

#### MINUTES OF ORDINARY CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING Thursday May 11th, 2017 Belize City Hall

#### Present:

Mr. Darrell Bradley Mayor

2. Mr. Dean Samuels Deputy Mayor 3. Mr. Jason Edwards Councilor

Mr. Kevin Singh Councilor (3:15 p.m.)

Mr. Michael Theus Councilor

Mr. Bernard Pitts Councilor (3:15 p.m.)

Dr. Alain Gonzalez Councilor

Mr. Dion Leslie Councilor (3:30 p.m.)

Mrs. Lesbeth Butler Administrative Officer
 Ms. Candice Miller City Administrator

#### Present by invitation:

Mrs. Marilyn Garvin Chief Internal Auditor

Mr. Floyd Williams City Engineer

3. Ms. Sharlene Rudon Director Administration

#### Absent:

Ms.Alifa Elrington Councilor

Mr. Jason Edwards Councilor (out of the city)

3. Mr. Alain Gonzalez Councilor

4. Mrs. Marilyn Ordonez Director Finance (meeting IDB)
5. Mrs. Margaret McKenzie Director Legal (CEMO Symposium)

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m. since quorum was not established at the start
of the meeting the Mayor asked that the meeting commence and anything that needs a
decision/vote will be held off until quorum was established.

Deputy Mayor Dean Samuels opened the meeting with a prayer.

2. The Mayor apologized for postponing caucus that was scheduled for May 9th, 2017. He said it was necessary as he was called to Belmopan to attend a meeting on Trade Reform. He informed that the trade reform is scheduled to be passed into law on May 8th, 2017. He said that fixed fees will be applied to some categories which will create a revenue neutral component.

 Since quorum was not yet established the Mayor requested that the minutes of the meeting held April 4th, 2017 be reviewed by the councilors present, however not vote would be taken until quorum was established.

## Councilor Singh and Pitts arrived establishing quorum.

## Adoption of Minutes

- 4. The minutes of the meeting for April 4th, 2017 was circulated and Councilors were given time to read thoroughly before confirming. No corrections were made to the minutes. The Mayor moved that the minutes be adopted. All Councilors presented voted in favour of adopting the minutes.
- The Mayor moved that the minutes of the Meeting held on April 4, 2017 be adopted. Councilor Theus motioned for the approval of the minutes, seconded by Councilor Singh. MOTION CARRIED

## MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PAST MINUTES

- The Mayor asked for an update on the status with the repairing of the sea walls at BTL
  Park. Ms. Miller stated that this was a costly endeavor. The Mayor said that several
  entities was willing to pay for it. Ms. Miller said that once there is financing for it she
  will seek quotes.
- 7. The Mayor asked Mr. Floyd Williams to follow up on this.
- The Mayor asked for an update on the status with the revenue enhancement mechanisms.
  - a. Councilor Pitts updated that the \$150.00 taxi fee has commenced. However, Councilor Theus clarified that no fee has been paid as yet as registered is needed. He said that once registration is complete the fees will be retroactive.
  - b. Reference the personalized license plate Ms. Miller said that so far only 2 has been sold but there has not been any effort in promoting this. She said that the Chief Transport Officer sent a letter cautioning the Council that license plates needs to have a numeric sequence. However, other municipalizes such as Belmopan has already started.
- The Council is waiting for the Backhoe to arrive in the country. Gentrac informed that it is being shipped.
- 10. Ms. Valetta Myvett was chosen as the new Cemetery Coordinator.
- The cemetery concerns has been addressed of late complaints has been minimized.
- Ms. Miller said that she held a meeting with Mr. Bethran. He has agreed to turn over the cemetery books. He was finishing updating them.
- 13. The Mayor asked is records are now being kept electronically. Ms. Miller confirmed that they were being kept softcopy. The Mayor stated that he believes it should be the citizen's responsibilities to properly mark their love one graves. He suggested that Council put a marker on graves for them to be readily identified.

14. The Mayor asked Councilor Willoughby to follow up on the letter from Belize Waste Control. He said that the letter should state that the Council should not to be charged for disposal of garbage at the dump. He said that generally residence should pay for disposing of their garbage, however this is not something that the Council has pursued.

### Mayor Darrell Bradley

#### MAYOR MATTERS

- 15. Mayor Bradley requested that councilors reviewed the contract for Ranger Security (Hiram Longsworth) so that it be voted on for renewal. He stated that the contract is for a 3 year term and have a 60 days' notice for termination.
- All councilors present voted in favor of renewing the contract for Ranger Security.
   MOTION CARRIED
- 17. The Mayor requested that councilors reviewed the contract for the rental of the WellWorth Building so that it be voted on for renewal. He stated that the lease is for 1 year and also has a termination clause.
- All Councilors present voted in favor of renewing the contract for leasing of the Wellworth Building. MOTION CARRIED.
- 19. The Mayor informed that Mr. Thadani is requesting renewal of the Boar House Contract. Ian Lizarraga who currently has the lease is subletting it to Mr. Thadani. The contract is for 8 booths/kiosk at \$4000.00 monthly with a 4 months reprieve from the date of signing. The maintenance clause as well as the clause that council will not allow any other business to sell the same type of food will be removed.
- 20. Councilor Theus clarified.....
- 21. The Mayor asked for a resolution that the council approved approve the standard lease currently held by Mr. Lizarraga for rental of 8 kiosk at \$4000.00 per month. The lease will specify that the council owns the property. The clause that no other vender will be allowed to sell food of the same nature will be removed, that is all restriction clause will be removed.
- All Councilors present voted in favor of approving the lease under the specified conditions stated. MOTION CARRIED.
- 23. Beltraide has submitted an MOU for signing off by the Council. The formal agreement will have Beltraide source support for small business development. This MOU will bear no financial impact on the Council.
- All Councilors present voted in favor of signing the Beltraide MOU. MOTION CARRIED.
- 25. The Mayor updated that it seems likely that the funds will get the funds for the Commercial Center. A meeting was held with I.E. to discuss the details of the contract. The original amount for renovation was \$4M. Due to the length of time it is taking for the renovation to be materialized the Council lost the grant of \$400,000.00 US. However, due to the delay the BML litigation has been paid off, therefore the funds allocated for BML will go towards the loan.
- 26. There was some discussion on the urgency of getting the Commercial Center renovated as the building was depreciating.

- In reference to the Bella Vista Project Mr. Floyd Williams informed that the plan was already sent to BWS for works to be done.
- 28. Councilor Leslie was asked to get 3 quotes for works on the other side of Bella Vista, the area where he lives. Councilor Leslie asked Mr. Williams to prepare the scope of works by the following week May 19th, 2017.
- 29. Ms. Miller voiced a concern that there was some miscalculations with the property tax to be traded off which results in much less revenue to be collected. The calculation was done for 2 years of payment although many residents have already paid for 1 year.
- The Mayor asked Ms. Miller to meet with Mr. Burgos and negotiate a payment with Mr. Burgos.
- 31. The Mayor updated that the paving of Fullers Lane is completed.
- The works on Eyre Street is pending. The paving will be done after BWS completes infrastructure work.
- The remaining portion of Ariel Rosado Street is scheduled to be completed by May 19th, 2017.
- 34. Plans for CUF is on-going, approximately 93 persons have already signed up for the conference. The target amount is 200 persons. Minister Omar Figueroa is scheduled to be the keynote speaker. The Mayor asked for the councilors support by making themselves available for the entire sessions. He asked them to attend as much session as they possibly could.
- Representatives from many different countries and organizations is scheduled to attend the forum. Most of the persons are from English speaking countries.
- 36. The Mayor stated that he is anticipating a flawless forum. He especially asked for councilors support with attending Mayors Forum and the EXPO. He asked that everyone encourage people to attend these events as issues such as climate change, flood mitigation and urban planning will be discussed.
- Approximately \$56,000.00 has been received in sponsorship. Written invitations
  were sent to various institutions and media rounds has been done to encourage
  people to attend.
- 38. Mrs. Butler was asked to forward the program to councilors.
- 39. The Mayor informed that an orientation session which was not on the schedule was being planned for the day prior to forum for visiting Mayors. He invited the councilors to social event which was scheduled to be held at the Belamari Restaurant on Sea Shore Drive May 16th, 2017.
- 40. The Mayor brought up the concern of councilors interfering in administrative matters. He stated that councilors are not to be involved in administrative matters particularly when it comes to matters of hiring and finance.
- 41. Councilor Pitts stated that he had an issue with the vacant post for Special Constable as he asked for some applicants to be short listed and none of the applicants he requested selected to be interviewed.
- 42. The Mayor stated that no councilor should submit any short list as this is solely a Human Resources function. He said that Councilor Singh is the councilor with responsibility for Human Resources. He said that other councilors can sit in the interview relating to their portfolio if they choose.
- 43. There was a discussion the Mayor and Councilor Pitts on this matter.

- 44. The Mayor asked Ms. Miller for her input. She explained that Councilor Pitts took the envelope with the applications and sent them back with about 20 applicants he wanted to be short listed. She said that from that list 5 persons were selected to be interviewed. Councilor Pitts said that was not the case as no one he choose was selected.
- 45. The Mayor asked that Ms. Ursula be called to clarify. However, before that happened there was some exchange of words between the Mayor and Councilor Pitts resulting in the Mayor adjourning the meeting.
- 46. The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

#### Confirmation of Minutes

These minutes, which are the minutes of a Council Meeting of the Belize City Council duly convened and held on 4 of April 2017 was reviewed and approved by a Resolution of the Council dated (//) May, 2017

DARRELL BRADLEY Mayor

CANDICE VILLER, City Administrator



#### Belize City Council RESOLUTION NO. 13 of 2017

#### A RESOLUTION TO RENEW THE LEASING OF THE WELLWORTH BUILDING

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 is desirous of procuring office space to house the offices of the Municipal Court, Special Constable and Audit Department,

Whereas, the Council entered into a lease agreement with the owner of the Wellworth Building, Mr. Denesh Bhojwani, for office spaces on the Second Floor for one calendar year,

Whereas, the lease agreement for the Second Floor between the Council and Mr. Bhojwani expired on March 31st, 2017,

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

 The renewal of the lease agreement for the rental of the Second Floor at the Wellworth Building for a new calendar year April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 11 day of May 2017, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:

DARRELL BRADLEY

CANDICE MHLLER CITY ADMINISTRATOR





#### Belize City Council RESOLUTION NO. 14 of 2017

# A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASING OF KIOSKS AT FORT GEORGE MEMORIAL PARK

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 Belize City Council is duly authorized to maintain and manage parks and playgrounds within the City, inclusive of kiosks and other amenities.

Whereas, Mr. Ian Lizarraga has formally applied for and was granted a lease of the 8 kiosks at Fort George Memorial Park hereinafter called The Boar House.

Whereas, the lease of the Boar House has expired, and Mr. Lizarraga is desirous of renewing the agreement,

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

- The renewal of a standard for the Boar House located at Fort George Memorial Park for the period of 8 calendar year.
- The rental of 8 kiosk at \$4000.00 per month with a 4 months reprieve from the date of signing.
- The lease will specify that the council owns the property.
- The maintenance clause as well as the clause that council will not allow any other business to sell
  the same type of food will be removed.

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 11 day of May 2017, the Common Scal was hereunto affixed by:

DARRELL BRADLEY

MAYOR

CANDICE MILLER CITY ADMINISTRATOR



#### Belize City Council RESOLUTION NO. 15 of 2017

#### A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF AN MOU WITH BELTRAIDE

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, Beltraide is a statutory body of the Ministry of Economic Development, Petroleum, Investment, Trade & Commerce of Belize that provides customized needs-based services to businesses in Belize.

Whereas, the Council is desirous of partnering with Beltraide to source support for small business development within Belize City,

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

The signing of an MOU with Beltraide and the affixing of the Council's seal thereon.

In pursuance of an order of the Belize City Council made on the 11 day of May 2017, the Common Seal was hereunto affixed by:

DARRELL BRADLEY

CANDICE MILIER CITY ADMINISTRATOR COUNCIA