

‘Queenstown Express’ readers have their say

Enoch Mgijima Local Municipality Mayor Sisisi Tolashe will be delivering her state of the municipality address (SOMA) today, May 31. ‘Queenstown Express’ correspondent ZINTLE BOBELO asked residents what some of the issues are that they as locals would like to hear addressed?

■ **Thandolwethu Hayiya:** I hope the address will focus on the youth because there are so many young people who are not doing anything. It would be nice if there could be more exposure in the form of mentorships for the youth in management, particularly on issues relating to the municipality. In our town, we have deserving students who do not have the means to go to university, so, I hope the municipality could focus on trying to assist such learners.

■ **Ididi Gueedi:** The mayor must address the issue of a lack of service delivery, the bad roads, unemployment, corruption and nepotism. As a resident of Ezibeleni, there is no service delivery on that side for basic things such as electricity and water. So, the municipality needs to deliver.

■ **Nonceba Mgwebi:** I would like the mayor to address crime. The street lights are not working; we are scared to even walk home from school because of the high rate of crime in our areas. Also, there are a lot of graduates who are without jobs. I hope the mayor will also address the issue of unemployment and come up

with projects that will be sustainable.

■ **Thobeka Matsam:** I am a business woman. I hope the focus will be more on how local businesses will be supported. More tenders should be issued in our municipality, tenders that will only benefit our locals and not outsiders. Also, the issue of our roads and the ageing infrastructure should be addressed.

■ **Vusumzi Skweyiya:** The mayor should address the terrible state of our roads, especially for us motorists. Secondly, the issues of unemployment and drug abuse are currently dominating in our areas. The youth are without jobs. I hope that the mayor will address these challenges.

■ **Loyiso Ngculu:** First, we all know that municipal assets have been impounded. We want to find out what the recovery plan is on getting these assets back. Secondly, how will the municipality pay back Eskom? Also, I hope the mayor will touch on the issue of the Integrated Development Plan. Thirdly, we want to hear a clear plan on how money will be spent. Give a clear definition of what Expanded Public Works Programme is for locals.



Thandolwethu Hayiya.



Ididi Gueedi.



Nonceba Mgwebi.



Thobeka Matsam.



Vusumzi Skweyiya.



Loyiso Ngculu.