



RATLOU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

THE NEW MAYOR'S INAUGURAL GREETINGS SPEECH: CLLR. RONALD JAFTA: RATLOU LOCAL MUNICIPAL CHAMBER: 22 NOVEMBER 2021: 10:00

“THE NEW DAWN AND PROMISING FUTURE “

Thank you honourable speaker;

Honourable councillors;

Leaders of various denominations;

His worship the magistrate;

The Municipal Manager and Management;

Representatives of all stakeholder departments present here today;

Representative from various community organisations;

Chapter 9 institutions such SA Auditor General; IEC and SALGA representatives within our mist;

Community leaders;



Dikgosikgolo le Dikgosana tsa rona;

Baagi ba gaetsho

Ladies and gentlemen;

I am truly honoured to be given this opportunity to address these distinguished guests and members of our community who has could join us for our very first inauguration council meeting. I wish to acknowledge everyone`s presence here today!!! Starting with the people we represent in this council, which is our community, representatives from various stakeholder departments, organisations, interest groups and all the community leaders whom deemed it befitting for them to come and bear witness to this historic and important event.

My grateful and sincere thanks also goes to the municipal leadership team, for putting hard work and countless hours to ensure that this smooth transition finally take place. I thank you for also for having designed this inaugural celebration befitting of our wonderful community amid the times of the new normal (COVID-19). I look forward to working with all of you in the coming weeks, months and years to the end of our term of office.

Very special thanks to our community and electorates` from various constituencies for having trust and believing in us. Our community has once again entrusted us with responsibility and accountability in as far as service delivery is consent and for that we are saying thank you so much.

To my family, who have supported me throughout my life`s journey and even when I took this decision to become one of the councillors for this coming five years and the organisation on whose ticket I am here and off-



Couse fellow colleagues whom I will have to serve with in this council, I want to commit before you here today, that I will serve my community to the best of my ability. I am grateful of all of you that are here today to share in this occasion. I know this magnificent event will go a long way into the dustbin of our history!

When I was nominated for Mayoral ship of this council, I graciously accepted the invitation. I am prepared to serve and build on my career working with you here as a collective, I will serve here, as the People’s Mayor of the Ratlou.

In the beginning of November 2021, the people voted for change to support the growth and development of our community, creation of safer and conducive environment to attract investment, job creation and the prosperity of our future. As your Mayor, I humbly accept the challenge to lead our community, to fulfil our incredible potential, as we take this bold step to become the 2021 to 2026 political oversight leadership of Ratlou Local Municipality.

Ladies and gentlemen; this I will not do alone. I am confident that I lead a team of not only capable but professional men and women of high stature and integrity “And I tell you that is what makes us better. We will be more vibrant when we work collaboratively.” I am looking forward to working with our Councillors, public and private Committees, community leaders, all stakeholder structures and NGOs in local government.

Furthermore as council we are all counting on you, the people of Ratlou, to participate in our activities more especially those that seeks to develop the community, hold us accountable, and assist us in solving the challenges that will arise as we adjust to being a better governed municipality. As a community, we can agree to disagree, but we also know that compromise brings cooperation. The goal is to build a cohesive and best small rural municipality in the Province and the country.



So partnership is where we start. We need to revive all the partnerships and start new ones where necessary. It should not matter what part of Ratlou you live in or what political party, church or denomination you belong to – service delivery is expected throughout our community. I look forward to working together with our community leaders, business and Municipal administration and the District Municipality as we embrace and enforce the new District Development Model initiative. As Helen Keller said, “Alone we can do so little. Together we can do so much!”

My vision for Ratlou is possible through all of you, in other words it involves all of you and what happens from this day going forward is something we will shape together. Every resident, business and state entity in Ratlou has a seat at our table and I am honoured to sit at the top of that table and lead us forward.

Honourable Councillors; I do not want to make a long speech; all I wanted was to greet you, our honoured guests and our community members. Lastly but not least, let me take this opportunity to thank the outgoing council for the job well done during their term of office. Amid all the challenges they were faced with, they managed to put together service delivery projects and commit a budget toward completion of those unfinished major projects. I acknowledged the handover report from the administration and we will study the report as we begin with our job. However, I must here state that we will continue where they left to complete the outstanding projects. As council we will conduct a thorough assessment and consideration into the viability of such projects and make a decision as to whether we need to reprioritise certain projects and review the budget and the IDP against the current community needs where we deemed it necessary.

“The work has just began! Tiro e simolotse baagaetsho!”

KEALEBOGA! I THANK YOU! SIYABONGA! INKOSI! KEALEBOHA! BAAI DANKIE!

