

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF GENERAL COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2017

The monthly meeting of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation was held on Thursday, July 13, 2017 in the Corporation's Chambers, Port Maria Civic Centre, commencing at 10:10 a.m.

Present were:-

Councillors	Divisions
Richard Creary (Chairman)	Richmond
Doreen Hutchinson	Carron Hall
Germaine Smiley	Port Maria
Mitsy Hudson	Hampstead
Hugh Bryan	Annotto Bay
Sheldon Kidd	Oracabessa

The following Councillor(s) came during the course of the meeting:

Levan Freeman	Belfield
Leroy Sewell	Boscobel
Lenford Danvers	Castleton
Jason James	Gayle
Krystal Lee	Retreat

Officers

Officers	Positions
Carmen Samuda	Chief Executive Officer
Doyen Johnson	Chief Engineering Officer
Glenford Ricketts	Deputy Chief Engineering Officer
Yanique Samuels	Director of Administration
Rovel Morris	Director of Planning
Gloria Pedley-Hamilton	Acting Inspector of Poor
Patrice Hart	Chief Financial Officer
Raxine Bailey	Community Programmes Coordinator
Angella Lammie	Internal Auditor
Yolande Jankie	Parish Coordinator- Disaster Preparedness
Sharon Burke	Matron
Debbie Pryce	Recording Clerk

Representatives/Agencies

Representatives/Agencies	Positions
Albert P. Brown	Chief Public Health Inspector- St. Mary Health Department
Haleem Linton	Acting Deputy Superintendent - Jamaica Fire Brigade
Travis Graham	Parish Manager – Social Development Commission
Shaun Williams	Rural Agricultural Development Authority
Ryan Hewitt	Parish Manager – JCDC

NOTICE

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

DEVOTIONAL EXERCISE

Devotional exercise was conducted by Bishop Chamberlin, House of Praise Tabernacle, representing the Annotto Bay Division.

The Chairman thanked Bishop Chamberlin for conducting the devotional exercise.

(Councillors Freeman and Sewell joined the meeting)

NATIONAL PLEDGE

The attendees repeated the National Pledge.

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed all present. He especially welcomed Messrs Ryan Hewitt, Parish Manager, JCDC and Shaun Williams, RADA.

Apologies were tendered on behalf Councillor Dixon who was attending a course, Councillors Danvers and James who would be late, Mr. Lincoln Brooks who was on vacation leave and Mr. Uraih Cameron who was attending a workshop in Kingston.

OPENING REMARKS

The Chairman said the three Divisions that would be allocated funds for rehabilitation of roads for the month of July, were: Carron Hall, Belfield and Richmond. He said that did not mean there would only be three; that depending on the amount received for PRF, the possibility was that there could be more than three.

He said he had discussions with the Community Programmes Coordinator, Miss Raxine Bailey, among others, regarding the Community Meetings. He said although there was an increase in the number of Community Meetings being held, it seemed the Corporation was outputting much more than it was receiving. He said the attendance of the community members was poor; that the meetings were adequately advertised however, persons were not coming out. He added that the support from the various Agencies was good; that there were more Agency representatives than community members. He added that there was no value for money. He said in the past Council (Corporation) would go into the Schools to educate the students on the roles and functions of the Council; that we could look at doing that and invite various Agencies to partner with us in that regard. He said further discussions would be had with the Civic and Community Affairs Committee on the matter.

He said there was a possibility that there would not be a General Meeting in August; that it was not yet confirmed. He said there was controversy on the matter in 2016 however, discussions were ongoing and as soon as a decision is made the Corporation as well as the Agencies would be informed.

Garbage Drums

The Chairman said Mr. Spencer was not able to provide transportation for the drums to the parish. He said that based on the cost and the amount of drums that would be received, the Chief Executive Officer could look at the possibility of providing transportation for drums to the parish.

Undermining of the Westmoreland Bridge

The Chief Engineering Officer said the Corporation had not received an application from Mines and Geology Division as it relates to the mining.

Councillor Freeman enquired about the company that was carrying out mining activities.

The Chief Engineering Officer informed that it was Jamaica Aggregates.

The Chairman informed that he received a letter from Mines and Geology Division requesting the Corporation's comments on the proposal by Jamaica Aggregates to open the mouth of the river. He asked whether or not the Deputy Chief Engineering Officer had received such a letter.

The Deputy Chief Engineering Officer responded that he had received such letter which he forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer requesting additional information from Mines and Geology Division.

Chief Executive Officer informed that a letter was sent to Mines and Geology Division requesting the additional information and the Corporation was waiting for a response.

The Chairman asked that the Deputy and Chief Engineering Officers do follow up on the matter.

ACTION: DEPUTY CEO/CEO

Green House Project

The Chairman said he received the designs however, asked that the Chief Engineering Officer examine them to ascertain which was suitable for use of the Corporation. He said Miss Murai was available to provide further information if needed.

CORRECTIONS

Nil

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of General Council Meeting held June 8, 2017 having been circulated and read, was confirmed on a motion by Councillor Smiley, seconded by Councillor Sewell.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(A) ENERGY CONSERVATION

The Chairman informed that the PCJ had done its assessment; that an Officer was assigned to conduct an audit and further update would be received as soon as that was completed.

(B) PORT MARIA MARKET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The Chief Executive Officer informed that she spoke with the Permanent Secretary regarding the matter on Tuesday of said week and was told that it went to the Procurement Meeting on said Tuesday; that a report would be sent to him from the Committee and as soon as it was received, the Corporation would be informed.

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

It was noted that Golden Eye 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 Golden Eye Development said they would advance the funds for the UDC.

The Chairman said he still had not received a response.

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

The Director of Administration informed that there was no further update on the matter.

(E) PALMERS PARK

The Chairman informed that the Chief Executive Officer had written a letter to the Member of Parliament, Doctor Morais Guy, and was awaiting a response; that the Member of Parliament would be writing to the Constituency Development Fund to request a virement of funds. He added that he was approached by the Jamaica Cricket Association and was informed that the Association had funding available to assist with works to be done on the grounds that each parish team used. He said the parish team was unable to use the Palmer’s Park in its present state however, there was not much work left to be done. He said he would have discussions on the matter with Mr. Graham, Parish Manager, SDC based on the Association’s suggestion.

(F) UPDATE ON WATER TRUCK

The Chairman said he had received the schedule for trucking of water however, he was not able to look at it in detail. He asked for an update regarding the repairs to the water truck.

The Chief Engineering Officer informed that contact was made with Mr. Ottar; that after one month of calling, he still has not given a commitment for the repairs to the water truck. He said a meeting was held with his staff and a decision was taken that other options would be sought; that contact would be made with a company in Kingston who he was told may have the parts for the truck.

The Chairman suggested that contact be made with Rapid Response to ascertain whether or not they would be able to supply the parts that were needed since they had similar trucks that were no longer in operation.

(Councillors James and Danvers joined the meeting)

The Chief Engineering Officer responded that he tried on several occasions to make contact with Mr. Radcliff Brown, who was in charge of that unit at the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation however, was unable to do so.

The Chairman asked that a letter be written to the Permanent Secretary requesting assistance. He added that the other options could still be pursued in the meanwhile and request made for estimates.

ACTION: CEO

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

ON A MOTION BY COUNCILLOR FREEMAN, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR JAMES, THE STANDING ORDERS WERE SUSPENDED.

LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

BUTCHERS LICENCE

Nil

BEAUTY THERAPISTS/COSMETOLOGISTS/HAIRDRESSERS/BARBERS

The Chief Executive Officer presented the following for approval:

Beauty and Barber Salons

No.	Name of Establishment	Name of Operator	Location
1	Yellow Barber Shop	Iroy Grant	Annotto Bay
2	Collette Bradley-Spence	Collette Bradley-Spence	Main Street, Highgate
3	M & D Beauty and Barber	Maurice & Rossa Persaud	10 Main Street, Hoghgate
4	Ivory's Beauty Salon	Ivorine Harris	Main Street, Highgate
5	Donnahue's Barber Shop	Donnahue Melbourne	Main Street, Highgate
6	Reputable Touches	Pauline Tamasa	Shop 14, Triple P Plaza, Highgate
7	A & C Beauty Salon	Lurline Pedley-Hyde	Main Street, Highgate
8	Millaine's Beauty Salon	Marva Miller	Main Street, Highgate
9	Kadean Beauty Salon	Kadean Reynolds	Main Street Highgate

Beauty Therapists/Cosmetologists/Hairdressers

No.	Name of Applicant	Profession	Location
1	Barrodelle Lewis	Hairdresser	31 Stennett Street, Port Maria

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR FREEMAN SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HUDSON, THE COMMITTEE APPROVED.

Environmental Health Highlights June 2017**Water Quality Monitoring**

A total of twenty nine (29) visits were made to water supplies from all three (3) entities providing water in the parish. Ten (10) samples were submitted for bacteriological analysis to the National Public Health Lab.

Twenty nine (29) 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	5	5(100%)	0
Parish Council	20	16(80%)	4(20%)
Private Supplies	4	3(75%)	1(25%)
Total	29	24(83%)	5(17%)

Bacteriological Sampling

Agencies	No. of Samples Submitted	No. Satisfactory (Negative)(%)	No. Unsatisfactory (Positive)(%)	Results Pending
NWC	1	1(100%)	0	0
Parish Council	8	7(87.5%)	1(12.5%)	0
Private	1	0	1(100%)	0
Total	10	8(80%)	2(20%)	0

Drinking Water Status

Agency	No. of Supplies	No. Inspected (%)	No. Treated (%)
NWC	20	5(20%)	20(100%)
Parish Council	42	22(52%)	37(88%)
Private	15	0	12(86%)

From the results received from bacteriological samples submitted 80% were satisfactory. Eighty three percent (83%) of chlorine residuals checks done were satisfactory. Unsatisfactory chlorine residual and/ or bacteriological sample results were obtained from the following supplies:

John Crow Spring, Serjue, Adlyn and Lynda. The negative chlorine residual reading at these supplies was brought to the attention of the Superintendent of Water (Mr. Roberts) who responded that he would have the matter investigated as the attendants at these supplies were given adequate supplies of chlorine

Building Plans and Subdivisions

	No. Received	No. Investigated	#.Recommended	#Not Recommended
Building Plans	21	23	15	8
Subdivisions	0	0	0	0
Total	27	27	11	0

A total of twenty one (21) building plans were received.

Eight plans were not recommended. All of which were proposals for development in the Industry Pen locality where the issue of the incomplete sewage disposal system has still not yet been resolved

Burial Site Inspection

Forty one (41) 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

Aedes Surveillance

District	# of Premises Inspected	# of Premises Positive	# of Containers Found	# of Containers Positive	Aedes Premises Index (%)	Container Index (%)	Breteau Index
Port Maria:							
Petersfield	134	4	110	7	3	6	5
Total	134	4	110	7	3	6	5
GAYLE:							
Gayle Wood	67	10	120	14	15	12	21
TOTAL	67	10	120	14	15	12	21
ANNOTTO BAY:							
Annotto Bay	70	4	52	5	6	10	7
TOTAL	70	4	52	5	6	10	7
HIGHGATE:							
Richmond	228	11	344	18	5	5	8
Old Road	114	9	252	12	8	5	10
TOTAL	342	20	596	30	6	5	9
PARISH TOTAL	613	38	878	56	6	6	9

The Vector Control team continued to carry out Aedes Aegypti surveillance in a number of communities throughout the parish. During the period five (5) 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 6%. One community visited had premises index above single digits. The Gayle Wood locality had a premises index of 15%

The Vector Control team distributed twenty (15) drum covers in high risk communities.

Fogging

Fogging activities were carried out in the following communities;
Heywood Hall, Frontier, Geddes Town, Gayle, Jacks River and Petersfield

Barber Shops and Hair Dressing Salon Application

Nine (9) applications were received during the month; fifteen (15) were investigated and recommended inclusive of six (6) which were received previously.

Industry Pen (Phase Two)

The Saint Mary Health Department has suspended recommending development proposals for this locality pending the completion of the sewage disposal system. This decision has been communicated to the Chief Executive Officer of the Municipal Corporation. The health department continues to monitor the progress being made in completing the system.

Town Hall Meetings

Representatives of the Saint Mary Health Department attended a town hall meeting in Free Hill (Gayle Division). The opportunity was used to sensitize residents on various environmental health issues including mosquito control and solid waste management.

Temporary Enhanced Mosquito Control Programme

The Saint Mary health Department has implemented an enhanced mosquito control programme. This involves the hiring of thirty (30) temporary workers for a twelve (12) week period to augment the vector control team. The workers were selected from those previously trained and were in previous programmes. This programme like similar programmes done before will focus on identifying and treating mosquito breeding (*Aedes aegypti*) in selected high risk communities.

Inspection of Saint Mary Infirmary

A current inspection of the Saint Mary Infirmary indicated that the institution was generally meeting public health standards in its operation. There were however a few areas of concern

including the release of waste water from the laundry on the surface of the premises. A copy of the report and the recommendations for those deficiencies found was submitted to the Chief Executive Officer of the Municipal Corporation.

Medical Services

The United for Hope Foundation Medical Mission will be hosting a free medical clinic at the Retreat Health Centre on Friday, July 28. Services to be offered include:

- *Pap Smears,
- *Prostate, Glucose and Hypertension Screening
- *Heart Monitoring
- *Eye Testing (Free eye glasses)
- *Dental Services

Concerns /Questions/Highlights

Nil

QUESTION TO THE LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Councillor Freeman asked, 'Is the Local Board of Health aware that there is a large Piggery being operated in Rosemount and waste is being dumped into the river?'

The Chief Public Health Inspector said an investigation would be carried out into the matter. He added that the practise was inappropriate and the watershed must be protected.

RESUMPTION OF COUNCIL

ON A MOTION BY COUNCILLOR JAMES, SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HUTCHINSON, THE CORPORATION RESUMED SITTING.

REPORTS FROM AGENCIES AND COMMITTEES

(a) FIRE BRIGADE REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2017

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 June 2017**.

FIRE STATISTICS

Genuine Fires	11
M.F.A.	01
S.S.C.	05
F.A.W.G.I.	00
Total Calls	17

CLASSIFICATION OF GENUINE FIRES

Dwelling House	01
Storeroom	01
Bush/Rubbish	09
Total Genuine Fire Calls	11

Estimated Value of Property Loss	\$2,690,000.00
Estimated Value Property at Risk	\$241,000,000.00
Estimated Value of Property Saved	\$238,310,000.00

FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES

The Fire Prevention Section of the St. Mary Division was engaged in the under listed activities during the **Month of June 2017**.

Inspection of Buildings:

Clinic and Health Centres	01
Prison	01
Multi-Purpose Hall	01
Industrial & Commercial	07
Post Office	03
Home for the Aged	01
Office	03
Place of Attraction	02
Schools	08
Clubs, Bars/Grills & Sporting Venues	03
Hotels/Guest Houses	01
Early Childhood Institution	05
Fuel Station	02

Educational Activities

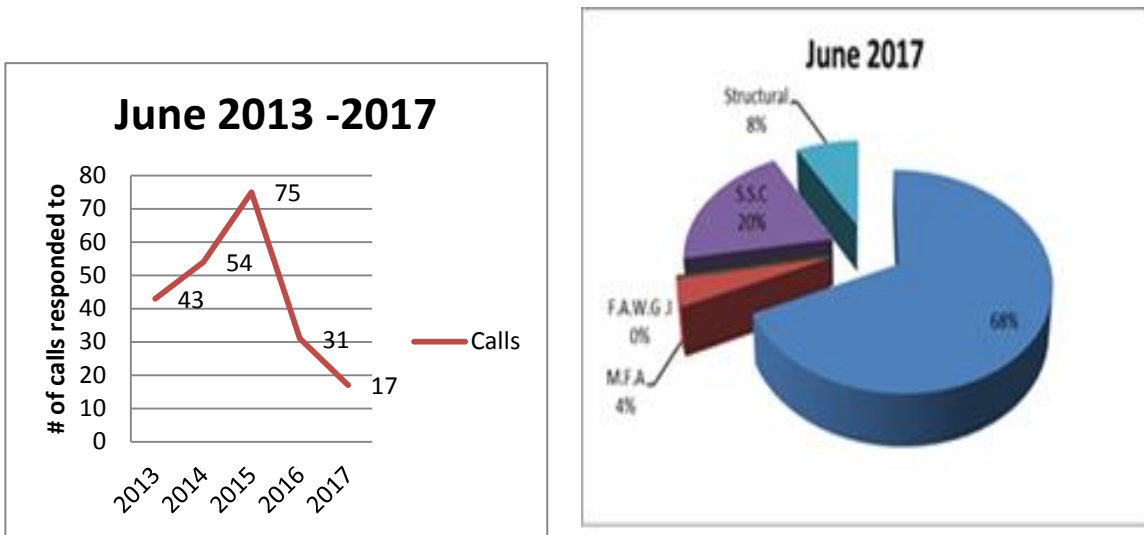
Lectures	15
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Fire Drills	06
Exhibition	02
Community Fire Safety Awareness	04
Video Presentation	09
Fire Warden Training	03
Seminars and Special Meetings	05
Fire Hydrants	
No. of Fire Hydrants Inspected	11

Fire Statistics

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

<i>Total Calls</i>		<i>M.F.A</i>	<i>F.A.W.G.I</i>	<i>S.S.C</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Structural</i>	<i>Displaced</i>	<i>Death</i>	<i>Injury</i>
May	20	02	02	09	07	03	04	2	0	3
June	17	01	00	05	11	09	02	01	00	00



June 2017 statistics recorded fifteen percent less calls than that of May 2017 with one less person displaced from their home due to fire.

When the Month of June is evaluated over the period June 2013- 2017, June 2017 falls below the average number of 40 calls for June over the period, thus representing a consecutive decline over the last three years.

Please note that the Division had one Fire Unit which operated in June 2017.

Highlights/Concerns

Nil

The Chairman thanked Mr. Linton, Acting Deputy Superintendent, for his report.

a) **PDC**

**St. Mary Parish Development Committee Report to St. Mary Municipal Corporation
July 13, 2017**

Administration:

The PDC Executive is to meet next week.

Operations

Situation remains the same. Awaiting response from the Ministry re: letter sent seeking support for Office.

EU/NIA/PDC Town Hall Meeting

This is scheduled for next Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at the Port Maria Civic Centre, starting at 5:00 p.m.

The topic is **Disaster Management and preparedness - Who is accountable.**

Four (4) Coaster buses will be available to assist with transportation

Preliminary routes subject to change

- (a) Long Road, Annotto Bay, Robin's Bay, Islington, Port Maria
- (b) Three Hills, Rio Nuevo, Boscobel, Oracabessa, Port Maria
- (c) Gayle, Jeffrey Town, Hunts Town, Bonny Gate, Port Maria
- (d) Hartlands, Windsor, Carron Hall, Woodside, Highgate, Port Maria

Persons needing assistances with transportation can contact the PDC Office at 648-9557.

Sponsors

Urban Development Corporation (UDC) - Cash

First Union Financial – Cash

NSWMA –

KREMI – Cash

MP Dr. Morais Guy – Cash

MP Dr. Winston Green - Cash

Power 106 FM – Advertisement – outside broadcasts

North Coast Times/North Coast Vine TV – Advertisements

News Talk 93 FM- Advertisement- outside broadcast

WOW Entertainment – DJ, Entire production of event/spot prizes

Ongoing Projects**Paggee Fishermen's Regatta 2017,****Sponsorship confirmed:**

St. Mary Municipal Corporation - Venue Preparation

Ministry of Industry, Commerce, Agriculture and Fisheries - Cash sponsorship- competitions

Jamaica 55 Secretariat – Cash

Jamaica Tourist Board (JTB) - Publicity/Promotions

Public Relations/Promotion

Bill boards are out.

Flyer will be out by Friday.

Promotion will be done on all media platforms.

Facebook Page is now active

Media Launch

Held July12, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m. at the Civic Centre

The media, all sponsors, prospective sponsors, service providers, stakeholders etc. were in attendance.

Power 106 as part of its sponsorship, arranged an interview on Both Sides of the story with Dervan Malcolm on the day of the Media Launch. Outside broadcast on the day from Power 106 FM and News talk.

Light, sound, stage, generators:

One (1) quotation received from WOW entertainment. The company has offered to produce the entire event as their contribution to the show.

Security

This is being looked at very carefully. Meeting held with the Superintendent of Police and his operations officer. Site visit done on July 12, 2017 with security and other service providers.

Operations

The other operational aspects are being finalized such as tents, fencing, workers and preparation of venue.

Performing Artistes

In the process of contracting Sizzla and another artists, possibly Vershon, to headline the show. Magnum 2017 winner will also be contracted.

A number of local artiste have also expressed interest in performing.

There will also be Beach wrestling and Beach Rugby with teams from Canada and USA.

1. Plastic Bottle Green House Project

● Current Progress

360Cycle came to site visit to reassess the site and green house construction method.

Because we had some issues with limited resource, timeline, and material. 360Cycle made a decision to change the method of constructing which allows us to save some material including wires and plastic bottles as well as some human resources.



More persons are aware of the project and people come to the site to see what we have been doing and some persons save and bring us some bottles for the project.

Members plan to build a toilet facility so that more people are comfortable working at the site long period of time.

They started asking for some contributions from their own community members and some construction works have been done by members.

They are expecting this site to be a ECO FRIENDLY PARK in the future, so they can open this site as camping facility or recreational park for students or even tourist. In that case, we can create some employment and generate some income for the association.



- **Future Plan**

- **Water tank installation**

- To be applied for JICA Funding program

- **Japanese Ambassador's visit**

- Expected to be in September

- **Media Promotion**

- Gleaner (2nd), TVJ, Radio Station, Facebook

- **Workshop in Port Maria**

- Expected to be in September or October

- **Ultimate Goal**

- **Eco-Friendly Park**

- Plastic Bottle Building (School Facility, resident houses, etc.)

- Plastic Bottle Collection within Parish

- Enhancement of recycling within Parish

2. **Community Garbage Receptacles**

- **Background**

- Not enough community garbage bin

- Lack of awareness towards environment

- **Current Situation**

Application to be submitted to St. Mary Parish Municipal Corporation in July for some funding support. 1st garbage receptacle is expected to be placed in Paggee for Paggee Fisherman's Regatta.

Some JICA volunteers from another parish will be involved to help making one. Also, JICA will have exhibitor booth at Regatta to encourage and raise awareness on visitors to keep the beach clean.

3. **Plastic Bottle School Facility**

- **Background**

Level of education and quality of education in St. Mary are considered poor according to the data collected at Ministry of Education.

- One of the reason behind this issue is that there is not enough facility space for students to study.

- Japanese Embassy's grass root funding assistance are available for supplying the needs for those school, educational institute, community, etc.

- **Current Situation**

- Requesting the list of school in St. Mary (from Ministry of Education)

- Connecting with the members from Japanese Embassy

- Discussion with 360Cycle

- *Identifying other partner construction company (Need to name at least 3 company for fund application)*
- **Future Prospect**
- *Plastic Bottle school facility will be the very first ECO-FRIENDLY school in Jamaica and we can expect it to be promoted nation-wide.*

4. Other Activities

- *Environment education at local schools*
- *Community Meeting*
- *Monthly community clean up*

The Committee noted.

b) Local Government Reform

Nil

c) ALGA

The Association of Local Government Authorities of Jamaica (ALGAJ) has written to the Hon. Desmond McKenzie, Minister of Local Government and Community Development, seeking a meeting to discuss the caption:

ISSUES:

1) Vide letter dated April 11, 2017

- a) Proposal for the Disaster Coordinators to be transferred to the office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management (ODPEM)
- b) Outstanding amount owing to J.PSco for streetlights and the replacement and the HPS streetlights with LED lamps
- c) The new arrangement with Tax Administration of Jamaica (TAJ) and the Property Tax Unit.

Timeline for the implementation of the Indigent Assistance Grant

e) Regulations for the three Strategic Laws

2) Vide letter dated June 8, 2017

a) Building Act

3) Vide letter dated June 16, 2017

a) Payment of Motor Vehicle upkeep Allowance to Councillors similar to that being paid to Government travelling officers

The office of Honourable Minister Desmond McKenzie has acknowledged the letters and ALGAJ awaits a responses from the Minister.

Excerpts from the Gleaner published Monday July 3, 2017

The Government of Jamaica will be looking to utilise to full potential smart LED street lights that were installed in four sec-tions of the island last week by the Jamaica Public Service Company (JPS)

This includes not just achieving a reduction in energy bills, but also bolstering the fight against crime, according to Minister of Science, Energy and Technology Dr. Andrew Wheatley.

"This smart technology provides a platform for smart securi-ty, while putting power in the hands of the people," said Wheatley, adding that the new has the ability to house camer-as and facilitate mobile equipment.

He said he was excited by the potential that it has in reducing electricity cost for the technology country.

TRANSFORMATIVE IMPACT

Montego Bay, Mona, Liguanea, Washington Boulevard, and Portmore are areas where lights were installed simultaneously on Friday night. Three hundred lights were installed in the tourism capital.

According to the JPS, the birth of these 'smart cities' is projected to have a transformative and revolutionary impact on the way Jamaica does things going forward.

Mayor of Montego Bay Homer Davis said the city has been presented with some exorbitant bills for street lighting in the past.

"This development was long overdue. We have seen for years that our electricity bill has burdened the Jamaican Government, and has caused our annual budget to be planned in such a way that we are not able to fully develop our communities," Davis said.

The project is estimated to cost US\$33 million over the period, down from \$45 million as a result of competitive bidding, which brought the rate down.

"Fifty per cent of the lights in Montego Bay will be converted into LED by the end of the year," said project consultant Steve Dixon."

Mayor of Kingston, Senator Cllr. Delroy Williams, recently met with the newly appointed Spanish Ambassador Josep Mari Bosch Bessa, at the Kingston and St. Andrew Municipal Corporation (KSAMC) to congratulate him on his appointment as well as discuss projects which will involve both bodies.

The ambassador, who has been in office for just over a month, expressed his affection for the city of Kingston and spoke of the similarities between the potential for development of the Kingston Waterfront and Barcelona, his hometown.

Bessa expressed confidence that tourism interest in Kingston will considerably improve should closer ties be formed with cities in Spain. He went further to state that he was pleased to see that the Santa Cruz de Tenerife Carnival theme for 2017 was "Caribbean" where a tribute to Jamaican culture was featured alongside other Caribbean countries.

Following further discussions it was agreed that the embassy would also aid the office of the Mayor in attracting cruise ships to Kingston as they are aware of interested cruise lines in Spain.

The suggestion was also made to strengthen the ties between Kingston and Spain through Sister Cities Agreements. Suggestions were made for the twinning ceremony including Las Palmas, Santa Cruz de Tenerife and Mallorca.

Other plans discussed include the opening of a Football Academy in partnership with Real Madrid, Cultural Partnerships and the establishment of a branch of the Cervantes Institute in Jamaica.

Mayor of Kingston launches City- wide Project

His Worship the Mayor of Kingston, Senator Cllr. Delroy Williams, has invited the public to furnish the Kingston and St. Andrew Municipal Corporation (KSAMC) with areas within the municipality that are facing commercial garbage issues.

This will form part of the **#KleanKingston** campaign that will be launched shortly and will include the placement of several bins across the City as well as a sanitation team that will be tasked with reducing garbage pile-up along streets and public spaces.

Mayor Williams also encourages members of the private sector to play their part in the cleanliness of the City by ensuring proper waste disposal and management. He went further to suggest that the municipality welcomes the support of the private sector in placing adequate bins across the city for disposal of garbage.

Residents can submit the locations of areas identified to the KSAMC via email at ksamcissues@gmail.com.

Portmore Municipal Corporation

Official Visit by the Deputy Mayor of the City of Hagen and His Delegation

It was May 20, 2017 when the German Delegation landed at the Don-ald Sangster International Airport in Montego Bay. This historic visit marks the fifth (5th) visit to the island by our German Partners. The Delegation was headed by the Deputy Mayor – City of Hagen, Mr. Thomas Huyeng, Mr. Ralf Rainer-Braun – Head of the Environment Department and Mr. Markus Vetter – Director of Marketing and Com-munication – KOSTAL Solar Technologies.

During the week of May 22 – 27, 2017, Deputy Mayor of the City of Hagen, Thomas Huyeng, and his Delegation, along with the Mayor of Portmore, Leon Thomas, Chief Executive Officer – Kerry Chambers as well as technical staff from the Portmore Municipal Council, engaged in a number of activities starting Monday, May 22, 2017 including tree planting, the official unveiling of the Site Map for the Portmore – Hagen Climate Change Park, as well as a tour of said site. Courtesy calls on Hon. Dr. Andrew Wheatley – Minister of Science, Energy and Technology at the Office of the Prime Minister and His Excellency, Ambassador Joachim Schmillen, at the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany were also made during the visit. Other activities included participation in the Climate Change Symposium, hosted at the HEART Academy, and a tour of the York Park Fire Station in Kingston as well as areas within Portmore namely:-

Ackee Village, Municipal Boulevard, Hellshire, and the Water-ford Fire Station.

Although our German Partners left Jamaica on Saturday, May 27, 2017, discussions regarding joint programs of action on climate change mitigation and adaption will continue when the Mayor and a team from the Council visits Hagen, Germany in July of this year.

The Training of Ackee Village Vendors

The Portmore Municipal Council (PMC) is poised to announce the open-ing of Ackee Village. This newly constructed venue will house the ven-dors who currently operate along the section of the Dyke Road close to the Mandela Highway in St Catherine.

This initiative not only involves the relocation of the vendors but also seeks to effectively build the capacity of these business owners. As such, Ms. Shirlene Lindo, an Independent Consultant with the HEART Acade-my was invited to organize a training workshop for the vendors, which was conducted from 26th April to 17th May 2017. All training Sessions were facilitated at the Emmanuel Apostolic Church (EAC) located at Braeton Parkway in Portmore.

The workshop focused mainly on Business Practices and Business Ethics and involved mostly group exercises (e.g. role play and discussion of case studies) which allowed for many opportunities to raise questions or concerns throughout the sessions. The main objectives of the training workshop were achieved, based on the partici-pants' feedback, as the program has helped them to develop better customer service skills and has motivated them to explore new strategies for improving their daily operations.

At the end of the workshop, the participants were given a written assessment determine their progress. Persons who successfully participated in all the training sessions will be presented with certificates of participation.

St. Catherine Municipal Corporation

ODPEM's Annual Disaster Preparedness Exposition 2017

Roye's Plaza in Junction, St. Elizabeth came alive on Saturday, June 24, 2017, as the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Management's (ODPEM's) Annual Disaster Preparedness Exposition was held. The St. Catherine Municipal Corporation's Disaster Preparedness team was among the participants.

According to St. Catherine's Disaster Coordinator Ms. Pat Lewis, St. Catherine has always welcomed this annual event and from time to time made the effort to attend wherever it is held. She said it is an event that has also opened an entire avenue for sharing of general information relating to the parish and there were several things on display. The highlight however, was on Disaster Preparedness matters.

St. Catherine team members participated in several activities and won prizes. The team is happy to have been able to share in what was considered a very informative and meaningful event, and looks forward to next year, Ms. Lewis said.

St. Elizabeth Municipal Corporation

Chairman of the St. Elizabeth Municipal Corporation Council-ior Derrick Sangster, said St. Elizabeth is open to big invest-ment in the parish, such as Jiuquan Iron and Steel Company (JISco).

Mr. Sangster who is also Mayor of Black River and Councillor for the Mountainside division said re-investment by the Chi-nese will bring back life into Nain and the rest of the parish.

The Mayor, who was speaking at the reopening of the 48-year-Old bauxite refinery, signaled that St. Elizabeth and Ja-maica is open for business.

ALGAJ Monitoring the development at St Thomas Municipal Corporation (Excerpts from Friday Gleaner dated 7/7/17)

Former Councillor Constantine Boogle of Yallahs Division in the St Thomas Municipal Corporation filed an election petition in the Supreme Court that at the time of the Local Government Election in November 2016 Mr. Dean Jones was a public servant and he did not live in the division, both conditions being in contravention of the Local Governance Act February 2016. The petition is to disqualify the sitting Councillor Dean Jones from serving as Councillor for the Yallahs Division. Mr. Jones and his attorney challenged the petition made against him. The matter is still been heard before the Supreme Court.

Presently in the St Thomas Municipal Corporation there is a tie between the Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) and the People's National Party (PNP) with each having 5 divisions respectively. The Corporation is chair by Mayor Councillor Lenworth Rawle and his deputy Councillor Michael Hue.

Obituary

ALGAJ send condolences to Mayor of May Pen, Councillor Winston Maragh who lost his mother Ms. Winnifred Maragh on 30th June 2017 in Toronto Canada. She was 86 years old and will be bur-ied on 14th July 2017 in Toronto Canada.

ALGAJ keeps her family and loved ones in prayer.

- b)
- d) **SDC**

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MUNICIPAL CORPORATION REPORT JUNE 2017

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MUNICIPAL COROPRATION REPORT JUNE 2017

❖ CDC and DAC group Assessments

❖ Groups Assessed :

- *Wag Water DAC, Annoto Bay DAC, Highgate DAC, Gayle DAC*
- *Gayle CDC, Labyrinth CDC, Amiel Town CDC, Bonny Gate CDC, Mile Gully CDC, Highgate CDC< Woodside CDC, Richmond CDC, Hampstead CDC, Sandside CDC, Robins Bay CDC, Oracabessa CDC, Castleton CDC, Enfield CDC, Scotts Hall CDC, Three Hills Farmers group.*
- *Groups assessed will be provided with Capacity Development initiatives/training to develop on weak areas of group.*

❖ *Richmond Town Hall Meeting - held in partnership with Municipal Corporation.*

- ❖ *Boscobel Profile – Boscobel Community Profile to be undertaken at end of July. Activities include Houscount, mapping, asset mapping, survey, presentation of findings and development on community profile document.*
- ❖ *SMART- St Mary IAN Meeting held- SMART to with DAC's to identify priority areas in DA's to facilitate intervention activities. Call to Duty project SMART to assist Scotts Hall community in Building of receptacle project.*
- ❖ *SDC Parish Office clean up activity was a success. We cleared all debris at office location, and started the road patching process. We are in dialogue with CAPE to have agricultural classes done up there in collaboration with Orange River Farms.*
- ❖ *Local Economic Development*
 - *LED Capacity plans completed for Highgate Bee Farmers Assoc, Scotts Hall Maroon Village.*
 - *LED Capacity training completed for:*
 - *Enfield Ginger Beer Project- Business Development*
 - *Castleton Chocolate Group – Business Model Development*
 - *Charles Town Nutraceuticals – Business Idea Development and Marketing*
- ❖ *Three Hills Farmers Group – SDC Facilitated Capacity strengthening of Three Hills Farmers Group with Caribbean Development Bank in Leadership, Team Building and Financial Management in partnership with Caribbean Development Bank as a part of their project appraisal system-based on Proposal submitted by Farmers Assoc. for Three Hills Watershed Project.*
 -
- ❖ *SDC T20 Community Cricket competition Parish Finals held. Highgate emerged parish champions (\$100,000). Gone through to national phase. Woodpark emerged 2nd place in Parish.*
- ❖ *National Quarter Finals Feature match to be held in St Mary on July 30th in Three Hills. To include business village, Interagency Village, Sponsor Booths, Irie FM and other sponsors.*
- ❖ *SDC under 24 Community Netball Competition parish phase completed. Cromwelland -1st (\$60,000), Enfield 2nd, Port Maria-3rd. Cromwelland gone through to parish phase of competition, and Enfield went through as best loser nationally.*
- ❖ *SDC Parish Office clean up activity was a success. We cleared all debris at office location, and started the road patching process. We are in dialogue with CAPE to have agricultural classes done up there in collaboration with Orange River Farms.*

The Chairman thanked Mr. Graham, Parish Manager, SDC, for his report.

e) RADA

Parish Report for June 2017

1) *ABIS Farmer Registration*

- a) *Total Number of registered farmers* – A total of ten thousand five hundred and eighty-eight (10,588) farmers have been registered to date.
- b) *Farmer Profile Updates* - A total of five hundred and seventy-nine (579) farmer's profiles were updated for the month.

2) *Visits*

- a) *Agricultural Extension Officers Farm Visits* – Over the period a total of four hundred and four (404) farm visits were conducted during the reporting period, to cover Crop and Livestock production, Marketing and Land Husbandry practices.
- b) *Home Visits (Home Economics)*- Two (2) Home visits were conducted over the reporting period.

3) **Training Sessions**

a) **Farmer Trainings**

- i) Crop Production Training Sessions- Formal – During the reporting period of June 2017 one (1) Crop Production training session was held covering Land Preparation and establishment of Sweet Potato.
- ii) Crop Care Training Sessions- Formal – Two (2) Formal Crop Care Training Sessions were conducted for the month of June 2017.
- iii) Facilitated Training Sessions – Two (2) facilitated training session was conducted during the reporting period.
- iv) Livestock Production Training Sessions Formal – One (1) formal Livestock Production Training Session was conducted over the reporting period focusing on Fresh Water Fish Production.
- v) Land Husbandry Training Sessions Formal – Three (3) farmer trainings was conducted over the reporting period.
- vi) Marketing Training Sessions Formal – Two (2) formal Marketing Training sessions was conducted during the reporting period.
- vii) Social services/Home Economics Training Sessions Formal- Six (6) training session were conducted over the reporting period.
- viii) Farmers Trained Formal – A total of eighty-five (85) farmers were trained formally for the month of June 2017

b) **Staff Training**

Three (3) Staff Training sessions were conducted for the month of June 2017:

- Integrated Pest management in Beet Armyworms (Extension Personnel)
- Time Management- All Staff
- Basic Cake Baking and Decorating- SS/HEO

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

PMO Groups Formed/ Strengthened – A total of five (5) PMO/other groups were strengthened for the period.

- a) Home Economics Groups Serviced – Four (4) groups were serviced during the reporting period; Windsor Castle Social Services/Home Economics Benevolent Society, Port Maria Home Economic Movement, Rosend community Group and Gifted Hands Community Group.

5) **Projects/Programmes**

- a) Fort George Honey Production Project - The Fort George Honey Production Project currently has thirty-eight (38) boxes which make a total of fifteen (15) colonies (1 double and 14 triple). For the reporting period the following activities were done:

- A wash hand basin was installed in the bathroom
- Water pipes were connected so now the Apiary has running water
- 15 gallons of honey were harvested (3 5 gal buckets)

Members visit the Apiary once weekly to monitor and do work activities.

- b) Import Substitution- Irish Potato Programme - A total of 1242 bags of Irish Potatoes were received. Farmers who have planted are experiencing rotting of Irish Potato in most cases the germination rate ranges from 60%-70%. A total of 107.8 Irish potatoes was planted, 67.73 Irish potatoes reaped totaling 1490 tonnes. There was a total of 325 participants with 132 being women and youths.
- a) GOJ/Adaptation Fund Programme Water Harvesting Project: St. Mary Technical High- Water Harvesting project has been completed, with guttering installed and attached to the water tanks. The school is now able to harvest and utilize rain water in their agricultural production.

- b) GOJ/Adaptation Fund Programme Water Harvesting Project: Brimmer Vale High- Water harvesting project has been completed with guttering being installed and attached to the water tanks.
- c) GOJ/Adaptation Fund Programme Water Harvesting Project: Highgate Primary and Junior High – Project has been completed with guttering installed and attached to the water tanks. Cabbage and Tomato plots have been established and are growing in good condition.
- d) GOJ/Adaptation Fund Programme Water Harvesting Project: Jeffrey Town Water Harvesting Project- Two (2) tanks received to be distributed. Entombment of spring to be done. The foundation has been excavated for the entombment and steel work has begun. Stand was constructed and tanks delivered to site.
- e) GOJ/Adaptation Fund Programme Water Harvesting Project: Enfield Water Harvesting Project- Entombment of spring to be done. Awaiting information from GOJ/AFP as to the start date. Quarry and hardware have received their cheques to cover the expenses for the work to be done. The aggregate was delivered in the community and beneficiaries are presently moving it to the site due to its location.
- f) GOJ/Adaptation Fund Programme Water Harvesting Project: Blue Gate/Carron Hall Water Harvesting Project- Pond has been excavated but due to rainfall some silt was deposited in the pond. Road was constructed and pond is to be widen.
- g) GOJ/Adaptation Fund Programme Farmer Field School Project- All sessions have been completed. Four (4) awards were received by the group and Mr. Pryce got award for best facilitator.
- h) Peace Corp Water Harvesting Programme: St. Mary High School- Water harvesting project has been completed in which the guttering has been installed and attached to the water tanks. Sign was delivered to site.
- i) Production Incentive Programme- Pringle's Home Layer Project- Construction of building is completed. 168 birds laying 3 ½ flats per day. There was no mortality.

Agro Processing Incubator Unit - Building facility has been completed. Equipment was received and the industrial kettle, restaurant range and dump station was installed. Competiveness Company to meet with processors on July 18, 2017.

- a) Awaiting documentation from Head Office and JSIF regarding electricity. An Officer from NEPA visited the facility.
- b) Relief Support for Farmers affected by Flood Rains (\$2,395,000.00) - Extension Officers are in the process of distributing fertilizers, pesticides and seeds to farmers that were affected by the flood rains. Approximately 200 farmers have benefitted to date.
- c) Relief Support for Farmers affected by Flood Rains (\$1,500,000.00) - Extension Officers are in the process of distributing fertilizers, pesticides and seeds to farmers that were affected by the flood rains. Approximately 52 farmers have benefitted to date.

6) **Demonstration Plots**

a) Crop Care Demonstration Plot –

Four (4) Irish Potato Demo Plots were established in the following areas, namely:

- Nutfield- plot was reaped and approximately 800 lbs. were garnered; however, heavy rainfall caused an increase in rotting.
- Smilefield- The plot was harvested and a total of 1150 lbs. were garnered. This is exclusive of spoilage.
- Decoy – A total of 900 lbs. were reaped; due to the continuous rainfall more than a half of the potatoes started spoiling in the field.
- Robin's Bay- The plot was harvested and the result was very poor (60 lbs.). The tubers were very small; however, the plot was severely affected by the dry conditions during the initial stage.

7) **Livestock Activities**

<i>Beef</i>	<i>Dairy</i>	<i>Broiler</i>	<i>Layer</i>	<i>Pig</i>	<i>Goat</i>	<i>Rabbit</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Apiary</i>
4,039	721	43,382	60,440	16,032	14,799	2,742	526	657

- 8) **Marketing Activities** – Marketing linkages were made between twenty-seven (27) farmers and various buyers for supplying farm produce valuing \$1,745,920.00 and a total volume of 15,640 kg.

9) **Land Husbandry/ Soil Management Activities**

- i) **Agronomic Methods** – 4 hectares of contour cultivation, 4 hectares of cover cropping and 400 meters of vegetative barriers/pineapple.
- ii) **Soil Fertility Management Methods**- 3 hectares of correct usage of Inorganic Fertilizer was observed over the reporting period; farmers in the Frazerwood area were introduced to best practices in Inorganic Fertilizer Application. Two (2) hectares of Crop Rotation was also observed. Farmers were observed utilizing 3 hectares of animal manure. 6 hectares of Minimum Tillage was done in the Carron Hall, Platfield and Cane Heap areas.
- iii) **Structural Methods** –200 meters of Tree Trunk Barriers were done in the Farmer’s Heights area; logs were used to slow down the velocity of runoff water, thus reducing soil erosion.

10) **Social Services/Home Economics Activities**

- a) One (1) Food Promotion Activity was done in collaboration with the Parish Infant and Young Child Feeding Programme. The promotion consisted of a live food demonstration of sweet Potato Red Peas Balls.
- b) One (1) Exhibition was attended at the Taino Areyto Day in Jacks River.
- c) One (1) Inter-Agency Collaboration was done with the Parish infant and Young Child Feeding Programme.

11) **Crop Production**- Hectares planted increased by 7.4%, when compared to the corresponding period last year (2016). Hectares reaped decreased by 19.7%. Vegetables such as cabbage, tomato and pumpkin have increased during the period. Condiments also showed an increase (4%) over last year this is due to the fact that several farmers have been investing in hot pepper production based on the market demand.

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	7.4	10.2	6.1	8.5	23.8	32.7	0	0
Vegetables	59.1	48.5	56.4	67.9	159.2	160.1	0	0
Condiments	22.5	15.7	13.1	17.8	68	50.6	0	0
Fruits	15	14.6	10.7	14	146.6	139.7	0	0
Cereals	5.9	4.1	6.4	6.1	18.6	10.5	0	0
Plantains	26	27.8	28	32.2	258.7	250.5	0	0
Potatoes	7	10.3	7.7	9.3	27.2	37.8	0	0
Yams	10.9	12.3	10.1	13.9	71.2	82.1	0	0
Other Tubers	9.8	8.8	9.3	11.1	71.2	89.9	0	0
Total	163.6	152.3	147.8	180.8	844.5	853.9	0	0

12) **Income Generation Activities**

- a) **Nursery Production**- We presently have an assortment of seedlings growing in the Nursery in preparation for the 2017 Denbigh Agricultural and Industrial Show, even as we await the estimate for the cost of repairs.
- b) **Tractor service** – The tractor is operational and accessible by: application, payment of \$3,500.00 per hour and transportation at \$150.00 per km from the parish office to the location and return. No ploughing was done for the month of April due to the continuous rainfall.
- c) **Tools & Equipment Rental**- Items available for rental include: Mist Blower, Weed Wacker, Spray Pans and a Rotovator.
- d) **Truck Rental**- the Parish presently has two (2) trucks for rental, namely a Hyundai Box Truck and a Isuzu Store Body Truck.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Williams for his report

(f) JCF

Nil

g) JCDC

JAMAICA CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION – ST. MARY
ST. MARY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION - REPORT- JULY 2017

Introduction

The time has come for Jamaica to once again celebrate our Independence, This year we celebrate fifty five (55)

*years of independence under the theme : **Jamaica 55: “Celebrating Jamaicans at Home and Abroad”.***

There are a number of activities that have been planned and your support and participation is anticipated.

Kindly note that a copy of the schedule has been sent to all Parish Councillors and invitations to the various events will be sent out shortly.

Highlights

- **Jamaica Festival Queen Competition** – Miss Ava-Gail Lindsay will be representing the parish, having been crowned as the St. Mary Parish Queen on May 6, 2017. The national coronation will take place on August 1, 2017, at the National Arena. We ask for your support by logging on to JCDC’S Facebook page- go to Miss Jamaica Festival Queen Competition- like the page - go to the album and click on St Mary and like the queen. There is a social media sectional prize and she is currently in fourth position.
- **World Reggae Dance Championship** - The Northern Elimination took place on July 7, 2017 at Hi Lo Supermarket Car Park. There were two entries from St. Mary; if either is successful then they will proceed to the semi-finals on July 15, 2017. The Grand Finals will be on August 4, 2017 at National Arena.
- **Big Stage Talent Competition** – Auditions commenced on July 7, 2017 in Port Maria and we received entries in five categories, the majority was in singing. The next audition was in Islington on July 8, 2017 and we received entries in four categories, with majority coming from Dee-Jay/Sing Jay categories.

The auditions continue on July 14 in Richmond and July 15 in Oracabessa. The grand finals will take place on July 22, 2017 at Hi-lo Supermarket Car Park, where the top three will be awarded cash prizes and trophies in addition to trophies for sectional winners.

- **Jamaica55 Celebrations** – In commemoration of our nation’s 55th year of independence, a fashion theme geared at highlighting who we are as a people has been selected. The fashion theme for this year is “Wear Di Vibes.... Its Jamaica 55” and it comprises of the colours black, emerald, gold and red. Each colour representing unique traits of Jamaicans.

We are also encouraging participation in the 2017 “Spirit of Independence” competition. This is where clothing/fabric stores are encouraged to stock up on items reflecting the vibes colour. In addition, business complexes, stores, institutions and the municipal corporation are encouraged to decorate their offices during the period July 21-August 18, 2017.

The Emancipation Celebration officially commences with the Church Service on July 30, 2017 at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Port Maria. The celebration also features drumming in the park, emancipation vigil, street dances, band wagon, and flag raising ceremony. It will then conclude with Parish Gala on August 6, 2017 in Claude Stuart Park, Port Maria.

Conclusion

Having assumed the role as Parish Manager on July 3, 2017 I embrace the opportunity of serving the parish of St. Mary together with you our valued partners. I look forward to continue the relationship that has been built, as we seek to enhance development of our Parish and Jamaica land we love.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Hewitt, Parish Manager, JCDC, for his report.

f) Youth Mayor/Youth Councillors

Nil

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil

NOTICE OF MOTION FROM ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nil

UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF FORMER MEETINGS

Nil

MINUTES OF COMMITTEES FOR ACCEPTANCE

The following Minutes of Committees were presented for acceptance as under:

- a) *Human Resource Management*
- b) *Civic and Community Affairs*
- c) *Poor Relief*
- d) *Physical Planning & Environment*
- e) *Finance*
- f) *Infrastructure & Traffic Management*

On a motion by Councillor James, seconded by Councillor Hudson, the Minutes of Committees were accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

The Chief Executive Officer presented Memorandum dated June 30, 2017 from the Finance Committee re Rodent Infestation in the Parish as under:

“At the recent Finance Committee meeting held on Monday, June 19, 2017 the decision was taken to forward the above captioned matter to the General Council Committee for the necessary discussions to be facilitated.

Kindly see attached Memo from the Public Sanitation Committee dated June 2, 2017 and excerpt from the Minutes for ease of reference.”

“Reference is made to excerpt (attached) from the Disaster Preparedness Committee meeting.

Letters were consequently sent to Grace Kennedy, LASCO, Rapid True Value and Hi-Lo seeking their assistance with the purchasing of baits to get rid of such pests however, this had proven futile.

Subsequently, the matter be transferred to the Finance Committee seeking such funding.”

“The Secretary to the Committee read Memo from the Disaster Preparedness Committee meeting stating that it was brought up at the October 2016 meeting that there was a serious rodent infestation being experienced across the parish; that it was suggested that the assistance of corporate entities such as, Grace Kennedy (who had previously assisted in this regard) be sought in the purchasing of baits to get rid of such pests.”

The Chairman sought clarity on the matter.

Councillor Hutchinson, Finance Chairperson, said assistance was sought from the Health Department for purchasing the baits; that the matter was forwarded for discussion at the General Meeting in that regard.

The Chairman said the Finance Committee decides on financial matters for the Corporation and therefore it should remain with that Committee. He asked whether or not an estimate was received from the Health Department for the baits.

The Chief Executive Officer said she was not aware.

Councillor Hudson informed that letters were written to the entities seeking their usual assistance in acquiring the baits however, did not receive a favourable response. She said hence the reason the matter was forwarded to the Finance Committee seeking assistance in purchasing same.

The Chairman said contact should be made with the Health Department to ascertain the amount needed and cost of same.

NEW BUSINESS

Nil

PETITION

Nil

RESOLUTIONS FROM CORPORATIONS

The Chief Executive Officer presented letter dated July 11, 2017 from MLGCD and resolution as under:

“Reference is made to my previous correspondence dated June 26, 2017 regarding the commencement of the Municipal Social Assistance Programme/Fund.

Please be reminded that payments under the programme will commence in July 2017, including payments for Office/Administrative Support for the month of July 2017.

Each component has an associated maximum allocation as outlined below:

- Office/Administrative Support is \$25,000 per division per month;
- Social Housing Assistance is \$500,000 per division per year;
- Funeral and Education Grant is \$500,000 per division per year.

The indigent housing component is allocated based on the Poor Relief listing of indigent persons.

If you need further clarification, kindly contact Mr. Junior Rose at 467-0445 or jrose@mlgcd.gov.jm or Mr. Michael Myles at mmyles@mlgcd.gov.jm

1)

WHEREAS there is the need to provide assistance to the needy persons within communities;

AND WHEREAS these needs cannot be accommodated from the regular allocation given to the Municipal Corporation;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry has also determined that some provision has to be made for persons with these needs;

BE IT RESOLVED that the following amounts be deducted from the Equalization Fund for their respective components:

- Component 1: Office/Administrative Support
\$25,000.00 per division per month
- Component 2: Social Housing Assistance
\$500,000.00 per division per year
- Component 3: Funeral Education Grant
\$500,000 per division per year

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be forwarded to the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Community Development for the funds to be released.

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

2)

The Chief Executive Officer presented resolution as under:

WHEREAS part of the Government of Jamaica's modernization programme, the public procurement regulatory and institutional frameworks are being strengthened to create a more efficient system.

WHEREAS the St. Mary Municipal Corporation is aware of this and is desirous of adhering to the procurement process and best practices in the acquisition of goods, services and works;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development has indicated that Procurement Committees be established in all Municipal Corporations;

AND WHEREAS that the Procurement Committee, according the Procurement Guidelines, consist of ten (10) members including four (4) members from the Political Directorate,

BE IT RESOLVED that the members are as follows:

1. Chief Financial Officer – Miss Patrice Hart
2. Chief Engineering officer/any Technical Officer selected – Mr. Glenford Ricketts
3. Procurement Chairperson – Miss Raxine Bailey
4. Procurement Vice Chairperson – Mrs. Debbie Pryce
5. Political Representatives (4 Councillors) – Miss Mitsy Hudson, Mr. Hugh Bryan, Mr. Sheldon Kidd and Mr. Germaine Smiley
6. Procurement Officer – Mr. Stennett Palmer
7. Recording Secretary – Sasha Gay Harris

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these persons be presented as members of the Procurement Committee of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation and are accepted at the General Meeting on July 13, 2017.

On a motion by Councillor James, seconded by Councillor Smiley, the Committee approved.

3)

The Chief Executive Officer presented resolution from St. James Municipal Corporation as under:

WHEREAS the roadway Gloucester Avenue in the city of Montego Bay is known as an entertainment strip, showcasing various talents in music and art;

AND WHEREAS persons of great talent in the music and film industry have hailed from the Somerton Division:

AND WHEREAS James Chambers otherwise known as Jimmy Cliff is one of the great sons of the Somerton Division and has graced Jamaica with his talent;

AND WHEREAS through hard work and dedication to his craft in the field of music and the expressive arts in general, has risen to international fame and is recognised as a g in reggae and culture;

AND WHEREAS it is fitting to rename the hip strip of Gloucester Avenue to a name that is recognized worldwide which will only enhance the city of Montego Bay;

BE IT RESOLVED that Gloucester Avenue or a part thereof be renamed 'Jimmy Cliff Boulevard' in honour of James Chambers;

BE IT FURTHER resolved that this resolution be sent to the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development, Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, all Municipal Corporations for support.

The Committee approved on a motion by Councillor Hudson, seconded by Councillor James.

(Councillor Lee joined the meeting)

RESOLUTION - FINAL APPROVAL - (STATUTORY DECLARATION)

The Director of Planning presented as under:

1)

IN THE MATTER of the subdivision of
Lands part of **CROMWELL CALLED PLEASANT VIEW**

SAINT MARY

IN THE MATTER of the Statutory Declarations Act

I, DOYEN JOHNSON do solemnly and sincerely declare as follows:-

That I reside and have my true place of abode and postal address at Lot 950 St. Ann Close Green acres, Spanish Town in the parish of St. Catherine and I am the Chief Engineering Officer of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation (Formerly 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 Cromwell Called Pleasant View in the parish of Saint Mary registered at Volume 1083 Folio 751 in the name Ricardo Thompson C/o Viveanne Rowena Thompson has been satisfactorily completed in accordance with the conditions of approval issued on January 09, 2013.

That conditions No. 30

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: 374501) have been adjusted accordingly, in respect of Lots 1-3

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 James, seconded by Councillor Hudson, the Committee approved.

2)

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 Tremolesworth

George Menzies C/o Frederick Lewis and Monica Angus

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 Hutchinson, the Committee approved.

CERTIFICATION OF COMPLETION

Nil

Update of previous Questions

Handing-over Ceremony – Marking Stone Beach

The Chairman enquired whether or not there was any communication from Tourism Enhancement Fund.

The Chief Executive Officer responded that there was no communication.

The Chairman said he was aware that the Divestment Committee met and that one individual was chosen; that he saw the gentleman and was told that no contact was made with him in that regard. He asked whether or not the Valuation was received.

The Chief Executive Officer responded that the Valuation was received; that a letter would be sent to the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development the following day for approval from the Divestment Committee.

Councillor Bryan informed that works were being carried out at the location by TPDCo.; that information he received was that a Jerk Centre was being constructed. He said he tried to get in touch with a representative but was unable to do so.

The Deputy Chief Engineering Officer informed that the work that were being carried out was re-roofing of an existing building; that he was contacted some months ago regarding the work however, he would make contact to find out if other works were being carried out.

Annotto Bay Cemetery

The Chief Engineering Officer informed that a site visit was conducted by the Roads and Works Department with Councillor Freeman and a fulsome discussion was had in terms of going forward. He said there was concern regarding the type of chemical versus the type of vegetation; that it was a bit of a challenge in some cemeteries however, the matter was being reviewed.

Robert Schuman Round-A-Bout

The Chairman informed that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was being prepared. He said the matter should be removed to the Civic and Community Affairs Committee for discussion.

The Committee noted.

Councillor Freeman said the plants needed fertilizer and pruning.

The Chairman suggested that St. Mary Banana be asked to assist in that regard.

ACTION: CEO

QUESTIONS

Councillor Hutchinson asked, "Is the Corporation aware that the Carron Hall Division is still awaiting the delivery of water to its constituents?"

The Chairman asked that water be delivered to the Carron Hall Division first whenever deliveries began.

Councillor Kidd asked, "Is the Corporation aware that the changing rooms at the Fisherman's Beach, Oracabessa, are without water supply and are in a deplorable condition?"

Councillor Kidd asked, "Is the Corporation aware that both sides of the road leading to the Fisherman's Beach, are being used for dumping garbage?" He added that old refrigerators and stoves were also being dumped along the roadway.

The Chairman said in regards to the changing rooms at the Fisherman's Beach, that matter could not be addressed by the Corporation as discussions were ongoing with the Urban Development Commission (UDC) in regards to the upgrading and operation of the facility. He added that the matter has been on the Minutes for some time; that an estimate was prepared for the works to be done by the UDC after which the Corporation would hand over the facility. In regards to the dumping, he said the matter would be referred to the Public Health and Sanitation Committee Meeting where a request would be made for a "No Dumping" sign to be erected and for the garbage to be removed.

Councillor Hudson asked, "Is the Corporation aware that there is soil erosion taking place at a section of Sandside commonly known as 'England'?" She added that as a result, the river now posed a threat to the house close by.

The Chairman said the Chief Engineering Officer will carry out an investigation into the matter and write a letter to the National Works Agency for them to carry out corrective works.

ACTION: CHIEF ENGINEERING OFFICER

Councillor Bryan asked, "Is the Corporation aware that the community of Enfield is without a useable cemetery?" He added that persons in the community were of the view that a drain could be constructed to prevent the water from settling on the land, so that could be explored.

The Chairman asked the Chief Engineering Officer to look at the possibility of constructing a drain.

ACTION: CHIEF ENGINEERING OFFICER

Councillor Lee asked, "Is the Corporation aware that there seems to be a lack of communication between the National Water Commission and the National Works Agency as it relates to road repairs?" She added that the NWC had dug up roads in the Boscobel Division to do repairs to pipes and were left in a deplorable condition. She said the residents were having issues with the situation.

The Chairman said some years ago the National Water Commission had written to the Corporation stating that funds would be deposited into an account for repairs to the parochial roads. There was a Memorandum of Understanding that if the Corporation carried out the repairs, payment would be made to the Corporation; that the National Works Agency would repair the main roads. He said some years later, the Corporation had written to the NWC to find out what the situation was however, he did not remember what the response was. He suggested that a letter be written to NWC stating the situation with the roads that were dug up and to find out what plans were in place for repairs to the roads.

ACTION: CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Councillor Sewell asked, "Is the Corporation aware that the water pump at Fellowship Hall is not in operation and the citizens are without water?"

The Chief Engineering Officer responded that he was advised that there were some electrical problems and the pump was burnt as a result.

The Chairman asked whether or not an assessment was done to ascertain what could be done.

The Chief Engineering Officer responded that the Water Supply Team along with National Water Commission representatives went to the location and did an assessment; that he was awaiting a report from them. He added that the Superintendent, Minor Water Supplies, Mr. Roberts made arrangements for water to be trucked to the area and that would happen before the end of said week.

The Chairman said attempts were made in the past by the Corporation to hand over the Fellowship Hall Water Supply and Tinsbury Water Supply Systems to the National Water Commission however, the National Water Commission was reluctant to take over either systems. He said the Corporation should once more explore the possibility of the NWC taking over the Fellowship Hall Water Supply System as its operation was posing a challenge for the Corporation. He said he would make contact with the Minister and a letter should be written to the National Water Commission to look at the possibility of taking over the system.

ACTION: CHAIRMAN/CEO

Councillor Freeman asked, "Is the Corporation aware that water was coming onto the Mahoe Road from a road that was cut into the property and not from the homes that were previously stated?"

Councillor Freeman asked, "Is the Corporation aware that a Local Public Accounts Committee meeting has not been held for over six (6) months?" He added that the meeting was scheduled to be held on a quarterly basis.

Councillor Freeman asked, "Is the Corporation aware that the employment of three (3) persons were terminated even though their Performance Evaluations were satisfactory?"

The Chairman responded to the last question by asking, "Is Councillor Freeman aware that similar actions were taken during the previous dispensation?" he added that he was surprised that he would ask such question.

Councillor Freeman responded that the Contracts were not expired at the time the persons were terminated.

The Chairman said the terminations were done based on a decision taken by the Human Resource Management; that similar actions have been taken in the past and the Corporation was aware.

The Chief Engineering Officer said in regards to the situation with water being channelled onto the Mahoe Road; the matter would be investigated.

The Chairman said in regards to the LPAC meetings not being held; the Corporation was aware however, members from civil society were to be chosen to sit on the Committee; that was not done. He said he would have dialogue with the CEO on the matter; that it was an oversight. He thanked Councillor Freeman for bringing the matter to his attention.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

There being no other matter for discussion, the General Meeting was adjourned on a motion by Councillor James, seconded by Councillor Kidd at approximately 12: 15 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.....