

Belize City Council Meeting

Minutes of Closed Council Meeting –March 19, 2013 10:00 am

Conference Room, City Hall

Members Present:

Mayor Darrell Bradley

Deputy Mayor Dion Leslie

Councilor Kevin Singh

Councilor Michael Theus

Councilor Roger Espejo

Councilor Dean Samuels

Councilor Phillip Willoughby

Councilor Eric Chang

Councilor Alifa Hyde

Members absent:

Councilor Alain Gonzalez

Councilor Bernard Pitts Jr

Others Present:

Mrs. Candice Burke, City Administrator

Mr. Cordel Gonzalez, Administrative Officer

The Mayor chaired the meeting and called it to order at 10:15 PM. Councilor Kevin Singh said the opening prayer.

Adoption of Minutes

The adoption of the Closed Council Meeting Minutes of 14th February, 2013 was done by Councilor Hyde and seconded by Councilor Singh. There were no objections to the adoption.

1. Mayor Darrell Bradley

i. Monthly Financials

The Mayor went over the February financials with the Councilors. One concern of the Mayor was the line item named 'Festivities & Celebrations' he wanted to know how this figure was so high over \$43,000. The city administrator remarked that she will check with Mrs. Ordonez about the amount. Also, Mr. Bradley showed the payments that have been made from the Bond proceeds so far up to this point. Total money spent was close to \$7.5 million.

ii. Street Work Update

The Mayor mentioned that he intends to commence upgrades of some streets in the near future which are Lawrence Ave, North Front Street, Tibruce Street, Fabers Road, Antonio Soberanis Street, Portion of Princess Margaret Drive, Cran Street, Coney Drive.

Streets that are currently being upgraded are Chetumal Street, Kelly Street, and Goldson Ave. On Thursday the engineers will send out emails with dimensions to contractors to tender bids for 9 streets.

2. Councilor Phillip Willoughby

i. Fire Department Presentation

Councilor Willoughby showed a presentation that was previously made by the Fire Department. The presentation talked about measured and procedures that can be taken to assist the fire department to prevent future hazardous fires from occurring. One very important issue was the construction of a turning bay over the canal on Holy Emmanuel Street to allow for fire trucks to maneuver out of the area. Councilor Willoughby said there are many more ways that the Council can assist with the help of the sanitation department. It was recommended that the presentation be forwarded to the city engineer.

ii. Fuel Purchase

Councilor Willoughby mentioned that past Councilor Peyrefitte is managing the Bel-China Uno Gas Station and ask if he could make a suggestion to the Council if they would consider purchasing fuel from her service station. Mayor mentioned that it could be something to look at in the future. Deputy Mayor Chang commented that we have just previously had an agreement with Puma Northern Highway Service Station and it would not be plausible to walk out on our agreement.

In the same manner Mayor wanted to express his gratitude and congratulations to Councilor Willoughby and CEMO department for all the outstanding work been done.

3. Councilor Roger Espejo

i. Discovering Media

Councilor Espejo asked the Council permission to allow Mr. Alex Gamero some time to do a small presentation on a proposal to do advertising on the street at 3 major/key locations within the city namely at the Swing Bridge, Flag Monument Roundabout and Hand with leaf Monument Roundabout. This will be right after the pedestrian crossings totaling 9 spots 2 at the Swing Bridge, 3 at Flag Roundabout and 4 at the Hand with leaf Roundabout. It will yield \$3,600.00 per year in revenue for the Council. After the presentation the Mayor said the Council will review and decide if it will be plausible.

4. Councilor Mike Theus

i. WAVE Radio Contract

Councilor Theus commented that he has been in negotiations with Wave Radio in finalizing a contract for official advertising and informative ads of the Council. Mayor wants Mr. Theus to try to get Wave Radio to come down to \$3,600 per year.

Other Important Matters

- Mr. Zhunyin Run & Su Zhen Zhou has been constructing a commercial building at the corner of 2557 Central American Blvd and St. Jude Street. The business owners are requesting permission to lease a portion of the reserve measuring 8 feet on St. Jude Street. The Council voted in favor of the lease for parking with the condition that it be discontinued when the New Civic Center is constructed: MAYOR, MT, RE, DS, PW, EC, DL
- Mr. Melvin Sutherland is requesting permission to erect a fast food stall between Kings Park Nazarene Church and the cemented side walk. The Council voted to denied the erection of the wooden structure: MAYOR, MT, RE, DS, PW, EC, DL, KS
- Ms. Tamara Cole is requesting the Council's permission to temporarily use the drain reserve located behind her residence at #14B Monroe Street, Belize City to construct a driveway for her personal use. The Council will hold off with a decision until pictures of the area are viewed by the Council.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:35p.m. It was moved by Councilor Willoughby seconded by Councilor Theus.

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