Belize City Council Meeting

Minutes of Closed Council Meeting –October 4, 2013 10:00 am

Conference Room, City Hall

Members Present:

Mayor Darrell Bradley

Councilor Alifa Hyde

Councilor Alain Gonzalez

Councilor Dean Samuels

Councilor Michael Theus

Councilor Kevin Singh

Councilor Bernard Pitts Jr

Members absent:

Councilor Dion Leslie

Councilor Roger Espejo

Councilor Phillip Willoughby

Deputy Mayor Eric Chang

Others Present:

Mrs. Candice Burke, City Administrator

Mr. Cordel Gonzalez, Administrative Officer

The Mayor chaired the meeting and called it to order at 10:30 PM. Councilor Alain Gonzalez said the opening prayer.

Adoption of Minutes

The adoption of the Closed Council Meeting Minutes of 15th August, 2013 was done by Councilor Singh and seconded by Councilor Gonzalez. There were no objections to the adoption.

1. **<u>Mayor Darrell Bradley</u>**

   i. **Monthly Financials**

The Mayor presented the September financials to the Councilors. The Mayor asked Councilors to review the financials and during the course of the meetings he would address any questions or concerns about the figures.

   ii. **Heritage bank Facility**

The Mayor mentioned that the Council intends to start a facility of $5 million to further concrete more streets due to the additional street being dug up by BWSL. The Council will work along BWSL to find out which street need urgent. The proposed date to get this facility will be sometime in October.

   iii. **Renovated Commercial Center**

Mayor expressed his interest in renovating the Commercial Center using Jarreth Myvette and men from the paint up crew to paint the building. Mayor wants all the work to be completed before Christmas.

   iv. **Street Work Update**

Mayor has stated that street works are moving a little slower than usual but intends to sign new contracts for six streets namely East Canal, Gabourel Lane, Dean Street, Mussel Street, Vernon Street and Juliet Soberanis Street. The Mayor commented that Mr. Cardona is a very good contractor and does very good work. Many of the councilors want Mayor to address the drainage situation on streets that are already cemented.

   v. **Downtown Free Zone**

The Mayor mentioned that he intends to make the entire downtown area a free zone including the entire waterfront of Belize City and the 3 parks located in the downtown area.

   vi. **Northern Highway Project**

The Mayor expressed his plans to toll the Philip Goldson Highway at both inbound and outbound travel at a cost of $1.00 between the hours of 6am to 9pm.

   vii. **BTL Park Project**

The Mayor exclaimed that BTL Park will be opening on the same day of the LOVE FM Christmas Parade which will be held on Saturday, December 14, 2013. Mayor asked that Councilors Singh and Hyde spearhead a committee to organize the opening ceremony and events.

viii.   New City Engineer

The Mayor notified the Council that we have hired a new city engineer, Mr. Floyd Williams, for a period of one year. All in favor of Mr. Floyd Williams appointment as the City Engineer: MAYOR, AG, MT, KS, DS, BP, AH. Absent: DL, RE, PW, EC

ix.   Eric Chang

The Mayor mentioned that he has personally tried several times to contact Deputy Mayor Chang. Mayor has stated that Mr. Chang not being here is seriously affecting the Council and he will be giving by next Friday 11th October to return and if not the Council will make a decision which will more possibly be to elect a new Deputy Mayor and pass on his portfolio.

Other Important Matters

- Mr. Marion Usher is requesting to lease a reserve by the dead end of .

  Council voted and approved the lease for 30 year for $50,000.00

- Parking spaces located behind court building will be sectioned and used by Supreme Court Judges and Senior Staff. Mrs. Alifa Hyde will spearhead the venture.

The Meeting was adjourned at 12:30p.m. It was moved by Councilor Theus seconded by Councilor Gonzalez.

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