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**MINUTES OF THE 199th MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 5th SEPTEMBER 2024 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 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
- Acting Attorney General, Ms. Erica Edwards
- Clerk to Executive Council, Ms. Dumisa Webster
- IN ATTENDANCE: Financial Advisor Mr. Evarist Mwesigye
- Head of the Governor's Office, Mr. Orlando Ames-Lewis
- The Honorable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr. Merrick Richardson
- ABSENT: The Honourable Minister for Sustainability, Innovation and Environment, Mrs. Quincia Gumbs-Marie
- The Honourable Minister for Social Development, Cultural Affairs, Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education, and Library Services, Ms. Dee-Ann Kentish-Rogers

EX MIN 24/231 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Financial Advisor, Head of Governor's Office and Hon. Parliamentary Secretary remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 198th Executive Council Meeting held on Thursday, 29th August 2024.

EX MIN 24/232 EX MEMO 24/163 Statutory Body Budgets- Anguilla Air and Sea Ports Authority ("AASPA")

Financial Advisor, Head of Governor's Office and Hon. Parliamentary Secretary remained.

The following persons joined the meeting:

Ms. Marisa Harding-Hodge, PS, Finance
Ms. Rukeya Jeffers, Finance Officer, Ministry of Finance
Mr. James Richardson, Finance Manager, AASPA
Mr. Kendall Richardson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) (Ag.), AASPA
Mr. Andrew Niles, Chairman of the Board, AASPA

The CEO (Ag.) and the Finance Manager of AASPA briefed Council. AASPA presented their 2024 budget which noted the following:

- Anticipated revenue of EC\$28.45M, which represents a 9.2 increase over the 2023 actuals and 14% increase over the 2023 approved budget. This revenue consists mainly of operational fees and dues and charges;
- Recurrent Expenditure of EC\$24.21M which represents a 27.5% increase over the 2023 actuals and 0.002% decrease under the 2023 approved budget;
- Capital budget is EC\$3.08M; and
- An overall surplus of EC\$4.24M.

Executive Council:

- 1) Expressed gratitude to the CEO (Ag.) and AASPA team for their work toward improving the financial and general management of AASPA;

- 2) Noted and approved the planned 2024 Budget of the Anguilla Air and Sea Ports Authority;
- 3) Recommended that AASPA continue building reserves, particularly the Expansion Reserve fund in accordance with Section 22 of the AASPA Act. This will enable the Authority to self-fund further capital expansion and maintenance programs;
- 4) Instructed AASPA to submit to the Ministry of Finance the debt collection policy as previously instructed by EXCO and outline a timeline for the full recovery of receivables, incorporating formal debt recovery methods and effective preventive strategies;
- 5) Recommended that AASPA implement strategies to improve cash flow management and negotiate better payment terms to creditors to effectively manage the increased level of accounts payable;
- 6) Instructed AASPA to submit their quarterly reports to the Ministry of Finance no later than one month after the conclusion of each quarter to ensure compliance with statutory obligations;
- 7) Requested that AASPA commence preparations for the 2025 budget and submit for review by 31st October 2024, to their respective Ministry and to the Ministry of Finance in accordance with statutory requirements; and
- 8) Noted that Ministers should ensure that the Boards of Statutory Bodies under their purview fulfill their function, including their fiduciary duties as required by their respective formation statutes.

Action: PAS, FIN; PS, FIN; PS, MICUH&T; HON. MIN. MICUH&T; HON. PREM.

EX MIN 24/233

EX MEMO 24/164 Financial Administration and Audit (Remission) (Capital One and New York Times Video Shoot) Regulations, 2024

Financial Advisor, Head of Governor's Office and Hon. Parliamentary Secretary remained.

The Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance briefed Council. By Ex Min 24/214, Executive Council approved the Waiver of Duty on Temporary Imports Associated with a Photoshoot in Anguilla for the New York Times and Capital One. Therefore, it is requested that Executive Council approve the regulations to facilitate this waiver.

Executive Council:

- 1) Approved The Financial Administration and Audit (Remission) (Capital One and New York Times Video Shoot) Regulations, 2024 to facilitate a waiver of duty on temporary imports for the New York Times and Capital One; and
- 2) Noted that the regulations will be subsequently presented to the Anguilla House of Assembly for ratification.

Action: PAS, FIN; PS; FIN; HON. PREM.

EX MIN 24/234

EX MEMO 24/169 Anguilla Population and Housing (AP&H) Census 2022 Update

Financial Advisor, Head of Governor's Office and Hon. Parliamentary Secretary remained.

Mr. Karim Hodge, Permanent Secretary, EDSIE (Ag.) and Statistician, Anguilla Statistics Department ("ASD"), Mr. Careme Carty joined the meeting.

The Honourable Premier and Statistician briefed Council. The Anguilla Population and Housing (AP&H) Census 2022 enumeration phase ended on 31st January, with a completion of 96.0% of the building points being enumerated. The next step in the AP&H Census 2022 process was the task of verification and validation of data collected from the 54 Enumeration Districts (ED). To date, the validation process has been suspended and the verification process has been completed. Some preliminary highlights were presented to Council.

Executive Council:

- 1) Noted that the ASD will provide data on the total population of Anguilla categorized by age groups to Council by the end of September 2024;

- 2) Noted that Ministers will consult with their Permanent Secretaries on what basic data is considered priority for obtaining from the ASD and revert to Council at the next sitting;
- 3) Advised the ASD to provide the Honourable Deputy Governor with a synopsis of what additional resources are required to facilitate the completion of all AP&H Census 2022 processes and subsequent release of preliminary data;
- 4) Noted that verification and validation are critical in ensuring that the data used to produce analysis is reliable and can provide accurate insights;
- 5) Noted the progress of the AP&H Census 2022 and the status of the verification and validation work being undertaken, which forms part of quality assurance; and
- 6) Noted that the ASD is working with the aim of producing additional quality data in the upcoming months which will be shared.

Action: CS; PS, EDSIE (Ag.); HON. MIN. SIE; HON MINS.

EX MIN 24/235

EX MEMO 24/165 Application for Issue of Licence Under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act- Registration Section North, Block 59018 B, Parcel 120 Being 0.50 of an Acre

Financial Advisor, Head of Governor's Office and Hon. Parliamentary Secretary remained.

The Honourable Minister for Home Affairs and Lands briefed Council.

Executive Council approved the granting of an Aliens Land Holding Licence to the applicant to hold on a freehold basis, vacant property situated in Registration Section: North, Block 59018 B, described as Parcel 120 being 0.50 of an acre located in the Shoal Bay for residential purposes, subject to the following:

(a)	Payment of the following Stamp Duties	
(i)	under the Stamp Act – 5% of EC\$201,615.00	EC\$10,080.75
(ii)	under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act – 6.25% of EC\$201,615.00	EC\$12,600.94
(iii)	refundable deposit – 10% of EC\$201,615.00	<u>EC\$20,161.50</u>
	TOTAL	<u>EC\$42,843.19</u>

(b) The property must be used for residential purposes.

(c) The construction of the dwelling house is to be completed within thirty (30) months. If said dwelling house is not completed at the end of thirty (30) months, 50% of the refundable deposit will be forfeited to the Government of Anguilla. The balance 50% will be forfeited if the construction is not completed within a further 6 months. Thereafter, forfeiture proceedings for the property will be commenced by the Government of Anguilla for a period of twenty-four (24) months.

(d) The Applicant Company must obtain a Business Licence from the Ministry of Economic Development, Investment, Commerce, Information Technology & Natural Resources in order to rent the said property.

(e) The Licensee shall fully comply with the laws of Anguilla enforced from time to time, including the Land Development Control Act, the Property Tax Act, the Building Regulations, the Labour Relations Act 2018 and Work Permit Regulations, the Social Security Act, the Immigration and Passport Regulations and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof and any rules or regulations made thereunder.

- (f) Any breach of any of the conditions of this Licence shall result in all the estate and interest of the Licensee in the land being liable for forfeiture to the Crown.

Council authorized issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

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

EX MIN 24/237

EX MEMO 24/167 Application for Issue of Licence Under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act- Registration Section: West End, Block 89117 B, Parcel 174 Being 0.32 of an Acre

Financial Advisor, Head of Governor's Office and Hon. Parliamentary Secretary remained.

The Honourable Minister of Home Affairs and Lands briefed Council.

Executive Council approved the granting of an Aliens Land Holding Licence to the applicant to hold on a freehold basis, property situated in Registration Section: East Central, Block 89117 B, described as Parcel 174 being 0.32 of an acre land located in Shoal Bay, Anguilla for residential purposes with a dwelling house thereon that is under construction, subject to the following:

(a) Payment of the following Stamp Duties

(i)	under the Stamp Act – 5% of EC\$494,628.80	EC\$ 24,731.44
(ii)	under the Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act – 5% of EC\$494,628.80	<u>EC\$ 24,731.44</u>
	TOTAL	<u>EC\$ 49,462.88</u>

- (b) The property must be used for residential purposes.

(c) The Licencee must not rent their dwelling house without first notifying the Ministry of Economic Development, Investment, Commerce, Information Technology & Natural Resources in order to rent the said property.

(d) The Licencee shall fully comply with the laws of Anguilla in force from time to time including the Land Development Control Act, the Property Tax Act, the Building Regulations, the Labour Relations Act 2018 and Work Permit Regulations, the Social Security Act, the Immigration and Passport Regulations and any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof and any rules or regulations made there under.

Council authorized the issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the minutes.

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

ORAL MENTIONS

EX MIN 24/240

Delays in Passenger Processing at the Blowing Point Ferry Terminal

Financial Advisor, Head of Governor's Office and Hon. Parliamentary Secretary remained.

Ex Min 24/229 notes discussion on this matter. It was noted that following investigation into the matter there are three main causes for the delays:

- (a) Internet connectivity Issues- A wireless system is being utilized which poses a number of issues;
- (b) The current software is more suitable for collection of information relevant to security concerns rather than immigration specific concerns; and
- (c) Staffing Issues.

Executive Council noted that the relevant parties will work to arrange a system that effectively addresses both security and immigration specific concerns.

Action: EXCO CLK; EXCO MEMBERS.
