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**MINUTES OF THE 173rd MEETING OF THE TWELFTH ANGUILLA
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 15th FEBRUARY 2024 AT 9.00 AM**

- PRESENT: Acting Governor, Mr. Perin Bradley
- Acting Premier and Minister for Finance, Economic Development & Investment and Health AND Minister for Infrastructure, Communications, Utilities, Housing and Tourism, Mr. Haydn Hughes
- Acting Deputy Governor, Mr. Karim Hodge
- 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
- Acting Attorney General, Ms. Erica Edwards
- Clerk to the Executive Council, Ms. Dumisa Webster
- IN ATTENDANCE: The Honourable Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Merrick Richardson
- Financial Advisor, Mr. Evarist Mwesigye
- AGC Office Manager, Ms. Jennyville Smith
- ABSENT: Her Excellency The Governor, Ms. Julia Crouch
- The Honourable Premier and Minister for Finance, Economic Development & Investment and Health, Dr. Ellis Webster
- The Honourable Minister for Sustainability, Innovation and Environment, Mrs Quincia Gumbs-Marie

The Honourable Attorney General, Mr Dwight Horsford

EX MIN 24/040

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

Financial Adviser and AGC Office Manager remained.

Council confirmed the Minutes of the 172nd Meeting of Executive Council held on Thursday 9th February 2024 and the Special Meeting held on Monday 12th February 2024.

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

EX MIN 24/041

Presentation from CARTAC'S Training: Enhancing Accountability and Transparency.

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Advisor and AGC Office Manager remained.

The following persons joined the meeting:

Ms. Marissa Harding-Hodge, Acting PS Finance

Ms. Solange Lloyd-Browne, Director of Finance

Dana Frey, CARTAC Representative

Naida Trkic-Izmirlija, CARTAC Representative

Acting Permanent Secretary for Finance and Dana Frey briefed Council. Caribbean Regional Technical Assistance Centre (CARTAC) is one of ten IMF Regional Technical Assistance Centres located around the world and was created to help countries strengthen human and institutional capacity to design and implement sound macroeconomic policies that promote growth and reduce poverty. The Ministry of Finance in collaboration with CARTAC, have engaged in two-day sessions intended to fortify the roles of accounting officers and to elevate corporate governance within government bodies. This training forms part of the efforts to improve public financial management, which will also include an update and sensitization of the Financial Administration and Audit Act.

Action: CLK, EXCO; EXCO MEMBERS

EX MIN 24/042

EX MEMO 24/21 2024 STATUTORY BODY BUDGETS- Public Service Pension Fund

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Advisor and AGC Office Manager remained.

The following persons joined the meeting:

Ms. Marissa Harding-Hodge, Acting PS, Finance,

Ms. Solange Lloyd-Browne, Director of Finance,

Mr. Larry Franklin, Chair of PSPF
Mr. Girdon Connor, PSPF Finance Manager
Ms. Susan Hodge, Civil Service Association Representative

The Acting Premier and the PSPF Finance Manager briefed Council. Obligations under Section 64 of the Financial Administration and Audit Act, require:

- Government Agencies submit its estimates of expenditure and revenue for approval by its respective Minister and the respective Minister of Finance.
- In accordance with subsection 4 of Section 64, these estimates of recurrent and capital expenditure must not be altered without the approval of the Minister of Finance.
- The Minister of Finance must lay the approved estimates before the House of Assembly.

Council

- 1 Noted the concerns, the PSPF has seen an increase in deficits over the period 2020 to 2022. The 2023 forecast outturn is estimated at EC\$2.23m which is a slight improvement over the 2022 actuals, however, the deficit is significantly greater than the approved budget for 2023 of EC\$671k. The improvement in outturn for 2023 against 2022 is due in part to the 1% increase in employer contributions.
- 2 Noted that the PSPF 2024 budget and forward estimates anticipate that with the Government's increased contribution rates there will be a marked reduction in the deficit. However, further adjustments in line with actuarial recommendations are needed to stabilize the fund and ensure sustainability. Without the full implementation of the recommendations, the PSPF will continue to face challenges to close the deficit significantly in the short term.
- 3 Noted that the Pensions Act provides that shortfalls in the PSPFs budget be provided for as an advance from the consolidated fund.

Noted that the PSPF is scheduled to undergo its Actuarial review during this year.

- 4 Council approved the 2024 Budget of the Public Service Pension Fund.

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

EX MIN 24/043

EX MEMO 24/21 Appointment of Assistant Public Relations Officer (PRO)

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser, and AGC Office Manager remained.

Acting Premier briefed Council. The role of the Assistant Public Relations Officer is to support the PRO in PR activities that facilitate effective communication with stakeholders, media and the general public.

Council:

- 1) Noted the draft Contract of Employment and Mr. Csaesare Wattleley's resume.
- 2) Considered and approved the appointment of Mr. Csaesare Wattleley as Assistant Public Relations Officer in the Office of the Premier/Ministry of Finance and Health with effect from 5th February 2024 for a period of fifteen months or for the term of the administration, whichever is shorter.

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

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

EX MIN 24/044

EX MEMO 24/28 Ani Villa's Donation to Expand Project INSPIRE to the Workshop Initiative Secondary Education Programme (WISE)

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and AGC Office Manager remained.

The Honourable Minister for Social Development, Cultural Affairs, Youth Affairs, Gender Affairs, Education and Library Services, Ms Dee-Ann Kentish-Rogers briefed Council. Inspire is a program developed in partnership between the Anguilla Initiative and the Anguilla Department of Education to create an e-Learning infrastructure that will allow students and teachers to utilize technology in their teaching and learning experience. Project INSPIRE attempts to address the need for a national e-learning program that enables integration of digital technology throughout the

curriculum, and ultimately inspires Anguillian children through their access to technology.

Ani Villas has pledged to donate US\$200,000 to support the rollout of INSPIRE to WISE in partnership with The Anguilla Initiative and the Department of Education (DoE). Ani Villas will channel this donation through the Anguilla Initiative which will purchase the equipment and materials needed.

Council:

1. Approved Ani Villa's donation of US\$200,000 to support the rollout of INSPIRE to WISE.
2. Agreed that this donation will fulfil commitments made in the Ani Villa MoU with the GoA to financially support an education initiative.
3. Agreed that the computer laboratory to be upgraded at WISE under the project will be named "Ani Digital Learning Center" or another name mutually agreed.
4. Approved the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding.

Action: PS, SD; HON, MIN SD

EX MIN 24/045

EX MEMO 24/29 Application For Issue of Licence Under The Aliens Land Holding Regulation Act- Pierre Hucl and Donna Chizen- Registration Section: South Central, Block 38611 B, Parcel 38 Being 1.00 Acre

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and AGC Office Manager remained.

Council agreed to approve the granting of an Aliens Land Holding Licence to Pierre Hucl and Donna Chizen to hold on a freehold basis, property situated in Registration Section South Central, Block 38611 B, described as Parcel 38 being 1.00 acre located at Lockrum, Anguilla for tourism purposes with a Villa thereon, subject to the following:

(a) Payment of the following Stamp Duties:

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------------|
| (i) | under the Stamp Act – 5%
of EC\$1,814,535.00 | EC\$ 90,726.75 |
|-----|---|----------------|

(ii) under the Aliens Land Holding
Regulation Act – 5%
of EC\$1,814,535.00 EC\$ 90,726.75

TOTAL **EC\$181,453.50**

- (b) The property must be used for tourism purposes.
- (c) The Applicants must obtain a Business Licence from the Ministry of Economic Development, Investment, Commerce, Information Technology & Natural Resources in order to rent the said property.
- (d) The Applicants are exempt from the Government's Policy on restricting Aliens from holding no more than half an acre on the grounds that the property is alienated.
- (e) The Licensee 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 authorised the issue of the Action sheet before the confirmation of the Minutes.

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

ORAL MENTION

EX MIN 24/046

HMS TRENT (P224) NATO WARSHIP

Hon Parliamentary Secretary, Financial Adviser and AGC Office Manager remained.

The Acting Governor briefed Council. HMS Trent will be docked in Anguilla waters over the weekend for 1 day and night. During this time officials will entertain a total of twenty (20) young people from the various groups.

Action: CLK, EXCO; EXCO MEMBERS
