

MINUTES OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Caucus Room, Belize City Council

February 18th, 2025

10:00 a.m.

Present at the meeting were the following:

1. Mr. Bernard Wagner
2. Mr. Allan Pollard Jr.
3. Mr. Javier Castellanos
4. Ms. Kaya Cattouse
5. Mr. Evan Thompson
6. Mr. Edmund Kwan
7. Mr. Sherwin Garcia
8. Mr. Malcolm Nunez
9. Mr. Dorian Usher
10. Mr. Eluide Miller

Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor
Councillor

Absent with Apologies:

11. Mrs. Stephanie Hamilton

Councillor

Mr. Albert Vaughan
Ms. Carissa Casanova

City Administrator
Administrative Manager, Office of the
Mayor



Mayor Wagner called the meeting to order at 10:22 AM.

1.0 Belize National Prayer

1.1 Mayor Wagner led all present in reciting the National Prayer of Belize.

2.0 Welcome Remarks

2.1 Mayor Wagner thanked those present for attending despite the election season. He expressed his gratitude for their participation in the work of Local Government, which is the form of government closest to the people.

2.2 Mayor Wagner emphasized the mutual dependence of national and local governments, asserting that neither would achieve the same level of success without the other. He highlighted the significant development across the country as a result of this collaboration. Additionally, the mayor expressed his gratitude for a national government that comprehends the realities faced by local authorities and actively collaborates with the Council.

2.3 Mayor Wagner acknowledged the efforts being undertaken beyond the direct purview of the Council, noting that some measure of support is being provided to the City which indirectly benefits the Council. This assistance will enable the Council to conduct stocktaking and prioritize other areas of the city. He also highlighted that work is progressing in the Collet, Caribbean Shores, and Port Loyola divisions through collaborative efforts with area representatives, Councillors, and the City Administrator.

2.4 The Mayor then thanked the City Administrator for his efforts to uplift the Council's offices and workspaces, not just at City Hall, but also at the Council's other locations. Mayor Wagner acknowledged that the Traffic Department has outgrown its current space, and highlighted improvements to the Municipal Court.

2.5 Mayor Wagner then highlighted the Council's new fleet of vehicles and advised that they had already been assigned to their respective departments. He further stated that the vehicles are being managed more rigorously to ensure that they are used solely for Council business and not for personal matters.

2.6 The Mayor noted that the Belize City Council is a leader among Belize's municipalities, and acknowledged the GIS Specialist and Councillor Miller for their commendable work. Mayor Wagner explained that the Mayor of Belmopan has indicated an interest in implementing a public works solution similar to the Grid System currently under development for the Council. He also conveyed his satisfaction in declaring that this has been one of the most exemplary teams he has had the pleasure of working with.

2.7 The City Administrator acknowledged the tragic incident that resulted in the death of a student from Stella Maris School. He underscored the importance of equity and inclusion in the workplace, particularly for individuals with disabilities. He further announced that the Council had recently recruited an individual with a physical disability.

2.8 The City Administrator proceeded to introduce Mr. Orson Butler Jr. to the Council, noting his employment as a documentation officer in the HR Department. The City Administrator explained that Mr. Butler will be responsible for ensuring the Council's compliance with the new social security claim submission requirements.

10:34 AM Councillor Castellanos arrived.

3.0 Ratification of the January 28th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

3.1 (6.24) provide more clarity on who Salient is.

3.2 (6.28) change to "IT Manager, along with other members of the management"

3.3 (10.13) replace "hardcore" with "all-in".

3.4 Councillor Miller moved for the minutes of the January 28th, 2025 meeting to be accepted. Seconded by Councillor Garcia.

4.0 Matters arising from the Minutes

4.1 (5.14) Mayor Wagner thanked the Councillors for participating in the strategic planning session held on Saturday, February 1st, along with the Directors. He advised that a follow-up email was sent for Councillors to create a plan for their teams to implement the identified priorities.

4.2 The Mayor explained that Councillors should take the lead in meeting with Directors and Managers to finalize their operational plans as it will serve as a roadmap for the work to be done in 2025. He advised that if Councillors don't participate in this process, the Managers will be left to do it on their own and Councillors will not be a part of the decision-making process. He advised that their input should be realistic and achievable, and encouraged the Councillors to complete their plans within the prescribed deadline.

4.3 (5.15) Mayor Bernard Wagner advised that the Council is still awaiting the delivery of another compactor truck, which was part of the fleet package negotiated with Caribbean Motors.

4.4 (5.11) Mayor Wagner announced that a kickoff meeting was recently held with representatives from Blue21, the organization assisting with the feasibility study for the floating boardwalk. In discussions with the representatives, it was estimated that the



project would cost approximately 3.8 million euros.

4.5 Mayor Wagner then shared that he had just received an email from Global Covenant of Mayors representative, Mercedes Balzquez Garcia-Ibarrola, who is a climate action financing expert. In her email, Ms. Balzquez explained that Belize City was formally selected as one of the cities to receive GCoM support on the **Bankable Cities' Climate Projects initiative**.

4.6 Formal approval allows GCoM and its partner agencies such as Bloomberg Philanthropies, and the European Union, to support Belize within the scope of the **Bankable Cities' Climate Projects initiative**. This initiative aims to strengthen the capacity of cities to fast-track projects at the pre-feasibility stage of development and helps to identify relevant sources of financing. Support will be delivered through tailored online workshops and/or site missions and may include a matchmaking session or the organization of bilateral calls/meetings with potential financial partners.

4.7 Mayor Wagner emphasized the magnitude of the project and explained that it would represent a significant step forward for both Belize City and the Region. He expressed confidence that the project would garner substantial support from the International Financial Institutions (IFIs). Furthermore, he added that the boardwalk would serve as a buffer along the shore, helping to mitigate rising sea levels while promoting tourism, Local Economic Development (LED), and recreation.

4.8 Mayor Wagner advised that agencies prefer to fund projects that address climate adaptation and are innovative. He added that the Council has been bold in pursuing this project as a city, and the response has been tremendous. The mayor stated that the floating boardwalk has the potential to be life-changing, and he urged that it be completed even after his tenure in office.

4.9 Mayor Wagner then advised that a meeting should be scheduled between the Blue 21 team, who will be visiting in April, and the Minister of Tourism, and the Prime Minister.

4.10 The City Administrator emphasized the importance of consulting with the residents as well.

4.11 (6.5) Regarding the replacement of the SICA/CARICOM flags, the City Administrator advised that the quotation had been requested.

4.12 (5.16) Regarding the Council's new vehicle fleet, the City Administrator advised that all new vehicles have been distributed to their assigned departments, and all vehicles being traded in have been returned to the dealership. He emphasized the importance of taking care of the new fleet and noted that two of the new Wingles have already been involved in minor accidents, which he believes could have been avoided.

4.13 (5.20) The City Administrator then advised that he had made arrangements with the Integrity Commission for an informational session with the Council, but due to the tight timeline, he canceled the arrangements. He further advised the Councillors that if they were not able to meet the deadline, they could request an extension.

4.14 (9.4) Regarding the placement of a speedbump near the intersection of Racoon and Seagull Streets, the City Administrator advised that the information has been shared with the Works team.

4.15 The City Administrator was advised that the mini backhoe was seen parked for several days, and was asked if it is operational. The City Administrator advised that he was not aware, and assured the Council that he would seek clarity.

4.16 Deputy Mayor Pollard suggested that a trailer be used to transport the mini backhoe from one location to the next as it is not designed to travel long distances.

4.17 Regarding the disposal of the Council's unservicable equipment, the City Administrator advised that the Audit Department is awaiting a response from the Ministry of Local Government.

4.18 Deputy Mayor Pollard advised the paint on the streets is rapidly fading, and advocated for using thermoplastic paints. He announced that the payment to procure the machine was made, and it is currently en route. The Council already has paint in stock, so as the machine arrives, the team can get to work.

10:53 AM Councillor Kwan arrived.

5.0 Announcements by the Mayor

5.1 Mayor Wagner expressed his disappointment in the dormancy of the Belize City Accelerator Program (BCAP). He observed that the program has not been performing administratively and further noted that there has been no follow-up with program participants.

5.2 Mayor Wagner further explained that it is the responsibility of the LED Manager to interact with past participants. Additionally, business owners across the city should be continuously engaged in order to foster a relationship between the businesses and the Council. The LED Manager should be visiting several businesses each week to find out how they can be better served.

5.3 Following these visits, a comprehensive report should be prepared, and the relevant departments should follow up on any areas of concern. Using this approach, business owners will begin to feel like they have a relationship with the city. Regarding small businesses, the LED Manager should engage with entrepreneurs through various training activities.

5.4 Mayor Wagner emphasized that the sole focus of the LED Unit is not merely on diaspora and travel. In discussions with the City Administrator and Councillor Miller, it was noted that the LED Unit is expected to conduct quarterly business rounds, map business locations, and address any trade or permit issues. This approach allows for the development of personal relationships. He also noted that there is a lot that can be achieved with the limited resources available.

5.5 Councillor Castellanos mentioned that in a recent conversation, he was advised that financial institutions deem certain businesses to be high risk, and don't typically provide funding for these. He suggested identifying businesses that are more likely to succeed and focusing the program's efforts on those.

5.6 Mayor Wagner suggested following the example of a city in Florida, integrating many of their practices into Belize City. He mentioned 'Technical Assistance Fridays' and small business success stories as potential initiatives. He reiterated that there is a lot that can be accomplished with the resources currently available.

6.0 General Updates from the City Administrator

6.1 The City Administrator assured the Council that he would be addressing Mayor Wagner's concern regarding BCAP. He then invited the Directors of Administration, Finance and Communications & Marketing to provide a report on their respective divisions.

6.2 The Finance Director highlighted the Council's revenue for the month of January, which amounted to 5.20 million dollars. He added that 75 new trade licenses were approved, resulting in revenue generation of \$71,100. These licenses support local businesses and contribute to the city's economic growth.

6.3 The Finance Director then reported that the Enforcement Department has consistently met monthly revenue goals through enforcement of local ordinances and proactive collection of outstanding fees.

6.4 Similarly, the Traffic Administrative Department has met revenue targets which reflects effective management. A new Cashier as well as a new Records Clerk have been added to the department, which allows for improved service and processing of administrative duties.

6.5 The Director advised that upgrades are being made to improve the working environment, creating a more conducive atmosphere for staff and visitors. These enhancements include modernizing equipment, improving office layout, and ensuring a comfortable setting for all.

6.6 A breakdown of the cases lodged at the municipal court for January was provided. Mayor Wagner noted that the number of property tax matters was minimal. He urged the Director to ensure that property tax matters are actively being addressed by the court.

6.7 The Director advised that the William Fonseca Parking Facility has seen low occupancy rates since November, and explained that there have been ongoing promotions and the team has been engaging with businesses in the immediate downtown area who have expressed interest in leasing a few spaces.

6.8 Highlights from the Market Department included a pending proposal to rent commercial space in the market, attracting diverse businesses and creating a vibrant hub. This can generate revenue to reinvest in market improvements and community development, driving long-term growth and prosperity.

6.9 Regarding the LED Unit, the Director of Finance advised that Business Continuity Planning Sessions are being held with the Downtown Business Community with the intent to reach out to more businesses.

6.10 The LED Manager also intends to meet with Beltraide to revise its partnership agreement with the Council.

6.11 The Director was advised of the concerns regarding the dormancy of the BCAP Program; he committed to addressing the matter and concluded his presentation.

6.12 The Director of Administration began her presentation by advising that the CEMO Unit is working with Mr. Javier Canul to plan upcoming simulations that will test employees' knowledge and readiness.

6.13 The CEMO Field Officer continues to provide disaster preparedness presentations to Primary Schools across the city. Additionally, the CEMO Unit is conducting Shelter Inspections; they are accompanied by the City Engineer, the City Planner, Public Health Inspectors, NEMO representatives, and members of the Fire Department.

6.14 The director announced a training opportunity being provided to the Council through Catalyze+, which is an economic development organization that has been building capacity within businesses, governments, and community organizations to promote locally-driven, inclusive growth and sustainable development.

6.15 Other highlights from the HR Department included the implementation of the Social Security Board's Online Submission of Medical Certificates which comes into effect on April 1st, 2025, and the participation of the department in Career Day at Sadie Vernon High School.

6.16 The Director of Administration also advised that the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between the Council and the CWU was signed on Friday, February 7th, 2025.

6.17 The director provided updates on several initiatives from the MIS Department, including the progress of the Belize City App development, ongoing discussions about WiFi access in city parks, and the status of the damaged DHCP server, which is responsible for distributing automatic IP addresses. She advised that a temporary solution to the server issue had been implemented until the server could be replaced.

6.18 In concluding her presentation, the Director of Administration's report highlighted the progress being made regarding the adoption of Digi Park and Jane Usher Park. She advised the Council that Digi has committed to the installation of solar lights throughout the park, installing a new signage, and expanding the range of WiFi access.

6.19 In her presentation, the Director of Communications & Marketing highlighted the handing over of the second compactor purchased through the grant received from the Embassy of Japan. She also highlighted the launch of the Council's new vehicle fleet and the signing of the CBA.

6.20 Thus far, there have been five (5) issues of the Council's newsletter updated to the website with City Councillors, and members of management featured in various issues.

6.21 The Public Relations Department has been assisting in finalizing the details of the public works and sanitation solution (Grid System) to successfully launch the initiative. The Director advised that the initiative provides a technological solution to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Works and Sanitation Departments.

6.22 The Director of Communications & Marketing then highlighted the efforts being made in the Programs Department. She explained that the Youth Shadow Council has been very active in Council initiatives such as the CBA, Signing, visits to the Welcome Resource Center (WRC), and participating in financial literacy trainings.

6.23 Additionally, the winners of the essay competition have received their rewards, and the first-place winner, Ms. Sandra Lindo, is expected to “Mayor for a Day” on Thursday, February 20th, 2025.

6.24 Progress is being made toward identifying a location for the second student hub. A site visit is being planned to the Department of Youth Services’ Entrepreneurship Hub, which is being considered for the second location. The Programs Department is also working toward completing a policy for the Student Hub which guides and protects the hub and its visitors.

6.25 The Programs Department has been working with the HR Department and Peacework Belize, to provide Financial Literacy training to staff of the Belize City Council. The training is being funded by the Central Bank of Belize, and 220 members of staff have benefitted thus far. Topics include setting SMART Goals, learning to differentiate between a need and a want, budgeting, and avoiding financial pitfalls.

6.26 Lastly, the Programs Department participated in a service activity on Valentine's Day at the Welcome Resource Center. In concluding, the Director of Communications & Marketing announced that Women’s Month and Child Stimulation Month activities were next on the Calendar. She explained that the Council usually assists the Ministry of Education with the opening ceremony and parade for Child Stimulation Month.

7.0 Notices

7.1 No matters were tabled.

8.0 Questions

8.1 No matters were tabled.

9.0 Petitions

9.1 Councillor Cattouse tabled a petition from residents of Albert St. West. She advised that the area is heavily trafficked, and there have been incidents of near-collision due to speeding. She further advised that students of James Garbutt Primary School are being affected, and a request has been made for a speed bump to be placed near the entrance of the school. There is already a pedestrian crossing in place, but motorists do not respect the paint.

9.2 Councillor Cattouse was advised that the matter would be referred to the Traffic Management Committee for further consideration.

9.3 The City Administrator recalled that the matter had been addressed in a previous Council Meeting and noted the intention to pave the street and convert it into a no parking zone to alleviate congestion. He further advised that the Traffic Management Committee, responsible for making the recommendation, has not convened.

9.4 Councillor Castellanos voiced his support for the installation of a rectangular speed bump as requested.

9.5 Deputy Mayor Pollard sought clarity on the exact placement of the speed bump. He also inquired if a pedestrian crossing was being requested and noted that there is nowhere to go on the opposite side of the street.

9.6 Councillor Cattouse explained that a rectangular speed bump, rather than a pedestrian ramp, would be placed just after Albert St. West's intersection with Berkley St.

9.7 It was further suggested that a rubber speed bump may also be a viable solution.

9.8 Councillor Miller advised that he would refer the petition to the Traffic Management Committee so that the matter could be addressed promptly.

10.0 Presentation of Reports from Councillors

10.1 Councillor Kwan took the opportunity to voice concerns about vehicles driving around without license plates. He questioned how tickets could be issued to such vehicles.

10.2 Councillor Kwan was advised that there are other ways of identifying a vehicle if they are registered. In some instances, drivers are provided with a receipt to be used temporarily, in the event there are no license plates available.

10.3 Councillor Kwan observed that there has been an issue with the supply of license plates. He was assured that the supply of license plates is not an issue faced by the Council, but rather by the Ministry of Transport.

10.4 Deputy Mayor Pollard then raised concern over a trend of residents and businesses transferring their vehicle registrations out of the city. He explained that even corporations with large fleets are leaving the city due to increased restrictions.

10.5 Deputy Mayor Pollard further explained that more stringent regulations, such as implementing trade licenses for taxi operators, and car dealers, are causing them to leave the city. With every measure being implemented to control the transportation system, people rebel and transfer.

10.6 Deputy Mayor Pollard urged the Council to keep stakeholders, including the Department of Transport, informed on any new guidelines and advise them of the Council's standards, and what to expect.

10.7 The City Administrator advised that the Traffic Management Committee consists of representatives from the Transport Department, the Police Department, and the Fire Department. He added that the purpose of the Committee is so that all entities are on the same page about traffic related matters within Belize City.

10.8 Councillor Javier Castellanos explained that if someone obtains a taxi license in Ladyville but operates within Belize City, they should be required to pay fees in Belize City.

10.9 Deputy Mayor Pollard suggested that a Memorandum of Understanding be signed between the Council and the Ministry of Transport to ensure these concerns are addressed.

10.10 Councillor Miller noted that the revenue being generated by the department has been consistent, but advised that he would have a discussion with the Traffic Administrative Manager and take a closer look at the matter.

10.11 Mayor Wagner then assigned the City Administrator, the Traffic Administrative Manager, and Councillor to look into the matter and provide an update.

10.12 Deputy Mayor Pollard advised that the transfers are largely due to people not wanting to comply, and the Council has a history of ensuring compliance.

10.13 The Council was advised that there has been a push for the standardization of license plates and stickers through the Central Information Technology Office (CITO), with the plan to procure them all from the same supplier.

10.14 Deputy Mayor Pollard acknowledged that the Traffic Management Committee is important to the Council. They address all traffic related matters and provide an update to the Council.

10.15 The City Administrator stated that the Committee needs to meet more often, and added that the last meeting addressed the matter of private parking.

10.16 Deputy Mayor Pollard reiterated that people are transferring out of the city due to the amount of red tape.

10.17 Mayor Wagner advised that the regulations are necessary to maintain order within the community.

10.18 Deputy Mayor Pollard emphasized the importance of finding a balance to ensure compliance while addressing the needs of the residents.

10.19 Deputy Mayor Pollard reported that the concrete streets rehabilitation plan presented at the last Council meeting is being implemented starting with the intersection of Evergreen and Mahogany Streets. He further advised that the work is expected to continue for another week.

10.20 Deputy Mayor Pollard confirmed that two utility trucks have been received by the Works Department for transporting equipment for the patching crew. However, transportation of personnel remains a challenge, with one Wingle truck being used for both administration and worker transport.

10.21 The City Administrator advised that one of the utility trucks will be modified to install a canopy and benches to facilitate worker transport.

10.22 Deputy Mayor Pollard confirmed that the thermoplastic applicator is expected to arrive soon, but noted that there are still issues with the receipt of supplies for the Works team.

10.23 The City Administrator expressed disappointment that the bus assigned to the Works Department had not yet been repaired.

10.24 Deputy Mayor Pollard expressed a lack of confidence in the department's ability to conduct repairs for major projects and suggested outsourcing the work.

10.25 Deputy Mayor Pollard then reported that Johnson Street has been addressed, and reports on other areas, such as Vernon Street into Mopan St. and the Swing Bridge, would be submitted as soon as possible.

10.26 In her report, Councillor Cattouse highlighted her participation in a Valentine movie day at the WRC. The event was held in collaboration with the WRC, and Ms. Michelle Young, who had previously expressed interest in collaborating to address the issue of homelessness. Councillor Cattouse advised that Councillor Thompson had also participated in the event.

10.27 Councillor Cattouse then advised that the Sanitation team, along with Councillor Miller and Deputy Mayor Pollard, have been discussing the Grid System and efforts are being made to move the project forward. She added that the project is aiming to improve city operations.

10.28 Councillor Garcia reported that an organization called Positive Legacy recently made minor upgrades to the Lighthouse Park, which included painting a mural, and uplifting other areas of the park.

10.29 The City Administrator advised that the matter concerning the park's adoption agreement has been referred to the Council's attorney. It was initially thought that the group was interested in adopting the park, but they were only interested in the project.

10.30 The City Administrator further explained that the individual who adopted the park has been given ample opportunity to comply with the terms of the agreement, but has not done so. A file has been compiled documenting instances of non-compliance and the attorney will advise on the best way forward.

10.31 Councillor Miller reported that working group sessions concerning the Grid System have been conducted in collaboration with the technical team. They have been working together to map out a plan for the project's implementation. A meeting is scheduled for next Thursday to discuss the proposed approach to implementation, procure available devices, and secure estimates for phones rather than tablets, as well as WiFi access.

10.32 Regarding the development of the Belize City App, Councillor Miller advised that the estimate received from Telepin was higher than expected, but adjustments can be made if the timeline is extended. Additionally, the team met with Asof Global Solutions, and provided them with specifications for the application so that an additional estimate could be prepared. He assured the Council that this information would be shared once it becomes available.

10.33 Councillor Miller reported that the Traffic Administrative Department generated approximately \$520,000.00 in revenue for January. He noted that the department has become increasingly efficient, and has welcomed an additional Cashier and a new Records Clerk. Digitization of the department's records remains a priority.

10.34 Additionally, the driver's license printer was recently inspected, and the procurement of a new, modern printer was recommended. Currently, driver's licenses are being produced without the laminate, which is a matter of urgent concern. Councillor Miller also noted that plans include upgrading the camera and designing a new facility for the Traffic Administrative Department.

10.35 Councillor Miller advised that he had been invited to give a presentation at St. Mary's School relating to Municipal Government and the upcoming General Elections. He added that Councillor Thompson has agreed to accompany him at another upcoming appearance.

10.36 Councillor Miller reported that he attended a meeting regarding the new hotel near Haulover Bridge. The bridge was built on previously owned property, and there have been concerns regarding access to the hotel. In an effort to address these concerns, there are plans for a median near the Belize City bridge approach, ensuring hotel patrons use the roundabout to minimize traffic obstruction. The hotel will cover signage costs and run a virtual campaign to inform patrons. Hotel owners will collaborate with the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH), with support from the Council for a long-term solution, as MIDH rehabilitates that portion of the highway.

10.37 Councillor Miller commended the Enforcement and Sanitation teams for their assistance with the convention. He also announced his appointment as a member of the National Executive Committee for the People's United Party (PUP) and as Co-chair of the Policy and Reform Committee. He expressed excitement about the opportunity and thanked everyone for their support.

11.0 Request for leave to move the adjournment of the Council on a definite matter of urgent public importance.

11.1 No matters were tabled.

12.0 Motions by Mayor & Councilors

12.1 Councillor Cattouse moved a motion for the Council to approve an employment contract between the Council and Mr. Edwardo Smith. Seconded by Councillor Miller. MOTION APPROVED.

12.2 Mayor Wagner moved a motion for the Council to approve the Central Bank of Belize's Pension Scheme Municipal Paper Rollover and the issuance of Series VII Municipal Paper. Seconded by Councillor Garcia. MOTION APPROVED.

13.0 New Business

13.1 Mayor Wagner informed the Council that the Climate and Ocean Risk Vulnerability Index (CORVI) Assessment Report has been shared with the Council. He advised that CORVI is a decision support tool designed to help leaders make informed climate investments to improve the safety and security of coastal cities like Belize City. It provides critical information about Belize City's susceptibility to climate change from economic, ecological, and social perspectives, and makes recommendations to build resilience.

13.2 Mayor Wagner further advised that a motion would be shared with the Councillors to approve the adoption of the CORVI report, to assist in making data-driven decisions regarding the future of Belize City.

14.0 Submissions from the Building Unit

14.1 A request for a letter of no-objection for Ms. Lenny Jo Garnett and Ms. Carolyn Tillet to enclose a portion of an alley off Vasquez Avenue located adjacent to Parcels No. 118 and 119 Vasquez Ave. MOTION APPROVED.

14.2 A request for a letter of no-objection by Mr. Emil Novelo, for the placement of a sign at the corner of Calle Al Mar and an alley to locate an Airbnb located at #5956 Calle Al Mar, Belize City. MOTION APPROVED.

14.3 A request for a letter of no-objection to the Central Building Authority by Mr. Armis Hernandez Jr. on behalf of Petroleum Equipment Services Ltd. for the development of a Fuel Service Station at Parcels No. 2089, 2088, 2087, & 2085 Phillip Goldson Highway.

14.4 Deputy Mayor Pollard recommended that the request be deferred until additional research can be conducted on the project.

14.5 The City Planner assured the Council that the new gas station would not pose any safety concerns for those in the surrounding areas. The Fire Department and the Department of the Environment had previously conducted site visits to assess safety measures. MOTION DEFERRED pending public consultation and consultation with the area representatives, along with updated information from the respective agencies.

14.6 A request from Mr. Jamal Tablada to occupy a portion of the reserve on Maurice Bishop St. The City Planner has no objections with the condition of maintaining the 10' wide reserve for drainage. MOTION APPROVED as recommended.

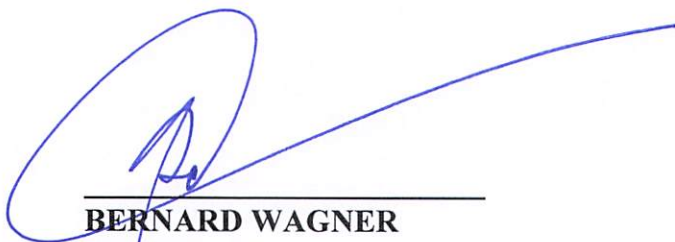
15.0 Other Business

15.1 No Matters were tabled.

16.0 Adjournment

16.1 Mayor moved for the meeting to be adjourned. Seconded by Councillor Nunez.

The meeting concluded at 3:38 pm.


BERNARD WAGNER
MAYOR
ALBERT VAUGHAN
CITY ADMINISTRATOR