

ST. CATHERINE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

MINUTES OF MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

Pursuant to Notice the Monthly General Meeting of the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation was held in the Chambers of the Corporation at Spanish Town on Thursday, September 8, 2022, commencing at 10:56 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

a) Councillors:

1. His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Norman Scott - Chairman
2. Councillor Ralston Wilson - Deputy Mayor
3. Councillor Claude Hamilton
4. Councillor Roogaé Kirlew
5. Councillor Leroy Dunn
6. Councillor George Moodie
7. Councillor Donovan Guy
8. Councillor Peter Abrahams
9. Councillor William Cytall
10. Councillor Sydney Rose
11. Councillor Dwight Burke
12. Councillor Beverly Jobson-Grant
13. Councillor Mark McLean
14. Councillor Joy Brown
15. Councillor Keith McCook
16. Councillor Keith Knight
17. Councillor Anthony Wint
18. Councillor Neil Powell
19. Councillor Mark O'Connor
20. Councillor Lloyd Grant
21. Councillor Theresa Turner-Flynn

Those who arrived Subsequently

22. Councillor Patricia Harris
23. Councillor Keisha Lewis
24. Councillor Kenord Grant
25. Councillor Herbert Garriques
26. Councillor Renair Benjamin
27. Councillor Gary Nicholson
28. Councillor Alphanso Johnson
29. Councillor Enos Lawrence
30. Councillor Alric Campbell
31. Councillor Steve Graham

b) Officers:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Garfield Thompson | Chief Engineering Officer– Clerk |
| 2. Mr. Romond Fisher | Deputy Superintend Roads and Works |
| 3. Mrs. Denece Douglas | Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector |
| 4. Ms. Angella wright | Inspector of Poor |

5. Mr. Chad Allen	Director of Planning
6. Ms. Telka Holt	Commercial Services Manager
7. Ms. Reishana Dubidad	Community Programmes Co-ordinator
8. Ms. Moesha Jones	Matron - Infirmary
9. Ms. Anakay Clarke	Actg. Snr. Internal Auditor
10. Mrs. Yasheka Jathan-Thompson	Parish Disaster Co-ordinator
11. Mr. Omar Mattis	Office Manager
12. Mr. Peter Hewitt	Trade Licences Compliance Officer

c) Agencies

1. Mr. Farrel Walsh	NSWMA
2. Mr. Dilton Pike	Jamaica Fire Brigade
3. Mr. Junior Headlam	Chairman Parish Development Committee
4. Mr. Abdon Campbell	St. Catherine Health Services (SCHS)
5. Mr. Patrick Aitcheson	SERHA/SCHS

ABSENT WERE:

a) Councillors

1. Councillor Ainsley Parkins
2. Councillor Jennifer Hull
3. Councillor Vanrick Preddie
4. Councillor Courtney Edwards
5. Councillor Fenley Douglas
6. Councillor Hawthorne Thompson

b) Officers

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Andre Griffiths | Chief Executive Officer |
|------------------------|-------------------------|

1. NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

The Notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

2. DEVOTION

At the request of the Chairman, Councillor George Moodie led the devotion.

3. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Welcome

The Chairman stated that this was the Christmas Term and that he hoped that Councillors were back from the break prepared for the hard task ahead. He extended welcome to the Councillors, staff, agency representatives and the media, who were present in the Chamber. Special welcome was extended to the new Matron Ms. Moesha Jones to her first meeting.

Apologies

Apologies were tendered on behalf of:

1. Mr. Andre Griffiths, Chief Executive Officer, who was attending his uncle's funeral in Westmoreland;
2. Ms. Delores Gooden, Chief Financial Officer, who was on sick leave;
3. Mrs. Nicholee Henry-Downie, who was on vacation leave

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD JULY 14, 2022

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Monthly General Meeting held on July 14, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** confirmed.

Seconded by Councillor Leroy Dunn and carried.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

a) Dela Vega Treatment Plant

Arising from minutes of meeting held 14/07/22, page 7, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, in her update stated that the plant was operating satisfactorily. She said that the upgrading works had restarted but were not completed, and they were trying to get a timeframe for its completion. She added that the Health Department intends to host an inter-agency meeting before the end of year and hopes to get some answers in relation to this project.

b) Own Your Own Device

Arising from minutes of meeting held 14/07/22, page 14-15, the Chairman informed the meeting that he had sent a letter to the Prime Minister with respect to the cancellation of the Own Your Own Device Programme. He said that as soon as a response is received, Councillors will be updated.

c) Attendance of the Chief Public Health Inspector

Arising from minutes of meeting held 14/07/22, page 7, Councillor Wilson stated he is concerned that he had asked that the Chief Public Health Inspector attends this meeting.

The Chairman asked the the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector to convey this to the Chief Public Health Inspector and asked that she attends the next Public Health Committee meeting scheduled for the following Thursday (15/9/22).

d) Submission of Information – Own Your Own Device

Arising from minutes of meeting held 14/07/22, page 14-15, Councillor Joy Brown stated that only three councillors from the Portmore City Municipality had submitted information relating to the Own Your Own Device Programme. She stated that she was not one of the three because she was having challenges getting certain

information, however, it was sad to know that Councillor Fenley Douglas was not one of the three, especially after his presentation at the last meeting.

The Chairman stated that he could not authenticate what is being alleged and also that this programme was not administered from Portmore. He added that if the intention of the Councillor was to call names, then he would not accommodate anything further.

Councillor Brown stated that she is aware that this could have legal implication, and therefore would not have made the statement without having knowledge of the correct information.

The Chairman, in jest, remarked that he realised that they were well rested and also said that after six years, the female Councillor from the Gregory Park division has spoken three times in one meeting.

d) **Announcement in Parliament about Fundings**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 14/07/22, page 15, Councillor Turner-Flynn said that in relation to a statement made at the last meeting, the Poor Relief Department has not received any additional funding and the department is in dire need of funding. She said that persons have not been receiving doles and it is hard to turn away the destitute.

The Chairman said that his statement was based on an announcement in Parliament and he was just repeating. He said that the country is being run based on public realations. He said too that it was also announced that each division would be allocated \$600,000 for drain cleaning, which the Corporation has not received. He said that a drain cleaning programme was sent to the Ministry, even though it is being said that the programmes are outstanding.

e) **Garbage Collection - Linstead**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 14/07/22, page 17 item (b), the Chairman informed the meeting that he was in Linstead recently during some heavy rains and he took photos of the garbage which littered the town. He said that it is a shame and disgrace, garbage is everywhere and added that he was not going to take any pretty talk from the agency. He said that he was going to call the Executive Director to a meeting, as the situation has reached crisis proportions and is now more than a disaster.

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chairman made the following announcement:

- 1. "Let me welcome all Councillors, members of staff, the media, print and video, and our external experts from the various agencies to our September Municipal Corporation Monthly meeting.***
- 2. All schools are opened as of September 5, 2022 and with it comes anxious parents try to ensure that that their children have all their books , bags, uniform and devices . It also comes with increased traffic and I am encouraging all motorists to exercise caution as you drive on the road .***

3. *It is with great disappointment that I share that the Own your own device initiative was cancelled and I have subsequently made an appeal to the office of the Hon Prime Minister for his intervention . Parents were glad for this project as students are asked to bring their device to school to facilitate teaching and learning.*
4. *The St. Catherine Municipal Corporation in collaboration with the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission (St. Catherine) will observe National Heritage Week Celebrations from October 12-17, 2022.*
5. *The highlights will include a Floral tribute at the Phillippo Baptist Church, 9 Williams Street Spanish Town on Wednesday October 12, 2022 at 9:00am.*
6. *National Heroes Day- Civic and Awards Ceremony will be held at St. Catherine Emancipation Square, Spanish Town on Monday October 17, 2022 at 9:00am.*
7. *All Councillors are invited to be a part of the event .*

The deadline for the submission of nomination for Heroes day award is on Friday September 23, 2022– The awards category is Education, Community Service, Volunteerism and other tributes that describes outstanding citizenship All Councillors are invited to be a part of the event.”

Arrival of Councillors

During the announcement Councillors Herbert Garriques and Keisha Lewis joined the meeting

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF FORMER MEETING

Nil

8. ALGAJ REPORT:

The report from ALGAJ was emailed to the Councillors.

On the motion of Councillor Neil Powell and Councillor William Cytall, the report was accepted.

9. QUESTION AND ANSWERS

a) Garbage Collection

Councillor Powell asked why not contact the Minister about the sloppy practices in relation to garbage collections in the parish. He said that in giving the Minister the

benefit of the doubt, a letter should be written to him about the challenges being faced in relation to garbage collection.

The Chairman then asked if the Councillor was asking the Corporation to write to the Minister to tell him that the garbage is not being collected. He said that this is an islandwide problem and is well known.

b) Chief Public Health Inspector

Councillor Powell asked the Chairman why not introduce the Chief Public Health Inspector at the General Meeting instead of the Committee meeting, since not every Councillor is a member of the Public Health Committee. He suggested that she be invited to the General meeting in October, 2022.

The Chairman responded that all Councillors could be invited to attend the meeting and would be given permission at the meeting to speak.

c) Care Packages

Councillor Powell said that in March of this year a request was made for information to be submitted to the Corporation, for persons to benefit from care packages. He said that persons are now looking at him and are wondering if he works with the scammers. He said that he was there as a Councillor and serves people of his division and it is embarrassing to him, as he has to be dodging. He said that it is putting him in a negative position. He asked the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer to shed some light on this, as he would like to know what is happening.

Councillor Brown stated that the Councillors in Portmore had received their care packages, but could not answer for this Corporation .

The Chairman then stated that no Corporation had received the last care packages and added that this programme was administered through this Corporation for St. Catherine Councillors. He said that there is only one Poor Relief Department in the parish and the documents had to pass through that department

Councillor Wilson asked that the Chairman sits with the Minister and seek an update on both the drain cleaning and care package allocations. He said that Councillors should not sit and be sent out like little boys. He added that Councillor Powell was right in saying that it is embarrassing.

The Chairman asked if it was the consensus of the meeting that the Minister be written concerning the care packages and the drain cleaning allocations, and took a vote on the matter.

Fifteen Councillors voted for the letter to be written to the Minister while two voted against.

Councillor Dunn stated that during a similar discussion at the last meeting, he had requested that an alternative way be found in the interim to provide the tablets for the students, and the Chairman had said that that it was a good idea. He sought an update.

The Chairman stated that the Councillor would have heard Councillor Turner-Flynn make an impassioned plea about the payment of doles in the Poor Relief Department. He stated that if doles cannot be paid, how would they purchase these tablets right now.

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor Renair Benjamin
joined the meeting

Councillor Dunn said that in light of that response, he would like to know if there was an SGR fund and if so, what is its status.

The Chairman said that there was such a fund but he could not answer the question in relation to what its status is.

In response to Councillor Dunn, he said that the chamber for asking that question was at the Finance and Planning Committee.

Councillor Dunn then asked why were actions not taken by him the chief councillor and why certain actions are not taken where Councillors have breakaways and other issues. He asked why is it that Councillors are not able to access these funds and could not get information about this fund.

The Chairman then stated that the Councillor apparently wanted to grandstand, as his division is the beneficiary of SGR funds, to which Councillor Dunn responded that that was a lie.

Councillor Dunn stated that funds were sent here for his division and asked what had happened to those funds and why it was that he is yet to benefit.

The Chairman asked if the Councillor was not updated on the procedure at it relates to the specific road that he had submitted which was the incorrect road. He asked for the change which was sent to the Ministry for approval. He asked that the Councillor go to the Minister, as he was only informing him of the process, which the Corporation had to follow. He added that Councillor Dunn's anger is being directed at the wrong persons, as he knows what is happening.

Councillor Dunn said that the Chairman needs to use his office to get the roads repaired. In an outburst he said that it made no sense to sabotage him, as whether the road is repaired he still will win.

The Chairman said that the Councillor had a right to express himself and he allowed him, but where he is wrong he will correct him. He added that he seemed to want the Chief Executive Officer or himself to tell him to commence the works. He said that he was not going to do anything to create an audit query, there is a protocol which guides this situation and the Ministry has been written and a response is awaited. He added that it was the Councillor's Minister and his party.

He said that his response was based on the fact that the Councillor mentioned being sabotaged and he also said he (the Chairman) was lying about him benefiting from the SGR.

Councillor Dunn apologised for his previous outburst and said that it was a misinterpretation.

The Chairman said that he had tried to operate as impartial as possible unlike what happens in some Municipal Corporations. He said when funds are received by the Corporation, it is distributed fairly. He added that St. Catherine is always used as a model for the other Corporations and that contrary to Councillor Dunn's outburst, he

has no reason to sabotage him. The Corporation is still awaiting instruction from the Ministry.

d) Meeting Room Back Drop

Councillor Graham said the back drop looks good and asked if it was for the Jamaica 60 celebrations. He said that the green and the black are missing

The Chairman said that he has acknowledged it. He said that it has been there for more than two months and it was the first it has been brought to his attention and will certainly fix it.

e) Garbage in Linstead

Councillor Garriques apologised for being late, as he was being interviewed by CVM in relation to garbage collection in Linstead. He asked when the National Solid Waste Management Authority were going to see Linstead as a major town and collect the garbage.

The Chairman remarked that he had seen it first hand and had sent a video to the Executive Director of the agency, but has not received a response.

f) Repairs to Burke Road

Councillor Lawrence stated that he had received information that patching is to be done on Burke Road. He said that while he accepts the improvement. He is asking if the Corporation could intervene. He said that he was not going to accept patching as Burke Road needs rehabilitation, .

The Chairman stated that he has documents from Minister Warmington indicating that Burke Road, Wellington Street, Young Street, William Street, Cumberland Road and Oxford Road are on a programme for rehabilitation for the year 2022/2023. The Chairman said that there are two members of parliament with responsibility for these areas and Burke Road falls under the National Works Agency.

10. LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

On the motion of Councillor Anthony Wint, seconded by Councillor Sydney Rose, the Corporation resolved itself into the Local Board of Health.

i) Medical Officer's Report

Mrs. Denece Douglas, Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector presented the Medical Officer's Report as under:

“The Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector reported that, as it relates to the court matters – pig rearing in Guys Hill, the offender is still sick and the new court date is now set for October 3, 2022 and for the dog rearing case in Portsmouth, the new court date is September 20, 2022.

Covid Update

In August 2022, there were 677 positive cases and 178 active cases with 12 deaths. Since March 2021, a total of 99,165 persons have been fully immunized in St. Catherine representing a total of 23% of the target population. The number of fully immunized persons for the month is 1,168 and this represents all vaccines.

She said that the department is planning interventions to access elderly persons and shut-ins through, the assistance of the SDC and Councillors.

Vector Control

She said that the department had targeted intervention activities at several institutions throughout the parish the eight health centres with one having mosquitoes. Both hospitals were checked and the Linstead and Spanish Town Markets and there was no breeding as well. Three nursing homes were also checked and no breeding found. Six tyre shops and four garages were also checked and a total of 1714 tyres were inspected and no breeding found.

Forty- two drains were checked throughout the period. In the Linstead Zone checks were done on drains in Grant Land, Nugent Road, East Avenue, Grove Road, Bog Walk beside the bus stop and at Juicy Patties. At the Bog Walk Round About and Gillette Street. Grove Road and those in Bog Walk were breeding.

*In the Portmore Zone the Portsmouth area, Hailing Road, Waterford, Portland East, Waterford High and beside the Primary School as well. Naggo Head Bus Park, 5 West Place and East, Second Street and at Washington mews where there was breeding
In Old Harbour, checks were made at Patrick Street, Hart Street, Darlington Drive, Panton Lane, Spring Village and Golden Pen drain all were breeding
For Spanish Town checks were made at Manchester Street, Wellington Street, Greendale, Tredegar Park, Thompson Pen, Beacon Avenue, Seville Meadows II, Featherbed Lane, Gordon Pen and Belmore Lane. Those breeding in this area were Tredegar Park, Featherbed Lane, Belmore Lane were breeding. These drains were treated.*

Monkey Pox

As it relates to the department's preparation for an outbreak of Monkey Pox virus, the isolation areas have been identified for all health facilities and the infection control, prevention and supplies have been procured for the region. Medical staff at the facilities have been trained to identify suspected cases and to take samples for testing. All staff have been re-sensitized that infection and control measures are the same as with the Covid virus such as wearing a mask, frequent hand washing, sanitizing and maintaining social distance.

Medical staff is being updated at their monthly meetings about any update and change to the protocols and the parish is in receipt of all gazetted documents about monkey pox surveillance, isolation and quarantine of cases and medical management of confirmed cases.

The surveillance team at the Health Department, if there is a case will be actively involved in contact tracing of confirmed cases, where the individual has a St. Catherine address. They have submitted a budget and an operational plan and the surveillance team has started to sensitization of all health care workers including Mental Health Nurses, Public Health Inspector, paramedical and other support groups."

Arising from the Report

Councillor Lawrence stated that he noticed that there was no mention of drains in the Salt Pond Road, Sagicor Plaza and Railway Lane areas. He said that these drains are earth drains and there are schools in these areas and also the Dela Vega community. He asked that they be given some attention.

The Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector noted the concern and said that she will ask the Vector Control Team to look at them.

Councillor Benjamin stated that he has been hearing of rain and no community in his division (Westchester), has been earmarked for fogging for September. These areas include Cumberland, Westchester and Independence City.

The Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector said that she will advise the Vector Control Team.

She introduced Mr. Campbell, the Parish Manager for St. Catherine to the meeting, who gave the following update on the redevelopment of the Spanish Town Hospital.

Mr. Campbell stated that it was only proper to inform the Corporation. He said that there will be a new six-floor hospital fully funded by the Inter-American Development Bank. He said that some of the services offered have to be relocated and that they wanted to work closely with the Corporation's technical team and also will give updates, as the relocation exercise progresses. He introduced the Project Manager for the relocation exercise, and asked him to brief the Corporation on the relocation of services.

Mr. Patrick Aitcheson, the Project Manager, stated that he has been enaged to facilitate the relocation of some services presently offered at hospital. He said that the new hospital will be located on six floors comprising 103,000 sq. ft. He said that the footprint of the building is currently occupied by a number of the services which would be moved or relocated to accommodate the new building. The areas affected amount to 32,500 sq. ft, which include daycare centre, pharmacy, lab, stores and nurses accommodation. The pharmacy, laboratory and stores will be replaced on site at an area that has been identified. He said that for the nurses accommodation and the daycare area, there is still a grey area, but at present the main focus is on the lab, stores and pharmacy. He said that the relocation area now has some derelict buildings, which will be removed and preparatory work is being carried out. The parameters are being worked out to minimise the negative effect on the hospital itself, which will require some strategic operations. The relocation will be done by the end of November 2022, and is a tight schedule but they were doing there best to work within those parameters. He added that presently scope of works, terms of references and pre-contract documents are being prepared. As the process unfolds they need to be co-ordinating with the technical department of the Corporation, and so there is the need to initiate discussions and establish a schedule of interation during the project.

The Chairman stated that the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Engineering Officer are abreast of scope of works and they have been expediting the processes that involves the Corporation and external agencies. He said that he is aware that the Chief Engineering Officer is in dialogue with the Regional Director, Mr. Errol Green.

In response to Councillor Rose, the Chairman stated that the upgrading of the Dela Vega Treatment Plant is being done to accommodate the expenansion of the hospital. He said that an Officer has been assigned to work with the team to expedite the process.

ii) Application for Butchers Licences

Take in

The licences were approved out of session because there was no meeting in August.

The applications were ratified on the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Rooga Kirlew, based on the recommendation of the Health Department.

iii) Application for Barbers/Hairdressers (Premises) Licences

Nil

iv) **Exhumation**

Nil

Resumption

On the motion of Councillor Peter Abrahams, seconded by Councillor Claude Hamilton, the meeting resumed.

11. REPORTS

(A) MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

I) Infrastructure and Traffic Committee 20/07/22

The minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure and Traffic Committee held on 20/07/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure and Traffic Committee held on July 20, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Claude Hamilton and carried.

II) Human Resources Committee 25/07/22

The minutes of the meeting of the Human Resource Committee held on 25/07/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Human Resource Committee held on July 25, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Claude Hamilton and carried.

III) Public Health Committee Meeting 21/07/22

The minutes of the meeting of the Public Health Committee held on 21/07/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Public Health Committee held on July 21, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Claude Hamilton and carried.

IV) **Municipal & Commercial Services Committee 26/07/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Municipal and Commercial Services Committee held on 26/07/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal & Commercial Services Committee held on July 26, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Claude Hamilton and carried.

(B) **MINUTES OF AUTONOMOUS COMMITTEES**

i) **Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee 18/07/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee held on 18/07/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Claude Hamilton moved:

“**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee held on July 18, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Roogae Kirlew and carried.

ii) **Physical Planning & Environment Committee Meeting 19/07/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Physical Planning and Environment Committee held on 19/07/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Claude Hamilton moved:

“**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the meeting of the Physical Planning and Environment Committee held on July 19, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Roogae Kirlew and carried.

iii) **Finance & Planning Committee Meeting 20/07/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee held on 20/07/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Claude Hamilton moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee held on July 20, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Roogae Kirlew and carried.

iv) **Poor Relief Committee Meeting 21/07/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Poor Relief Committee held on 21/07/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Claude Hamilton moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Poor Relief Committee held on July 21, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Roogae Kirlew and carried.

(C) USE OF COUNCIL’S COMMON SEAL

On the motion of Councillor Anthony Wint, seconded by Councillor Renair Benjamin, approval was given for affixing the Corporation’s Common Seal on applications for subdivision, which were approved by the Physical Planning and Environment Committee at its meeting held on July 18, 2022:

- *Application by PeterGay McLean to subdivide lands at part of Treadways, St. Catherine consisting of approximately 12,858.80 square metres into five (5) lots for residential and farmstead purposes.*
- *Application by Ralston Morgan c/o Garfield Johnson to subdivide lands part of Gutter Mountain, St. Catherine consisting of approximately 15,219.811 square metres into eight (8) lots for residential, farmstead and reserved road purposes.*
- *Application by Jermaine Williamson to subdivide lands part of Dovecot Park, Gabays Pen, Seven Doubloons and Page Mountain known as Green Acres (Lot 284) consisting of approximately 1,152.82 square metres of land into two (2) lots for residential purposes.*
- *Application by Samuel Bowen et al c/o Ronald Brown to subdivide lands part of West Prospect consisting of approximately 1,517.0 square metres of land into two (2) lots for residential purposes.*
- *Application by Judith Vernon et al c/o Juliet Morrison to subdivide lands part of Willowdene consisting of approximately 17,232.93 square metres of land into eight (8) lots for residential, farmstead, homestead purpose and a section for road improvement and a private road.*
- *Application by Janice Walters to subdivide lands part of Byndloss Lot (8c) consisting of approximately 4,078.45 square metres of land into six (6) lots for residential purposes and a green area for recreation.”*

D) REPORT – LINSTEAD TOWN CENTRE:

No meeting was held.

12. GENERAL:

Nil

13. MOTIONS:

a) Motions (of which Notice has been given previously)

Nil

b) Notice of Motions:

Nil

14. PETITIONS:

Nil

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

a) World Homeless Day October 10, 2022

The Chairman informed the meeting that World Homelessness Day will be on October 10, 2022, and that this issue is an important one and asked that the Councillors give their support.

He said that he wanted to salute Ms. Hudson, Poor Relief Officer, who had gone beyond the call of duty and has identified a building which is owned by the Diocese of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands. They have given the building to the Corporation to be used as the homeless centre and when completed, in terms of renovation, the homeless will have somewhere to go and sleep. He said that Miss Hudson is to be commended for this effort.

In response to the Councillors, he said that the building is located in front of the Infirmary and they are awaiting the official documents from their headquarters.

b) Grace Crescent – Leiba Gardens

He said that he was passing through the Homestead Division in Leiba Gardens on Grace Crescent and saw some material that was shaved off a road surface, that was dumped there blocking the road. He said that he had it spread on the surface as he thought it was something good, but a few days later on another visit to the area it was blocked again with boulders; he called the Police. He will be clearing it again and added that it is a parochial road.

c) Commendations to Students - CAPE and CSEC Results

The Chairman commended all young people connected to the Corporation, who were successful in their CAPE and CSEC examinations. He said that the Corporation, in session, sends commendations to these persons and said that those who were not successful, should not give up but should go next year and try again.

d) Glengoffe Police Station

Councillor Kirlew said that a tour was done at the Glengoffe Police Station some time ago, and works had commenced on the station. He said that the works are still not completed almost a year later. He asked that the Chairman again intervene with a view to having the works completed, as the Police are still stationed in Above Rocks. He said that it was very bad on the part of the Government as it relates to the rehabilitation.

The Chairman said that a letter will be sent to the Ministry of National Security regarding the matter.

e) Health Centre for Treadways

Councillor Rose said that while he welcome the new hospital for Spanish Town, there is a health centre in Treadways that has been closed for some years now. However, since 2016, he has been making representation to Minister Tufton, to have a new health centre built, by securing tenure for a property and assistance with funding. He said that he is now hearing that there is a problem with funding and asked the Chairman to assist him in his lobby for the health centre, which will serve areas in the Treadways and Guys Hill Divisions. He said that the time has come for the Chairman to assist him with the Treadways Health Centre.

The Chairman responded that the exhibit at the recent open house held by the Ministry of Health and Wellness was not limited to the redevelopment of the hospital, it also included some clinics for areas such as Old Harbour, Portmore and St. Jago Park Health Centre.

The Chairman said that he would seek to have discussion on the matter and added that the Old Harbour Health Centre has been on the listing for a long time. He said further that there are some lands that are occupied by individuals who have been given notice to vacate for the Old Harbour one.

f) Linstead Drop-in Centre

Councillor Garriques stated that he sat and listened to the Spanish Town homeless centre and the drop-in centre in Linstead is being vandalised and asked what were the present plans as it relates to its completion.

The Chairman stated that the Corporation is not able to complete the centre due to funding. He said that there was a savings from the Kitson Town Poor Relief Office and permission was sought from the Ministry to use this savings on the drop-in centre, but the Ministry has not responded favourably.

Suspension of the Standing Order

On the motion of Councillor Herbert Garriques, seconded by Councillor Dwight Burke, the Standing Order was suspended to take the reports of the agencies present.

Jamaica Fire Brigade

Mr. Dilton Pike, the representative from the Jamaica Fire Bridage presented the report.

The details are below:

STATIONS	OTHER FIRE CALLS	M.F. A	F.A.W.G. I	SSC/MVA	BUSH FIRES	TOTAL CALLS
Spanish Town	31	04	-	07/01	29	72
Waterford	15	07	01	02/02	13	40
Linstead	08	02	-	05/01	03	19
Old Harbour	08	01	-	01/00	12	22
TOTAL	62	14	1	15/04	57	153

2.

ESTIMATED RISK:

ESTIMATED LOSS:

ESTIMATED SAVED:

\$617,800,000.00

\$057,030,000.00

\$560,770,000.00
3.

Structural Fire:

There were twenty-one (21) structural fires of which twenty-one (21) adults and thirteen (13) children were displaced.
4.

Motor Vehicle Accidents:

There were four (4) motor vehicle accidents in which two (2) civilians were injured and one (1) hospitalized.

The representative informed the meeting that all units were operating and they have been since June doing training in swift water rescue, which will help them to respond for the season. The training has been continuing with approximately sixteen (16) persons, who will be trained and also some officer development training is being done. He invited Councillors to visit the stations, so that they can familiarise themselves with the teams and be a part of them, as they serve the people that Councillors serve.

The Chairman said that his concern is normally about the readiness of the Fire stations to respond to emergencies, in terms of their equipment and response capacities.

The representative stated that they are ready to respond as all stations have units and equipment. He said that Old Harbour Fire Station is the first fire station certified by the Jamaica Fire Brigade as a safe space for them to work. He said that he hopes that the new hospital will also be certified before it is occupied by any residents.

Councillor Graham enquired about the tank that was removed from the fire station in Old Harbour. He said that the fire truck ran out of water as there was no water and the tank would have assisted.

The Chairman said that he would discuss this with the Councillor.

National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA)

Mr. Walsh informed the meeting that mechanism have been put in place with a plan to clear garbage at schools once per week and also on the weekends. He said that Councillors were given his number and he will also communicate with the them using whatsapp. He said that they were currently in the town of Linstead, as it was not collected last night. Old Harbour is also being collected at present. As it relates to the town centres, he stated that the areas that are not collected during the nights are done during the morning session, but there are sometimes issues resulting in late dispatch.

In relation to residential garbage, he said that they are trying to collect once weekly and improve based on resources. A plan is being put in place to improve collections. Mini dumps continue to be problematic and there are areas all over the parish including Mandela Highway and sought the assistance of the Corporation's Enforcement Team. He said that he had received some help and it has worked in the commercial areas. He said that they have one goal which is to ensure that the parish is clean and suggested a collaborative approach.

The Chairman stated that he just received information from the Police that the training centre at Camp Verly has not been collected. He further stated that it should not be that the agency has to be called each time to do collections. He said that there needs to be a schedule for collection and for the schedule to be maintained.

Councillor Garriques said that the last time the garbage was removed in Linstead was the previous Sunday and it was half the amount that was collected. This is in the town with vendors selling food and residents moving about. He added that it was sad that it was only that morning that the garbage was cleaned. He said that he had built skips to hold the garbage but there is still a pile up because the collections are not being done on time.

Passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

The Chairman at this point announced that Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II had passed away.

Councillor Wilson said that he had called about the Browns Hall area some time and he is annoyed, and asked that some collections be done at the Browns Hall School. He then spoke about the commercial garbage in the town and said that the Chinese nationals are depositing their commercial garbage. They come here and make money and litter the place and the agency needs to wake up and do something.

The Chairman named some of the mini dump sites in the town. He stated that arrangement was made and an enforcement drive was done. where they went into the business community. He said that it was working but it needs to be consistent to work.

Councillor Lawrence said that he was concerned about the roads that were taken off the sweeping schedule and asked that they be returned. Some of these roads are White Church Street and Salt Pond Road which both have schools. He said that there are too many roads that are not on the sweeping schedule.

The Chairman stated that there is a team at the Corporation that sweeps and if they were not doing some sweeping, the situation would have been worse. He said that the Corporation needs to have discussions with the agency, in this regard.

Parish Development Committee

Mr. Headlam reported as under:

He said that some of the issues are the same as discussed at the PDC level. Garbage collection was one of the major issue facing communities within the parish and that concerns have been raised about the traffic changes in Linstead. He said that a town hall meeting is being arranged and that that the CDC is concerned that these changes are dislocating a number of citizens.

He said too that as the restrictions are being eased, groups are returning to normal and encouraged Councillors to work with their CDC’s.

Resumption

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Alric Campbell, the meeting resumed the standing order.

Any Other Business (Cont’d)

The Chairman stated that in relation to a matter that is now a subject of discussion, in relation to the zoning of agriculture lands in Innswood, nothing has been discussed with the Corporation. He said that the Corporation could not make comments about something that it is not aware of. He said however, that if and when a request is made, then it will be acted upon, but until then the Corporation has nothing to say on the matter.

He added that for change of use of lands, it is a matter for the Minister and if there are restrictive conditions on the title, then they will require the input of the Corporation for the courts.

16. ADJOURNMENT

At this stage (1:01 p.m.), Councillor Sydney Rose moved, seconded by Councillor Steve Graham, that the meeting be adjourned.

CONFIRMED:

.....
CHAIRMAN
ST. CATHERINE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
AND MAYOR OF SPANISH TOWN

DATED.....

Action Page

<u>Action to be taken</u>	<u>By Whom</u>
1. Pages 3 - update on Own Your Own Device Programme	Chairman
2. Page 4 - Executive Director to be invited to a meeting at the Corporation	Chairman
3. Page 6 – letter to Minister re care packages and drain cleaning funds	Chairman
4. Page 9 – Request for vector control in i) Cumberland, Westchester, Independence City ii) Railway Lane, Sagicor Plaza, Salt Pond Rd	Public Health Dept.
5. Page 15 – Letter to the Ministry of National Security re: Glengoffe Police Station	CEO
6. Page 15 – Discussion with the Ministry of Health and Wellness re: Treadways Health Centre	Chairman

ST. CATHERINE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

MINUTES OF MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022

Pursuant to Notice the Monthly General Meeting of the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation was held in the Chambers of the Corporation at Spanish Town on Thursday, October 13, 2022, commencing at 10:53 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

a) Councillors:

1. His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Norman Scott - Chairman
2. Councillor Ralston Wilson - Deputy Mayor
3. Councillor Claude Hamilton
4. Councillor Steve Graham
5. Councillor Courtney Edwards
6. Councillor Enos Lawrence
7. Councillor Donovan Guy
8. Councillor Peter Abrahams
9. Councillor William Cytall
10. Councillor Sydney Rose
11. Councillor Dwight Burke
12. Councillor Alphanso Johnson
13. Councillor Mark McLean
14. Councillor Joy Brown
15. Councillor Keisha Lewis
16. Councillor Herbert Garriques
17. Councillor Anthony Wint
18. Councillor Fenley Douglas
19. Councillor Theresa Turner-Flynn
20. Councillor Ainsley Parkins

Those who arrived Subsequently

21. Councillor Vanrick Preddie
22. Councillor Lloyd Grant
23. Councillor Neil Powell
24. Councillor Renair Benjamin
25. Councillor Leroy Dunn
26. Councillor Keith McCook
27. Councillor Kenord Grant
28. Councillor Alric Campbell
29. Councillor Patricia Harris

b) Officers:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Andre Griffiths | Chief Executive Officer – Clerk |
| 2. Mr. Garfield Thompson | Chief Engineering Officer |
| 3. Mrs. Melva Carter | Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector |
| 4. Ms. Angella Wright | Inspector of Poor |
| 5. Mr. Chad Allen | Director of Planning |
| 6. Mrs. Nicholee Henry-Downie | Director of Administration |

7. Ms. Telka Holt	Commercial Services Manager
8. Ms. Moesha Jones	Matron - Infirmary
9. Mr. Romond Fisher	Deputy Superintendent Roads and Works
10. Mrs. Yasheka Jathan-Thompson	Parish Disaster Co-ordinator
11. Mr. Omar Mattis	Office Manager
12. Ms. Anakay Clarke	Actg. Snr. Internal Auditor
13. Ms. Reishana Dubidad	Community Programmes Co-ordinator
14. Mr. Peter Hewitt	Trade Licences Compliance Officer

c) Agencies

1. Mr. Samuel Mullings	National Solid Waste Management Authority
2. Mr. Dilton Pike	Jamaica Fire Brigade
3. Mr. Junior Headlam	Chairman Parish Development Committee

ABSENT WERE:

a) Councillors

1. Councillor Gary Nicholson
2. Councillor Jennifer Hull
3. Councillor Hawthorne Thompson
4. Councillor Roogaé Kirlew
5. Councillor George Moodie
6. Councillor Beverly Jobson-Grant
7. Councillor Keith Knight

b) Officers

1. Mr. Andre Griffiths	Chief Executive Officer
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1. NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

The Notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

2. DEVOTION

Devotion was led by Bishop Edwards. He spoke of the violence that was taking place in the island and that he believes that as law abiding citizens, we need to stand like our great heroes. He said that we must join together and decide that we will not let Jamaica go down the path that Haiti is going down.

He also asked persons to join and stand up against the few gunmen. He said that they were going to send a message and begged for support in Spanish Town on November 6 and in Portmore on November 27, 2022, as they gather for peace. He said that they will be supported by uniformed groups.

He closed with prayer.

3. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Councillors, officers of the Corporation, media representatives, agencies and well-wishers to the meeting of the Corporation.

Apologies

Apologies were tendered on behalf of:

1. Councillor Roogae Kirlew, who had an emergency;
2. Councillor Gary Nicholson, who was off the island;
3. Councillor Keith McCook, who lost his brother

The Chairman expressed condolence on behalf of the Corporation to Councillor McCook and his family. He promised to visit with him at the earliest possible time.

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor Neil Powell
joined the meeting

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD SEPTEMBER 8, 2022

Councillor Claude Hamilton moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Monthly General Meeting held on September 8, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** confirmed.

Seconded by Councillor Sydney Rose and carried.

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor Alric Campbell
joined the meeting

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

a) Own Your Own Device

Arising from minutes of meeting held 8/9/22, page 3, the Chairman informed the meeting that the letter was sent to the Prime Minister, as directed and he is awaiting a response.

b) Garbage Collection

Arising from minutes of meeting held 8/9/22, page 3, the Chairman informed the meeting that he had discussion with the Executive Director of the NSWMA and a meeting is scheduled for the following Wednesday (19/10/22), at Cecil’s Restaurant. He said that the business community from Spanish Town and Linstead are expected to be there and Councillors are invited. The meeting will start at 4:00 p.m.

Arrival of Councillors

At this stage Councillors Lloyd Grant and Vanrick Preddie joined the meeting

c) Funding for Care Packages and Drain Cleaning

Arising from minutes of meeting held 8/9/22, page 4 item c, the Chairman informed the meeting that the letter regarding the care packages and drain cleaning allocation was sent to the Minister of Local Government and he is awaiting a response.

d) Treadways Health Centre

Arising from minutes of meeting held 8/9/22, page 14-15, the Chairman said that he has been trying to make contact with the Minister of Health and Wellness and hope that by the end of the month he will have some answers on the plans for the health centre at Treadways.

e) Vector Control

Arising from minutes of meeting held 8/9/22, page 9, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector informed the meeting that during the month of September there was a lot of rain, which caused a reduction in vector control. She said that they are now back on schedule.

f) Glengoffe Police Station

Arising from minutes of meeting held 8/9/22, page 15, item (d), the Chief Executive Officer said that a letter was sent to the Ministry of National Security regarding the repairs at the Glengoffe Police Station. He said that as soon as an update is received, Councillors will be updated.

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chairman made the following announcement:

- 1. "Let me welcome all Councillors in the chambers and on line, the media, members of staff and our external experts to our October Corporation monthly meeting.*
- 2. Last Sunday October 9m 2022, a few of us Councillors from the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation visited with persons living at Clifton Bernard Lodge to enquire about their wellbeing after their houses were demolished. They were trying to get a roof over their heads as they would never be able to afford the National Housing Trust houses at Ruthven Road. Please let me state loud and clear that I will never condone illegal activities but there must be a process to rectify any wrongs. Many persons need houses and we are aware that the National Housing Trust is not making affordable houses any more. It is my hope that in the future such activities never re-occur and I want to use the opportunity to warn persons to be careful with whom they transact business with, in particular purchase of houses.*
- 3. The St. Catherine Municipal Corporation in collaboration with JCDC will be celebrating the National Heroes Day under the theme "Re-igniting Greatness through our Heritage. Th celebration will begin with a church service at the Portmore Holiness Christian Church Hellshire Main Road, Portmore on Sunday October 16, 2022 beginning at 10:30 am.*

4. *On Monday October 19, 2020 the National Heroes Day Awards Ceremony will be held in the Emancipation Square in Spanish Town beginning at 9:00 am. All guests are to be seated by 8:30 am for a prompt start. I am encouraging all Councillors to participate in this event when we will recognize 13 persons for their contribution towards Education, Health and Community Development.*
5. *The month of November is usually celebrated as Local Government Month under the theme “Reigniting the Nation for Greatness through Local Government.” There are several activities that are being planned and I will be advised further at the Local Government Launch on Wednesday October 26, 2022 at the Portmore Council”.*

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF FORMER MEETING**

Nil

8. **ALGAJ REPORT:**

Nil

9. **QUESTION AND ANSWERS**

Nil

10. **LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH**

On the motion of Councillor Anthony Wint, seconded by Councillor Alric Campbell, the Corporation resolved itself into the Local Board of Health.

i) **Medical Officer (Health) Report**

Mrs. Melva Carter, Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector presented the Medical Officer’s Report as under:

“UPDATE ON PROSECUTION MATTERS

- *The matter of Pig Rearing in Guys Hill- The trial date is set for October 31, 2022.*
- *The matter of dog rearing in Portsmouth- The matter has finally been concluded as the offender was found guilty on October 3, 2022. He will be sentenced on the 18th of October 2022.*

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

- *Total positive cases - 246*
- *Number of Active cases- 18*
- *Number of deaths- 8*
- *The average positivity rate is 20.5%*

VECTOR CONTROL

Enhanced Vector Control Programme

The Enhanced Vector Control Program restarted on Monday October 10, 2022. A total of fifty (50) persons are currently participating in the program. They are working in their respective communities, as well as neighboring communities, in groups. They are conducting house to house inspections in an effort to identify and destroy mosquito breeding sites and health education.

Institutions Monitored

- *Eighteen (18) Health Centres inspected of which three (3) were found reeding mosquitoes.*
- *Both hospitals were checked- no breeding found*
- *Two (2) Markets were checked and only the Spanish Town Market was found breeding mosquitoes. The drums found breeding were treated*
- *Infirmiry- The area found breeding was treated*
- *Two (2) Police Stations- No breeding found*

Drain Inspections

A total forty-two (42) drains were inspected during the period. The tables below shows the status of the drains checked. All drains breeding were treated with oil.

Linstead

<i>Drain</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Rosemount</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Church Road</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Magazine Lane</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Logan Street</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Hopeview Avenue</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Fletchers Avenue</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Grove Road</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Bennett Lane</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Montgomery Avenue</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Commodore</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Begonia Lodge</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>York Street</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Portmore Zone

<i>Drain</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Surry Meadows</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Cedar Grove Academy</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Reids Pen, Oleander Dr.</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Reids Pen, Carnation Dr.</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Old Braeton</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Mount Royal</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Port Henderson Rd</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Bridgeport</i>	<i>No</i>

Old Harbour Zone

<i>Drain</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Spring Village, Queens Close</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Spring Village. Campbell Close</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Port Esquivel</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Lennons Ville</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Claremont Heights</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Old Harbour Bay</i>	<i>Yes</i>

Spanish Town

<i>Drain</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Crescent District</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Spanish Town Prison Oval</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>St. Jago Gardens ball field</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>St Jago Garden, .</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>High field, Alexander Place</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>High field, Grant Place</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Lauriston, Sunfisher Close</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Central Village</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Twickenham Glades</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Tredegar Park</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Mustard Seed</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Windsor Road</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Westmore Gardens</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Hampton Green</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Hampton Green near train line</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Wellington Street</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Manchester Street</i>	<i>No</i>

Arrival of Councillor

During the report Councillor Renair Benjamin
joined the meeting

Arising from the Report

Councillor Wilson stated that for some time now, he has been asking that the new Chief Public Health Inspector attends the Monthly General Meeting of the Corporation. He said that he did not know her and would like for her to be present at this meeting. He also asked about the water that is on the roadway at Tawes Pen, for some positive action to be taken on it.

The Chairman responded that the situation at Tawes Pen was rectified some time ago, but seemed to have reoccurred. He said that he too passed and saw it. He added that there are a number of pits in the area and he had engaged a contractor, who cleared a number of them some time ago. He said that he is not sure what had happened and asked that the Health Department again do some investigation in the area.

The Chairman said that the residents of Greendale have been crying out, as once it rains and the grass starts growing there is a mosquito problem. He asked if it was that the Health Department does not have the resources, even though the residents have a responsibility.

Councillor Lawrence again appealed for his division to be fogged.

Councillor Rose stated that he could appeal for fogging for the entire St. Catherine, in relation to vector control. He said that the Ministry's silence is deafening and it is a known fact that there is excessive mosquito breeding.

In response to Councillor Wilson, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector said that there is an Annual Environmental Health Conference going on and the Chief Public Health Inspector is in attendance.

Councillor Edwards requested fogging and treatment for the Independence City Division. He asked that when this is being done that the workers do under the culvert and added that the residents need to be more responsible, as some of their drainage pipes lead to the drains.

Councillor Douglas said that he was somewhat disappointed with the Ministry of Health, as what he expected to hear coming out of the rainy season, is that additional resources have been purchased to use for vector control. He said that it was a lack of planning and they must be honest with the people they represent. He went on to say that the garbage trucks were not collecting the garbage and asked that the Minister of Local Government be reminded that this is happening. He said that he felt like he was in a failed state and the Ministry of Health needs to lobby for the Ministry of Local Government to acquire additional trucks.

Councillor Benjamin stated that with the crisis, he thinks that it is time to start thinking outside the box. He said that some years ago some machines were purchased for Portmore and they were told that they could not train persons to do fogging; it had to be done by the Ministry of Health workers. He said that he thinks that it is time that they train their own team to work in that area, as there is no improvement in vector control or garbage collection in Portmore. He added that these services need to be handed over to the Corporations, as the Councillors were the ones being called when there is a mosquito nuisance or uncollected garbage.

ii) Application for Butchers Licences

Nil

iii) **Application for Barbers/Hairdressers (Premises) Licences**

Nil

iv) **Exhumation**

Application from Mr. Chris Fishley for the exhumation of Ivy Icilda Golding and Toywell Hibbert from Watermount for reburial at Meadowrest Memorial Gardens.

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Herbert Garriques, the request was approved, based on the recommendation of the Health Department.

Resumption

On the motion of Councillor Fenley Douglals, seconded by Councillor Herbert Garriques, the meeting resumed.

11. REPORTS

(A) MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

I) Infrastructure and Traffic Committee 14 /09/22

The minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure and Traffic Committee held on 14/09/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure and Traffic Committee held on September 14, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint and carried.

II) Human Resources Committee 19/09/22

The minutes of the meeting of the Human Resource Committee held on 19/09/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Human Resource Committee held on September 19, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint and carried.

III) Public Health Committee Meeting 15/09/22

The minutes of the meeting of the Public Health Committee held on 15/09/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Public Health Committee held on September 15, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint and carried.

IV) **Municipal & Commercial Services Committee 20/09/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Municipal and Commercial Services Committee held on 20/09/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal & Commercial Services Committee held on September 20, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint and carried.

(B) **MINUTES OF AUTONOMOUS COMMITTEES**

i) **Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee 12/09/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee held on 12/09/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee held on September 12, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint and carried.

ii) **Physical Planning & Environment Committee Meeting 13/09/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Physical Planning and Environment Committee held on 13/09/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“**BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the meeting of the Physical Planning and Environment Committee held on September 13, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint and carried.

iii) **Finance & Planning Committee Meeting 14/09/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee held on 14/09/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee held on September 14, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint and carried.

iv) **Poor Relief Committee Meeting 15/09/22**

The meeting was not held due to a lack of quorum.

(C) USE OF COUNCIL’S COMMON SEAL

Nil

D) REPORT – LINSTEAD TOWN CENTRE:

The report from the Linstead Town Centre Advisory Committee was emailed to Councillors. The details are as under:

“The Linstead Town Centre Advisory Committee Meeting was held on October 6, 2022 at the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) conference room in Linstead

Councillors present were:

- | | | |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Councillor Herbert Garriques (J.P.) | - | Linstead Division (Chairman) |
| 2. Councillor William Cytall | - | Troja Division |
| 3. Councillor Leroy Dunn | - | Guys Hill Division |
| 4. Councillor Neil Powell | - | Above Rock Division |
| 5. Councillor Sydney Rose | - | Treadways Division |
| 6. Councillor Peter Abrahams | - | Bog Walk Division |

Councillors absent were:

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Councillor Beverly Jobson Grant (J.P.) | - | Ewarton Division |
| 2. Councillor Roojae Kirlew | - | Mount Industry Division |

Officers

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Mr. Andre Griffiths | - | Chief Executive Officer |
| 2. Mr. Peter Hewitt | - | Town Manager - Clerk |
| 3. Mr. Donovan Martin | - | Compliance Officer |
| 4. Mr. Christopher Angus | - | Linstead Transportation Centre Manager |
| 5. Mrs. Jodian Thorpe-Morris | - | Recording Secretary |

Representatives

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Godfrey Marshall | - | Linstead DAC |
| 2. Mrs. Minnett Anderson-Myer | - | Social Development Commission |
| 3. Dr. Cynthia Anderson | - | Ministers' Fraternal |

INTRODUCTION OF NEW TOWN MANAGER

The Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation, Mr. Andre Griffiths, introduced to the meeting Mr. Peter Hewitt, who will assume duties as Town Manager with effect from September 1, 2022. He said he expects Mr. Hewitt to take on this responsibility like he has done on previous assignments.

The Chairman then welcomed Mr. Hewitt, on behalf of the entire team and wished him all the best in this role. Councillor Peter Abraham and Councillor Cytall also express their confidence that Mr. Hewitt will carry out this task well, this was endorsed by Councillor Sydney Rose.

TOWN MANAGER PRESENTATION

The new Town Manager addressed the meeting and outlined his vision and plan to ensure that the Town Centre works and achieve its ultimate objective of becoming a Town Municipality. He told the meeting that he envisions the Centre serving the entire Linstead Development Area and be of service to every single citizen. He further presented to the meeting the Strategic Plan he has developed to ensure the Centre meets its objectives. He also outlined the idea of the Linstead Business Improvement District.

LINSTEAD DROP-IN CENTRE

Work will resume next month on the Linstead Drop-In Centre. The project which will be undertaken by the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation at a cost of \$2.4 million. The Corporation is expected to spend \$400,000 per month for the next six months to complete the Centre. Minor works such as tiling, plumbing, painting and the installation of doors and windows is expected to be done on the building, which is 80% completed.

NO- PARKING SIGNS

The committee has announced new measures to address illegal parking in sections of Linstead, as it moves to restore order. The action that the committee plans to take on illegal parking in the next couple of months hopefully will bring some results as what presently exist can no longer continue. No-Parking areas have been marked and the committee plans to erect six (6) No-Parking Signs clearly visible to the motoring public. Persons caught parking in these areas will have their vehicles towed.

With that said, the committee is requesting six (6) No-Parking Signs for the town.

ROSE DUNCAN PARK TO BE MANAGED BY THE TOWN CENTRE

The Rose Duncan Park will now be managed by the Linstead Town Centre. Once a beautiful recreational area for citizens and event planners, the public park in Linstead is now a dumping ground where some of the town's homeless and vagrants find refuge. Named after an educator and former Councillor, there are hopes that the park, which sits in the centre of the town, will be restored.

The park serves a useful function, providing venue for civic functions and the erection of the annual Christmas tree.

TRAFFIC CHANGES

New traffic changes were imposed in Linstead, following a meeting with the Municipal Corporation, Transport Authority, Taxi Association representatives and the police. The changes were made to eliminate traffic within the town caused by taxi and bus operators lining the streets. The trial is expected to run for another three weeks, after which the representatives will meet to make their decision.

HOMELESSNESS DAY

The St. Catherine Municipal Corporation will host this year's Homelessness Day on Monday, October 10, 2022 at the Care Centre on the grounds of the Infirmary, the Cumberland Community Centre in Portmore and the Linstead Community Development Committee Office in Linstead. The event is to be held under the theme "Changing the Lives of Persons Experiencing Homelessness through Community Involvement and Career Development". The goal of this initiative is to provide needed care and attention to the vulnerable homeless population of St. Catherine.

OUTSTANDING MATTERS FROM ACTION PAGE

The Chairman indicated that he was not happy that the issues on the Action Sheet were not addressed as the Committee had long given the instructions that these matters be dealt with, he charged the new Town Manager to ensure that, they are completed before the next meeting.

- 1. Letter to Police Commissioner – Re Resources Linstead Police Area*
- 2. Letter – Re "NO PARKING Signs for Linstead*
The Town Manager Noted."

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint, the report was accepted.

The Chairman commended the Councillors for attending the meeting. He said that there were seven (7) Councillors in attendance and expressed hope for their continued support.

Councillor Cytall remarked that it was a very productive and successful meeting. He said that they have set monthly targets and sensitization is being done, He added that things are happening and it was the best had seen since being there.

12. GENERAL:

Nil

13. MOTIONS:

- a) **Motions (of which Notice has been given previously)**

Nil

- b) **Notice of Motions:**

Nil

Suspension of the Standing Order

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint, the standing order was suspended to allow the agencies to do their reports.

National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA)

Mr. Samuel Mullings, representing the NSWMA informed the meeting that the report was sent via email.

He said that the issues in the parish are the same and that they had started working on some of the issues in areas such as Bog Walk, Linstead and Ewarton. He added that the management team had met and there will be an increase in collection in these areas,

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor Patricia Harris
joined the meeting

Councillor Lawrence stated that there has been no collection in Dela Vega City for the past three weeks and appealed to the agency for some to be done immediately. He said that the area is not the best place to store garbage, because of how close the houses are.

Councillor Garriques said that he usually tried not to interfere, but he was trying to ensure that the garbage is collected. He said that he spoke to the sweepers about the issues that they were having, and he was told that they did not get rakes or the other tools to do the job and the heaps were not being collected after they sweep. He added that most of the business owners do not have contracts for collection of their garbage.

Councillor Rose stated that he thinks that the problem is a lack of regard for the people. He said that there are private truck owners and if the business owners were paying, the funds collected could be used to pay private truck owners.

The Chairman reminded Councillors of the meeting with the Executive Director, on October 26, 2022 at Cecil’s Restaurant beginning at 4:00 p.m. He said that the business community from Spanish Town and Linstead will be in attendance.

Mr. Mullings stated that over the past three weeks measures have been put in place, which includes an Assistant Manager. He said that they will be getting drums and some will be allocated to St. Catherine and requested a listing of the areas where these can be placed.

Fire Department

The report from the Fire Department was presented by Mr. Pike as under:

<i>STATIONS</i>	<i>GENUINE</i>	<i>M.F. A</i>	<i>F.A.W.G. I</i>	<i>SPECIAL SERVICE</i>	<i>BUSH FIRE</i>	<i>TOTAL CALLS</i>
<i>Spanish Town</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>33</i>
<i>Waterford</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>Linstead</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>Old Harbour</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>21</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>50</i>	<i>9</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>112</i>

2.

ESTIMATED RISK:

\$246,000,000.00

ESTIMATED LOSS:

\$001,080,000.00

ESTIMATED SAVED:

\$244,920,000.00
3.

Structural Fire:

There were Nineteen (19) structural fires of which 19 (nineteen) adults and three (3) children were displaced.
4.

Motor Vehicle Accidents:

There were seven (7) motor vehicle accidents in which nine (9) civilians were injured and hospitalized and one (1) died.

5. *One (1) body was retrieved from Ridgewood Drive Nightingale Grove and another at Nugent Street in Spanish Town on September 12 and 15 respectively.”*

Mr. Pike stated that October is being celebrated as Fire Awareness Month and they were trying to find areas that have vulnerable individuals to do some simulations. He said that the week from October 23 to 31 will be the week with most of the activities.

The Chairman thanked the Fire Department for its support. He commended them for their assistance with the vacu-jet during the drain cleaning exercise on Burke Road and Oxford Road. He said that four truck loads of bottles and other garbage were taken from the drains and that they will be returning that Sunday to do some more cleaning.

Parish Development Committee (PDC)

Mr. Headlam reported that the Parish Development Committee continues its advocacy through the Development Area Committees (DAC) and the PDC. He said that the issues continues to be the same such as road conditions, especially after the rains, garbage collections and the need for citizen inclusion. He said that while the rains showed up the bad roads, flooding, mosquito infestation and drain cleaning were high on the agenda and in the conversation of the community groups.

Some of the concerns are that some of these areas flood continually and it appears that not enough effort is being made to remedy these situations permanently, such as Johnson Pen areas. The citizens are asking for solutions.

He said that the Linstead Development Area will be hosting its Ackee and Jerk Festival at Dinthill Technical High on Monday October 17, 2022. He also asked that Councillors participate and support the DAC's and CDC's as they like when there is participation from the political representatives.

Resumption

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor William Cytall the meeting resumed the standing order.

14. PETITIONS:

Nil

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Local Government Cross Country Run

The Chairman informed the meeting that the Local Government Cross Country Run will pass through St. Catherine on Wednesday, October 19, 2022. He said that the St. Catherine leg will start in Portmore and will pass through Spanish Town, where the messages will be received by the Corporation.

b) Impact of New Development Adjoining Portmore Boundary

Councillor Parkins stated that there is a touted development on social media that will affect the Portmore community. He said that based on the geographical location of Portmore and this Corporation, the development will fall within the boundaries of

greater St. Catherine. He said that there is already gridlock in terms of road infrastructure and the plans for the development will be coming to the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation. He asked that the Corporation considers the effect on the Portmore City Municipality and that the decision taken will not let down the next generation. He said that it is a matter of great concern and careful consideration must be given when approval is being done.

c) **Demolition of Houses in Bernard Lodge**

Councillor Wint presented the following:

“I was happy to be a part of a team of P.N.P. members lead by you, Mayor Scott.

It was a team of people who genuinely care about people, not flip floppers who say one thing today and do the opposite tomorrow.

Mr. Chairman, when Prime Minister Holness was campaigning in 2016 he said and I quote; “you will never see me bad mind anybody for them squatter land weh dem waa live pon. Poor man must build him castle, build him big house. Wi nah grudge you for it, we ah go help you to achieve that”.

Mr. Chairman last Tuesday, he, Prime Minister Holness went to Parliament and ordered the homes of these very same poor people demolished, on the basis that these homes were occupied by criminals without due process. There was no dialogue with the people, no dialogue with SCJ or the proper issuing of notices.

Mr. Chairman, hundreds of soldiers and police, armed to the teeth and helicopter converged on the Bernard Lodge property on Thursday morning, October 7, 2022 only to demolish the unoccupied and incomplete homes. Not one arrest was made. The Prime Minister misled the nation in Parliament to cover his uncaring and unjustified action.

These people are hard working people. Some joined together with other family members to purchase the land. They borrowed, they join round robin just to purchase a piece of land which they felt was authentic and sold to them fairly as any other home buyer.

Mr. Chairman their dreams, their ambitions, their hopes were shattered on Thursday morning. Their hopes of building their “castle” vanished into despair, hopelessness and desperation by the very man who promised he would help them build their castles.

They will not be able to have a home to raise their children and send them to school so as to prevent them from becoming criminals. Mr. Chairman, this Government believes that only a few must share in the wealth and resources of this land and that is one of the factors increasing crime in this nation.

Mr. Chairman, to put it bluntly, the Prime Minister cannot be trusted. This government is uncaring and wicked. Time come, time come for them to leave Jamaica House and for the people to usher in a new Government that is for all of its people and not just a few”.

Councillor Campbell stated that after following the issue in the media, it is clear that the Prime Minister would have taken on the responsibility of the demolition exercise. He said that there is a situation that exist that he is asking the Chairman to use his office to get some assistance and that the matter was also brought up at the meeting in

Portmore. He said that they had gone through a process on advice from the Police in St. Catherine South that criminal elements have taken over and is running a commercial building in the Municipality a few years ago. The Corporation had written a joint letter with the Police to the Jamaica Defence Force (JDF) core of engineers and went ahead and got a demolition order from the courts and to date nothing has been done. He said that since the Prime Minister is able to get demolitions done, he is asking that the Chairman seek his assistance in getting this building that the Police has said is being run and controlled by criminals demolished, so that the people of the Municipality can be secured.

The Chairman asked if it was that he was being asked, as Chairman of this Corporation, to ask The Most Honourable Prime Minister to assist Portmore with a demolition request.

Councillor Campbell stated that it was declared a public nuisance, the appropriate notices were served and demolition order was received from the court, but because of costs, the Prime Minister's assistance is being sought. He said that the building in question is the Inez Bouges Building.

The Chairman said that the process was followed based on what Councillor Campbell said and directed that the Chief Executive Officer writes to the Prime Minister in this regard.

Councillor Dunn stated that it was surprising to him that after the matter was discussed in Parliament and corroborated by the Member of Parliament for the area, that members of the Corporation would come and further discuss this matter. He said that there was no political mileage to be gained by discussing the matter there, and that the Councillors should not mislead the public. He said that the lands were reserved for agriculture and were being sold by hoodlums.

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor Kenord Grant
joined the meeting.

Councillor Dunn went on to say that the Prime Minister of Jamaica had already stated clearly the substance of the matter and every well thinking Jamaican would understand that it was not as a result of oppressing the Jamaican people. He said that it was based on a matter of security, before it escalated, why the Prime Minister had stepped in. He said also that the Prime Minister did say that people of questionable character were selling and occupying the lands and he did the right thing by stopping it.

Councillor Benjamin said that he had the privilege of representing the Chairman at a function in Old Harbour for the handing over of houses in Roseneath Park. He said that a number of things were said, but was taken aback when Mr. Roseneath mislead the public by saying that development plans were held up by the Corporation for up to nine months.. He said that he was shocked and added that the developers were not being properly informed about the processes and that it appeared that they were not aware of the number of agencies that these applications had to be sent to before the final approval by the Corporation. He said that when they say these things, it gives the impression that the Corporations are holding up development, so they can remove these responsibilities from them. He used the opening of Price Smart as an example. He said that he did not want the lie to be spread.

He also said that Minister Warmington unloaded on the National Housing Trust for their disrespect shown in his constituency, and added that he was not sure if they understood the protocol where political representatives are concerned. He said that no mention was made of the Chairman at the function, even though he was invited and it needs to stop.

The Chairman stated that he would not be attending any other function put on by the National Housing Trust. He said that it was a last minute invite and he was not mentioned on the programme or recognized.

Councillor Dunn asked if Councillor Parkins' statement meant that the development plan should be delayed when it comes to the Corporation for approval.

The Chairman stated that there is a serious issue of traffic congestion in Portmore with the existing developments. He said that the Councillor is asking that due diligence is done as it relates to traffic management; if roads needed to be widened or dualized that should be done before approval or be a condition of the approval.

Councillor K. Grant said that as they anticipate, this Bernard Lodge Development, the perception is that it is a Portmore development however, it falls within the Greater St. Catherine area. He said it will require the support of his colleagues; that they hold fast to infrastructural development and proper planning, as the existing infrastructure needs improvement before it takes on additional housing development.

Councillor K. Grant stated that as he understands it, crown lands are lands held in trust for the people of Jamaica by the Government of Jamaica. He said that these lands are to ultimately be used in the best interest of the people. He said that based on the Prime Minister these individuals paid the gangsters, these individuals were victims twice. He said that the fact that they were victims, his remedy would be to see how best to reinstate the victims to their previous positions by legitimizing these persons on this property. He asked who would be the winners in this case; those who are already well-off.

16. ADJOURNMENT

At this stage (12:51 p.m.), Councillor Fenley Douglas moved, seconded by Councillor Sydney Rose, that the meeting be adjourned.

CONFIRMED:

.....
CHAIRMAN
ST. CATHERINE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
AND MAYOR OF SPANISH TOWN

DATED.....

Action Page

<u>Action to be taken</u>	<u>By Whom</u>
1. Pages 3 - update on Own Your Own Device Programme	Chairman
2. Page 3 – Update on meeting with the Executive Director - NSWMA	Chairman
3. Page 4 – Update re care packages and drain cleaning funds	Chairman
4. Page 4 – Request for vector control in i) Cumberland, Westchester, Independence City ii) Railway Lane, Sagicor Plaza, Salt Pond Rd	Public Health Dept.
5. Page4 –Update re: Glengoffe Police Station	CEO
6. Page 4 – Discussion with the Ministry of Health and Wellness re: Treadways Health Centre	Chairman
7. Page 16 – letter to the Prime Minister re demolition of building declared a nuisance in Portmore	CEO

ST. CATHERINE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

MINUTES OF MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2022

Pursuant to Notice the Monthly General Meeting of the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation was held in the Chambers of the Corporation at Spanish Town on Thursday, November 10, 2022, commencing at 10:50 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

a) Councillors:

1. His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Norman Scott - Chairman
2. Councillor Ralston Wilson - Deputy Mayor
3. Councillor Claude Hamilton
4. Councillor Steve Graham
5. Councillor Courtney Edwards
6. Councillor Vanrick Preddie
7. Councillor Donovan Guy
8. Councillor Fenley Douglas
9. Councillor Sydney Rose
10. Councillor Alphanso Johnson
11. Councillor Mark McLean
12. Councillor Lloyd Grant
13. Councillor Neil Powell
14. Councillor Leroy Dunn
15. Councillor Kenord Grant
16. Councillor Roogaé Kirlew
17. Councillor Keith Knight
18. Councillor Mark O'Connor

Those who arrived Subsequently

19. Councillor Renair Benjamin
20. Councillor George Moodie
21. Councillor Enos Lawrence
22. Councillor Peter Abrahams
23. Councillor William Cytall
24. Councillor Keisha Lewis
25. Councillor Dwight Burke
26. Councillor Keith McCook
27. Councillor Gary Nicholson
28. Councillor Alric Campbell
29. Councillor Patricia Harris
30. Councillor Anthony Wint
31. Councillor Theresa Turner-Flynn
32. Councillor Herbert Garriques

b) Officers:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. Ms. Delores Gooden | Acting Chief Executive Officer – Clerk |
| 2. Mr. Garfield Thompson | Chief Engineering Officer |
| 3. Mrs. Denece Douglas | Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector |

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 4. Ms. Angella Wright | Inspector of Poor |
| 5. Mr. Chad Allen | Director of Planning |
| 6. Ms. Telka Holt | Commercial Services Manager |
| 7. Ms. Moesha Jones | Matron - Infirmary |
| 8. Mrs. Yasheka Jathan-Thompson | Parish Disaster Co-ordinator |
| 9. Mr. Omar Mattis | Office Manager |
| 10. Ms. Anakay Clarke | Actg. Snr. Internal Auditor |
| 11. Ms. Reishana Dubidad | Community Programmes Co-ordinator |
| 12. Mr. Peter Hewitt | Linstead Town Centre Manager |
| 13. Mr. Miguel Perrin | Procurement Officer |

c) Agencies

Mr. Dilton Pike Jamaica Fire Brigade

ABSENT WERE:

a) Councillors

1. Councillor Ainsley Parkins
2. Councillor Jennifer Hull
3. Councillor Hawthorne Thompson
4. Councillor Joy Brown
5. Councillor Beverly Jobson-Grant

b) Officers

Mrs. Nicholee Henry-Downie Director of Administration

1. NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

The Notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

2. DEVOTION

Devotion was led by Councillor Roogae Kirlew

Arrival of Councillors

During the devotion Councillors Anthony Wint and Alric Campbell joined the meeting

3. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Welcome

The Chairman welcomed Councillors, officers, media representatives, agencies and the Jamaica Constabulary Force. Special welcome was extended to the new Junior Mayor, Miss Ananda Squire, the Junior Deputy Mayor and the third place winner. Welcome was also extended to the students from G.C Foster College, who were observing the meeting.

4. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD OCTOBER 13, 2022**

a) **Correction**

- i) On page 2 Councillor Mark O'Connor was not listed as present or absent. He was absent from the meeting.
- ii) On page 7 paragraph 1, the word monthly was incorrectly spelt in line 4

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor George Moodie
joined the meeting

b) **Confirmation**

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Monthly General Meeting held on October 13, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY confirmed, subject to the corrections.**

Seconded by Councillor Alric Campbell and carried.

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

a) **Own Your Own Device**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 3, the Chairman informed the meeting that the letter was sent to the Prime Minister, but he has not received a response.

In response to Councillor Lawrence, he said that a further letter will have to be sent.

b) **Garbage Collection**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 3, the Chairman informed that a meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, 2022, with the Executive Director of the NSWMA and the business community from Spanish Town and Linstead. He said that on the day of the meeting, the Executive Director called to postpone it and no new date has been set.

The Chairman remarked that he was very disappointed with the behaviour of the Executive Director, as the meeting was about the proliferation of garbage in the parish and he has not seen any improvement. He said that he was using this medium to express his dissatisfaction with how the matter is being treated.

c) **Funding for Care Packages and Drain Cleaning**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 4 item c, the Chairman informed the meeting that he could only say that for the Parochial Revenue Fund each Councillor has been allocated \$450,000.00, the Deputy Mayor \$600,000.00 and the Mayor \$800,000.00. He said that he was not able to give any further update.

He said also that it was not fair that Members of Parliament will be receiving an allocation of \$21 Million and Councillors do not know what they will be getting. He added that the roads need serious attention, and made reference to a section of Mandela Highway, which is full of potholes.

d) **Vector Control**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 7, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector informed the meeting that the areas in Independence City, Portmore were fogged and the other areas will be done. She stated that the team was reluctant to go into some areas, such as railway lane due to threats. She said that the team is scheduled to fog those areas on November 15, 2022.

The Chairman asked that the team be given his number and also the number for the Councillor for the Dela Vega City Division. He said that he can be contacted when they are going into the Railway Lane area and Councillor Lawrence for the other areas mentioned.

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor Keisha Lewis
joined the meeting

e) **Glengoffe Police Station**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 4 item (f), the Acting Chief Executive Officer read a letter from the Ministry of National Security providing an update on works at the Glengoffe Police Station.

“Reference is made to your letter dated October 7, 2022, regarding the matter at caption.

The Ministry advises that the project is approximately 75% completed. The remaining works include the following:

- *Tiling*
- *Installation of manhole covers*
- *Tinting of glass entrance doors*
- *Installation of door signs*

Please note that the procurement of construction material, furniture and other appliances is ongoing as we seek to advance the completion of the project and have the facility fully functional in the shortest possible time.

In view of the foregoing, it is projected that the facility will be ready for occupation within three (3) to five (5) weeks of completing the procurement of the items referred above.”

The Chairman stated that the contents of the letter is ambiguous, as it spoke of a procurement process and did not give a timeline for the works to be completed.

Councillor Kirlew said that the Police Officers were working from the Above Rocks Police Station and are therefore not in a position to give the kind of service that they should be giving to the area. He said that as the representative of the division, it is painting a picture of scant regard for the officers of this country, and expressed his disappointment.

Councillor Moodie said that while he agreed that the work is taking a long time, he said that the officers are there at the station, even though the works are incomplete. He

said that he had spoken to some of them and they were very much committed to their jobs, despite the situation.

f) **Treadways Health Centre**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 4, the Chairman said that he had not had the opportunity to meet with the Minister, but said that the “waters were very choppy” at the moment.

In response to Councillor Rose, the Chairman said that the matter might have to be dealt with through the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Wellness.

g) **Demolition of Nuisance Building in Portmore**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 16, the Acting Chief Executive Officer informed the meeting that the correspondence in relation to the building was requested from the Portmore City Municipality. She said that a response is awaited, in order for the matter to be dealt with further.

h) **Garbage Collection**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 3, Councillor Rose said that he thinks that the time has come for something to be done about the collection of garbage. He said that Councillors were being called when there is a pile up and they were not getting any funding to do collections. He said that enough trucks were available to do collections, but the agency had to be prepared to pay these truck owners.

Councillor Douglas stated that the last report indicated that they were in the process of acquiring crane trucks. He said that there are a number of derelict vehicles which are posing a security issue and was using this medium to appeal to the agency to use their contractors to remove them. He added that the Agency could try to encourage the Members of Parliament to use a portion of their allocation to assist with the removal derelict vehicles, which are all over.

The Chairman said that the issue of garbage collection is past crisis proportion and anyone who is concerned about safety, will call upon the powers that be, to do something serious about the garbage situation. He said that it could not get any worse.

Councillor Garriques said that he received a call from the Credit Union in Linstead where there is a pile-up of garbage and added that there is going to be a serious public health issue if something is not done. He explained the condition that exists and stated that something had to be done quickly.

i) **Funding for Drain Cleaning:**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 4 item (c), Councillor Powell stated that the other matters were addressed, but there is a situation where the Chief Engineering Officer gave instructions for them to carry out works totalling Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$600,000) some time ago. He said that some of them went immediately and carried out the works and he thanked the source. He said that he did work valued at Nine Hundred Thousand (\$900,000) on a road namely the Sandy Hill Road, after six months he expects to get the money he was told would be allocated. He said that he was given instruction by the Chief Engineering Officer to spend \$600,000 and he expects to get what he was told would be allocated, because as councillors they are representatives of the people. He said that the Corporations

controlled over ninety percent of the road network and asked if hundreds of thousands of dollars could maintain or rehabilitate these roads. He said that someone needs to look at the provision that is made for Councillors as they have outgrown that allocation. He said that councillors have huge responsibilities and need to get funding to carry out these functions, as they were elected by the people and should serve them diligently and effectively. He said for a road like Golden River which requires approximately \$20 Million for that six kilometres of road, what can \$800,000 do. He asked what were they going to use to repair these roads and added that there must be some reform regarding how funds are disbursed to councillors, as they were being given basket to carry water.

He said that with due respect to the Prime Minister, who is trying his best, he thinks that the Members of Parliament should be given even \$19 Million and Councillors given \$2 Million, as they too were elected by the people. He said that Councillors were the bridge between Central Government and the people, and it therefore meant that they had to be bridging the gap between social aspect and welfare aspect. He said that the responsibility is great and they need the resources.

He said that he is getting frustrated, and that Councillors have always been treated with scant regard, and they are supposed to be looked upon as creatures of government, they have to face the battle on the ground and Central Government. He said they need the resources to carry out the functions and any Prime Minister from any political party, if they do not reach out to the people, then they will not stand. He said that at this Council meeting (10/11/22), it is nearly on the eve of the election, when he was elected six years ago. He said that he works hard to ensure that the people in his division are happy and has not benefitted from this, not even from the salary, but is here because of his love for the people and his country. He said that if the situation is bad, he had to speak, not to bash government because he knows that he is speaking on behalf of all councillors. He said that they are not being treated fairly and that they are human beings elected by the people who are looking up to them. He said if they are not able to do what they are elected to do they might as well go home, or they should get the resources, as it is not fair to them and the people of the parish.

j) **Attendance of the Chief Public Health Inspector**

Arising from the minutes of meeting held 13/10/22, page 7, Councillor Wilson asked if the Chief Public Health Inspector was in attendance.

The Chairman said that she would be invited to the Public Health and Sanitation Meeting.

Suspension of the Standing Orders

On the motion of Councillor Herbert Garriques, seconded by Councillor Sydney Rose, the standing order was suspended to accommodate a report from the St. Catherine North Police Division.

Deputy Superintendent Linroy Edwards, Head of Operations in the St. Catherine North Police Division, introduced himself to the meeting.

He reported that it was always challenging in Spanish Town and Linstead, however, there has been a 20% reduction in murders. He said this year has been a little more challenging and that most of the murders committed are as a result of inter-gang conflicts.

He said that they have managed to cauterise and stem the flow of blood across the division and can safely say that they are on top of the situation. He said that they have been blessed, but resources are scarce and mobility is one of that resource, however they have over one hundred Police Officers spread across the division and should be getting more very soon. He said that Police Officers are assigned to work with the Municipal Police and as the Yuletide season approaches, more officers will be placed on the streets across the various business districts. He said also that they will be getting some QR motor cycles to improve their response capabilities.

He said that they are in phase two of Operation Relentless and have increased activities and are seeing significant recovery of firearms and apprehension because of this surge.

He went on to say that there are some illegal garages in communities, which are reducing the value of properties and are also an eyesore and noise nuisance. He said that the Police is ready to partner and support the Corporation in this area, as they are on a good path to keep St. Catherine in the positive, as it relates to crime reduction. He said that they are motivated and have a strong team and are willing to work with the Corporation.

Councillor Kirlew asked what the moral was like, as it relates to the Officers at Glengoffe, in the absence of them using the police station.

DSP Edwards stated that the report he has received, is that the works have been slower than expected, however they have a responsibility to ensure that the officers stay motivated. They keep updating the officers at their meetings and ensuring that they remain focused and committed.

Councillor Powell stated that he is used to discipline and his greatest concern is the motor bikes, which have become a nuisance and the Police not doing anything to address the noise nuisance, of these modified bikes. He said that the residents are suffering from this. He said that it is scary that the Police are not addressing this and asked how can a few young men be allowed to affect the lives of law abiding citizens in this country. He asked DSP Edwards at his rank to use his influence to do something about it, so that residents can live in more tranquil communities.

He also said that he constructed some roads in his division and as soon as they were completed, derelict vehicles were placed there and in some cases gravel and sand. He said that while it is the Corporation's responsibility, he is asking that some joint operation be done to remove these vehicles and building materials, as this is the beginning of lawlessness.

DSP Edwards said that he was in total agreement with the Councillor that these bikes are a nuisance and challenge. He said it is also a problem with motor cars too and that they have been a drive where some have been seized recently. He said that they will be receiving some QR bikes and will therefore be equal match to chase. He said that they will have more resources to carry out that fight.

Councillor Powell recommended that a selected group of Police be assigned to that fight to ensure that the bikes are not modified and they should be seized and adjusted where necessary. This is to ensure that the community is better than it is and asked the Police to carry out its function.

Sergeant Thomas, who was invited to speak, stated that they have been doing road check operations to remove defective vehicles and motorcycles. He said that there have been two operations that week and that seven plates were removed and that the operations were ongoing and will be intensified. He said that usually on a Thursday they do operations on motorcycles. He said that the road traffic act has no teeth in it.

He went on to say that, the society has become lawless and this starts within the homes and is allowed to get out of control and is seen in all areas of the society. He said that he is no nonsense person and is perturbed by what is happening. He said that every Thursday they carry out operations on the streets, but as soon as the bikes are returned they were back to square one. He said that the resources are limited as they are not able to apprehend these bikers who do not stop.

Councillor Garriques said that he understands that Lluidas Vale is no longer with the Linstead zone but is with Guanaboa Vale. He said that it appears that there are not enough detectives working in the division and asked DSP Edwards to speak on this.

DSP Edwards stated that based on the incidents of crime in the division, the resources have been shifted and zoned in relation to the geographical layout of the division.

Councillor Rose said he would like to commend the Police for acting upon the Corporation's request for assisting it in the public spaces and asked that they accept the Corporation's deepest appreciation and thanks for their effort.

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor Dwight Burke
joined the meeting

Councillor Abrahams said that as an ex-officer, he listened at the last meeting in Bog Walk involving the police, it was said that they were trying to get more resources. He said that the Bog Walk Square is chaotic on the weekends and asked for assistance in relation to that. He said that he understands that the detectives are rotated and it did not appear that there is any stationed at the Bog Walk Police Station. He said that he has been seeing the effects of migration by criminals and was working with the Police as best as possible.

DSP Edwards said that he was concerned about the market and noted that it was a zonal situation. He said that Linstead offers support to Bog Walk when there is a shortfall in relation to the assignment of detectives. He said that the Police service too has an attrition rate and they have been using joint-military teams to man some areas. He said too that some new initiatives were being put in place and they have a good team.

The Chairman said that when he was in his youth, District Constables (DC's) were assigned from their communities, but this new thrust is different. He said that as the name suggests, the individual should be from the area, He said that the DC's do not know the residents, as they are from different communities and thinks that they need to return to those days, when they were from their communities as it will help. He said that someone who knows a young man personally and is able to speak to him or his relatives might be able to intervene before he falls victims to a gang or crime.

DSP Edwards stated that not much has changed in the appointment of DC's, but there are a few exceptions and the rule has not changed.

The Chairman thanked DSP Edwards for his update and said that he knows the Christmas season is approaching and it is going to be challenging but the Corporation's team is available to give assistance. He said that he was looking forward to working with him and his team. He added too that for the last ten years or so St. Catherine

North has managed to remain below the radar and have remained within the normal range, while other areas were blowing up.

Resumption

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Herbert Garriques, the standing orders were resumed.

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chairman made the following announcement:

1. **The Chairman informed the meeting that one of their colleagues had passed away. He said that he was someone that he has known personally and he was the Deputy Mayor Lenworth Rawle and also lived in the parish. He expressed condolence, on behalf of the Councillors of St, Catherine Municipal Corporation, to his family and the Councillors of the St. Thomas Municipal Corporation.**
2. **He said that as a progressive Mayor he was proposing a programme of funding for single parents who are unemployed and more information will be presented at the Finance Committee. He said that the proposed amount would be \$20,000 to \$50,000 and the beneficiaries will be selected from a committee which will headed by Bishop Hayden include Councillors, , Reverend Headlam, the SDC and monitored by the Poor Relief Department. There will be some terms of reference and it will be an initiative of this Corporation, with it being opened to contributions/donations.**
3. **Let me welcome all Councillors in the chambers and on line, the media, members of staff and our external experts to our November Corporation monthly meeting.**
4. **Friday November 11, 2022 will be celebrated as Remembrance Day of those brave soldiers who fought in World War 1 and 2. The entire world will pause at 11:00 am on Friday in remembrance of their faithful service.**
5. **November is celebrated as Local Government Month. The activities so far were the National Church Service that was held on Saturday November 5, 2022 at the Kencot Seventh Day Adventist Church.**
6. **The Junior Mayor selection took place yesterday November 9, 2022 here in the Council Chambers. There were three prospective junior mayors (all females) who presented essays on "Local Government Reform is good for Jamaica, stating whether they agree or disagree with this statement. The judges decided that the Junior Mayor for 2022 is Miss Ananda Squire, a current student of the University of the West Indies. Miss Vicjoy Francis University of Technology who was placed 2nd will be the Deputy Mayor. Miss Monifa Whittle, a graduate of Johnathan Grant High School and Jose Marti sixth form association participated well and was placed third. Each participant received a certificate of participation and a gift. It was my pleasure to robe the Junior Mayor. On Monday November 24, 2022, the Youth Mayors' Forum will be held.**
7. **For the Christmas season vending will be allowed at the various sites between December 4, 2022 and January 7, 2023.**
 - **Linstead – Fletchers Avenue from the intersection of King Street to the intersection of Gillette Street**
 - **Ewarton-In the vicinity of the Ewarton Market on Main Street**
 - **Spanish Town- French Street from the corner of Beckford Street to the intersection of Old Market Street**
 - **Manchester Street from the corner of Cumberland Road to the intersection of Young Street**
 - **Burke Road from the intersection of March Pen Road to the intersection of Oxford Road – one side only to allow for the traffic and pedestrians to flow.**
 - **Rum Lane**

- **Cumberland Avenue**
- **Gutters Square**
- **Old Harbour**
 1. **Market Street**
 2. **Ascott Drive**
 3. **North Street**
 4. **Vaz Drive**
- **Bog Walk**

Use the vicinity of the Bog Walk Market on the East side (market side) only.

8. **There is traffic congestion from Highway 2000 leading to the exit of Old Harbour and Old Harbour Bay and I want to express my concerns. He appealed for a serious look to be taken at adding an additional exit at Sharper Lane, which will not affect their income of the toll operators.**
9. **Christmas Staff Function- after 2 years absence, the staff will be having their annual staff Christmas party on Sunday November 11, 2022 beginning at 3:00 pm at Caymanas Golf & country Club. The theme is Hawaiian Soiree – Let your colors shine. Contribution for Councillors will be \$5000, Staff members \$2,500. Guests will contribute \$3,500. Please confirm your participation by Wednesday November 30, 2022.**
10. **Rotation of Poor Relief Officers will be as follows : See attached memo**

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF FORMER MEETING

Nil

8. ALGAJ REPORT:

The ALGAJ report was emailed to Councillors

On the motion of Councillor Roogae Kirlew, seconded by Councillor Peter Abrahams, the report was accepted.

9. QUESTION AND ANSWERS

a) ALGAJ Representation

Councillor Wilson said that he was far from satisfied with the representation from ALGAJ and asked when will they represent Councillors.

The Chairman stated that the Minister had said that ALGAJ is an executive body, but as a member he knows that ALGAJ is an association of Local Government Officers and it represents councillors, as a union and that he could not answer Councillor Wilson's question. He said that one Councillor had written a letter to ALGAJ for it to hold a general meeting, which is overdue and the Act is being used to force this meeting. He said that he did not know if the current president will entertain the holding of a general meeting.

Councillor Benjamin said that over time Mayors have been elected to serve as President and asked if councillors can be elected to serve as President.

The Chairman responded that any Councillor can be elected as President.

b) **Dela Vega Treatment Plant**

Councillor Lawrence sought an update on the Dela Vega City Treatment Plant. He said that an investigation is needed based on the present impact the plant is having on the community. He said that there are several blockages and the plant is not operating as it should.

The Chairman asked that this matter be dealt with at the Public Health and Sanitation Committee Meeting.

c) **Request for Mayoral Photo of Ms. Jennifer Edwards – Only Female Mayor**

Councillor Kenord Grant said that there is no photo of the only female Mayor who served the parish and asked that arrangements be made to have the photo taken.

The Chairman sought the Councillor's assistance to have the photo taken, as unsuccessful efforts have been made to have it done.

d) **Back-drop in Meeting Room**

Councillor Graham said that some months ago he had asked about the colours in the backdrop in the meeting room and he was told it would be dealt with. He asked when would that be done.

The Chairman said that he did agree that the colours were inappropriate and the Administrative staff should have dealt with it.

e) **Burials at Dovecot**

Councillor Johnson said that he saw where Dovecot is comfortably burying bodies every day and the last thing he heard was that the matter was in court. He asked the Chairman to give an update, as to what is happening.

The Chairman responded that he preferred that the technical officers deal with the response and directed Mr. Allen, Director of Planning to respond.

Mr. Allen stated there was an assessment in relation to the location of the respective property regarding contamination of the underground water. He said that all due diligence were done and submitted to the respective agencies. He said that what is being processed now is in respect of the vaults as some of the plots fall within the development order and some outside of the order. He said that based on the findings, there is no grounds to appeal the outcome of this matter, based on the science that is there. He said that the entity is moving forward with the Corporation in relation to the approval of the vaults.

The Chairman asked that the matter be discussed at the Physical Planning and Environment Committee Meeting

10. **LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH**

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Alric Campbell, the Corporation resolved itself into the Local Board of Health.

i) Medical Officer (Health) Report

Mrs. Denece Douglas, Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector presented the Medical Officer's Report as under:

“UPDATE ON PROSECUTION MATTERS

- *The matter of Pig Rearing in Guys Hill- The trial date is set for November 18, 2022.*

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

- *Total positive cases for October - 68*
- *Number of Active cases- 14*
- *Number of deaths- 0*

VECTOR CONTROL

Institutions Monitored for mosquito breeding

- *Eight (8) Health Centres inspected of which none were found breeding mosquitoes.*
- *Both hospitals were checked- no breeding found*
- *The Linstead Market was checked – no breeding was found*
- *The drums found breeding were treated*
- *Infirmary- 18 tyres were found breeding mosquitoes and they were treated.*
- *39 schools were checked- 8 were breeding. Breeding sites include abandon pits. Tyres and drums. All areas breeding were treated.*

Tyre Shops and Garages Inspected

Seventeen (17) tyre shops and three (3) garages were inspected where a total of two thousand and sixty-five (2065) tyres were checked. Of the tyres checked two hundred and sixty two (262) were breeding mosquitoes. All tyres found breeding were treated.

Drain Inspections

A total sixty-three (63) drains were inspected during the period. The tables below show the status of the drains checked. All drains breeding were treated with oil.

Linstead

<i>Drains</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>Lake Meadows</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Logan Street</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Bronx Street</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Hopeview Avenue</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>East Ave</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Drain beside Bog Walk bus shed</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Bog Walk, beside Juicy Patties</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Bog Walk</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Linstead Bypass</i>	<i>No</i>

Portmore Zone

<i>Drains</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>Portsmouth, Hayling Rd</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Portsmouth Primary</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>George Lee Blvd</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Between Old Braeton & 6 East Greater Portmore</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Braeton Meadows</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Between Braeton Meadows & 6 East</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Myrtle Way</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Waterford, Caymanas Dr.</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Waterford, Annabelle Dr.</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Waterford, Rupert Way</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Passage fort</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Washington Mews</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Cumberland High School</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>

<i>Newland main road</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Gregory Park, Melvin Ave</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Gregory Park, Queens Ave</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Hamilton Gardens, Junflower Dr.</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Hamilton Gardens, Violet Ave</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Braeton Phase 1</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Phoenix Park Village</i>	<i>Breeding</i>

Old Harbour Zone

<i>Drains</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>Morgan Gully</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Darlington Drive</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Panton Lane</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Old Harbour Bay, Terminal Road</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Hart Street</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Church Pen H/S</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Old Harbour Bay at Settlement</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Patrick Street</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Marlie Acres</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Goulbourne Lane</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>

Spanish Town

<i>Drains</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>Irish Pen</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>El Prado Scheme</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Corletts Road</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>March Pen Road (main drain)</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>88 March Pen Road</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>48 March Pen Road</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>March Pen Road, Scandal Lane</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Fairfield Road</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Coles Gardens</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>McKessy Lane</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>McKoy Land</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Willowdene, Cardiff Dr.</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Willowdene, Clayton Ave</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Windsor Road, vicinity of ICC</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Taws Meadows</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Featherbed Lane</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Seville Meadows 3</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>St. John’s Road</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Mustard Seed</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Duncans Pen</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Duncans Pen beside McCauley Primary</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Greendale, Content Drive</i>	<i>Not Breeding</i>
<i>Cromarty</i>	<i>Breeding</i>

Gastroenteritis Outbreak

There has been a notable increase in Gastroenteritis cases. Since October there have been 155 reported cases in the parish (hospitals included). For health Centres only- 104. Last year this time we saw just 48 cases.

This increase is expected at this time of the year mainly with the increase in rainfall. The condition is viral with some persons having respiratory symptoms as well. It is important that affected persons be properly hydrated with oral rehydration salts or paedialyte for children and Gatorade for adults. Children should be taken to the doctor if the diarrhea is persistent and the child or adult starts to look lethargic and is not drinking as much as needed.”

Arising from the Report

Councillor Wilson stated that he has noticed that fogging has been curtailed and that he has not been seeing any fogging in Browns Hall. He said that he has heard through the grapevine that the Ministry is having challenges purchasing the material used for fogging.

The Chairman asked that the fogging schedule be sent to the Corporation, so that it can be circulated to Councillors.

The Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector informed the meeting that the schedule is sent every month to the Corporation.

The Chairman said that an investigation was done some time ago and a number of pits were cleared from the Capture Land area. He asked for another investigation to be done, as there seems to be some problems again in the area, as it relates to sewage.

The Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector said that the last report she received showed no problem in that area, however she would ask her team to look at the area.

ii) Application for Butchers Licences

Nil

iii) Application for Barbers/Hairdressers (Premises) Licences

<u>Name of Operator</u>	<u>Name & Address of Business</u>
<i>Terry Ann Vassell</i>	<i>Fabeau Aesthetics 46 King's Street, Linstead, St. Catherine</i>
<i>Anna - Kay Wright</i>	<i>Anna' Beauty Salon Spanish Village Plaza Twickenham Park, Spanish Town, St. Catherine</i>
<i>Dayna Hutchinson</i>	<i>Salon Thrive 3 Angel's Court Drive, Spanish Town, St. Catherine</i>
<i>Kordia Sewell</i>	<i>Kay's Beauty Services 26-28 Wellington Street, Spanish Town, St. Catherine</i>
<i>Denesha White</i>	<i>Taurus Dolls and Queens Beauty Salon 214 Brunswick Avenue Spanish Town, St. Catherine</i>
<i>Tanylee Willis</i>	<i>Mello's Beauty Salon and Variety Store Sligoville Road, St. Catherine</i>
<i>Kadian Milton</i>	<i>NYK Beauty Studio Shop 33 Gateway Plaza, 7 West Street Old Harbour, St. Catherine</i>
<i>Duran Clarke</i>	<i>Duran Blade Bops VIP Barber Shop #3 Astoria Plaza Brunswick Street, Spanish Town, St. Catherine</i>
<i>Wayne and Mark Allen</i>	<i>Lifestyle Glam & Cutz Juici Plaza, East Street, Old Harbour, St. Catherine</i>
<i>Kerry – Ann Graham</i>	<i>Posh Fingers and Toes</i>

95 ½ Brunswick Avenue, Spanish Town, St. Catherine

Shanna – Kay Mills

*Blinx 876 Lash and Beauty Atelier
29 Willowdene Parkway, Spanish Town, St. Catherine*

Alpha Mitchell

*Edge Cut Barber & Beauty Salon
200 Brunswick Avenue, Spanish Town, St. Catherine*

Camille Cobourne

*Camille's Unisex Body Studio
Shop 24 Island Plaza
72 King Street, Linstead, St. Catherine*

Karesha James

*Heal Your Feet Therapy Foot Spa
Shop 5 Church Street, Linstead, St. Catherine*

Latoya Goulbourne

*Latoya Beauty Salon
Shop #7 Rajmoville Complex
Brunswick Avenue, Spanish Town, St. Catherine*

Stacian Thomas

*It's Amazing Ladies Beauty & Accessories
Main Street, Bog Walk, St. Catherine*

iv) **Exhumation**

Nil

Resumption

On the motion of Councillor Anthony Wint, seconded by Councillor Courtney Edwards, the meeting resumed.

11. REPORTS

(A) MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

I) Infrastructure and Traffic Committee 19/10/22

The minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure and Traffic Committee held on 19/10/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure and Traffic Committee held on October 19, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor William Cytall and carried.

II) Human Resources Committee 24/10/22

The minutes of the meeting of the Human Resource Committee held on 24/10/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Human Resource Committee held on October 24, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor William Cytall and carried.

III) **Public Health Committee Meeting 20/10/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Public Health Committee held on 20/10/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Public Health Committee held on October 20, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor William Cytall and carried.

IV) **Municipal & Commercial Services Committee 25/10/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Municipal and Commercial Services Committee held on 25/10/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal & Commercial Services Committee held on October 25, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor William Cytall and carried.

(B) **MINUTES OF AUTONOMOUS COMMITTEES**

i) **Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee 26/10/22**

The meeting was not held due to a lack of quorum.

ii) **Physical Planning & Environment Committee Meeting 18/10/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Physical Planning and Environment Committee held on 18/10/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Roogae Kirlew moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Physical Planning and Environment Committee held on October 18, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Enos Lawrence and carried.

iii) **Finance & Planning Committee Meeting 19/10/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee held on 19/10/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Roogae Kirlew moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee held on October 19, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Enos Lawrence and carried.

iv) **Poor Relief Committee Meeting 20/10/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Poor Relief Committee held on 19/10/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Roogae Kirlew moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Poor Relief Committee held on October 19, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Enos Lawrence and carried.

(C) USE OF COUNCIL’S COMMON SEAL

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Enos Lawrence, approval was given for affixing the Corporation’s Common Seal on applications for subdivision, which were approved by the Physical Planning and Environment Committee at its meeting held on October 2022:

- i) **“Letter dated October 19, 2022 from the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation Re: Application by Carlton Saulas c/o Kimesha Thomas-Pinnock to subdivide lands part of Wakefield called Buxton Town consisting of approximately 6,00.04 square metres into two (2) lots for residential and farmstead purposes.**
- ii) **Letter dated November 11, 2022 from Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation Re: Application by SCJ Holdings Limited & Ministry of Housing c/o Simone Rattray to subdivide lands part of Phoenix Park and Union, Salt Pond Pen and Woodlands consisting of approximately 14,550,324.49 square metres into**

ten (10) lots for residential/drain reservation/reserved road/canal reservation/agricultural purposes.

- iii) Letter dated October 24, 2022 from the Ministry of Economic Growth and Job Creation Re: Application by DeCasseres Farms Limited c/o Carlene Bailey to subdivide lands part of Fellowship and Fellowship Hall consisting of approximately 239,898.560 metres square into twenty one (21) lots for agricultural, road improvement, open space, drainage and reserved roads purposes.”

D) REPORT – LINSTEAD TOWN CENTRE:

The meeting was not held, as scheduled due to a lack of quorum.

12. GENERAL:

- a) **Resolution Adopting the Kingston and St. Andrew Street Names and Numbers Regulations 1946/**

The resolution was presented as under:

“ ***Whereas the parish of St. Catherine is developing at a rapid pace;***

And whereas the present focus of the parish is proper management and Sustainable Development;

And whereas the parish lacks certain Acts, Bye-Laws and Regulations that will enable it to facilitate such development;

Be it resolved that the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation adopts the Kingston and St. Andrew Street Names and Numbers Regulations 1946;

Be it further resolved that the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation in this regard adopts this Street Names and Numbers Regulations with special amendments;

And Be it further resolved that the Act be named the St. Catherine Street Names and Numbers Regulation, 2022;

And Be it further resolved that the Resolution be forwarded to the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development for approval by the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development;

And Be it resolved that the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development ensures that this Regulation is gazetted.”

The Chaairman stated that this resolution was being passed to bring on stream street names so that persons can now have a civic address, which make it easier to access service such as utility services.

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Fenley Douglas and carried.

Extension of Time

Time being 1:15, on the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Fenley Douglas, the meeting time was extended to enable the completion of the agenda.

b) **Resolution Adopting the Kingston and St. Andrew Shop Licences Regulations 1965/**

The resolution was presented as under:

“ ***Whereas*** the parish of St. Catherine is developing at a rapid pace;

And whereas the present focus of the parish is proper management and Public Well-being;

And whereas the parish lacks certain Acts, Bye-Laws and Regulations that will enable it to facilitate such management;

Be it resolved that the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation adopts the Kingston and St. Andrew Shop Licence Regulations 1965;

Be it further resolved that the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation in this regard adopts this Shop Licence Regulations with special amendments;

And Be it further resolved that the Act be named the St. Catherine Shop Licence Regulations, 2022;

And Be it further resolved that the Resolution be forwarded to the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development for approval by the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development;

And Be it resolved that the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development ensures that this Regulation is gazetted.”

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Roogae Kirlew, the motion was carried.

13. **MOTIONS:**

a) **Motions (of which Notice has been given previously)**

Nil

b) **Notice of Motions:**

Councillor Fenley Douglas gave notice of a motion, calling for Councillors to no longer accept the ALGAJ report until it becomes a legal entity.

Suspension of the Standing Order

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint, the standing order was suspended to allow the agencies to do their reports and a presentation from the Youth Mayor.

The Chairman at this point robed the Youth Mayor, Miss Ananda Squire and invited her to bring greetings to the members of the Corporation.

Youth Mayor Squire, said that she was in high spirits and it was truly an honour and privilege to be sitting in the meeting to see how Councillors operate, as a budding politician. She said that she would like to big up Councillor Rose, her Councillor.

She said that to illustrate what taking on this mantle meant, she would like to share the words from Amercian civil rights activist Cesar Chavez who said that, ***“We cannot seek achievements for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community. Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations of others and needs of others for their sakes and for our own.”*** She said that she thinks it summates her values and goals, as it relates to approaching this role. She said that she has always known that she wanted to get into politics and be able to serve her community, as service is important to her, and so she wanted to express her deepest gratitude to the Corporation for giving her the opportunity and avenue to do so.

It should not be underestimated, the power and importance of giving young people a space to be able to serve. She said that going forward, she hoped that these giants in the room (Councillors), will give her pardon to stand on their backs as she execute her proposed project. It has not been finalised as yet, as to what shape it will take but she knows that it will be geared towards local government and that with the aid of her Deputy Junior Mayor and other Junior Councillors, will be done in such a way that will leave an impact that will outlive their tenure.

She said that she hoped that it will be successful and welcomed the collaboration and guidance of Councillors throughout her tenure. She again thanked the Corporation for the opportunity.

The Chairman stated that the future looks good based on the presentation from Miss Squire.

He encouraged her that when she gets back to the University of the West Indies to convince her colleagues to be more interested in the whole governance structure of the country. He stated that it is said that the current President of the United States is an old man, but he was able to stimulate and get out so many young voters and Jamaica needs to look at what we are doing.

He also invited the other two Junior Councillors so that they could be acknowledged and remarked that he is leading a progressive team.

Fire Department

The report from the Fire Department was presented by Mr. Pike as under:

<i>STATIONS</i>	<i>GENUINE</i>	<i>M.F. A</i>	<i>F.A.W.G. I</i>	<i>SSC</i>	<i>MVA</i>	<i>BUSH FIRE</i>	<i>TOTAL CALLS</i>
<i>Spanish Town</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>48</i>
<i>Waterford</i>	<i>23</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>59</i>
<i>Linstead</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Old Harbour</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>29</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>146</i>

2. *ESTIMATED RISK: \$1,378,300,000.00*
ESTIMATED LOSS: \$16,338,000.00
ESTIMATED SAVED: \$1,361,962,000.00

3. *Structural Fire:*
There were twenty-one (21) structural fires of which one (1) adult and one (1) child were displaced.

4. *Motor Vehicle Accidents:*
There were thirteen (13) motor vehicle accidents in which eleven (11) civilians were injured and hospitalized.”

Councillor K. Grant asked if any effort is being made to repair defective hydrants.

Mr. Pike said that since 2020, they have been working to repair hydrants and asked that if there are defective ones, they should be notified, so that they can have them repaired.

In response to Councillor K. Grant, he said that the hydrants are being mapped using the GIS mapping.

Councillor Rose said that he has been asking for repairs to the hydrants in Treadways and York Street.

Mr. Pike said that an assessment was done and they procured material to do the repairs. He said too that they have also identified a new area in Linstead for another hydrant.

Resumption

On the motion of Councillor William Cytall, seconded by Councillor Sydney Rose, the meeting resumed the standing order.

14. PETITIONS:

Nil

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Absence of Agencies

Councillor Cytall stated that there is a consistent absence of the three most important agencies namely, the National Works Agency (NWA), the National Water

Commission (NWC) and the Jamaica Public Service Company (JPSCo). He said that the JPS app does not work, as he had contacted them and there is no remedy, while some areas in his division have been going through tedious times. He said that something has to be done to deduct for the hours when there is no power, which is up to thirty hours some times.

b) Call for Resignation of the Minister of Health and Wellness

Councillor Rose said that he has had personal experience with bacterial infection, as he has a daughter who is now five years, who was admitted to the neonatal unit at birth. He expressed his sincere regrets and condolences to the families that have lost their babies. He said that in 2015, Dr. Fenton Ferguson, the Minister of Health at the time did the right thing and resigned, when a number of babies died from the same bacteria. He said that if the present Minister of Health and Wellness, Dr. Christopher Tufton is honest he would have done the same thing and submit his resignation.

He said that seven babies died in July and the Minister told Parliament that he was only made aware towards the end of August. He said that the Minister has a PhD in Marketing and so he wanted to protect his image and was very irresponsible in handling the situation. He said the Minister needs to understand that he is employed to the Jamaican taxpayers and admitted that the situation could have happened anywhere. He said that he finds it egregious that the Minister is trying to play on the conscience of the citizens without examining his own, as he knew what was happening and it was all about his image and not about the lives of the babies and their families.

He asked how could the Minister of Health and Wellness allow pregnant mothers to go to the same hospitals knowing that there was a bacterial outbreak. He could have asked that they go to other hospitals and that this amounts to gross dereliction of duties, as he has caused the loss of innocent lives and must do the honourable thing and resign. He said that he is proud of his daughter and the fact that she could have been a victim, has brought on fresh emotions. He said that the Prime Minister must understand the pain of a parent and the Minister needs to be relieved of his duties and repeated that Dr. Ferguson resigned and that Dr. Tufton needs to do the same. He said that he will not relent until that happens.

c) Poor Services from Flow and NWC

Councillor Edwards said that in Portmore and other areas persons have been experiencing low or no water supply. He said that a new system was put in place to regulate the water pressure, yet they are experiencing problems and that throughout the peak period there is no water. He said that there seem to be little upgrade to the source of the water and that the NWC needs to look at providing its own power supply, and added that the residents are suffering and cannot take this for much longer. He proposed that the NWC look at a tank system going forward, where the company partners with customers to install tanks in their homes and billed monthly for this.

He further stated that there are significant disturbances due to theft of the cables on the FLOW network. He said he was appealing to the persons stealing the cables to stop, but also saying to FLOW that every partner must play a role to solve crime, as the theft affects students and agencies. He asked that they do more to protect their investment and clients by providing and installing camera systems on the major thoroughfares. He asked that they be invited to the Corporation to discuss this matter with a view to resolving the issue.

The Chairman noted.

d) **Statement made by Mr. Warmington – Member of Parliament**

Councillor Kirlew stated that as an advocate for truth and justice, he was perturbed that when persons take a microphone to speak, a different spirit enters them and they forget that the people of this country are listening. He said that when representatives can say that, “*anywhere not safe to live, you have PNP living there*”, these things are unbecoming.

He said that he also wanted to comment in relation to the statement made by Member of Parliament Warmington, about the Opposition Leader Mark Golding being a backra master. He said that he finds it to be very discriminatory, unwarranted, unkind and capricious. He said that he wondered if Mr. Warmington did his research. He said that Professor John Golding, father of the Opposition Leader was an Orthopedic Surgeon and can be credited for establishing the Sir John Golding centre, the Hope Valley Experimental School, Hospice Home Care and Hospice Pain Care for terminally ill individuals among other achievements. He said that he is of the view that when people have done well and served, they must be respected and Mr. Warmington’s comments were racist and he needs to apologise, this time.

Councillor K Grant said in relation to Mr. Warmington’s statement, that when he was younger and entering politics he was discouraged by the hostility of the persons who are currently practising. He said that Mr. Mark Golding is a well accomplished businessman. He said he could have been doing other things, to advance himself and his family, however, he choose to enter politics to advance the welfare of this country, only to be rewarded with hostility, arrogance, racist comments. He said that what was worse, these were coming from someone who did not have the ability or the resume to be compared to him.

e) **Migration of Jamaica’s Qualified Youths**

Councillor K. Grant said that as a youth of Jamaica he is concerned that the country is not able to retain qualified youths. He said that he was planning to celebrate his wife’s birthday and all her friends have migrated and what is more worrying is that it is moving closer, and the Police reported that it is happening within the force too. He said that this Corporation too has seen some of its aspring politicians leaving for greener pastures. He said that he is concerned, as the government has not been providing the prosperity it promised, so our young people have to be trying to find it elsewhere. He said that a solution must be found to stop this, as without vision the people will perish.

f) **Dovecot**

Councillor McCook said that so many meetings were held and a stop order was issued on Dovecot. He said that he understands that they have filled all the criteria, and asked the Chairman if he was satisfied that this was so.

The Chairman stated that he was not a scientist, but based on their interpretation, there is nothing to challenge. He said that Councillor McCook was at the consultation, which was one of the requirements that had to be met. He said that the documents were here at the Corporation and asked that the matter be discussed at the Planning Meeting.

He further said that based on the documentation, the Corporation was correct when it issued the stop order, as a section of the land was out of the zoning requirement and no permission was issued to conduct burial in that section, as it was part of a residential parcel. He said that a change of use would have to be approved for that section, however, if the burial fell within the approved zone, then all the criteria would have been satisfied.

Councillor McCook stated that there are aquifers in the area and that the lives of the residents had to be considered.

The Chairman asked that the documents relating to this matter be brought to the Planning Meeting, where the matter can be discussed and documentary evidence shown, in relation to Dovecot satisfying the criteria that was issued by the National Environment and Planning Agency (NEPA).

16. ADJOURNMENT

At this stage (2:14 p.m.), Councillor Renair Benjamin moved, seconded by Councillor Fenley Douglas, that the meeting be adjourned.

CONFIRMED:

.....
CHAIRMAN
ST. CATHERINE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
AND MAYOR OF SPANISH TOWN

DATED.....

Action Page

Action to be taken

By Whom

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Page 3 item (a) update on Own Your Own Device Programme | Chairman |
| 2. Page 5, item (f) Letter to the Permanent Secretary re Treadways Health Centre | Actg CEO |
| 3. Page 11 item (b) Extract to Public Health & Sanitation Committee re Dela Vega Treatment Plant | Actg. CEO |
| 4. Pages 11 & 23 item (e) burial at Dovecot to be Referred to the Planning Committee | Actg. CEO |
| 5. Page 14 Planning Schedule to be circulated | Actg. CEO/Health |
| 6. Page 22 Invitation to FLOW to discuss Resolutions to problems being faced by Its customers in St. Catherine | Actg. CEO |

ST. CATHERINE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

MINUTES OF MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022

Pursuant to Notice the Monthly General Meeting of the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation was held in the Chambers of the Corporation at Spanish Town on Thursday, December 8, 2022, commencing at 10:52 a.m.

PRESENT WERE:

a) Councillors:

1. His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Norman Scott - Chairman
2. Councillor Ralston Wilson - Deputy Mayor
3. Councillor Claude Hamilton
4. Councillor Steve Graham
5. Councillor Courtney Edwards
6. Councillor William Cytall
7. Councillor Donovan Guy
8. Councillor Fenley Douglas
9. Councillor Sydney Rose
10. Councillor Dwight Burke
11. Councillor Mark McLean
12. Councillor Lloyd Grant
13. Councillor Patricia Harris
14. Councillor Herbert Garriques
15. Councillor Joy Brown
16. Councillor Roogaé Kirlew
17. Councillor Mark O'Connor
18. Councillor Anthony Wint

Those who arrived Subsequently

19. Councillor Renair Benjamin
20. Councillor George Moodie
21. Councillor Enos Lawrence
22. Councillor Peter Abrahams
23. Councillor Vanrick Preddie
24. Councillor Keisha Lewis
25. Councillor Leroy Dunn
26. Councillor Keith McCook
27. Councillor Gary Nicholson
28. Councillor Neil Powell
29. Councillor Keith Knight
30. Councillor Theresa Turner-Flynn
31. Councillor Keith Knight
32. Councillor Alphanso Johnson

b) Officers:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Andre Griffiths | Chief Executive Officer – Clerk |
| 2. Mr. Garfield Thompson | Chief Engineering Officer |
| 3. Mrs. Melva Carter | Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector |

4. Ms. Marlene Hylton	Inspector of Poor
5. Mr. Chad Allen	Director of Planning
6. Ms. Delores Gooden	Chief Financial Officer
7. Ms. Moesha Jones	Matron - Infirmary
8. Mrs. Yasheka Jathan-Thompson	Parish Disaster Co-ordinator
9. Ms. Nakita Lewis	Acting Office Manager
10. Ms. Anakay Clarke	Actg. Snr. Internal Auditor
11. Ms. Telka Holt	Commercial Services Manager
12. Mr. Peter Hewitt	Linstead Town Centre Manager
13. Mr. Miguel Perrin	Procurement Officer

c) Agencies

1. Mr. Junior Headlam	Parish Development Committee
2. Ms. Rachel Reid	MPM/NSWMA
3. Mr. Farrel Walsh	MPM/NSWMA

ABSENT WERE:

a) Councillors

1. Councillor Ainsley Parkins
2. Councillor Jennifer Hull
3. Councillor Hawthorne Thompson
4. Councillor Kenord Grant
5. Councillor Beverly Jobson-Grant
6. Councillor Alric Campbell

b) Officers

1. Mrs. Nicholee Henry-Downie Director of Administration

1. NOTICE CONVENING THE MEETING

The Notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

2. DEVOTION

Devotion was led by Councillor Roogae Kirlew

3. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Welcome

The Chairman extended welcome to everyone including Councillors, officers, agency representatives and the media. He remarked that they have come to the end of another year and gave God thanks for carrying them through this year and the ability to prepare for the year.

4. **MINUTES OF MEETING HELD NOVEMBER , 2022**

a) **Correction**

- i) On page 25 # 4, the word should be “**fogging**” and not “**planning**”

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor George Moodie
joined the meeting

b) **Confirmation**

Councillor Fenley Douglas moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the Monthly General Meeting held on November 10, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** confirmed, **subject to the correction.**

Seconded by Councillor Sydney Rose and carried.

Councillor Cytall at this point stated that he would like to commend the Recording Secretary and the person who edited the minutes for doing a good job. He said that it was well done and he appreciated the various sub-headings and the font size used, which made it easy to read and understand.

Arrival of Councillors

At this stage Councillors Keith Knight and Neil Powell
joined the meeting

5. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

a) **Own Your Own Device**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 10/11/22, page 3 item (a), Councillor Wilson sought an update on this item. He said that as one of the Councillors who had worked hard to get the information from the parents, he knows that the students are still looking forward to having their tablets.

b) **Treadways Health Centre**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 10/11/22, page 5 item (f), the Chief Executive Officer informed the meeting that a letter was written to the Permanent Secretary regarding the Treadways Health Centre.

c) **Dela Vega Treatment Plant**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 10/11/22, Page 11 item (b), the Chief Executive Officer informed the meeting that the extract was sent to the Public Health and Sanitation Committee for discussion.

d) **Dovecot**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 10/11/22 Pages 11& 23 item (c), the Chief Executive Officer informed the meeting that the extract was referred to the Physical Planning and Environment Committee.

e) **Fogging Schedule**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 10/11/22, page 14, the Chief Executive Officer informed the meeting that the schedule was circulated to Councillors, as requested.

f) **Invitation to FLOW to Discuss Issues affecting their service**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 10/11/22, page 22, the Chief Executive Officer informed the meeting that additional information was received from the Councillor, who had made the request and the invitation will be sent to FLOW.

g) **Funding for Care Packages and Drain Cleaning**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 10/11/22, page 4 item c, Councillor Wilson asked if there was any further update on this matter. He said that persons continue to ask about the care packages and that it would be good if they could receive them at this time of the year.

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor Renair Benjamin
joined the meeting

h) **Demolition of Nuisance Building in Portmore**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 10/11/22, page 16, and in response to a query, the Chairman informed the meeting that there was no response in relation to this matter.

i) **Funding for Drain Cleaning:**

Arising from minutes of meeting held 10/11/22, page 4 item (c), Councillor Powell again brought up the matter of the Drain Cleaning Allocation. He said that there are Councillors who were told by two individuals one being his Minority Leader, that funds could be used in his division and that he could commence the works.

The Chairman stated that it was a possibility that the Minority Leader might have had dialogue with the Minister and therefore had that information.

Councillor L. Grant, Minority Leader, in his defence stated that he only sent the information, which he received from the Chairman's Office to his whatsapp group.

The Chairman clarified that the Chief Engineering Officer was asked to do a programme and there is a difference with being asked to do a programme, from funding being received.

Councillor Powell stated that the Chief Engineering Officer is in a sensitive position, and he was that he could go ahead and do the work. He said that he considers both individuals credible and added that he went ahead and did the work, because he was

hungry to get the work done. He said that he is a poor man and could not afford to use Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$600,000.00) without reimbursement.

The Chairman stated that he was in full support of the Councillor, but said that the Minister has sent One Million (\$1M) for the Christmas Work Programme and was wondering if the Councillor could use that to offset what he had expended.

Councillor Powell then stated that the work was there to see, as it was used to patch road and he was prepared to await the additional Three Hundred Thousand (\$300,000.00), but wanted to know when he would receive the promised allocation of \$600,000.00. He said he is seeking answers and is waiting to hear something.

The Chairman said that he would again at an appropriate time, make a passionate plea to the Minister as he is obligated to make representation on behalf of the Councillors.

Arrival of Councillors

At this stage Councillors Leroy Dunn and Keisha Lewis
joined the meeting

6. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Chairman made the following announcement:

1. *Let me welcome all Councillors, members of staff, the media, online participants and our external experts to our last Municipal Corporation Monthly meeting for the calendar year 2022.*
2. *I want to remind all vendors that they are required to sell only in the designated areas for the Christmas season and to make every effort to maintain public order. Please ensure that the sidewalk are kept clear for pedestrians movement and safety. We are requesting that all the fees be paid to facilitate proper maintenance of the markets during the holiday season.*
3. *The Poor Relief Department cordially invites all the Councillors to the Annual Christmas Treat for the homeless on Monday December 19, 2022. This will be held at the Care Centre located on the grounds of the Infirmary commencing at 10 am.*
4. *On behalf of the St. Catherine Municipal Corporation I wish for you all a peaceful and safe Christmas.*
5. *Please note the schedule of meetings.*

Arrival of Councillors

At this stage Councillor Gary Nicholson
joined the meeting

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF FORMER MEETING

Nil

8. ALGAJ REPORT:

Nil

9. QUESTION AND ANSWERS

a) Public Sector Rationalization Programme

Councillor Cytall asked if the Corporation has noticed that there is a lot of bickering by Public Sector employees in relation to the Public Sector Rationalization Programme which has drafted by the previous government and has been languishing in Parliament waiting to be executed by this government. He said that because of the Chairman's seniority he might have more information, as it relates to the statistics in terms of wages and salary compared to the inflation. He said that this is a serious cause for concern.

The Chairman said that he could only say that they have signed an agreement with the Government and there are several groups that are crying foul. He said that he did not know where Councillors fall, but knows that some technical staff within the Corporations are still not sure where they will fall. He said that the negotiators have not been able to properly make the adjustments that encompasses certain levels of their remuneration. He added that as a result of this, they are left in the cold and these are anomalies that have to be sorted out on the back end.

Arrival of Councillor

At this stage Councillor Enos Lawrence
joined the meeting

Councillor Douglas stated that they dubbed themselves champions of the people, because they fought to represent the people who elected them. He said that while they are fighting to give quality representation, there is no one fighting for them as Councillors. He said that they were the only group of civil servants who work and get concession but do not get upkeep with the concession. He said that both governments have turned a blind eye to this.

He said that it made no sense that he is not able to give quality service and quality representation, due to fact that he cannot maintain the old car he is driving. He said that it made no sense that they have a body called ALGAJ that is supposed to be representing them. He said that they too do not know where they fall under the new classification. He said he is that sure the people who he serves did not want their representative to live in squalor and serve them to the best of his ability. He said that he is calling on the Minister to say where the Parish Councillors fall within the new salary scale or if they are going to fall under the same where they are neglected.

He said that he was talking for all of them in the room and the system needs to change and the foolishness needs to stop. He said that people are afraid to talk and he is not afraid, as they are all out there and are feeling it.

10. LOCAL BOARD OF HEALTH

On the motion of Councillor William Cytall, seconded by Councillor Anthony Wint, the Corporation resolved itself into the Local Board of Health.

i) **Medical Officer (Health) Report**

Mrs. Melva Carter, Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector presented the Medical Officer’s Report as under:

“UPDATE ON PROSECUTION MATTERS

- *One new prosecution in the Banbury, Linstead in respect unsatisfactory disposal of waste water. The initial notice was disobeyed hence prosecution procedure was initiated. This matter was mentioned Linstead RM Court yesterday*
- *The matter of Pig Rearing in Guys Hill- The trial date is set for today December 8, 2022.*

COVID-19 CASES UPDATE FOR SEPTEMBER 2022

- *Total positive cases for November - 30*
- *Number of active cases- 6*
- *Number of deaths- 3*

VECTOR CONTROL

Institutions Monitored for mosquito breeding

- *Eight (8) Health Centres inspected of which four (4) were found breeding mosquitoes.*
- *Both hospitals were checked- no breeding found*
- *Linstead Market and Spanish Town markets were checked – no breeding was found but a potential breeding site (piles of garbage behind the meat house) was observed at Spanish Town Market.*
- *Six Schools were inspected- one was breeding (a pit at Simon Primary)*
- *Other:*
 - ✓ *Infirmery- 2 tyres were found breeding mosquitoes and they were treated.*
 - ✓ *Women’s Centre- no breeding*
 - ✓ *St. Catherine Health Department- no breeding*
 - ✓ *Caymanas Police Station- no breeding*
- *39 schools were checked- 8 were breeding. Breeding sites include abandon pits. Tyres and drums.*

All areas breeding were treated.

Tyre Shops

Our team continued with intervention activities at Tyre Shops. Three tyre shops were inspected where a total of 88 tyres were checked. Of the tyres checked 30 were breeding mosquitoes. Several tyres were also checked in communities:

- *Frazer’s Content – 4 tyres (2 breeding)*
- *Ebonyvale – 15 tyres (11 breeding)*
- *Henderson Drive – 1 tyre (breeding)*
- *Angels Inn Drive 15 tyres (9 breeding)*
- *Hellshire Beach – 13 tyres (7 breeding)*
- *Union Estate entrance – 4 tyres (2 breeding)*
- *Hartlands – 6 tyres (5 breeding)*

All tyres found breeding were treated.

Drain Inspections

A total fifty-nine (59) drains were inspected during the period. The tables below show the status of the drains checked. All drains breeding were treated with oil.

<i>Linstead</i>	
<i>Location of Drain</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>Fletchers Avenue</i>	<i>No breeding</i>

Portmore Zone

<i>Location of Drain</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>West Bank Lane</i>	<i>Breeding</i>

Old Harbour Zone

<i>Location of Drain</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>Sharper Lane</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Church Pen H/S</i>	<i>Breeding</i>

Spanish Town

<i>Location of Drain</i>	<i>Status</i>
<i>Westmore Gardens</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Barrett Street</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Railway Lane</i>	<i>No breeding</i>
<i>Ebony Vale</i>	<i>No breeding</i>
<i>Frazers Content</i>	<i>Breeding</i>
<i>Innswood Village</i>	<i>Breeding</i>

Waste Water in Ellerslie Pen

Two pits were identified and Rhino tanks were installed in them. A notice was served on one house holder to have nuisance abated.

In respect to the other. There was no responsible person. That Rhino pit is utilized by nine (9) houses and approximately fifty persons. They have indicated that they need help to empty the pit frequently.

The Health Department is suggesting that once again the Municipal Council assist them.

A detailed report of the findings as well as the recommendation will be forwarded to the Council.

Arising from the Report

In response to Councillor Powell, the Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector stated that she was told that the tank was a storage tank and could not answer whether or not the constructions by Food for the Poor had contributed to the situation.

Councillor Powell then said that the Corporation had to look at how these houses were being built, as the Corporation is now being called on to correct a situation which it did not create. He suggested that a memorandum of understanding be entered into with Food for the Poor to ensure that these construction projects be done in consultation with the Corporation. He said that this is not something that should be brushed under the carpet, as the amount of bacteria that the residents are being exposed to will create serious health problems and should be avoided.

The Chairman said that the concern is a serious one and will ask that the Physical Planning and Environment Committee and the Public Health and Sanitation Committee deal with the issues relating to their committee from this extract.

Councillor Wilson asked if the Health Department still did fogging or treatment of areas, as nothing is being done in Brown's Hall.

The Chairman informed the meeting that from a fogging schedule that was circulated, Brown's Hall is scheduled to be fogged on December 10. He said that if there is no fogging on that date, then they will call a press conference.

Councillor Edwards said that Waterford and some other areas were left off the schedule.

In response, Councillor Douglas said that he had spoken with Mrs. Douglas, Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and she had explained that the areas were close to each other and not all would be on the schedule but would be fogged.

ii) **Application for Butchers Licences**

Nil

iii) **Application for Barbers/Hairdressers (Premises) Licences**

Nil

iv) **Exhumation**

- a) Request for the exhumation of the remains of Rachel McCausland-Miller from property in Spring Village to be re-interred at a different location in Spring Village
- b) Request for the exhumation of the remains of Rachel and Benjamin Lewis from property located at Waterloo for re-interment at Meadowrest Memorial Gardens

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by William Cytall, the licences were approved, in accordance with the conditions set out by the Health Department.

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by William Cytall, the licences were approved, in accordance with the conditions set out by the Health Department.

Resumption

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor Herbert Garriques, the meeting resumed.

11. REPORTS

(A) MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

I) Infrastructure and Traffic Committee 16/11/22

The minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure and Traffic Committee held on 16/11/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure and Traffic Committee held on November 16, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Herbert Garriques and carried.

II) **Human Resources Committee 21/11/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Human Resource Committee held on 21/11/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Human Resource Committee held on November 21, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Herbert Garriques and carried.

III) **Public Health Committee Meeting 17/11/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Public Health Committee held on 17/11/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Public Health Committee held on November 17, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Herbert Garriques and carried.

IV) **Municipal & Commercial Services Committee 22/11/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Municipal and Commercial Services Committee held on 22/11/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Municipal & Commercial Services Committee held on November 22, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Herbert Garriques and carried.

(B) **MINUTES OF AUTONOMOUS COMMITTEES**

i) **Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee 14/11/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee held on 14/11/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Disaster Planning, Management and Safety Committee held on November 14, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Joy Brown and carried.

ii) **Physical Planning & Environment Committee Meeting 15/11/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Physical Planning and Environment Committee held on 15/11/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Physical Planning and Environment Committee held on November 15, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Joy Brown and carried.

iii) **Finance & Planning Committee Meeting 16/11/22**

The meeting was not held due to the lack of a quorum.

iv) **Poor Relief Committee Meeting 17/11/22**

The minutes of the meeting of the Poor Relief Committee held on 17/11/22, were circulated to Councillors beforehand:

- (Copy Minute Book) –

Councillor Sydney Rose moved:

“BE IT RESOLVED THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Poor Relief Committee held on November 17, 2022, **BE AND ARE HEREBY** accepted.”

Seconded by Councillor Joy Brown and carried.

C) USE OF COUNCIL’S COMMON SEAL

Nil

D) REPORT – LINSTEAD TOWN CENTRE:

Councillor Cytall stated that in keeping with the Local Government Month activities, a symposium was put on by the Linstead Town Centre. He said that it was a success and would like to commend the Town Manager. He added that since the new Town Manager has come on board, he has brought on a number of new ideas and hoped that this new vibes will generate something good for Linstead and its environs.

The Chairman added that a request is being made for the National Land Agency (NLA) to have a meeting in Linstead to look at land titling.

12. GENERAL:

- a) **Resolution passed by the St. James Municipal Corporation seeking for Councillors to be trained in Development and Planning/**

The resolution was presented as under:

“The new urban agenda is defined by the United Nations as A paradigm shift based on the science of cities and lays out standards and principles for the planning, construction, development, management and improvemet of urban areas along its five main pillars of implementation, national urban policies, urban legislations and regulation, urban planning and design, local economy and municipal finance and local implementation (UNHabitat,2020). At the heart of the agenda lies the responsibility of Local Authorities. Local Authorities are expected to localize SDG 11 which sets out to ‘make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable (Woode, 2021)” Furthermore, the authority is expeted to plan, coordinate, manage and execute the agenda to interlink job creation with livelihood opportunities and improved quality of life. The Town and Country Planning act (1958) herein referred to as TCPA (1958) provides the latitude for LocalAuthorities to engage the new urban agenda and SDG 11 in a tangible way. For this engagement to guarantee impatful outputs in the development process, the overall capacity of local authorities particularly policymakers, must be improved to meet the requireents of what obtain globally.

Whereas the TCPA (1958) provides for the orderly and sustainable development of ruralo areas, cities and town (Town and Country Planning Act 1958)

And whereas under the TCPA (1958) Municipal Corporations are the Local Planning Authorotoes vested with the powers to revoke or modify planning permissions and contribute to development orders (Town and Country Planning Act 1958)

And whereas to make more efficient, effective and sustainable decisions in the development process, coouncillors should possess the requisite capacity.

Be it resolved that the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development should make it mandat ory for Councillors to undergo the necessary training and certification in development and planning via a reputable institution.

And be it further resolved that this resolution is sent to all Municipal Corporations to support and to the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development to be placed on the agenda of Parliament.”

The Chairman stated that the resolution is noted and that it was a very good idea and added that part of the Local Government reform process encompassed the training of Councillors. He said that this was the reason Mr. Chris Powell has been working with CALGA and those agencies and that this idea was not new.

13. MOTIONS:

a) Motions (of which Notice has been given previously)

Nil

b) Notice of Motions:

- i) Councillor Fenley Douglas gave notice of a motion, calling for Councillors to no longer accept the ALGAJ report until it becomes a legal entity.
- ii) Councillor Lawrence gave notice of a motion calling for the Redevelopment of Infrastructure and Drainage Network for Spanish Town

Suspension of the Standing Order

On the motion of Councillor Sydney Rose, seconded by Councillor William Cytall, the standing order was suspended to allow the agencies to do their reports.

1. National Solid Waste Management Authority (NSWMA)

Ms. Rachel Reid, Customer Relations Officer at the MPM Waste Management Limited introduced herself to the meeting.

Ms. Reid stated that persons would have been aware of the fifty (50) trucks that were recently handed over to the NSWMA and by extension to its regions. She said that they were issued to various regions and a number of them were assigned to Operation SWEEP (Strategically Working to Enforce and Enhance Public Cleansing). She said that the purpose of these trucks are to lend support to areas that have backlogs or need attention. She said that this was rolled out in Portmore on December 1, 2022 and are in Westmoreland and will be moving around the various regions and then into Kingston.

She said that there are plans to increase public education in St. Catherine but they are mostly in Kingston because it warranted such an action. The issues in St. Catherine, she said were because there are a growing number of dump sites, as persons are disposing their garbage improperly. She said that this has caused the trucks to spend a lot of time at these sites. She added that some people will say that this is as a result of non-collection, however she said that from a customer relations point of view, there should be no reason for illegal dumps. She said that now that they have resources, there should be a reduction in dump sites across the country. She said that there are a number which are cleared daily. She asked that dump sites be reported to the agency.

On the issue of business operators, she said that it was not because of a lack of knowledge, as they are aware that they should have contracts for collections, and that the agency is not mandated to collect their garbage. She said that while they do so at a cost through their commercial department, they do operations to inform them and they are given time to set their houses in order, prior to enforcement.

She further said that there are plans to clean the bins in Spanish Town and the rest of the parish and is seeking the help of Councillors to do deep cleaning and enforcement of the NSWMA Act. She said that the Municipal Police Officers are trained and can write tickets on behalf of the NSWMA and sought their assistance, as the agency did not have the capacity to do this alone. She said that they are seeking to keep the town centres clean and added that the area in Linstead designated for garbage has a challenge, where it is difficult to get to the bin and sought assistance to have the area to the bin paved.

She said that the Executive Director has promised a clean Christmas and the Public Cleansing Inspectors are tasked to use the resources efficiently to do so and to ensure that persons are educated in proper solid waste management. This is to maintain the cleanliness of the island.

Councillor Benjamin said that he noticed that garbage trucks and bikes were procured and asked if crane trucks will be bought to remove derelict vehicles from communities.

Ms. Reid said that there are plans to purchase crane trucks, as it is more economical to do so, than to repair the malfunctioning ones. She said that the process has started but is not sure when these will be bought.

Councillor Garriques acknowledged the agency for the report and stated that the market in Linstead has a skip and also that he has been monitoring collections in the Linstead town centre. He said that some sweepers have been putting the garbage at the wrong locations. He also stated that he has heard of clean up of Spanish Town and said that there are other towns, such as Linstead and Old Harbour and also begged for the garbage to be cleaned at nights. He said that when this is done the towns are clean in the mornings. He went on to say that the sweepers have been complaining that they are not getting bags for the garbage, but admitted that they do a good job. He recommended that the agency have community meetings where persons can be informed about proper garbage disposal.

Councillor Cytall thanked the agency for attending and asked that collections be done in the Troja area. He said that there used to be collections but due to the limited number of trucks collections had stopped; he asked that collections be resumed, since there are more trucks. He also asked that the schools in the surrounding areas such as Mt. Hermon and Berrick Primary be placed on the front burner.

Ms. Reid said that she will take the recommendations back to her office.

Councillor Edwards stated that it was good to have the agency represented at the meeting. He said that the problems are always talked about, and that he is happy for the move to purchase these trucks, as this will resolve some of the problems. He said that the last time trucks were bought was 2008, under former Prime Minister Bruce Golding and now some are being bought. He asked if any of these trucks will be assigned to Portmore.

Ms. Reid responded that she did not know if any will be assigned to Portmore. She said that Portmore has a heavy generation of garbage and trucks have been assigned to work in those areas temporarily to clear the backlog.

Councillor Wint said that Ms. Reid gave an overview of the challenges and has outlined some measures, however he said that it appears as if the assignments are not being properly done. He asked if there will be an Officer who will be assigned, as it is

apparent that this is not happening. He said the suggestions were good but there needs to be monitoring of the mini dumps by whoever is assigned to the area.

Ms. Reid responded that there is an Officer assigned to that area and added that while some areas are cleaned, people go right back to their old ways of dumping. She said that she will recommend that this forms a part of the monthly report.

The Chairman stated that the Executive Director with a team came and met with the Commercial Services Manager and that collaboration is already in place. He said that the Corporation did not want to go out there without the NSWMA, but admitted that when there is a lull, it is due to a lack of follow up. He said that Ms. Holt, the Commercial Services Manager is ready to work with the agency.

Ms. Reid said that she was also a part of that team, but they had to be consistent, where they communicate and periodically go out there into the business community.

Councillor Wilson spoke about mini dumps on the Guanaboa Vale main road and Barry which need urgent cleaning. He said that the situation is so bad that it will take a few truck loads to be clean.

Ms. Reid said that this will be dealt with through "SWEEP".

Councillor Douglas said that he was concerned that throughout the parish there are a number of medical facilities that generate waste that is being disposed of improperly. He said that the garbage is being collected by the NSWMA workers and animals sometimes rummage through these waste. He asked that a special operation be done to have these facilities on board with respect to having valid contracts for collection of these hazardous waste.

Ms. Reid stated that this waste should not be collected in that manner, as they are special waste and should be incinerated. She said that during their public education drive they normally speak to doctors and nurses about how to dispose of these waste materials.

Councillor Rose said that he welcomed the fact that the trucks have arrived, but believes that the resources are not being managed properly and that enforcement is lacking.

Ms. Reid stated that they have heard the recommendations from the various Municipal Corporations and that there are some improvements with the use of the bikes that have been acquired, to add to the resources.

Councillor Dunn asked that collections be done at schools in the Guys Hill Division.

The Chairman said that he liked the presentation and wanted to ensure that it is backed up with action. He stated that the Ministry of Education did not have a budget for garbage collection in schools and asked that the schools be placed on the collection schedule. He also mentioned the Police Staff College and Camp Verley and asked that something be put in place so that he is not called about them.

He said that there is a mini dump near Central Village on the main road and added that the most degrading things are said about him, though he has no control over the collections. He asked that an operation be done on Old Harbour Road near the round about and that the supervisors be informed about the situation in Spanish Town, as he will not continue to take the blame. He further said that there was an order for one hundred trucks in 2016 and to date the entire number has not been received.

Ms. Reid thanked the Corporation for listening and clarified that she was from the Customer Relations Unit and not public relations. She said that Councillors, especially those from Portmore would have been familiar with her. She said whatever she is able to do in her capacity will be done, as she is an action person and that she has been with the agency for almost twelve years. She further said that she is aware of the situations that they face, and added that the agency has a responsibility to collect, transport and dispose of garbage in an environmentally safe manner and with the resources available there will be improvements.

She said too that solid waste management is not just about collection; it starts from generation from source and is asking the residents to assist to practice reduce, reuse, separate and properly bag their waste for collection and this will lead to improvement overall.

The Chairman thanked Ms. Reid for her presentation which was well done.

2. Parish Development Committee

Mr. Headlam, Chairman of the Parish Development Committee reported as under:

“The PDC continues its work for community development through its various organs such as the DACs and CDCs. In recent reports I mentioned the low level of engagements and activities of these entities but I must now say that this is changing as we progress into the post-pandemic era.

Last month being Local Government and Community Development Month there were a number of activities aimed towards Reigniting a Nation for Greatness. The feedback from these activities are coming in slowly but we believe that quite a bit was done. For the PDC directly we partnered with the Linstead DAC in some need facelifting work at the Linstead Fire Station. The facility received a paint job as a start of a number of initiatives in support of the men and women who serve at that station. Many thanks to BH Paints for their donation of the paints and other supplies.

The garbage issue is still topical among community concerns. While the procurement of additional garbage trucks is good, there needs to be accountability for those persons who continue with the illegal dumping. The idea of just cleaning the garbage without prosecuting the perpetrators will have little effect on the community.

As we approach the New Year we are anticipating an upward change in communities activities across the parish. As a corporation I continue to encourage you to support the community groups. It is my belief that a more dynamic between the corporation and the PDC and its organs will significantly benefit our citizens. In this regards we will seek to furnish you the more information concerning the community groups.

Mr. Chairman, councilors and all other stakeholders, merry Christmas and for the New Year all the best.”

Resumption

On the motion of Councillor Herbert Garriques, seconded by Councillor Sydney Rose, the meeting resumed the standing order.

14. PETITIONS:

Nil

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

a) Impact of SOE's on the Corporation

Councillor Lawrence asked if there was any information available on the impact of the State of Emergency on the Corporation's revenue.

The Chairman stated that he could not say nor was he able to say what the regulations are and therefore has to see what happens. He said that he would advise the citizens of St. Catherine who intend to have events, to go to the Police first and if they give approval, the Corporation will do its part.

b) Congratulations to New Justices of the Peace

Councillor Garriques said that, as the longest serving Justice of the Peace in the meeting, he would like to congratulate the two newest Justices of the Peace, Councillors Theresa Turner-Flynn and Patricia Harris. He said that he however, wanted to warn them both that are some behaviours that will not be tolerated in the public space.

c) Telephone Service at Caymanas Police station

Councillor Brown reported that it has been over three months that the Caymanas Police station has been without telephone service. She said that numerous reports have been made to the utility company and asked that the Corporation also try to assist her to have the service restored.

d) Repairs to Road Cut by National Water Commission

Councillor Edwards said that he is concerned about the roads that have been cut by NWC and would like to see them repaired. He said that there was discussion some years ago, regarding a memoranadum of understanding to be done between the NWC and the Corporations. He added that he has always said that there needs to be some agreement between both parties. He said however that there should be some reporting mechanism, as some of the roads have been cut and left unattended for too long, because there is no partnership between the entities.

On another matter relating to the NWC, he said that last month he had brought up the problems being faced by residents in Portmore. He said that there is low or no water in some areas and thinks that the agency is too dependent on the Jamaica Public Service (JPS) for its power supply and needs to install its own generators. He also said that they need to look at renewable energy and remarked that the NWC needs to be more proactive.

e) Submission of Claim Forms for Administrative Assistants

The Chief Executive Officer informed the meeting that the submission of the claim forms for their Administrative Assistants were due and should be submitted to his office, as payments will not be done without the forms.

f) **Annual Christmas Party for Staff and Councillors**

The Chairman reminded the meeting that the annual Christmas Party will be held on Sunday December 11, 2022, at the Caymanas Golf Club from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

g) **Submission of Statutory Declarations**

The Chairman stated that there are a number of Councillors who have outstanding statutory declaration forms for 2021 and implored them to submit them to prevent prosecution. He added that the one for 2022 becomes due at the end of the month.

16. ADJOURNMENT

At this stage (1:01 p.m.), Councillor Claude Hamilton moved, seconded by Councillor Courtney Edwards, that the meeting be adjourned.

CONFIRMED:

.....
CHAIRMAN
ST. CATHERINE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
AND MAYOR OF SPANISH TOWN

DATED.....