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MEDIA RELEASE: COURT CASE ON REMOVAL OF MUNICIPAL ASSETS BY SHERIFF MUNICIPAL WORKERS RETIREMENT FUND / BLUE CRANE ROUTE MUNICIPALITY

- 1. Following my media release on the above subject matter on 3 May 2024, I wish to update the public further as follows:
 - 1.1 that the municipality have paid the Workers Retirement Pension Fund the capital of R3.8 million as well as the municipal calculated interest of R8.4 million;
 - 1.2 the Retirement Fund still thereafter persisted with it's claim that a further amount of R22 million is still outstanding in respect of interest, which amount is disputed by the municipality;
 - 1.3 consequently, the urgent High Court Application was heard in Makhanda on Tuesday 8 May 2024;
 - 1.4 the Honourable Judge Rugunanan who presided over the matter thereafter indicated that he will deliver his Judgment in respect of the stay of the warrant of execution by no later than Tuesday 21 May 2024, whereafter my further update will follow.
- 2. Meanwhile, the position is that the sheriff is still in possession of municipal goods and pending the Court's decision on 21 May 2024.
- 3. The municipality remains positive to the outcome of the High Court Application and are in any event in consultation with Provincial Government in an attempt to find an amicable solution to the problem.
- 4. I therefor request the general public to remain calm whilst awaiting the High Court outcome.

Yours faithfully

MUNICIPAL MANAGER: MZWANDILE PATRICK NINI 09 MAY 2024