



COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday June 6th, 2017

2:00 p.m.

City Hall Belize City Council

Members to be attending

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| 1. Mr. Darrell Bradley | Mayor |
| 2. Mr. Dean Samuels | Deputy |
| 3. Mrs. Alifa Elrington | Councilor |
| 4. Dr. Alain Gonzalez | Councilor |
| 5. Mrs. Hyacinth Latchman Cuellar | Councilor |
| 6. Mr. Kevin Singh | Councilor |
| 7. Mr. Michael Theus | Councilor |
| 8. Mr. Dion Leslie | Councilor |
| 9. Mr. Philip Willoughby | Councilor |
| 10. Mr. Bernard Pitts | Councilor |
| 11. Mr. Jason Edwards | Councilor |

12. Candice Miller, City Administrator
 13. Lesbeth Butler, Administrative Officer

- Handicap Sign in front of City Hall (Willoughby)
- Emergency Plan KMH (Willoughby)
- Costa Rica Trip (Edwards)
- Health Issues with food peddlers (Edwards)
- Rehabilitation of George Price Hwy up to 6 Miles (Edwards)
- Overloading of trucks (Edwards)
- Homeless People in front of Commercial Center Building (Edwards)
- Donation to Schools (Latchman)
- Traffic Request (Pitts)
- MIS – NAMIS (Pitts)
- Trade Fee Concerns (Theus)
- Centralized Bus Parking (Theus)
- Street Banners (Leslie)
- Update on manhole covers (Leslie)

Persons to be attending by invitation

1. Floyd Williams, City Engineer
2. Marilyn Ordonez, Director of Finance
3. Sharlene Rudon, Director of Administration
4. Margaret McKenzie, Legal Counsel
5. Marilyn Garvin, Internal Auditor

5. Any other business
 - Assigned Parking BTL Park (Ms. Miller)
 - Council Logo (Mrs. Ordonez)
 - CUF Update (Mrs. Ordonez)
 - IDB Proposed Flood Mitigation for Belize City as part of ESCI (Mrs. Ordonez)

Agenda Items

1. Prayer
2. Confirmation of Minutes
3. Matters Arising

Mayor's announcements/matters

- i. Review of past minute
- ii. Kent Thompson
- iii. Vehicle Special Constable

4. Notices/reports/ discussion/information

- Update on Tire Collection (Willoughby)
- Canals (Willoughby)
- Blue Marlin Blvd (Willoughby)
- Speed Bump- East Collet Canal & Amara Ave (Willoughby)
- Liquor License – Long Island (Willoughby)

6. Questions from members of the public
7. Request for leave to move adjournment of Council on matters of urgent public notice
8. Motions relating to Council business or sitting
9. Adjournment
10. Setting the date for the next Council meeting



MINUTES OF ORDINARY CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday June 6th, 2017
Belize City Hall

Present:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Mr. Darrell Bradley | Mayor |
| 2. Mr. Phillip Willoughby | Councilor (2:15 p.m.) |
| 3. Mr. Jason Edwards | Councilor |
| 4. Mr. Kevin Singh | Councilor |
| 5. Mr. Michael Theus | Councilor |
| 6. Ms. Alifa Elrington | Councilor (2:15 p.m.) |
| 7. Dr. Alain Gonzalez | Councilor (2:37 p.m.) |
| 8. Mr. Dion Leslie | Councilor |
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- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Lesbeth Butler | Manager Office of the Mayor |
| 2. Ms. Candice Miller | City Administrator |

Present by invitation:

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Marilyn Garvin | Chief Internal Auditor |
| 2. Mr. Floyd Williams | City Engineer (3:07 p.m.) |
| 3. Ms. Sharlene Rudon | Director Administration |
| 4. Mrs. Marilyn Ordonez | Director Finance |
| 5. Mrs. Margaret McKenzie | Director Legal |
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- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 6. Mr. Floyd Neal | Union President |
| 7. Mr. Kent Thompson | Past Employee |

Absent:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Mr. Dean Samuels | Deputy Mayor |
| 2. Ms. Hyacinth Cuellar | Councilor |
| 3. Mr. Bernard Pitts | Councilor |

The meeting was called to order 2:15 p.m.

Adoption of Minutes

1. This being a special meeting the minutes of the previous meeting held May 19th, 2017 was not reviewed.

2. The Mayor stated that a grievance was made to the Council by the Christian Workers Union on behalf of past employee, Mr. Kent Thompson. Mr. Thompson was dismissed from the Council following a disciplinary hearing held due to a report of extortion made against him. The Mayor asked Mr. Neal and Mr. Thompson to present their case.

DISCIPLINARY HEARING

3. Mr. Neal stated that he was asking for the Council's consideration to change Mr. Thompson dismissal to termination. He stated that this would allow Mr. Thompson to receive his notice pay which will greatly help him in this challenging economic time while seeking another job.

Mr. Floyd Neal then asked Mr. Thompson to present his request.

4. Mr. Thompson stated that he has already pleaded with the Council for leniency however he does understand the Council reason for parting ways with him. He acknowledged that it was a misjudgement on his part which he regretted. He has been working 2 years with the Council. He asked for the Council's consideration in changing the reason from dismissal to termination as this would let him be entitled to notice pay. He discussed the incident that lead to his dismissal and stated that the amount he took from Mr. Jose Vasquez (the complainant) was \$25.00 and not \$75.00 as Mr. Vasquez indicated. He said that Mr. Vasquez was driving his motorcycle without a helmet and also did not have a learners permit.
5. The Mayor engage in a dialogue with Mr. Thompson seeking further clarification on the incident. He asked who were the witnesses and was inform that they were Mr. Landy Casimiro, Mr. Jose Vasquez and Mr. Jenkins.
6. Mr. Neal then gave a brief synopsis of their request. The Mayor then asked the councilors if any of them had any question.
7. Councilor Elrington asked him if he took the money and Mr. Thompson said yes. She engaged in a short discussion with Mr. Thompson seeking further clarifications.
8. The Mayor asked if any ticket was issued to Mr. Vasquez and was informed that no ticket was issued to him. He questioned the reason why none was issued as he believed that one should have been issued.
9. Ms. Miller said that the reason Mr. Vasquez gave the money to Mr. Thompson was to avoid being issued a ticket.
10. The Mayor asked what will be the financial loss if the decision was changed from dismissal to termination. Ms. Miller said Mr. Thompson's salary was \$1,300.00 monthly.
11. Ms. Miller stated that during the deliberation they concluded that this was a grave misconduct made by Mr. Thompson and based on the MSR and the traffic rules they decided on dismissal so as not to set precedence that this type of action will be tolerated.
12. Mr. Neal asked that due to the hard economic times he was asking the consideration of the Council to change its decision from dismissal to termination. He stated that Mr. Thompson was an exemplary employee. He got an award for employee of the month as well as recognized for the amount of traffic tickets he issued.

Councilor Dr. Gonzalez arrived 2:37 p.m.

13. Mr. Neal said that it was 2 matters he wanted to discuss with the Council. One was the grievance for Mr. Thompson and the other was a pending meeting with the Mayor and CWU about the MSR.

The Mayor committed to respond to the union within 24 hours.

Mr. Neal and Mr. Thompson left the meeting.

14. After the departure of Mr. Neal and Mr. Thompson there was a discussion about the grievance request. Councilor Elrington stated that she believes the decision could be changed to termination. She said that many worse things has happened and the persons are still with the Council.
15. Ms. Miller mentioned that there was a previous complaint against Mr. Thompson which couldn't be addressed as the person refused to give the Council his complaint in writing. The Mayor indicated that this should not be considered as part of their deliberation.
16. A vote was taken on whether the decision made for Mr. Thompson should be changed from dismissal to termination; six Councilors voted in favour to have the decision remain as dismissal. Councilor Elrington voted in favour of changing the decision to termination.

The decision of dismissal remained.

DISMISSAL

Mayor Bradley
Councilor Singh
Councilor Theus
Councilor Gonzalez
Councilor Edwards
Councilor Willoughby

TERMINATION

Councilor Elrington

Councilor Elrington left the meeting at 2:45 p.m.
Quorum lost

The Mayor stated that it was a bribery and staff should not be caught up in these situations.

Mayor Darrell Bradley

MAYOR MATTERS

17. Mayor Bradley stated that the Council would like to purchase 2 DMAX pickup trucks for Special Constable Unit. The specifications of the vehicle, the cost and payment terms was shared and discussed.
18. Ms. Miller stated that roughly \$41,000.00 was received for the vehicle that was crashed. She said Special Constable Unit is in need of a reliable vehicles as they work long hours doing night operations, 6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. 4 days a week and during the days. She stated that Special Constable was using Traffic vehicle and is really in need of getting a

vehicle. She was in agreement with Special Constable getting one of the vehicles and the other goes to Works Department.

19. There was a general discussion among the councilors on the need for the vehicles and who they should be assigned to. It was suggested that the Council invest in one type of vehicle example only Toyota, Ford etc.
20. Ms. Rudon stated that she has begged the Council on numerous occasions to purchase a vehicle for Mr. Menjivar. She said that Mr. Menjivar personal vehicle has been damaged doing Council work. She asked that the Council considers her request.
21. Councilor Willoughby stressed that he believed that one of the vehicle should go to the City Engineer as he is next in line to the City Administrator and should have a reliable vehicle.
22. The Mayor asked Mrs. Ordonez for her input and she said that the terms seems reasonable. It was suggested that the 2 DMAX be purchased 1 for Special Constable Unit and 1 for the City Engineer. The City Engineer vehicle will go to Mr. Menjivar.

Councilor Leslie arrived at 3:00 p.m.

Quorum established

23. A vote was taken to purchase 2 Diesel DMAX Pick-up Trucks over a 5 year payment term of \$12,180.00 down payment, \$2,650.00 monthly at 9 % interest. One vehicle will be for Special Constable Unit and one for the City Engineer. All Councilors present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Voted in Favor

Mayor Bradley

Councilor Singh

Councilor Theus

Councilor Dr. Gonzalez

Councilor Edwards

Councilor Willoughby

Councilor Leslie

Vote Against

Councilor Willoughby

24. Councilor Willoughby said that with the hurricane season already started he is working with Hyde Shipping to assist with transporting the tires donated from the tire drive to Monkey River. The Mayor suggested that Councilors accompany Councilor Willoughby on this trip in support of this initiative.
25. Councilor Willoughby stated that IDB will be spending \$10,000,000.00 on different projects, such as flood mitigation, drainage, works on East Canal up to West Canal and Conch Shell Bay and some other areas. He said that consultations are being held with the City Planner, Ms. Patnett. She is taking pictures of existing concrete walls that will need to be demolished. She will provide pictures and costings.
26. The Mayor stated that the reason that IDB is investing additional \$10,000,000.00 is due to good execution of the funds. He said that normally IDB would not invest twice. He commended Councilor Willoughby on doing a great job and encouraged him to continue

- the good work. He said that this shows their confidence in the work being done by the municipalities.
27. Councilor Willoughby asked that the Council look at the situation with Long Island, an establishment on Blue Marlin Blvd. He said that the bar is causing problems in the area with noise and parking. He stated that the bar is open until 4:00 a.m. and this is a residential area. He has received many complaints from residents.
 28. The Mayor asked Ms. Miller to address the situation with the Liquor Board.
 29. Ms. Miller said that Princess was asking for an extension up to 3:00 a.m. on June 17th, 2017.
 30. The Mayor said that no extension should be given unless the establishment is sound proof. He said that these issues occur because the zoning is not in place. He said that several forums to discuss planning, zoning, parking etc. however, nothing has been done.
 31. The congestion in Newtown Barracks around BTL Park was discussed. There was a major issue with parking in this area as well as the concern with noise. The Mayor stated that a macro plan needs to be put in place to address the situation.
 32. Councilor Willoughby suggested that a committee comprising of himself, the City Engineer, City Planner and other relevant persons be set up to review and address the situation.
 33. The Mayor requested that Ms. Rudon organize a Public Consultation Meeting on noise pollution within the next 2 weeks, June 21st, 2017 to discuss the situation. The meeting will be at BTL Park at 6:00 p.m. The Mayor asked that the Liquor License Board be at the meeting.
 34. Councilor Willoughby stated that he has requested for speed bumps to be installed at East Collet Canal around St. Ignatius School and on Central American Blvd. but to date it has not been done. The Mayor asked Mr. Williams to get these installed.
 35. Councilor Willoughby asked that a report be received from the police department listing the amount of accidents around this particular area and see how the Council can assist with this situation.
 36. Councilor Leslie reminded that he has requested for a speed bump to be installed on Cemetery Road by Atlantic Bank.
 37. Councilor Willoughby said that East Collet Canal and Amara Avenue also needs a speed bump.
 38. The Mayor requested that Mr. Williams get these requested speed bumps installed.
 39. Councilor Willoughby said that there was problem around the Michael Finnegan Market that needs to be address. He said that many big trucks parks along this area and hamper the flow of traffic. He asked that Special Constable Unit do regular checks in this area and do enforcement.
 40. The Mayor asked that enforcement be done.
 41. Councilor brought up his observation that it is difficult for a handicap person to access City Hall to do business. He asked that handicap signs be installed across the street from City Hall.
 42. Ms. Miller stated that many persons do not have handicap license plates. She said even if the sign goes up it would be difficult for the enforcement person to know if the person is handicap.
 43. There was some discussion on handicap parking. The Mayor requested that Mrs. Butler set a meeting by the end of the week with BAPDA to discuss handicap parking, license etc.

The Mayor, Councilor Willoughby and Theus will attend the meeting. The meeting was held June 9th, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

44. Ms. Miller said that ASP Desire Phillips suggested that the Council request back ground checks when hiring. She said that it was brought to her attention that a person recently hired has a pending case.
45. Councilor Willoughby said that KMH is planning to build a helipad for helicopters to land for emergencies. They are planning to cordon off the area going to the emergency by Lions. He said that there is an issue with the ramp and he will ask for a floor plan. Councilor Willoughby informed that Dr. Coye is requesting that no vending be done on the reserve in front of the hospital.
46. Dr. Coye also has an issue with the parking lot which they are in discussion to address.
47. Mr. Williams was asked to address and get the vendors removed. If any of the vendors has permission to use the reserve then a letter needs to be sent to revoke it.
48. Councilor Willoughby said that the KMH is also concern with the Carnival Route passing in front of the hospital as this blocks entry to the hospital for some hours. During this time not even the ambulance is able to access the hospital.
49. Ms. Rudon said that she attended the first Carnival Committee Meeting and it was discussed to change the route be from lighthouse to Marion Jones Stadium.

Councilor Edwards

50. Councilor Edwards gave an update on his trip to Costa Rica. He said that he believes the country has good potential for revenue in solid waste and recycling. He said that he and Mr. Carballo are in discussion on this point.
51. Councilor Edwards said that there is an issue with vendors handling food and cash at the same time.
52. The Mayor asked if there wasn't something in place for this.
53. Ms. Miller said that this is an enforcement issue for Ms. Tiffany Diaz and she will look into it.
54. Councilor Edwards stated that he and Councilor Theus are in discussion with BTB about rehabilitation works on the George Price Highway. He said that a plan is being drafted with BTB.
55. Councilor Edwards brought up a concern of overloading of trucks on the highway as this is a hazard.
56. Mrs. McKenzie said that this is an enforcement issue. Mr. Williams was asked to address this concern.
57. Councilor Edwards said that there was an issue with homeless people in front of the Commercial Center. He said that BTB has a concern with this as lots of tourist traverses this area. Mrs. Ordonez said that the area is wash daily and that homeless people is a concern for government. She also said that once work on the Commercial Center starts this problem should be minimize.

Councilor Theus

58. Councilor Theus said that he was in discussion with the relevant parties about having a centralized parking for busses. They are looking at having the centralized area be Marion Jones Stadium.

59. Councilor Theus said that he believes that there is some discrepancy with Trade License fees. He brought up 2 examples: the Chinese Bakery over the Canal is being charged \$3,000.00 and the San Pedro Water Taxi Art Gallery is being charged \$2,700.00 for trade license. He believes that these fees are too high and prohibitive to people doing business.
60. Ms. Miller stated that these persons needs to write to the Trade License Board to request a reassessment.

Councilor Leslie

61. Councilor Leslie brought up a concern that people are no longer coming to the Council to request the hanging up of banners. He said that Mr. Thompson consulted with BEL and they informed him that this is something for the Council to address. He stated that this is loss of revenue for the Council. Ms. Miller clarified that some banners are approved by BEL and some by the Council. The Mayor asked that enforcement be done as indeed this is revenue lost for the Council.
62. Councilor Leslie asked what was being done about the manhole covers project. The Mayor said that Mr. Moro has requested that he be taken out of the contract.
63. Mr. Williams said that Mr. Moro was requesting for the Council to pay his GST fees. He said that Mr. Moro told him that he will not hand over the manhole covers already built if the Council does not pay his GST.
64. The Mayor requested that Mr. Williams review the situation to determine what can be done.
65. Ms. Miller said that 40% of the contract amount was paid to Mr. Moro and less than 500 of the 3000 manhole covers was installed.
66. Councilor Leslie stated that Social Security was asking for an update and the loan was provided by them.
67. The Mayor asked Ms. Miller to provide an update on at the next meeting. He said that Jules has asked him several times about manholes situation and he committed to do a walk through with him on this.

Mrs. Ordonez

68. Mrs. Ordonez asked whether the Council would approve the new logo. She said that the old logo represents buildings whereas the new logo represents people. She did not have a copy to show the Council.
69. The Mayor asked that the most updated logo be circulated for review.
70. Mrs. Ordonez give an update of the finance for CUF. She said that \$31,330.00 was received from registration and roughly \$73,000.00 from contributions. The total expenditure was \$163,000.00.
71. Mrs. Ordonez gave an additional update on the IDB donation mentioned by Councilor Willoughby. Part of this funds is for a pump station to assist in keeping the drains and canals flowing to the sea. As part of these works they need to be mindful of the social implications.
72. The Mayor asked that a presentation be done for these big projects. Mrs. Ordonez said a presentation was emailed to the Mayor and Councilors.
73. Councilor Willoughby said that he has requested that these be printed and bound and kept in the relevant departments. He said that it would be good to include the emerging cities

concerns and address issues such as keeping the drains low so that water can overflow to the river.

74. Councilor Willoughby said that he is looking at the social implications. He needs to meet with the people of Conch Shell Bay. He said that a plan is needed as it will involve moving some people to where the street currently is and putting streets where some people resides.
75. Ms. Carla Patnett is reviewing the area and preparing the design. Another option is to take in a portion of the canal. This project should be done over a one year period.
76. Mrs. Ordonez said that a campaign will be needed to sensitize the public about littering. He said that the PR Manager will be asked to develop a campaign.
77. Councilor Willoughby stated that he recommends that the Council no longer gives approval for infrastructure to be built over the canals as this will create problems for dredging.
78. The Mayor and Councilors present agreed not to give permission for any more construction over the canals. However, no resolution was passed.
79. The Mayor asked that a presentation be done at the next Council meeting to update Councilors on the project. Mrs. Ordonez said that a presentation on the IDB project will be done at the next meeting.
80. The Mayor said that these are big projects and suggested that public awareness be done on these initiatives.

Petitions from the Public

81. Mr. Williams presented that presented that Yuhuan Yang has requested to build an Ice Cream Shop over the Canal at the corner of Central American Blvd and South Creek Road. As it was previously decided that permission will not be given for any more construction over the canals the petition was **NOT APPROVED**.

Councilor Gonzalez left 4:15 p.m.

Quorum lost

82. A request was received from Mr. Diafra Nunez & Keniah Thomas to lease a portion of the public reserve on South Creek Road. No decision was made as quorum was lost.
83. Mr. William commenced to present a petition from Stephanie Dawson to build a booth at Albert Hoy Park. However, since quorum was lost no vote could be taken.
84. At this point it was decided not to hear the remaining petitions.
85. The Mayor motioned that the meeting be adjourned, Councilor Singh motioned that the meeting be adjourned, Councilor Willoughby 2nd the motion. All Councilors present voted in favor of adjourning the meeting.
86. The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.



DARRELL BRADLEY, Mayor



CANDICE MILLER, City Administrator



**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 19 of 2017**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINARY ACTION
COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Belize City Council, is a body corporate established by Sec 3 (1) of the Belize City Council Act, CAP 85 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000,

AND WHEREAS, the Belize City Council having been duly elected by the residents of Belize City mandated to serve the citizenry and entrusted with the general rule and good governance of Belize City,

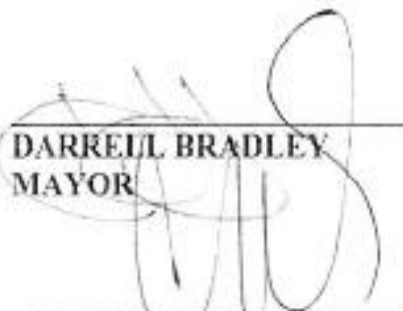
Whereas, the Council has in place a Disciplinary Action Committee (DAC) as mandated by the Municipal Service Regulations, which convenes hearings for the review of actions or lack thereof, of Belize City Council employees other than Managers and Directors and prescribes disciplinary actions as warranted,

Whereas, the Christian Workers Union, a duly registered union representing Belize City Council employees in Industrial affairs, petitioned the Council to review the decision taken by the DAC in the dismissal of former Traffic Enforcement Officer Mr. Kent Thompson,

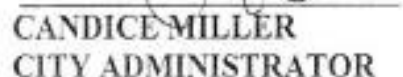
Now therefore, be it resolved that the Council supports, approves, and confirms

- The decision made by the Disciplinary Action Committee to dismiss former Traffic Enforcement Officer Mr. Kent Thompson.

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 6 day of June 2017, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



**DARREIL BRADLEY
MAYOR**



**CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**





**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 20 of 2017**

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF NEW COUNCIL VEHICLES

WHEREAS, the Belize City Council, is a body corporate established by Sec 3 (1) of the Belize City Council Act, CAP 85 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000,

AND WHEREAS, the Belize City Council having been duly elected by the residents of Belize City mandated to serve the citizenry and entrusted with the general rule and good governance of Belize City,


Whereas, the Council uses a fleet of vehicles to carry out the functions of each department,

Whereas, the Special Constable Unit carries out day and night operations for the inspection of the trade and liquor licenses at businesses and night clubs.

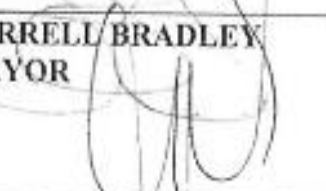
Now therefore, be it resolved that the Council supports, approves, and confirms

- The purchase of one (1) 2017 Isuzu D-Max to be used by the Special Constable Unit.

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 6 day of June 2017, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



**DARRELL BRADLEY
MAYOR**



**CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**





**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 21 of 2017**

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF NEW COUNCIL VEHICLES

WHEREAS, the Belize City Council, is a body corporate established by Sec 3 (1) of the Belize City Council Act, CAP 85 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000,

AND WHEREAS, the Belize City Council having been duly elected by the residents of Belize City mandated to serve the citizenry and entrusted with the general rule and good governance of Belize City,

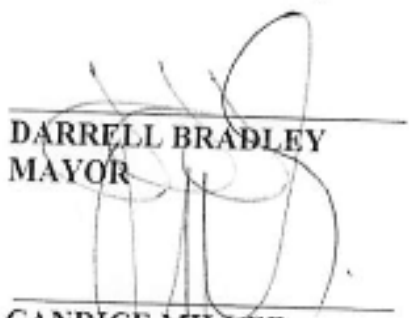
Whereas, the Council uses a fleet of vehicles to carry out the functions of each department,

Whereas, the City Engineer carries out daily inspections on construction sites, street renovations and building inspection,

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Council supports, approves, and confirms

- The purchase of one (1) 2017 Isuzu D-Max to be used by the City Engineer.

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 6 day of June 2017, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



**DARRELL BRADLEY
MAYOR**



**CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

