

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-NINTH [29TH] STATUTORY MEETING [2006-2008 TERM]
HELD ON DECEMBER 11, 2008 AT THE CORPORATION'S HALL, 218 S.S. ERIN ROAD,
DEBE.**

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PRESENT: -

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

MEMBERS OF ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:-

Mr.	L. Espinoza	Chief Executive Officer
Mrs.	T. Deodath	Administrative Officer II
Mr.	C. Bullock	Public Health Inspector
Mr.	R. Mahadeo	Accountant I
Ms.	L. Lalgee	Financial Officer
Mrs.	R. Ganga Persad	Clerk IV
Ms.	S. Badall	O.D.P.M.
Mr.	G. Alexander	Transport Foreman
Inspector	J. Thompson	Municipal Police
Constable.	A. Hosein	Municipal Police
Mr.	R. Loknath	Planning Officer
Mr.	V. Moonesar	Workshop Foreman
Mr.	M. Gajadhar	F.O.S.
Ms.	T. Bridgelal	Clerk II [Health]
Ms.	F. Mohammed	Clerk II [Stores]
Ms.	C. Ramphal	Ag. Clerk II
Ms.	N. Maraj	Clerk I

Ms. V. Roopnarine Checker

Ms. R. Khan Checker

1601. The Meeting commenced at 9:45 a.m. with a prayer led by Councillor Roland Hall.

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS:-

1602. Alderman, Dr. Allen Sammy welcomed all to the meeting.

Following - on my opening remarks made at the November Statutory Meeting on the impending cut to PDRC's budgetary allocation for 2008/2009, our worst fears have been realized. An official instruction to cut \$ 13.580M is even worse than initially predicted and will severely impact negatively on the Corporation's plans to meet the goods and services needs of its 90,000 inhabitants. More frightening is the fact that the budget cut instruction is based on an oil price of \$55 US per barrel. With prices now hovering in the low forties and Merrill Lynch's prediction that the price could drop to \$ 25 US per barrel in 2009, the prognosis is exceedingly grim.

What is alarming is the priorities of government in respect of important deliverables to the national population. Health care, for example, is certainly more important than a rapid rail system study yet this is retained and hospital construction in Couva and Port of Spain are put on hold. US President Elect Obama has already indicated that he will reduce the dependence on fossil fuels, of which T&T is a major supplier, and promote greater use of solar and wind energy. For example, he has mandated that 100,000 electric cars will be on US roads in 2010 and hundreds of thousands more by 2012. When then, will the government's economy rebound sufficiently to build these hospitals?

People should be reminded that when the UNC demitted office in 2002, inflation was at 4.5%. It is now 15.4 % because the cost of doing government business has never been controlled since that time and inflation rose with wanton expenditure. There is no signal that expenditure on mega projects will be reduced. Between 1983 and 1993, Trinidad and Tobago experienced negative growth and it was not until 2002 that per capita growth returned to the 1982 level. The recovery period took twenty years. Earlier this month, the Minister of Finance said that the country is not in a recession. We do not know if this is in fact so since it takes a minimum of one year measuring per capita GDP in real terms, from quarter to quarter, before the true economic pictures emerges.

Our vulnerable and fragile off shore economy which employs only five percent (5%) of the workforce generates ninety percent (90%) of our foreign exchange but this is exacerbated by the fact that we do not determine prices for oil and gas, but rather are price takers rather than price makers. Since the off shore economy impacts directly on the on – shore economy, experts are already predicting that in 2009.

construction will decline (negative growth)

The urea, methanol, ammonia and steel plants at Pt. Lisas will lay – off workers (negative growth)

Manufactured products will become more uncompetitive regionally because of inflation and increased cost of production leading to lay offs (negative growth)

Agricultural production in the face of rising production costs will decline (zero growth)

Tourism will decline because of the recession in the USA, Europe and Japan (negative growth)

Remittances from migrants in the diaspora are already shrinking significantly because of the massive loss of jobs abroad

Only the domestic economy is likely to grow, perhaps by two percent (2%) in 2009 only because of the government's current investments in the economy, before it probably stalls in 2010

Some impacts on the Penal Debe region for 2008/2009.

1. Garbage collection will have to be reduced from four to two days per week leading to the likely increase in vermin, including the rat population and the increased possibility of leptospirosis and related diseases.
2. Water trucking will have to be halved leading to an agitated population and the real possibility of social unrest.
3. The maintenance of play grounds will be minimized creating further restlessness among the youth who are already agitating for better facilities and night time sport. The government has already announced that perimeter lighting of grounds has been cut.
4. The proper upgrade of the markets at Penal and Barrackpore will have to be put on hold while vendors will continue to vend in unsanitary conditions at the roadside thus increasing the probability of dust borne diseases, pedestrian and traffic congestion and public disgust.
5. The considerably reduced ability to address the annual flooding problems through the construction of box drains and the maintenance of water courses.
6. A severe cut back on the on going spraying programmes for mosquito eradication and rat baiting, leading to a rise in cases of dengue and leptospirosis
7. The inability of the Corporation to pay its bills for street lights and the consequent creation of dark spots as bulbs are blown. Increased criminal activity is anticipated as these elements move under the cover of darkness.
8. Poor maintenance of Roads and Bridges and water Courses – Availability of Material decrease.

I am predicting that there will be a further general breakdown in law and order in the Penal Debe Region and increased social agitation as the ability to deliver goods and services to our citizens shrink with a collapsing economy. This year in office will be truly challenging.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- [i] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy informed that the two games for the West Indies National Under 17 team scheduled for Kennedy Park on Friday and Monday has been shifted to Wilson Road Recreation Ground because the wet conditions at Kennedy Park has severely curtailed the ground preparation programme.
- [ii] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan informed that he represented the Corporation at the 50th Anniversary of the Metronotes Sports Club held on Saturday 6th December 2008.

He mentioned that he observed on December 12, 2008 at around 2.05 p.m. the Corporation 's Backhoe TBC-7675 was working in a private compound.
- [iii] Councillor Premchand Sookoo informed that approximately twenty [20] trucks continue to use Ramai Trace and Lalbeharry Trace #1 and #2 which makes it difficult for school children to walk. He further stated that he wondered if the document for land developers had any effect or use.
- [iv] Councillor Roy Kissoon mentioned that the La Fortune Sports Club had a Prize Giving Function on December 07, 2008 and thanked the Corporation for their support.
- [v] Councillor Roy Kissoon and Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah asked to be excused from the Meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:-

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the minutes of the Twenty-Eight [28th] Statutory Meeting held on November 25, 2008 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings pending the following amendments:-

- [i] Page 12 item [v] [a] [i] "status of Vendor Booths" to read "status of regulation on Palmiste Vendor Booths, and who is paying fee for rental.
 - [a] [ii] Status of restoration along the S.S. Erin Road" to read "Status of restoration work from Wellington Road Junction to the Quick Shop along the S.S. Erin Road, which falls under the jurisdiction of the "Ministry of Works."
- [ii] Page 12 item [v] [b] delete "good work" and insert "support."
- [iii] Page [12] item [v] [d] "there is a broken urgently" to read "there is a broken electricity pole on the S.S. Erin Road near Cuchawan Trace which is dangerous. We should contact the T.S.T.T. agent responsible urgently.
- [iv] Page [13] item [f] include "on community projects and sharing of resources" at the end of sentence.
- [v] Page [13] item [vi] to include the following comments:-

So many things to speak about sometimes there are more negatives than positives.
I will start on the negatives and end with the positives.

Some negative thoughts:-

- Crime
- Babies dying at the hospital due to lack of proper health care and slackness of some health care workers [look at another mother on television last night crying for her child, how many more will die]
- Carnage on the road due to individuals not obeying proper road safety laws, the authorities not implementing bills that were passed in Parliament pertaining to traffic laws e.g. just a couple days ago a Policeman driving his vehicle knocked down a healthy physically fit 65 years old woman. She died it was alleged that he was under the influence of alcohol. Was he immediately taken for a blood test or left for days after to flush out himself ?
- Chairman, Water & Sewerage Authority [W.A.S.A.], we just heard so much about all negative to Penal/Debe Regional Corporation and I can go on and on, on the rising, rising, rising prices, too too frustrating.

Some positive thoughts:-

- Our Cricket team is on a winning streak
- Our female boxer Jizelle Salandy carrying six world titles.
- Our athletes did well in the Beijing Olympics.
- Thousands of graduates from U.W.I. and U.T.T.
- Congratulations should be sent to our cricket team
- I also through email congratulate the new President of the United States.

Last but not least though my belief is that we are a nation of prayers in celebrating Divali, Spiritual Baptist Day, Christmas, Carnival the mix of Chutney an Soca there is always a Crusade running some were in this Country at any point and time the attendance of the peoples of this country to the Mandirs, Mosques and Churches, under tents, houses and those of us who pray at home during the day continuously. This is what keeps us going, Chairman from the above I thing we are spiritually uplifted.

Mr. Chairman I ask of us here today to let us continue praying, try out best to live in peace and unite and may God bless us all.

Members of Council, Members of Administration let us work together for a better Penal/Debe Regional Corporation. I thank you all.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:-**[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCUTURE COMMITTEE :-**

1603. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty-Eight [28th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on November 04, 2008.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty-Eight 28^h] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on November 04, 2008 be adopted.

1604. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on December 01, & December 02, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-8 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on December 01, & December 02, 2008 be accepted with the undermentioned amendment:-

[i] Item #4 change ‘Sou Sou Lands Committee’ to read “Sou Sou Land Company.”

1605. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on December 01 & December 02, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-8 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on December 01, & December 02, 2008 be adopted with the above amendment.

[ii] **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

1606. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008 be adopted.

1607. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008 be accepted with the undermentioned amendment:-

[i] Item #3 include “and Victoria where applicable” at the end of the sentence

1608. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-9 of Twenty- Ninth [29th] the Public Health Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008 be adopted with the above amendment:-

[iii] **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

1609. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008 be adopted.

1610. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008.**

RESOLVED : - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008 be accepted with the undermentioned amendments:-

- [i] Item #2 [b] include “by the Ministry of Local Government” at the end of sentence.
- [ii] Item #4 [b] “soft ware at storeinvited quote” to read “soft ware at stores. The Tenders Department has invited quotes.”
- [iii] Item #6 [e] change “Mr. Colymore” to Mr. Collymore.”

1611. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008.**

RESOLVED : - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on December 04th 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned.

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

Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008 inclusive of Special Finance held on November 04, November 11, and November 20, 2008.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008 inclusive of Special Finance held on November 04, November 11 and November 20, 2008 be adopted.

1612. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Finance, Planning, & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on December 03, 04, and 05, 2008.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-17 of the Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on November 03, 04, and 05, 2008 be accepted.

1613. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on December 03, 04, and 05, 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- Ninth [29th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on December 03, 04, & 05, 2008 be adopted.

[v] FESTIVALS COMMITTEE:-

1614. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008 be adopted.

1615. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendation of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-4 of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008 be accepted with the undermentioned amendments:-

[i] Item #3 include “made by some Chamber of Commerce Members” at the end of the sentence.

1616. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4 of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned amendment.

[vi] HERITAGE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE.

1617. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008 be adopted.

1618. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-2 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008 be accepted.

1619. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twenty- Ninth[29th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-2 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on December 04, 2008 be adopted.

[vii] YOUTH, CITIZEN LIAISON & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1620. **Adoption of the Minutes the Twenty- Eight [28th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008 be adopted.

1621. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports & Recommendations No.1 of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008 be accepted with the under mentioned amendment:

- [i] Item #1 Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy.....and cooperation frame work to read “Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy stated that the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation should hire a consultant with a view to preparing Penal/Debe Regional Corporation’s issues and solutions in the context of the policy and corporation frame work.”

1622. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twenty- Ninth [29th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports & Recommendations No.1 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008 be adopted with the above amendment.

1623. **[viii] COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE.**

Adoption of Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on November 04, 2008.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on November 04, 2008 be adopted.

1624. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Rampersad Hardial that the Reports Recommendations Nos. 1-15 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2008 be accepted with the undermentioned amendments:-

- [i] Item #5 change “The Corporate Secretary.... Mr. Joshua Peters.” To read “Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh expressed disappointment in regard of services of T.S.T.T. and their representative Mr. Joshua Peters.”
- [ii] Item # 7 change “The photo copying..... back building “to read “The Photo Copying Machine should remain upstairs in the back building.”
- [iii] Item #9 include “as agreed at the Retreat of Members of Council at the San Fernando Hill” at the end of the sentence.
- [iv] Item #10 “Penal/Debe Regional Corporation implement a boardwrite off stock “to read “Penal/Debe Regional Corporation implement a board of survey to write off obsolete and damaged stocks.”
- [v] Item #12 Mr. Mario Singhthe pipeline projects: to read “Mr. Mario Singh of N.G.C., be invited to a meeting to discuss status of the ongoing pipeline project.”

1625. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2008.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-15 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned amendments.

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

1626. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on November 20th 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on November 20, 2008 be adopted.

1627. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on December 05, 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- Ninth [29th] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2008 be accepted with the undermentioned amendments:-

- [i] Item #4 “Quotes be invited.....The Aussies Park” to read “Quotes be invited for the making of the following statues which should be placed at the Heroes section of the Aussies Park.”

- [ii] Item #5 dengue “pavillion” to “pavilion.”
- [iii] Item #6 “Corporate Secretary.....the following information”, to read “Corporate Secretary in the preparation of her report on Dil Mohammed Recreation Ground concrete strip to include the following information.”
- [iv] Item #6 [ii] “same forsaid ground” to read “same questions for lighting at the said recreation ground to be addressed.”
- [v] Item #9 delete “by other parties.”
- [vi] Item #10 include “to which Sports Minister Gary Hunte and Ministerial Officials, have been invited” after Wilson Road Recreation Ground.

1628. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on December 05, 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-Ninth [29th] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2008 be adopted with the above amendments:-

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

1629. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008 be adopted

1630. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2008.**

RESOLVED: -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-6 of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2008 be accepted.

1631. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2008.**

RESOLVED: -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2008 be adopted.

[xi] GENDER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

1633. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on November 20, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardialand seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on November 20, 2008 be adopted.

1634. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Report and Recommendation No.1 of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2008 be accepted.

1635. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1 of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on December 05, 2008 be adopted.

[xii] BUILDING COMMITTEE:

1636. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Building Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty-Eight [28th] Building Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008 be adopted.

1637. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Development Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Building Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008 be accepted.

1638. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Ninth [29th] Building Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Twenty-Ninth [29th] Building Committee Meeting held on December 02, 2008 be adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE:-

- [i] Letter from Catherine O' Brian – Re: Illegal Building – Parkview Grocery, Palmiste.

RECOMMENDED:- Copy of letter be sent to Building Inspector for investigation.

- [ii] Mr. Harripersad – Re: Football Team request use of Council Hall on December 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

RECOMMENDED:- Approval – Administration to inform Security/Watchman.

- [iii] Letter from Edwdard R. Moodie #197 Gopie Trace, Penal. Re: Request approval 1-12 plots at Seuradge Trace, Debe.

RECOMMENDED:- Referred to Building Committee

MATTERS REFERRED:- N I L

PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS:-

- [i] Estimate for protective gears for 12 persons to be trained for the dyna fogging machine.

RECOMMENDED:- Referred to Public Health Committee Meeting.

- [ii] List of Vouchers as at December 03, - 10, 2008

RECOMMENDED:- Approval granted except payments for Karan Ali

- [iii] Estimate in the sum of \$9,989.59 for repair of dyna fogging machine.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved.

- [iv] Estimate in the sum of \$12,420.00 for the purchase of tyres for 3 vehicles PBT-1025, PBC-9847 etc.

REPORTS AND REPLIES:-

- [i] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan expressed his appreciation for the purchase of a trolley for the kitchen, and the security light installed in the Council Hall.

- [ii] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy stated:-

[a] That he had a meeting with Mr. Rao of E.M.B.D. on December 08, 2008 and the development of Picton #2 was included in the 17 items of the documents discussed. A site visit was scheduled for next week to examine Penal/Debe Regional issues. Mr. Jaimungal will arrange the date and time.

[b] That Penal/Debe Regional Corporation should proceed in securing Lagoon Cemetery which was given to the Corporation in 1998 by Caroni 1975 Ltd.

[c] The wall at the boundary of Picton #2 and the Picton Presbyterian School was discussed and Mr. Jaimungalsingh would visit the site.

[iii] Councillor Diptee Ramnath recommended that Mr. Rao be invited to a meeting with Members of Council to discuss all E.M.B.D. matters.

PETITIONS:- **N I L**

QUESTIONS:- **N I L**

PERSONNEL EXPLANATIONS: -

[i] **The Chief Executive Officer informed of the following:-**

[a] That no details were given by Budgetary Division at Head Office on the budget cuts.

[b] That the budget cut remains under recurrent of \$12.5 million and that this was not final.

[c] That no adjustments were done to wages.

[d] That scavenging was cut by \$520,000.00

[ii] Councillor Premchand Sookoo stated that Council had taken a decision on recommended cuts, but that it is awaiting a directive from the Ministry of Local Government.

[iii] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan stated that the transport of earthfill was expected to commence at Lachoos Road on December 15, 2008 and this would damage all roadways and box drains. He added that he would liaise with residents in the area to prevent the transport of earthfill.

Councillor Diptee Ramnath stated the businessmen were now willing to comply with Penal/Debe Regional Corporation conditions, and added that only persons who purchase hotmix, cold mix and repair roadways would be granted permission .

MOTIONS:- **N I L**

OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-

Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the following comments:-

[i] That this was his last Christmas at Penal/Debe Regional Corporation as he will not be seeking re-election, giving the reassurance that he will continue to make effective representation of the Palmiste District, and would work hard to give support to Penal/Debe Regional Corporation and Local Government.

[ii] Thanked Mr. Ramsaran of Ministry of Works for the effective response in repairing roadways along S.S. Erin Road in the vicinity of KFC, as work commenced on December 10, 2008.

[iii] That arrangements be made for meeting with the senior police in San Fernando to discuss crime in Palmiste.

- [iv] Thanked the Chief Executive Officer for the improvement in the relationship between Council and Administration.
- [v] That a joint retreat should be held between Council and Administration to discuss the financial crisis and challenges that may be faced in 2009.
- [vi] That consultation should be held to inform the public and make them aware of the financial challenges.
- [vii] Thanked Accounts Department on the effective delivery of work.

Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following comments:-

- [i] That backhoe TBL-7675 was assigned to Apollo Recreation Ground and the job was incomplete. However, the driver proceeded to do a private job.
- [ii] That the earthen drain at Community Centre Street and Clarke Road be cut and cleaned.
- [iii] That employees should be more productive and punctual due to budget cuts.
- [v] That that drain at Digits Trace, Clarke Road, be cleaned.
- [vi] That the Municipal Police should make a regular patrols in the Penal/Debe Region as crime has increased in the area.

Councillor Diptee Ramnath made the following comments:-

- [i] That Wilson Road Recreation Ground was ready for the cricket match to be held on December 12, 2008.
- [ii] That the responsibility of each Committee Chairman is to ensure that the cuts and constraints be extended throughout the entire Penal/Debe Region.
- [iii] That the burgesses of the Penal/Debe Region should be given priority in receiving N.H.A. houses, and that Penal/Debe Regional Corporation should take the responsibility and necessary action to ensure that is done.
- [v] That a consultant be hired for flooding, agriculture and water supply in the region.
- [vi] That the backhoe be utilized to clean Mungal Stret, and Sunrees Road.
- [vii] That the overhanging trees in the vicinity of Penal Health Centre be cut.

Councillor Carl Dabideen made the following comments:-

- [i] That Administration make the necessary arrangements for scavenging in the N.H.A. development Area #3.

Councillor Rampersad Hardial made the following comments:-

- [i] Thanked everyone for their assistance in 2008.
- [ii] That the P.N.M. was a foolish Government because they did not take warning from the Central Bank on the recession – faced worldwide.

Councillor Roy Kissoon made the following comments:-

- [i] That only one kind of people were given N.H.A. houses and, so many things could have been done if advice was taken from the opposition.
- [ii] The problem faced by each Chairman of Committee was a great one, however, an excellent job was being done.

Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following comments:-

- [i] That everyone will be faced with the increase in crime crisis due to loss of jobs.
- [ii] That land developments at Lachos Road and Golconda were unauthorized.
- [iii] That the Government was bent on destroying the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation and employees would have to be retrenched. However C.E.P.E.P. and U.R.P. would be enlarged to do the Corporation’s work.
- [iv] That when the Minister visited the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation on October 31, 2008 she informed that all agencies were required to attend Regional Co-ordinating Meetings but, this has never become a reality.
- [v] That no funds were received for the completion of the Penal Market and the extension of the Barrackpore Market.
- [vi] That \$500,000.00 was insufficient to repair 58 wooden bridges.

Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy made the following comments:-

- [i] That approximately 532 persons were reported missing nationally and that at least 300 were believed to be murdered, if the words of a senior policeman is to be believed.
- [ii] That employees should hold on to their jobs as Members of Council would do everything possible to help keep their jobs, adding that the Training Programmes, Social Programmes, E.A.P. and work stations have been improved as example of Council commitments to employees.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting and terminated same at 12:05 p.m.

.....
Chairman
Statutory Meeting

- [i] The Chairman Dr. Allen Sammy read from a document and quoted “I wish to bring to Council’s attention the pronouncement by the Honourable Prime Minister last week Thursday that the national budget is to be cut by \$ 6 Billion. Earlier last week, the Budgets Division had indicated unofficially to the Corporation that a budget cut to us is impending. I have since been informed that this cut is likely to be 40 %. The PDRC’s 2008/2009 allocation for development work is \$ 7, 650 Million (\$ 1.5 M additional for vehicle purchase) and an additional \$10.5 Million for construction of box drains, road patching, etc including the purchase of materials. Of the \$18, 150 Million dollars for the actual physical delivery of services, a budget cut of 40 % is going to reduce the PDRC budget to \$ 10.95 Million. This will lead to severe community fallout since there is a reasonable expectation of infrastructural works on pavilions, drainage, markets, roadways, bridges and recreation grounds. The current allocations are already small and further reduction will have serious negative impacts in a number of areas. For example, only \$ 1.6 M and \$ 2.9 Million have been allocated for drainage and bridges respectively. The PDRC needs at least \$ 4 Million for immediate drainage works to prevent annual flooding and the resulting millions of dollars losses to household items, home damage and crop and livestock destruction. Almost every single one of the fifty eight (58) wooden bridges need annual repairs and when these become impassable, hundreds of motorists are affected daily as they seek alternate routes to work, school, shop and recreate. As we speak, the Laltoo Trace Extension bridge remains closed because of the cost of material. One mora plank, 3” x 12” x 14 feet costs \$ 2, 834.75 and dozens are needed annually.

I am putting the blame squarely on a government that refuses to allocate resources in a rationale and equitable manner to the PDRC, based on the real needs of its citizens. Poor planning is now going to further exacerbate an already bad financial situation within the Corporation and thousands of citizens will suffer further. We are perhaps the most physically under developed of the fourteen municipalities judging from the condition of the water courses, roads, bridges, drains and recreation grounds.

On a happier note, may I extend congratulations to Members of Council for a very successful 6th annual Civic Reception and Awards Ceremony held at the Lall's Shopping Complex on November 22nd 2008. Eighteen (18) SEA students and thirty one (31) Advance Level scholarship winners, all but three living within the region received awards for academic excellence. Eighteen (18) community groups from within the region and thirty one (31) individuals were also recipient of Certificates of Appreciation. Seven retirees were honoured, as well as ten national cricketers (different age groups) and eighth (8) schools for national achievements. The PDRC is extremely proud of its achievers and congratulate the youngsters as well as the groups and individuals who have helped to shape our distinguished cultural, economic and social heritage over the past few decades.

My sincerest congratulations to the hands - on organizers of the event and those who helped namely Sabrina Mowlah Baksh, Leisha Sookram, Neermala Khemraj, Rema Ganga Persad and Mukesh Raghoonath.

The word in political circles is that the Penal Debe region would be absorbed into Siparia next year. This would be a sad blow to our 90,000 citizens who have come to accept rapid responses to their requests. When a region is made too large, the voices of the communities are lost and the true meaning of local government disappears. Efficient and effective local government requires that the people be always within touching distance of their Councillors and the institutional edifice which they can access at a moments notice.

- [ii] He stated that the Training on minute writing started on November 24, 2008 for members of staff.
- [iii] He requested that the budget for the annual end of the year function be made available to Council in one week's time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- [i] Councillor Premchand Sookoo informed that the Water & Sewerage Authority is laying down a 4" water main in Ragbir Trace. Also he requested that a letter be forwarded to the Water & Sewerage Authority informing them that Amrish Drive is properly drained and maintained and Penal/Debe Regional Corporation will maintain the roadway.
- [ii] The Clerk IV Ms. R Ganga Persad informed that a meeting was schedule with Alpha Engineering and E.M.B.D. on December 02, 2008 at 11:00 a.m. at the Corporation Hall

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:-

1561. **RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty-Seventh [27th] Statutory Meeting held on October 30, 2008 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings pending the following amendments:-

- [i] Page 1 change "Councillor Hardial Rampersad" to read "Councillor Rampersad Hardial."

- [ii] Page 2 item 1521 paragraph four insert the “dollar sign \$ before 1.5 M.”
- [iii] Page 2 item 1522 #4 paragraph two insert the “dollar sign \$ before 5M and put “Five Million” in brackets.
- [iv] Page 4 item [v] delete “roadway” and insert “water courses” along Harripaul Village.....in that particular area.
- [vi] Page 5 item [i] under questions insert “for preparation of grounds “after documents and change “games starts: to games start in January.
- [vii] Page 5 item [ii] under question paragraph 2 change “Dr. Allan Sammy” to Dr. Allen Sammy” and insert at the end of the sentence “if they are to play in the Championship and Premier Divisions of the Trinidad and Tobago Cricket Board’s Competitions.”
- [viii] Page 16 item [xii] change “Caymans” to Caimans.
- [ix] Page 16 item [iv] insert “unspent balances of ” before \$1.7M.....in order of priority.
- [x] Page 18 paragraph one at the end of the sentence insert : “if he is found to be in breach of the law.”

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:-

[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

1562. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty-Seventh [27th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on October 7th, 2008.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty-Seventh[27th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on October 7th, 2008 be adopted.

1563. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty-Eighth [28th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on November 4th 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-19 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on November 4th, 2008 be accepted.

1564. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on November 4th, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-19 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on November 04, 2008 be adopted.

[ii] **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

1565. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh[27th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on October 14th, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on October 14th, 2008 be adopted.

1566. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on November 11th, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-26 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on November 11th, 2008 be accepted.

1567. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on November 11th, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-26 of Twenty- Eight [28th] the Public Health Committee Meeting held on November 11th., 2008 be adopted.

[iii] **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

1568. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on October 21st, 2008.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on October 21st, 2008 be adopted.

1569. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on November 18th, 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- Eight [28th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on November 18th, 2008 be accepted.

1570. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on November 18th, 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- Eight [28th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on November 18th 2008 be adopted.

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

Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on October 09th, 2008.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on October 09th, 2008 be adopted.

1571. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Finance, Planning, & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on November 13th, 2008.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-12 of the Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008 be accepted inclusive of Recommendations of Special Finance on November 04, 2008, November 11, 2008 and November 20, 2008 respectively.

1572. **Adoption of the Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on November 13th, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008 be adopted inclusive of Recommendations of Special Finance on November 04, 2008, November 11, 2008 and November 20, 2008 respectively.

[v] **FESTIVALS COMMITTEE**

1573. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on October 21, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on October 21, 2008 be adopted.

1574. **Presentation of Reports & Recommendation of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on November 18th, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-5 of the Twenty-Eighth [28th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008 be accepted.

1575. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on November 18th, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-5 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008 be adopted.

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

1576. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on October 21, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on October 21, 2008 be adopted.

1577 . **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008 be accepted with the under mentioned amendment:

[i] Item #4 “Gandhi’s” to read “Gandhi.”

1578. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twenty- Eighth [28th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-4 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on November 18, 2008 be adopted with the amendment here before stated:

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

1579. **Adoption of the Minutes the Twenty- Seventh[27th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on October 14, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on October 14, 2008 be adopted.

1580. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports & Recommendations No.1-7 of the Twenty-Eighth [28th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008 be accepted with the under mentioned amendment:

(i) Item #6 “Ramdeo” to read “Ramdoo”.

1581. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Twenty- Eight [28th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports & Recommendations No.1-7 of the Twenty- Eighth

[28th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008 be adopted with the above amendment.

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

1582. **Adoption of Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on October 07, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on October 07, 2008 be adopted.

1583. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Committee Meeting held on November 04, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports Recommendations Nos. 1-10 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on November 04, 2008 be accepted.

1584. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on November 04, 2008.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-10 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on November 04, 2008 be adopted.

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

1585. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on October 16, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on October 16, 2008 be adopted.

1586. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on November 30, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-5 of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on November 30, 2008 be accepted with the undermentioned amendments:-

- [i] Item #3, "Letter of gratitude.....Council's decision" to read "The construction of a concrete cricket strip at Dil Mohammed Trace Recreation Ground – Corporate Secretary to address matter

including that raised by legal Counsel. Refer to letter from attorney from Sou Sou Lands to cease all works.

1587. **Adoption of Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on November 30, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-5 of the Twenty-Eighth [28th] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on November 30, 2008 be adopted with the above amendment:-

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

1588. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on October 19, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on October 19, 2008 be adopted

1589. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008.**

RESOLVED: -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-8 of the Twenty-Eighth [28th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008 be accepted.

1590. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008.**

RESOLVED: -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Twenty-Eighth [28th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on November 13, 2008 be adopted.

[xi] **GENDER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.**

1591. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on October 16, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on October 16, 2008 be adopted.

1592. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on November 20, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Report and Recommendation No.1 of the Twenty- Eight [28th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on November 20, 2008 be accepted.

1593. **Adoption of the Reports & Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on November 20, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1 of the Twenty-Eight [28th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on November 20, 2008 be adopted.

[xii] **BUILDING COMMITTEE:**

1594. **Adoption of the Minutes of the Twenty- Seventh [27th] Building Committee Meeting held on October 14, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Twenty-Seventh [27th] Building Committee Meeting held on October 14, 2008 be adopted.

1595. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty-Eighth [28th] Development Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Twenty-Eighth [28th] Building Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008 be accepted with the under mentioned inclusion:-

- [i] Building Plan and Layout Application Nos. 1-6 dated November 20, 2008 in favour of Krishna & J Samaroo and others. Only # 1, 2 and 4 were approved.

1596. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Twenty- Eighth [28th] Building Committee Meeting held on November 11,, 2008.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Twenty-Eighth [28th] Building Committee Meeting held on November 11, 2008 be adopted with the above mentioned inclusion.

REPORTS AND REPLIES:-

Councillor Premchand Sookoo reported the following:-

- [i] He stated that the 2009 water distribution schedule would be done to tanks instead of barrels in 44 areas, hence an additional water supply would be required from the hydrants.

Councillor Premchand Sookoo moved to have the agenda of the Statutory Meeting waived to committee stage to discuss the urgent issue of water delivery to the Penal/Debe Region.

It was seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial.

- [ii] Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh enquired on the water schedule for the Penal/Debe Region for the Water & Sewerage Authority and invited Mr. Bickram of WASA to respond..

Mr. R. Bickram informed:-

- [a] That schedules are available but due to demands and disruptions it is difficult to follow:-
- [b] That Monkey Town was scheduled to receive water once per week on Mondays.
- [c] That the Regulated Industries Commission was the middle communicator between the customer and W.A.S.A. adding that recommendations were submitted to W.A.S.A. by the Regulated Industries Commission.
- [d] That steps were being taken to rectify the problem at the Clarke Road Well.
- [iii] Councillor Diptee Ramnath requested that a letter be sent to the Utility Department Petrotrin Santa Flora – Re: Abandoned Wells. He said that sources of water included Haggard Trace and abandoned water wells at various sites. Trintopec water well sites should also be identified.

[v] **Councillor Premchand Sookoo stated:-**

- [a] That water lines were laid in Sadoo Village, Digny and to date there is no water, despite the fact that the residents have paid for a water connection.
- [b] That road restoration works is long over due at Tin Pan Alley, Barrackpore since the running of water lines were completed sometime ago.

[iv] **Councillor S.B. Manwah stated:-**

- [a] That the following areas had no water supply:-
- Sugar Road
 - Papourie Road
- [b] That water mains were laid in the Golconda squatting area, but connections were not made because residents did not have a certificate of comfort. He requested that W.A.S.A. assist in this matter.
- [v] The Chief Executive Officer stated that water distribution for 2009 will be to tanks and drums, and enquired if the number of trips required will create a problem with the closing time of the hydrant. Mr. Bickram stated that another source for distribution will be identified when a letter is received.
- [vi] Councillor Premchand Sookoo then moved to continue the Statutory Meeting. It was seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial.

The meeting agreed to take note of the discussions held at the committee stage and to adopt the decisions taken.

1597. **CORRESPONDENCE:-** N I L

1598. **PERSONNEL EXPLANATIONS:-**

The Chief Executive Officer stated:-

[a] That the budget would be cut by 40% of the 2007-2008 Expenditure and not 2008/2009.

[b] That the Development Programme Estimate will be revised.

1599. **OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-**

[i] **Councillor Roy Kissoon made the following comments:-**

[a] That a letter be sent to T.N. Ramnath requesting that the concrete slab which is impeding the flow of water be removed from the Bhagmania river in Woodland. He said the resulting flooding is also affecting the residents at Mungal Street #2.

[b] That a land developer at Mungal Street #2 promised to do restoration work on the roadway upon completion, and continued to maintain the roadway.

[c] That the Building Inspector investigate land development by Mr. Chandroo, La Romaine where there are One Thousand (1000) lots without approvals.

[d] Electrical wires taken off poles in Woodland be used at the La Fortune Ground for perimeter lighting.

[e] That lights and water are needed for the New Village squatter relocation.

[ii] **Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following comments:-**

[a] Requested that the Corporate Secretary advise on legal action that can be taken on persons excavating land. He said that we should examine the Highways Act to help us.

[iii] **Councillor S.B. Manwah made the following comments:-**

[a] That no document were taken at the site visit at Golconda Junction by the Building Inspector, and no progress could have been made.

[b] Farmers received ridiculous compensation for crop loss.

[c] He enquired if documents were submitted to Attorney Ronnie Boodoosingh.

[v] **Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the following comments:-**

[a] He enquired on:

- Status of regulation on Palmiste Vendor Booths, and who is paying fee for rental.
- Status of restoration work from Wellington Road Junction to the Quick Shop along the S.S. Erin Road, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Works.

[b] He commended Municipal Police, Accounts Section, Secretariat, and Stores for their support.

[c] Requested that Hillpiece Recreation Ground and Palmiste Play Park be cut.

[d] There is a broken electricity pole on the S.S. Erin Road near Cuchawan Trace which is dangerous. We should contact T.S.T.T. agent responsible urgently.

[e] A meeting should be called with Insect Vector re: spraying for dengue.

[f] Petrotrin is damaging our roadways with its trucks. We should talk to them on a partnership on community projects and sharing of resources.

[vi] **Alderman Roland Hall made the following comments:-**

So many things to speak about sometimes there are more negatives than positives. I will start on the negatives and end with the positives.

Some negative thoughts:-

- Crime
- Babies dying at the hospital due to lack of proper health care and slackness of some health care workers [look at another mother on television last night crying for their child, how many more will die]
- Carnage on the most due to individuals not obeying proper road safety laws, the authorities not implementing bills that were passed in Parliament pertaining to traffic laws e.g. just a couple days ago a Policeman driving his vehicle knock down a healthy physical fit 65 years old woman she died – it was alleged that he was under the influence of alcohol, was he immediately taken for a blood test or left for days after to flush out himself.
- Chairman Water & Sewerage Authority [W.A.S.A.] we just heard so much about all negative to Penal/Debe Regional Corporation and I can go on and on, on the rising, rising, rising prices too too frustrating.

Some positive thoughts:-

- Our Cricket team is on a winning streak
- Our female boxer Jessel Salandy carrying six world titles.
- Our athletes did well in Beijing Olympics.
- Thousands of graduates from U.W.I. and U.T.T.
- Congratulations should be sent to our cricket team
- I also through email congratulate the new President of the United States.

Last but not least though my believe is that we are a nation of prayer in celebrating Divali, Spiritual Baptist Day, Christmas, Carnival the mix of Chutney an Soca there is always a Crusade running some were in this Country at any point and time the attendance of the peoples of this Country to the Mandir, Mosque and Churches, under tents, houses and those of us who pray at home during the day continuously. This is what keeps us going Chairman from the above I thing we are spiritually uplifted.

Mr. Chairman I ask of us here today to let us continue praying, try out best to live in Peace and unite and may God bless us all.

Members of Council, Members of Administration let us work together for a better Penal/Debe Regional Corporation. I thank you all.

[vii] **Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following comments:-**

- [a] That legal action be taken against land developers who broke the law.
- [b] That mattresses and hampers were distributed to persons who were not affected by floods.
- [c] That the Statutory Meetings take place outside the Council Hall from January 2009.

1600. There being no further business the Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting and terminated at 12:15 p.m.

.....
Chairman
Statutory Meeting.

