

Bobani disrupts city committee

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A MAYORAL committee meeting became heated yesterday when Nelson Mandela Bay deputy mayor Mongameli Bobani demanded a report that does not yet exist.

Bobani called for a copy of the report after mayor Athol Trollip read out minutes from a previous meeting at which inconsistencies in the appointment of expanded public works programme (EPWP) workers were discussed.

The report is expected to be finalised in two weeks' time and the inconsistencies are still being investigated by city manager Johann Mettler.

Bobani reportedly shouted,

interjected and made veiled threats to councillors at the meeting, according to four mayoral committee members.

Speaking after the meeting, Bobani said: "The problem is that I'm no longer part of the mayoral caucus."

"I'm just in the mayoral committee as deputy mayor."

"I can tell that there are caucuses held in my absence where certain matters are discussed."

He claimed that the minutes had been altered and were not consistent with the discussions in previous mayoral

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committee meetings.

"I was just asking a simple question about the report mentioned in the minutes that says the municipal manager is investigating something in public health," he said.

Bobani said he had asked acting public health executive director Tsietso Mokonyane about the facts in the report and when it would be released.

"But Trollip answered on his behalf, telling me my question [was] irrelevant."

DA chief whip Werner Senekal said: "I'm not sure what brought about Bobani's beha-

viour but it was completely unacceptable."

"You confirm minutes so we can get on with work of the committee, but somebody [did not allow] us to do our work."

"That kind of behaviour is unbecoming of somebody in the deputy mayor's position."

Political head of human settlements Nqaba Bhanga said Bobani did not allow the meeting to proceed.

"He was interjecting everybody including myself. I told him I refused to be bullied."

Bhanga said Bobani had become an embarrassment.

"We are supposed to be an example to officials, but they were sitting there."