

Ref : CM 1/2021
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Wednesday, 02nd December 2020

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING FOR THE ELECTION OF
OFFICE BEARERS OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE CONFERENCE HALL,
ONGWEDIVA TRADE FAIR CENTRE ON
WEDNESDAY, 02ND DECEMBER 2020 AT 14H00**



PRESENT:

Magistrate Toini Shilongo - Presiding Magistrate
Councillor Taarah Shalyefu
Councillor Ulalia Katonyala
Councillor Naemi Amuthenu
Councillor Jona Helao
Councillor Ottilie Haitota
Councillor Kaarena Shikongo
Councillor Fabiam George

IN ATTENDANCE

Mr. D. Egumbo - Chief Executive
Ms. L Nghuulikwa - Executive Support Service Officer
Members of Public

CM 01/2021 OPENING BY PRAYER

Father Taarah Shalyefu opened the meeting with a prayer after a short scripture.

CM 02/2021 WELCOMING REMARKS BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr Damian Egumbo welcomed everyone in attendance, with the special thanks to the Magistrate Toini Shilongo, Councillors elect, staff members, members of the public and media contingents for responding favourably to the invitations.

All official correspondence must be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer

CM 03/2021 NOTICE FOR CONVENING THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING

The Presiding Officer, Magistrate Toini Shilongo of Oshakati Magistrate read the notice for convening the meeting in terms of Section 12 (1) and 22 (1) of the Local Authority Act 23 of 1992 as amended.

CM 04/2021 APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE

None all members were in attendance.

CM 05/2021 ELECTION PROCEDURES

Presiding Magistrate explained to the councillors and those in attendance how the elections of the office-bearers will be conducted in filling the vacant positions of a mayor, deputy Mayor and members of Management committee. Further, that the ballot papers and ballot box had been prepared and ready should it become necessary for a vote(s) and no debate is allowed. All the Councillors confirmed that they understood the procedures and decorum.

CM 06/2021 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

CM 06.1/2021 NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

Chairperson called for nomination and Councillor (Cllr) Taarah Shalyefu was nominated as a candidate for the election as Mayor of Ongwediva Town by Cllr. Fabiam George. He accepted the nomination and seconded by Cllr. Ulalia Nghilongwa. Magistrate Shilongo called for second nomination of the same vacancy and in the absence of any further nominations, the Presiding Magistrate Shilongo declared Cllr. Taarah Shalyefu as the duly elected as Mayor of Ongwediva Town.

CM 06.2/2021 NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr. Ulalia Nghilongwa was nominated by Cllr. Naemi Amuthenu, after she consented to such nomination, she was seconded by Taarah Shalyefu. In the absence of any further nominations, she was declared by Presiding Magistrate Shilongo as duly elected Deputy Mayor of the Town of Ongwediva.

**CM 06.3/2021 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF THE THREE MEMBERS
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF ONGWEDIVA TOWN COUNCIL**

Cllr. Jona Helao was nominated by Cllr. Otilie Haitota candidate for first member of the Management Committee, He accepted the nomination and was seconded by Cllr. Kaarena Shikongo. In the absence of any further nominations, the Presiding Magistrate Shilongo declared Cllr. Jona Helao as duly elected member of the Management Committee of Council.

Magistrate Shilongo proceeded with the request for the nomination of the second member of the Management Committee. Cllr. Ualia Nghilongwa nominated Cllr. Naemi Amuthenu to be a member of the Management Committee, Cllr. Naemi Amuthenu accepted the nomination and Cllr. Taarah Shalyefu seconded her nomination.

In the absence of any further nominations, the Presiding Magistrate Shilongo declared Cllr. Naemi Amuthenu as duly elected member of the Management Committee of Council.

Magistrate Shilongo proceeded with the request for the nomination of the third and final member of the Management Committee. Cllr. Naemi Amuthenu nominated Cllr. Fabiam George to be a member of the Management Committee and Cllr. Fabiam George gave consent to the nomination. Cllr. Ualia Nghilongwa seconded his nomination.

Magistrate Shilongo proceeded with the request for further nomination of the third and final member of the Management Committee. Cllr. Kaarena Shikongo was proposed to serve as a member of the Management Committee by Cllr. Jona Helao. She gave her consent and Cllr. Otilie Haitota seconded her nomination.

Since there were 2 candidates nominated for the same vacancy, the Presiding Officer magistrate Shilongo explain to the team that ballot papers will be prepared and secret voting process will be undertaken.

Ballot papers were made with Cllr. Kaarena Shikongo against Cllr. Fabiam George. All 7 councillors were give the ballot papers. The Magistrate opened the ballot box and showed the team that there were nothing inside. She explained how to cast the vote by closing in the box next to their preferred candidate and how to fold the ballot paper. She proceeded calling in individual councilors to insert their ballot papers in ballot box. After all the 7 councillor's casted their votes, Magistrate Shilongo opened the box and count the vote casted in favor of each candidate.

Cllr. Fabiam George received 4 votes against Cllr. Kaarena Shikongo who scored 3 votes. Magistrate Shilongo declared Cllr. Fabiam George as duly elected third member of the Management Committee of Council.

CM 07/2021 OATH BY ALL ELECTED OFFICE-BEARERS

The Presiding magistrate after confirming from elected office-bearers that they understand the content of the oath and have no objection to take the prescribed oath and consider same to be binding to their consciences, she administered the oath individually.

- “The Presiding Officer, Your Worship, Magistrate Toini Shilongo
- The SWAPO Party Regional Coordinator, Comrade Samuel Nelongo and the entire leadership;
- The SWAPO Party Ongwediva District Coordinator, Comrade Johannes Shitundeni and the entire leadership;
- The Regional Councillor of Ongwediva Constituency, Honourable Andreas Uutoni;
- Honourable Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ulalia Nghilongwa;
- Elected Members of the Management Committee of Ongwediva Town Council;
- Honourable Councillors present;
- The Chief Executive Officer of Ongwediva Town Council Mr. Damian Egumbo and the team;
- Distinguished Members of various Advisory Committees of Council;
- Distinguished Invited Guest;
- Esteemed Members of the Community of Ongwediva Town;
- Members of the Media;
- Ladies and Gentlemen

Good afternoon,

I am honoured and indeed humbled to represent our great town of Ongwediva as a seventh Mayor of Ongwediva Town.

At the onset I wish to greet you all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

I am extremely honoured to be given this opportunity to serve as the Mayor, an honour which I fully understand comes with responsibilities as you have entrusted me.

Our town is one of the efficiently managed with limited resources in the region and I do believe there is still room for improvement.

With the calibre that we have politically and administratively, I believe together we can do more. In fact, I would like to extend a hand of appreciation on behalf of the incoming team, our predecessors for paving the way and indeed for having worked to attain the Ongwediva we see today.

I am aware of a number of challenges that we are confronted with and I believe through participatory governance we shall overcome such challenges collectively. The most important tool is listening to the voices of the community at large and respond appropriately by bringing Council work closer to all our people (accountability and transparency is critical in this regard). Therefore, we are charged with a responsibility to Inform residents of things we have managed to do (implement) and those that could not be delivered, giving reasons as to why some were not delivered.

As your new Mayor I commit to play a meaningful contribution in overseeing the implementation of Council projects as mandated by the Local Authorities Act 23 of 1992. We shall strive to ensure that land is availed and serviced with basic conveniences such as water, sewer and electricity among others.

Our target to strengthen relations and create new ones shall be attained within the period of office accorded to us, hence my appeal to all stakeholders to work together with us in the best interest of Ongwediva residents.

I want to express my willingness to interact with stakeholders at all levels namely; businesses, individual residents and organized groups, ratepayers, academic institutions, government and nongovernmental organizations as well as various utility companies. The aim is to build a strong bond and serve our community well. Further, our interactions aim to shape the direction that we must take in tackling challenges within our Town Council.

Fellow councilors, brothers and sisters, allow me to take this opportunity to thank the SWAPO Party leadership for entrusting me with this responsibilities.

I urge every one of us to keep up their hard work as we enter the new term of office.

Our focus must be directed to improve performance in key areas where some serious challenges are observed and require our full attention and commitment.

To Council staff, I wish you good strength and continued quality service delivery to our people as you have done in the past. Truly there are challenges in our town notably;

- Lack of serviced land
- Lack of sewer system in some informal settlements
- Issues around general service delivery
- Unemployment
- Outbreak of diseases such as; COVID-19
- Need for better housing
- Need for upgrading gravel roads to bitumen standards
- Stray animals and many others.

To all these challenges there are attempts made by previous council, however, we need to make sure we work hard as a collective team to alleviate if not eradicate them.

Surely some of these challenges will be addressed through intergovernmental relations and that should be the spirit.

In conclusion, allow me to congratulate my fellow councilors for being elected and for having been given an opportunity to serve.

Finally, I am calling for unity, dedication and commitment toward our vision. It is time to put our difference aside and unite in delivering services to the communities. I am looking forward to work with each one of you and our staff, for the betterment of Ongwediva Town and its inhabitants. The community of Ongwediva deserves the best effort from all of us.

I thank you”

CM 09/2021 CLOSING REMARKS BY THE PRESIDING MAGISTRATE

Magistrate Toini Shilongo congratulate the newly elected Councillors and wished them well in executive their tasks.

There were no any other business and the meeting was dismissed at 16h12 by the presiding officer.

MINUTES APPROVED

CHAIRPERSON OF COUNCIL	DATE	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
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