

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

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

Present were: -

| Councillors | Divisions |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Richard Creary, JP (Chairperson) | Richmond |
| Doreen Hutchinson, JP | Carron Hall |
| Germaine Smiley | Port Maria |
| Mitsy Hudson | Hampstead |
| Sheldon Kidd | Oracabessa |
| Hugh Bryan | Annotto Bay |
| Lenford Danvers | Castleton |
| Leroy Sewell | Boscobel |
| Krystal Lee | Retreat |

The following Councillors entered during the meeting:

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Levan Freeman, JP | Belfield |
| Paul Fyffe, JP | Highgate |

| Officers | Positions |
|-------------------|---|
| Ethlyn Douglas | Chief Executive Officer (Actg.) |
| Doyen Johnson | Chief Engineering Officer |
| Glenford Ricketts | Deputy Chief Engineering Officer |
| Yanique Samuels | Director of Administration |
| Rovel Morris | Director of Planning |
| Lincoln Brooks | Inspector of Poor |
| Patrice Hart | Chief Financial Officer |
| Raxine Bailey | Community Programmes Coordinator |
| Angella Lammie | Internal Auditor |
| Yolande Jankie | Parish Coordinator- Disaster Preparedness |
| Uraih Cameron | Information Management Specialist |
| Stanley Davis | Municipal Enforcement Supervisor |
| Sharon Burke | Matron - Infirmary |

| Representatives from Agencies | Positions |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| Albert P. Brown | St. Mary Health Department |
| Haleem Linton | Jamaica Fire Brigade |
| Desmond Sinclair | Social Development Commission |
| Jasmine Hyde | Rural Agricultural Development Authority |
| Dr. Dahlia Robinson-White | Rural Agricultural Development Authority |

Representatives from the Ministry of Local Government & Community Development

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Hon. Minister Desmond McKenzie | Minister |
| Denzil Thorpe | Permanent Secretary |
| Dwight Wilson | Technical Director |
| Joan Thomas Levy | Senior Director - Agency Liaison |
| Barrington Parsons | Secretary – Board of Supervision |
| Steve Anderson | Director – Information Technology |
| Nagria Plunkett | Public Relations |
| Dahlia McDonald | Public Relations |
| Jahnel McFarlane | Administrative Assistant |

NOTICE

The Notice convening the meeting was read by Ms. Ethlyn Douglas, Clerk to the Committee.

DEVOTIONAL EXERCISE

Devotional exercise was conducted by Reverent Newton Pottinger of the Assembly of the New Born; representing the Retreat Division.

The Chairperson thanked Reverent Pottinger for conducting the devotional exercise.

NATIONAL PLEDGE

The attendees repeated the National Pledge.

WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairperson welcomed everyone present. He extended a special welcome to the Permanent Secretary & personnel from the Ministry of Local Government & Community Development, Youth Councillors and Teachers, Heads of Agencies, Staff Members and Members of the media.

He also expressed a special welcome to Ms. Ethlyn Douglas, Acting Chief Executive Officer of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation.

Apologies were tendered on behalf of Councillor James who would be unavoidably absent.

OPENING REMARKS

The Chairperson informed that Minister McKenzie would be attending the meeting to participate in its proceedings while at the same time, bearing gifts. He further stated that there will be an event at the end of the month in South East St. Mary which needed to be tended to base on its national importance hence, he was theorising that the present meeting will be shortened for that matter.

He mentioned that there were a number of activities that will be taking place for Local Government Month and a schedule would be circulated for all staff members and Councillors to participate. He further stated that the Minister would also elaborate on the national activities as there were some novel changes to the activities for the observance of Local Government Month.

He revealed that two of the Corporation' senior staff members would be leaving St. Mary on November 1, 2017. He stated his position regarding the matter, informing that he chose not to stand in the way of any staff member, to prevent them getting a promotion however, the issue was that the Corporation was already short staffed and there was no allocation for the filling of the positions or other vacancies that we already have. He mentioned that the matter was discussed last month with regards to positions which were available but could not be filled by the Municipal Services Commission based on various issues.

He reiterated that he was not against staff members being promoted but the Corporation must not be at a disadvantage with the proposed movements.



The Chairperson paused his opening remarks to welcome the Honourable Minister Desmond McKenzie, Minister of Local Government and Community Development.

The Chairperson stated that he was pleased to see that the Minister came at the point when the matter regarding vacant posts at the Corporation not being filled by the Municipal Services Commission was being discussed. He repeated his earlier statements by indicating that the Municipal Services Commission saw it fit to relieve the Corporation of an additional two staff members while not filling other vacant posts that existed. He expressed his dissatisfaction of the situation as it was depleting the staff compliment at the St. Mary Municipal Corporation.

He mentioned that Mr. Hewitt through the JCDC hosted an event at the amphitheatre last month in honour of Hon. Louise Bennett Coverley. It was located behind the Council Chambers and was the first time the facility was being utilised since its construction constructed over ten (10) years ago. He further stated that he was willing to make it available once per month to host cultural events in an effort of strengthen the Jamaican Culture in the parish.

He suggested that the theatre should be used at least once per month for such culture events and that the Corporation would be willing to provide same free of cost to not only the JCDC but other entities interested in maintaining the country's culture.

The Chairperson concluded by stating that he had suggested that the Roads & Works and Accounts Departments convene a meeting to formulate a plan to boost the collection of water fees from our sources. He further stated that he was informed that this meeting had not been facilitated but the Acting Chief Executive Officer would be arranging same.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS – PRESENTATION BY THE HON. DESMOND M^CKENZIE

ON A MOTION BY COUNCILLOR H. BRYAN SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR G. SMILEY, THE STANDING ORDERS WERE SUSPENDED FOR THE PRESENTATION BY THE HON. DESMOND M^CKENZIE.

Minister M^CKenzie thanked His Worship the Mayor for the introduction and for accommodating the team from the Ministry to observe the Council Meeting. He extended greetings to the Councillors, Administrative Staff of the Corporation, supporting agencies & departments, Youth Councillors and the media houses.

He stated that the town of Port Maria continued to be a nightmare and opined that it appeared as if it's significance had been forgotten by those who made decisions. He continued by saying that, on his way to the Corporation he was contemplating what to say to the Councillors, Staff and the Citizens of St. Mary that they have not been previously told.

The Hon. Minister highlighted that the importance of any major town such as Port Maria, with its linkage to the North Coast and Kingston made it probably one of the most important rural towns in the country and enquired whether the town was receiving that type of attention. He further stated that the town lacked many vital facilities namely, the market. He apologised to the Councillors and the citizens of St. Mary for the lack of progress on this facility, due to technical challenges in terms of the documentation. He

informed that the contract was now with the National Contracts Commission (NCC) and he was not anticipating any further setbacks.

He referred to the fact that there was no Fire Station in the town of Port Maria and that the priorities of the parish needed to be identified. He further stated that the town had the kind of infrastructure that once there was a significant amount of rainfall, the town would be flooded and stated that there was need for a re-evaluation of priorities for the town. He informed that the designs for the Fire Station have been completed and funding was in place; however, there were documents which needed to be provided to Jamaica Social Investment Fund (JSIF).

He informed that when he did the launch of Local Government Month from Jamaica House, he emphasised the importance of community development and the roles of the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development which meant that the interests of the town of Port Maria was of vital importance to the Ministry.

He also referred to the allocation for the Township and stated that some proactive approaches needed to be taken for the town of Port Maria. He asked that the Director of Planning and the Technical Personnel of the MLGCD needed to meet to identify recommendations or make suggestions for the improvement/development of the town.

ACTION: DOP to meet with technical team at MLGCD

He mentioned that there was a commitment of Thirteen Million Dollars (\$13,000,000.00) for the construction of a Drop-In Centre which was being constructed at the Claude Stuart Park and that St. Mary was one of four parishes that have benefitted from this allocation. He further stated that the purpose of the facility would go a far way in working with the Poor Relief Department and other stakeholder in the parish.

He declared that the matter regarding roads was a burning issue. He stated that he outlined in a meeting yesterday, the approach which the government would be taking to improve Parochial Roads across the respective Municipalities and when that was completed, St. Mary would have its fair share of road repairs. He mentioned that the roads required more than just "...barba green..." but should be constructed with channels and sidewalks, providing an avenue for the water to run freely.

He stated that the road network in the parish was large and there were some roads that have not seen the light of day in over 30 years or more. He further opined that some of those roads would need to be abandoned if that would not affect communities greatly then that would be the route to take; however, the Ministry along with the Municipal Corporation would seek to address some of these roads. He stated that some of the road conditions were because of improper drainage systems and made reference to the Annotto Bay Division. He advised that a lot of road repair had been done in that Division, however it was still being severely affected by flood water based on the high-water table which existed in that section of the parish.

He further stated that the roles of the Councillor cannot be overstated and that the parish would have to help itself as the Minister will not be able to provide all the resources required. He urged the Corporation to use the Property Tax Collection, Trade Licences, Buildings & Subdivisions and other own source revenues, which were not being targeted to their full extent across the Municipalities. He further stated that if at least 40% of the revenue that outstanding was being collected locally, then the Ministry would not be so overwhelmed trying to support the work of the Local Authorities. He

urged His Worship the Mayor and the Councillors to go on an extensive drive to improve collection of these own source revenues. He stated that looking at the town of Port Maria, he was of the opinion that at least 6 out of 10 business owners were not fulfilling their obligations in relation to Trade Licence which was a major earner of revenue for the Local Authority.

The Minister mentioned that there was a lot of revenue being lost in terms of Building and Subdivision fees, as well as Places of Amusement. He referred to the upcoming by-election and stated that the candidates for the South-East Constituency should be paying for the number of Billboards which they have erected across the parish. He stated that they should submit to the Corporation a list of all their advertising boards thereafter, the Corporation can then decide whether there will be a waiver of the fees.

With regards to the Public Cemeteries, Minister McKenzie mentioned that this was a challenge as we were running out of burial spots in almost every parish in the country. He indicated that St. Ann Municipal Corporation sought permission to close a cemetery recently however, he was not in a position to do so until another location had been identified for burial. He further stated that the public cemeteries were not established to earn revenue but as a service that must be provided by the local authority and used pauper burials as an example. He stated that it was the responsibility of the local authority, through the Poor Relief Department, for those who were not in a position to buy their dead. While revenue would be required for the maintenance of the cemeteries, he stated that it should not be at the expense of providing the service. He enquired about the number of Public Cemeteries that was established in the parish.

The Chairperson responded that there were seven cemeteries in the parish, however Port Maria was almost full and the Retreat Cemetery was closed.

(Councillor Freeman joined the meeting)

Minister McKenzie mentioned that presently, the Jamaica Public Service Co. Ltd (JPS) was retrofitting a number of streetlights across the island and a part of the licence that was granted to them was the agreement to change the lights to energy efficient ones. He further stated that the project would be stretched over a 2 year period however, he was not in position to say where St. Mary fell on the list. He indicated that it was expected that after this project was completed, there should be significant reduction in what was presently being paid for streetlights and also stated that there was a significant amount outstanding for streetlights which still needed to be addressed.

With regards to domestic water/ standpipes, the Minister stated that the Ministry was in arrears of close to \$800 Million for an unpaid water bill for standpipes. He indicated that across the country, a lot of the standpipes were being used for Car Wash, Cook Shops as well as to fill tanks and sold to the same residents which should be benefitting from the water. He was of the opinion that St. Mary was on that list. He informed that funding would cease for standpipes until an audit was conducted to identify the number of standpipes that were active and those which were inactive. He urged His Worship the Mayor, Councillors and the Technical Team to carry out an investigation on all standpipes. He reiterated that until the findings have been presented, based on the requirements stipulated in a letter that was sent to the Acting Chief Executive Officer, the funding will be put on hold. He then indicated that as soon as the assessments were concluded then the funding would be disbursed.

(Councillor Fyffe joined the meeting)

Minister McKenzie stated that he was of the opinion that some of the Municipal Corporations were using the funds allocated for standpipes for other expenses which resulted in the increase of the bill. He further stated that some of the standpipes have been abandoned and the Corporations were still being billed for same. He recommended that NWC should be engaged in discussions so that the necessary instructions can be given for disconnections to be carried out. He mentioned that Councillors will be expected to assist in identifying these abandoned standpipes so as to eliminate the culture of the abuse of state resources because social water was not free. He stated that there were some Councillors who were to be commended because they have taken the initiative to be aware of what was happening in their divisions therefore when requests were made for trucking of water, it would go to the people who needed it.

He stated that his only intention for attending the meeting was to present the Corporation with his gifts of tablets, computer & other equipment and leave but, as a Minister of Government, there was an obligation to ensure that the work of government continued whether there was a by-election or not. He stated that the government should not have to choose when and where to spend money to improve social infrastructure for people across the country. He informed the meeting that he would be releasing the final draw down of \$500,000.00 of the \$1,000,000.00 committed for Critical Drain Cleaning next week and urged the parish to understand that the government had a responsibility to serve the people to the best of its ability.

He mentioned that sometime ago, he announced a number of initiatives in relation to social intervention and the government had set aside \$90 Million Dollars for the construction of Indigent Housing Support across the island. He advised that there will be twenty-eight (28) built across the island, two (2) in each parish for the Registered Indigent Poor. He mentioned that the Councillors would make recommendations however, the final decision would be based on the investigations of the Poor Relief Department as to the qualification of an Indigent Poor.

The Hon. Minister went on to advise that the first drawn down of \$250,000.00 would be made available for Social Housing for each Councillor. An additional \$300,000.00 for Educational Grant and Burial Grant, he informed, was already made available and went on to mention that he gave instruction to the Mayors and CEOs that Councillors could be advanced by the Municipal Corporations for Burial Grant which would be \$200,000.00 and they then will be reimbursed. He stated that the Social Housing Grant was not to be abused as there were strict guidelines in relation to these Grants. He informed that the government had to give an account of taxpayer's money and the roles of the Poor Relief Department in working with the Councillors and the Municipal Corporations to get these programmes out was very critical.

He mentioned that he had committed himself to the Poor Relief Officers in Portland sometime ago that, outside of the Burial Grant, \$1 Million Dollars would be made available for the Poor Relief Department to supplement the burial program and this funding would be made available to the St. Mary Municipal Corporation. He stated that he also made a commitment to eliminate the log books used by the Poor Relief Department and to provide tablets to the officers as well as a computer and printer for the said department of which he was informed was lacking. He advised the meeting

that all eighty (80) Poor Relief Officers across the country would be provided with a tablet.

The Minister stated that there was another commitment made to provide the Mayors and the Councillors with tablets from the Ministry of Local Government & Community Development. He said that it was a means of taking Councillors from the level in which they were seen and to be treated with respect, which they deserved. He mentioned that to make the jobs of the Councillors better, funding for Office/Administrative Support have also been provided.

He stated that the AMANDA System was critical to the existence of the local authorities and informed that the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development would be advancing the funds for the purchase of the relevant equipment for the system and the funds would be recovered over time. He said the AMANDA System was one of the benchmarks of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Structural Agreement that the local authorities were responsible for in terms of the Development Applications processes by improving service delivery. He informed that all local authorities would be provided equipment for the full activation of the system inclusive of training. He stated that measures had to be put in place for persons to remain with the local authority after they have been trained.

The Hon. Minister went on to indicate that the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) that each Corporation had just signed the licence for should be used to map all your resources. He stated that this system can and will be used to identify how many drains, gullies, road network, cemeteries etc. were in the island which was information that will be of benefit to all the local authorities. He opined that St. Mary was not a poor parish but there was a concern that the Municipal Corporation did not know what it owned and this system would be taking technology to another level at the local authorities and will make the country into a first World technology user in the region. He urged the staff to work closely with the political directorate and vis-versa because, should the administration fail so would the political directorate.

The Minister invited the members of the Poor Relief Department and made his presentation of tablets to each officer individually and symbolically presented the other pieces of equipment.

He then invited His Worship the Mayor and the Councillors and made his presentation of tablets to each.

The Chairperson thanked Minister M^cKenzie for his presentation, for both his speech and the equipment.

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS & COMMENTS TO AND FROM MINISTER M^cKENZIE

Councillor Hutchinson thanked Minister M^cKenzie on behalf of the Councillors for helping to make conducting their duties more effective and promised that they would work to the best of their ability for the people they served.

The Chairperson stated that with regards to the cemeteries, we have been trying to ensure that we break even so as to cover expenses rather than just a social service.

With regards to standpipes, the Chairperson mentioned that sometime ago, an exercise was carried out where abandoned standpipes were eliminated but there was an opinion that there were some that were either being misused or some which were unaccounted for. He recommended that the Chief Engineering Officer arrange a meeting with the National Water Commission and each Councillor would make themselves available for a tour thereafter, the Corporation would be in a better position to determine which standpipe will remain or be removed. **ACTION: CEngO to pull the previous standpipe survey and liaise with NWC**

With regards to own source revenue, the Chairperson stated that the matter was currently being addressed although, the efforts of the policy makers at times were being frustrated by the administration.

The Chairperson used the example of a property located in Highgate which they wanted to lease, which was affecting the own source revenue as no lease was being collected. He informed that a gentleman leased a small side of the property for some years and the other section, for which the tenant was evicted due to longstanding delinquency in payment, he now wanted to lease. He mentioned that the Local Divestment Committee met and selected the same gentleman who occupied the small section of the building over 6/7 months ago and the Corporation was still waiting on a response from the Land Divestment Committee at the Ministry. He further stated he understood that checks and balances needed to be done by the Ministry but it was hampering the business of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation in terms of collecting revenue. He said he was tempted for lease the property until the process was completed as the Corporation was currently losing revenue.

Minister McKenzie stated that while he understood the frustration of the Mayor, there were some requirements necessary for the leasing/divesting/rental of properties. He stated he would be facilitating dialogue with one of the members of the Divestment Committee at the Ministry in an effort to expedite the process, however he frowned on any action being taken which was outside of the protocol.

The Chairperson asked whether a timeline could be provided for a response.

Minster McKenzie enquired about the reason that was given as to why the process was so lengthy.

The Chairperson stated that everything was done locally and based on information provided by the staff of the Corporation, the necessary documents were forwarded to the Ministry for approval however, a response was still being awaited.

Minister McKenzie stated that he would be paying keen attention to the matter and asked that the Mayor not go against any of the policies that exist and the matter will be addressed in short order.

The Chairperson stated that the Municipal Services Commission was another entity that was frustrating the works of the Corporation. He stated that there was a situation where a gentleman was employed as a Works Overseer; he abandoned the job after working for only two days in May 2017. He made reference to the minutes, stating that the Municipal Services Commission asked the Corporation to write the gentleman, asking whether he was interested in the job, otherwise he should resign. He advised that the

position cannot be filled because the Corporation was awaiting the gentleman's response to the letter.

He mentioned that the Corporation was now in receipt of letters for two senior staff to be transferred as at November 1, 2017 however, there was a challenge in filling vacant positions with the Corporation. He stated that he was pleased when staff were given promotions, however this movement would leave the Corporation without the requisite staff to carry out its functions within the establishment.

Minister McKenzie stated that he was not in a position to comment on the matter however, he would have the necessary investigation carried out to identify a solution. He suggested that the Commission be informed that the individual had not reported to work.

The Chairperson responded that all the information had been communicated to the Municipal Services Commission but they were insisting that the Corporation should write and get the individual to resign. He further stated that the gentleman got another job which appeared to be more lucrative and yet, six (6) months later the Corporation was being asked to write the gentleman to put his resignation in writing.

Minister McKenzie enquired whether the position in which the gentleman occupied was an established post; if so, there was a protocol to be followed and stated that if it was the case that the gentleman abandoned the job after 2 days, then there was more than enough grounds for action to be taken. He informed that he would have discussion with the Chairperson of the Commission so as to identify the position on this matter.

The Chairperson thanked Minister McKenzie once more being in attendance.

RESUMPTION OF COUNCIL

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

CORRECTION & CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

On page 3 under the caption **Opening Remarks**, "...**October 2016**" in the 1st line of the 9th paragraph should read "...**October 2017**".

On page 27 under the caption **Questions**, "**Boscobel**" in the 3rd line of the 10th paragraph should be "**Retreat**" on July 2017 minutes.

OMISSION

On page 3 leading to page 4 regarding letters dated August 2, 2017 from the Local Government Services Commission – temporary transfers of Ms. Carmen Samuda and Ms. Ethlyn Douglas, the Corporation accepted the recommendations.

The Minutes of General Council Meeting held September 14, 2017 having been circulated and read was confirmed on the adoption of a motion by Councillor Hudson seconded by Councillor Kidd.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

(A) DONATION OF GARBAGE DRUMS

The Chairperson advised that the Corporation was in receipt of thirty-six (36) drums which were promised by Sandals and that there was another delivery made. He however indicated that he was unsure of the quantity to be delivered but they would be distributed across the parish to be used for collection of garbage.

(B) UNDERMINING OF THE WESTMORELAND BRIDGE

The Chairperson informed that a letter was sent to Mines & Geology Division of the Ministry of Transport & Mining and the National Environment & Planning Agency (NEPA) in terms of the Corporation's recommendations. He further stated that the Corporation suggested one check dam should be built, however he was informed by NEPA that there should be one below and one above the bridge; approval would thus have to be granted for that in order for works to begin to help protect the Westmoreland Bridge.

(C) GREEN HOUSE PROJECT

The Chief Engineering Officer informed that the design has been received for the Green House.

The Chairperson stated that there should be a costing for the design so as to begin construction.

ACTION: CEngo to compile estimate

(D) ENERGY CONSERVATION MEASURES

The Chairperson remarked that the Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica (PCJ) visited the Corporation on the 10th of October 2017 and conducted a tour of the Municipal buildings. He advised that the next step was for an Energy Audit to be done. He elaborated for the purposes of the Minister that assistance was being sought from PCJ in terms of getting solar panels at the Corporation's Compound and the Infirmary. He stated that prospective contractors came to do the tour for the energy audit and once that was completed then it would be out for tender for the actual project to commence.

(E) PORT MARIA MARKET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The Chairperson reiterated what the Minister had earlier advised that the estimate was with the National Contracts Commission of Jamaica for review.

(F) 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 Urban Development Corporation (UDC) was to upgrade the Fisherman's Beach at a cost of \$7.4 Million. However, they had indicated that such funds were not available and the principals of the Golden Eye Development said they would advance the funds for UDC to carry out the necessary upgrading works.

The Chairperson informed that a letter was written to the Chairman of UDC, however the Corporation was still awaiting a response for which he would follow up on the matter.

ACTION: His Worship the Mayor

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

The Committee was last informed that the Corporation was still awaiting the date for the judicial hearing, however there was no discussion on the matter.

(H) UPGRADING OF PALMER'S PARK

It was noted that the Jamaica Cricket Association (JCA) wanted to spend some funds on Palmer's Park but in order for them to do so the Parish Association would need a lease agreement.

The Chairperson informed that the lease agreement was still being awaited.

He mentioned that the Member of Parliament had made a commitment of \$500,000.00 towards the development of the park along with a letter being sent to CDF in order for upgrading works to be done and asked that a follow up be done with both.

ACTION: Acting CEO

(I) REPAIRS TO WATER TRUCK

The Chairperson mentioned that he and the Chief Engineering Officer were in discussions with regards to the caption matter where he was advised that the estimate to repair the water truck had been revised from over \$400,000 to over \$700,000.00. He mentioned that there was a place in Kingston which had similar trucks and the contact person at the entity was a Mr. M. Brown. He has however not been contacted and has asked the Chief Engineering Officer to make that contact as it would make the process a lot easier should the parts be available for less than the present estimate received.

ACTION: CEngO to contact potential parts supplier

Minister McKenzie enquired about the number of trucks that were received from Rapid Response, was in the parish of St. Mary and the condition of same.

Mr. Dwight Wilson, Chief Technical Director, Ministry of Local Government & Community Development informed that there was only one truck and that it was currently at a garage.

The Chairperson stated that if parts could be acquired from similar trucks that were stationary across the island, then it result in the repair cost being reduced.

Minister McKenzie informed that all Rapid Response trucks were in the possession of the Ministry as suggested that the Chief Technical Director, MLGCD and the team at the Corporation engage in discussions with him in relation to a truck and/or parts.

Mr Wilson. Chief Technical Director, MLGCD informed that he was in dialogue with the Chief Engineering Officer regarding the matter.

Minister McKenzie informed that he has the intention of providing each Corporation with a brand new water truck because with the emphasis which was being placed on water based on water shops which have been constructed on Clarendon and what was would be done in Manchester the trucks would be needed. He mentioned that there was an assessment being done of the truck as well as the tanks from Rapid Response to see what could sold as scrap metal and what parts can be revived the trucks. He said there was a concern as it relates to water and pointed out that the amount being expended for trucking of water could be used collectively for something long term, namely the purchase of a truck.

The Chairperson asked that Mr. Wilson dialogue with the Chief Engineering Officer because the Corporation was in possession of the estimate to implement repairs on the truck which was inclusive of the list of parts required. He stated that should parts be acquired from these stationary trucks then it would reduce the estimate because the Corporation was currently being charge an exorbitant figure of \$30, 000.00 per load while the National Water Commission pays \$12,000.00 and he said he asked that the NWC Contractors be engaged.

ACTION: CEngO to continue the dialogue with the

CTD

(J) LEASING OF MARKINGSTONE BEACH, ANNOTTO BAY

The Chairperson expressed his dissatisfaction with the turnaround time of the Land Divestment Committee at the Ministry and sought the intervention of Minister McKenzie.

He mentioned that the Local Divestment Committee had a meeting some time ago and an individual who was selected for the lease of the property for which all documentation was submitted to the Ministry. He advised that it was a beach property which TPDCO renovated and once it has been handed over to the Corporation and not being supervised/managed then it might be vandalized. He indicated that it was proposed that security be hired in the interim to ensure that the property would not be vandalized, however that proposal was not acceptable. He mentioned that for the Corporation to engage a security/ watchman for the month it was over \$100,000.00 per month and he was not preparing to employ such a person.

The Minister, through Mr. Denzil Thorpe, Permanent Secretary asked Mrs. J. Thomas Levy to look into the matter and liaise with the Acting Chief Executive Officer.

ACTION: Mrs. J. Thomas Levy & ACEO to discuss matter

(K) CEMETERIES

The Chairperson asked that the caption matter be transferred to the Infrastructure & Traffic Management Committee.

(L) MAINTENANCE OF ROBERT SCHUMAN ROUND-A-BOUT

The Chairperson stated that he has asked that the Acting Chief Executive Officer to follow up on the matter regarding the MOU for St. Mary Banana to take over the Robert Schuman Round-A-Bout and do the necessary maintenance. **ACTION: Actg. CEO**

(M) SOIL EROSION – SANDSIDE

The Chairperson asked that the matter be transferred to the Infrastructure & Traffic Management Committee.

(N) ROADS DUG UP BY NWC

The Chairperson informed that sometime ago NWC indicated in writing that they would be setting aside funds for the roads that they dug up and the Corporation would be able to access those funds however, years have passed and they now inform that they were not aware of such a letter. He further stated that they have been written to again and started discussions on how Municipal Roads would be repaired.

(O) FELLOWSHIP HALL AND TINSBURY WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

The Acting Chief Executive Officer remarked that a letter was sent to the National Water Commission (NWC) to look into the possibility of taking over the water systems, and a response was being awaited. **ACTION: ACEO to follow-**

up

(P) CONVENING OF LOCAL PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (LPAC) MEETING

The Chairperson apologised for the LPAC not being activated and stated that he has been in dialogue with the PDC Chairman to provide the Corporation with the three (3) persons however they have not been cooperative. He suggested that a letter be written to the PDC Chairman requesting the names of the persons to sit on the Local Public Accounts Committee. He mentioned that if it was necessary for Civil Servants to

sit on LPAC then it would be done and if a response was not received, he will make the recommendations.

ACTION: Actg. CEO

(Q) RESEARCH ON GUIDE TO FILMING IN JAMAICA – JAMPRO/FILM COMMISSION CONSULTANT

The Chairperson expressed his dissatisfaction about a media team who sought permission for the filming of the Port Maria Market but failed to show up. He stated that they were expected to set up at 8:00 am and he was there until 9:00 am and no one was present. He indicated that in his opinion it was disrespectful to him as well as the Corporation that no one indicated that they would not be in attendance or even to advise on the postponement. He asked that they be written, expressing his disgust and that of the Corporation.

ACTION: Actg. CEO

(R) RESOLUTION THAT STRUCTURES/CONSTRUCTION SITES BE ENCLOSED OR SECURED TO PREVENT ENTRY OR OCCUPATION

The Acting Chief Executive Officer informed that a letter has been sent to the Ministry of Local Government & Community Development requesting information with regards to the possible sanctions to be employed should persons decide not to adhere to the measure; that the Corporation was awaiting a response. **ACTION: ACEO to follow-up**

(S) ABANDONMENT OF POST - MR. GLENNON ROBINSON - TEMPORARY WORKS OVERSEER (SOG/ST2)

The Director of Administration stated that she had dialogue with the Acting Chairperson of the Municipal Services Commission and was informed that they would be having a meeting today (October 12th) and was expecting new information in the coming week.

ACTION: DA to follow-up

(T) CONSTRUCTION OF DROP IN CENTRE – CLAUDE STUART PARK

The Chairperson enquired whether a letter had been sent to the librarian with regards to the lack of communication with regards to the construction of the Drop-In Centre. He asked whether the said letter explained the circumstances of the construction and apologized for the miscommunication.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer responded in the affirmative.

The Chairperson stated that he would hope going forward that there would be better communication between the Corporation and the Library.

Councillor Freeman stated that he was of the opinion that the citizens would be engaged as there were persons disgruntled about the construction site for the Drop In Centre and where also making suggestions as to where it could have been built.

The Chairperson stated that it was due to the lack of knowledge why persons were confused and mentioned that based on where the Infirmary was located, it could not have been constructed there as this Centre was to accommodate persons in and around the town. He stated that the Claude Stuart property was owned by the Corporation as it was transferred from the Ministry of Housing to us. The section being used, he indicated, was at the back, right hand corner and that area was not being utilized due to ponding whenever it rained. He further advised that the compound would be fenced hence they would not be using the same entrance and exit as the Library - the persons who would use the Drop-In centre would not have to enter through the Library compound.

(U) TRUCKING OF WATER

The Chairperson stated that a request was made for the Hampstead Division for water and it was suggested that the NWC be contacted for trucking to be done as those areas were served by them however, if they were not able to do so then the Corporation would assist with the resources it possessed and requested an update regarding same.

Councillor Hudson stated that there were several discussions with NWC and she was informed that there was a challenge in Tremolesworth with the pipe lines due to land movement in that area; however, the other areas in which she spoke about at the last sitting had yet to be serviced. She further stated that she had dialogue with the Chief Engineering Officer and was informed of a possible solution.

The Chairperson mentioned that NWC was paying \$12,000.00 per load to contractors while the Corporation was being charged \$30,000.00 per load. He advised that he was informed by the Chief Engineering Officer that there was a discount to \$25,000.00 but he stated that he was not prepared to pay that amount either. He asked that the contractors used by NWC be engaged. **ACTION: CEO Johnson**

Councillor Fyffe stated that the same situation as was in Tremolesworth was also being felt in Frazerwood with regards to the lack of water and he sought the assistance of NWC for over two weeks but to no avail. He further stated that getting the water from Palmetto Grove to the various areas seem to be long term and asked the Chief Engineering Officer that in engaging the NWC, to also ask to be provided with a trucking schedule because they were not sticking to the commitment made. He suggested that the Corporation engage the Manager at NWC in a serious dialogue because the citizens were suffering.

The Chairperson suggested that Councillor Fyffe, Councillor Hudson and the Chief Engineering Officer have dialogue with Mrs. Francis, Manager at NWC or Mr. Brown, officer responsible for trucking of water at NWC and that the interim, trucking of water could be done at a reasonable cost.

ACTIONS:

- i. **CEngO Johnson – request trucking schedule**
- ii. **Cllrs. Fyffe & Hudson and CEngO have dialogue with Ms. Francis, NWC**

(V) BUSHING OF OVERGROWN LOTS

The Chairperson stated that the matter with regards to the caption was raised at the last meeting by Councillors and asked that this matter be transferred to the Infrastructure & Traffic Management Committee for the implementation process to be monitored.

(W) PLASTIC BOTTLE RECYCLING PLANT

The Chairperson stated that at the last meeting, Councillor Freeman raised concerns regarding the Recycling Plant in Trinity not being in use and he had asked that measures be put in place for the plant to be revived. He further stated that the Acting CEO would be following up on the matter. **ACTION: Actg. CEO**

(X) ASSISTANCE TO REGISTER GENERAL DEPARTMENT (RGD) IN LOCATING APPLICANTS

The Chairperson informed that the letter had been sent to the RGD informing that the Corporation was willing to assist in locating applicants which have not collected birth certificates, once the necessary information was received. **ACTION: Actg. CEO**

(Y) UPWELLING OF WATER DURING GRAVE CONSTRUCTION

The Chairperson informed that the matter was raised at the last sitting where water was seen during excavation for the construction of graves in the Whitehall Cemetery. He stated that he made a suggestion that the Health Department provide information in terms of what persons should do once this water was seen; this information will be included with the documents provided to persons when they come to pay for a burial spot. He asked that a follow up be done regarding that matter. **ACTION: Actg. CEO**

(Z) QUALITY CONTROL DURING IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS

The Chairperson stated that sometime ago, the Corporation discussed sourcing quotes and purchasing an auger which was a piece of equipment used to test road construction. He asked that quotes be sourced for such equipment to assist with quality control as it related to roadworks. **ACTION: CEngO Johnson**

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

ON A MOTION BY COUNCILLOR FYFFE SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR SEWELL, THE STANDING ORDERS WERE SUSPENDED FOR THE CORPORATION TO SIT AS THE LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH.

BUTCHERS LICENCE

Nil

BEAUTY THERAPISTS/COSMETOLOGISTS/HAIRDRESSERS/BARBERS

The Acting Chief Executive Officer presented the following applications for approval:

Beauty Therapists/Cosmetologists/Hairdressers

| No. | Name of Applicant | Name of Address of Establishment | Type of License |
|------------|--------------------------|---|------------------------|
| 1. | Reniesia Dilaine Clarke | Hamilton Mountain | Hairdresser |
| 2. | Andrewlin Medwinter | Manago Valley | Cosmetology |
| 3. | Susan Christela Wynter | Mammee Bay, St. Ann | Cosmetology |
| 4. | Lasonya Lashawn Meeks | Rio Nuevo, Tower Isle | Massage Therapist |
| 5. | Lurline Pedley- Hyde | Richmond | Hairdresser |
| 6. | Esther Smith | Boscobel Drive | Hairdresser |
| 7. | Camelia Morgan | Sandside Dist. | Hairdresser |
| 8. | Kerryann Johnson | Spring Valley | Massage Therapist |
| 9. | Pauline Tamasa | Highgate | Cosmetology |
| 10. | Gayon Daniels | Highgate | Cosmetology |
| 11. | Morlett Stewart | Highgate | Hairdresser |
| 12. | Zonieann Rose | Port Maria | Massage Therapy |
| 13. | Amelia DaCosta | Union Hill | Beauty Therapist |
| 14. | Kamal Gentles | Tower Isles | Beauty Therapist |

ON A MOTION MOVED BY COUNCILLOR HUTCHINSON SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR KIDD, THE CORPORATION APPROVED THE APPLICATIONS.

Environmental Health Highlights September 2017

The Chief Public Health Inspector presented the caption report as follows:-

Water Quality Monitoring

A total of twenty seven (27) visits were made to water supplies from all three (3) entities providing water in the parish. Sixteen (16) samples were submitted for bacteriological analysis to the National Public Health Lab.

Twenty seven (27) 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 | 6 | 5(83%) | 1(17%) |
| Parish Council | 18 | 15(83%) | 3(17%) |
| Private Supplies | 3 | 2(67%) | 1(33%) |
| Total | 27 | 22(81%) | 5(19%) |

Bacteriological Sampling

| Agencies | No. of Samples Submitted | No. Satisfactory (Negative)(%) | No. Unsatisfactory (Positive)(%) | Results Pending |
|----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| NWC | 4 | 4(100%) | 0 | 0 |
| Parish Council | 9 | 5(55%) | 4(45%) | 0 |
| Private | 3 | 3(100%) | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 16 | 12(75%) | 4(25%) | 0 |

Drinking Water Status

| Agency | No. of Supplies | No. Inspected (%) | No. Treated (%) |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| NWC | 20 | 6(30%) | 19(95%) |
| Parish Council | 42 | 18(43%) | 40(93%) |
| Private | 15 | 3(20%) | 14(93%) |

From the results received from bacteriological samples submitted, 75% were satisfactory. Eighty one percent (81%) of chlorine residuals checks done were satisfactory. Unsatisfactory chlorine residual and/ or bacteriological sample results were obtained from the following supplies:

NWC- Ramble

Parish Council – Petersfield, Rose Spring, Crescent, Grants Town (storage tank)

Building Plans and Subdivisions

| | No. Received | No. Investigated | #.Recommended | #Not Recommended |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Building Plans | 25 | 37 | 35 | 2 |
| Subdivisions | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 25 | 37 | 35 | 2 |

A total of twenty five (25) building plans were received.

Thirty seven (37) plans were investigated. (Twelve carried forward from the end of previous month)

Two (2) development proposals were not recommended due to-

- 1) an inappropriate sewage disposal system
- 2) inadequate lot size to accommodate proposed sewage disposal system

Burial Site Inspection

Twenty six (26) 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: | | | | | | | |
| Mango Valley | 259 | 33 | 737 | 92 | 13 | 12 | 35 |
| Total | 259 | 33 | 737 | 92 | 13 | 12 | 35 |
| GAYLE: | | | | | | | |
| Marcom | 106 | 18 | 195 | 50 | 17 | 26 | 47 |
| Warwick Castle | 32 | 2 | 19 | 4 | 6 | 21 | 12 |
| Fellowship Hall | 20 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 158 | 20 | 232 | 54 | 12 | 23 | 34 |
| ANNOTTO BAY: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| HIGHGATE: | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| PARISH TOTAL | 417 | 53 | 969 | 146 | 13 | 15 | 35 |

The Vector Control team continued to carry out Aedes aegypti surveillance in a number of communities throughout the parish. During the period four (4) communities were visited, the main focus was on the mitigation against Zika virus/fever transmission. Two (2) of those communities surveyed had Aedes premises indices above single digit.

The average parish premises index was 13%. All mosquito breeding sites found were treated.

Fogging

Fogging activities were carried out in the following communities;
Marcom, Warwick Castle and Fellowship Hall

Squatter Settlement at 'Wilderness' Oracabessa

Discussions have been ongoing with representatives of the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation, the Saint Mary Health Department and the Saint Mary Municipal Corporation with regards to the above mentioned unplanned development. Arising from these discussions it was agreed that the corporation seek to put in place some semblance of order by requesting persons to submit building plan applications for the structures they have erected at the settlement. This would allow for appropriate sewage disposal systems to be in place and for the management of other environmental factors. Other issues of concern which falls under the purview of the corporation could also be better managed.

KES Housing Development- Iteboreale

Officers of the same three agencies mentioned in the matter of the squatter settlement at Wilderness have also been in dialogue regarding the above mentioned development. This is of particular concern due its proximity to the Eastern Saint Mary Water Supply and to the Annotto Bay Water Supply, both of which are located on the same compound just twenty metres away. The drainage of the area and the flood water" run off" requires that due care be taken in the provision/ selection of appropriate sewage disposal systems. The developers (KES Development) had proposed a municipal system; however, the site selected for the final treatment facility was unsuitable as it posed a threat to the adjacent water supplies especially during periods of heavy rainfall. It has been recommended that the treatment facility be sited on lands on the opposite side of the road where it will not pose a risk to the water supplies.

Medical Services

ACE (American Caribbean Experience) medical missions will be visiting the parish between October 17–19, 2017. They will be offering free dental services at the locations below-

Tuesday, October 17. ----- Long Road Health Centre
Wednesday, October 18 ----- Mason Hall Health Centre
Thursday, October 19. ----- Wellness Centre (Llanrumney)

CONCERNS /QUESTIONS/HIGHLIGHTS

Councillor Bryan stated that based on the decision to do a sewage system for the smaller scheme, why not develop a bigger plan or system to take into consideration the larger scheme also.

CPHI Brown responded that the larger scheme at Iterboreale had their own sewage system, although he was unsure as to whether it was on site or for each household. He stated that for the larger scheme there was no central system in place also, there was no space on the lots in the smaller scheme for on-site sewage systems hence the proposal for a central sewage system.

Councillor Bryan stated that the similar activities being done at the smaller scheme could also be considered for the larger scheme.

CPHI Brown stated that he was in agreement with the suggestion made however, the contractors of both schemes may differ hence, it may be difficult to incorporate the larger scheme and it may not be feasible to do so.

Councillor Bryan stated that the government would be doing the sewage plant for the new scheme and that the proposal for the incorporation of both should at least be made.

CPHI Brown stated that it would take some time and money to complete the infrastructure should the incorporation be taken into consideration. He further stated that he was not in a position to say how much it would cost but was of the opinion that it was a reasonable suggestion to ask for this incorporation.

Councillor Brown enquired whether the government was doing the treatment plant.

CPHI Brown responded in the affirmative.

The Chief Engineering Officer stated that Councillor Bryan was proposing that both schemes be incorporated in the sewage system.

The Chairperson sought clarity regarding the discussion.

CPHI Brown responded that the scheme was established decades ago by KES which was a private company and they proposed to put in a central sewage system for that subdivision but Health Department was not in agreement with them putting in that system next to a water supply due to potential contamination. He stated that they were not heard from in many years until a proposal was recently received for a different sewage system which would be conducive to the environment on the other side of the road.

The Chairperson sought clarity as to who would be doing this new proposed sewage system.

The Chief Engineering Officer respond that it would be done by the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation as they have assumed responsibility for that project.

The Chairperson asked that the proposal be put forward for the sewage system to incorporate the larger scheme at Iterboreale. **ACTION: CEngO Johnson**

Councillor Freeman stated that based on the rainfall which was being experienced in the eastern and central parts of the parish it was being suggested that fogging be done in the South East St. Mary.

The Local Board of Health noted.

QUESTIONS TO THE LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

Councillor Hutchinson asked, "Is the Corporation aware that Derry/Montreal in the Carron Hall Division was experiencing a development of mosquito infestation and it was being asked that fogging or oiling be done in the said areas?"

CPHI Brown responded that the matter would be investigated to identify the source of the outbreak.

Councillor Hutchinson stated that she was of the opinion that the outbreak was as a result of how water was being stored in those areas.

The Chairperson thanked the Chief Health Inspector for his report.

RESUMPTION OF COUNCIL

ON A MOTION BY COUNCILLOR FREEMAN SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR HUDSON, THE CORPORATION RESUMED ITS SITTING.

REPORTS FROM AGENCIES AND COMMITTEES

The Chairperson informed that the reports from agencies and committee would be taken as submitted.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer stated that in discussion with His Worship the Mayor, the volume of paper that was used to produce the minutes was observed and informed that she would be working with her Executive Secretary and other Heads of Departments on how the reports could be collapsed. She stated that Committee would be accepting recommendations and tables instead of each page of each report; also the agencies were being asked to see how best more tables could be created with their information rather than all the verbatim.

The Chairperson suggested that the minutes be forwarded electronically in the coming months now that everyone was provided with a new tablet.

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

Nil

(b) PARISH DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Nil

(c) ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES OF JA. (ALGAJ)

Nil

a) (d) SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (SDC)

Nil

(e) RURAL AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (RADA)

Nil

(f) JAMAICA CONSTABULARY FORCE (JCF)

Nil

(g) JAMAICA CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (JCDC)

Nil

(h) Youth Mayor/Youth Councillors

The Chairperson reminded Councillors that all Youth Mayors should be robed by Friday November 10, 2017 hence all Councillors were to submit the names of their Youth Councillors to Ms. Bailey.

(Councillor Fyffe joined the meeting)

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Chairperson informed that there was an agenda of the various activities for Local Government Month which would be circulated.

He further advised that Heroes Day Celebration would be on Monday, October 16, 2017.

Minister McKenzie apologised for not acknowledging the Youth Councillors and stated they were a critical part of the Local Government Month activities. He advised that the Junior Mayor will have a great responsibility of demonstrating leadership. He further stated that there was a project to be undertaken as Youth Mayor which was normally with an allocation of \$100,000.00 which had been increased to \$500,000.00 this year. The use of this allocation, he advised, should be carried out within their tenure as Mayor, working with the Municipal Corporation. He stated that the project would be handed over to the next Junior Mayor hence the Corporation would have to ensure that it was being maintained. He asked that all the Mayors be robed by Friday, November 10, 2017 and they be involved in all the activities of Local Government Month. He mentioned that he would be including a feature in the month's calendar to have a forum for all the Junior Mayors which was the first of its kind.

He went on to mention that there was a road race that will be taking the messages of five of the country's leaders across the island; the race started at KSAMC handing over to Portmore then to St. Catherine and should be in St. Mary on October 26, 2017 and the race will end in St. Thomas. He further stated that the Church Service will be held on Sunday, October 29, 2017 at St. Thomas. He stated that other activities for the month included Town Hall Meetings, Cook off, Sensitization Programmes, courtesy call on the Governor General, Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and along with the selection of Junior Mayors was a feature of the month's activities. He informed that he was awaiting a response from the Mayors as it related to the long service award for the staff to see whether that would be facilitated this year. He further indicated that he was expecting Councillors to participate in this year's activities.

The Corporation noted.

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

On a motion by Councillor Danvers seconded by Councillor Sewell, the Minutes of Committee Meetings were accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE

a. Re: Local Governance (Amendment) Act 2017

The Acting Chief Executive Officer presented letter dated September 12, 2017 from the Ministry of Local Government & Community Development as under:

Please find attached Local Governance (Amendment) Act, 2017 passed in both the House of Representatives and the Senate and signed by His Excellency The Most Hon. Sir Patrick Linton Allen, ON, GCMG, CD, KSt.J, Governor General.

AN ACT to Amend the Local Governance Act.

[3]st day of July 2017]

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Representatives of Jamaica, and by the authority of the same as follows:-

- 1. This Act may be cited as the Local Governance (Amendment) Act, 2017, and shall be read and construed as one with the Local Governance Act, 2016 (hereinafter referred to as the "principal Act") and all other amendments thereto.*
- 2. Section 32 of the principal Act is amended in paragraph (a) by inserting before the words "except for the month of August (during which no monthly meeting need to be held)."*

Passed in the Houses of Representatives this 18th day of July 2017.

*PEARNEL CHARLES, CD, MP, JP
Speaker.*

Passed in the Senate this 28th day of July, 2017.

*THOMAS TAVARES-FINSON, CD, QC, JP
President.*

She expounded that the amendment now made it official for the Corporations to have their yearly recess for the month of August.

The Corporation noted.

b. Re: Temporary transfer of Ms. Carmen Samuda to the Westmoreland Municipal Corporation

The Acting Chief Executive Officer presented letter dated September 19, 2017 from the office of the Mayor of Savanna La Mar Westmoreland Municipal Corporation as under:

I am directed to advise that Westmoreland Municipal Corporation at its Human Resource Committee Meeting held on the 13th September, 2017 accepted the directive of the Local Government Services Commission as contained on letter No S578 dated 2nd August, 2017 for Miss Carmen Samuda, Secretary (GMG/SEG4) in the services of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation to be temporarily transferred to the Westmoreland Municipal Corporation in a similar capacity with effect from the 2nd October vice Mrs. Opal Beharie on pre-retirement leave and in place of Miss Sonia Glaze, reverted.

The Acting Chief Executive Officer presented letter dated September 19, 2017 from the office of the Mayor of Port Maria St. Mary Municipal Corporation as under:

Reference is made to your letter dated September 19, 2017 regarding the acceptance of the directive of the temporary transfer for Miss Carmen Samuda, Secretary (GMG/SEG4) in the service of the Westmoreland Municipal Corporation in a similar capacity with effect from the 2nd October, 2017.

The St. Mary Municipal Corporation has accepted the recommendation of the Municipal Services Commission for Ms. Samuda to assume duties at the Corporation on the aforementioned effective date.

The Corporation noted.

c. Re: Transfer of Officers

The Acting Chief Executive Officer presented letter dated October 2, 2017 from the Local Government Services Commission re Rovel Morris, Director of Planning as under:

*"I am directed by the Local Government Services Commission to recommend to the St. Ann Parish Council that **Mr. Rovel Morris**, Director of Planning (GMG/SEG2), St. Mary Parish Council be appointed to act as Secretary (GMG/SEG 4) in the St. Ann's Bay Parish Council with effect from 1st November, 2017 and until further orders vice Miss Claudiah Carter, reverted.*

During the period of her acting appointment, Mrs. Dalling should be paid an acting allowance in accordance with the provisions of Order No. 6.7.1. of the Staff Orders for the Public Service and the relevant allowance(s) attached the post."

The Acting Chief Executive Officer presented letter dated September 18, 2017 from the Local Government Services Commission re Carol Dalling, Accountant Budget & Revenue Officer as under:

*"I am directed by the Local Government Services Commission to recommend to the Trelawny Parish Council that **Mrs. Carol Dalling**, Accountant, Budget & Revenue (FMG/PA 1), St. Mary Parish Council be appointed to act as Director of Finance (FMG/PA 2) in the Trelawny Parish Council with effect from 1st November, 2017 and until further orders vice Mr. Andrew Harrison, acting in a higher post.*

During the period of her acting appointment, Mrs. Dalling should be paid an acting allowance in accordance with the provisions of Order No. 6.6.1. of the Staff Orders for the Public Service and the relevant allowance(s) attached the post."

The Chairperson stated that there needed to be further discussion between the St. Mary Municipal Corporation and the Municipal Services Commission as to the way forward and how those Officers would be replaced. He further stated that once the transfers will take effect on the 1st of November, the Officers will still be allowed to go to the various Municipals as directed by the Municipal Services Commission.

The Corporation deferred these matters pending further discussions and for them to be tabled at the next Human Resource Committee meeting.

d. SUPPLEMENTARY CORRESPONDENCE

Re: Acceptance of Transfer of Ms. Ethlyn Douglas

The Acting Chief Executive Officer presented letter dated September 15, 2017 from Rovel Morris, Acting CEO sent to St. Ann Municipal Corporation as under:

"Reference is made to letter #D269 dated August 2, 2017 from the Local Government Services Commission informing the Corporation that Ms. Ethlyn Douglas, Director of Planning (GMG/SEG2), St. Ann Municipal Corporation be appointed to act as Chief Executive Officer

(GMG/SEG4) in St. Mary Municipal Corporation with effect from October 2, 2017 and until further orders vice Miss Carmen Samuda, temporarily transferred.

The St. Mary Municipal Corporation at the meeting of the General Corporation held on September 14, 2017 has accepted the recommendation of the Commission for Ms. Douglas to assume duties at the Corporation on the aforementioned date."

The Corporation approved.

NEW BUSINESS

A. INTRODUCTION OF YOUTH COUNCILLORS

The Chairperson welcomed each Youth Councillor and asked that they introduce themselves to the Committee.

The Youth Councillors informed the Committee of their names, the school they attended as well as the division they were representing as listed below:

1. Sual Walker of St. Mary High School representing the Highgate Division
2. Ackeen Dawkins of St. Mary High School representing the Oracabessa Division
3. Devron Boyd of Mico University College and Moneague College representing the Boscobel Division
4. Kaboota McPherson of Port Maria High & Preparatory School representing the Port Maria Division
5. Shante Mignott of Oracabessa High School representing the Gayle Division
6. Sherica Walters of Annotto Bay High School representing the Annotto Bay Division
7. Mark Graham of St. Mary High School representing the Hampstead Division
8. Felicia Dennis of the Queens School representing the Islington Division
9. Shaniel Chin of St. Hilda's Diocesan High School representing the Retreat Division
10. Romario Beecher of St. Mart Technical High School representing the Castleton Division
11. Cedella Mckie of Guy's High School representing the Carron Hall Division
12. Christina Dawes of Distinction College representing the Richmond Division

The Chairperson stated that he was looking forward to their presentations and questions and urged that they be prepared by doing their research in the various divisions which they represented.

PETITION

Nil

RESOLUTIONS

A. REMUNERATION FOR MATRONS OF INFIRMARIES

The Acting Chief Executive Officer read letter dated September 18, 2017 from the St. Thomas Municipal Corporation passed on September 14, 2017.

Whereas the Rules and Regulations for the Management of Poorhouses, Section 1, states "The Management of the Poorhouses shall be under the immediate control of a Resident Master or Matron, or both, subject to the orders of the committee of the Parochial Board of the Parish to be called the House of Committee";

And whereas it is a requirement for the Matrons at the Infirmaries to be at Registered Nurse;

And whereas the Matrons have the overall responsibility to see to the care and protection of the residents, as well as to perform administrative duties;

And whereas given the awesome responsibilities of the Matrons, the salary payable to them should be adequate;

And whereas the remuneration for Registered Nurses within hospitals far exceed that of Matrons at the Infirmaries;

And whereas the remunerations is a deterrent in filling the posts of Matron at these Infirmaries;

Be it resolved that the Ministry of Finance and the Public Service be asked to increase salary payable to Matron at the Infirmaries so as to attract prepositives candidates.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be circulated to all the Municipal Corporations and the Ministry of Local Government and Community Development for support.

Moved by Councillor Rohan Bryan, Morant Bay Division

Seconded by Councillor Joan Spencer, Seaforth Division

The Corporation supported the resolution.

B. SIGNING OF CHEQUES

The Acting Chief Executive Officer read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that the authority vested in the undermentioned person formerly an Administrator of the St. Mary Municipal Corporation:

- Carmen Samuda – Chief Executive Officer

to sign cheques drawn against the Corporation be and is hereby revoked.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the undermentioned person be substituted therefore:

- ✓ Ethlyn Douglas, Chief Executive Officer (Acting)

subject to the Saving Clause, section 54 of the Local Governance Act 2016.

On a motion by Councillor Bryan seconded by Councillor Hudson, the Committee approved

C. ISSUANCE OF FINAL APPROVAL/CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION/RELEASE OF TITLES & USE OF THE CORPORATION'S SEAL

The Director of Planning presented the following Resolutions as under:

| St. Mary Municipal Corporation | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------|------------------|
| Subdivision for Council Meeting October 12,2017 | | | | |
| Statutory Declaration | | | | |
| Universal Number | Name | Description | Mover | Seconder |
| 561-2127 | Estate George Jamieson | Lands part of Trinity - Two residential lot subdivision 1 acre, 1 Road and 17.6 perches Release of Lot #2 | Cllr. Hudson | Cllr. Hutchinson |
| 2015-05-055-SA00028 | Segismond Henry c/o Juan Lyons | Lands part of Silver Spring, Athlone - Four lots Residential/farmstead 9,484.05sq.m Release of scetions 1a & 2a. | Cllr. Hutchinson | Cllr. Fyffe |
| 2005-05-0005-SA00020 | Clement Simpson | Lands part of Three Hills, six residential lots 10,088.99sq.m release of lots 1a, 1b, 1c, 2, 3, 4, | Cllr. Lee | Cllr. Sewell |
| 2013-05-005-SA00006 | Anthony P. Haughton | Lands part of Georgia Pen, three lots for agricultural/residential, Release of lots #1 | Cllr. Bryan | Cllr. Danvers |

The Corporation approved.

QUESTIONS

Councillor Hutchinson asked, "Is the Corporation aware that Hartland is almost impassable and asked that an estimate be done for that area.

Councillor Kidd asked, "Is the Corporation aware of the terrible conditions of the Brooklyn Road and Kidd Land and asked that an estimate be done for both road ways?"

The Chairperson asked the Chief Engineering Officer to follow up on the matters.

ACTION: CEngO Johnson

ADJOURNMENT

The Chairperson thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

There being no other matter for discussion the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Councillor Bryan seconded by Councillor Kidd at 12: 59 p.m.

C O N F I R M E D

.....
CHAIRPERSON
ST. MARY MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

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

DATE.....

DATE.....

