

Hindjou reelected Okahandja mayor

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Okahandja town councillors on Friday afternoon voted for portfolio holders after several postponements since late last year.

Congo Hindjou was declared the mayor amidst objections from his rival councillor Sophia Upithe who wanted the council to observe the directives of the Swapo Secretary General (SG).

Swapo SG Sophia Shaningwa last year told the party's Otjozondjupa leadership to not vote incumbent mayor Hindjou back into that position and to replace him with his deputy, Upithe.

Hileni Ita was declared deputy mayor and Gideon Uwuchaeb as chairperson of management committee.

In a dramatic twist of events Upithe was nominated by Popular Democratic Movement (PDM) councillor Sylvia Karuombe and seconded by Fredrick Shimanda of United Democratic Front (UDF).

However, Upithe declined the nomination saying she will not accept a nomination from an opposition party. She said it was a plot from her fellow councillors to implicate her against her party and its directives.

District Magistrate Khaeprimus Swartz sworn them in.

Helmi Maruru also sworn in as member of the management committee.

The remaining management committee portfolio was left vacant as Sophia Upithe again declined nomination for that position.