

## **Belize City Council Meeting**

### **Minutes of Emergency Closed Council Meeting -15th May, 2012 10:05 am**

#### **Conference Room, City Hall**

#### **Members Present:**

Mayor Darrell Bradley

Councilor Roger Espejo

Councilor Kevin Singh

Councilor Bernard Pitts Jr

Councilor Michael Theus

Councilor Alain Gonzalez

Councilor Dean Samuels

#### **Members absent:**

Deputy Mayor Dion Leslie (medical leave)

Councilor Eric Chang (work leave)

Councilor Alifa Hyde (maternity leave)

Councilor Phillip Willoughby

#### **Others Present:**

Mrs. Candice Burke, City Administrator

Ms. Kiran Budhrani, Administrative Officer

Mr. Cordel Gonzalez, Administrative Officer

The Mayor chaired the meeting and called it to order at 10:05 AM. Mayor Darrell Bradley said the opening prayer.

#### **Adoption of Minutes**

There was no adoption of the Closed Council Meeting Minutes.

## **1. Mayor Darrell Bradley**

### **i. Street Repairs**

The Mayor proposed four (4) streets to be upgraded. These streets are South Street between Albert & Regent streets, Calle Al Mar, Daly, and Wilson streets. The Council got quotations from different contractors. Contractors with the best and most cost effective quotations were selected. Unite Belize will cement both South and Calle al Mar streets at an estimated cost of \$18,000.00 and \$71,000.00 respectively. M & M Engineering will cement Daly Street at an estimated cost of \$113,000.00. RJB Construction will double asphalt Wilson Street at an estimated cost of \$69,000.00. All repairs of streets totaling approximately \$271,000.00. Donations are expected from Belize Tourism Board (BTB) towards the South Street repairs of approximately \$9,000.00. Donations of approximately \$30,000.00 will be received from businesses located on Daly Street which include Insurance Corporation of Belize (ICB) and Dr. Amin Hegar. All in favor of street repairs that will take place on South Street, Daly Street, Calle Al Mar and Wilson Street: MAYOR, AG, BP, MT, KS, RE, DS. Absent: PW, AH, DL, EC

At present the Council has gotten a \$1 million loan facility from Heritage Bank of which \$500,000 is proposed for the purchase of Heavy Equipment and \$500,000 is proposed for repairing of streets. The Mayor suggested that the Council borrow an additional \$1 million from Scotia Bank -if granted the second loan: the Council will use it to repair an additional thirteen (13) streets. Whenever the Municipal Bond comes into effect the Council will use the Bond to retire both Loan Facilities.

The City Engineer will do a scope of work on all four streets and note exactly what needs to be done when it comes to repairs and drainage. Councilor Singh will deal with Belize Water Service about necessary piping and water drainage.

Councilor Samuels was asked to compose a listing of Southside streets that needs the most urgent repairs. A total of sixteen (16) streets, three (3) of which will be repaired with the remaining balance of \$229,000.00 and the balance of the streets will be repaired with the proposed extra \$1 million loan facility that will be obtained from Scotia Bank.

### **ii. City Engineer**

Mayor Bradley mentioned that there have been numerous complaints against Mr. Mendoza. The most recent was Mr. Mendoza's approval of Ms. Zenida Moya's Restaurant whereby he used the City Council stamp and an invalid code to approve the plans. Mayor once again reiterated that Mr. Mendoza has the technical capabilities but lacks leadership skills and confidence in himself and his decision making process. The City Administrator will ask him to resign from his post as City Engineer and if he does not accept to resign then the City

Admin will go ahead and terminate him from working at the Belize City Council. All in favor of the City Engineer's resignation and or termination: MAYOR, AG, BP, MT, KS, RE, DS.  
Absent: PW, AH, DL, EC

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:50a.m. It was moved by Councilor Pitts and seconded by Councilor Gonzalez.

All were in favor that the Closed Council Meeting be adjourned.