether there should be aldermen at all and, if so, whether they should receive badges, are matters of opinion However, the practice is now a national one to the extent that almost without exception the honorary title alderman/raadsheer is conferred on a councillor who has served his community for 20 years

The reason for the proposal to acquire aldermen's badges was that the supply had run out and with four new aldermen and the mayor becoming entitled to recognition in September, it seemed logical to acquire further badges in conformity with the 1974 resolution

It was also proposed to acquire freemen's badges for the three very distinguished living citizens of the five who, in the history of Cape Town, have achieved this unique honour

6. Staff

It has been suggested that the council is 'strewn' with deadwood There may well be a small minority who do not pull their weight However, steps are being taken to encourage productivity and build staff morale There are 400 fewer employees than a year ago, and freezing of posts has been in operation for some time

Much is made of the claim that 67 cents in every rand collected is being spent on salaries/wages It *must* be recalled that the Cape Town City Council is primarily a service organisation and is therefore labour intensive The city needs more than 2 000 employees, for example, to remove refuse alone Consequently, the wage bill is high but is not out of keeping with any other organisation of the same size and complexity

Moreover, the criticism that 67 cents in each rand collected is spent on salaries/wages is factually incorrect 67c/rand pertains only to rates account, which is only 25,8% of council's income In total expenditure, 41,8% is spent on employees, a proportion quite compatible with a wide variety of organisations in the public and private sectors

7. Savings in cleansing

Cape Town is a growing city! Alderman Eulalie Stott, for example, has frequently said that although staff numbers have been kept static over the past 10 years or so, we are charged with providing services to a new city at Mitchells Plain serving 39 000 houses and 250 000 people This is apart from normal growth in the city Furthermore, the huge influx of people to the areas peripheral to the city imposes a further burden on council's services with a limited rates base and increasing demands for services and maintenance of existing assets It is impossible to maintain services at previous levels without a prohibitive rates hike

To contain spiralling costs during preparation for last year's budget, savings simply had to be effected

Specifically, on the issue of cleansing services, the utilities and works committee which is charged with the administration of this service has spent many hours debating the issue (It should be noted that all councillors are welcome to attend and take part in committee discussions)

In the compiling of the budget last year, it was decided by councillors to keep rates increases within manageable limits — even at 16,5% (which was about expected inflation rate at that time) council was concerned at the impact on ratepayers

One of the areas targeted for savings was the cleansing service In the budget speech, executive committee chairman Dick Friedlander indicated that once-a-week refuse removals would become necessary in certain areas The change to once-a-week removals in the southern suburbs was, in any case, a precursor to containerisation which will be introduced from July

8. Councillors' allowances

The increase in councillors allowances was decided upon by full council vote in October last year At that stage council had not made sufficient budgetary allowance for the increase provided for by the Administrator's notice, and Cape Town's councillors therefore voted for less than they were entitled, but at the same time decided from July 1992, to apply allowances set out in the Administrator's notice which apply to ALL municipalities

Council, at the end of the month, will be considering a recommendation from the executive committee that the previous decision be reviewed and rescinded

9. Public accessibility to information

It is well known that Cape Town's council meetings are open to the public, that newspapers receive advance copies of all non-confidential council meeting agenda, (confidential matters are, happily, very few and mainly relate to personnel or property matters) The mayor and members of the executive committee and senior officials are always available for comment and queries on whatever matter are responded to as soon as possible

10. Ethical integrity

There is no substancee in any implication that there is any lack of ethical integrity on the part of councillors or staff, nor does it appear that any such suggestion has been made

PUBLIC SECTOR - LOCAL AUTHORITIES _ CAPE

1992

PUBLIC

NOV — DEC

PE ratepayers face property franchise vote

(253)

ALG 3/11/92

PORT ELIZABETH — Port Elizabeth ratepayers go to the polls today in a referendum on a qualified franchise for municipal elections.

The municipality has been forced to call the referendum by some 35 ratepayers, who voted for the poll at a public meeting

Municipal by-laws say that the council must call a referendum if at least 25 ratepayers wish it

The initiative was launched by Mr Sol Schkolne, a lawyer who became a local celebrity for waging a long and tenacious campaign against pay increases Port Elizabeth city councillors voted themselves.

Mr Schkolne argues that voting for a new "one city" municipality should be restricted to those who own property, black or white

The referendum has come under strong criticism from the African National Congress, which called the vote "unacceptable and racist"

There has also been criticism on the grounds of expense, since the referendum will cost between R10 000 and R20 000.

However, in spite of earlier threats to mount mass action against the poll, the ANC said there were no such plans.

The organisation's deputy secretary in the region, Mr Bongani Gxilishe, said the referendum remained unacceptable, however The majority of people would not qualify since they did not own property, he said

The ANC's regional conference decided at the weekend that the city council should commit itself to the principles of the one city forum as contained in the declaration of intent

"The referendum allows for serious deviation from the OCF and as a result has serious implications that will have to be addressed at the resumption of talks," said Mr Gxilishe. — Ecna

Friedlander, Keegan fight to keep top RSC jobs

(263 ARG 3/11/92

JOHN YELD
Staff Reporter

TWO Cape Town city councillors — Mr Dick Friedlander and Mr Clive Keegan — are struggling to retain their influential positions as chairmen of committees of the Western Cape Regional Services Council.

Neither Mr Friedlander, chairman of the RSC's finance committee for the past year, nor Mr Keegan, outgoing chairman of the land usage and transport planning committee, could muster the required two-thirds majority for another term of office during voting at yesterday's RSC meeting

A second vote will be held at the RSC's November meeting at the end of this month.

Two other Cape Town city councillors — exco chairman Mr Louis Kreiner and former exco member Mrs Eulalie Stott — were re-elected to head the works, amenities and services committee and advisory committee for the investigation of priorities respectively.

Mr Friedlander is also being opposed in his bid for re-election to the RSC's executive committee and will face a second crucial vote at the next meeting

He is facing a challenge from Mr J P J Adriaanse of Parow municipality as finance chairman, and is one of five RSC councillors vying for one vacant executive committee seat.

The others are Mr Adriaanse, Mr D C H de la Cruz of the Sarepta management committee, Mr C A Hattingh of Strand municipality, and Mr C C Jacobs of the Retreat management committee.

Mr Keegan is being opposed by Mr Hattingh.

Five current RSC exco members were re-elected yesterday for another term of office

They are Mr Kreiner, Mr G M Basson of Durbanville municipality, Mr Y Chothia of the Ocean View management committee, Mr D R Ngo of the Ikapa town council, and Mr M G Swart of Kuils River municipality.

Mr Swart was elected chairman of the RSC's staff committee.

PE's whites-only poll hits an all-time low percentage

Mg 5/11/92 (263)

PORT ELIZABETH — The controversial whites-only referendum held in Port Elizabeth on Tuesday received a mere 2,03 percentage poll, the lowest recorded in the city

The referendum was held to test white ratepayers' opinion on a qualified franchise based on property ownership, as eligibility to vote in any future non-racial municipal elections

It was forced on the Port Elizabeth city council by a handful of ratepayers at a council meeting earlier this year Led by maverick lawyer, Solly Schkolne, they wanted property owners alone to qualify as voters.

The town clerk, Mr Paul Botha, said this morning that only 1 380 out of 68 005 people voted.

Of these, 1 240 voted in favour of a qualified franchise, while 132 voted against it

Mr Schkolne, who initiated the referendum, accounted the low poll to the lack of "leadership" around the issue of future municipal elections that "left people with a feeling of utter hopelessness"

"We must go for a vote that will bring us a quality local government that must be as professional and as objective as possible The priority must be to get away from political management and political conflict

"To go from 100 years of segregation to allowing everyone from 18 years to vote, including school boys and squatters, will give the majority vote to people who don't pay rates This would be intolerable and could lead to conflict," said Mr Schkolne

Both the ANC and the Democratic party, who condemned the referendum, said the low poll was encouraging and an indication that people saw no sense in a whites-only referendum

DP spokesperson, Mr Bobby Stevenson, said the low poll was a victory for their stayaway call.

"The low poll is an indication that whites see the fallacy of a whites-only referendum While we gave moral leadership to the city on this issue, there was a deafening silence from the National Party," said Mr Stevenson. — Ecna

Fact-finding prof comes out against development

(263) CT 5/11/92

THE academic appointed to prepare a report on the proposed rezoning of the historic Steenberg Farm for the development of a golf estate has come out strongly against it

Professor David Dewar, head of the Department of Town and Regional Planning at the University of Cape Town, was last month appointed by the Local Council of Constantia Valley to prepare one document from the mountain of paperwork generated by the proposed rezoning and to give his opinion on the matter

The LCCV is to make a decision regarding the controversial project, which has gained the support of the Tokai Residents' Association but not the Constantia Property Owners' Association, at its monthly meeting on November 18

In his report, Professor Dewar said the community stood to lose more than it gained through the proposed rezoning Environmentally, the rezoning would lead to the loss of 99 ha of agricultural land, including 25 ha under vines

Boost confidence

He warned that the rezoning would lead to an "irreversible change" in the rural quality of the 99 ha The housing "would be strongly felt, and the manicured fairways and perimeter fencing would strengthen a sense of privatisation and exclusion"

"I support the view that approval of the proposal will negatively affect environmental quality to a significant degree," Prof Dewar said

Rezoning would make it increasingly difficult to resist further erosion of agricultural land in the valley Policy should boost confidence, as part of any conservation policy.

"It is important for landowners, and the public, to know that, once defined, the line will not be breached," he concluded

Speaking to the Constantiaberg & False Bay Review this week, Councillor Joan Heming said: "The council has heard so many expert opinions on the issue and I just feel that sooner of later the councillors will have to make up their own minds You can't just go on asking experts"

Councillor Roy Thomson said the professor's opinion was "not binding" on the council.

Common ground

A spokesman for the developers, JCI, said they had received the report and were studying it but "did not necessarily agree with its contents"

The company's consultants and executives were to meet the LCCV today and next Thursday in an attempt to "reach common ground", he said.

● Most Tokai residents are in favour of the proposed development, according to a survey by the Tokai Residents' Association

● The Regional Services Council this week recommended that the guide plan amendment to allow the development be approved but the final decision on this issue rests with the Minister of Planning

Although the Department of Agriculture has said it has no objection to the proposed amendment to the guide plan, the actual rezoning has not been finalised

Bloated report by 'biscuit committee'

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter

OVERWEIGHT, and with expensive tastes — that's the city council catering department, a report by the ad hoc catering committee claims.

The ad hoc committee, made up of Mr Chris Joubert, Mr Kenny Penkin and Mr Arthur Wienburg — popularly known as the "biscuit committee" — reported to the executive committee yesterday.

Its nickname proved apt. It was found the city council spent R25 000 a year on biscuits for committee meetings and for visitors.

A report by independent catering consultant Mr Bernard Lyon found:

- Security at the catering department was lax;
- Large meals were provided in contradiction of a health-conscious age;
- Budgeting was poor;
- The department was overstaffed by about 200 percent.

There were discrepancies in liquor prices entered in records for functions which were days apart.

One of the most expensive ice-creams on the market was bought, costing R54,95 for 20 litres when equally good ice-cream was available at R34 for the same amount.

The city council should learn to shop around, the consultant said.

An organisations and methods branch internal report recommended short-term solutions such as a cost-awareness campaign among staff, introducing economic purchasing, and in the long term, privatising the service.

Civic queries George's missing thousands

SOWTH 7/11-11/11/92

263

By Quentin Wilson

RESIDENTS of Thembalethu in George are still trying to find the R46 000 pedestrian road allegedly built for them by their town council last year.

While the council's annual report for 1990-91 purports to have spent a total of R104 690 on various upgrading schemes in Thembalethu, locals are convinced that — apart from a fence and a stop sign — nothing has been done

"What is a 'pedestrian road' anyway?" asks Mr Charlie Williams, an advisor to the Thembalethu civic association "If it is anything resembling a road, then it simply has not been done We want to know what has happened to all that money."

Apart from the road, the council's report claims to have spent money on upgrading of gravel roads (R4 690) and parks (R8 000).

It supposedly cost them R16 000 to plant grass at the community hall and they allocated R15 000 for signposts

"They did put up a stop sign," says Williams, "but that could never have cost R15 000 "

Ms Petro Krahenbuhl, senior clerk for the Thembalethu municipality, admits that only two of the six proposed projects have been completed — the planting of grass at the community hall and the fencing of a creche But she says she is confident the rest will follow.

"We have started getting people to upgrade the parks but I can't say exactly what they have done as I have not looked yet," she said

The municipality denies that there is any truth to civic suspicions that council members, all members of the National Party, have pocketed the extra money or used it for NP recruitment drives in the area

"I can't think of another explanation," says Williams.

"They also said they spent R15 000 on building the fence around the creche. But we asked for a quote from a firm that does fencing jobs — its price was R8 049

The municipality explains the problems in terms of bad luck, bad weather, endless bureaucracy and fundraising difficulties

By way of example, Krahenbuhl says gravel was brought in to upgrade the roads. Unexpected rain made the gravel impossible to use "

She argues that the seemingly high cost of the planned development was because the sum took into account payment of casual workers

Krahenbuhl says the municipality "is working as hard as possible to get through all the paperwork so the plan can get going again"

In the council report, headed "Thembalethu municipality — Minutes of His Worship the Mayor Councillor EN Mtabati", the mayor reflects on his third and final term as mayor

On the subject of his R104 690 upgrading scheme, Mtabati says "This may not be much but it is not the end of the world. If life allows, we will still do more for our loving community "

But the "loving community" is campaigning for the resignation of all six town councillors

Civic chairperson Mr Kenneth Siboto says councillors should work in close consultation with the community

"This council was not elected by the people it is supposed to represent Most of the houses are in a poor condition — there are cracks in the walls But the council has done nothing about this It is too busy doing NP work," said Siboto

"We refuse to pay rent and service charges until an elected joint administration, responsible for George and Thembalethu, is set up."

Boy Child will be blasted into our heads over the frozen turkey counter.

Nothing but joy and well being to all mankind

Always at the ready for the 9pm

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Plan to control development on the coast

(263) ST Times [Cape Metro] 8/11/92.

By EVE VOSLOO

THE government is planning to strictly control development along parts of South Africa's coastline to prevent further "serious damage" by "insensitive development"

This was said by the Minister of Environment Affairs, Mr Louis Pienaar

"Development pressure on our coastal zone has increased considerably during the past decade and there are many cases of serious damage due to insensitive development," he said

"We cannot allow this The Department of Environment Affairs is giving urgent attention to introducing control measure to better protect the sensitive coastal environment"

Development will not be stopped completely in sensitive areas but controlled more strictly than at present, Mr Pienaar said

Environmental impact studies would be required in certain areas before any development was allowed

The effectiveness of limited development areas would depend largely on the support of local authorities and communities, Mr Pienaar said, so the department was holding a series of seminars along to coast to enable interested parties to participate

Two more will be held in East London (November 24) and Port Elizabeth (November 26)

Mr Niel du Bois of the Department of Environment Affairs said the areas to be protected would be demarcated at a later stage — with the full participation of the communities affected

The guidelines for development would differ from area to area depending on the environmental sensitivity, he said

ANC, government agree on forum for local structures

S/Times [Cape Metro] 263 8/11/92

By EVE VOSLOO

THE government and the ANC have agreed in principle to a national negotiation forum or mechanism on local government — and the possible suspension of the controversial Interim Measures Act and Provincial and Local Affairs Act is on the agenda

This was said yesterday by Mr Mathole Motshekga, an advocate in the local and regional government section of the ANC's head office He was speaking at a panel discussion on "Beyond the Interim Measures Act — the challenge of local government restructuring", held by the Foundation for Contemporary Research at the Peninsula Technikon

Mr Motshekga said the government and ANC had reached agreement on Monday

"We also agreed that guidelines for local negotiations should be discussed in this forum These negotiated guidelines will override their unilateral restructuring"

The Interim Measures Act gave provincial administrators the power of veto and this should be changed.

The ANC was preparing a "Transition to Democracy Act" that would amend the parliamentary system and include provisions "which will regulate the transition on the local level"

These included

● Reincorporating the TBVC states and self-governing territories,

● Setting up a multiparty local and regional government commission to take over from provincial administrations,

● Setting up executive councils to take over from local authorities.

Mr Motshekga said the ANC believed it was the right of the people to control their destiny and it placed this sovereignty in the hands of the central government

Vision

"The ANC has a clear vision of local government and believes that through struggle it is going to get this vision realised."

Other speakers on the panel were Dr Donald Craythorne, director of the constitutional affairs department in the Cape Provincial Administration; the deputy mayor of Cape Town, Mr Clive Keegan, the assistant secretary of the South African National Civic Organisation, Mr Newton Adams, and Mr Roger Ronnie, national collective bargaining officer of the South African Municipal Workers Union.

New plans for old city sites

ST Times (Cape Metro)

By CHIARA CARTER

THE possible redevelopment of inner city sites, including public land, is to be discussed at a meeting of Salt River/Woodstock community leaders and representatives of Headstart, the non-profit association backed by the private sector.

The Cape Town City Council is considering entering a joint venture with Headstart and financial backers to redevelop land.

Headstart spokesman Mr Keith Bryer confirmed the association would meet a "concerned community group" on Tuesday.

"We will discuss potential beneficial redevelopment of Woodstock and Salt River at the meeting. We will be sharing our thoughts with the community."

Potential

Proposals were tentative and no decisions would be made without community approval, Mr Bryer said.

He declined to disclose details of the proposals.

The city planner, Mr Neville Riley, confirmed the council had held "informal meetings" with Headstart to discuss the company's proposals for redevelopment.

Mr Riley said several approaches had been discussed, including the council's making land available to Headstart for redevelopment.

However, the council favoured entering a "joint venture" with Headstart and financial backers.

A wide range of potential sites had been considered at the meetings, but the Bath House property in Spencer Street was the only piece of public land that had been firmly discussed 8/11/92.

Oppose

The council and Headstart shared "common ground" and it was likely a working arrangement could be reached, Mr Riley said. The matter would then be referred to committee. ST Times

The chairman of the Salt River/Woodstock branch of the ANC, Mr Siraj Desai, confirmed he would attend Tuesday's meeting.

He said the ANC was willing to consider all proposals but was opposed to the use of public open space, such as parks.

"We will strongly oppose any proposal which restricts access to public land, particularly recreational facilities used by children," Mr Desai said.

"We also want the community involved at every step of any redevelopment." [Cape Metro.

The ANC believed Headstart's project in District Six, Springfield Terrace, should not be used as a model for development elsewhere, Mr Desai said.

Poll questions are the issue

NEVER mind the answers, what are the questions?

An opinion poll for all the people of Cape Town, involving marketing consultants and city planner's staff, is in the offing

At this stage, it is not clear how consensus will be reached on which questions should be put, nor on the polling method to be used.

Simplistic proposals to send out forms with rates accounts or electricity bills, are unacceptable because of the exclusivity that will result, making the poll irrelevant in fast-changing times

In a sense, a dry run for an opinion poll is already in progress

Executive committee chairman Mr Louis Kreiner has sent a questionaire to 84 organisations, including ratepayers' associations, the SA National Civics Organisation and the National Council of Women, to suggest priorities for next year's budget

Organisations have been asked to list, in order of urgency, facilities and services needed by their constituencies

Those polled have been warned that tight economic times will mean not all projects will go ahead

The questionnaire also may fuel a row over who has been included in the mailshot and who left out

The completed forms will be a good pointer to how organisations see priorities and issues — and will underline differences on what the issues are

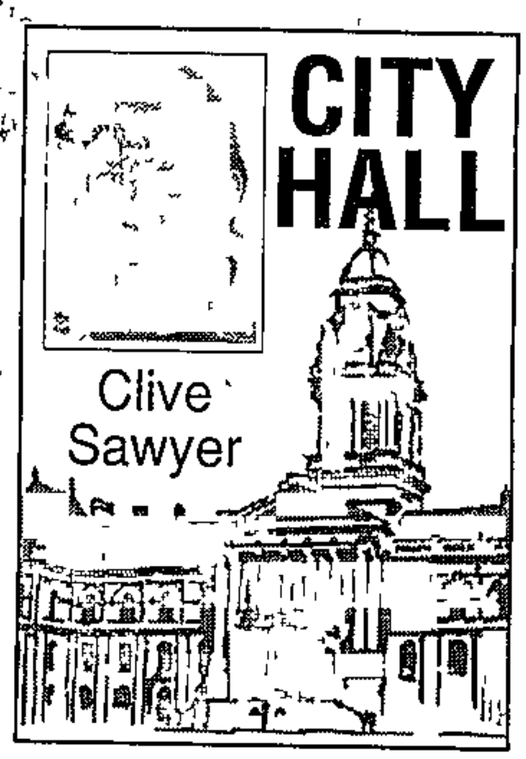
What is at the core of the debate about the future of the city?

Is it a debate about services, or spending, or democracy and accountability, or about priorities in the broadest sense?

Probably, all of those

The Ratepayers in Revolt pamphlet advertising Thursday's public meeting at Claremont Civic Centre lines up as its pressing issues what one might call by now, The Usual Suspects, a la *Casablanca*.

Spending on the Symphony Orchestra is juxtaposed with the plight of street children, with an emotional call for the city council to build night shelters and, presumably, to cut the musicians adrift



If concerts are a dispensable luxury, so be it, and once the instruments are silent, do not moan about how much more could be done for tourism

And spending cash on creating shelters (workhouses?) for hundreds of Oliver Twists will be mere symptomatic treatment of enormous problems of unemployment and urbanisation

Other issues are the continued lack of a consolidated billing system, councillors' allowances and whether we (who's we?) want or can afford to host the Olympics

All this from an organisation that assures us it is "multiracial and non-political".

Claims of being non-political are made most frequently by conservatives wanting to avoid frank debate about their assumptions

Nor is it any use the organisation claiming to be "multiracial" because conservatism knows no colour bounds

There seems little or no congruency with these issues and those defined by others, particularly groups involved in the Idasa City Futures seminars and last month's conference on sub-national government

There, issues were optimum methods to redistribute wealth, how to empower disadvantaged people to enable them to take part in planning and questions about affirmative action and sources and methods of finance

Betting is open on how soon there will be an interim government and elections for every level of government

In the months remaining, two things are needed A debating forum to reach consensus on the issues, and constructive suggestions for the future government, based on the lessons of today

After the next elections, Ratepayers in Revolt may have the satisfaction of seeing the CTSO go

The image of today's councillors and officialdom is that they believe themselves to be an all-knowing elite whose favourite colour is green, who rule by damage control and have only a murky vision for the city

Of course, this does not apply to *all* councillors and officials, just enough to be annoying

Be of good heart At the next elections, many will not run again and others will be voted out

Recall elections, preventing complacency among top bureaucrats by hiring them on contract, and a Freedom of Information by-law to prevent the comfortable option of putting "sensitive" matters on the confidential agenda are all devices that must be put forward and debated to prevent a repeat of the sins of today

Positive signs for local govt negotiations

ET 9/11/92

213

CIVIC DIARY

BY PETER DENNEHY

THE outlook for negotiations at national level has improved significantly in the past few weeks, and it seems this conciliatory trend is being matched at local government level

A Cape Town City Council housing committee report tabled last week says the council "is presently negotiating a social contract with various civic organisations"

"The social contract includes, inter alia, the real possibility of rental increases in 1993/4"

For the past three or four years, the council has not seen fit to raise the basic rentals of the 27 000 flats and cottages that it owns

Some components of total rental charges, such as the charge in lieu of rates, have gone up Yet these are relatively small portions of total rentals

The council felt the time was not right for full-fledged rent increases, being worried about sparking "unrest"

That it can now negotiate with civic organisations, fairly confident they will agree to live with a rent increase next year, is significant

I have also heard there is talk in ANC-inclined civic circles of making a deal with the powers-that-be in terms of which community councillors will be obliged to resign and in return the civics will use their influence to encourage tenants to pay full rents and service charges

Thus far, the government has been insisting that those presently sitting on local government bodies will remain until a new constitution is in place The alternative, apparently, would be chaos

Yet councillors can resign, even en masse, under the present constitution, without this necessarily leading to chaos This has happened in some areas, simply leading to an administrator assuming the role of the local council

It is so important to break the culture of non-payment in parts of some townships that the government may well eventually agree to encourage some local councillors to resign. Millions of rands are at stake

One possible obstacle to all these conciliatory steps is the broad definition of government "unilateral restructuring" held by the ANC and civics.

Mr Mathole Motshekga, deputy head of the ANC's local government department, spoke this weekend of unilateral restructuring being an obstacle to negotiation in good faith, and seems to regard even cutting off electricity to payment defaulters as part of "restructuring"

Mayor Mr Frank van der Velde indicated recently that steps are being taken towards a broad, inclusive conference on electricity

It seems that on any definition of the term, the electricity undertaking's financial statements will be extensively "restructured"

Kreiner wants change-plan shelved

(263) ARG 11/11/92

Municipal Reporter

RESTRUCTURING local authorities should be postponed because of the imminent creation of a democratic forum on local government, according to executive committee chairman Mr Louis Kreiner

He was commenting on an announcement by the Minister of Local Government and National Housing, Mr Leon Wessels, that target dates for restructuring local authorities were postponed to July 1, 1993

The decision was taken by the Co-ordinating Council of Local Government Affairs because of its own possible restructuring, or the creation of a national negotiation forum on local government

The Co-ordinating Council would either be converted into a more representative body, or it would set up a forum on local government

Mr Kreiner said "Provided a forum is created that is representative of all major stakeholders, the council and representatives of the whole community in Cape Town can make a major contribution to the establishment of a fully democratic system of local government."

The target date affected the creation of joint local authorities, imposition of uniform commercial rates in such areas, and the division of local authority funds obtained from non-residential rates

Mr Wessels recently met the South African National Civics Organisation (Sanco), the National Committee for Organised Local Government Associations (Ncolga) and provincial MEC's on local government

A working group, including representatives of Ncolga, Sanco and the Co-ordinating Council, was to meet next week to draw up proposals for a restructured forum

Matters worthy of attention in a new forum were the Interim Measures for Local Government Act and the Provincial and Local Authority Affairs Amendment Act, as well as rent and service fee boycotts and guidelines for negotiations

CPA 'going all-out' for non-racial structures

(263)

ARG 12/11/92

TOS WENTZEL
Political Staff

THE Cape provincial administration is going all-out to encourage non-racial local government structures in the province in the going-over phase to a new constitutional system

Mr Pieter Schoeman, MEC in charge of local government and roads, said local government would be one of the cornerstones of a new system.

The administration was not waiting for decisions at the national level, but going ahead with efforts to move away from apartheid structures and to bring about the inevitable non-racialism in local government.

This was not done through force but by pointing out the advantages, the greater efficiency and better use of available funds, if the present apartheid-based structures in local government were broken down.

The fragmentation in the province was shown by the fact that there were some 600 local government bodies

Use was made of the Interim Measures for Local Government Act which allowed local communities to negotiate arrangements acceptable in a particular area These were then proclaimed by the Administrator.

Moves to consolidate white town councils, coloured management boards, black and sometimes Indian councils into one council had been particularly successful in some country areas such as Citrusdal, Riversdale, Stellenbosch, Heidelberg, George, Franschhoek, Willowmore, Upington, Ladismith, Hopefield and Klawer.

One city area which had so far accepted the system was Kimberley.

Mr Schoeman said that in the case of Cape Town it would be better to have a number of such consolidated councils in the greater Peninsula area as far as Kuils River with one overall metropolitan council.

So far 16 such non-racial areas had been proclaimed in the province, six were awaiting proclamation and a further 15 had in principle decided in favour of this.

The regional services councils had been a successful prototype for non-racial bodies where decisions were taken by consensus. Through this system hundreds of millions of rands had been pumped into disadvantaged areas.

According to Mr Schoeman there was considerable goodwill among local communities and excellent co operation in the new system There was, however, resistance from black civic associations which wanted decisions on this to be taken on a national level.

Wider arrest powers

COUNCIL law enforcement officers have been given wider powers of arrest without a warrant. (263)

But a notice in the Government Gazette limited the new powers of arrest to law enforcement officers operating within their own municipal borders. ARG 13/10/91

The executive committee ordered that law enforcement officers be fully briefed on the changes to decrease the possibility of lawsuits because of unlawful arrests

Ratepayers to form 'think tank' for future protests

Municipal Reporter (263) ARGT 13/11/92

RATEPAYERS in Revolt membership numbers are too low to call a rates boycott, the organisation has resolved

But a think-tank on future strategies is to be formed, it was decided at a meeting in Claremont last night.

The 200-strong meeting did not match the vigour of the jam-packed first meeting of the organisation in January.

Opening the meeting, chairman Mr Frank Helm said there were misconceptions about the organisation.

"While we are a group of ratepayers mainly from white suburbs, we have no political aims, and no political agenda hidden or otherwise; we are ratepayers concerned by reports of incompetence and the misapplication of public funds."

The city council had spent six years debating Mossat Lane, spent R25 000 a year on biscuits, voted themselves increases while 15 councillors were taking thousands of rands monthly in pension contributions.

Other grievances were the calling in of consultants to test the feasibility of holding the Olympics in Cape Town in 2004, and proposals for a R94 million conference centre.

A report by the ad-hoc catering committee had uncovered a stock shortage of R70 000.

Cape Town to cut services

CAPE TOWN — Municipal services in the city are likely to be pruned in the 1993/94 budget as the city council faces the constraints of limited resources

— Community organisations have been asked to participate in the budget planning by providing lists of service priorities.

A treasury report to the council's executive committee noted yesterday that the recession had worsened during the last 12 months and there was little prospect of change soon

"In these difficult economic conditions the constraint of affordability imposes stark limitations on the amount of overall resources that are available for providing services," treasurer Eddie Landsberg said.

He recommended a target rates increase several points below the consumer price inflation rate

Affordability would be the key principle behind next year's rates increases which would be radically affected by new property valuations due to take effect in July 1993

LINDA ENSOR

An increase in the VAT rate would also mean higher charges for electricity, water and services as no input credits were available for the council's rate-funded services

Landsberg said staff levels would be closely monitored as salaries formed a significant part of council's operating expenditure. And department heads would be required to provide policy options on service levels

A maximum 10% overall growth limitation in capital expenditure was proposed, with variable growth limitation factors for different services

Another report to council revealed that electricity arrears had increased 30% or R8,4m to R36m during the eight months to end-September A total of 41 880 electricity accounts had been disconnected.

'Christmas cars' for govt officials

SOUTH 14/11 - 18/11/92

By Karen Williams

THE HOUSE of Representatives, which plans cuts in coloured education to save money, has gone on a spending spree — buying luxury cars for officals

Their "Christmas car" splurge cost the cash-strapped department hundreds of thousands of rands, according to a source in the House of Representatives.

Most of the cars were destined for the Department of Education and Culture (DEC), which has come under fire for plans to retrench school teachers as part of a rationalisation programme

The House of Representatives (HoR) was tightlipped on the issue this week.

"It is a once in a lifetime happening that we buy cars," said Mr George Holloway, spokesperson for the HoR

"There are no new appointees and so we have not bought any cars recently We will also not be buying them in the future - there is no money," Holloway said

However, a source within the HoR provided extensive information

"Since April this year the department has bought about 10 cars," he said

Most of the cars were top of the range BMWs, although some Mercedes Benz's were purchased, the source said

The government's Treasury gives money to the House of Representatives (HoR) which buys the cars with cash

HoR officials with different designations are 'graded' differently, with car allowances varying accordingly.

"Directors qualify for an R87 000 car, while chief directors have more, usually over R100 000," said the source

Ministers, as well as ministers' representatives qualify for the luxury car perks

Called "Christmas cars" by government office workers, the luxury cars form part of officials' service benefits

Every four years, top officials get new cars

Four of the 10 cars bought this year were for former Labour Party ministers who joined the National Party

Despite exhaustive attempts to contact the DEC for comment, they did not respond by the time of going to press

The South African Democratic Teachers' Union (Sadtu) slammed the department for "bad housekeeping" and "mismanagement of funds"

"We are questioning their priorities in spending Teachers have become the first casualties of the budget cuts, not the bureaucrats," said Sadtu regional chairperson Ms Vivian Carelse

In August last year the HoR bought 13 new cars for officials.

- The DEC came under fire earlier this week when it was revealed that they spent R20 760 at Club Mykonos where they held a two-day meeting to discuss teacher retrenchments

NEWS IN BRIEF

SOUTH 14/11 - 18/11/92.

Men held for cell death

TWO MEN, aged 18 and 24, have been charged with killing a man in a Mitchells Plain police cell two weeks ago

Mr Mogamat Jessop Majiet, 45, had been arrested for being drunk and disorderly He was found dead in his cell the next morning

The two men will appear in the Mitchells Plain Magistrate's Court on November 20

Union targets Sanlam

SOUTH 14/11 - 18/11/92

THE PAPER, Print, Wood and Allied Workers Union (Ppwawu) is stepping up its campaign for the reinstatement of 2 000 Sappi workers retrenched in April

The union will stage a march in the city on Saturday and will hold picket demonstrations in the coming weeks

Ppwawu believes Sanlam is responsible for the retrenchments

Sappi is part of the Gencor group, which in turn is owned by the insurance giant

Boost for hostels

SOUTH 14/11 - 18/11/92

WESTERN Cape hostel dwellers received a boost this week when the Cape Provincial Administration gave more than R23 million to the Hostel to Home Co-ordinating Committee (HHCC).

According to an HHCC spokesperson, Mr Welcome Zenzile, the money will be used for first phase of upgrading migrant labour hostels in Langa, Nyanga and Guguletu

SOUTH 14/11-18/11/92

Child rape arrest

A TWO-YEAR-OLD Swellendam girl, who was allegedly raped on Saturday night, is still receiving treatment Groote Schuur hospital

A 34-year-old man, believed to be the common-law husband of the baby's mother, will appear in court this week on charges of attempted rape and attempted murder

Reverend Bruce Duncan, director of Safeline, said. "We have to realise that communities must be educated to prevent similar cases How many more babies have to suffer?"

'We want free houses'

263

LANGA RESIDENTS marched to Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) offices in Goodwood last Saturday to demand the disbanding of the Ikapa Town Council

Residents allege that the Ikapa Town Council has failed "to attend to people's needs"

The residents are demanding that houses which had been rented in the area for years be given to them free of charge SOUTH 14/11-18/11/92

They also want a hospital and more high schools

Interest losses scaled down

263
ARG 16/11/92

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THE amount of interest the city council has lost because of a backlog of unbanked cheques is much less than originally estimated, a commission of inquiry has found.

A storm erupted in March and April over allegations that thousands of rands in interest had been lost, that staff morale was low and that the chief cashier had been boarded after taking extensive sick leave for psychiatric illness.

The episode was dubbed "the shoebox affair" because unbanked cheques were left piled up in shoeboxes.

The inquiry, by Mr J P Hugo and Mr W J Wagenaar, found the city council cash division was now a "well monitored and efficiently run establishment".

Backlogs that led to cheques not being banked were caused by "organisational shortcomings", not misconduct.

The 96-page report included a letter from the city council's external auditors withdrawing their earlier calculation that interest lost between July and December last year because of unbanked cheques could have totalled R286 446.

An estimate of interest lost between April and June last year of R109 242 was not accurate. "A possible alternative calculation is R55 433 for that period," the commissioners said

The probable loss of interest from July 1991 to June this year was R25 101.

The commissioners rejected the findings of an earlier report by municipal ombudsman Mr Grainger Heugh that there had been maladministration

They said that comments by city treasurer Mr Eddie Landsberg, disagreeing with parts of the ombudsman's report, had not been reported to the city council, a violation of proper procedure.

"The cash office situation was not a proper subject for investigation by the ombudsman as he could not possibly as a single person have researched the mass of detail and specialised accounting procedures that have been brought to bear on this intricate problem."

Even if there had been blameworthy conduct, it would be impossible to frame charges against anyone in particular because of shared responsibility in the division.

An ordinance requires money paid to the council to be banked within two days, but the commissioners said present-day practice made it impossible to comply with this.

The report said that when Mr Landsberg was asked to find out what Johannesburg, Pretoria and Durban did to avoid banking backlogs, he said doing so would worsen the bad publicity over the affair.

"We respectfully agree with him," the commissioners said.

Allegations of a steady decline in staff morale, and claims that the cash office was a "dumping ground", were unfounded, they said.

Commission denies whitewash of city council cash handling

263 ARG 7/11/92

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THE findings of an inquiry into the running of the city council cash division were not meant as a whitewash, the commissioners said.

Former provincial auditor Mr Kobus Hugo and former Paarl town clerk Mr Willem Wagenaar reported after a three-month investigation that there was no maladministration in the division.

Interest lost because of unbanked cheques totalled R80 000 between April 1991 and June 1992, the commissioners said.

External auditors withdrew a previous, much larger, estimate on the grounds that they had been given unreliable information.

In April, reports by external auditors and the municipal ombudsman created a storm with claims of thousands of rands of income being lost, while staff saw the division as a "dumping ground".

The report of the inquiry is to be tabled at an executive committee meeting next Monday, and is expected to be debated at the full city council meeting on Thursday next week.

Mr Wagenaar said the cash office was today a "model operation" and any morale problems had been cleared up in 1988.

City treasurer Mr Eddie Landsberg said there was a spirit of "easy co-operation" in his department, and bad morale was centred on a few individuals.

Mr Wagenaar said only about R80 000 had been lost. "To get that in perspective you must look at the R120 000 this division spends annually on postage."

It was impossible to calculate an accurate figure of how much income had been lost.

The commissioners found 48 hours from receipt to be a reasonable time to bank cheques, in spite of an ordinance requiring income to be banked within 24 hours.

Asked why they did not recommend that the ordinance be changed, the commissioners said it was up to the provincial administration to do so.

Asked why the terms of reference of the inquiry were changed after it started so that the commissioners should not determine blame, town clerk Mr Don Geyer said it had been necessary to establish the facts before blaming anyone.

Deputy planner can help deprived

Municipal Reporter (263) ARG 17/11/92

THE vacancy for a deputy city planner is a golden opportunity for the city council to put its affirmative action policy into effect, says the Municipal Workers Union Members Action Group

The group said it supported totally the council affirmative action policy

"Representatives from dispossessed and deprived communities can, and must, be given opportunities previously denied them"

The post of deputy city planner cried out for someone with first-hand experience of the problems of the deprived

"We believe there are black and coloured candidates with the qualifications to cope with the job and to grow into it," the group said.

"Because of apartheid, it will be difficult, if not impossible, to find candidates with extensive experience in the management and direction of a large technical and highly professional organisation."

Appointments to senior positions in a time of transition to democracy should be made only after full consultation with trade unions, the group said.

The deadline for applications for the job is today.

Fourth probe clears Cape Town's council

LINDA ENSOR (263)

CAPE TOWN — A Cape Town City Council-appointed commission of inquiry into alleged maladministration and misconduct in its cash office has found that no irregularities occurred — contrary to the findings of three previous reports.

The three previous reports were compiled by the ombudsman and accounting firms KPMG Aiken & Peat and Deloitte Pim Goldby. These reports found that the delay in banking council cheques, which amounted to more than R2bn a year, had led to the loss of thousands of rands in interest. But the commissioners found these findings to be incorrect

The commissioners — former provincial council auditor Kobus Hugo and former town clerk Willie Wagenaar — said yesterday the report by the council's external auditor, Deloitte Pim Goldby, had been based on incorrect information and had been withdrawn. This report had estimated that the council's delay in banking cheques for the last six months of 1991 led to a loss of R286 446 in interest.

The commissioners also found that the report of Aiken & Peat — which estimated a loss of interest of R109 242 for about three months last year — was not accurate, and nor was the alternative calculation of R55 433. Bloomy 17/11/92

The commissioner's report released yesterday said Aiken & Peat auditors had failed to exclude from their calculations cheques for large amounts which were banked immediately. The report suggested the probable loss for the year was about R25 101.

The report will be debated by the council's executive committee and the full council later this month.

Council lost 'only R80 000'

CT 17/11/92 (263)

By PETER DENNEHY

A council-appointed independent commission of inquiry has made dramatically reduced estimates by two leading auditing firms of how much money the council "lost" in interest by depositing its cheques late

The initial loss estimate by the firm Deloitte Pim Goldby, the council's usual auditor, had been R286 446 for the six-month period from July 1 to December 31 last year

But the estimate favoured by the two commissioners, former town clerk Mr Willem Wagenaar and former provincial auditor Mr Kobus Hugo, was around R80 000 for the 15-month period from April last year to June this year, they said

'Not accurate'

Mr Wagenaar said "Let's put it in perspective The stamp money to post receipts back to those who ask for them amounted to R120 000 for the year 1991/2"

The commissioners also found that it would be nearly impossible to establish grounds for misconduct

The two commissioners were appointed by the council's executive committee at its own initiative without any recommendation from a council official

The commission also found fault with the report of the Ombudsman, Mr Granger Heugh, which it described as "superficial" and "not accurate"

It had been "unable to find any proof" of an allegation that 45 boxes containing 54 000 unprocessed cheques had accumulated in the cash office on a particular date

Questions still in the balance

Municipal Reporter

QUESTIONS to be put to all the citizens of Cape Town in an opinion poll have not yet been formulated — nearly two months after the mayor asked the executive committee to draw them up

The poll was decided on as a means of assessing public opinion on councillors' allowances

Ratepayers in Revolt wanted to force a referendum on the issue in September, but this was impossible because the voters' roll is still an all-white affair

The poll, announced by mayor Mr Frank van der Velde after a meeting in September called by exco chairman Mr Louis Kreiner, will be conducted through rates bills

(263) CT 18/11/92

One large South Peninsula civic body 'viable'

(263)
CT 19/11/92

By CLAUDIA CAVANAGH

ONE large South Peninsula municipality would be financially viable

This was revealed through a survey conducted by consultants on behalf of the South Peninsula Working Group investigating the issue

Speaking to the Review this week, the mayor of Fish Hoek, Mr Malcolm Wallace, who is a member of this group, said 18% of residents in the affected areas responded to the postal questionnaire by the closing date and 23% afterwards

"These figures are far above the average reached by postal questionnaires," he said

Goodwood size

Seventy-one percent of respondents were in favour of establishing one local authority

"The real purpose of the survey was to see if the idea would be financially viable," Mr Wallace said "We wanted to find out if it would be cost-effective to run it as a single local authority as opposed to the number of small authorities that currently operate

"Out of the survey it was learned that a municipality roughly the size of Goodwood would result from the amalgamation and that this would cost about R3,5 million a year less to run than the current system"

These figures do not reflect any changes in the present level of services

"The survey makes no provision for the rationalisation of services because that would be a decision of the new local council if formed," Mr Wallace said

'Useful'

The report will now be submitted to the South Peninsula Initiative — the working group is a sub-committee of this — which will then decide what further steps, if any, should be taken They would also decide on the boundaries of the municipality

Although residents in the Constantia Valley were also asked to respond to the survey, this area is being studied separately from the rest of the South Peninsula, which includes Fish Hoek, Simon's Town, Kommetjie, Scarborough, Noordhoek, Site 5, Ocean View and Sunnydale

Mrs Joan Heming, a member of the Constantia Valley Local Council, said 70% of respondents from Constantia were in favour of the move, as were 70% from Fish Hoek, 67% from Simon's Town, 83% from Kommetjie, 61% from Scarborough, 70% from Noordhoek and 81% from Sunnydale

She said the survey had been "extremely useful"

Mr Wallace said the results of the survey justified the exercise

Planning costs plenty

Municipal Reporter

THE city planning and engineering departments spent R282 593 on consultants in the third quarter of this year

The city planner's department spent almost R154 000, and the city engineer's department spent R128 649 in the quarter ending September 30

Planning projects included the Athlone central business district policy plan (R40 000), Wynberg by-pass archeology (R8 000), conservation research (R6 600), an employment survey of restaurants (R7 500), Signal Hill guidelines and surveys (R19 294), and other projects totalling R72 000.

R60 000 bowling green 'used by nobody'

(ST Times Cape metro) 22/11/92

263

OUDTSHOORN Member of Parliament Mr James Swiegelaar has called for a Commission of Inquiry into the municipality's financial affairs

Mr Swiegelaar, the Labour Party MP for Dysselsdorp, accused the municipality of wasting the ratepayers' money by, for example, building a bowling green in Bridgton costing more than R60 000, which he says nobody uses because the bowling green in the town is open to all

"Many people were opposed to the building of the bowling green Because they used the wrong soil, the grass is not growing properly and, as a result, the weeds have taken over

"The principal of Bridgton Senior Secondary has applied to the municipality to have the field used for gardening," Mr Swiegelaar said

He also questioned a claim by the municipality that residents of Bridgton owed R2,2-million in rental arrears and challenged the municiplity to prove that residents owed that amount

"They have no proof because all records of housing schemes up to March 1988 — when the former secretary of the Bridgton Management Committee, Mr E J Boezak, died — had been destroyed"

The Sunday Times is in possession of a document sent to the South African Police in March 1988 by the Oudtshoorn Municipality which states that all debit orders and rental cards were missing.

Worried

Mr Swiegelaar said the fact that a former cashier of the municipality, Kenneth William Africa, was found guilty on October 5 this year in the Oudtshoorn Regional Court of 257 counts of theft proves further that the residents cannot be responsible for the debt of R2,2million

During 1988 the Department of Local Government Housing and Agriculture made available an amount of R3,2 million for the upgrading of 853 housing units in Bridgton.

The houses were upgraded in 1988 without the permission of the residents, Mr Swiegelaar claimed

He said residents were worried about the cost of the upgrading, but were assured by the municipality that they would not have to pay for it.

"Since last year residents have been receiving lawyers letters requesting that they pay R3 100 for the upgrading

"Most of the people have paid for their houses as they have lived in them for more than 20 years They are now not able to take transfer because of the outstanding R3 100," Mr Swiegelaar said

By AYESHA ISMAIL

Residents have complained that washing basins installed by the municipality have cracks in them, pipes do not function properly and that the bathroom walls have also cracked

The municipality has allegedly asked the Minister of Local Government and Housing in the House of Representatives for R160 000 to repair the defects

In a letter to the Department of Local Government and Housing in the HoR, dated August 5 1992, Oudtshoorn Town Clerk Mr Mike Schultz said the importance of repairing the defects in the bathrooms could not be overemphasised as they were built at great cost "to great political advantage"

"The defects have made this asset politically counter-productive and the question is being exploited by radical elements using the issue to incite this community"

Overseas

Mr Schultz said the value of the asset would also decrease at a rapid rate if the bathrooms were not repaired as soon as possible as the defects themselves were causing further damage

Mr Swiegelaar also chides the town council for spending thousands of rands on trips to Taiwan and the Far East, apparently to obtain investment and tourism

"They even took their wives with them when they went overseas Not a single foreign investor has come to Oudtshoorn since the council's last trip earlier this year," Mr Swiegelaar said

He said it was important for the municipality and the town council to consult the community on issues which affected them

Oudtshoorn town clerk, Mr Mike Schultz, refused to comment.

Mothers clean up garbage for food

By MICHEL MULLER

THE Department of National Health has allocated R632 100 to the Lingelethu West City Council for a six-month "food development" pilot project in which residents — mainly women with babies on their backs — collect garbage in exchange for food.

The money is part of the controversial R440-million Nutrition Development Programme announced last year by Minister of Health Dr Rina Venter.

The Fairest Cape Association had "laid the groundwork for the system", its chief executive, Mr Roger Hulley, said.

The women, selected from the poorest areas of Khayelitsha, work three times a week in Site C, a squatter camp that has a rudimentary infrastructure and a population that is estimated to be 65 000

They are paid with food parcels valued at R21 each. By comparison, it costs the Cape Town City Council R700 a ton to collect garbage.

The council's development officer, Ms Antoinette Lourens, said food was "the incentive" for the collectors who worked in groups of about 30 or 60 picking up even raw sewage in "very dirty places".

"We see to it that there are a couple of men to do the hard work.

"At the end of the day, we aim to feed people who can't feed themselves."

Operation Hunger's regional director, Ms Elna Trautmann, said nutritional development meant providing balanced meals while training communities in self-help.

"Lingelethu is feeding in a sectional, elitist way," she said.

CPA in talks on rates protest

By JESSICA BEZUIDENHOUT

THE Cape Provincial Administration will meet the Lotus River, Ottery and Grassy Park Ratepayers' Association (Logra) tomorrow to discuss the problems of home owners who have been withholding rates for the past three months.

The residents refuse to pay rates to protest a recent rates increase and poor facilities.

Instead, they have paid the money into a trust fund which now stands at more than R200 000.

Tomorrow's meeting between Logra and the CPA, the first since the rates protest began, would determine the duration of the boycott, said Logra's Philip Bam.

He said a consultation forum between Logra and the CPA as well as recognition of Logra as a representative body, would be discussed.

If the CPA failed to meet the organisation's demands or come up with a satisfactory response, Logra would consider "disruptive action" aimed at the Regional Services Council (RSC), which has so far made no effort to meet Logra, he said.

An RSC spokesman said legal action would be taken against property owners who refused to pay rates.

Council staffer challenges cheques probe

(263) ARG 25/11/92

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

A CITY council cash office staff member claims the findings of a commission of inquiry into the office are a whitewash — an allegation strongly rejected by city treasurer Mr Eddie Landsberg

The staff member said unreported facts about how many boxes of uncashed cheques had piled up at various times, and claims by the commission that staff morale was not a problem, seemed like a cover-up

"To be fair, statements like this by one person cannot be supported," Mr Landsberg said

The commission's report, tabled at an executive committee meeting on Monday and expected to be tabled at the December full council meeting, said·

● Interest income lost to the city in 15 months was R80 000, much less than previously estimated.

This calculation was based on on sums worked out according to two accounting models, and could be even less than R80 000, Mr Landsberg said.

● It rejected the findings of a previous value-for-money report and an investigation by city ombudsman Mr Grainger Heugh, and said there was no maladministration in the handling of cheques in the department.

The commission's original brief from the council — to probe the running of the cash office and recommend disciplinary action where necessary — was watered down because of union pressure to exclude findings on disciplinary action

Instead, it added scrutiny of press reports and commentary by councillors — particularly Mr Arthur Wienburg — on what was dubbed "The Shoebox Affair" to its investigation

The staff member, who spoke on conditions of anonymity, said

● He challenged the commissioners's findings that it was impossible to calculate lost interest accurately — it was possible, he said, because cheques were stamped on receipt and records of banking were kept

● Several staff were present in April 1991 when 45 boxes full of cheques were counted in the cash office.

● The unions did not obstruct the commissioner's investigation, "The union did not say do not give evidence they told us to speak to the commissioners"

● Key staff who could have given evidence did not appear before the commission

● The present chief cashier gave evidence, but he did not work in the cash office at the time of the problems in July and December 1991 and January this year

Two senior staff, one of whom acted as head of the office, and clerks were not asked to appear

● There were morale problems in the office for the past four years, the staff member said, rejecting a finding by the commissioners that all morale problems were cleared up by 1988

● Daily figures on the number of cheques machined were given to the acting head from July to November last year

The source named two management officials who were "stumbling blocks" when problems were reported

Memorandums written to the city treasurer on December 30, 1991, and on January 12, 1992, refer to piled-up boxes and staff morale problems

The memorandums were written by a senior administrative officer, and warned that on December 30, piled-up boxes — each containing 1 200 cheques — totalled 30 and more were expected.

By January 8, boxes totalled 45 Some were processed, but more were coming in

Asked whether, as the commissioners said, all cheques of R20 000 and more were banked immediately when post was opened, the cash office staff member said "No ways — we miss so many of them, it's unbelievable"

Basing calculations of lost interest during the first eight days of January on a 14,25 percent interest rate, conservative calculations of lost interest would be R26 000

● Mr Landsberg, asked to comment on this calculation, said it fell into the same trap as other attempts made before the commissioners's report

"The calculation cannot be hypothesized as simply as the model suggests because the basic facts and assumptions upon which the reasoning is based are incorrect," Mr Landsberg said

Mr Landsberg said.

● He was satisfied the system in use ensured all large cheques were banked timeously

● He was aware of the December 30 and January 12 memorandums, but did not agree they contradicted the findings of the commissioners.

● The system of cheque receiving did not allow for comparisons to be made between when they arrived and when they were banked

"Present hardware and software would need to be totally replaced to achieve this," he said.

● Boxes had piled up by April last year — when he took office and ordered an investigation He had not counted the boxes.

● On morale, Mr Landsberg said he was not aware which members of the cash office were interviewed by the commissioners.

He said he had "no reason to be dissatisfied" that all relevant evidence and witnesses had been before the commission

● He said he was "well aware" the unions told staff not to talk to the commissioners.

● SA Municipal Workers Union branch chairman Mr Salie Manie denied the union had obstructed the investigation.

"We have said often we are willing to assist investigations aimed against wastage and corruption, and we were at no time obstructive when it came to this exercise," Mr Manie said

Row brews over Martinique auction

PETER GALLI

THE liquidators of the Marina Martinique development and the Jeffreys Bay municipality are heading for a showdown over tomorrow's proposed public auction of unsold portions of the first and second phases of the development

Neither the auction prospectus nor newspaper advertisements mentioned that the infrastructure guaranteed under the conditions of establishment for the marina would have to be completed before transfer of the property was granted by the municipality

"We intend to attend the auction to ensure that prospective buyers are made aware of this requirement While we will co-operate fully with any developer, the outstanding services must be dealt with before individual transfer can take place," town clerk Frans Viljoen said yesterday

The Land Development Ordinance required that the provision of essential services such as water, sewerage and roads be completed or guaranteed before transfer of individual stands took place

The Marina Martinique Home Owners' Association had alerted the municipality which had supplied the liquidators with a list of outstanding services

A spokesman for the auctioneer said "We are aware of the problem associated with the outstanding services and this has been addressed with the liquidators. The auction will go ahead."

Friedlander re-elected (263)

Municipal Reporter

MR Dick Friedlander, immediate past chairman of the city council executive committee, has been re-elected chairman of the finance committee of the Regional Services Council (RSC) CT 26/11/92

Mr Friedlander was also elected onto the RSC's executive committee yesterday He stood against Mr J P J Adriaanse of Parow Municipality

The RSC executive now consists of Mr Friedlander (Cape Town), Mr Louis Kreiner (Cape Town), Mr M G Swart (Kuils River), Mr G M Basson (Durbanville), Mr Yusuf Chotia (Ocean View), and Mr D R Ngo (iKapa).

City ombudsman resigns after illness

(263)

CT 26/11/92

Municipal Reporter

CAPE TOWN's municipal ombudsman, Mr Granger Heugh, has resigned from his job due to ill health, and a new ombudsman will be appointed today.

Mr Heugh resigned with effect from the end of last month

Mr Heugh was town clerk of Cape Town from 1970 to 1982 In 1985 he was appointed the city's first ombudsman.

In the past couple of years, in his role as ombudsman, he has brought out two particularly widely-publicised reports — one on the council's handling of the fire on Table Mountain fire on February 8 last year, and the other on the late depositing of cheques resulting in loss of income from interest

Rates increase to be kept below the inflation rate

263
AUG 27 11/92

Municipal Reporter

THE city council resolved that next year's rates increase must be below the rate of inflation

Amendments to limit the increase to a specific figure were warded off.

Mr Arthur Wienburg proposed an amendment limiting the rates increase to 16 percent

Mr Leon Markovitz said 16 percent was too high and, because the increase would be linked to the rate of inflation as determined by the Consumer Price Index, the likely limits were 12 to 14 percent

Mr Rupert Hurly proposed a 14-percent limit, seconded by Mr Chris Joubert

Mr Dick Friedlander said councillors were "playing with words, when 2 percent in this case represents R7 million"

The council should not tie itself to a specific figure because the CPI would fluctuate in the next two months.

Mr Gordon Oliver said the council should decide what its priorities were before setting figures.

A report by city treasurer Mr Eddie Landsberg said affordability would be the keynote of the 1993/94 operating budget strategy, while there was the related complication of a new valuation roll He recommended a "resource-driven" approach.

Issues to be addressed in compiling the budget were setting priorities, defining what appropriate levels of service were, improving the effectiveness of the organisation, and deciding what levels of rates and tariff increases were achievable

Friday November 27 1992

Disgusted baker to supply free bread

■ Unhappy after council stopped aiding needy

Sowetan 27/11/92

Sowetan Correspondent

AN UITENHAGE bakery will donate two dozen loaves of bread a day to hungry schoolchildren "in disgust" at the local city council's decision to cut its support for a school feeding scheme

The owner of East Cape Bakeries, Mr Clarence Ratangee, said he would provide the bread - worth R8 000 a year - to schools identified by the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage School Feeding Fund

His pledge follows a council decision to stop its R5 000 annual grant to the scheme that services most black schools in the region

Ratangee said his decision was a matter of conscience, adding that he was "disgusted by the political rumpus in the conservative Uitenhage town council"

The offer, which was welcomed by fund chairman, Maurice Walter, will come into effect in the new year when the new school terms begin

The council has come under the spotlight after some controversial decisions

The council recently rejected an application from a black woman for a librarian post it offered

It also decided not to electrify an informal housing settlement being built with funds from the Independent Development Trust and rejected a Government offer to help upgrade health care to a largely coloured squatter community

(263) ARG 28/11/92

Union power halts cost-cutting plan

■ Union power over the city council has sparked debate about the relationship between the two.

Municipal Reporter

THE city council has halted a study into optimum use of civic amenities staff because of union pressure

The study was to be done against a background of planned amalgamation of civic amenities and parks and forests staff into a leisure recreation unit, which could have brought savings of R1 million a year

Councillors who argued for halting the study said union opposition would mean industrial action against unilateral restructuring, negating savings

Mr Arthur Wienburg, a member of the leisure services implementation working group, said that, in spite of the amenities and executive committees agreeing in principle to rationalising the branches, unions wanted the council "to go, let alone the extra mile, the extra two miles"

Mr Llewellyn van Wyk said the city council had to be receptive to demands from the unions which were taking their role too far, but that was because of their lack of power through the ballot box.

But, union action meant the council ran the risk of being "deep frozen into inertia... the unions do not seem to understand the place has to be run and reshaped to perform efficiently"

Dr John Sonnenberg said the unions had made it clear unilateral restructuring was unacceptable.

"They did not do this in a threatening way," he said, provoking laughter from Mr Wienburg

"Unless you are paranoid," said Dr Sonnenberg

He said it was a managerial decision

"Hitler ran Germany, Mussolini ran Italy"

Mr Peter Muller "Do we fall in the same category?"

Dr Sonnenberg "No, we do not, but we run the risk of being called fascists if we make decisions unilaterally."

Turning to Mr Wienburg, Dr Sonnenberg said "You are irrelevant in the new South Africa".

Mr Wienburg had called exco "yellow-bellied", said Dr Sonnenberg

Mr Wienburg corrected Dr Sonnenberg: "I said they had yellow streaks down their backs".

Dr Sonnenberg said he understood Mr Wienburg's frustration about the negotiation process, but it was better than confrontation.

Mr Wienburg: "Raise the white flag, then"

Dr Sonnenberg. "He's to the right of Genghis Khan. I cannot believe we were in the same political party"

Council report 'fatally flawed'

213
ARG 28/11/92

■ Maverick city councillor Arthur Wienburg says a report into the running of the city council cash office was flawed, but the city treasurer said he had no reason to be dissatisfied.

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

Call for rejection of paper

THE report by a commission of inquiry into the running of the city council cash office was fatally flawed, according to Mr Arthur Wienburg.

He was reacting to claims by a cash office staff member that vital evidence and witnesses did not appear before the commission.

Mr Wienburg said terms of reference set by the city council were changed by the executive committee under pressure from the unions without council approval

"The report says it cannot prove vital suppositions, yet the officials at the coal-face at the time of the crisis who have material evidence and proof were not asked to testify"

He called on the council to reject the report — expected to be debated in December — and to set up a commission of inquiry under a retired judge "or at very least, conduct its own investigation by a sub-committee".

"This won't go away by bluster or red herrings The ratepayers won't be satisfied by anything less than the full truth being revealed and those responsible being brought to account," Mr Wienburg said

City treasurer Mr Eddie Landsberg said claims by one staff member "could not be supported".

He had "no reason to be dissatisfied" that all relevant witnesses and evidence had been before the commission

Executive committee chairman Mr Louis Kreiner said the commissioners' report was the first phase of establishing the facts, after which the city council would decide if anyone should take responsiblity for events.

"I cannot rule out possible action," he said.

Meanwhile, town clerk Mr Don Geyer said it was not correct to say the commission's original brief was amended to include scrutiny of Press reports and commentary by councillors

"This comment is not correct as it did not form part of the terms of reference of the commission," Mr Geyer said

Civic leader claims victimisation

By Quentin Wilson

Sowth 28/11 — 2/12/92

263

McGREGOR civic association chairperson, Mr Gawie Snyders, believes he is being harrassed by local authorities in the Boland town because of his political activities.

Snyders is a key organiser of community protests against high municipal service charges.

After he was assaulted earlier this year, he laid charges of assault but a court dismissed them for lack of evidence.

This was despite the fact that part of the assault took place inside a police station.

Snyders is also upset for being convicted this month, for "pumping water from his septic tank".

He claims it was overflowing onto his property because the municipality didn't dram the tank — a service provided to other residents

Last month, municipal workers inspected Snyders' water meter to determine his water bill They found the meter faulty — before they replaced it they slapped him with a water account of R638.

Says Snyders: "The local authorities are victimising me because of my involvement in the civic.

"The authorities must stop their dirty tricks — nothing will stop me from trying to improve the lot of my community."

The McGregor municipality could not be reached for comment, despite numerous attempts.

City council plan to hand over Kogel Bay

263

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter ARG 3/12/92

KOGEL Bay should be handed over to another council — possibly Overberg Regional Services Council — to save Cape Town City Council R1 million a year, says amenities and health committee chairman Mr Leon Markovitz

The committee recommended unanimously that the 2 500ha resort, 65km from Cape Town and stretching from the Steenbras River to Rooi Els, should be jettisoned from Easter as a cost-cutting measure Mr Markovitz said no jobs would be lost

Two municipalities, Strand and Gordon's Bay, are between Cape Town and Kogel Bay

Overberg Regional Services Council is most likely to be offered the resort because Gordon's Bay lacks the capability to take over the R1 million operation.

But Overberg RSC chief executive Mr Willem Ekermans said he would recommend his council to decline the offer

"The city council had some discussions with one of my officials three weeks ago, so I have been expecting this

"The decision is up to councillors but my personal opinion is we have not got the manpower or the means to take over Kogel Bay

"The city council turned that area from a wilderness into a resort with a camping site and tidal pool, and spent a lot of money on it a year and a half ago. We are not geared to take it over"

The tidal pool was below the high water mark and would fall into Provincial jurisdiction "It is no simple matter," said Mr Ekermans.

Kogel Bay became part of Cape Town municipality when the city council bought the land for a recreational facility for workers building Steenbras Dam.

Since then there have been several failed attempts to get rid of it.

"It is clearly outside our area and 70 percent of the people who use it are not citizens of Cape Town," said Mr Markovitz.

"Other councils have been 'thinking about it' and it is time something was done."

Seas at Kogel Bay, where there were frequent drownings, were rough and it was costly to provide lifesaving services every season, he said

"We are approaching our annual budget and we need that R1 million to spend on beaches inside the municipality."

Asked if he expected political opposition to restructuring municipal boundaries, he said he doubted whether anyone could oppose the logic of making the saving

The proposals will be put to the executive committee and the council by the end of January

Wienburg slates councillors in ad

(263) CT 4/12/92

REBEL city councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg has taken the unprecedented step of publishing, at his own expense, three-quarter page advertisements criticising his fellow councillors in four local newspapers

The advertisements, which appeared yesterday in the Southern Suburbs Tatler, Atlantic Sun, False Bay Echo and Constantiaberg Bulletin, list the home telephone numbers of all the councillors under the admonition "Phone them!"

The heading of the advertisement is a question "How do some councillors justify doing nothing?"

In the advert, Mr Wienburg states that his fellow councillors claim that because they are involved in a negotiation process, they cannot carry out urgent management restructuring measures which will save the ratepayers money

Most of the points made in the advertisement have been raised by Mr Wienburg in the council chamber

Mr Louis Kreiner, chairman of the executive committee, said last night that he had not yet seen the advertisement and therefore was unwilling to comment.

Mr Wienburg said yesterday that he had paid for the advertisements He could not see how any councillor would be bothered by them

"They have been given a heaven-sent opportunity of communicating with their ratepayers," he said

'Red-hot racism' claim

South 5|12-9|12|92

The firefighting service of the Regional Services Council is being accused of racism by coloured firemen, Rehana Rossouw reports

LEAPING flames, billowing smoke and smouldering veld are occupational hazards for any fireman

But for coloured firemen employed by the Western Cape Regional Services Council (RSC) there is another hazard the deep-rooted racism that they allege is prevalent in the RSC

Seven firemen interviewed by SOUTH claim they have been overlooked for promotion and that they earn lower salaries than white firemen with fewer qualifications and less experience

Other allegations made by the firemen include

- abuse of official transport and
- unnecessary spending of taxpayers' money

"We can't take what's happening here anymore We've tried everything — approached our union, tried legal action and even had work stoppages — but nothing has changed," says a fireman with eight years' service

In terms of their employment contract, the firemen cannot be named as they are prohibited from speaking to the press

In 1988 an industrial council formulated a policy to govern promotions in the firefighting services

A year later, a number of firemen resigned and the RSC employed 11 white firemen to replace them

"Only two of them were qualified and most had completed only standard eight," says the fireman

The RSC's fire service is structured on a quasi-military basis with ranks from cadet fireman, junior fireman, fireman, senior fireman to station officers and higher posts

The coloured firemen claim 13 men wrote external exams with the South African Fire Service Institute and passed with high marks but were overlooked from promotion

"The white firemen skipped two ranks and were put on a fireman's salary while most of us are still paid a cadet fireman's salary," says a fireman with 11 years' experience

"We took the matter up with the RSC and were told that the white firemen had done a two-year call-up that was equivalent to passing the external exams

"We were then told that we should write another exam because we had the experience but needed more theory

"We wrote the exam and all passed with more than 80 percent Two of the white firemen failed but they are still earning more than me," the fireman says

The firemen claim that they are losing between R300 and R1 000 a month because they receive lower wages and were not promoted when they deserved to be

They say all the higher ranks are filled by white men and there is only one coloured station officer in the entire service

Go slow

In the past two years, the firemen have appealed to the RSC and to their union, embarked on a go-slow, appealed to members of parliament and approached a lawyer to take legal action

"We are on the verge of exploding We are convinced that the only reason why we are treated like this is because of the colour of our skin, says a fireman

The firemen also complain of unnecessary spending in the RSC fire service which they allege is a waste of taxpayer's money

They say every senior white officer gets free transport to and from work. In other fire services only people on call are allowed to use official transport, they say

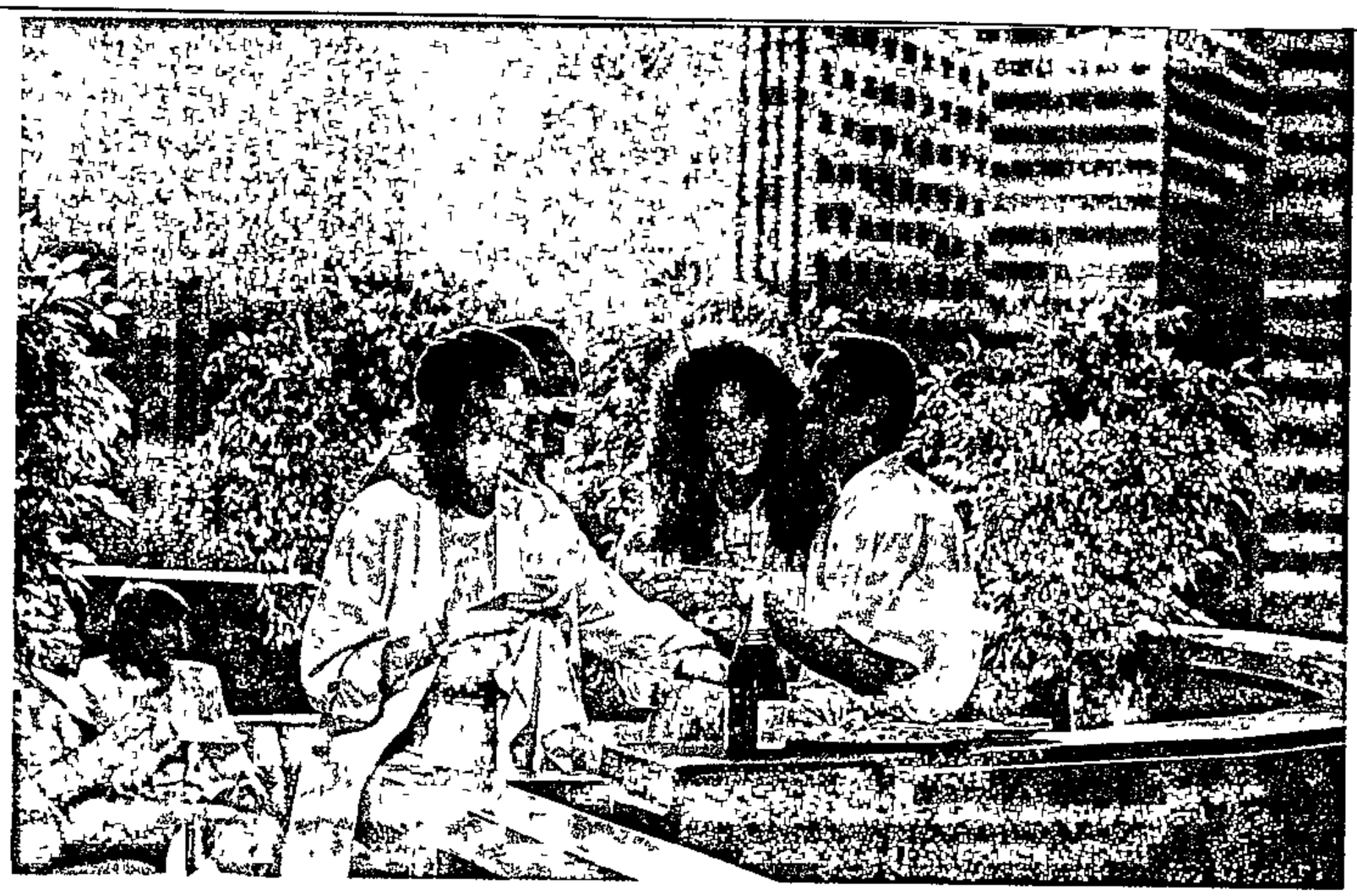
Three vehicles purchased more than a year ago are allegedly standing idle at the Ottery Fire Station because they are not suitable for use

"This is all an unnecessary waste of taxpayers' money Why are they wasting money like this when we have been crying out for more than three years for better salaries?" asked a fireman

A spokesperson for the RSC said the local authority prided itself on being an equal opportunities employer

"Religion, race and sex play no role in the employment or promotion of staff," the spokesperson said

"Their unsubstantiated allegations are rejected Suffice to say that, quoting from your own report, even their own trade union, legal advisor and members of parliament saw through their charade," the RSC spokesperson said



Your special moments are made with wine.

Sharing a glass of wine with friends is one of life's true pleasures All over the world you will find men and women sharing good times with wine Because wine is a very pleasant social drink True enjoyment and sharing are the ways in which special moments are made with wine Wine goes well with any food and you'll find that when entertaining friends, wine is always welcome

SPARKLING WINE is associated with happy times, celebrations, fun, laughter and is enjoyed with any type of food That familiar "pop" of the cork and thousands of pearly bubbles in your glass make it a drink you want to share in moments of happiness Whether you're celebrating the birth of a child, an exam result or a birthday, make sure you have a bottle of well-chilled sparkling wine ready to make the occasion a special moment

WHITE WINE is excellent for every day enjoyment It is best served well-chilled and is popular with white meats like chicken and pork, as well as fish or salads Many different styles of white wine are available, ranging from sweet, semi-sweet, off-dry to dry A dry wine is one with very little natural sugar

RED WINE is more pronounced in character and flavour, and is the favourite of many wine lovers The rich tastes of stews, roasts or any other red meat dish are well complemented by red wine

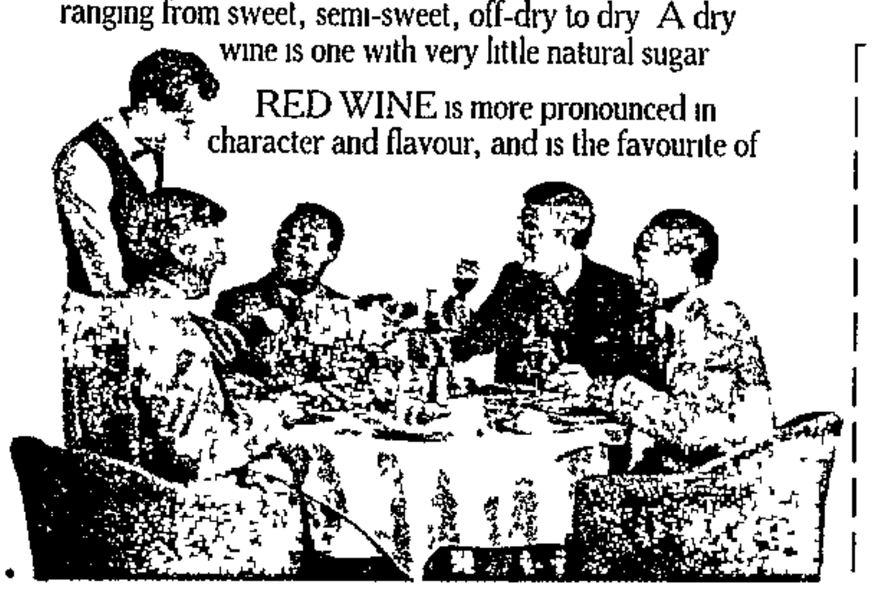
Always remember Wine enhances the flavour of food and food enhances the flavour of wine Whether you're having a simple snack or a meal, be sure to have your favourite wine on the table And what is the best wine? None other than the wine you like!

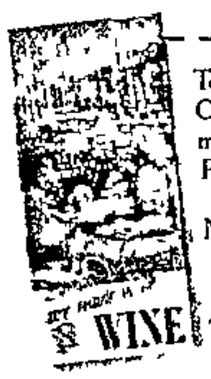
Wine is interesting and fascinating The more you know about wine, the more you will enjoy it For instance, did you know that wine makes a refreshing long drink when mixed with sodawater and ice? Try it, you'll be pleasantly surprised

For more information on wine and how it can be enjoyed, simply complete and send the coupon to us for a free pamphlet

You too can create your own special moments – with wine of course!

WINE FOUNDATION





To **The Wine Foundation,** PO Box 41213, CRAIGHALL 2024 Yes I would like to know more about wine and how it can be enjoyed Please send me your free pamphlet

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Code _____

LINTAS CAPE 5897E

Council anger over advert

Maverick sparks off protests

263
ARGUS 1/12/92

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

■ City councillors are angry with maverick colleague Mr Arthur Wienburg, who published an advertisement in suburban newspapers containing all their home telephone numbers.

AN advertisement placed by outspoken city councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg in a set of suburban newspapers was inaccurate, misleading, irresponsible and grossly insulting to fellow-councillors, says executive committee chairman Mr Louis Kreiner.

The advert accused some councillors of being "unwilling to govern" and of hiding a history of incompetence and bad management behind a smokescreen of jargon and rhetoric.

Citing the failure to rationalise leisure and recreation services, the interest lost because of unbanked cheques in the cash office, failure to collect electricity arrears and high spending on staff, Mr Wienburg challenged ratepayers to question their councillors on the issues

He said the city council, through a firm of consultants, negotiated only with the African National Congress and ignored the Democratic Party, National Party and others.

"Are you being consulted?" Mr Wienburg asked ratepayers.

The advert included a list of all 34 councillors and their home telephone numbers

Mr Kreiner said it was ironic that the advert sought to say Mr Wienburg was in step while the other 33 councillors were not.

"It highlights his own inability to produce positive proposals acceptable to his colleagues

"While not denying Mr Wienburg's undoubted strengths, I cannot but ask — can any one councillor be the only one who is always right? Can the 33 who disagree with him be always wrong?"

It was not acceptable that any person chose so abusive and egocentric a way of criticising his colleagues, he said.

"To make personal statements which are clearly unfounded — such as that his 33 colleagues do nothing at all, are unwilling to govern and have a history of incompetence — is untruthful, unwarranted and in extremely poor taste."

Mr Kreiner said Mr Wienburg was not limited to criticism of others, which was easy, but was able and entitled to put forward concrete proposals for action for adoption by fellow-councillors

"That he has not done so is an indictment of his own intentions and raises the question as to whether his actions are really aimed at solving any problems which he believes to exist, or are merely a means of getting publicity at the expense of his 33 colleagues"

Responding to specific charges in the advert, Mr Kreiner rejected claims that the city council was involved in the negotiating process, because it was inadvisable to undertake major restructuring until there was greater clarity about the national process

Mr Wienburg's claim that the council negotiated only with the ANC was absurd

The process which the city council was following was appropriate to the area, and included involvement in the Idasa series of seminars, the Cape Town Youth Forum, the Metropolitan Development Framework, the Western Cape Economic Development Forum and the Cape Town Sports Commission

The city council was not "driving" this process and had adopted a low profile, but this did not mean Cape Town had lagged behind

"The question may be asked, however, whether Mr Wienburg is as willing to discuss issues with those who do not agree with him"

On the council's failure to rationalise the leisure and recreation services, Mr Kreiner said the council was bound to consult trade unions and was concerned that nothing should be done which would prejudice national negotiations.

On the "alleged cash office debacle', Mr Kreiner said the claim that hundreds of thousands of rands had been lost was an extravagant misstatement, a finding supported by the recent commission of inquiry

"Mr Wienburg, having strongly supported the need for an independent investigation, now appears reluctant to accept its findings with good grace as they do not support his own preconceptions"

Mr Kreiner said claiming the city council was unwilling to collect electricity arrears was a falsehood The issue was getting "sensitive and extensive attention"

"Mr Wienburg should have been aware he was comparing apples with pears," Mr Kreiner said

Whites drop out of ANC mass march

THE ANC-led march on the Klipplaat Town Council failed to draw the expected support of the white community, following reports of widespread intimidation by the rightwing AWB earlier this week.

A death warning, bearing the AWB insignia and the inscription "Death awaits you next", was posted on the door of the Klipplaat Advice Office.

Advice Office spokesman Eugene Langeveldt said members of the AWB from Cradock came to the town on Monday and threatened civic leaders.

He said they also made threats on the life of AWB local commander Johannes Human, who was out of town.

Human made national headlines recently when he came out in support of an ANC-led initiative to unite the town.

Only two white residents joined the ANC alliance march, part of a mass action campaign to oust the Klipplaat Town Council. About 30 more white residents registered their dissatisfaction with the council in a 1 000-signature petition calling for the council's resignation.

Klipplaat mayor Johan Weppener declined to comment on the petition.

Frederick van der Esterhuisen, one of the town's many unemployed white residents, says he believes the ANC can offer him help and set him on his feet again.

"I supported the Conservative Party, but they cannot give me a better deal than the ANC can," he said, adding he was going to join the ANC immediately after the march.

The only other white resident to join in was Byron Frankopollis, also unemployed, but in the process of setting up a small business venture in the town

He came to Klipplaat to get married, but instead found a home within the black community. He supported the march because, he said, we are "all together as one now"

He said he was a staunch supporter of the National Party but found "friendliness and brotherliness" with the ANC instead.

Some 200 of the town's residents marched to the council to hand over a list of grievances.

The residents gave the council until Friday to reply to the demand for their resignation

The march was organised to coincide with the court appearance of 15 coloured families, who were in arrears with their rent. – Pen

W Cape exports to lead recovery

By JEREMY WOODS

THE Western Cape is set to lead South Africa out of recession, probably by the middle of next year.

"The Western Cape's strength in exports will cause the region to lead the country out of recession, says Dr David Bridgman, executive director of Wesgro, a leading source of economic and business information on the Western Cape

"Traditionally, a rise in the gold price has been the trigger to lead South Africa out of a recession, but I doubt that will happen this time," Dr Bridgman said yesterday

The outlook for the gold price is pessimistic Low growth in the world economy saps demand for the metal and make it an unattractive investment

"Most of the country's metal and heavy mining exports are centred around the Johannesburg area because that's where the mines are Over the years the Western Cape has concentrated on products it can produce and has been very successful in exporting these," Dr Bridgman said

"The Western Cape is a big exporter of commodities like fruit, wine, vegetables, clothing and light engineering. Its export markets are established and as the world economy picks up, so will it export into the demand"

Drought

Another heavyweight economist confirmed this week that the economy in the Western Cape was in better shape than that in the rest of the country — and was poised to lead the way out of the recession

Mr Johan Louw, chief economist at Sanlam, said "The Western Cape is less affected by the recession because it is not dependent on minerals, nor does it have to contend with the effects of drought.

"With its export potential, it is well placed to lead the rest of the country in any upswing

"It is too early to say we are coming out of the recession yet The latest statistics from the Reserve Bank are still telling us we are in recession

"By the middle of next year we should be able to see the end of the recession as a country"

By then, interest rates should be lower and, it was to be hoped, inflation would have declined further

"For the man in the street, I think it will be the second half of the year before he starts to feel any of the benefits"

District Six gets kickstart

By CHIARA CARTER

THE redevelopment of District Six has been brought a step closer with a landmark decision to set up a Community Land Trust for the area and other "strategic" parcels of land in the city

The chairman of the city council's town planning committee, Mr John Muir, said the District Six Steering Committee had "agreed unanimously" this week to establish the trust.

Mr Muir, acting chairman of the committee, described the decision as "highly significant" Although it would be a while before development would take place, the major obstacles were out of the way

"That agreement has been reached in such a diverse and wide-ranging group indicates the success of the discussion process"

Nominees

The committee had agreed that the Community Land Trust would include four representatives from umbrella community organisations, two Cape Provincial Administration nominees and two Cape Town City Council nominees, Mr Muir said

The trust would be responsible for District Six and other significant sites earmarked for redevelopment.

In addition, an advisory board, on which businesses and local organisations would be represented, would be set up

"The idea is for the trust to cover all strategic ground. This could include Youngsfield, Wingfield and Culembourg," Mr Muir said

District Six would be developed after a section 21 non-profit company had been established

Mr Muir said the committee wanted to meet the Administrator of the Cape and that the matter might go before the cabinet.

There was a difference of opinion between the committee and the CPA over the composition of the trust

Antarctic thaw to swell tide of cash

Times Cape metro

FOREIGN countries involved in research in the Antarctic are to set up way stations and supply bases in Cape Town — which could bring a significant cash injection for the city. 6/12/92

By LEW ELIAS

Thawing international attitudes to South Africa, coupled with Cape Town's resources and proximity to the South Pole, has led to proposals that Cape Town be used as a base for countries that have research stations in the Antarctic

The city is ideally situated for crew changeovers and supplies and equipment for Antarctic research facilities

Until recently, South Africa's pariah status in the world precluded the Cape's use as a stop for government or quasi-government vessels calling at the port.

Now the city's harbour could expect research and supply vessels from Russia, Norway, Germany and Japan, Cape Town's port captain and acting port manager, Captain Bill Shewell, said this week.

This summer alone nine Russian ships, as well as two each from Norway and Germany, are expected to dock in Table Bay harbour

Apart from the extra traffic, Cape Town's being used as a way station for the Antarctic would have a number of benefits for the city, Captain Shewell said

"It would bring opportunities to provide regular services

"There will be an increase in the number of people arriving here on foreign flights as replacements for crews and an increase in maintenance work and opportunities for ship's chandlers"

In the past few months, the Russians have taken advantage of Cape Town's facilities and have used the harbour as a base for a major rescue operation as well as a port of call for supply vessels

Last year Cape Town was the springboard for a daring Russian mission to rescue a supply ship trapped in Antarctic ice two metres thick.

An Ilyushin 76 cargo plane landed at D F Malan Airport days after a research ship, the Professor Vize, and another vessel, the Aledenik Fedorov, had docked in Table Bay to help

The Ilyushin rescued 160 people on board the trapped vessel, the Mikhail Somov, in August 1991

Another sign of the improved relationship between South Africa and the rest of the Antarctic Treaty signatories was the combined effort to fly the injured South African Antarctic team leader to a New Zealand hospital after an accident at the Sanae base last month

Captour in red for payout to ex-MD

(263)

S/Times (Cape metro)

6/12/92.

By DIRK VAN EEDEN

CAPTOUR, funded largely by the Cape Town City Council and members' contributions, has a deficit of more than R250 000 for 1991/92 after paying a golden handshake of more than R300 000 to former managing director John Robért.

Balance sheets in Captour's annual report show its liabilities exceed its assets by over R70 000

Mr Robert resigned in January as MD, a position he had held for 14 years, after former mayor of Cape Town Gordon Oliver's appointment above him and an alleged personality clash between Mr Robért and the chairman of the board, councillor Louis Kreiner

Sources close to Mr Robért said yesterday he had been "terribly hurt. It was a real slap in the face, but he handled it with dignity"

A "head hunter", who recommended Mr Oliver for the new post of chief executive officer, was paid R30 000

This week an irate Captour member, who asked not to be named, said she believed the use of "head hunters" had been unnecessary "as everybody knew Gordon was available and would be perfect"

JOHN ROBÉRT

Mr Kreiner denied there had been a personality clash between him and Mr Robért and said Captour had reached "a dead end"

"We felt that with a new dispensation for tourism, Captour needed new ideas

"We were right Captour now has a new image and new headquarters and the atmosphere has changed The problems were not Mr Robért's fault, but Captour needed new blood"

Sources said Mr Robért had consulted an industrial relations expert after his effective demotion This was confirmed by Mr Oliver

"No court action was taken, but our lawyers dealt with Mr Robért's claims."

Once affectionately known as Cape Town's "Mr Tourism", Mr Robért was 18 months from retirement

Reluctant

Mr Robért was reluctant to comment. He said he wanted to "leave the past behind" and go on with his new career at Intercape

"I spent my whole life in tourism Gordon Oliver was a mayor I am again involved in tourism and work closely with Captour, of which I am still a member We have a friendly relationship. I really do not feel like picking up on negative stories again"

According to Mr Kreiner, Mr Robért had a choice to accept an early retirement package, or stay on as MD, reporting to Mr Oliver

According to Captour's auditor, all future payments to Mr Robért were included in the R302 887, shown in the financial statements as "compensation in respect of loss of office". The amount was made up of Mr Robért's salary until retirement age, motor vehicle disposal and payments to Mr Robért's pension fund

Waterfront facelift for PE

By Frank Jeans (263)

S7mm 8/12/92

The waterfront at Port Elizabeth is the site of a multi-million rand development aimed at transforming the city into a major tourist centre

The project embraces recreational, residential and business components. Local and international developers are bing invited to become partners in the venture

Meiring reshuffles portfolios of MECs

263 ARG 10/12/92

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

ADMINISTRATOR Mr Kobus Meiring has reshuffled the portfolios of the six-member provincial executive committee

The reshuffle was prompted by the resignation of Mr Koos Theron and the appointment of Mr Frik van Deventer as an MEC

Mr Theron's portfolios — community development, land development co-ordination, regional development, urbanisation and squatter control, personnel and management advisory services — will be shared between Mr Dawie le Roux and Mr Meiring

The portfolio names of festivals and Table Mountain conservation area are to be scrapped and will be incorporated into other portfolios

Roads, transport and traffic control are to be rationalised into one portfolio to be called roads, transport and traffic administration

The full list is

● Mr Deon Adams Legal services, security services and agricultural shows added to his existing portfolios of libraries, museums and civil protection

● Mr Pieter Schoeman Works and local government, recreation resorts

● Mr T W Nyati Welfare services, relations actions and a new portfolio, social pensions

● Mr Dawie le Roux Land development co-ordination, including housing, regional development and squatter control Promotion of tourism — a new portfolio — is added to betting

● Mr Peter Marais Gets hospital and health services in addition to his existing portfolio of stocks control Traffic control, works, transport, horse racing and agricultural shows are transferred from Mr Marais to other MECs

● Mr Frik van Deventer Nature and environmental conservation, roads, transport and traffic administration

● The Administrator will take personal charge of personnel, management advisory services and management promotion in addition to his existing portfolio that includes the executive committee, finance and the Cape Performing Arts Board

District Six: The Trust

By GAYE DAVIS **Cape Town**

FINAL obstacles blocking the re-development of District Six have been shunted aside with a ground-breaking decision to set up a Community Land Trust.

The trust, comprised of state and community organisation representatives, will also oversee the development of other state-owned land in Cape Town.

Cape Town City Council town planning committee chairman John Muir said the move was "significant, in that we got a unanimous decision to form the trust". The decision was taken by the District Six Steering Committee, which represents a wide range of bodies with diverging interests.

The demolition of the "coloured" District Six, beginning in 1966 under the Group Areas Act, remains a highly emotional issue for many Capetonians.

The trust will consist of four representatives from umbrella community organisations, including the South African National Civic Organisation (Sanco), two nominees of the Cape Provincial Administration and two from the city council.

It would be guided by an advisory board comprised of technical consultants and ratepayers' and other local organisations' representatives, Muir said.

The re-development would be overseen by the trust, which would then set up not-for-profit Section 21 companies to carry out the actual development.

Sanco deputy chairman in the western Cape John Neels said the creation of the trust would effectively halt the government from selling off state-owned land under the guise of privatisation and would ensure that the community at large had a say in land use.

by the UN Security Council The Pentagon said the Ranger, hope America must act

Exco lashes out at Wienburg

263 CTS 12/92

Staff Reporter

EXCO chairman Mr Louis Kreiner yesterday lashed out at advertisments placed in four local newspapers by dissident councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg, labelling them as "inaccurate, misleading, irresponsible and grossly insulting"

The advertisments ask. "How do some councillors justify doing nothing?" and provide a list of the home telephone numbers of all 33 councillors with the admonition· "Phone them!".

In the advert Mr Wienburg claims that because his fellow councillors are involved in a negotiating process, they cannot carry out urgent management restructuring measures to save ratepayers money

In a statement yesterday Mr Kreiner denied that such a negotiating process existed Attempts to restructure local government are being held in abeyance pending direction from national negotiations

In summary Mr Kreiner questioned whether Mr Wienburg's intentions were really aimed at solving problems or "merely a means of obtaining publicity at the expense of his 33 colleagues"

Husband of slain artist remanded

Staff Reporter

Blind girl beats the

Furore over call for inquiry into council

(263) CT 18/12/92

By PETER DENNEHY

REBEL city councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg yesterday shocked his colleagues when it was disclosed that he had approached the Administrator to investigate what he called the "maladministered" Cape Town municipality

At a council meeting marked by acrimonious debate on controversial issues, Mr Wienburg finally walked out of the council chamber after refusing to withdraw a statement

He had been ordered to do so by mayor Mr Frank van der Velde, who chaired the meeting, and retorted that he would not be "bullied" by Mr Van der Velde

In his letter to Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring, Mr Wienburg enclosed a copy of the ombudsman's report of the "cash receiving office debacle" in which interest was lost on cheques that were deposited late

Responding on behalf of Mr Meiring, MEC for local government Mr Piet Schoeman said the issues Mr Wienburg raised were "not an indication of corruption per se", but that effective remedial action "of an administrative nature" was required

During the fiery debate Mr Wienburg also lambasted the council for:

● Doing "nothing in 20 years to rationalise council leisure and recreational services", and

● Delaying over his nine-year-old drive for combined rates, electricity and water bills — which he said could save R3m a year and for which the council was only now tendering for the necessary computerware

After Mr Wienburg's stinging attack,

To page 3

From page 1

which at one stage lasted for the duration of his allotted 15-minute debating time, Exco chairman Mr Louis Kreiner snapped back at Mr Wienburg, accusing him of going "behind people's backs" CT 18/12/92

Mr Kreiner said his colleague had "a monumental cheek" to go to the Administrator without informing the council and to talk about "malpractices and anarchy". (263)

On the question of combined billing, the council said it had bought a cheaper computer than it would have had, partly because of Mr Wienburg's suggestions.

City administrator Mr Gys Hofmeyr said two trade unions were opposed to rationalisation as they thought this was "isolated restructuring".

Earlier during the Clifton bungalow debate, Mr Wienburg had made a comment about an item concerning the spending of at least half the money from Clifton bungalow sites on low-cost housing elsewhere, saying it was being "bludgeoned through" the council.

Mr Van der Velde asked him to withdraw the comment as it had a connotation that something "underhand" was being done whereas the item was on the agenda in the normal way. Mr Wienburg refused to do this and left the chamber. CT 18/12/92

Mr Wienburg challenged Mr Van der Velde to find any meaning like "underhand" in a dictionary, definition of the word "bludgeon"

Mayoress allowance rejected

(23)

CT 18/12/92

Municipal Reporter

A BID to give the mayoress a council allowance failed yesterday when just 10 councillors voted in favour of it

Last year the council voted for a mayoress allowance equal to that of a councillor (about R1 900 a month), but the Administrator turned it down.

In October the council rescinded its decision on the allowance

Mr Arthur Wienburg tried yesterday to overturn the decision

He suggested that the council donate the money to the mayoress' Christmas fund to pay her expenses

Council to move again on smoking

CT 18/12/92 (263)

Municipal Reporter

SMOKING is to be banned in at least half of every restaurant seating over 50 people in the Cape Town municipality, the council resolved yesterday

Mr Abe Katz said free enterprise did not give anyone the right to "play Russian roulette" with his health

"I don't want to be next to people endangering my life," he said

Mr Leon Markovitz said the way the by-law would operate would be via complaints People would only complain if they knew the law was on their side

The proposed ban was passed by 21 votes to three

However, the proposed ban has yet to be advertised for objections It will then be submitted to the Administrator, who has the power to veto it He has used this power before.

Last night restaurateurs reacted angrily to the ban, saying the move by the council was "disgusting"

Mr Aldo Girolo, chairman of the Cape restaurant guild, said "We are a service industry — we are not dictators who tell our patrons what to do

"I will refuse to enforce the ban

"The councillors just sit behind their desks and dictate nonsensical by-laws They cannot expect the restaurateurs to act as policemen"

Mr Albert Schuitmaker, assistant director of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce, said the council's decision was "disappointing"

"It should be up to the individual restaurant owners to decide whether to impose it or not," he said

There are exceptions to the ban Any restaurant "operated by any bona fide religious, political, cultural, charitable or sporting organisation" may apply to the council for an exemption

The Administrator had asked the restaurant trade to put their establishments in order when a ban was proposed a couple of years ago, but very few had

Spur group restaurants were among the 20 or so in Cape Town that he went to, and they were the only ones he knew that provided non-smoking areas

City councillor Mr Peter Muller said that in his experience, nine out of 10 restaurants did provide a non-smoking area on request

Mayor calls for a 'new' city

Municipal Reporter

THE days of revolution, of destructive criticism and of blaming everyone but oneself are over, mayor of Cape Town Mr Frank van der Velde said in his Christmas message yesterday.

"The time for creation, for lateral thinking, for building a new city and nation has arrived. Let us all pull together and do it."

Heated debate and walkout mars last council meeting

ARG 18/12/92

ANTHONY DOMAN
Staff Reporter

(263)

BITTER clashes turned into open rebellion against the mayor, followed by a walkout by outspoken Rondebosch councillor Mr Arthur Wienburg

Controversy has dogged Mr Wienburg in the past — and the final council meeting of 1993 was no exception He stormed out after refusing to bow to the mayor's order to withdraw a remark

Asked when he would return, he said "At the next council meeting"

Unrepentant, he pledged to continue his fight against "maladministration and mismanagement" in the council He said none of the points he made had been disputed

The walkout capped a day in which Mr Wienburg seemed to have had his say on just about every item on the agenda — and a few others besides He clashed several times with the chairman of the executive committee, senior councillors pleaded with him to be reasonable, and eventually Mayor Mr Frank van der Velde stepped in

Mr Wienburg had accused the executive committee of "bludgeoning" an issue through

"It is that sort of remark that gets councillors upset with you," Mr Van der Velde interjected The word "bludgeoned" implied something underhand and the chair thus ordered him to withdraw his remark

"I will not be bullied by you into accepting something that is not so," Mr Wienburg shot back

He was again ordered to withdraw the remark

That did it Muttering that he would rather leave than withdraw, he packed up and went

It was in the late afternoon that he had launched a swingeing assault on what he said was bad administration, in responding to a council report on issues he had raised

Public's say on liquor licences is being 'cleverly reduced'

Staff Reporter

THE public's say over the granting of liquor licences is being cleverly reduced, says town planning committee chairman Mr John Muir

He was commenting on an application for a licence in Wetton

Previously the Liquor Board had told the council about applications and these were advertised, he said Now a notice simply appeared in the Government Gazette

Interested parties were asked to respond to Pretoria or to a specified magistrate — not to the local authority The result was "spasmodic and individual letters", Mr Muir said

"Instead of participation being broadened, it is very cleverly being reduced"

Earlier, Mr Ian Iversen noted that the city planner had offered no objection to the application He asked what criteria this was based on

Mr Muir replied that the planner's response was based purely on zoning and building regulations

City seeks backing on its subsidy fears

Staff Reporter

THE next Cape Province Municipal Association congress in the Strand will be asked to endorse the council's concern over the cut in subsidies for nature reserves, libraries and services such as firefighting and roadbuilding (263) ARG 18/12/92

The council is to table a motion to this effect

However, much of the debate about this motion revolved around the actual usefulness of the CPMA as a forum

Dr John Sonnenberg said the association was a creature of the past "We should keep it at arm's length" The Major Cities Forum better represented Cape Town's interests

PE's leaders sign 'single city' accord

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HERG 18/12/92

PORT ELIZABETH — Political, industrial, commercial and civic leaders have signed a Single City Declaration of Intent here to bring about "the greatest degree of unity and stability in our city".

The declaration

- Affirms the role of industry, commerce, trade unions and other organisations that create wealth,
- Acknowledges that the final structures of local government will be negotiated nationally,
- Affirms that residents have both the right and obligation to be involved in the formulation of the city's system of government; and
- Upholds the principle of equality of opportunity and equality before the law for all people.

The signatories were the Afrikaanse Sakekamer, the ANC, the CPA, the Central Executive of the PE Ratepayers and Electors Association, the DP, the Midland Chamber of Industries, the NP, the PE Chamber of Commerce, the City Council and the Communist Party — Sapa

City's billing system will be ultimate council test

(263)

ARG 21/12/92

IT is one of the most frequent topics of letters to newspapers on municipal matters

City councillors have moaned about it

And yet, it does not exist

Perhaps one of the virtues of Administrator Mr Kobus Meiring's announcement that municipal elections are to be postponed until October 26, 1994, is that it will give the Cape Town City Council time to implement a consolidated billing system

Among the councillors who have addressed the issue — with mounting frustration — are Mr Gordon Oliver, Mr Rupert Hurly, and, perhaps most often, Mr Arthur Wienburg

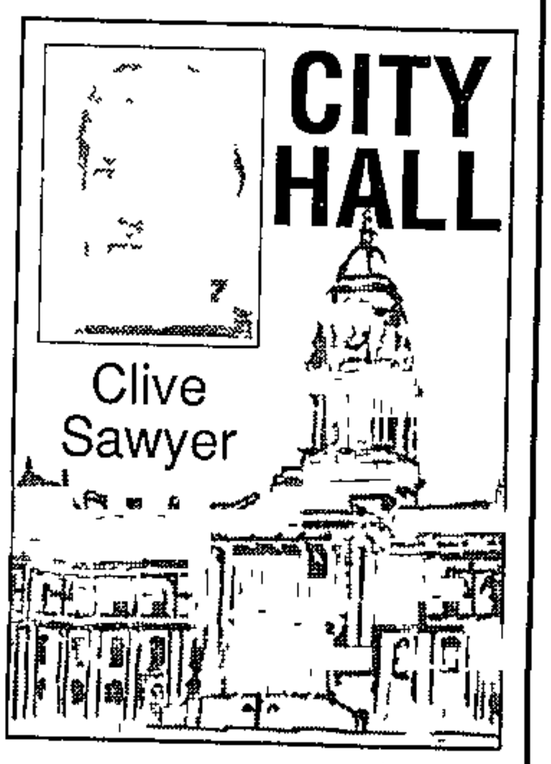
But, for more than 12 years, forests' worth of trees have been massacred for separate envelopes and separate accounts for electricity, rates, and water

The purchase of appropriate computer equipment is at the core of the issue and it has been wrangling over this that, in part, has contributed to the delay.

Earlier this year, mayor Mr Frank van der Velde said it seemed that available technology would just keep on getting better and better until nothing at all was done

Combined billing systems were one of the issues over which exco chairman Mr Louis Kreiner and Mr Wienburg exchanged salvoes in recent weeks

Mr Wienburg cited the lack of such a system as a sign of one of the ills in the city, to which Mr Kreiner replied that Mr Wienburg's ire was ironic because he had contributed to the delay



Mr Wienburg replied that he had saved the city from disaster by campaigning against spending over R10 million on a flawed system, for which he believed he should get credit — not flak for an unfair claim that he had delayed combined billing

The modern trend for computers was apparently for open systems, so that buyers of hardware were not bound to any particular brand of software, but could shop around — something a public body like the city council should be bound to do, to save money

The one the city council might have bought would have limited it to a package which was used in other cities like Johannesburg, with results about which opinions were divided

New technology being used by city councils in East London and Soweto had proved successful in terms of the aim of efficient consolidated billing..

In a strange way, the long delay in starting a consolidated billing system had enabled the city council to investigate and possibly get the benefit of new technology

But, no one could deny Cape Town had suffered years of an inefficient system, because somehow there was a lack of urgency, and the right resources were not available to the right people at the right time

Reducing the number of cheques by a significant fraction also might have made the work of the hard-pressed cash-office staff a little easier, too

One wonders in all these years of councillors and officials travelling to and fro to other centres, and to conferences, seminars and conferences, about anyone discussed combined billing in depth

Ratepayers in Revolt took the trouble to visit neighbouring municipalities, though I suspect the comparison between their treasury operations and those of the city council might not be fair because of the sheer differences of scale

But, that organisation has issued an interesting challenge Seeing as Mr Kreiner publicly compared allowances paid to councillors in other major cities with those in Cape Town, perhaps the same could be done with progress on consolidated billing systems?

The key questions, however, remain unanswered Why has the introduction of such a system, which would increase efficiency, save paper, time, and money, and presumably cause no job losses, taken so long?

In any large organisation, staff tend to develop resistance to change, and this is particularly so when it comes to bureaucracies and set procedures

I am not saying staff deliberately delayed the implementation of the system in one way or another, because I think that would be an unfair charge

The real answer might lie in the relationship between councillors and officials

It has become a familiar saw that the corporate management team, and not the councillors, actually runs the city, that this committee of department heads is the real locus of power

This is not really true, because power actually lies in the hands of a powerful allegiance between top councillors and officials There should be nothing sinister about that, because teamwork at the top is expected for the good of the city

If the explanation was that there was resistance to change and councillors accepted whatever they were told, or time elapsed between the issue being raised was so long that the concept of a combined billing system slipped their minds, it would be sad

But, if councillors failed to campaign actively for something achievable, which could have saved the city money — and technology enabling combined billing was not invented yesterday — it is an issue that whoever remains to seek re-election next year or the year after that, may have to face on the hustings.

Zimbabwe's inflation rate softens

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CT 30/12/92

HARARE. — Zimbabwe's inflation rate is projected to drop below 25% this month, Finance Minister Bernard Chidzero said yesterday

He said on a quarterly annualised basis inflation, which rose from 47,9% in March to a peak of 59% in June 1992 and declined to 51,4% in September would be less than 25% in December

"The decline in inflation is likely to be sustainable, especially in the light of the fact that most of the programmed public enterprise price adjustments under the economic reform programme have been effected during 1992 and that future price increases would, therefore, mainly be limited to levels reflecting cost structure changes"

Chidzero said the slowdown in money supply growth and inflation should see interest rates softening to levels supportive of investment — Sapa

Zimbabwe 'hit list' revealed

BULAWAYO — Politicians in Matabeleland say they are living in fear of being killed by hit squads following the discovery of a secret document which outlines plans to eliminate Ndebele leaders who are considered a threat to the state.

The secret document was allegedly intercepted by three former officials of Mr Joshua Nkomo's dufunct Zapu party.

According to the three, who wished to remain anonymous, the document contains names of politicians and intellectuals targeted for assassination.

The list included the chairman of the Ndebele Cultural Organisation, Mr George Moyo, and the late Mr Mthandazo Mgwenya, an official of the pressure group the Open Forum. CT 31/12/92

Mr Mgwenya was killed in a car accident after he and Mr Moyo received death threats. He was the third Open Forum member to die in a car accident.

● Two former Zapu commanders, Mr Joseph Dube and Mr Smile Madubeko, were expelled from the provincial committee of the ruling Zanu Party for being a security risk. — Sapa