



COUNCIL MEETING

January 12th, 2016

Belize City Hall Council Chambers

Members to be attending

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

Mayor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
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Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

- Fun Day with Belmopan City Council (Leslie)
- Issue with mechanics and car dealers (Leslie)
- Hiring Procedure (Elrington)
- Cemetery Concerns (Elrington)
- Two Court Matters (Elrington)
- Concerns Blue Marlin Blvd (Willoughby)
- Assistance school Ms.Reynolds (Willoughby)
- Political Advisor (Willoughby)

12. Candice Burke, City Administrator

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

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

Agenda Items

1. Prayer
2. Confirmation of Minutes
3. Matters Arising
4. Mayor's announcements/matters
 - I. Monthly Financials
 - II. Palm Grove Zoning
 - III. Commercial Center
 - IV. Boards
5. Notices/reports/ discussion/information

MINUTES OF ORDINARY CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING
Friday January 12th, 2016
Belize City Hall Mayor's Office

Present:

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| 1. Mr. Darrell Bradley | Mayor |
| 2. Mr. Jason Edwards | Councillor |
| 3. Mrs. Alifa Elrington Hyde | Councillor |
| 4. Dr. Alain Gonzalez | Councillor |
| 5. Mrs. Hyacinth Latchman Cuellar | Councillor |
| 6. Mr. Kevin Singh | Councillor (arrived 10:45) |
| 7. Mr. Michael Theus | Councillor |
| 8. Mr. Dion Leslie | Councillor |
| 9. Mr. Philip Willoughby | Councillor |

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| 1. Ms. Candice Miller | City Administrator |
| 2. Mr. Jermaine Hyde | Administrative Officer |

Present by invitation:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Floyd Williams | City Engineer |
| 2. Mrs. Marilyn Ordonez | Director of Finance |
| 3. Ms. Sharlene Rudon | Director of Administration |
| 4. Ms. Margaret McKenzie | Director Legal Services |
| 5. Mrs. Marilyn Garvin | Chief Internal Auditor |

Absent with explanation:

1. Councilor Dean Samuels
2. Councilor Bernard Pitts

Minutes of Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 10:30am.

Councilor Hyacinth Cuellar opened the meeting with a prayer.

The Mayor welcomed Councilors and Directors to the Council meeting.

Adoption of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting was circulated and Councillors were given time to read thoroughly before confirming. Councillor Theus raised a concern that the minutes are not handed in within 72hrs of the meeting and he wanted this issue addressed. The Mayor requested that Councillors be provided with the minutes for revision in a timely manner.

The following corrections were made to the Minutes of November 10th, 2015:

- i) Paragraph 28. Which is to be read as: *“Councilor Hyde reminded Council that after being presented before the Medical Board, Ms. Nunez has been retired by the Council. Consequently Ms. Ursula Smith has been acting in the capacity of Human Resource Manager. As such Councilor Hyde suggested that Council considers confirming Ms. Smith to the post as HR Manager.”*

The Mayor moved for a motion that the minutes of the Meeting held on November 10, 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record. Councilor Leslie motioned for the approval of the minutes, seconded by Councilor Hyde. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor Darrell Bradley

i. Monthly Financials

1. Mayor stated that Mrs. Ordonez indicated that Council is doing fairly well Trade License collection. Additionally she indicated to him that the results of the Audit were circulated to Councillors. He requested that Councilors review the audit and present concerns or queries for Mrs. Ordonez.
2. Councillor Elrington asked why only \$1,000,000.00 was budgeted as collectable for Property Tax arrears. Mrs. Ordonez stated that it was an estimated figure given by Mr. Thompson based on previous years. Councilor Elrington added that since the arrears were much more than this, why would the department under budget the collection. Mrs. Ordonez explained that due several issues with collection of arrears, the department saw it necessary to quote this figure. She added that it may have been \$2,000,000.00, but the department budgeted for \$1,000,000.00. She added that one of the main issues were with information coming out of Lands department.
3. Mrs. Ordonez informed Council that there is a list of 29 properties that are up for Sale at the Court but only 3 can be proceeded with because of a lack of necessary data from the Lands department.
4. Mrs. Ordonez added that the information needed from the department is in relation to ownership, transfer of title and cancellation of lease.
5. Councillor Elrington stated that one of the reasons for the bottle-neck is the fact that an administrative fee was added to the Property Tax when registering a transfer at Revenue department.
6. Mrs. Ordonez stated that there is an administrative process involved with the transfer and the Ministry requires a zero balance statement from the Council. Hence the fee that is charge covers the cost of this process. This is something that all the commercial banks charges when a request is made for a statement. This process also involves a title search at the lands, so this fee covers that entire process.
7. Councillor Elrington requested the list of things the fee covers. Mrs. Ordonez stated that it covers the process of getting the transfer in the system. She noted that if Council

moves away from this fee, then the Council will be losing because it pays for the process.

8. Mayor stated that he wouldn't want Council to lose any revenue and added that he doesn't feel that it has a bearing on the process of getting the needed data.
9. Mrs. Garvin stated that the issue is more so that people are not aware that they should come in and notify the Council when there is a change in Belmopan.
10. Mrs. Ordonez said that the Council needs to embark on a public campaign to notify the public of what they need to do after the transfer process in Belmopan.
11. Mayor indicated to Council that the matter can be brought back for further discussion.
12. Councilor Theus suggested that the Council liaise with the ministry on a monthly basis to get a listing of transfers done. Mayor explained that this has been attempted on several occasions and there have been many meetings held with officials from the ministry to sort it out but no avail. He added that the Mayors Association is planning to address it likewise because this problem is not central to Belize City but to other municipalities as well.

ii. Palm Grove Zoning

13. Mayor informed the Council that the Palm Grove Estate Bylaw is completed with the assistance of Ms. Mckenzie. He indicated that the bylaw be circulated to Councillors and requested that Ms. Rudon work along with Ms. McKenzie to see the passage of the bylaw to the gazette through the Ministry of Local Government.
14. He added that it is Councils intention to pass the Kings Park Zoning bylaw as well. Mrs. McKenzie is reviewing the material and a presentation will be schedule for the next Council meeting so a motion can be taken. It will have the same wording as that of the Palm Grove Estate bylaw.
15. Mayor Bradley updated on a meeting he attended with the City Administrator and the Director Finance at IDB. He stated that it was a conference call with members from the IDB and the American Planning Association. Council has been promised a grant of \$1million USD as funding assistance to compliment the ongoing Downtown Rejuvenation project. These funds will assist in the extension of the project from the House of Culture to the Yabra area ending at the bridge over Collet Canal.
16. The American Planning Association is also committing to extend training and needed equipment to the Belize City Council planning department. They have several recommendations for the planning department, one of which is to relocate the department to the Commercial Center.
17. Mrs. Ordonez suggested that some of the Councillors could be involved in the planning of the project. Mayor added that it is the first project being done out the US and the first project being done with the IDB, so Council would be as involved as possible.

18. Mayor requested that Council host a modest welcome cocktail for the delegation from the American Planning Association.

iii. Commercial Center

19. Council was reminded of Councillors Edward's item he proposed in the last Council meeting relating to the Aquarium at the Commercial Center. Mayor recapped that the investors for the project are from Acapulco, Mexico and they were interested in a profit sharing venture with the Council. He added the proposal seems to be a good one but the proposal for the City Hall was still pending.

20. The Mayor highlighted that the HR building was in deplorable condition and the Council has outgrown the space here at City Hall. He stated that Council will have to make a decision and move on it since the initial plan was to refloat the bond and acquire a facility to cover the renovation.

21. Ms. Miller and Mrs. Ordonez were considering painting the building but Council needs to make a decision on the direction they'll go in terms of the building. Ms. Miller indicated that the painting is estimated about \$30,000.00. Mayor stated that it wouldn't make sense to paint the building if it would be leased.

22. Ms. Miller informed Council that a decision has to be made soon because the HR/PR building is in a very deplorable state, the commercial center has no decent and functioning restroom for staff and the working conditions there are awful. She added that herself along with Mrs. Ordonez and Mr. Williams were looking at constructing a three story building where HR/PR is, in the event that the renovation of Commercial Center which would cost \$1million BZD.

23. Mayor suggested that the space might be too small, and if an investment of that quantity should be made on a new building then he would suggest that it be invested in the Commercial Center.

24. Ms. Miller added that it would be more logical to renovate the Commercial Center since there is already a \$500,000.00 BZD grant for that purpose from the Taiwanese Embassy and the \$1.5 million BZD facility available for the HR building. She suggested that Council decide on a delegation to meet with Central Government and present a proposal.

25. Councilor Elrington stated that there needs to be a proper proposal highlighting the source of the funds and the current condition of the buildings. She added that if there are continuous shootings like we've seen in the past, a bullet will penetrate the wooden walls and we could end up losing a staff member.

26. Mrs. Ordonez indicated that a proposal already exists. Mayor added that the proposal highlights the \$500,000.00 from the Taiwanese government, rental from the ground floor and a partial refloating of the bond.
27. Mrs. Ordonez stated that Heritage Bank agreed to provide Council with a facility to finance the full cost of the renovation.
28. The Mayor requested that the proposal be circulated again to the Councillors. He also asked Councillors to review the Aquarium proposal, so that they can make a decision at the next meeting.
29. Councilor Hyde asked that the proposal highlight the human aspect of what is being stated.
30. Mayor indicated that this has already been done, explaining that pictures were included of the dreadful restrooms and exposed electrical. He added that a cover letter was attached to the report outlining the staffing constraints as well.
31. Councilor Edwards addressed Councillors urging them to be open minded when making their decision. He stated that either we do something for the present situation or we can look to the future, either take the money and repair the building or partner with the company to generate additional income and have something that is the first of its kind in Belize. He added that Mr. Andrade and Mr. Gonzalez from the BTB have already endorsed the project.
32. The Mayor informed Councillors that if the Commercial Center renovation is not approved that they seriously consider partnering with the Mexican company and constructing the building where HR/PR is currently.
33. The matter will be tabled at the next meeting for a vote to be taken.
34. Mrs. Ordonez asked Councilor Edwards what sort of income would be generated from the building. Councilor Edwards indicated that income would come from the money paid for leasing the building and as a partner; Council will get a portion of the profits.
35. Mrs. Ordonez suggested that another alternative might be for Council to do the aquarium and construct a new City Hall at a different location.
36. Ms. Miller suggested that Council approach Central Government once more to seek permission. Councilor Elrington stated that she agreed with the City Administrator and that Central Government would grant permission for the renovation this time around. She added that when they were approached previously, a lot of issues clouded the water but things are different now. For her it is not a matter of choosing future income over a building but rather focusing on putting the needs of the Council first. She

concluded that the concerns of the Council have always dear to her and that she has always been an advocate for a new building.

37. Ms. Miller indicated that she spoke to the Directors about approaching Heritage Bank to get a facility to cover all the Council's debt, which would amount to \$2.6 million in judgments and old debts. Getting one loan would allow Council to consolidate everything.
38. Councilor Leslie raised a concern over getting a loan to repay debts. Mayor stated that it is a venture to consider. He pointed out that 75% of the current debt existed before this Council came into office like payments going to BML, Belize Waste Control and Benson Ramclam. He added that on a monthly basis Council pays \$10,000.00 to Chebat & Co, \$15,000.00 to Lisa Shoman and additional \$5,000.00 to other creditors. A monthly payment on a \$2million facility is about \$20,000. 00 which is less than what is being paid now, hence Council would be in a position to better service debts.
39. Ms. Miller stated that if this is done, Council would be in a position to offer reduced lump sum payments to the attorneys.
40. Councilor Leslie said that the rate and time frame of the loan should be considered. Councilor Elrington stated that the facility could put Council in a position where the judgments can be paid off quicker and providing that we stick within the parameters, the Council's reserve can be built back to what it was before it was emptied to pay one judgment after the other. Council needs to build its reserve and it is not possible with the current financial standing.

iv. Boards

41. Mayor stated that there were two aborted meetings last year and Ministry of Local Government was calling for Boards so he asked Councilor Willoughby and several other Councilors to do a quick round robin and a list was sent to ministry, but it still requires a resolution.
42. Councilor Elrington said that at the last meeting, Councillors were asked to submit names to Mr. Hyde which they did and nothing happened in return.
43. Mayor indicated that he expected Councillors to be concerned but the last two meetings were not possible and he had to submit a list by the end of the year.
44. Councilor Elrington stated that there several decisions that have been made at Council neither of which has been adhered to. She added that Council made a decision, one which was put in writing. A request was made and Councillors adhered to that request and nothing happened. It is disrespectful for this to have occurred and while it is that

as Mayor you would not call anyone, your staff showed no regards for Councillors. Such acts cannot continue to happen, hence my position is that I will not ratify that letter. I feel disrespected as a Councilor and that should not be. No one else needs to support my view but I am stating my position on the matter. She requested that her position be recorded so it can be brought to the attention of the relevant people at the Ministry of Local Government. It is unfair, disrespectful and rightly out of order what has occurred. Outside of this, I would be forced to act in a legal capacity against an organization that I came to help and try to move forward.

45. Mayor expressed his discontent that meetings were scheduled twice in the last month and Councillors were unable to attend.
46. Councilor Elrington indicated that she came to the Council to make the institution better and added that what occurred was offensive and if it is that as a Councillor she will be disrespected and her opinions are not taken into consideration then she will resign from the Council.
47. Councilor Leslie indicated that it was disrespectful for the fact that Councillors took the time to nominate persons and then now be told about a list going to Belmopan after a round robin. He added that he contacted the Minister of Local Government and was ensured that the Boards wouldn't be passed. He indicated that what occurred in relation to the list of members was wrong.
48. Councilor Latchman stated that she had one issue to raise in relation to the Boards. She said when the list was being circulated amongst councillors, she raised concerns about an individual on one of the Board. She added that after voicing her concerns, this individual made it on the final list that was sent to Belmopan without any consideration to her concerns, and feels as if this was not right.
49. The Mayor informed Council that a vote will have to be taken for the Boards to be ratified. Councilor Elrington responded stating that the Board will not be ratified, and that she too spoke with the Minister of Local Government and was ensured that the Boards would not get approval.
50. Councilor Theus stated that he too submitted names after receiving the notification and felt disrespected in the way things were done and felt it was in the best interest of the Council.
51. Councilor Gonzalez stated that he felt the Mayor made the decision alone and that should not have been the case. He was never consulted in the decision making process and felt that it was wrong for the Mayor to do so.
52. Councilor Edwards indicated that at the end of the day everyone has an opinion and their opinion should be respected. He added that he understands that the meeting couldn't happen but he wants to ensure that something like this doesn't repeat itself.

[Councilor Singh left the room]

53. The Mayor stated that Councillors could give their votes for the Boards either to ratify or not.
54. Seven Councillors and the Mayor indicated their votes openly for the ratification of the following Boards:

Liquor License Board: 5 votes to ratify 3 votes against

Trade License Board: 4 votes to ratify 4 votes against

The Mayor stated that where there is a deadlock, as Mayor he has the casting vote and as such he votes to ratify the Board. **MOTION CARRIED**

55. Mayor stated that in looking onwards, the Council needs to be united. He added that there must be unity in the group and they need to stick together to make things happen. He urged that the residents expect them to hold it together and to continue working. He enforced that it is not the administrative staff's responsibility to ensure that there are Council meeting, but rather Councillors need to stick to the meeting date and be on time.

[Councilor Singh returned]

56. The Mayor requested that decisions be made corporately and that Councillors understand that there were two meetings scheduled in order to have the decision at a Council meeting but it was just not possible. The intention was not for the decision to be made the way it was.
57. The Mayor concluded stating that he understands Councillors discontent and he will apologize for that but the meeting could not happen.

Councilor Theus

58. Councilor Theus presented a written motion for a parking facility.
59. Mayor Bradley informed Councillors that Ms. McKenzie had formulated a motion form that will be used since Council motions require a bit more formality and structure. He said the wording of the motion is critical in the making of the resolution. Each Councillor was given a copy of the form with Councilor Theus's motion.
60. Councilor Theus moved for a motion for Council to enter into a public/ private partnership with an investor to build, operate and regulate a parking facility on the site of the NICH open lot on Regent Street.
61. Mayor Bradley expressed his delight in the proposal but stated that the resolution would be card blank since Council is being asked to partner with an investor who is

- unknown. He agrees to the formulation of the committee and when a proposal is made it should be brought back to Council.
62. The Mayor indicated that this idea has been at the Council before under Mayor Moya and BNE was willing to assist with funding as well. He added that parking meters should be apart of this project as well because it wouldn't make sense to have the structure and allow people to park anywhere along the street.
 63. Councilor Leslie stated that the meters are tied into the project as well and the investor raised the same issue as he did in relation to the parking on the street.
 64. Mayor indicated that Councilor Theus should chair the committee and other members be Councilor Leslie, the CA Ms. Miller, Director Finance Mrs. Ordonez and Director Legal Affairs Ms. McKenzie. Councilor Elrington suggested that representation from Traffic Councilor should be considered. Mayor added that Councilor Pitts should be a third councilor on the committee.
 65. Councilor Leslie indicated that Council has a 99 year lease on the property but should consider approaching central government for the title. He added that after consulting with Minister Hulse, he was advised that Council should submit a Cabinet paper highlighting the proposal and submit it since they will make the final decision. He added that the Prime Minister supports the project and will do so at Cabinet.
 66. Councilor Theus presented a second motion to enter into a public/ private partnership with an investor or investors to develop and manage street parking enforcement within established parking zones in the city by the use of parking meters.
 67. Mayor indicated that the committee can address both motions and bring a proposal to Council.
 68. Councilor Theus raised the topic of the fees from the FGTZ Development Handbook. He put forward a motion for Council to adapt the fees from the handbook since it has already commenced with the developmental plan of the area. He added that the vendors in the area have already been issued with their Trade license and parking zones for buses and tour operators have been established. The motion was seconded by Councillor Edwards. All Councillors present voted unanimously to approve the adaption of fees from the FGTZ Development Handbook as Council fees. Mayor requested that it be a phased implementation. **MOTION CARRIED.**
 69. Councilor Theus stated that the City Engineer was asked to carry out an investigation into the number of manhole covers throughout the city that needed to be replaced. He added that this amounted to over 2600 manhole covers at an estimated cost of over \$252,000.00. He pointed out that 1,000 additional covers will be added on so that when some of the covers are removed for cleaning purposes, they can be replaced if broken.
 70. Councilor Elrington inquired in this sum was inclusive of labor and if the covers had a feature to secure it in place. Councilor Theus stated that the cost was inclusive of the labor and that it would be outsourced so there can be uniformity. He added that it is made from cement so there's nothing to keep it in place.
 71. Councilor Elrington stated that one the reason we have to replace so many covers is because they were stolen.

72. Councilor Singh highlighted that there are two reasons why so many needs to be replaced. The first being that metal covers are stolen and the second being that when cement covers are removed for drain cleaning they often break apart. Councillor Theus added that people park on the sidewalks and the covers aren't meant to withstand that weight.
73. Councilor Theus added that the facility for the loan would be Social Security Board and that Councilor Leslie had done the ground work in looking at the requirements. He stated that Council needs to evaluate the best possible payment scheme to service the loan at a preferred rate.
74. Mayor urged Councilor Theus to continue the dialogue with SSB and bring back a proposal for Council to vote on.
75. Councilor Theus raised the issue of sanitation pointing out that Belize Waste Control is not picking up yard garbage from houses, instead our trucks have to be picking up these bags. He suggested that if the sludge truck can be operational then drain maintenance can occur which would compliment the ongoing flood mitigation project.
76. He added that in terms of the sanitation department, they are grossly inefficient in relation to the cutting crew. He pointed out that Councillors cannot continue to take workers off their routes to go do something else.
77. Ms. Miller indicated that during the election season there were many times when there were community clean ups and work crews were constantly diverted from their regular shift to assist. Now that elections are over, councilors need to allow workers to get back to the normal routine. Additionally she met the directors and they decided that they would rotate the supervisors of the crew and cut down on some of the crews as well. They realize that some crew has too many workers and complete assignments quicker than others. Hence the crews will be rotated to enhance productivity.
78. Councilor Leslie indicated that he has plans to restructure the entire sanitation department. He said that he will be meeting with the City Administrator to implement the new structure.
79. Councilor Theus stated that in the initial takeover proposal Council had procured a Bobcat to remove garbage from narrow alleys and walkways where the trucks couldn't enter and other machinery. However workers have to be pulling garbage by hand out of alleyways since these machines were never handed over to the Council. He indicated that a bulldozer was also on this list that was prepared.
80. Councilor Leslie indicated that a Bobcat was purchased however someone wasn't available to move it. He added that the bulldozer went to central government.

81. Councilor Theus also stated that many of the weed eaters that Council purchased were not heavy-duty types for the type of work done and there are about 60 new ones that the council can sell.
82. Ms. Miller said that Council replaced the machines with heavy duty ones, but have not yet sold the others.
83. Councilor Willoughby stated that three years ago he along with Councilor Leslie and Elrington were in negotiations with BWCL to address issues relating to their contract which developed into the points of the arbitration. He went on to explain that after the October flooding and serious dumping of garbage along the George Price Hwy, several agencies have joined together including PASA, Dept of Environment, Min. of Health and BTB to revise the legislation for better enforcement. He added that he, along with Ms. McKenzie will be meeting with Ms. Pricilla Banner to put together a framework for a bylaw. This, he added will help Councilor Leslie as he restructures the Sanitation Department.

Councillor Latchman

84. Councillor Latchman raised the issue of her attendance at Council meetings. She requested that meetings be done in the afternoon as it is the only time she can get time off from work.
85. Councilor Latchman informed Council that the action plan for the Childcare Friendly initiative was submitted and she's requesting that when planning projects, the inclusion of children should be factored in.
86. Mayor Bradley stated that Councilor Latchman is doing lots of work with the NGO's and taking the lead in the Childcare friendly initiative. He said the City Administrator and Mrs. Ordonez are likewise working on many projects but there needs to be some synergy of the projects. He ask that Ms. Rudon take charge of informing Councilors of all Council events.
87. Councilor Latchman stated that her portfolio covers women but many of the related projects includes children. She noted that Councilor Pitts portfolio is youth but it doesn't necessarily deal with children. Hence she is requesting that her portfolio be changed to Women and Children.
88. Councilor Elrington stated that there are many Councillors who have portfolios and are not carrying out the necessary responsibilities of their portfolio. She added on more than one occasion she had to attend functions for other Councillors and she is making it known that she will no longer be doing this as Councillors need to carry their duties as it relates to their portfolio.
89. Ms. McKenzie reminded Councillor Latchman of the MOU which was signed as it relates to the Childcare friendly initiative whereby an appointed member from the delegation of children would begin to sit in Council meetings.
90. Councilor Willoughby added that Ms. Deborah Seawell approached Council to develop a park for disabled children. Mayor indicated that he had met with her and she informed him that they had the finance to do the project and was requesting to do

something at BTL Park or one of the other parks within the city. Councilor Leslie suggested that it be done at the Lopez Mateos Park.

91. Councilor Elrington indicated that Council has made several commitments as it relates to the organization that deals with persons with disabilities (BAPDA). She stated that Council had committed to providing persons with disabilities with a certified ID using the same driver's license machine. Additionally, we were suppose to make the Council buildings friendlier to persons with disabilities by ensuring rails and ramps were installed. Council was also suppose to partner with private sector business to have them implement these rails and ramps on their builds as well and make it a requirement on newly constructed buildings. Council also agreed to ensure that buses have seats marked for persons with disabilities. She concluded that most of these commitments were not fulfilled and urged Councilor Latchman to take them on.
92. Councilor Elrington stated that at last year's ceremony on World Disability Day, she delivered the keynote speech as the Council's rep and got Ms. Rudon to organize a group of staff to take part in the march. She said that most if not all of the departments sent representatives and Jermaine got the flags and they marched in the parade. She pointed out that Council must be more visible, not just to give speeches and donations but in their actions.

Councilor Leslie

93. Councilor Leslie informed Council that Mayor Belisle and the Belmopan City Council wants to have a family fun day with the Belize City Council. He stated that the plan is to have directors and managers from both Councils present to interact and take part in friendly games and a basketball tournament.
94. Mayor expressed that it would be a nice event and asked that Ms. Rudon work with them to make the arrangements.
95. Councilor Leslie stated that the issue of mechanics and car dealers parking on the street and on public reserves is a major problem. Ms. Miller informed Council that she has addressed the issue as it relates to mechanics because at the next Trade License meeting they will review the licenses of mechanics and body works shop. If it is the board feels that the space is inadequate the will not issue a new license. Additionally if the bodyworks shop isn't able to manage the fumes from the paint they will not be granted a license either.

Councilor Elrington

96. Councilor Elrington asked that the Mayor be more open taking on new employees since the last four were from his constituency.
97. She informed Council of a situation at the cemetery where a family is upset because Council opened their love one's tomb to put in someone whom the family didn't give consent to. Ms. Miller said that because the person placed in grave was the deceased's common law the Cemetery supervisor honored the request. Councilor Elrington said that the female was not the common law legally because they were separated when the

first individual died. She said that the matter needs to be resolved since the family is planning on pursuing the matter legally.

98. Lastly she indicated that there are two court matters against the Council which the Mayor asked her to consult an attorney on, one being BML v BCC and the other being BWCL v BRCL v BCC. She added that she learnt that Council had appointed Mrs. Trecia Anderson as legal counsel, and as such the attorney she was consulting wouldn't be able to represent Council. She asked that the relevant attorney be given the documents and represent Council at court for these matters.

Councilor Willoughby

99. Councilor Willoughby highlighted concerns from residents on Blue Marlin Boulevard. He stated that at night there is drag racing on the boulevard and patrons of the Long Island bar park in front of resident's driveways blocking them in. Ms. Miller stated that Council could install speed bumps along the boulevard and she will have the Liquor license board review extension requests by the bar.
100. He told Council that the former intern from HR, Ms. Nicole Reynolds had to leave school because her parents could no longer afford her school fees. He asked Council to consider assisting Ms. Reynolds in whatever way possible. Mayor said he would try to lobby MOE for assistance.
101. Councilor Willoughby pointed out that in looking forward, Council should consider getting a political advisor to assist monthly in organizing themselves and being more viable politically. Councilor Latchman added that Council needs to highlight the projects it undertakes and make themselves more visible.
102. Ms. Miller stated that on many occasions she has heard radio ads that Councilor Latchman has done on behalf of the Mayor and the Council. She stated that the ads sounds good and promotes the Council's work. The Mayor expressed his gratitude and thanks to Councilor Latchman for the ads.
103. The Mayor stated that Council should embark on the Public Meetings once again. He asked Ms. Rudon to organize one for the third week in February.

Councilor Edwards

104. Councilor Edwards raised the issue of plans that are being approved by the CBA, bypassing the LBA. He stated that the CBA continues to certify plans for Belize City without turning in the agreed eighty five percent of the proceeds.
105. Ms. Miller stated that Mr. Arnaldo Hernandez from the CBA spoke with Mr. Hyde and informed him that they are ready to release the payment but they are awaiting a request letter from the Mayor for their record.
106. Ms. McKenzie inquired if a decision was made that it would be 85%. Mayor indicated that at a subsequent meeting Arnaldo had agreed to 85% but he expressed concern over the standards. Ms. McKenzie added that it would be additional income for the Council.

Other Business

107. City Engineer presented a request from Mr. Alfred Humes to erect a burger stand on the left hand side of the Pound Yard Bridge. He indicated that the planning department objects to the request since this is a highly trafficked area and it would interrupt the flow of traffic in the area. The Mayor requested a vote from Council for the proposed erection at Pound Yard Bridge. All councilors present voted unanimously not to approve the building, REQUEST DENIED.
108. The City Engineer presented a request on behalf of the owner of Twins Supermarket on St. Thomas Street to lease the public reserve on the left hand side of the store to accommodate parking. He indicated that the planning department has no objections to the request. The Mayor requested a vote from Council for the leasing of the reserve on St. Thomas Street. Three councilors voted in favor (PW, MT,DL) and five voted against (AE, JE, HL, DB, KS), REQUEST DENIED
109. The City Engineer presented a request on behalf of Belize Telemedia Limited to four (4) directional signs on Albert Street. He indicated that the planning department objects to the request because some signs were already erected and to add four more would interrupt the free flow of pedestrians. The Mayor requested that this be differed and that Mr. Williams liaise with them to find a suitable area. REQUEST DIFFER
110. The City Engineer presented a request on behalf of Ms. Kimberly Searle to lease a portion of the public reserve at Farmers Market. He indicated that the planning department has no objections to the request. The Mayor requested a vote from Council for the leasing of the reserve at Farmers Market. All councilors present voted unanimously to approve the lease, MOTION CARRIED
111. City Administrator requested that Council declare and approve the Property Tax rates, which she proposes to be 9%, the same as last year and 2% on empty lots. Mayor

requested a vote from Council on the rates. All councilors present voted unanimously to approve the rates for property tax, MOTION CARRIED

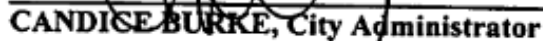
112. Mayor moved for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Singh motioned that the meeting stands adjourned, Councilor Elrington seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**

113. All Councilors present voted in favor to adjourn until January 26th 2016 at 1pm. Meeting adjourned at 2:04pm.

Confirmation of Minutes

These minutes, which are the minutes of a Council Meeting of the Belize City Council duly convened and held on 10th of November 2015 were reviewed and approved by a Resolution of the Council dated (12) January, 2016


DARRELL BRANLEY, Mayor


CANDICE BURKE, City Administrator





**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 7 of 2016**

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE 9% PROPERTY TAX

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,

Whereas, the Belize City Council is a duly elected body by the residents of Belize City mandated to serve the citizenry and is entrusted with the general rule and good governance of Belize City,

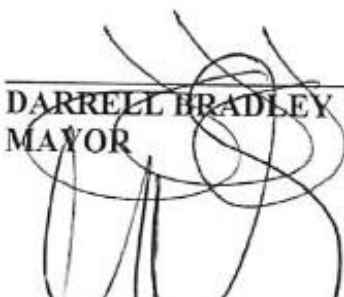
Whereas, the Towns Property Tax Act CAP 65 SEC 18 (1) of the substantive laws of Belize directs that on 1st of April in each year, by Order made on or before 15th April in the preceding year, declare the rates to be levied and collected on all properties situated within the limits of its town and liable to be taxed in accordance with this Act.

Whereas, the Council has reviewed and discussed the rates to be levied on properties within Belize City,

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

- 9% on Property Tax that will be collected for the Belize City Council solely and 2% on empty lots

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 12th day of January 2016, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



DARRELL BRADLEY
MAYOR



CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR





**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 6 of 2016**

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASING OF COUNCIL'S RESERVE

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,

Whereas, the Belize City Council is a duly elected body by the residents of Belize City mandated to serve the citizenry and is entrusted with the general rule and good governance of Belize City,

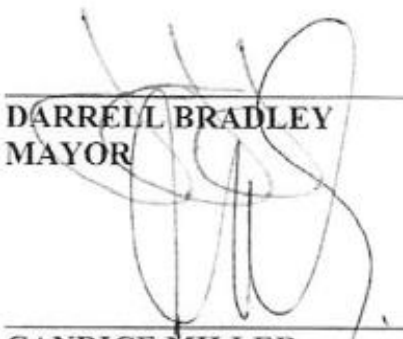
Whereas, the Belize City Council is duly authorized to maintain and manage streets and land reserves within the city,

Whereas, the Ms. Kimberly Searle has formally applied to the Council in writing to lease the reserve on Farmer's Market adjacent to St. Luke's Primary School

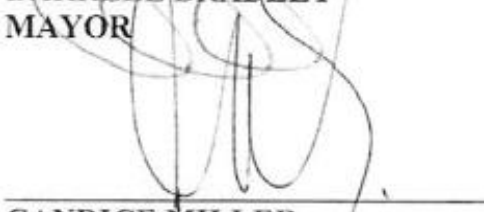
Now therefore, be it resolved that the Council supports, approves, and confirms

- The leasing of a portion of the public reserve at the Farmers Market to Ms. Kimberly Searle providing that she adheres to all regulatory requirements.

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 12th day of January 2016, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



**DARRELL BRADLEY
MAYOR**



**CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**





**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 5 of 2016**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THAT THE COUNCIL GRANT MR. RAUL PELAYO A
NO OBJECTION**

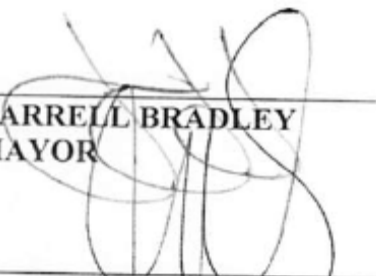
WHEREAS, the Belize City Council, is a body corporate established by Sec 3 (1) of the Belize City Council Act, CAP 85 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000,

Whereas, the Belize City Council is a duly elected body by the residents of Belize City mandated to serve the citizenry and is entrusted with the general rule and good governance of Belize City,


Whereas, the Council has the authority to lease public reserve and issue no objection letters for development projects taking the public's interest into consideration:

Now therefore, be it resolved that the Council supports, approves, and confirms that the Council gives Mr. Raul Pelayo a no objection letter for him to take to the Department of the Environment for Mayan Cable Tubing Project.

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 12th day of January 2016, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



**DARRELL BRADLEY
MAYOR**



**CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**



North Front Street, P.O. Box 259, Belize City, Belize, Central America
Tel (Mayor's Office): 227-0056, City Manager & Offices: 227-3073/7205/2308,
Fax: 227-7236, Email: mayor@btl.net



**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 4 of 2016**

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THAT STAFF BE GIVEN A CHRISTMAS BONUS

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,

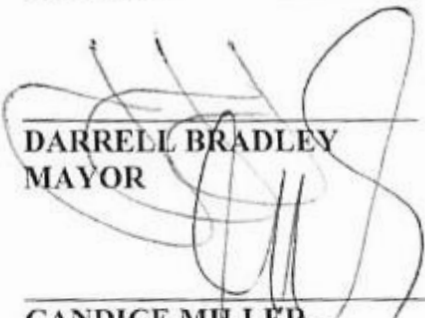
Whereas, the Belize City Council is a duly elected body by the residents of Belize City mandated to serve the citizenry and is entrusted with the general rule and good governance of Belize City,

Whereas, the Council supports and encourages incentives to award staff for their dedication and commitment

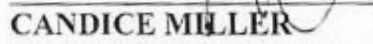
Now therefore, be it resolved that the Council supports, approves, and confirms that Council

- Award staff a Christmas bonus for 2015
- The budget will be sent to Councilors by means of round robin for approval.

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 12th day of January 2016, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



**DARRELL BRADLEY
MAYOR**



**CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**



North Front Street, P.O. Box 259, Belize City, Belize, Central America
Tel (Mayor's Office): 227-0056, City Manager & Offices: 227-3073/7205/2308,
Fax: 227-7236, Email: mavor@btl.net



**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 3 of 2016**

A RESOLUTION TO ADAPT THE FGTZ FEES

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 Fort George Tourism Zone (FGTZ), partners with the Belize City Council for the improvements of lives for the citizens of Belize and the beautification of the city.

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

- That the FGTZ Development Handbook be adopted as Council fees
- That the implementation of the fees be phased in

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 12th day of January 2016, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



**DARRELL BRADLEY
MAYOR**



**CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**





**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 2 of 2016**

A RESOLUTION TO RATIFY THE APPOINTMENT OF A TRADE LICENSE BOARD

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,

AND WHEREAS, Section 3 (1) of the Trade Licensing Act CAP 66 of the substantive laws of Belize provides for a Trade Licensing Board in each city in Belize,

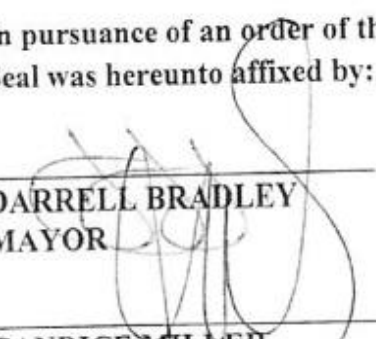
AND WHEREAS, the Mayor of the Belize City Council appointed five (5) members to constitute the Trade Licensing Board in Belize City;

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

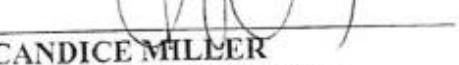
- **The Appointed Trade Licensing Board comprising of :**

(i)	Mayor Darrell Bradley	Chairman
(ii)	Mrs. Barbara Miller	Vice Chair
(iii)	Councilor Philip Willoughby	Member
(iv)	Councilor Kevin Singh	Member
(v)	Ms. Shari Williams	Member

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 12th day of January 2016, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



DARRELL BRADLEY
MAYOR



CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR





**Belize City Council
RESOLUTION NO. 1 of 2016**

A RESOLUTION TO RATIFY THE APPOINTMENT OF A LIQUOR LICENSE BOARD

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,

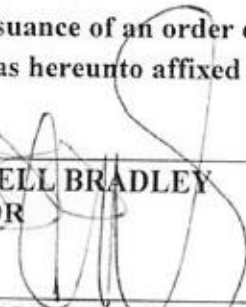
AND WHEREAS, Section 12 (1) of the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act CAP 150 of the substantive laws of Belize provides for a Licensing Board in each Judicial District,

AND WHEREAS, the Mayor of the Belize City Council appointed five (5) members to constitute the Liquor Licensing Board in Belize City;

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

- **The Appointed Liquor Licensing Board comprising of :**
 - (i) **Ms. Armead Gabourel** **Chairlady**
 - (ii) **Mayor Darrell Bradley** **Vice Chair**
 - (iii) **Mr. James Swan** **Member**
 - (iv) **Mr. Albert Moody** **Member**
 - (v) **Mr. Edmund Kwan** **Member**

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 12th day of January 2016, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:



DARRELL BRADLEY
MAYOR

CANDICE MILLER
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

