



**COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA (Special)**

Monday November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016

2 p.m.

Belize City Hall Council Chambers

**Members to be attending**

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

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

7. Setting the date for the next Council meeting

**Persons to be attending by invitation**

1. Floyd Williams, City Engineer  
2. Mrs. Ordonez, Director Finance

**Agenda Items**

1. Prayer

Mayor's Matters:

- i. Review of Past Minutes
  - ii. Budget
2. Petitions from members of the public
3. Questions from members of the public
4. Request for leave to move adjournment of Council on matters of urgent public notice
5. Motions relating to Council business or sitting
6. Adjournment



**MINUTES OF ORDINARY CLOSED COUNCIL MEETING (Special)  
Monday November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Belize City Hall Mayor's Office**

**Present:**

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Darrell Bradley       | Mayor                  |
| 2. Mr. Dean Samuels          | Deputy Mayor Councilor |
| 3. Mr. Jason Edwards         | Councilor              |
| 4. Ms. Alifa Elrington- Hyde | Councilor (3:02 p.m.)  |
| 5. Mr. Kevin Singh           | Councilor              |
| 6. Mr. Michael Theus         | Councilor              |
| 7. Mr. Dion Leslie           | Councilor              |
| 8. Mr. Bernard Pitts         | Councilor              |
| 9. Mr. Philip Willoughby     | Councilor              |
| 1. Ms. Candice Miller        | City Administrator     |
| 2. Mrs. Lesbeth Butler       | Administrative Officer |

**Present by invitation:**

- |                          |                                    |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Floyd Williams    | City Engineer (3:00 p.m.)          |
| 2. Ms. Margaret McKenzie | Director Legal Services (vacation) |
| 3. Mrs. Marilyn Garvin   | Chief Internal Auditor             |
| 4. Ms. Sharlene Rudon    | Director HR/PR                     |
| 5. Mrs. Marilyn Ordonez  | Director Finance                   |

**Absent with explanation:**

- |                                    |                                |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Dr. Alain Gonzalez              | Councilor (Out of the country) |
| 2. Mrs. Hyacinth Latchman- Cuellar | Councilor (Sick)               |

**Minutes of Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

The Mayor welcomed Councilors to the Council meeting.

**Adoption of Minutes**

Being a Special Council meeting the minutes of previous meeting was not reviewed.

## **MAYOR MATTERS**

### ***Budget***

1. The Mayor requested that the Finance Department provide an update on the Budget.
2. Mrs. Ordonez and Ms. Rose Perez did a presentation on the Budget. Mrs. Ordonez informed that the Finance Department did a balancing of the budget. The major adjustments done was from equipment. That item was cut down by about \$1M. She suggested that the Council get a loan for equipment, such as backhoes and roller truck.
3. Mrs. Ordonez said that the Finance Department had requested that each manager meet with their respective councilor and come up with ways to cut down on the budget.
4. Other areas where major cuts were made was from Sanitation and Works Departments. In addition, cuts were made from fuel, oils and capital expenditure as well as streets. No cuts were made from personnel.
5. Deputy Samuels expressed his concern that for some time, approximately 9 months, street repairs are not being done. He said that people are becoming concern about their basic mobility. Mrs. Ordonez stated that some major streets have been done, however the Deputy Mayor emphasized that a balance is needed.
6. Mrs. Ordonez stated that salaries alone is over \$8.3M yearly. In addition, the Council is still paying for litigations which is roughly \$3M and the sinking fund is \$4M. She said that in 2017 some litigations including BML will be paid off. However, the Council needs to look at ways to generate more revenues.
7. The Mayor suggested that a sub-committee be set up to review and implement things like parking meter.
8. Councilor Theus said that a parking meter committee comprising of himself, Councilor Leslie and Ms. Miller is place.
9. Councilor Pitts informed that the Taxi Stand Fee has been implemented. The first payment is due December 15th, 2016.
10. Mrs. Ordonez stated that the Council lacks compliance from different departments and is also weak in many areas. She believes that training is needed in some areas.
11. Deputy Samuels asked about the revised prices for traffic tickets. The Mayor updated that this was at GOB pending Cabinet approval. Deputy Samuels asked who was following up on this and the Mayor said that he was.
12. Councilor Theus stated that the price for license plates is \$25 however the budget had \$15.
13. Councilor Willoughby asked if the Council would still continue with the cementing of streets now that the Council was getting a Tar Truck or if a combination will be done.
14. Deputy Samuels said that several streets are at the level where tar can be used.

15. Councilor Leslie stated that by the Council doing the streets themselves it will minimize maintenance and insurance cost.
16. Mrs. Ordonez said that no budget was submitted for this item. Councilor Leslie suggested that last year's budget figures be used.
17. Councilor Theus said that under contracts for Sanitation several areas was zero. Mrs. Ordonez was asked to look at it.
18. Ms. Rose said that several managers submitted their budget late and also several had areas missed out. Ms. Rose and Mrs. Ordonez committed to do further review.
19. Councilor Leslie asked how many new revenue stream has been implemented since their term in office. The Mayor said that the Council needs to look at this as since 1999 there has not been any increase in subvention and the Council's revenue stream has been stagnant.
20. Councilor Pitts said that he submitted a proposal for change in fees for taxi association.
21. The Mayor asked that Revenue Stream be put as an agenda item for the next meeting.
22. Councilor Elrington asked if the discount has already been included in the total expected revenue for 2017/18. Finance was asked to confirm.
23. The Mayor requested that the Councilors send in their concerns by the end of the year.
24. The Budget was due by November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 for review and needs to be submitted by November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The Mayor asked Mrs. Ordonez to send the final budget by Friday December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 and if no concerns was received to go ahead and submit.

### ***Heritage Loan***

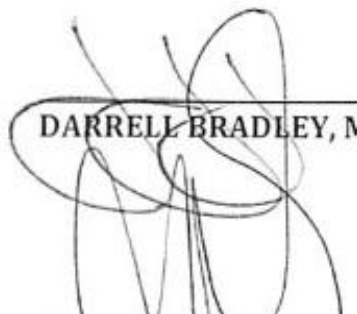
25. The Mayor updated that he met with Christy Maestre from the Arguelles group in reference to the Commercial Center and the Taiwanese loan. They were experiencing some concerns with the Taiwanese Project as a quail will be put on it if the funds is not used. The Council is likely to lose the funds of \$10M if the money is not used.
26. The Arguelles Group was suggesting that the Council go with its original project idea to turn the Commercial Center location into a park. If considered they would provide the Council with 10,000 square foot of office space plus rehabilitate 3 colonial buildings in the downtown area. They would build back the Paslow Building.
27. Councilor Leslie suggested that Ms. Maestre do a presentation to the Council.
28. Councilor Elrington stated that she doubt the Taiwanese will withdraw the loan. However, the Mayor said that he believe they would if no use is being made of it.
29. The Mayor said that the aquarium idea is still a though that could be considered by the Council.
30. The Mayor informed that he met with the Mayors to discuss the idea of the Trade License. He stated that GOB intends to pass a legislation on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in reference to the Trade Reform despite the agreement with Chamber. The Mayor

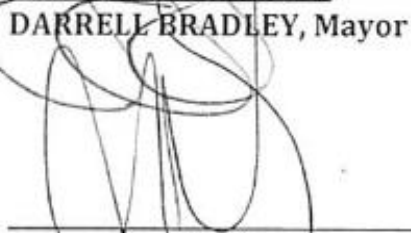
stated that he will draft a letter to GOB stating the Mayors position. He will forward the letter to Mrs. Butler for circulation.

31. Councilor Elrington asked for a discussion on manhole covers. The Mayor asked that the topic be left for another meeting as this was a special meeting for the agenda items only.

***Petitions from the Public***

32. Mr. Floyd Williams presented a petition from Ms. Taebo to build a snack shop on the reserve. He was asked to get footage and do the presentation at the next meeting.
33. Mr. Williams informed that he had 10 petitions to present. The Mayor asked that these be presented at the next meeting.
34. Councilor Leslie suggested that Mr. Williams submit the petitions via email to the Mayor and Councilors so that they can be reviewed prior to the meeting.
35. Councilor Elrington asked that she be given hard copies rather than an email.
36. The Mayor asked that review of past minutes, petitions from the public and new revenue stream be put as agenda items for the next meeting.
37. Mayor moved for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Elrington motioned that the meeting stands adjourned; Councilor Singh seconded the motion. **MOTION CARRIED**
38. All Councilors present voted in favor to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

  
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**DARRELL BRADLEY, Mayor**

  
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**CANDICE MILLER, City Administrator**

