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MINUTES OF THE 162nd MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 23rd NOVEMBER 2023 AT 9.00 AM

PRESENT: Her Excellency the Governor, Ms. Julia Crouch
The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance, Economic Development & Investment and Health, Dr Ellis Webster
The Honourable Deputy Governor, Mr Perin Bradley
The Honourable Minister for Social Development, Cultural Affairs, Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education and Library Services, Ms Dee-Ann Kentish-Rogers
The Honourable Minister for Home Affairs, Immigration, Labour, Human Rights, Constitutional Affairs, Information and Broadcasting, Lands and Physical Planning, Mr Kenneth Hodge
The Honourable Minister for Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities, Housing and Tourism, Mr Haydn Hughes
The Honourable Minister for Sustainability, Innovation and Environment, Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie
The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford
Acting Clerk to Executive Council, Ms Jennyville Smith

IN ATTENDANCE: The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Merrick Richardson
Executive Assistant to the Deputy Governor, Steddika Richardson

EX MIN 23/347

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Parliamentary Secretary and Executive Assistant to the Deputy Governor remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 161st Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 16th November 2023.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EX MIN 23/348

EX MEMO 23/279 2024 Budget Estimate – Approval of 2024 Budget Revenue and Expenditure Ceilings and Allocation of New Spending

The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Merrick Richardson and Executive Assistant to the Deputy Governor, Steddika Richardson, remained

The 2024 Budget and areas for additional expenditure allocations were submitted to the Executive Council for consideration. The 2024 -2026 Medium Term Economic and Fiscal Plan (MTEFP) was used as the basis for budget preparation.

Ministerial and departmental submissions with new spending requests, savings options and updated revenue estimates were used to establish the 2024 Budget and Forward Years Estimates.

The Budget Call process generated in excess of EC\$45 million in new spending requests for 2024. Requests were prioritized to fit within the available resources, hence, the recommended requests for new spending is EC\$12.5m.

The Medium Term Economic Fiscal Plan provided an expenditure envelope of EC\$383.37m, with capital expenditure at \$100.68m and recurrent baselines totalling approximately EC\$270.18m, providing a scope of EC\$12.5m for new spending

As a contingency measure sum was assigned to restricted expenditure under the Ministry of Finance in accordance with the MTEFP.

New spending was allocated primarily based on the following conditions:

- I. Expenditure is associated with a statutory obligation – eg. provisions for audit expense
- II. Expenditure is associated with a regulatory requirement – eg. Additional personnel for AFRS to meet Cat 6 airport, and additional personnel for the Ministry of Infrastructure.
- III. Expenditure is required to meet an existing obligation or commitment eg. Existing contractual obligations or other commitments eg. EMIS system in education, and significant

resources to the operationalisation of the new high school campus.

- IV. Expenditure meets requirements as a 2024 budget policy priority – eg. increased spending in the Department of Information Technology.
- V. Expenditure is a priority programme/ urgent & essential – eg. Increased expenditure on security – resourcing of RAPF.
- VI. Expenditure is necessitated by reintegration of WCA/HAA – Increase in staffing in MOH, Treasury & Chambers.
- VII. Expenditure supports increased revenue generation/collection.

In accordance with the Government's approved priorities by the Executive Council, the 2024 Budget will focus on the six policy areas identified.

Council

- 1) thanked the Ministry for the work well done to advance the 2024 Budget;
- 2) noted the proposed 2024 Budget Estimates and the policy decisions required;
- 3) noted the forward budget estimates for 2025 and 2026;
- 4) agreed on the summary 2024 Budget Components, as follows:

i. Recurrent Revenue:	EC\$ 410,690,444
ii. Recurrent Expenditure:	EC\$282,690,804
iii. Recurrent Surplus/(Deficit):	EC\$ 127,999,640
iv. Capital Grants/Revenue:	-
v. Capital Expenditure:	EC\$ 100,681,942
vi. Capital Deficit	EC\$(100,681,942)
vii. Overall Balance (before amortization):	EC\$ 27,317,698
viii. Debt Amortization:	EC\$38,277,168
ix. Overall Surplus/Deficit	

(after amortization): (EC\$10,959,470)

x. Financing: -

- 5) Noted the New Spending for incorporation into the 2024 Budget and issuance via budget call circular No. 2.
- 6) Noted the need to continue to curtail the wage bill and ensure the ratio of PE/Recurrent Expenditure or Recurrent Expense remains within recommended levels.
- 7) Noted that the 2024 budget provided funding for several posts to be filed during the 2nd and 3rd quarters of the year. Council also noted that this would lead to less fiscal room for the year 2025 when 100% of the budget would be required to fund these posts.
- 8) Noted that the plans for Water Corporation (WCA) and the Health Authority (HAA) reintegrated into the central government's operations. However, detailed reintegration plans have not yet been provided to the Ministry of Finance, preventing the preparation of accurate recurrent expenditure estimates for these entities.
- 9) Noted that incorporating WCA and HAA into the central government will require an expansion of the current expenditure framework. This expansion is proposed to be addressed through a supplementary budget.
- 10) Noted that the Ministry has already engaged with both entities to gather their recurrent expenditure forecasts for 2024, as well as their revenue estimates. The preliminary data indicates that HAA may need an additional approximate \$2-4 million over and above the existing subvention levels, in addition to their revenue-supported expenditures.
- 11) Noted the concerns raised by the Ministry of Finance as it relates to WCA revenue forecasts.
- 12) Noted that although capital expenditure had been set aside for CCTV there was no budget for recurrent expenditure on maintaining the equipment or the wider infrastructure recommended by the Commissioner of Police in terms of a control room to get maximum benefit from the expenditure.
- 13) Counsel instructs the Ministry of Social Development and the Deputy Governor's office to prepare a submission setting out the

Electronic Monitoring policy as it relates to the wider costs and implications. It was noted that although there was capital money allocated for a pilot, no budget had been provided under recurrent expenditure to implement the policy. The Attorney-General Chambers are to be consulted as to whether legislation will be needed.

Council authorised the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, FIN; PAS, FIN; PERM, SECS; BD; ACC, GEN;
HON, PREM; MINS OF GOV'T; HON, DG

EX MIN 23/349

EX MEMO 23/280 Appointment to the Higher Education Licensing Board

The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Merrick Richardson and Executive Assistant to the Deputy Governor, Steddika Richardson, remained.

The Hon Minister for Social Development briefed council. Section 3 of the Higher Education Licensing Act, provides for appointment to be made to the Anguilla Higher Education Licensing Board. The Minister of Education in collaboration with the relevant Ministries and organizations has re-appointing and appointed persons to serve on the Board for a period of five years.

Council noted:

1. The reappointment and appointment of the following members to the Higher Education Licensing Board:
 - Kiesha Gumbs-Bibby – **Chairperson** (Ministry of Social Development)
 - Rhina Meade—**Deputy Chairperson** (Ministry of Finance & Economic Development)
 - Bren Romney—Ex Officio Member and Secretary to the Board (Chief Education Officer)
 - Erica Edwards—(Attorney General's Chambers)

- Sharon Roberts Joseph--(Ministry of Lands and Physical Planning)
2. The appointment of Mr. Shakaro Richardson as representative of civil society
 3. The retirement date of Ms. Sharon Roberts Joseph the 30th of June 2026

Action: PS, SD; HON, MIN SD

EX MIN 23/350

EX MEMO 23/281 Proposal for Revocation of Work Permit for Madeariman Restaurant

The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Merrick Richardson and Executive Assistant to the Deputy Governor, Steddika Richardson, remained

Council:

- (i) ratified the revocation of the work permit for Julien Wilfried, an employee at Madeariman Restaurant; and
- (ii) was satisfied that the conditions of the work permit had been knowingly breached;

Council authorised the issue of the Action Sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, HA; LAB, COMM; CIO; HON, MIN HA
