

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GENERAL COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2017

The monthly meeting of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation was held on Thursday, January 12, 2017 in the Corporation’s Chambers, Port Maria Civic Centre, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

Present were:-

Councillors	Divisions
Richard Creary (Chairman)	Richmond
Lincoln Dixon	Islington
Doreen Hutchinson	Carron Hall
Lenford Danvers	Castleton
Hugh Bryan	Annotto Bay
Paul Fyffe	Highgate
Sheldon Kidd	Oracabessa
Germaine Smiley	Port Maria
Krystal Lee	Retreat
Mitsy Hudson	Hampstead
Leroy Sewell	Boscobel

The following Councillors came during the course of the meeting:

Levan Freeman	Belfield
Jason James	Gayle

Officers	Positions
Carmen Samuda	Chief Executive Officer
Garfield Thompson	Chief Engineering Officer
Glenford Ricketts	Deputy Chief Engineering Officer
Yanique Samuels	Director of Administration (Temporary)
Sean Hylton	Director of Planning (Acting)
Lincoln Brooks	Inspector of Poor
Patrice Hart	Chief Financial Officer
Angella Lammie	Internal Auditor
Roxine Bailey	Community Programmes Coordinator
Kenneth Bailey	Commercial Services & Enforcement Officer
Yolande Jankie	Parish Coordinator- Disaster Preparedness
Uraih Cameron	Management Information Systems
Sharon Burke	Matron
Debbie Pryce	Recording Clerk

Representatives/Agencies	Positions
Albert P. Brown	Chief Public Health Inspector - NERHA
Michael McPherson	Public Health Inspector - NERHA
Andrew Wildman	Deputy Superintendent - Jamaica Fire Brigade
Travis Graham	Parish Manager – Social Development Commission
Arisa Murai	Volunteer – Parish Development Committee (PDC)
Jasmine Hyde	Parish Manager – Rural Agricultural Development Authority

NOTICE

The Notice convening the meeting was read by Miss Carmen Samuda, Clerk to the Committee.

DEVOTIONAL EXERCISE

Devotional exercise was conducted by Reverend Desmond Sinclair of the Fire Baptized Holiness Church of God, Highgate Division.

The Chairman thanked Reverend Sinclair for conducting the devotional exercise.

NATIONAL PLEDGE

The attendees repeated the National Pledge.

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman extended welcome to all Councillors present and to members of staff of the Municipal Corporation. He also extended welcome to the representatives from the various Agencies and hoped for a productive meeting.

There were no apologies tendered.

AFFIRMATION OF OATH OF OFFICE

The Affirmation of Oath of Office was read by Councillors: Richard Creary, Doreen Hutchinson, Sheldon Kidd, Germaine Smiley, Mitsy Hudson, Hugh Bryan, Lenford Danvers, Krystal Lee, Leroy Sewell, Paul Fyffe, Lincoln Dixon, Jason James and Levan Freeman.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Resolutions for the various Committees of the Corporation were read by the Clerks and adopted as follows:

- STRATEGIC PLANNING & POLICY

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DOREEN HUTCHINSON SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR SHELDON KIDD, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

- PHYSICAL PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR LENFORD DANVERS SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR LEVAN FREEMAN, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

- CIVIC AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR LEVAN FREEMAN SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MITSY HUDSON, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

- FINANCE

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR SHELDON KIDD SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR PAUL FYFFE, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

- PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUGH BRYAN SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR LEROY

SEWELL, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

- LOCAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUGH BRYAN SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR DOREEN HUTCHINSON, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

- DISASTER PREPAREDNESS, HAZARD MITIGATION AND SAFETY

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR JASON JAMES SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR MITSY HUDSON, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

- HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR JASON JAMES SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR SHELDON KIDD, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

- POOR RELIEF

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR JASON JAMES SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GERMAINE SMILEY, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

- INFRASTRUCTURE AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MITSY HUDSON SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR GERMAINE SMILEY, THE COMMITTEE ADOPTED.

The Chairman asked that the Chairmen of Committees familiarize themselves with the resolutions for their Committees and encouraged all Councillors to read the documents that were presented to them at the Orientation. He added that information such as how a Councillor should act when chairing a meeting is included and was important for noting. He added that not only the name of the organization has changed but things that we were used to have also changed and careful note should be made of the changes. He said the Chief Engineering Officer should note that the SGR amounts would be set aside on a monthly basis to be used for its intended purpose.

OPENING REMARKS

Update on Previous Opening Remarks

The Chairman informed that funding was received for the areas affected by the recent rainfall that caused landslides and blockage of roadways. He also informed that the amount that was currently in the Special Grants for Repairs Fund (SGR) was placed there in December 2016; that the account had a zero balance and that would never reoccur with him as Chairman for the Corporation. He said the fund was set aside for situations such as this and the Corporation should not be begging for funding for emergencies of that sort.

The Chairman again welcomed the Councillors present and added that obviously they had done something right why some were returned and why others had obtained seats. He suggested that they do not only handle the peoples' business at Council but also in their respective Divisions. He reiterated the importance of getting familiarized with the document received at the orientation as it would assist greatly in the operations of the Corporation and how Councillors should conduct themselves. He said that as was read in the Terms of Reference for the varied Committees, all Councillors are a part of all the Committees except for the Poor Relief and Strategic Planning and Policy Committees. He encouraged Councillors to participate in the discussions at the Committee meetings and represent those who had elected them.

The Chairman informed the Council of the passing of Miss Estriana Thompson, affectionately called Miss Essie. He added that she had been an integral part of the Corporation for decades, also that she was a valuable member of the Poor Relief Committee; that she has done numerous kindness for the Corporation, Infirmary and has fed many street people. He said she would have provided lunch for the meeting as was customary every January. He said the parish has lost a valuable member. He also informed of the passing of Mrs. Jankie's grandmother whose funeral service was held the previous weekend. He asked that a "moment of silence" be observed for the passing of both women.

The Chairman informed the Committee that Mrs. Yolande Jankie, Parish Coordinator, Disaster Preparedness has been accepted to attend the Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA) Training Course – Community-Based Disaster Risk Reduction (B) in Japan which would begin on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 and run until Sunday, March 19, 2017.

The Committee approved Mrs. Jankie's attendance and congratulated her for being accepted.

Councillor Hutchinson informed that an apology had come from the Essie's Faith Restaurant for not providing lunch for the meeting however, lunch would be provided at a later date.

The Chairman noted.

The Chairman said the meeting was the first one for 2017 with a new Council in place; that the St. Mary Municipal Corporation was now opened for business with an emphasis on business; that the Corporation would strive to operate as such and all Councillors and Staff members should buy into the idea that we operate as a business. He said the Corporation had sources of revenue that needed to be maximized so that the Corporation would be able to do the things for the citizens that were required; that he was depending on all members of staff in order to achieve that goal. He said the idea would be fleshed out more at the Strategic Planning and Policy Committee meeting and he would like to meet with the staff to address them on the matter in short order. He said all should have the understanding that their job contributes to making the parish a better place to live, work raise families and do business; that we should be mindful of the service we offer customers even though the services offered may be unique to the Corporation, we should offer good customer service and not take for granted that our service should be as though we were employed by Grace Kennedy, Scotia Bank or a private entity where if individuals did not operate in a certain manner then he/she would be separated from that post. He asked that we strive to operate the Municipal Corporation as a business to enable the Corporation to better serve the citizens of St. Mary.

The Chairman said there were a couple of challenges that needed to be tackled immediately; that the citizens of St. Mary were looking to the Municipal Corporation to deal with urgently. One such challenge he said, was the situation in the town of Port Maria as it relates to the Bus Park that has remained empty for some time and the vendors in the park have been suffering as a result. He said the buses and taxis were all over the town of Port Maria, mainly so in the Hi-Lo Car Park. He said that his way of doing things was way of dialogue, and as such, he would be meeting with the Police, the Transport Authority and with the bus and taxi operators in that regard. He added that the matter would be a priority of the Corporation and it would not be a "big stick" approach but by way of dialogue with all the stakeholders. He said with regards to the vending in the town, that matter would also be dealt with. He made reference to an article where one lady said he would have to lock her up several times but she would not be coming off the road; that it was unfortunate, however he was of the opinion that having dialogue with the vendors would solve the issues.

The Chairman said the town would be getting a face- lift by way of cleaning up public space and beautifying the town; that business place would be encouraged to beautify their area as well. He said the beautification team would be engaged in that regard. He said the first area of concern was the old fire station and that other areas would be cleaned as time went by. He said that in regards to the market; that the tender documents were not properly done however the process would be re-started in short order. He asked the members to

look around for a suitable location to house the vendors while the rehabilitation of the market was being carried out.

The Chairman said the Corporation has been approached by the Administrator and Board of the Port Maria Hospital seeking assistance with repairs to the roadway leading to the Hospital. He said he had discussions with the Ministry of Health however was told that the Ministry was unable to fund same. He said the Corporation would have to assist in that regard and therefore an estimate would have to be prepared by the Chief Engineering Officer.

CORRECTIONS

1. **Page 1, “Rural Agricultural Development Agency” should read: “Rural Agricultural Development Authority”.**
2. **Page 18, (November Minutes) “a possibility most of the members will not return as Councillors” should read: “a possibility that some of the members will not return as Councillors”**
3. **Omission: “it was a pleasure working with the Councillors”**
4. **Page 22, “Church to Standpipe” should read: “Newport to Cedar Tree”**
5. **Page 29, “residents of Cane Park” should read: “residents of Crane Park”**

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of General Council Meeting held October 13, 2016 and November 10, 2016 having been circulated, read and corrected, were confirmed on a motion by Councillor James, seconded by Councillor Danvers.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nil

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS – COUNCIL TO SIT AS LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

ON A MOTION BY COUNCILLOR HUTCHINSON, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR FYFFE THE STANDING ORDERS WERE SUSPENDED.

LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

BUTCHERS LICENCE

Nil

BEAUTY THERAPISTS/COSMETOLOGISTS/HAIRDRESSERS/BARBERS

The Chief Executive Officer presented applications for approval as under:

No.	Name of Applicant	Name/Address of Establishment	Type of License
1	Andrewlin Medwinter	Veron’s Beauty Salon – Mango Valley	Salon
2	Nicole Phillipots	Nicole Hair Care 7a Cox Street - Port Maria	Salon
3	Janet Narle McKenzie	29B Main Street, Port Maria	Hairdresser
4	R & A Beauty Salon	Boscobel P.O.	Salon
5	Nattoy Gordon-Sewell	Spicy Grove, Oracabessa	Hairdresser/Nail Technician
6			

	Anna-Lee Williams	Crescent District, Bonny Gate P.O.	Cosmetologist
7	Sasha-Gay Wint	Warner Street, Port Maria	Cosmetologist
8	Ferrice McCalla Daley	Zion Hill, Richmond P.O.	Hairdresser
9	Adell Warren	Mason Hall, St. Mary	Massage Therapist

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR FYFFE SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR SMILEY, THE COMMITTEE APPROVED.

Environmental Health Highlights November and December, 2016

Water Quality Monitoring

A total of Seventy four (74) visits were made to water supplies from all three (3) entities providing water in the parish. Eighteen (18) samples were submitted for bacteriological analysis to the National Public Health Lab.

Seventy four (74) chlorine residual checks were done.

The results of bacteriological analysis and chlorine residual testing are shown in the tables below-

Chlorine Residual

Agency	No. of Samples	# (%) (satisfactory) positive	# (unsatisfactory) (%) negative
NWC	27	23(85%)	4(15%)
Parish Council	42	22(52%)	20(48%)
Private Supplies	05	4(80%)	1(20%)
Total	74	49(66%)	25(34%)

Bacteriological Sampling

Agencies	No. of Samples Submitted	No. Satisfactory (Negative)(%)	No. Unsatisfactory (Positive)(%)	Results Pending
NWC	4	2(50%)	1(25%)	1
Parish Council	11	1	5(45%)	5
Private	3	-	-	3
Total	18	3	6	9

Drinking Water Status

Agency	No. of Supplies	No. Inspected (%)	No. Treated (%)
NWC	20	20(100%)	19(95%)
Parish Council	42	29(69%)	39(93%)
Private	15	5(33%)	13(87%)

Results for nine (9) of the eighteen (18) samples submitted to the lab for bacteriological analysis are pending at the time of the report. Of the results received 67% are unsatisfactory. Sixty six percent (66%) of chlorine residuals checks done were satisfactory. Unsatisfactory chlorine residual and bacteriological sample results were obtained from the following supplies:

NWC- White River

PC- Maiden Hall, Petersfield, Saltrum, Barnswood, Kingspring and Donnington

The number of Parish Council supplies monitored has been reduced from 43 to 42 as the New Works supply is no longer in operation.

Building Plans and Subdivisions

	No. Received	No. Investigated	#.Recommended	#Not Recommended
Building Plans	46	34	31	3
Subdivisions	3	2	2	0
Total	49	36	33	3

Forty six (46) building plans were received during the period under review. Thirty four (34) were investigated and thirty one (31) recommended. Proposals not recommended were on account of:-

- No sewerage details provided on the plan
- Proposed lot size inadequate for onsite treatment facility (less than 564m²)

Three (3) subdivisions were received; one was referred to the Ministry of Health’s Environmental Health Unit as more than nine (9) lots were involved. The other two were recommended

Burial Site Inspection

Eighty one (81) applications were received for family plot burial. All were investigated and recommendations made.

A list of the applications was submitted to the Parish Council.

Mosquito Control

District	# of Premises Inspected	# of Premises Positive	# of Containers Found	# of Containers Positive	Aedes Premises Index (%)	Container Index (%)	Breateau Index
Port Maria:							
Heywood Hall	214	21	357	42	10	12	20
Islington	131	4	152	9	3	6	7
Cox Street	150	9	102	17	6	17	11
Oracabessa	30	3	36	6	10	17	20
TOTAL	525	37	647	74	7	11.4	14.1
GAYLE							
Jeffrey Town	229	53	901	114	23	13	50
Derry	55	6	150	6	11	4	11
Saltrum	139	13	373	22	9	6	16
TOTAL	423	72	1,424	142	17	10	33.6
ANNOTTO BAY:							
Annotto Bay	64	2	72	4	3	6	6
Epsom	90	7	220	10	8	4	11
Castleton(Shan	26	0	47	0	0	0	0

ty)							
TOTAL	180	9	339	14	5	4	7.8
HIGHGATE							
School Lane	25	4	36	5	16	14	20
Highgate Proper	45	3	70	9	7	13	20
Tremolesworth	88	10	290	27	11	9	31
Stockholm Park	51	3	43	5	6	12	10
TOTAL	209	20	439	46	9.6	10.5	22
PARISH TOTAL	1,337	138	2,849	276	10.3	9.5	20.6

Aedes Surveillance

The Vector Control team continued to carry out *Aedes aegypti* surveillance in a number of communities throughout the parish. During the period fourteen (14) communities were visited, the main focus was on the mitigation against Zika virus/fever transmission.

The table above shows the communities that were surveyed. All breeding sites found were treated in order to terminate breeding.

The average parish premises index was 10.3%. Eight of the communities visited had premises index below double digits. One locality in the Castleton community had seen no *Aedes* mosquito breeding. The highest index was seen in the Jeffrey Town community which had premises index of 23%

The Vector Control team distributed three hundred and ninety seven (397) pamphlets on Zika V prevention among five hundred and ninety seven (597) persons in the fourteen (14) communities that were visited.

Distribution of Drum Covers

The Ministry of Health has provided the health department with two thousand (2000) plastic drum covers for distribution in communities where excessive unprotected storage of water for domestic use is significantly contributing to high mosquito infestation levels. One thousand and thirteen (1013) covers have so far been distributed in the following communities – Jeffrey Town, Derry, Saltrum and Tremolesworth.

Fogging

Fogging activities were carried out in the following communities;

Trinity Land(Port Maria), Retreat, Martins, Heywood Hall, Gibraltar(Annotto Bay), Port Maria, Islington, Rock River and Windsor Castle

Barber Shops and Hair Dressing Salon Application

Two (2) applications for operating barbershops/hairdressing salons were recommended

Zika Virus Mitigation Programme

The Ministry of Health had requested that there be a roll over off its Zika virus mitigation programme which concluded in September. This continuing phase of the programme was slated to last for three months. It was expected that persons already trained in the initial phase would be utilized. This phase of the programme was initiated in the last week of November but was halted the following week due to issues relating to the availability of funding and timely payment to the persons engaged.

Sewage Disposal Issues at Industry Pen (Phase 2)

The developers of Industry Pen (phase 2), Land Mark Developers, has communicated to the health department that the persistent rains that the parish has been experiencing over the last three months have hampered their efforts to put in place an approved disposal method for the effluent generated by the treatment system. They

have also indicated that the lands earmarked for the provision of a reed bed have been encroached upon by persons and a resurvey of that area will have to be done. A request was made by the developers for an extension of the time given them in a previous notice for rectification of the problem. A two weeks extension was granted with effect from December 28, 2016.

Training of Spring Attendants

The Health Department in collaboration with the Saint Mary Parish Council conducted a training seminar for spring attendants on Monday, November 14, 2016 at the Port Maria Civic Centre

Training of Market Attendants

The Saint Mary Health department conducted a training of persons responsible for the cleaning and sanitization of the markets in the parish. From discussions with the attendants it was disclosed that the effectiveness of their efforts was hampered by the following:-

- Lack of adequate personnel protective equipment (water boots, rubber gloves)
- Inadequate provision of material for cleaning and sanitization
- Lack of security in the markets (easy access to animals, homeless and mentally challenged persons)
- Infrequency of the cleaning of the general food market section of the markets

Update Status of Markets

The Public Health Inspectors have reported an increased level of rodent infestation in the *Highgate market*. Rodent droppings have been observed in the meat section of the market. This increased proliferation is facilitated by poor solid waste management practices and a pile up of garbage is usually present on Friday mornings.

The *Annotto Bay market* is affected by an overgrowth of vegetation and the persistent presence of animal faeces

Waste water from the vending section of the *Oracabessa market* is released in to the open environment at the rear of the compound

The proposed upgrading/reconstruction of the *Port Maria market* has been on indefinite hold and hence the market has remained in an undesirable state for a protracted period

Medical Services

The following medical missions/ groups will be visiting the parish in February. Free medical and or dental services will be offered as outlined in the schedules below: -

(1) Teams for Medical Missions (Medical Services)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Monday, February 6, 2017	Hamilton Mountain (New Testament Church)
Tuesday, February 7, 2017	Days Mountain (Ebenezer Community Church)
Wednesday, February 8, 2017	Boscobel United Church
Thursday, February 9, 2017	Mango Valley (Maranatha Baptist Church)
Friday, February 10, 2017	Mango Valley (Maranatha Baptist Church)

(1) ACE Medical Mission (Medical and Dental Services)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Tuesday, February 14, 2017	Long Road Health Centre
Wednesday, February 15, 2017	Enfield Health Centre
Thursday, February 16, 2017	Wellness Centre (Llanrumney)

(2) Jamaica Ecumenical Mutual Mission (Medical and Dental Services)

Date	Location
Monday, February 13, 2017	Goshen United Church (<i>Medical</i>)
	Robins Bay Health Centre (<i>Dental</i>)
	Lauriston United (<i>Dental</i>)
	Wood Park United Church (<i>Medical</i>)
Tuesday, February 14, 2017	Retreat Health Centre (<i>Dental</i>)
	Islington Health Centre & Islington United (<i>Dental/Medical</i>)
	Salem United (<i>Medical</i>)
	Lauriston United (<i>Dental</i>)
Wednesday, February 15, 2017	Free Hill United (<i>Medical/Dental</i>)
Thursday, February 16, 2017	Highgate United (<i>Medical</i>)
	Retreat Health Centre (<i>Dental</i>)
	Islington Health Centre / Islington United (<i>Dental/Medical</i>)
	Lauriston United (<i>Dental</i>)
Friday, February 17, 2017	Iona High & Prep Schools (<i>1/2 day</i>)

The Chairman thanked the Chief Public Health Inspector for his report.

Concerns /Highlights

Councillor Hutchinson said the Chief Public Health Inspector mentioned in his report that drum covers were distributed in the Derry area however she had not seen or heard anyone in the area that had received those covers.

The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that it was strange because he has seen them all over in the Carron Hall Division; not necessarily in the Derry area. He said he would look into the matter as he was aware that persons had carried out distribution in the Carron Hall Division.

Councillor Hutchinson said he had seen persons in the area carrying out bating.

Councillor Hudson enquired about the date the fogging was done in the Heywood Hall area.

The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that he would get the information to her as soon as possible.

Councillor Lee made mention of the two weeks extension that was granted to the Landmark Developers. She said there were concerns raised about the sewage disposal issues at Industry Pen. She said she received a report that there were maggots present in person's yards because of the same sewage problems. She asked that the Health Department deal with the situation urgently as this was causing concern for the residents.

The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that the Health Department would be closely monitoring the situation as there were several issues of concern with the system. He added that the developers were packing too many premises into one system and that lands were being surveyed for additional space for development.

The Chairman asked that a timeframe be given in regards to addressing the situation where there are maggots in the yards of residents.

The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that the matter would be investigated following the meeting since he was just informed of same.

Councillor Sewell said he noticed that there were no report regarding an inspection of the Gayle Market.

The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that inspections were carried out in a timely manner. He said an inspection could have been done already but may not have been submitted in time for the report, however those inspected would be included in the next report. He added that he would remind the Health Inspectors in Gayle to carry out an inspection and make a report on same. He said the Corporation would be informed of the outcome.

Councillor Fyffe said there was mention of the poor garbage collection in the Highgate Market and by extension of the Highgate community and also the increased infestation of rodents in the area. He asked about the plans the Health Department had in addressing the situation. He said in regards to where the garbage pile up was located; that there was where the Butchers usually take their produce into the market and that could lead to contamination. He added that in the past bating activities were carried out and asked whether or not that would be done in this situation.

The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that he agreed with Councillor Fyffe. He added that the Ministry of Health does not provide funding for Rodent Eradication Projects; that the Ministry depended on the Local Board of Health to fund that project. He said funding was provided for Rodent Projects only in Health facilities, not in public spaces. He added that if a Rodent Programme was to be carried out, it would have to be spearheaded and funded by the Local Board of Health. He said the Health Department would lend full support in technical areas such as surveys. Bating and management of the programme if that programme was to be carried out. The Chief said that in regards to the refuse being piled up in the market; that the Health Department has serious issues with that because it was usually placed at the front of the market and there were concerns of contamination as the butchers had to walk pass that pile up every Friday morning with the meat they had to sell to consumers. He said in solving the problem, the refuse would have to be removed from that area. He asked that the Corporation identify an alternate location for refuse to be stored until it is disposed of.

The Chairman said he has received calls about the situation. He said the business places in the area paid persons to take their refuse to that location as well. He said it was the responsibility of the business owners to contract the National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA) or a private contractor to dispose of their refuse. He said that the Health Department should have something in its laws that would compel the business owners to contain their garbage on their compound until it is disposed of by those contracted to do so rather than sending it to the market to storage.

The Chief Public Health Inspector said the NAWMA had a system in place that allowed business places to hold a contact with them to dispose of their garbage. He added that the Nuisance Act would apply in a situation as such and the Health Department could use that Act to have action taken against those business owners who had the refuse on their compound. He said the Health Department could not take such action since the refuse was being stored elsewhere. He added that if that Act was to be used it would be against the Municipal Corporation since the refuse was being stored on the Corporation's premises. The Chief suggested that the Corporation should ensure that the premises was secured so that persons would not be able to gain access to carry out those acts.

The Chairman said further discussions would be carried out at the Public Health & Sanitation Committee meeting.

Mr. Graham informed that the section behind the Tripple "P" Plaza had become a landfill where dumping was being carried out.

The Chief Public Health Inspector remind the Chairman of a matter regarding an odour that was emanating from a drain beside the Essie's Faith Restaurant in Port Maria. He said the odour was as a result of the sewage system that was used by the Bank of Nova Scotia; that it was not operating efficiently. He added that the Health Inspector was informed of the situation and a sampling would be carried out in short order.

QUESTION TO THE LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Councillor James asked, "Is the Local Board of Health aware that there are concerns of the citizens that there could be plastic rice in the parish?" he added that he was given a sample by a citizen to be tested by the Health Department.

The Chief public Health Inspector responded that the Local Board of Health was aware however, a simple test could be done. He said if placed in a pot without water, the rice would burn to a charcoal and plastic rice would blaze instead and change form if one tried to crush it.

The Chairman said the rice was sold at a supermarket in the town of Port Maria and Councillor James could give the name to the Chief later so that an investigation could be carried out immediately.

Councillor Hutchinson asked, "Is the Local Board of Health aware that due to the rainfall in the Carron Hall Division since September 2016 and the lack of garbage collection, there has been a serious stench in the area?" She added that the situation was providing new breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Councillor Hutchinson asked, "Is the Local Board of Health aware that all the ponds and sink holes in that area are filled to capacity and causing an increase of mosquito breeding?"

The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that the Local Board of Health will have the opportunity to meet with the NSWMA at the monthly meeting which would be soon; that the matter of non-collection of garbage would be brought up and the Agency could inform of the plans to improve the garbage collection in the affected areas. He added that one of the main issues they were having was the lack of garbage trucks. He further stated that nothing much could be done in regards to the sink holes and ponds as long as the rainfall continued. He said as soon as the rainfall subsided action would be taken to deal with the situation.

Councillor Smiley asked, "Is the Local Board of Health aware that there were two cases of Malaria in the country?" He asked what measure were put in place by the Health Department to prevent a Malaria outbreak in the parish.

The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that there was one confirmed case in St. Catherine and one suspected case in St. James. He said the case was a suspected one because the parasite was not identified in the individual's blood. The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that as soon as the rainfall subsided the Department would be carrying out larvicidal activities.

Councillor Bryan asked, "Is the Local Board of Health aware that there were opened graves in the Enfield cemetery that are causing serious problems?"

The Chief Public Health Inspector said that an environmental assessment of the areas that are being considered for cemeteries had to be done before any burials could take place. He added that it was evident that such assessment was not carried out of that area.

The Chairman said the situation was due to the fact that there was a water table and whenever it rained the problem would worsen. He said there was a similar situation at the Richmond Cemetery and persons were asked to re-slab the graves. He asked that the Chief Engineering Officer carry out an investigation to see what could be done to correct the problem.

Councillor Freeman asked, "Is the Local Board of Health aware that there are some low line areas in the Belfield Division such as, Gray's Inn, Belfield Works and Bottom Albany where since the recent rainfall have experienced increased mosquito infestation?" He asked that an inspection of the affected areas be carried out as soon as possible.

The Chief Public Health Inspector responded that those areas would be investigated as soon as possible.

The Chairman asked, "Is the Local Board of Health aware that water has been running nightly on the streets of Port Maria in the vicinity of the Hesco and Tong Rein Plazas?" he added that the water only ran in the nights and he was not certain whether or not it was sewage water.

The Chief Public Health Inspector said a bacterial sampling of the water would be carried out to determine same.

The Chairman thanked the Chief Public Health Inspector for his report and participation.

RESUMPTION OF COUNCIL

ON A MOTION BY COUNCILLOR FYFFE SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR JAMES THE COUNCIL RESUMED SITTING.

REPORTS FROM AGENCIES AND COMMITTEES

a) Jamaica Fire Brigade

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2016

Kindly see below information on the Fire Statistics and Fire Prevention activities in the St. Mary Division, Area II, Jamaica Fire Brigade for the **Month of December 2016**.

FIRE STATISTICS

Genuine Fires	09
M.F.A.	00
F.A.W.G.I.	04
S.S.C.	05
Total Calls	18

CLASSIFICATION OF GENUINE FIRES

Dwelling House	03
Motor vehicle	02
Utility Wires	01
Utility Pole	01
Bush/Rubbish	02
Total Genuine Fire Calls	09

Estimated Value of Property Loss	\$2,101,500.00
Estimated Value Property at Risk	\$46,000,000.00
Estimated Value of Property Saved	\$43,893,500.00

FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

The Fire Prevention Section of the St. Mary Division was engaged in the under listed activities during the **Month of December 2016**.

Inspection of Buildings:

Industrial & Commercial	10
Clinics & Health Centres	02
Schools	02
Clubs, Bars/Grills & Sporting Venues	01
Restaurants	02
Early Childhood Institution	04
Pharmacy	01
Community Center	01
Hospitals	02
Post Office	01
Supermarket	03
Prison & Remand center	01
Hotels/ Guest houses	01
Fuel Station	03

Educational Activities

Lectures	14
Fire Drills	06
Simulation Exercise	00
Exhibition	00
Television/Radio Broadcast	00
Video Presentation	10
Fire Warden Training	02
Seminars & Special Meetings	02

Fire Hydrants

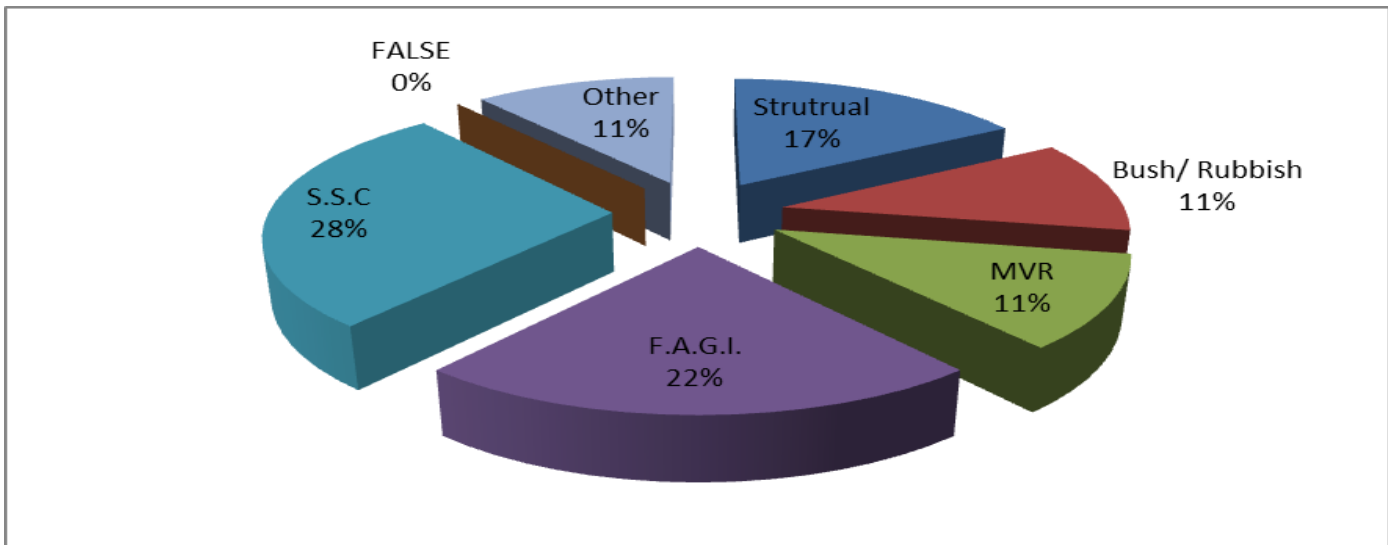
No. of Fire Hydrants Inspected 15

Please note the under mentioned statistics and other relevant information for the period under review:

Fire Statistics

Please note the under-mentioned statistics and other relevant information for the period under review:

Total Calls		M.F.A	F.A.W.G.I	S.S.C	Genuine	MVR	Other	Bush/Rubbish	Structural	Displaced	Death	Injury
Nov	14	03	00	05	06	00	01	00	05	06	00	00
Dec	18	00	04	05	09	02	02	02	03	04	00	01



The month of December recorded a thirty nine percent increase in total calls compared to November 2016, however structural fires decline by forty percent. One adult male received minor burns during a house fire on December 7, 2017.

No hazard found, no hazard removed.

Highlights/Concerns

The Deputy Superintendent informed that both Fire Units were operational; that in a previous report it was stated that one was down. He also informed that the Fire Station has relocated further up the roadway, across from the Mizpah Funeral Home and beside Farrow’s business place. He added that the telephone numbers remained the same. He said he was unable to give an update in regards to the construction of the new Fire Station which would be constructed across from the Jamaica Public Service building; that a meeting was scheduled but was further postponed and a new date was not yet arrived at.

Questions on the Report

Councillor Freeman said he was concerned that based on the report only one inspection was carried out as it relates to Clubs, Bars/Grills & Sporting Venues. He added that he was aware of numerous venues particularly in Highgate that were not compliant to the regulations of the Fire Department.

The Deputy Superintendent responded that some of the establishments that are being operated were found to have breaches and the necessary recommendations have been made; that some have made marginal improvements in terms of installing the requisite signs and fire extinguishers. He added that not all of them responded as promptly as the Department would like however follow up inspections are usually carried and gradual improvements have been made. He said some of the venues were not equipped for the installation of the necessary fire equipment and therefore were not classified by the Fire department as a formal business place. For example a club with zinc fencing etc. He said those venues were still visited and operators warned of the importance of fire safety measures that will allow persons to exit safely in the event of a fire. He said that there were challenges however, the Fire Department still tried its best to carry out its function.

Councillor Smiley enquired about the location of the fire hydrants that were mentioned in the report.

The Deputy Superintendent responded that fire hydrants were located across the parish. He said some locations were Paggee, Rio Nuevo and sections of Tower Isle.

Councillor Sewell requested that fire hydrants be installed in the Boscobel area.

The Deputy Superintendent responded that there was a process; that an application should be made requesting same and upon receiving such application, an inspection would be carried out by the Fire Department and the necessary actions would be taken in that regard.

The Chairman thanked the Deputy Superintendent for his report.

b) PDC

Miss Arisa Murai informed that she was in the country for the past six months and was assigned to the PDC and was supervised by Miss Hartley, Administrator. She said she was presently undertaking a number of environmental projects, making connections with local groups in communities such as the Three Hills community where discussions were being carried out for building a greenhouse using plastic bottles. She added that plastic bottles disposal was one of the big issues in the parish and she would like to focus on enhancing the recycling of the bottles, using them for planting etc. She said she was in the process of working on a proposal for her company back home, Japan International Corporation Agency (JICA), to assist in funding for building a greenhouse. She said she was also making a proposal to the Ministry of Education for the extension of school facilities using plastic as well. She added that she was also working with some schools in the parish as it relates to food safety and with the schools gardens using plastic bottles for making the beds to plant seeds and also for hanging plants on the wall. She said the students were also being taught how to protect the environment. She asked for the support of the Councillors of each Division in the parish.

The Chairman thanked Miss Murai for her report.

(Councillor Freeman left the meeting)

c) Local Government Reform

Nil

d) ALGA

Nil

e) SDC

Mr. Travis Graham said that the Social Development Commission recognizes the St. Mary Municipal Corporation as the Local Authority with the ultimate responsibility for the development of the parish; that

the SDC stand committed to continue supporting the efforts of the Corporation. He added that the SDC's Community Development Officers are obligated to work with all Local Government Representatives and the Councillors as a whole; he said he has instructed the Community Development Officers to have formal consultations with each Councillor starting in February so that the SDC can be made aware of some of the major activities that are planned and to be aware of the SDC programmes.

Mr. Graham said he has provided each Councillor with a SDC Planning Calendar and a small package that included information on all the SDC programmes, a book entitled "*Reform System of Governance in Jamaica*" which speaks to the whole governance participatory framework process as it relates to community groups. He encouraged all Councillors to read the book.

Upcoming Activities

1. Completion of Community Profiles for Mango Valley, Sandside and Hampstead
2. Completion of Community Priority Plans for Highgate and Hampstead.
3. Completion of Business Plans for Enfield Visionary Project, the Hampstead Water Project and the Carron Hall Agricultural Project.
4. Establishing Community Development Committees for Lucky Hill and Port Maria
5. Hosting of the Annual St. Mary Creative Arts Skills Festival on March 3, 2017.
6. Completion of GIS Asset Maps for Islington, Mango Valley, Scott's Hall, Castleton, Amiel Town and Labyrinth.

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR DANVERS SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR FYFFE, PERMISSION WAS GRANTED FOR THE MEETING TO PROCEED BEYOND 1:00 P.M.

Mr. Graham informed that he has emailed details of funding opportunity from the Development Bank of Jamaica to all Councillors and encouraged that the opportunity be taken advantage of.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Graham for his report.

f) RADA

PARISH REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2016

1) *ABIS Farmer Registration*

- a) *Total Number of registered farmers – A total of ten thousand two hundred and ninety-five (10,295) farmers is registered.*
- b) *Total Number of verified farmers – A total of eight thousand eight hundred and twenty (8,820) farmers has been verified to date.*
- c) *Farmer Registration - A total of twenty (20) farmers were registered for the month.*
- d) *Farmer Verification – A total of six (6) farmer holdings were verified for the reporting period.*
- e) *Farmer Profile Updates - A total of five hundred and two (502) farmer's profiles were updated for the month.*

2) *Visits*

- a) *Agricultural Extension Officers Farm Visits – Over the period a total of three hundred and seventy-five (375) farm visits were conducted during the reporting period in the Rosemount, Chovey, Gray's Inn, Devon Pen, Belfield, Agualta Vale, Golden Grove, Dover, Gibraltar, Clonmel, Windsor Castle, Woodside, Clayland, Jeffrey Town, Blue gate, Decoy, Halifax, Prospect, Warrick Castle, Cascade, Lucky Hill, Charles Town, Elgin Town Saltrum, Labyrinth, New Pen, Governors Pen, Essex, Africa Road, Nickey, Smilifield, Rose Hill, Martin, Rosend, Frazerwood, Africa Road, Top Albany, Bottom Albany, Comsee, Harmony Hall, Esher, Islington, Mahoe Road, Tremolesworth, Highgate, Nutfield,*

Robins Bay, Ramble, Top Pen, Bonny Gate, Wellington, Jacks River, Jackson, Comma, Mango Valley and George Town.

- b) Livestock Farm Visits – Eleven (11) livestock farm visits were done in the districts of Nutfield, Robin's Bay, Tulloch Road, Friendship and Zion Hill.
- c) Home and Telephone visits – During the reporting period three (3) home visits were conducted in Days Mountain, Galina and Bailey's Vale. These visits were conducted to view suitable land for planting Irish Potato, banana fruit cake making and sewing drapery. Twelve (12) telephone calls were also recorded on matters such as training in rabbit care, racking process in wine making, fruit cake making and agro-products for Agri-Mart.
- d) Marketing Farm Visits – Seven (7) marketing farm visits were conducted during the period.
- e) Field Monitoring/Land Husbandry – Thirty (30) field monitoring visits were carried out for the period. Covering topics such as: pineapple barriers, contour trenches, hillside ditches and fertility management.
- f) Automated Weather Station (Site Visit) – There was no activity done for this month.

3) **Training Sessions**

a) **Farmer Trainings**

- i) Crop Production Training Sessions- Formal – During the reporting period of December 2016 two (2) Crop Production training were held.
- ii) Crop Production Training Sessions- Informal – There were no session during the reporting period.
- iii) Crop Care Training Sessions- Formal – Nine (9) Formal Crop Care Sessions for the month of December 2016.
- iv) Crop Care Training Sessions Informal – Eighty-five (85) informal sessions were conducted for the reporting period.
- v) Facilitated Training Sessions – There were two (2) facilitated training sessions during the reporting period.
- vi) Livestock Production Training Sessions Formal – No formal sessions were conducted.
- vii) Livestock Production Training Sessions Informal - No informal sessions were conducted.
- viii) Land Husbandry Training Sessions Formal – Five (5) farmer trainings were conducted in Belfield, Decoy and Top Mountain.
- ix) Farmers Trained Formal – A total of one hundred and four (104) farmers were trained formally for the month of December 2016.
- x) Farmers Trained Informal – Four hundred and seventy-four (474) farmers were trained informally for the month of December 2016.

b) **Staff Training**

- i) Crop Care Sessions – Training was received on management of pest and disease in Irish Potato production. Training was conducted by Ms. Carisha Dillon Extension Officer for the Port Maria area.
- ii) Agronomy/Crop Production – No training session was done for this reporting period.
- iii) Marketing & Post-Harvest – No training session was done for this this reporting period.

iv) Social Service Staff Training – No training was done for this reporting period.

v) Staff Training Land Husbandry/Climate Smart – No training session was done for this reporting period.

4) **Workshop/Seminar/Meeting/Session/Exhibition/Collaboration**

a) PMO Groups Formed – No PMO groups were formed during the reporting period.

b) PMO Strengthened – A total of four (4) PMO/other groups were strengthened for the period.

c) Post-Harvest Monitoring Sessions – A total of one (1) post harvesting monitoring sessions were conducted in the district of Mason Hall on best practices in harvesting, grading and packaging of papaya.

d) Home Economics Groups Serviced – Four (4) groups were serviced during the reporting period; Windsor Castle Social Services/Home Economics Benevolent Society, Port Maria Home Economics Movement, Geddes Mountain and Gifted Hands.

e) Food Promotion Exhibition – There were no activities done for the month.

f) Interagency Collaboration – During the reporting period the SDC awards ceremony was attended in Rio Nuevo, St Mary. Two groups were awarded by RADA St. Mary. The Jeffery Town Farmer's Group and the Port Maria Home Economics Movement were awarded as the most outstanding groups for 2016.

g) Livestock Seminar/Workshop/Meeting – There were no activities done for the month.

5) **Projects/Programmes/Demonstration Plots**

a) Income Generating Project – During the reporting period The Fort George Honey Production Project currently has forty-four (44) boxes which make a total of fifteen (15) colonies. Members visits apiary every week to monitor and do work activities. Materials were procured for fencing; however, the fencing has not been completed. No income was made during the period.

b) Livestock Demonstration Plot – No (0) activity was done on the demonstration plot for the period.

c) Crop Care Demonstration Plot – Land preparation and farrowing was done on the Decoy demonstration plot to establish Irish Potato.

d) Land Husbandry Demonstration Plot – Two (2) land husbandry demonstration plots were identified in Decoy and Rock Spring for the period.

6) **Livestock Population Count**

Beef	Dairy	Broiler	Layer	Pig	Goat	Rabbit	Sheep	Apiary
3,959	792	50,130	18,017	15,841	14,883	2,642	629	685

1) **Crop Damage**

Crops	% Infected/ Infested	% Damaged
Banana/Plantain Black Sigatoka	34.4	19.6
Banana/Plantain Borer	15	10
Cabbage Diamond Back Moth	27.5	17.5
Hot Pepper Mite	45	15
Sweet Potato Weevil	40	17.5

2) *Advisory Services*

1) *Advisory Services*

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Special Monitoring Visits</i>	<i>Number of Actions</i>	<i>Number of Farmers</i>	<i>Hectares</i>
<i>Food Safety</i>		70	72	59
<i>Home Garden</i>		23	26	2.90
<i>Office Visits</i>		83	85	62
<i>Plant Health</i>	1	143	139	73
<i>Telephone Call</i>	176	181	176	116.50

3)

Pest Surveillances

<i>Pest</i>	<i>Inspected</i>	<i>Infested/ Infected</i>
<i>Citrus Greening</i>	14	0
<i>Ensign Seale</i>	18	2
<i>Ginger Rhizome</i>	0	0
<i>Moko</i>	36	0
<i>QP Papaya Mealy Bug</i>	15	0
<i>QP Pink Hibiscus Mealy Bug</i>	16	0
<i>QP Giant African Snail</i>	6	0
<i>QP Med Fly Trap</i>	6	0
<i>Red Palm Mite</i>	21	0
<i>Cocoa Frosty Pod Rot</i>	12	0
<i>Citrus Black Spot</i>	6	0

10) Achievements

- a. **Marketing** – marketing linkages were made among eleven (11) farmers for supplying farm produce at a cost varies from \$1800/kg to \$2000/kg valuing \$384,400.00 and a total volume of 6,700 kg.
- b. **Land Husbandry**
 - i. **Agronomic Methods** – 2 hectares of contour cultivation, 0.8 hectare of cover cropping, 2 hectare of inter cropping, 0 hectares of mulching/grass, 150 metres of vegetative barriers/pineapple and 0 hectares of vegetative barriers/sugar cane.
 - ii. **Integration with Farming Systems** – Five (5) hectares of agroforestry practices were observed during the period. During the reporting period ten Agro-Forestry site were visited and assessment were carried out with Miss. Yanique Hilton from the Forestry Department within the Belfield Line area. Discussions were based on managing of forest structure by private landowner objectives including a sustainable land-use system which combines distribution of different sizes of forestry trees over a period of time to protect wildlife’s habitat and other benefits such as increased crop production and economic gain, soil conservation and improved soil quality, sequestration of atmospheric carbon and increased biodiversity.
 - iii. **Land Husbandry Farmer Innovation** – five (5) hectares composting/animal manure, no (0) Project Proposal, No (0) Crop Production, (1) crop rotation, (8) hectares of Inorganic Fertilizer and (0) hectares of Minimum Tillage.

- iv. *Structural Methods* – Two hundred (150) metres of bamboo pole barriers were done in the Goshen area to slow down soil erosion rate.

11) Crop Production

Crop Category	Hectares Planted This Month	Hectares Planted Previous Year & Month	% + -	Hectares Reaped This Month	Hectares Reaped Previous Year & Month	% + -	Hectares Growing This Month	Hectares Growing Previous Year & Month	% + -	Hectares Loss This Month	Hectares Loss Previous Year	% + -
Legumes	4.9	3.4	44%	8.2	7.6	8%	24.9	31.1	-20%	0.4	0.2	2%
Vegetables	41.2	39.1	5%	45.8	30.5	50%	119	125.6	-5%	1.1	0.1	8%
Condiments	10.6	11.3	-6%	12.7	15.8	-20%	49.2	51.9	-5%	0.6	0.1	4%
Fruits	8.4	8.5	-1%	7.3	9	-19%	139.1	131.3	6%	0	0	0%
Cereals	6.1	2	205%	3.6	2.5	44%	17.6	8.4	110%	0	0.5	-4%
Plantains	18.1	22.6	-20%	19.6	28.7	-32%	217.9	320	-32%	0	0.5	-4%
Potatoes	26.9	42.41	-37%	8.5	3.9	118%	56	71.91	-22%	0.6	0.2	3%
Yams	4.6	4.6	7%	10.9	8.3	31%	76.5	80.2	-5%	0	1	-8%
Other Tubers	6.8	4.8	42%	10.2	6.6	55%	73.7	80	-8%	0	0	0%
Total	127.6	138.71	27%	126.8	112.9	26%	773.9	900.41	2%	2.7	2.6	0%

12) Nursery Production

a) There are no seedlings available at the nursery at this time.

13) *Tractor service* – The tractor is operational and accessible by: application, payment of \$3,500.00 and transportation at \$150.00 from the parish office to the location and return. One point one (1.1) hectares of land was planted this month, eight point four (8.4) to date.

14) *Irish Potato Programme* - A total of 938 bags of Irish Potatoes were received. Due to continuous heavy rainfall farmers are unable to prepare land and plant Irish Potato. Farmers who have planted are experiencing rotting of Irish Potato in most cases the germination rate ranges from 60%-70%. Farmers who have planted are experiencing rotting of Irish Potato in most cases the germination rate ranges from 60%-70%.

The Chairman thanked Mrs. Hyde for her report.

g) JCDC

Nil

h) JCF

Nil

i) Youth Mayor/Youth Councillors

Nil

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thanksgiving Service for the late Estriana Thompson (Miss Essie) will be held on Saturday, January 21, 2017 at the Parish Church, Port Maria at 10:00 a.m.
- Orientation for Councillors on February 1 & 2, 2017 at the Jewels Dunn's River Resort.

NOTICE OF MOTION FROM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF FORMER MEETINGS

(A) ENERGY CONSERVATION

The Chief Engineering Officer informed that he was in the process of trying to get quotations however; that one was due to come in the tomorrow (Friday); that he was having some challenges in having the companies visit the area; that each time a visit was planned, it rained. He added that Councillor Danvers was planning one of the visits as well; that the person visited twice however, rain caused the abortion of the site inspections. He said he would continue to pursue the matter.

(B) PORT MARIA MARKET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The Chief Engineering Officer informed that the procurement process in its highest stage and was still ongoing; that project over Forty Million Dollars usually went through a rigorous procurement process. He said the process being used is called the International Company Bidding Process, hence the strict requirements. He said that a committee examined the bid documents and there were some non-compliance to the requirements therefore the project had to be re-tendered. He said it should be noted that the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development, which was the entity carrying out the procurement process, has the right to refuse all bids. He said the Corporation was still awaiting official communication from the Ministry in regards to the re-tendering.

The Chairman informed that he spoke with Mr. Dwight Wilson, Chief Technical Officer at the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development and requested that he visits the Corporation so that a detailed inspection of the plan could be done and to visit the proposed site for the market to ascertain the exact structural layout.

(C) EXCHANGE OF LAND/PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT – MURDOCK BEACH

It was noted that Goldeneye Development wanted to do a land swap with the Corporation; that the UDC was to upgrade the Fisherman's Beach at a cost of M\$7.4; the UDC said funds were not available; that the Goldeneye Development said they would advance the funds for the UDC.

The Chairman said he would have dialogue with the UDC Chairman.

(D) RESOLUTION – REPAIR HOUSE

The Chairman informed that the amount of M\$13 was requested from the Equalization Fund to provide One Million Dollars to each Division for Indigent Housing; that it has not been forthcoming. He said the Minister of Local Government and Community Development had recently announced that he would be providing each Division with funds to assist with Indigent Housing.

(E) UNITS TO BE USED AT CASTLETON HEALTH CENTRE

Councillor Danvers informed that the bases for the units were being prepared.

The Chairman said that as soon as the bases were ready then the Food for the Poor would provide the units.

(F) DELAPIDATED BUILDING IN RICHMOND TOWN

The Chairman asked that the matter be transferred to the Physical Planning, Environment and Development Committee for discussion.

(G) PROPOSED TRANSPORT CENTRE HIGHGATE, ST. MARY

The Chairman asked that the matter be transferred to the Physical Planning, Environment and Development

Committee for discussion.

(H) CLAIM NO 2011/HCV-00232 SEYMOUR MORALES V ST. MARY PARISH COUNCIL AND ATTORNEY GENERAL OF JAMAICA

The Director of Administration informed that she telephoned the office the day before the meeting and was informed that no date was available because of the backlog; that she would do a follow up on the matter.

(I) REHABILITATION OF ROSLYN ROAD – PORT MARIA

The Chairman asked that the matter be transferred to the Infrastructure and Traffic Management Committee for discussion.

(J) CONSTRUCTION OF CLINIC – PORT MARIA HOSPITAL

It was noted that Dr. San San Win had informed that works were 95% complete; that the decision was to Move in or wait until the second phase which would be the waiting area, was completed and that the Facility could be occupied.

There was no update on the matter.

(K) WATER LAND ATTRACTION

The Chairman asked that the matter be removed from the Minutes. He added that if there were concerns at a later date the matter would be discussed.

(L) MAMMOGRAM SCREENING – JAMAICA CANCER SOCIETY

The Director of Administration informed that she was contacted by the Cancer Society and was told that she would be informed of activities in February.

(M) PALMERS PARK

The Chairman said he would ensure that the park is renovated. He said twenty loads of top soil was deposited to be spread on the field however it had grown and need to be cut again. He said previously there was a funding issue that caused the renovations to be put on hold however, the Chief Engineering Officer should provide information in regards to the scope of works so that he and the Chief Executive Officer could seek funding.

Councillor James informed that it was alleged that persons were using the top soil for dumping up there properties.

The Chairman asked that the area be cut and the top soil be spread before all was used up.

Councillor Smiley enquired whether or not there were plans to include a netball court.

The Chairman said that Councillor Smiley should write a letter to the Sports Development Foundation (SDF) for funding and he would speak with the Chairman on his behalf.

(N) UPDATE ON WATER TRUCK

The Chairman asked for an update.

The Chief Engineering Officer responded that there was no further update on the matter.

The Chairman asked that the Chief Engineering Officer provide him with the information in regards to parts needed for the water truck so he could try to assist with sourcing same.

(O) UPDATE WATER PUMP-CARRON HALL

The Chairman asked for an update.

The Deputy Chief Engineering Officer responded that the matter was tabled at the Infrastructure & Traffic Management Committee.

The Chairman asked that the matter be removed for the Minutes.

(P) FELLOWSHIP HALL WATER SUPPLY

The Chairman asked that the matter be removed from the Minutes.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIUOS MINUTES

Nil

CORRESPONDENCE

It was noted that a letter was written to the Housing Agency of Jamaica seeking assistance for the relocation of a family from Dump Land.

The Chairman asked for an update.

The Parish Coordinator, Disaster Preparedness responded that she would do a follow up as she was not sure which Agency should be written to.

NEW BUSINESS

Nil

PETITION

Nil

RESOLUTIONS FROM CORPORATIONS

1)

The Chief Executive Officer presented letter dated October 27, 2016 and resolution from the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation as under:

WHEREAS it is the responsibility of the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation to administer enforcement activities and regulations under its purview;

WHEREAS in the absence of pertinent legislation for the appointment of a Municipal Police;

WHEREAS pursuant to Constables (District) Act in which they have been duly appointed by the Chief Officer of the Constabulary and sworn in by the Custos as Special District Constables;

WHEREAS in the exercise of their they are being threatened and abused;

AND WHEREAS Pepper Spray is on the list of restricted items and not readily available except through the distinct right and approval of the Minister of National Security;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Municipal Corporation make an effort to equip the appointed Special District Constables under our jurisdiction with Pepper Spray in the execution of their duties;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an application be made to the Minister of National Security for the approval and a no objection letter for the importation of the Pepper Spray and to eventually lift the restriction;

AND BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that this proposal be forwarded to the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development and other Local Authorities for their support.

The Committee did not support the resolution because of concerns such as:

- **Pepper spray may be misused**
- **May cause further altercation**
- **Officers may use pepper spray on each other**

RESOLUTION - FINAL APPROVAL

1) STATUTORY DECLARATION

The Director of Planning (Acting) presented resolution for final approval as under:

***IN THE MATTER** of the subdivision of
Lands part of **NASHVILLE***

SAINT MARY

***IN THE MATTER** of the Statutory Declarations Act*

I, GARFIELD THOMPSON do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:-

That I reside and have my true place of abode and postal address at Tower Isle in the parish of St. Mary and I am the Chief Engineering Officer of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation (Formerly The St. Mary Parish Council) and am duly authorized to depone to this Statutory Declaration on behalf of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation.

*That the subdivision of lands part of **Nashville** in the parish of Saint Mary registered at **Volume 1372 Folio 860 and Volume 1134 Folio 825** in the name **Winston and Barbara Barrett c/o Christopher Robinson** has been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the conditions of approval issued on **July 15, 2015**.*

*That conditions **No. 29** namely, the setting out of road alignment and lot boundaries has been checked on ground by the Local Planning Authority (St. Mary Municipal Corporation) and all pre-checked plans (**PE: 385911**) have been adjusted accordingly, in respect of Lot **1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8**.*

AND I MAKE this solemn declaration conscientiously believing same to be true and by virtue of the Statutory Declaration Act.

On a motion by Councillor Sewell, seconded by Councillor Smiley, the Corporation approved.

2)

The Director of Planning (Acting) presented resolution for final approval as under:

***IN THE MATTER** of the subdivision of
Lands part of **SPRING VALLEY (OCEAN RIDGE)***

SAINT MARY

IN THE MATTER of the Statutory Declarations Act

I, GARFIELD THOMPSON do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:-

That I reside and have my true place of abode and postal address at Tower Isle in the parish of St. Mary and I am the Chief Engineering Officer of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation (Formerly The St. Mary Parish Council) and am duly authorized to depone to this Statutory Declaration on behalf of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation.

*That the subdivision of lands part of **Spring Valley** in the parish of Saint Mary registered at **Volume 1274 Folio 213** in the name **Wesley Marr et al. c/o Abendana and Abendana** has been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the conditions of approval contained in Motion Paper dated **20th May, 1974**.*

*That conditions **No. 7(i)** namely, the setting out of road alignment and lot boundaries has been checked on ground by the Local Planning Authority (St. Mary Municipal Corporation) and all pre-checked plans (**PE: 325833**) have been adjusted accordingly, in respect of lot **40**.*

AND I MAKE this solemn declaration conscientiously believing same to be true and by virtue of the Statutory Declaration Act.

On a motion by Councillor Hutchinson, seconded by Councillor James, the Corporation approved.

FINAL APPROVAL

1)

The Director of Planning (Acting) presented resolution as under:

WHEREAS *the subdivision applications have been filed with the St. Mary Municipal Corporation under section 5 (1) of the Local Improvement Act for:*

Lands part of Three Hills

Estate Hopeton Hunter C/o Aldean & Charlene Dehaney

AND WHEREAS *the said lands are described in the maps prepared by Commissioned Land Surveyors, which maps or plans, have been signed by the property owners and contains the required particulars concerning them,*

AND WHEREAS *the Corporation had sought, obtained & accepted the advice of Government Town Planner and the Chief Technical Director, Ministry of Construction (Transport & Works) on the applications and draft conditions,*

AND WHEREAS *conditions of approval have been accepted in writing by the applicants,*

AND WHEREAS *in accordance with section 8 (10) of the Local Improvement Act, the St. Mary Municipal Corporation sanctioned the subdivision of the lands in the Parish of St. Mary,*

AND WHEREAS *that the Honorable Minister having confirmed the Corporation decision under the section 8 (5) of the Local Improvement Act,*

BE IT RESOLVED *that the St. Mary Municipal Corporation issues final approval to the above said subdivisions,*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED *that the Common Seal of the Corporation is hereby affixed.*

On a motion by Councillor Lee, seconded by Councillor Kidd, the Corporation approved.

2)

The Director of Planning (Acting) presented resolution as under:

WHEREAS the subdivision applications have been filed with the St. Mary Municipal Corporation under section 5 (1) of the Local Improvement Act for:

Lands part of Three Hills

Gerald Gordon c/o Errol Gordon

AND WHEREAS the said lands are described in the maps prepared by Commissioned Land Surveyors, which maps or plans, have been signed by the property owners and contains the required particulars concerning them,

AND WHEREAS the Corporation had sought, obtained & accepted the advice of Government Town Planner and the Chief Technical Director, Ministry of Construction (Transport & Works) on the applications and draft conditions,

AND WHEREAS conditions of approval have been accepted in writing by the applicants,

AND WHEREAS in accordance with section 8 (10) of the Local Improvement Act, the St. Mary Municipal Corporation sanctioned the subdivision of the lands in the Parish of St. Mary,

AND WHEREAS that the Honorable Minister having confirmed the Corporation's decision under the section 8 (5) of the Local Improvement Act,

BE IT RESOLVED that the St. Mary Municipal Corporation issues final approval to the above said subdivisions,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Common Seal of the Corporation is hereby affixed.

On a motion by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor Sewell, the Corporation approved.

Councillor Fyffe left the meeting.

NOTICE OF MOTION

Nil

QUESTIONS

Update on previous questions

The Chairman said in regards to the matter of funds being available for trucking of water at the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation; that the funds would be received whenever an invoice for trucking of water was sent to the Ministry. He added that in the previous dispensation, funds were allocated to each Division for the trucking of water; he clarified that the Corporation was responsible for trucking water to areas that were supplied with water by the Corporation and areas that had wayside tanks. He said the trucking of water was politicized in that, allocations were being made to areas without such supplies; that for example Islington Division that had no supply from the Corporation was allocated funds for trucking of water. He said that practice would change and the Roads and Works Department would prepare a schedule for the areas with such supplies for trucking of water, which was the correct way forward.

In regards to the matter regarding barrels that were received by the St. Mary Infirmary, the Chairman said he was informed by the CEO that the list of items contained in the barrels were presented at the May Poor Relief Committee meeting.

In regards to the matter of lunch being provided at a subsidised cost to staff at the Corporation, the Chairman said further discussions would be had with the Chief Executive Officer in regards to compensation for the Municipal Corporation from the business.

In regards to the matter of the residents of Crane Park mentioned at a previous meeting, the Chairman said the issue was with a gentleman who resides in the area by the name of Heavy, who made arrangements with a business person to purchase the property but would have access to the premises until he was deceased and then the business person would have full access to the property. He said a building was constructed on the property that was being used as a business place and the residence were having access issues to their premises. He said a request was made of the Roads and Works Department to investigate whether or not an approved building plan was issued for that construction and if none was in place a notice should be served. He asked for an update as whether or not that investigation was carried out.

The Chief Engineering Officer responded that none was carried out however he would do a follow up on the matter.

The Chairman asked that the matter be investigated; that a Notice be served and an update be given at the Physical Planning, Environment and Development Committee Meeting. He also request that the ownership of the land be ascertained with assistance from the national Land Agency.

Questions

Councillor Dixon asked, "is the Corporation aware that during the recent rainfall two roadways have collapsed, one at Top Esher and one in Martin?" he added that they both need urgent attention.

The Chairman asked whether or not they were roads belonging to the Municipal Corporation.

Councillor Dixon responded in the affirmative.

The Chairman asked that the Chief Engineering Officer carry out an investigation and see how best the problem could be solved.

Councillor Lee asked, "Is the Corporation aware that the overgrown areas in Tower Isle were harbouring criminals and criminal activities?" She added that criminals were using the area as a dumping site for items stolen such as handbags, purses and phones. She said she spoke with the Minister of National Security and suggested that a backhoe that was owned by that Ministry be used to clear the area and collaborate with the Police to keep clear the area periodically.

The Chairman said the Roads and Works Department should collaborate with the Property Tax Unit for assistance in locating the owners of the lots, write to them, and give them a deadline to bush the lots and if it is not done, the Corporation does the bushing and place a caveat on the titles in a bid to recover the cost of the bushing. He added that this exercise should begin with some of the high valued areas such as Tower Isle and Boscobel so that example could be made of them; that it should be publicised so that persons would be aware that the Corporation is serious about the matter.

Councillor James enquired whether or not the information regarding the caveat would come up whenever an individual applied for approval of building plans or whenever the individual was about to sell the property.

The Chief Engineering Officer responded that the information would come up whenever the individual tried to sell the property. He added that the original title would be located at the Titles Office and the caveat would be placed on that title; that the land owner would have a duplicate of that title and a caveat would not be placed on the duplicate title.

The Chairman said he realized that there were challenges however if the process was not an expensive one the Corporation could pursue same.

The Chief Engineering Officer opined that the caveat should be linked to the payment of taxes; that whenever the individual goes to pay property taxes the cost for bushing would be attached and that amount would have to be recovered before the tax payments can be made and the Corporation would then be refunded the amounts paid for bushing the property.

The Chairman said discussion should be had with TAJ to see how best the matter could be pursued.

Councillor Dixon asked whether or not the AMANDA system would capture the information that a caveat was placed on the property.

The Acting Director of Planning responded that it would not.

The Chief Engineering Officer informed that if the information was linked to the AMANDA system and an application for building approval should come to the Corporation for the individual whose property was affected, upon entering the application on the system that information would show up that an amount was owed for bushing.

The Chairman asked that the matter be further discussed at the Physical Planning, Environment and Development Committee.

Councillor Danvers asked, "Is the Corporation aware that there are two breakaways in the Jobs Hill area?" He requested that a resolution be sent to the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development requesting funds from Equalization Fund to effect repairs.

Councillor Danvers asked, "Is the Corporation further aware that the Camberwell and Georges roadways are in a deplorable condition?"

Councillor Hudson asked, 'Is the Corporation aware that garbage has not been collected in the Hampstead Division for over six (6) weeks?' She added that it has become a health hazard as the garbage had now spread to the roadways; that some persons were throwing the garbage on the main highway.

The Chairman said the matter would be tabled at the Public Health and Sanitation Committee Meeting; that the situation was wide spread and information could be sought from the representatives of the National Solid Waste Management Authority.

Councillor Smiley asked, "Is the Corporation aware that there were many street lamps in the parish that are non-functional?" He added that there were also some in the town of Port Maria that were non-functional and citizens were concerned about the situation especially because of the recent incident where a prisoner had escaped from Police Custody in the area.

The Chairman informed Councillor Smiley that representatives of the Jamaica Public Service attend the Physical Planning, Environment and Development Committee and the matter could be raised at that Committee. He said that Councillors should make a list of all the non-functional street lights in each Division and take it to the meeting; that he will ask Mr. Henry to provide a schedule as to when persons would be available to go to the various Divisions to locate the lights and have them repaired.

Councillor Smiley asked, "Is the Corporation aware that dumping is taking place on the premises of the old Fire Station which is causing serious security issues?" He added that citizens have complained about persons hiding in that area at nights.

Councillor Hutchinson asked, "Is the Municipal Corporation aware that all the Corporation's roadways in the Carron Hall Division are deeply scoured?" She added that one road in particular was blocked; that a tour be done in that Division to ascertain the depth of damage; that estimates be prepared to that effect for approval at the Finance Committee.

The Chairman asked that an estimate be prepared for the roadway that is blocked as that needed urgent attention.

Councillor James asked, "Is the Municipal Corporation aware that the Russell Hall Road was cut off; that some years ago and has now become difficult for persons to traverse?" He added that since the rains there has been a build-up of mud making it even more difficult for pedestrians.

Councillor James asked, "Is the Municipal Corporation aware that the water supply in Corn Piece that supplies Corn Hill and Jack's River is being interrupted by leakages?" he said the previous estimate received indicated that sixty (60) lengths of pipe was needed to replace those that had leakages.

Councillor James asked, "Is the Municipal Corporation aware that the pipe for one of the tanks at the water catchment that supplies areas in the Gayle Division has been broken for some time now?" He added that the bigger tank needs cleaning and the pipe on the smaller tank needs to be replaced and attached to the bigger tank.

Councillor James asked, "Is the Municipal Corporation aware that an extension was requested on the Hunts Town water supply to further serve an additional fifteen (15) houses?" He said the estimated cost amounted to two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) and to date no action has been taken to do the extension.

The Chairman said the Chief Engineering Officer has taken note of the concerns and he would try to see what could be done about the Russell Hall Roadway in short order. He said the others would be dealt with as soon as the estimates were prepared and funds were made available.

Councillor Kidd asked, "Is the Municipal Corporation aware that the Kidland to Brooklyn roadway is in a deplorable condition?" He added that the roadway has not been rehabilitated in over forty (40) years.

Councillor Kidd asked, "Is the Municipal Corporation aware that the Little Bay main road that leads to Albion Farm has been cut off for over three (3) years?" he said the citizens in the community have to traverse via Albion Mountain to get to Port Maria.

The Chairman said he would ask the Chief Engineering Officer to have a look at the roadways and those that can be dealt with locally will be done and funding would have to be sought for the others from the Equalization Fund.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

There being no other matter for discussion, the General Council meeting was adjourned on a motion by Councillor James, seconded by Councillor Bryan at approximately 2:16 p.m.

C O N F I R M E D

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CHAIRMAN
ST. MARY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

.....
CLERK TO COMMITTEE
ST. MARY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

DATE.....

DATE.....