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MINUTES OF THE 136TH MEETING OF THE ELEVENTH ANGUILLA EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 5TH APRIL 2018

PRESENT: His Excellency the Acting Governor, Mr Perin Bradley

The Honourable Victor Banks, Chief Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Commerce, Tourism and Information Technology

The Honourable Acting Deputy Governor, Mrs Kathleen Rogers

The Honourable Evans Rogers, Minister of Health and Social Development, Lands and Physical Planning

The Honourable Cora Richardson-Hodge, Minister of Home Affairs and Education

The Honourable Curtis Richardson, Minister of Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities, Housing, Agriculture, Fisheries and Environment

The Honourable Attorney General, Mr John McKendrick QC

Mrs Jewelle Fleming, Clerk to Executive Council

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Evalie Bradley, Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA

Mr Stephen Turnbull, Financial Specialist

Mr Larry Franklin, PS, EDICTIT

Mrs Shantelle Richardson, Director of Economic Planning

Ms Marisa Harding-Hodge, Compliance Officer

Dr Aidan Harrigan, PS, FIN

Mr Kiel Connor, Comptroller, Inland Revenue Mrs Chanelle Petty-Barrett, PS, MHA/ED Mrs Dawn Reid, Education Services Planner Mr Nigel Connor, Deputy Chief Engineer, DICI

Mr Nigel Connor, Deputy Chief Engineer, DICUH

ABSENT: His Excellency the Governor, Mr Timothy Foy, OBE

EX MIN 18/172 **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA and Financial Specialist remained in attendance.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the $135^{\rm th}$ Meeting held on Thursday 29 March 2018.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

EX MIN 18/173 None

EX MIN 18/174 PRESENTATION ON THE RE-DEVELOPMENT OF THE ALBENA LAKE-HODGE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL (ALHCS)

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA and Financial Specialist remained in attendance. The following persons joined:-

Mrs Chanelle Petty-Barrett, PS, MHA/ED Mrs Dawn Reid, Education Services Planner Mr Nigel Connor, Deputy Chief Engineer, DICUH

Council:-

- (i) noted the comprehensive power point presentation by main presenter, Mrs Chanelle Petty-Barrett, PS, MHA/ED on the re-development of the ALHCS:
- (ii) approved Option A (the re-development of all components of ALHCS) on 17.75 acres at the Quarter, Anguilla as the preferred option of the four options presented, and agreed that the master plan consultants be engaged to move forward with that site and further develop its financial estimates;
- (iii) agreed that the GoA should seek to acquire the adjoining 14 acres, subject to funding if necessary; and
- (iv) agreed that the list of grant projects will have to be reconsidered.

Council thanked the officials for a good presentation.

Council authorised the issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, MHA/ED; ESP; CEO; CHIEF ENG; DCE; PS, MICUHAFE; CPO; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 18/175 <u>EX MEM 18/102 ELECTRICITY CONNECTIONS AT MORRIS</u> <u>VANTERPOOL PRIMARY SCHOOL</u>

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA and Financial Specialist remained in attendance.

Council:-

(i) noted that Executive Council approved the lease of several buildings from a proprietor in East End to house the Morris Vanterpool Primary School which had to be relocated following Hurricane Irma. A one year lease was executed in relation to the premises;

- (ii) noted that during negotiations for the lease of the premises, Government agreed to meet the costs of the electricity connections for the property.

 Unfortunately this agreement was not reflected in the signed final lease, but the then Acting PS, Education has confirmed that the agreement was in fact made;
- (iii) additionally noted that the cost of the electricity connections is EC\$5,079.47, which officials would seek to meet from within the Department of Education and/or the Ministry of Home Affairs and Education budgets; and
- (iv) in light of the above, agreed that the verbal agreement that was made with the proprietor should be honoured and the GoA meets the costs of the electricity connections for the property.

Council authorised the issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, MHA/ED; ESP; CEO; PS, FIN; PS, EDICTIT; BD; ACC GEN; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 18/176 EX MEM 18/103 INCREASE IN RENT FOR WISE

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA and Financial Specialist remained in attendance.

Council:-

- (i) noted that Executive Council approved the exploration of rental space to house the WISE programme at ALHCS as the buildings were destroyed by Hurricane Irma. A building located in Stoney Ground opposite the Princess Alexandra Hospital comprising 4,489 sq ft (at a rate of US\$1.05 per sq ft) was identified and approved by Executive Council as a suitable location for the WISE programme. A two-year lease was executed in relation to the premises;
- (ii) noted that a request was made to the landlord subsequently to expand the building to make provision for a mechanics room and additional classroom space for the WISE programme to ensure that education delivery was not compromised. As a result, the landlord added another 781 sq ft to the space for a total of 5270 sq ft. Given the additional investment, the landlord has requested a higher rental payment and a longer lease period in respect of the premises;
- (iii) further noted that there would be an additional cost to Government of US\$820.05 per month. This cost has been included in the Department of Education's 2018 budget; and
- (iv) in light of the above, approved an increase in the rent for WISE from US\$4,713.45 to US\$5,533.30 per month and an increase in the lease duration from two to three years.

Council authorised the issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, MHA/ED; ESP; CEO; PS, FIN; PS, EDICTIT; BD; ACC GEN; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 18/177 EX MEM 18/104 EXEMPTION FROM THE WORK PERMIT REQUIREMENT

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA and Financial Specialist remained in attendance.

Council agreed that the persons on the attached list whose circumstances were consistent with the current policy should be exempted from the work permit requirement in accordance with Section 3 (g) of the Control of Employment Act.

Council authorised the issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, MHA; PAS, MHA (Acting); LAB COM (Acting); CIO

Ministerial Assistant to the Hon Minister, MHA left the Meeting.

EX MIN 18/178 EX MEM 18/105 EXTENSION OF HURRICANE IRMA RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION ASSISTANCE

Financial Specialist remained in attendance.

Council:-

- (i) noted that as a means of facilitating the recovery and reconstruction process following Hurricane Irma, Council approved a Customs Duty Exemptions Relief Programme for churches and community organisations, private individuals and private businesses effective 6 September 2017 to 31 December 2017 (EX MIN 17/474 of 26 October 2017 and EX MIN 17/512 of 9 November 2017);
- (ii) noted that in light of continued receipt of applications (from September 2017 to the end of March 2018 approximately 416 applications were received), the programme was extended to 31 March 2018 (EX MIN 18/21 of 11 January 2018). However, a number of applicants have been beset with challenges with the procuring and shipping of goods;
- (iii) noted the request from the Ministry that applicants who had previously applied, and subsequently approved, and who could provide proof that items covered under the Customs (Duty Exemption) (Hurricane Irma Relief) (No. 1 and No. 2) Amendment Regulations were purchased prior to 31 March 2018 would be allowed to import those goods into Anguilla duty free up until 30 June 2018;

- (iv) additionally noted that under the assistance programme, Customs Duty and Customs Surcharge are waived. However, a Customs Administrative Fee of 5% is charged; and
- (v) agreed that persons who have purchased items under the Hurricane Irma Recovery and Reconstruction Customs Duty Relief Assistance Programme by the stipulated deadline date of 31 March 2018 be granted permission to import such goods free of duty up until 30 June 2018.

Council authorised the issue of the action sheet before confirmation of the Minutes.

Action: PS, FIN; PS, EDICTIT; PAS, FIN; BD; COC; FO; ACC GEN; MINS OF GOV'T

ORAL MENTION

EX MIN 18/179 UPDATE ON PERMANENT AND ECONOMIC RESIDENCY PROGRAMME

Financial Specialist remained in attendance. The following persons joined:-

Mr Larry Franklin, PS, EDICTIT Mrs Shantelle Richardson, Director of Economic Planning Ms Marisa Harding-Hodge, Compliance Officer

The PS, EDICTIT briefed Council on the Permanent and Economic Residency Programme. Council agreed that a formal paper should be brought to Council at the next meeting of Executive Council for consideration.

Action: PS, EDICTIT; PS, FIN; DEP; COM OFF; BD; MINS OF GOV'T

EX MIN 18/180

EX MEM 18/89 EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH MEDICAL TREATMENT RENDERED TO THE HON SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Financial Specialist remained in attendance.

Council agreed that EX MIN 18/153 of 22 March 2018 should be amended to read:-

Council:-

- (i) noted that the Honourable Speaker of the House of Assembly fell ill while travelling on government business overseas in May 2017; and
- (ii) referred this matter to the Ministry of Finance with instructions that the Government of Anguilla covers the cost of the Speaker's medical treatment in Australia.

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