

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH [25TH] STATUTORY MEETING [2006-2008 TERM]  
HELD ON AUGUST 26, 2008 AT THE CORPORATION'S HALL, 218 S.S. ERIN ROAD, DEBE.**

**MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PRESENT: -**

Councillor	Premchand Sookoo	Debe East/Barrackpore West
Councillor	Roy Kisson	La Fortune/Hermitage
Councillor	Rampersad Hardial	Rochard/Barrackpore East
Councillor	Willvan Ramlakhan	Penal
Councillor	Premnath Boodoosingh	Palmiste
Councillor	Diptee Ramnath	Quinam/Morne Diablo
Councillor	Sonnylal B. Manwah	Union Hall/Bronte
Councillor	Carl Dabideen	Debe West
Alderman	Roland A. Hall	

**MEMBER OF COUNCIL EXCUSED:-**

Alderman	Dr. Allen Sammy	Chairman of Council
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**MEMBERS OF ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:-**

Mr.	L. Espinoza	Chief Executive Officer
Ms.	P. Cain	Administrative Officer II
Mr.	D. Abraham	County Superintendent
Mr.	C. Bullock	Public Health Inspector
Ms.	F. Mohammed	Ag. Accountant I
Mr.	G. Alexander	Transport Foreman
Ms.	S. Badall	O.D.P.M. Co-ordinator
Ms.	J. Thompson	Municipal Police
Cpl	Mohammed	-do-
Mrs.	R. Ganga Persad	Clerk IV
Ms.	R. Koylass	Rates & Taxes
Ms.	N. Ragbir	Clerk
Ms.	T. Maharaj	Clerk
Ms.	R. Khan	Checker

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Ramraj Harripersad  
Manbodh

1400. The meeting commenced at 9:05 a.m. and Ms. Ragbir led in an opening prayer.

**CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS:-**

1401. Councillor Premchand Sookoo welcomed all to the meeting especially Michael Charles who conducted A seminar on Project Management in June 2008.  
He informed that the Chairman of Council had a family emergency and would be late at the meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:-**

1402. [i] Councillor Boodoosingh asked that the presentation of certificates for the Project Management be done by Mr. Michael Charles.  
Councillor Boodoosingh presented Mr. Charles with the sum of One Thousand Dollars [\$1,000.00].
- [ii] Councillor Ramlakhan reported on the flooding in Penal especially at Oliverie Drive and the Quinam area.0
- [iii] Councillor Hardial reported on flooding in Rochard Road, Penal and said that the residents' homes were covered with water and a lot of livestock was lost.
- [iv] Councillor Kissoon reported on flooding at Woodland and said he requested pumps near the Floodgate at the Godineau River. He informed that the water usually backs up when the tide was high and the Council should seek to alleviate this problem.  
He informed that he girl who was reported kidnapped was now safe at home.
- [v] Alderman Hall informed that he attended a meeting yesterday [25/8/08] to discuss the draft on the HIV legislation.

1403. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:-**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Alderman Hall that the Minutes of the Twenty-Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Statutory Meeting held on July 11, 2008 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings thereof.

1404. **RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Hardial and seconded by Councillor Manwah that the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on July 17, Minutes of the Special Statutory Meeting held on July 31, and Minutes of the Special Statutory Meeting for election of Chairmen of Committee held on August 12, 2008 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings thereof.

## **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

1405. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty-Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Twenty-Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2008 be adopted.

1406. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 05, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-30 of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 05, 2008 be accepted.

1407. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 05, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-30 of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 05, 2008 be adopted.

### **[ii] PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

1408. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth[24<sup>th</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2008 be adopted.

1409. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-11 of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 12, 2008 be accepted.

1410. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-11 of Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] the Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 12, 2008 be adopted.

**[iii] PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

1411. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on July 08, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:**-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on July 08, 2008 be adopted.

1412. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-35 of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008 be accepted.

1413. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-35 of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008 be adopted.

**[iv] FINANCE, PLANNING AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

1414. Councillor Boodoosingh informed that he did not receive the following reports:-

- [i] Stocks housed at the Stores Department Register
- [ii] Disaster Preparedness – listing of all equipment /material in stock purchased and list of distribution for disasters in the Penal/Debe Region.
- [iii] Policy Procedure for going outside the bonded contractor to accommodate Trinmac &VA Marketing registered with the same directors.

He enquired why the information was not submitted and asked whether there was something to hide. He recalled that he offered his resignation as Chairman of the Finance Committee; however, Members of Council requested that he chair the said Committee. He stated that if answers were not forthcoming then he will not recommend any of the recommendations made at the Finance Committee Meeting.

1415. The Chief Executive Officer informed that the information was not ready and the Financial Officer would be absent for one week.

1416. Councillor Boodoosingh stated that he should have been informed of this prior to the meeting and he cannot continue as Chairman of Finance Committee since there seems to be a huge cover up. He added that Council was accountable and should not be treated with gross contempt. He asked for the information in writing and said that failure for Administration to comply means that action would be taken even holding a press conference at the front of the building. He added that adopting the recommendations meant that approval was given without the proper procedures being followed. As Chairman of Finance he has a responsibility and can only plan and implement with accurate information.

1417. The Chief Executive Officer informed that the Chairman of Finance received reports on each occasion and added that the Office of Disaster Preparedness [O.D.P.M.] Co-ordinator provided the list of stocks.
1418. Councillor Dabideen said he supported Councillor Boodoosingh that if questions were asked and answers were not given and the Councillor was not ready to move forward then he respected that decision.
1419. Councillor Boodoosingh asked that the Chief Executive Officer provide the information at the meeting and then he would continue with the adoption of the Finance recommendations. He informed that he has not received any report. He indicated that the Council policy in regards of bonded contractors was not being followed.  
Councillor Boodoosingh asked that the meeting be adjourned to discuss the outstanding reports.
1420. Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m
1421. Meeting resumed at 10:10 a.m
1422. Councillor Boodoosingh informed that after discussions were held regarding the reports and the due to the outbreak of dengue the following recommendation were adopted.

[1] Finance Meeting on 07/08/08 Recommendations #23.01-23/07

[2] Special Finance on 19/08/08 -do- #20

[3] Special Finance on 21/08/08 -do- #1

All other recommendations would be referred to a Special Statutory Meeting to be held on August 29, 2008 at 11:00 a.m

1423. **RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Manwah that recommendations made at the Finance and Special Finance Meetings be deferred to a Special Statutory meeting to be held on Friday August 29, 2008 at 11:00 a.m.
1424. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on July 07, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on July 07, 2008 be adopted.

1425. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning, & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations No. 23.01-23.07 of the Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008 be accepted with the under mentioned inclusions:

- [i] Recommendation No. 20 made at Special Finance Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008.  
[ii] Recommendation No. 1 made at Special Finance Committee Meeting held on August 21, 2008.

1426. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 23.01-23.07 of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned inclusions.

[v] **FESTIVALS COMMITTEE**

1427. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on July 08, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on July 08, 2008 be adopted.

1428. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendation of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-4 of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008 be accepted.

1429. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4 of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Festivals Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008 be adopted.

[vi] **HERITAGE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE.**

1430. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 08, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 08, 2008 be adopted.

1431. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-5 of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008 be accepted.

1432. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-5 of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 19, 2008 be adopted.

**[vii] YOUTH, CITIZEN LIAISON & ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

1433. **Adoption of the Minutes the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2008 be adopted.

1434. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports & Recommendations Nos.1-5 of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008 be accepted.

1435. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports & Recommendations Nos.1-5 of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008 be adopted.

**[viii] COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE.**

1436. **Adoption of Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2008 be adopted.

1437. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports Recommendations Nos. 1-17 of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008 be accepted.

1438. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-17 of the Twenty-Fifth [25th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008 be adopted.

**[ix] SPORTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:-**

1439. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 07, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 07, 2008 be adopted.

1430. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on August 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on August 21, 2008 be accepted.

1441. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on August 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Twenty- Fifth [25th] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on August 21, 2008 be adopted.

**[x] PLANNING, THE ENVIRONMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.**

1442. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on July 07, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on July 07, 2008 be adopted

1443. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-14 of the Twenty-Fifth [25th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008 be accepted.

1444. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-14 of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on August 14, 2008 be adopted.

**[xi] GENDER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.**

1445. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2008 be adopted.

1446. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on August 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Report and Recommendation No.1-4 of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on August 21, 2008 be accepted.

1447. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on August 21, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Report and Recommendation No. 1-4 of the Twenty- Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on August 21, 2008 be adopted.

**[xii] BUILDING COMMITTEE:**

1448. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B Manwah that the Minutes of the Twenty-Fourth [24<sup>th</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2008 be adopted.

1449. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Development Committee Meeting held on August 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-16 of the Twenty-Fifth [25<sup>th</sup>] Building Committee Meeting held on August 12, 2008 be accepted with the under mentioned inclusions:-

*[i] Building and Layout plan Applications Nos. 1-19 in favor of Rajesh Ramnarine and others.*

1450. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty-Fifth [25th] Building Committee Meeting held on August 12, 2008.**

**RESOLVED:** - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-19 of the Twenty-Fifth [25th] Building Committee Meeting held on August 12, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned inclusions.

**CORRESPONDENCE:-**

1451. [i] Letter dated August 20, 2008 from Jainarine Sharma, Hanuman Milan Mandir Sanatan Dharma Maha Sabha Branch #131, 5mm. Penal Rock Road, Penal requesting assistance with clean-up in and around Mandir during Yagna on September 03 – September 13, 2008 Noted.
- [ii] Memorandum dated August 21, 2008 from Chief Executive Officer to Chairman re: construction of practice pitch with nets – Dil Mohammed Recreation Ground –referred to Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting.

1452. MATTERS REFERRED:- N I L
1453. PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS:- N I L
1454. REPORTS AND REPLIES:- N I L
1456. PETITIONS:- N I L
1455. QUESTIONS:- N I L
1456. PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS:- N I L

**OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-**

1457. **Councillor Hardial made the undermentioned comments:-**

He received telephone calls from Clarke Rochard Pre-School, Clarke Rochard Government School and Clarke Rochard Hindu School requesting the dyna fogging gang to spray the area.

The grass from several traces in his Electoral District needed cutting to avoid the spread of Dengue. Requests were made to the Ministry of Local Government for funding for same.

1458. **Councillor Boodoosingh made the following comments:-**

There were two [2] confirmed dengue cases in the Palmiste district Trevor **gfd** and Thomas Daniel. He added that the Building Section was not monitoring the construction of buildings in the Penal/Debe region since there were a lot of areas where containers could breed mosquitoes causing dengue.

Also, neighbours were complaining about mud and silt in the drains and asked that the Building Inspector continue to put clause 9 whenever construction is being done. He enquired whether this was ever implemented in the past if buildings were monitored and if owners were held accountable for damaging the drains/roadways. He made reference to a house at Quail Valley which was filled with sand from a home that was under construction and said the matter should be treated urgently.

As Chairman of the Finance Committee it was his responsibility to ensure that proper procedures were followed since accountability was very important. It was his view that bonded contractors should be

given first preference to supply and if they cannot do so, then the date should be documented. Also, Central Tenders Board should be informed and then other suppliers could be sourced. Council had a policy for guidelines on bonded contractors and the open market.

He gave an example where spike nails were purchased on March 29, 2008 at \$29,000.00 and it was delivered in July 2008. He explained that the paperwork was to be questioned and said the proper procedure was not being followed since the invoice was supposed to be settled within thirty [30] days.

The report which he received from the O.D.P.M. Co-Ordinator only noted what was purchased and he also requested was stored, procedures for distribution and the balance of stock. He said this information was important since funds must be vired to deal with issues of dengue, flooding, rats etc. He could not believe that simple questions made at the Special Finance Meeting on August 21, 2008 were not answered.

He was still awaiting information on the procedures for going outside the bonded contractor, also whether it was true that Central Tenders Boards must be informed if the bonded contractor was unable to supply and enquired if there was a cover up.

He stated that members of Council were elected by the people and therefore must act in their interest. He was here for eight [8] years and needed to protect himself and Members of Council when there was the perception of practices which could lead to corrupt activities.

He raised concern about the functions of the storehand and the fact that he was paid unlimited traveling allowance. He said that this was not a traveling post and many officers who were in the said post were not given an allowance. He requested an audit from the Financial Officer and stated he was unsure whether the Chief Executive Officer was doing enough in following the proper procedures.

He hoped and trust that it was not perceived that the adoption of the Finance recommendations were purposely held back but he was still awaiting the Chief Executive Officer to respond to questions previously asked.

He reminded that Councillor Manwah had asked who was the head of Penal/Debe Regional Corporation, the Chief Executive Officer or Chairman since it was unclear in the minds of people the authority of Council and pointed out that information requested on water trucking was not being submitted.

As a Member of Council he was embarrassed when decisions were made at meetings and Administration fails to respond. He believed that staff movement was necessary since an officer too long in one position eg. Stores, helper truck etc. can lead to corruption.

Thanked Members of Council for supporting his decision. He complimented the Public Health Inspector for dealing with dengue and rats.

Informed that there was a meeting with C.I.S.L. on August 27, 2008 who were assigned to do projects in Palmiste.

There were potholes at Priam Street, Palmiste that needed urgent attention by the state purpose committee.

1459. **Councillor Ramlakhan made the following comments:-**

Welcomed Mr. Manbodh to the meeting and said that he lived in the Penal area.

Informed that the developer at Lachoos Road had left the road in deplorable condition and although repairs were done last week the rain was causing the mud to come down the hill and ruin the road once again. He said a meeting was held last night with residents about same. He was fed up with the situation and stated that just yesterday [25/-8/08] he looked at the road filled with slush and was unable to get a backhoe to clear the area. As a Councillor the people look at him for relief and he requested that the matter be addressed.

Reminded everyone that for the past year the crossing at the corner of Laltoo and Digits Trace had been repaired four [4] times. He said the crossing was higher than the drain and the wall was now cracked and vehicles had to crawl across. He asked for a site visit and for immediate action to be taken to resolve this matter.

Flooding remained a serious issue especially as Oliverie Drive and Clarke Road. He was abused by a truck driver who blocked the roadway and pointed out that he [Councillor Ramlakhan] was the Councillor for the area. He informed that he met with the Ministry of Works last Wednesday and made recommendations for a box drain to be constructed across the road. He asked that the County Superintendent prepare estimates for same.

He was surprised to see the O.D.P.M. Co-ordinator present at the meeting when there was so many areas still under floodwaters. He said that a vehicle should be made available to her during the rainy season.

He asked that Administration write Petrotrin to correct the concrete work which was done at Teemul Trace two [2] years ago resulting in flooding.

Tall grass alongside the road must be cut.

Crime was present in the area as a goldsmith at Ramdharry Trace had a break in" where thirty thousand dollars [\$30,000.00] worth of jewelry was stolen. He informed that the goldsmith was eighty two [82] years old and decided to close down the business. He pointed out that people had become worse than dogs and gave an example which he saw in the news where many Police Officers were called out to identify a body in a bag only to realize that it was a dog and when residents call the Police Station for assistance no one comes. He hoped that the government put things in place to alleviate this problem.

Congratulated the municipal Police Inspector, Thompson and her staff and said this was the first time they were seen in their tunics.

**Councillor Ramnath made the following comments:-**

Referred the company Industrial Hygienic Solutions Limited to the Works Supervisor Section for proper toilets in the building.

Congratulated the Members of Council who were elected as Chairmen of Committees for the next year.

Although there were various committees with functions to deal with issues facing the region, Council continue to face problems. Council attend Statutory Meeting to ratify decision made at the Committee Meeting and these matters should not be raised again in that forum.

Records show that not one [1] building was built under the Development Programme and the Corporation have not seen this as a priority.

Called for the bonded contractors who cannot supply materials to be removed. He asked for Rajkumar Trace Bridge to be repaired this week.

Flooding remained a serious problem in his Electoral District and to date no substantial work was done in that area. He reminded that he called for a Consultant to be hired to deal with this matter. He asked that a report be done for Scotts Road, Penal Rock Road, Mendez and Dabiedial Road, Penal.

Road verges need cutting and potholes need to be filled since school would be re-opening soon. Also Penal Quinam Government Primary School needed brushcutting.

Request a letter be sent to W.A.S.A. to work on the open trenches at Scotts Road, Mendez Trace, Kay Trace and Solomon Knox Road

Expressed disappointment that a 20/20 Cricket Competition was held at Scotts Road Recreation Ground and the area was not brushcut.

Congratulated Members of Council for their work.

**Councillor Kissoon made the undermentioned comments:-**

There were a number of residents in Woodland and Hector Street with dengue. The construction of town houses had started in La Romaine and the main way contractors were damaging the recently paved road. He added that they promised to repair the roadway.

The residents were suffering due to flooding and the matter needed to be addressed. Also a pump was needed for the floodgate at Woodland.

All his material was being used to repair road damaged by W.A.S.A. who was running pipelines.

Complimented the Health Gang in his area who got assistance from C.E.P., E.P. & U.R.P.

He pointed out that the Chairmen of the Committees were doing a splendid job for Penal/Debe had reached their highest standard and gave an example where the President of Trinidad and Tobago was present at the 20/20 Cricket Matches held at the La Fortune Recreation Ground.

**Councillor Manwah made the following comments:-**

Congratulated the Trinidad & Tobago Mr. Thompson and the other who took part in the Olympics and for winning the silver medal.

Farmers continue to face loss of crops due to flooding and they were not being compensated. The Government of Trinidad & Tobago saw it fit to distribute money to other Caribbean countries whilst nothing was being done to alleviate flooding in Trinidad. He asked whether this was being done for fame and said if the government cannot assist its own country then it should not assist other countries.

He elaborated that there were no funds available to hire a backhoe or excavator to clear drains and even the O.D.P.M. office could not get transport to visit flood areas.

The Chairman of Public Health Committee had asked for the removal of Mr. Sati Ramdial from the

Water Trucking Schedule after receiving a cost overrun of \$300,000.00. He was sure that the head of Administration was the one who placed Mr. Ramdial as the Manager of Water Trucking without informing him [Chairman of Public Health].

Informed that 1.06.1 FM was hosting an Independence Day Celebration at the Francis Seupaul Recreation Ground and asked that the area be brushcut and the washrooms be cleaned. Also, or portable toilets to be placed on the ground.

**Alderman Hall made the following comments:-**

Enquired where the five [5] vehicles which reported to the Main Office this morning were dispatched. He attended a meeting with the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman to discuss funding for beautification and was told that money would be released to the Corporation for same. Concerns were raised at the meeting where PSAEL & IRIAD Projects were being undertaken and Councillors were not made aware of this. The Permanent Secretary made it clear that these projects should not commence without the input of the Chairman of the Corporation and Members of Council and contractors should not be paid until the Corporation was satisfied with the work done. The Permanent Secretary encouraged Corporation to use up their funds before making additional requests.

He attended a meeting yesterday with stakeholders to put laws in place to deal with HIV.

Enquired whether Councillor Boodoosingh received any documentation regarding legal action against him the Ramalie case.

**Mr. Dabideen made the following comments:-**

He heard that five [5] vehicles were sent to the main office and no one can tell where they went. Two [2] years ago the Chief Executive Officer lied about the Disaster Plan as it is clearly seen that there is no plan.

He referred to the Special Statutory Meeting held on July 31, 2008 where Mr. Rambarran reported on the procedures for going outside the bonded contractor. He then listed the procedure as follows:-

- [i] Order is made out to the bonded contractor
- [ii] Order is forwarded to the storekeeper
- [iii] Order is sent to the bonded contractor
- [iv] Information is written at the back of the order stating that the bonded contractor cannot supply
- [v] Order is forwarded to the Chief Executive Officer where C.E.O.'s ward is done.
- [vi] The storekeeper supplied the items to himself and signs the document himself.

This was the procedure followed in Penal/Debe Regional Corporation hence the reason why when you check stores nothing could be found and the Chief Executive Officer cannot provided the information.

**MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC**

- [i] Mr. Manbodh informed that he requested from Council a culvert be placed where he lived to alleviate the flooding problem. He said a contract was given out and although work had started it was not being done properly because the culvert was touching the pipelines below and water could not pass. He added that Mr. Zulificar was the contractor and officer who approved the work and payment.

Councillor Sookoo informed that the Road Officer was not supposed to be the contractor and said the Councillor were quering the matter. He then enquired who was the real contractor for the job.

- [ii] Mr. Ramraj Harripersad of Mendez Trace, Siparia reported that the bridge at Rajkumar Trace and three [3] loads of material were washed away yesterday. He added that there were children and a pregnant woman who were unable to cross the bridge. Also, vehicles were unable to cross.

Councillor Ramnath indicated that when a contract was given out there must be officers assigned to assess the work. He enquired who were the officers and called on Administration to put risk assessment in place so that Council would not be held accountable.

Councillor Boodoosingh stated that this was a serious issue and should be treated urgently. He called on the County Superintendent to investigate the matter and report to Council.

He believed that when there was disaster, the Corporation should immediately implement their plan, however, there were serious concern when there were no vehicles available, no plan etc.

**Councillor Sookoo made the following comments:-**

A vehicle should be made available to the O.D.P.M. Co-ordinator.

Enquired who was awarded the contract for Laltoo Trace Bridge and said that a letter would be sent to Central Tenders Board requesting that he contractor not be given another contract until an investigation was done on the same bridge.

Dyna fogging should be brought back together with the P.A. System.

C.E.P.E.P. and U.R.P. was invited to a meeting and they failed to attend.

Administration did not include one bridge in the Development Programme 2008/2009. Councillors Ramnath, Boodoosingh and himself had to report at a meeting that this document was not a true reflection of what the Corporation wanted. Officers from the Ministry promised to visit Penal/Debe and to date this was not done. Twenty-Eight [28] companies had taken over the functions of Local Government without consultation with the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation.

Flooding remained a serious problem and with cases of dengue on the rise, children can be severely affected. Also, school would be re-opening soon and the matter should be addressed soon. Money was vired from other votes to deal with water trucking and spraying of the area since the Ministry did not see it fit to allocate funds for same. He reminded that the Ministry of Local Government had promised to visit Penal/Debe Regional Corporation since November 2007 and on three [3] occasions cancelled her trip.

He thanked all Members of Council for their Corporation and hoped that Administration would provide answers at the Special Statutory on August 29, 2008.

There being no further business the meeting was terminated at 12:05 p.m.

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**Chairman**  
**Statutory Meeting**