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MINUTES OF THE 26th MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 14TH JANUARY 2021 AT 9.00AM

- PRESENT: His Excellency the Governor (acting), Mr Perin Bradley
- The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance and Health,
Dr Ellis Webster
- The Honourable Deputy Governor (acting), Mrs Kathleen Rogers
- 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 Economic Development, Commerce,
Information Technology, Environment and Natural Resources,
Mr Kyle Hodge
- The Honourable Attorney General (acting), Ms Erica Edwards
- Clerk to Executive Council, Mrs Angela Hughes
- IN ATTENDANCE: Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development,
Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie
Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social
Development/Education, Mr Merrick Richardson
Financial Specialist, Mr Stephen Turnbull
- ABSENT: The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford

EX MIN 21/12

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 25th Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 7th January 2021 and the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on Friday 8th January 2021.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Council noted that:

- 1) the AG's Chambers continues to work on implementation of the Regulations to facilitate hotels remitting arrival fees to the Government of Anguilla on behalf of guests; and
- 2) in relation to EX MIN 20/468, the transfer of responsibility for the administration of unemployment assistance benefit is proceeding satisfactorily.

EX MIN 21/13

EXTENSION OF ALL COVID-19 RELATED REGULATIONS & COVID-19 VACCINATION DEPLOYMENT

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained. The following persons joined the meeting:

PS, Health, Mr Foster Rogers
 Chief Medical Officer, Dr Aisha Andrewin
 Health Planner, Ms Rochelle Rogers
 EPI Manager, Ms Janice Hodge
 Public Health Nurse, Mrs Faye Thomas-Astaphan

The Health team briefed Council on the COVID-19 vaccination global update and vaccine deployment plans. Salient points as follows:

Vaccination Global Update

Three main vaccines Pfizer/Biotech, Moderna and Astrazeneca/Oxford have received emergency use authorization in various countries, including the United Kingdom. Several countries have already introduced the vaccine to their target populations, to date an estimated 29 million doses have been administered in 43 countries around the globe.

COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment Plan

The COVID-19 Vaccination Deployment Team has completed the COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Plan and the complimentary Communication Strategic Plan. The plans outline the anticipated rollout of vaccines once received from the United Kingdom.

The team decided to focus on the rollout of the Astrazeneca/Oxford vaccine because we already have the capacity to store and distribute vaccines requiring cold storage between 2 to 8°C. Dates for distribution and the initial dose amounts of the Astrazeneca/Oxford vaccine will be identified shortly.

The aim is to vaccinate 70% of the population by December 2021. The Astrazeneca/Oxford vaccine is administered in a manner which is already familiar to the Health team owing to their previous experience with other vaccines and training needs will be minimal.

Communication Strategy

The team anticipates that there will be challenges in communicating with and sensitizing the public to the use of the vaccine, owing to vaccine hesitancy in adult populations and international anti-vax messaging around the COVID-19 vaccine. The communication strategy via diverse methods seeks to encourage persons within the community to take the COVID-19 vaccine.

Council:

- 1) thanked the Health team for the work well done;
- 2) reviewed the existing COVID-19 related regulations which expire on 23 January 2021 and agreed that the following Regulations should be extended, for the period 24 January 2021 to 6 March 2021:

- a) Public Health (Covid-19 Regulation of Ports) Regulations, 2021;
 - b) Public Health (Covid-19 Monitoring of Approved Businesses) Regulations, 2021;
 - c) Public Health (Quarantine) (COVID-19) Regulations, 2021;
 - d) Emergency Powers (COVID-19 Border Control) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021; and
 - e) Quarantine (COVID-19) (Arriving Passengers Health Clearance) Rules, 2021; and
- 3) agreed that the current testing protocols should not change. For the avoidance of doubt all persons will be tested before exiting quarantine; however, should the need arise to conserve testing kits, consideration may be given to allowing the Quarantine Authority discretion to determine whether a test is administered before exiting quarantine. To effect this, an amendment to Section 7 of the Public Health (Quarantine) (COVID-19) Regulations will be required;
- 4) noted that the first batch of 8000 single dose vaccines should arrive in Anguilla in the week commencing February 2, with the second batch of 7500 single dose vaccines arriving later on in February. A determination about future vaccine supplies will then be made according to vaccine take up;
- 5) noted the National COVID-19 Vaccine Deployment Plan and Council will consider the updated plan once it is completed; and
- 6) noted the Communication Strategic Plan, COVID-19 Vaccine Communication - the Anguilla Response 2020.

Action: PS, HLTH; PS, FIN; PS, EDCITENR; BD; ACC GEN;
HON, DG; HON, AG; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 21/14

EX MEM 21/07 EXEMPTION FROM FEES FOR EXTENSION OF STAY

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council deferred the matter for further consideration.

Action: PS, HA; HON, MIN HA

EX MIN 21/15

EX MEM 21/08 APPLICATION FOR RECTIFICATION OF ALIENS LAND HOLDING LICENSES

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council noted the brief of the Hon Minister of Home Affairs and Lands. By letter dated November 20, 2020 addressed to Mr. Leslie Hodge, Director of Lands and Surveys Department, the legal representative of the applicants submitted a request. Counsel asked that the previous application made in 2019 be disregarded and that the Aliens Land Holding Licences be amended because of an administrative error in the unit owners licences. Clause 4 of each Aliens Land Holding Licence erroneously states the exclusive renting agent for the units.

Council agreed that for certain unit owners, the Alien Land Holding Licenses shall be amended to show the correct exclusive renting agent and that said Licences shall be re-issued accordingly.

Action: PS, HA: HON, MIN HA

EX MIN 21/16

EX MEM 21/09 APPLICATION FOR ISSUE OF LICENCE UNDER THE ALIENS LAND HOLDING REGULATION ACT – REGISTRATION SECTION WEST END, BLOCK 17810 B, PARCEL 180 (VILLA 18) CONTAINING 0.26 ACRES

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

Council:

- 1) agreed to rescind Executive Minute 20/473; and
- 2) further agreed to issue an Aliens Land Holding Licence to hold on a freehold basis 0.26 acres of land, located at Barnes Bay being Villa no. 18, forming part of Resorts & Residences of Anguilla Home Owners Association Ltd., a Condominium development at Four Seasons Anguilla Ltd., situated in Registration Section: West End, Block 17810 B described as Parcel 180, subject to the following:

a) Stamp duties payable are as follows:

- | | | |
|------|---|----------------|
| (i) | under the Stamp Act – 5%
of EC\$9,761,388.08 | EC\$488,069.40 |
| (ii) | under the Aliens Land Holding
Regulation Act – 0%
of EC\$9,761,388.08 | <u>EXEMPT</u> |

TOTAL **EC\$488,069.40**

b) Regulations to be issued for Exemption.

Action: PS, HA; DLS; HON, MIN HA

EX MIN 21/18

EX MEM 21/11 FINANCIAL STOCKTAKE – DECEMBER 31, 2020

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained. The following persons joined the meeting:

Mrs Anthea Ipinson, Chief Project Officer
Mrs Shona Proctor, Budget Director
Ms Jamila Gumbs, Budget Officer

Council:

- 1) thanked the team for work well done; and
- 2) noted the report on the financial position as at December 31, 2020, from the Budget Officer. The overall fiscal position remains challenging:
 - Overall financial position including debt amortization shows a deficit of \$18.54 million at the end of December;
 - Recurrent revenue inclusive of the financial aid grant payment of EC\$41.54 million was EC\$233.45 million this is EC\$19.73 million less than the original forecast. Overall percentage impact on recurrent revenue for the major revenue heads as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic are:
 - o Property tax - 2.15%
 - o Interim Stabilisation Levy -14.81%
 - o Taxes on goods and services -21.43%
 - o Customs duties and related charges -34.03%
 - o Licences -14.08%
 - o Fines, fees and permits -12.87%
 - Recurrent expenditure was EC\$222.36 million which is EC\$16.64 million below estimate;
 - Capital revenue is EC\$10.28 million;

- Capital expenditure is EC\$8.28 million;
- Operating bank accounts are overdrawn by EC\$12.98 million;
- Central Government Debt inclusive of short term credit facilities moved from \$486.53 million at the end of 2019 to \$452.80 million at the end of December 2020. The reduction in debt is attributable to debt amortization payments of \$31.63 million and disbursements on the ACC Loan of \$3.29 million;
- Since 2016 the \$330.28 million Banking Resolution debt declined by EC\$23.79 million to \$306.49 million at the end of December 2020;
- The Sinking Fund balance at the end of December 2020 is zero;
- There are deferred salaries of \$5 million payable;
- In June 2021 quarterly payments of \$2.67 million in respect of the ASSB Promissory Note commence, as the 5-year grace period has come to an end; and
- \$2.18 million in Accommodation Tax was received for December as compared to \$17,000 in November 2020.

Action: PS, FIN; PS, EDCITENR; BD; ACC GEN; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 21/21

EX MEM 21/14 APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS MADE TO VARIOUS REGULATIONS FOR THE ANGUILLA AIR AND SEA PORTS AUTHORITY (AASPA) AND APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO THE CUSTOMS ACT

Hon Parliamentary Secretary for Economic Development, Hon Special Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister for Social Development/ Education and Financial Specialist remained.

In furtherance of Ex Min 20/549 a Bill and Regulations were presented for consideration by Council.

Council:

- 1) approved the following legislation:
 - (i) A Bill for Customs (Amendment) Act, 2021;
 - (ii) Aerodromes Charges (Amendment) Regulations, 2021;
 - (iii) Airline Ticket Fees (Amendment) Regulations, 2021;
 - (iv) Passenger Service Fees (Amendment) Regulations, 2021;
 - (v) Piers Dues (Amendment) Regulations, 2021;
 - (vi) Ports Dues (Amendment) Regulations, 2021;
 - (vii) Seaports Fees (Amendment) Regulations, 2021; and
 - (viii) Tonnage Dues (Amendment) Regulations, 2021; and

- 2) instructed the AG's Chambers to prepare the Bill for tabling at the next session of the House of Assembly and the Regulations for signature by H.E. the Governor (Ag).

Action: PS, MICUHT; HON, AG; HON, MIN MICUHT
