



**MINUTES OF ORDINARY CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Friday August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015**  
**Belize City Hall Mayor's Office**

**Present:**

- |                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Darrell Bradley            | Mayor                        |
| 2. Mr. Dean Samuels               | Deputy Mayor (arrived 11:16) |
| 3. Mr. Jason Edwards              | Councillor                   |
| 4. Mrs. Alifa Elrington Hyde      | Councillor                   |
| 5. Dr. Alain Gonzalez             | Councillor                   |
| 6. Mrs. Hyacinth Latchman Cuellar | Councillor                   |
| 7. Mr. Bernard Pitts Jr           | Councillor (arrived 10:24)   |
| 8. Mr. Kevin Singh                | Councillor                   |
| 9. Mr. Michael Theus              | Councillor                   |
| 10. Mr. Philip Willoughby         | Councillor                   |

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

**Present by invitation:**

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Ivan Camal        | Assistant City Engineer |
| 2. Mrs. Marilyn Ordonez  | Director of Finance     |
| 3. Ms. Margaret McKenzie | Director Legal Services |
| 4. Mrs. Marilyn Garvin   | Chief Internal Auditor  |

**Absent with explanation:**

1. Councilor Dion Leslie (out of the country)

**Minutes of Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 10:16am.

Councilor Dr. Alain Gonzalez opened the meeting with a prayer.

The Mayor welcomed Councilors and Directors to the fifth meeting of the Council 2015- 2018.

**Adoption of Minutes**

The minutes of the two previous meeting were circulated and Councillors requested time to read thoroughly before confirming.

The Mayor moved for a motion that the minutes of the May 4<sup>th</sup> and May 27<sup>th</sup> both be confirmed as true and correct records. Councilor Theus motioned for the approval of the minutes, seconded by Councilor Singh. **MOTION CARRIED.**

## **Mayor Darrell Bradley**

### **i. Monthly Financials**

1. Mrs. Ordonez highlighted that the Council is operating at its's very lowest and there was absolutely no funds to do any projects.
2. She stated that the financials were sent to Councillors and that its main focus is meeting the monthly payroll.
3. Councillor Theus requested that the items for meeting be sent a little earlier.
4. Mayor stated that with the current financial state that no projects be presented to Council since the outlook was not showing any change.

### **ii. Infrastructure**

5. Mayor informed the Council that the Prime Minister through the Ministry of works will be assisting the Council by completing five (5) streets in Belize City.
6. The streets will be fully concreted by RJB Construction and will be funded by the Ministry of Finance.
7. The streets that will be worked on are Amara Ave, King Street, Plues Street, Seashore Drive and University Drive.
8. The Mayor moved for a motion to approve the contracts for the street works to be done. All Councillors present voted unanimously to approve the street contracts.  
**MOTION CARRIED.**

### **iii. Palm Grove Zoning**

9. Mayor informed the Council that he is reviewing the draft bylaw from Ms. McKenzie and it would be tabled at the next meeting.

### **iv. Trade License Amendment**

10. The Mayor requested that Councilor Willoughby be recognized and he expressed his appreciation for the Councilor's effort to see the staff land program reach its completion. He added that Council, one week prior to the meeting, was able to get a purchase approval and would be going ahead with the necessary purchasing, clearing and bushing of the property.
11. He added that within a month's time, the survey and subdivision will then follow culminating with the distribution to staff.

**The Mayor stated that the Commercial Center and Cumberbatch Field Projects will be placed on hold due to the finances of the Council.**

**v. Study Leave**

12. Mayor stated that the Council has always encouraged staff to further their education. He added that the Administrative Officer Mr. Jermaine Hyde was accepted to the University of the West Indies in the Faculty of Law. Hence he is seeking the support of Council to grant study leave to Mr. Hyde with consideration of salary.

*[Mr. Hyde was asked to excuse himself from the meeting.]*

13. Since the duration of the program is five years, it is suggested that Mr. Hyde be bonded to the Council for 5 years and be given 80% of his monthly salary.
14. All Councillors present voted unanimously to approve the study leave and issuing of 80% of salary to Mr. Hyde. **MOTION CARRIED.**

*[Mr. Hyde was asked to return to the meeting.]*

*Councilor Theus*

15. Councilor Theus raised the issue of the Cohune Walk Festival and stated that Mr. Sanker has redefined the project where the music is more structured and cultural food is also added in. He stated that Mr. Sanker showed a power point presentation to Mrs. Ordonez and Mrs. Elrington and it could be made available for Council.
16. It was discussed and Council was inquiring whether it was \$1 US or \$1 BZD would be given to the City, but at the next meeting more information would be provided.
17. Councilor Theus informed Council that he met with Minister Mark King who indicated that a private investor is interested in setting up a sizable high end market on McKay Boulevard.
18. He added that the Minister is requesting that the Council does the necessary street upgrades to facilitate the launch of the project.
19. Mayor indicated that due to the lack of funds at the Council that would not be an impending project.
20. Councilor Theus informed the Council that he has been in communication with the hair braiders near the Tourism village and they are interested in organizing themselves and forming an association. They indicated that they needed the assistance of the Council in acquiring the necessary chairs for hair braiding, so they can better serve clients coming out of the village.

21. Councillor Theus added that he has been contacted by Mr. Valencia from the Mexican consulate, concerning a forum for small businesses which will be held in late October or early November. He is requesting that the Council assemble a task force to attend the forum to develop small businesses and promote Belize.
22. The Mayor indicated that this would be a great initiative for the Council to partake in.
23. Councillor Theus informed Council that the Taxi operators are clamoring for a designated space within the Tourist Village Zone where they can park. They indicated to him that they are willing to pay the necessary fees which would accompany such areas.
24. Additionally, Councillor Theus noted that the taxi operators are requesting that the Moratorium on Taxi Plates be revisited. He pointed out that this could be a new revenue stream for the council as well as the implementing of parking meters.
25. Mayor indicated that the Council needs to make a decision on the direction it will go.
26. Deputy Samuels indicated that the Moratorium be left in place as it is.
27. Councillor Singh stated that he feels majority of the taxi operators want it open but with restriction in place. Councillor Gonzalez stated that it should be left as is to limit the number of taxi operators. Councillor Hyde indicated that at the last consultation it was indicated that they wanted the moratorium lifted but with proper mechanisms in place to regulate the number of plates being issued. She added that the initial cost of the meters would have to be paid upfront by the Council and the time taken for the revenue to turn over would not be worth the investment especially given the financial status of the Council.
28. The Mayor requested that Councillor Pitts and Mr. Jenkins dialogue with the union representatives and inform the Council at the next meeting what would be the best approach.

### ***Councillor Hyde***

29. Councillor Hyde addressed her concern with the interview panel of the Council. She pointed out that new employees are being hired within their departments and they are unaware of it.
30. Mayor stated that Councillor Singh is the Councillor that sits on the panel and is present for all interviews the Council holds. He added that as the Councillor for HR, it is only fitting for him to be on the panel.
31. Councillor Singh added that the HR department upon hiring any new personnel, circulates a memo with the new employees. Councillor Hyde stated that while the

memo is circulated, Councillors aren't at the Council on a daily basis to see these memos and as such Councilors should be on the interview panel for their respective departments.

32. Councilor Hyde stated that Ms. McKenzie's role on the DAC is as a legal advisor and when she brings her staff to DAC she cannot sit on the panel to give the needed advice. Hence Councilor Hyde is suggesting that someone with a legal background should be present on such occasions to guide the panel in their decision making process.
33. Mayor indicated that the HR Regulations speaks specifically of the composition of the DAC members and their roles. Ms. McKenzie added that according to the regulations, it may have an attorney or legal counsel and it wasn't mandatory.
34. Councillor Hyde voiced her concern on the increase in the fuel bill of the council. She stated that the monthly cost of fuel has doubled and especially for the office of the Mayor. She highlighted that the City Administrator's fuel consumption was higher than the Mayor's monthly consumption.
35. Ms. Miller indicated that she has now moved into her house which is in the 8 Miles community and as such will be using more fuel. Additionally the vehicle that is assigned to her uses more fuel than the previous that was assigned.
36. Mayor pointed out that from his observation the two vehicles purchased do consume more fuel and that it is not as indication of some wrong being done.
37. Councilor Hyde inquired about the pending Triple B judgment, which the Council has not resolved as yet. She indicated that she had met with Ms. Lisa Shoman S.C. and they were willing to negotiate.
38. Mayor stated that while he understands that they are willing to negotiate, the Council is not in a position to commit to anything yet.
39. Councilor Hyde responded stating that he asked Mr. Hyde to draft a letter to Ms. Shoman outlining the terms that council were willing to agree to. Mayor said that while this is the case, and he saw the letter that Jermaine drafted, he had to stand down because the Council would not be able make these payments so it made no point to commit to any agreement.

### **Other Business**

40. Councilor Edwards stated that there were petitions from the Works department and invited the Assistant City Engineer Mr. Camal to present them:

- i) Advertising sign 8'X4' submitted by Mr. Salvador Guerra to be placed at the Cor. Blue Marlin Blvd & Coney Drive. Planning Department does not recommend.
- ii) Concrete structure over Collet Canal submitted by Fareed Ahmad. Council decided that the structures over the canal should all be built from a standard plan and design. Council differed the matter until the plan is completed.
- iii) Advertisement signs submitted by DFC. Planning has no objections to the erection of the signs. Council approves the installation of the signs.  
**MOTION CARRIED**
- iv) Extension of a booth at Farmers market submitted by Kimberly Searle. Council deferred the proposal until the proper floor plans are submitted.

**[Mayor left the meeting at 2:07pm and Deputy Samuels took over]**

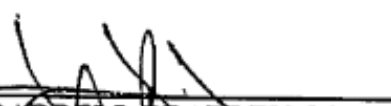
- v) Proposal by Ms. Cynthia Bennett to rent a portion of reserve at Lot #940 Port Layola. Council deferred pending additional information regarding the use of the reserve.

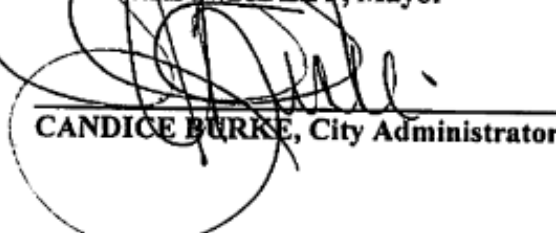
**[Councilor Gonzalez left the meeting at 2:09pm]**

- 41. Councilor Edwards shared a power point presentation on the future plans for the development of tourism and business initiatives at the Memorial Park.
- 42. Deputy Mayor moved for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Latchman- Cuellar motioned that the meeting stands adjourned, Councilor Theus seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**
- 43. All Councilors present voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 2:17pm

**Confirmation of Minutes**

**These minutes, which are the minutes of a Council Meeting of the Belize City Council duly convened and held on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2015 were reviewed and approved by a Resolution of the Council dated ( 14 ) August, 2015**

  
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**DARRELL BRADLEY, Mayor**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**CANDICE BURKE, City Administrator**



**BELIZE CITY COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION NO. 15 of 2015**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF BUSINESS SIGN ON 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,

**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,

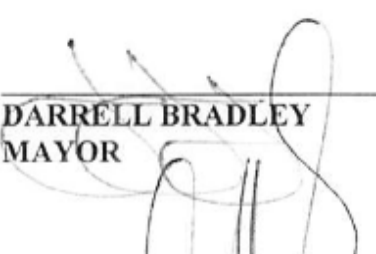
**AND WHEREAS**, Section 29 (h) of the Belize City Council Act CAP 85 of the Substantive Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2000, provides for the Council to manage any land owned by the Council for public purposes,


**AND WHEREAS**, the **DEVELOPMENT FINANCE COOPERATION OF BELIZE** through its agents has formally applied to the Council in writing to install business signs on Coney Drive Streets in front of the company's office

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council supports, approves, and confirms

- The installation of business signs on Coney Drive in front of Development Finance Cooperation.

**In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 14th day of August 2015, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**DARRELL BRADLEY  
MAYOR**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**CANDICE MILLER  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**





**BELIZE CITY COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION NO. 14 of 2015**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE STUDY LEAVE**

**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,

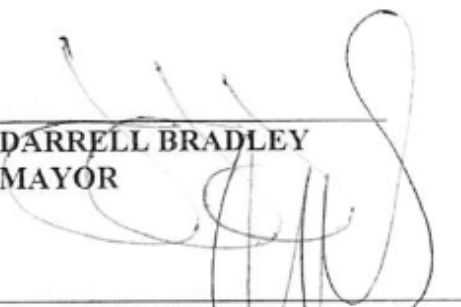
**AND WHEREAS**, the Belize City Council encourages and supports the development of staff through education,

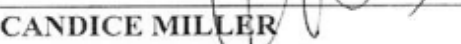
**AND WHEREAS**, **MR. JERMAINE HYDE** a permanent employee of the Belize City Council has applied to and has been granted acceptance to the Faculty of Law at the University of the West Indies,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council approves, supports and authorizes

- Study Leave granted to **MR. JERMAINE HYDE** for the duration of the educational program on the basis:
  - (i) That upon completion **MR. JERMAINE HYDE** be bonded to the Council for a period of five (5) years;
  - (ii) That during his time away, **MR. JERMAINE HYDE** be given 80% of his monthly salary;

**In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 14th day of August 2015, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**DARRELL BRADLEY  
MAYOR**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**CANDICE MILLER  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**







**BELIZE CITY COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION NO. 13 of 2015**

**A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE CEMENTING OF STREETS**

**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 24 (2) (a) of the Belize City Council Act CAP 85 of the substantive laws of Belize empowers the Council to construct, repair, alter or widen all streets with such material and in such manner as the Council thinks fit,

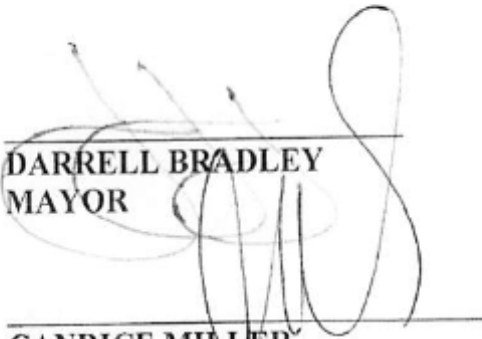
**AND WHEREAS**, the Government of Belize through the Ministry of Works and Ministry of Finance is desirous of assisting the Belize City Council with the concreting of five (5) streets in Belize City,


**AND WHEREAS**, the Belize City Council after consultations with the Ministry of Finance, engaged RJB Construction in negotiations to cement five (5) streets,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council approves, supports and authorizes

- The commencement of an infrastructure project to cement Amara Ave, King Street, Plues Street, Seashore Drive and University Drive.

**In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 14th day of August 2015, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**DARRELL BRADLEY  
MAYOR**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**CANDICE MILLER  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

