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20th November, 1964.

THE ESTIMATES

The estimates of Income and Expenditure of the Municipality for the year 1965 were considered by the Council at the special meeting called for the purpose and held on Tuesday, 17th November, 1964. They were ably presented by the Deputy Mayor and Chairman of Finance, Dr. J. C. de Wet, by now a veteran of great experience in these matters, certainly in full command of all the details of the various accounts that Municipalities must keep and with a very clear idea of what the resources of our Municipality permit us to undertake and also of when it is necessary to apply the pruning knife to the lists of works submitted. Many of these works we would love to undertake. They have been discussed for a long time but have had to be postponed time and again.

I was impressed by the great stability of our finances as revealed by the figures for the period 1959-1964 contained in the Town Treasurer's report to Council. It is natural that with the growth of the Town income and expenditure should increase and that there would be fluctuations in regard to various items within the general pattern. They are always easy to explain and never take on dimensions which could cause anxiety.

When referring to the stability which our accounts reveal I do not wish to create the impression that we are static or that new undertakings are excluded. In 1965, for instance, the Council is joining the Provincial Library Service which will become quite a considerable item of additional expenditure. The advantages of the scheme are obvious as I have mentioned in a previous issue.

From the figures presented by the Chairman it appears that the Municipality is budgeting for a total expenditure of approximately R1,500,000 on the main accounts, namely the general account, the electricity account, the housing account and the Bantu Affairs account. Summaries will be published quite soon in terms of the requirements of the Ordinance and naturally the public is welcome to inspect the accounts in detail.

The main sources of income to meet the expenditure are charges which are raised for the various Municipal services such as water, sewerage disposal, refuse removal and electricity supply.

We must mainly rely on income from these sources as at

the present rate, direct taxation only covers about 10% of our expenditure.

After the income from service charges has been taken into consideration there is a shortfall of some R223,000. The income from the immovable property rate is estimated at R153,000.

The Municipality intends to keep the rate at the present level of .83c in the Rand. The Council feels that it need not increase the rates at present as it can draw on a surplus which may tide it over a number of years. Ultimately the rates may have to be increased unless the so-called trading accounts can produce more revenue, as they are likely to do, as the town develops.

Considerable capital expenditure will have to be incurred during the next few years — some revenue producing and some not. Interest and redemption will be partly set off by the expiry of the periods for which some loans have been granted.

The Council proposes to spend the amounts mentioned hereunder on non-productive services:

Library	-	-	-	-	-	-	R 10,000
Contributions to the revolving fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,000
Town Hall	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,200
Fire Brigade	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,000
Traffic Control	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,400
Streets and stormwater drainage	-	-	-	-	-	-	78,200
Public Works — miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,000
Health Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	22,000
Parks and streets beautification	-	-	-	-	-	-	25,000

R213,800

The final draft of the Estimates can now be prepared for submission to a special meeting of the Council which will be held on 8th December at which no new items of expenditure may be added and at which the owner's rate will have to be levied for 1965.

DR. G. D. REITZ

It appears that I have inadvertently conveyed in my most recent review the impression that Dr. Reitz is retiring as a medical practitioner. The Mayoral Review is, however, devoted to matters affecting the Municipality and it is from this point of view that I considered that Dr. Reitz should be thanked for what he has done for Stellenbosch in his capacity as our Medical Officer of health. I was well aware that Dr. Reitz was continuing his practice and I hope that he will be spared to do so for many years to come.

VALUATIONS

The Council has been informed that the valuation court will sit to consider the interim valuation for the Municipality of Stellenbosch for the year 1964 on Wednesday, the 2nd December, 1964.

Furthermore that the general valuation of all property within the Municipality, that is of land and buildings will be undertaken next year so that the date of the valuation will be the 1st January, 1965.

27 November 1964.

OPENBARE VERGADERING INSAKE MUNISIPALE AANGELEENTHEDE

Ek vestig die aandag van die lesers wat miskien nie gereeld die advertensiekolomme lees nie, op die vergadering van Munisipale kiesers wat op Woensdag, 2 Desember 1964 in die Banketsaal, Stadhuis, Stellenbosch, om 8 nm. gehou sal word ten einde sekere leningsvoorstelle van die Stadsraad te oorweeg. Die lenings tot 'n totale bedrag van R330,000 waarvoor goedkeuring gevra sal word is bedoel vir behuising, riolering, waterverskaffing, elektrisiteit en om 'n sekere bedrag by wyse van 'n lening tot beskikking van die Gholfklub te stel vir verbeterings. Die lenings vir behuising sluit in onder andere 12 woonstelle vir blankes te La Colline en 20 wonings vir Kleurlinge te Botmanskopweg.

Aansienlike bedrae is bedoel vir riolering, waterverskaffing en elektrisiteit vir die groepsgebied Cloetesdal.

Dit is die bedoeling om onmiddellik na afloop van die gemelde vergadering 'n openbare vergadering van belangstellendes te hou ten einde verdere sake van algemene belang, te bespreek, nl.:

1. Moontlike daarstelling van Munisipale swembad.
Onthou sal word dat na aanleiding van die vergadering van kiesers wat op 11 Maart 1964 gehou is, 'n komitee benoem is om die saak nader te ondersoek.
Die komitee se verslag sal voorgelê word.
2. Verkeersprobleme:
 - (a) Parkeermeters;
 - (b) Verkeersligte.
3. Voorgestelde hersonering van die Neethlingshof-eiendom in Van Ryneveldstraat.

DIE BLOEDOORTAPPINGSDIENS

Verlede naweek het my eggenote en ek die voorreg gehad om 'n gesellige partytjie by te woon wat deur die plaaslike tak van die Bloedoortappingsdiens gereël is om die jaar se werksaamhede af te sluit. Mnr. Hennie Lubbe, voorsitter van die tak, het die talle vrywillige werkers wat by die verskillende klinieke waar bloed getap word bedank vir hulle dienste die afgelope jaar en daarop gewys dat die goeie ondersteuning van die verlede vanjaar gehandhaaf is sodat meer as 3,000 pinte bloed geskenk is. Vier spanne vrywilligers van elf persone elk is om die beurt op diens by die klinieke wat in die United-Bouvereniging se gebou gehou word en sonder die hulp van hierdie goeie mense sou die lewensbelangrike diens nie voortgesit kon word nie. Besondere woorde van dank is onder andere tot die sekretaresse, mev. Vlok, gerig vir die ywer en toewyding waarmee sy haar pligte nakom.

Ons bring graag hulde aan mnr. Lubbe en al sy gewillige helpers wat die afgelope jaar daarvoor gesorg het dat die Bloedtappingsdiens op 'n hoë peil gehandhaaf is. Daarmee het hulle ook hulle hydrae gelewer om talle lewens te red. Ook dink ons aan mnr. N. van Blerk wat jarelank voorsitter van die tak was en bring ons graag dankbare hulde aan hom.

Veral verblydend is die feit dat daar nou ook 'n ywerige Kleurlingkomitee onder voorsitterskap van mnr. W. J. Sims is wat die diens onder ons bruinmense organiseer. Ook teenoor hulle betuig ons hoë waardering vir die goeie begin wat hulle gemaak het. Ons hoop dat meer skenkers gedurende 1965 sal opdaag om hulle vir hulle arbeid en geesdrif te beloon.

Ten slotte wil ek net daarop wys dat die diens in die United-gebou gedurende die vakansie voortgesit word, en waar die studente, die grootste ondersteuners van die Kliniek, nie hier sal wees nie, wil ons 'n beroep op die publiek en die talle besoekers maak om hulle dienste aan te bied. Ons moet onthou dat bloed gedurende die vakansie maande in selfs groter voorrade nodig is as gedurende ander tye van die jaar.

LEIBEURTE

Ek wil net daarop wys dat leibeurte volgens rooster weer voortaan gehandhaaf sal word. Die waterfiskaal, mnr. Bosman, is reeds op diens. Ons sal dit waardeer as die mense wat op leiwateregeregig is, hulle streng aan die indeling van beurte sal hou.

4th December, 1964.

THE UNIVERSITY SWIMMING BATH

I am pleased to be able to draw attention to the fact that the University has kindly agreed to lease the Coetzenburg swimming bath to the Council over the summer holidays for the period 14th December, 1964 to 13th February, 1965. Arrangements have been made for supervision and during the period I have mentioned the public of Stellenbosch will have the first right to use the bath and any special events will require the blessing of the Council. No special privilege will be granted in any case between 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. The bath will not be open to the public on Sundays, Christmas Day and the Day of the Covenant.

The bath will be open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays. Admission is free from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. After 5 p.m. adults will have to pay 5c per person and children of school-going age 2½c each, whether they were already in the bath before 5 p.m. or not. The small bath will be reserved for children and for those that cannot swim.

As the supervisors are expected to give their undivided attention to what is going on in the bath, they will not be allowed to give swimming lessons or take part in water polo or similar activities whilst they are on duty.

I sincerely hope that the public and especially the young people, will make good use of the bath and co-operate by observing the rules.

TRAFFIC ARRANGEMENTS

I have been asked to draw attention to the fact that the portion of Church Street between Bird and Mill Streets which used to be a double carriage way, has now been changed to a one-way street allowing traffic only from Bird Street to Mill Street. There will thus be no direct access to Church Street from Mill Street, and people wishing to travel in that direction will have to go via the post office circle.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS

The main sewer which is to serve the lower lying areas of Dalsig is slowly progressing southwards. Unfortunately the trenching has to be done under very difficult conditions and it is for instance, impossible to work without shuttering.

Due to circumstances it has been impossible to proceed with the development of Union Park as far as actual construction work is concerned. The preparatory work is extensive and great care has to be devoted to it so that when roads are made and services are laid on, no unforeseen snags are encountered. All those interested may be assured, however, that everything possible will be done to expedite matters.

In connection with the housing schemes for the Idas Valley Extension Townships construction is progressing favourably as an inspection of the site reveals. The work is being organised in such a way that anything directly connected with the pipelines that are being laid is finished immediately so that the contractors for the actual buildings should find that their work is plain sailing.

As far as the extensive Cloetesdal scheme for the Coloured group is concerned, the Council is involved in discussions with the National Housing Commission regarding the financial aspects of the scheme and their impact on the ratepayers of Stellenbosch.

Our main road scheme has been submitted to the roads department of the Provincial Administration. It is no easy matter to find a solution which is acceptable to everybody.

It must be borne in mind that we have a small engineering personnel which has to cope with new schemes as well as the routine maintenance of the many municipal undertakings of our town.

PRECAUTIONS AGAINST FIRES

I am very glad that this season we have not experienced any serious fires. In the past it has been very gratifying to note that the public of Stellenbosch and the surrounding areas, has co-operated fully with the Council. Actual fires and cases where it was not certain whether controlled burning was taking place have been reported immediately. The Council is maintaining its lookout in the tower on top of Papegaaisberg

which is connected by phone to the Municipal offices. Nevertheless, I wish to appeal to the public to maintain its interests in the prevention of fires as in the past.

This reminds me that it has been brought to my notice that all sections of the community are displaying a great deal of civic sense and civic pride. Many of their actions show that they have the interest of the Municipality as a whole at heart. Burst watermains and dangerous and undesirable conditions are frequently reported in cases where the person reporting is not personally involved or affected. May all this lead to a state of affairs where people will think twice before committing acts of vandalism.

CHRISTMAS TREES

As in former years the Council is prepared also this year to provide Christmas trees to local residents at a price of 50c each. As a result of difficulties that have been experienced in the past, deliveries will no longer be made at individual addresses, but the trees will be available at the depot of the Forestry Department at Beltana (Simonsberg Street) on namely, the 21st to the 23rd of December.

It would greatly assist if all interested in obtaining a Christmas tree would book their orders well in advance at the Municipal Offices by paying the charge of 50c. The receipt must be presented at the depot when delivery of the tree is taken. Orders should be placed not later than Friday the 18th December, 1964.

10 Desember 1964.

DIE EINDE VAN NOG 'N JAAR

Op 8 Desember het die Stadsraad sy laaste vergadering van die jaar gehou. Etlike raadslede sal in die volgende weke elders gaan vakansie hou en daarom is besluit om die eerste vergadering in 1965 op Donderdag, 28 Januarie te hou. Intussen sal 'n Komitee van raadslede wat op Stellenbosch is, dringende sake soos byvoorbeeld bouplanne, afhandel.

EIENDOMSBELASTING

Ons het tevore besonderhede van ons munisipale begroting vir 1965 verstrek. Op die vergadering van die Raad van 8 Desember is die begroting finaal bekragtig en is daar ook besluit om die eiendomsbelasting weer op .83c in die Rand vas te stel. Die belasting sal op 15 Maart 1965 gehef word en is betaalbaar voor of op 14 Junie 1965, daarna word rente gehef.

Diensgelde daarenteen sal op 1 April 1965 betaalbaar wees en daarna word rente in berekening gebring.

ELEKTRISITEITSREKENINGS

Aan die talle inwoners van ons dorp wat op die punt staan om vakansie te gaan hou wil ons net daarop wys dat elektrisiteitsrekenings normaalweg nie later as die 15de van elke maand betaalbaar is nie. Dit geld ook vir die vakansie maande en uit-

stel is onmoontlik omdat dit teenstrydig met ons regulasies sou wees. Om nou te voorkom dat 'n verbruiker 'n toeslag van 10% op sy rekening kry omdat hy teen die 15de van die maand nog nie terug op Stellenbosch is nie, wil ons aan die hand doen dat sodanige persone 'n deposito-inbetaal by die Stadstesourier, gebaseer op hulle gemiddelde maandelikse elektrisiteitsrekening. Finale regstelling van die betrokke rekening kan dan later geskied.

ONS NUWE MEDIESE GESONDHEIDSBEAMPTTE

By ons vergadering van 8 Desember het raadslede en senior amptenare die voorreg gehad om ons nuwe Mediese Gesondheidsbeampte, dr. Johan Bester, te ontmoet en te verwelkom.

Ons is oortuig daarvan dat die goeie samewerking wat daar tussen dr. Reitz en die Raad geheers het, nou ook met dr. Bester voortgesit sal word. Ons wens hom graag 'n aangename dienstydperk toe.

Tot ons spyt kon dr. Reitz by dieselfde geleentheid nie teenwoordig wees nie. Daar is egter gewag gemaak van die uitstekende dienste wat hy aan ons dorp en gemeenskap oor 'n tydperk van 40 jaar gelewer het.

KLEURLINGSPOORT

Op Saterdag, 5 Desember het amptenare van die Departement van Kleurlingsake, by geleentheid van 'n klein funksie in die Raadsaal, 'n tjek vir R2,000 aan die Stadsraad oorhandig, as 'n eerste bydrae tot die daarstelling van sportgeriewe vir ons Kleurlinggemeenskap. Lede van die Raad van Beheer oor Kleurlingsport was ook teenwoordig.

Die Onderburgemeester, dr. J. C. de Wet het die bedrag in ontvangs geneem en waardering betuig vir die pragtige hulp wat Kleurlingsake in hierdie verband verleen. Met hierdie en ander gelde wat reeds beskikbaar is kan die nuwe sportterrein waar alle sportsoorte uiteindelik gehuisves sal wees, daadwerklik aangepak word. Die gelykmaak van die terrein, aanplant van gras en omheining van die gronde sal eerste aandag geniet.

18th December, 1964.

THE MUNICIPAL CONGRESS.

The next Congress of the Cape Province Municipal Association will be held in Cape Town from 3rd to 7th May, 1965. The Deputy-Mayor, Councillor Dr. J. C. de Wet and Councillor C. W. Marais will be the Council's delegates. They will be accompanied by the Town Clerk. I shall be attending as the President of the Association.

BUILDING ACTIVITIES.

According to statistics available to me at this stage, for the period 1st January to 30th November 1964, 367 plans to an estimated value of R3,049,600 have been passed. Residential buildings to the value of R961,000 are included in this amount which I think compares favourably with last year.

The total value of building plans passed in 1963, amounted to R2,394,380 which is considerably less than the amount for the first eleven months of this year.

A final comparison can, however, only be made when the statistics for the whole of 1964 become available — probably in January 1965.

THE YEAR 1964 AND THE FUTURE.

After this review has appeared, the year will be rapidly approaching its close. The festive season is at hand. It is a time to review the past and get ready to face the future.

For Stellenbosch the year 1964 has been an eventful and important one, as I pointed out at the most recent Council meeting. The problems of Municipalities are getting more complicated if anything; when it comes to major issues, such as housing schemes, new townships, road schemes, the implementation of the Group Areas Act etc., Councils are largely dependent on the approval of senior authorities — the Province and the Government. This is natural as Municipalities have to be subsidised by these authorities.

The fact remains that progress is rarely spectacular in spite of the very hard work done by the Council. Seldom can a problem be dealt with singly — one is inclined to think that it is a peculiarity of Stellenbosch that any issue immediately affects the town as a whole.

I am, however, happy to be able to say that the Council has lived up to the old Stellenbosch tradition, namely that differences of opinion are not taken out of the Council Chamber and allowed to affect personal relationships. As I said in my closing words to the December meeting of the Council, I was deeply grateful to my fellow-councillors for the courteous support and co-operation which they have always extended to me. I feel I owe a special word of thanks to the Deputy-Mayor, Dr. J. C. de Wet. I cannot thank him enough for the way in which he has invariably stepped into the breach and deputised for me when necessary.

My thanks also go to the Town Clerk, Mr. M. J. Smith and all his officials, in whatever Department they may be employed, for their unwavering support, also to the representatives of the press who have attended our meetings.

It is my earnest hope that the year 1965 will see us progressing well in our desire to help Stellenbosch to develop as it should and to make it a sound, strong and well balanced community.

With all this in mind I close this Mayoral Review for 1964 with my very best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year to all the people of our town.

W. C. DEMPSEY.