

**MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH [8TH] STATUTORY MEETING [2009-2010 TERM]
HELD ON MARCH 23, 2010 AT THE CORPORATION'S HALL, 218 S.S. ERIN ROAD,
DEBE.**

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL PRESENT: -

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

MEMBER OF COUNCIL EXCUSED:-

Councillor	Sonnylal B. Manwah	Union Hall/Bronte
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MEMBERS OF ADMINISTRATION PRESENT:-

Mr.	L. Espinoza	Chief Executive Officer
Ms.	T. Deodath	Administrative Officer II
Mr.	S. Heru	County Superintendent
Mr.	R. Mahadeo	Accountant I
Inspector	K. King	Municipal Police
Constable	I. Hosein	Municipal Police
Mr.	C. Maharaj	Building Inspector
Ms.	S. Sooknanan	Clerk II
Mr.	S. Sinanan	Clerk I

Ms.	F. Mahabir	Contract Worker
Ms.	S. Badall	O.D.P.M. Co-ordinator
Ms.	F. Mohammed	Ag. Clerk IV
Ms.	L. Lalgee	Financial Officer

369. The Meeting commenced at 9:10 a.m. with a prayer led by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan.

370. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS:-**

[a] The Chairman of Council, Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy welcomed all to the Eighth [8th] Statutory Meeting. He also welcomed two [2] Members of the Member of Parliament for Oropouche [West] Ms. Mickela Panday's office and indicated that the President of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad & Tobago would be attending the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

[b] In his opening remarks, the Chairman read the following statement:-

In speaking with the principal of a new but already recognized secondary school in Central Trinidad yesterday, he lamented the serious student crisis which he faces on a daily basis. This school may be classified semi-rural and its students are not from communities deemed to be socially dysfunctional or high risk. This is generation of students who are the offspring of parents who themselves shaped new core values in the 60's and 70's.

The Principal suggested that a school week should be four days and the fifth should be parents with their children learning parenting skills in the classroom, with appropriate guidance from experts in the field.

Is there a generational "revolution" within Penal Debe and are we as a Corporation positioned to smoothen the transition into the 21st century? Our business is not parenting or even teaching, but we do retain a responsibility to spot the signs of

economic and social dissonance and to shape programmes to foster an improved quality of life for our residents.

The region has a history of struggling for survival which we are gradually growing out of through the persistence of our parents. In almost every single community there are outward signs of social progress measured by the proliferation of religious institutions, non- government organizations, sport and cultural groups and school extracurricular activities community based and geared to the wholesome development of the child. The Bal Vikas, school pageants at Easter and Christmas, Annual Junior Festival in San Fernando, Phagwa, Eid, Christmas and other events in which all of our children are involved in or exposed to, have served as major stabilizing forces in the region. It is not the single activity which is important, but rather the proliferation of these on a sustained annual basis which has left the region relatively unscathed.

The question is, can the core values shaped in these creative crucibles withstand the onslaught of television, films, music and debilitating substances and give our children the opportunity to blossom unblemished? Some ask what is the value of Civic Award Functions [we have already had seven], Heritage Festival Weeks, sport competitions and junior music festival, among others, particularly where the benefits are difficult to measure or quantify. Others ask what is the value of studies which focus on infrastructural planning employment scenarios, disaster mitigation, gender studies and community based watershed management, among others.

Integrated planning recognizes the need to address the social, economic and cultural needs of our people as package, if we are to satisfy their daily needs. It takes on board changing societal values and the new demands of children on their parents and the state. At Penal Debe we understand these challenges and continue to shape programmes outside of the traditional delivery agenda to allow our people to explore, discover and bloom. All of our festivals are important, all of our studies add capital value to the various initiatives, all of our parents and children are encouraged to participate and all our leaders understand that the success comes through eternal vigilance.

We at Penal Debe fully understand our mandate. No one shall deter us from our course of action and responsibilities.”

371. **ANNOUNCEMENTS:-**

[i] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy made the following:-

- [a] There seems to be a plan by the Government to postpone Local Government Elections once again. He said that this Corporation has already planned work up to September and hoped to utilize all funds allocated by the end of August.
 - [b] He said that Councillor Boodoosingh would give an up date of the meeting he attended with the Minister of Local Government.
 - [c] He indicated that Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah asked to be excused from the day's meeting.
 - [d] He wished the Christian Community a Happy & Holy Easter.
 - [e] He informed that permission was given for Councillor Diptee Ramnath to move a motion concerning “Brandon Avenue.”
- [ii] Councillor Carl Dabideen asked to be excused from the meeting at 10.00 a.m. due to a medical appointment.
- [iii] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan informed that water is being transported out of the Petrotrin Dam at Clarke Road in a massive way. He also informed that the broken bridge at Moolai Trace was replace by a Bailey Bridge through the Ministry of Works.
- [iv] Councillor Rampersad Hardial informed that water seems to be a major problem in his area as none was received at Hyder Trace. He said that at a previous meeting the Water & Sewerage Authority was praised but residents were calling on him as the Councillor for the area requesting water.

- [v] Councillor Roy Kissoon said that his area continues to suffer for water and W.A.S.A. was not responding to requests. He added that the Home for the Aged in La Romaine was in dire need for water.
- [vi] **Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following:-**
- [a] He informed that Mr. Roger Ganesh requested a meeting with the Corporation at 1.15 p.m. today.
- [b] He informed that a meeting was held last Friday with Officials of the Ministry of Local Government and Budgets Division with respect to the current water crisis. He added that a tour was held afterwards to several projects including the Penal Market. He said that the Officials were very pleased with the work done at the market. He then requested that the County Superintendent secure the building and all valuable materials stored there.
- [vii] The Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Lauman Espinoza informed that he attended a meeting with Mr. Stephen Creese, Deputy Permanent Secretary, with respect to pulling together resources to deal with vulnerable areas of drainage. He added that there is need to look at the area and new initiatives with C.E.P.E.P. & U.R.P. Details to be given at the Environment Committee Meeting.
- [viii] Councillor Diptee Ramnath informed that Members of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago would be attending the meeting after which they would be visiting Scotts Road, Bunsee Trace, and the Poodai Lagoon.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:-

372. **RESOLVED:-** Unanimously on a notion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Statutory Meeting held on February 23, 2010 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:-

[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE :-

373. **Adoption of Minutes of the Seventh (7th) Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on February 02, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on February 02, 2010 be adopted.

374. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on March 02, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-31 of the Eighth [8th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on March 02, 2010 be accepted.

375. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on March 02, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports & Recommendations Nos. 1-31 of the Eighth [8th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on March 02, 2010 be adopted.

[ii] PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

376. **Adoption of Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on February 04, 2010.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on February 04, 2010 be adopted.

377. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on March 09, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-13 of the Eighth [8th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on March 09, 2010 be accepted.

378. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on March 09, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-13 of the Eighth [8th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on March 09, 2010 be adopted.

[iii] PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

379. **Adoption of Minutes of the Seventh[7th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on February 09, 2010.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on February 09, 2010 be adopted.

380. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the Eighth[8th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010 be accepted.

381. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Eighth [8th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the Eighth[8th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010 be adopted.

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

382. **Adoption of Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on February 11, 2010 [inclusive of Special Finance held on February 02, 09, & 23, 2010 respectively.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on February 11, 2010 [Inclusive of Special Finance held on February 02, 09, & 23, 2010] be adopted.

383. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth[8th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2010 [Inclusive of Special Finance held on March 02, & 09, 2010.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-14 of the Eighth [8th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2010 [inclusive of Special Finance held on February 02, 09 & 2010] be accepted.

384. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2010 – [Inclusive of Special Finance held on February 02, & 09, 2010.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-14 of the Eighth [8th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2010 [Inclusive of Special Finance held on February 02, & 09, 2010] be adopted.

[v] FESTIVALS, HERITAGE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE:-

385. **Adoption of Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on February 09, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Seventh[7th] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on February 09, 2010 be adopted.

386. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010 .**

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 Eighth [8th] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010.

387. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010.**

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 Eighth [8th] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010 be adopted.

[VI] SPORTS, YOUTH AND GENDER COMMITTEE

388. **Adoption of Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on February 09, 2010.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on February 09, 2010 be adopted.

389. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-17 of the Eighth[8th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010 be accepted.

390. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-17 of the Eighth [8th] Sports Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on March 11, 2010 be adopted.-

[VII] CITIZEN LIAISON, COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE

391. **Adoption of the Seventh[7th] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on February 11, 2010.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on February 11, 2010 be adopted.

392. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2010.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-30 of the Eighth [8th] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2010 be accepted.

393. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Citizen, Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2010.**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-30 of the Eighth [8th] Citizen, Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on March 18, 2010 be adopted.

[VIII] THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

394. **Adoption of Minutes of the Seventh[7th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on February 04, 2010.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the Minutes of the Seventh [7th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on February 04, 2010 be adopted.

395. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth[8th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on March 09, 2010.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4 of the Eighth [8th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on March 09, 2010 be accepted.

396. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on March 09, 2010.**

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4 of the Eighth [8th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on March 09, 2010 be adopted.

[IX] BUILDING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE-

397. **Adoption of Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Building Committee Meeting held on February 02, 2010.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Seventh [7th] Building Committee Meeting held on February 02, 2010 be adopted.

398. **Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on March 02, 2010 .**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-18 of the Eighth [8th] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on March 02, 2010 be accepted subject to the undermentioned inclusions/amendments:-

Item #6 To insert “open spaces” at Dookie Street and Bhupsingh Street.”

To include:-

[i] #3/10 – Building and Layout Plans Application dated March 23, 2010 #1-12 in favour of Arjoon Latchman & ors.

[ii] Building Plans in favour of Suresh & Sharon Gangapersad, Seuradge Trace, Debe.

399. **Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Eighth [8th] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on March 02, 2010**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-18 of the Eighth [8th] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on March 02, 2010 be adopted subject to the aforementioned inclusions/amendments:-

CORRESPONDENCE:-

400. Memorandum from Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government dated 24/02/10 re: Unutilized leave of Mayors and Chairman of Municipal Corporations

RECOMMENDED:- Noted.

401. Invitations from PANDAVAS for a yagna to be held at Palmiste Park on 23/03/10.

RECOMMENDED:- Noted

402. **MATTERS REFERRED:-**

N I L

Resolved: On a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the meeting go to Committee Stage (FPARC) to deal with the Draft Estimates Development Programme.

Discussions were held and the decision taken was that the Draft Estimates be approved inclusive of all additional requests from Council and Councillors be allowed to view the final document before it is forwarded to Head Office. In addition, Members of Council were advised to look at their respective areas and identify all that was needed to bring the region up to standard after which a listing will be forwarded to Head Office.

RESOLVED:- On a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the meeting be reverted back to the Statutory Meeting.

PAPERS & DOCUMENTS:

403. Draft Estimates for Development Programme for Fiscal year 2010/2011

Resolved: On a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Draft Estimates be approved inclusive of the additional requests from Council and Councillors be allowed to view the final document before it is submitted to Head Office. In addition, Members of Council were advised to look at their areas and identify all that was needed to bring the region up to standard after which a listing will be forwarded to Head Office.

404. List of Vouchers for the period 18-22/03/10

Recommended: Approved.

405. List of outstanding commitments as at 18/03/10

Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh indicated that the listing was very long and some of the invoice orders were dated back to 2008 and these outstanding invoice orders cause problems at the end of the financial year.

Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan indicated that he has been calling for an expeditor from the time he became a Councillor at the Corporation and enquired how difficult was it to assign someone to expedite these orders.

The Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Lauman Espinoza indicated that the Storekeeper, Mr. Samuel Sookhai was given the responsibility to expedite all orders. He added that he would meet with him and the Financial Officer, Mrs. Leela Lalgee, to deal with the issue.

Recommended: Accepted.

REPORTS AND REPLIES:-

406. Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh indicated that he attended the Mayors and Chairmen Meeting and informed of the following:

- (i) Penal/Debe request for release of funds under PSIP was ninety seven percent (97%) which was the highest in all the Corporations. He added that there were still outstanding funds to be utilized but the Corporation was progressing well and complimented Administration for a job well done.
- (ii) He brought up the issue of the need for a Corporate Secretary as there were a number of issues outstanding that needed to be addressed. He indicated that the Minister advised him that if the Corporation could identify anyone interested in the position, their name should be submitted to her for review.

The Chief Executive Officer indicated that the Administrative Officer II, Mrs. Tara Deodath was handling the matter.

- (iii) Request for additional funding for Water Trucking both from the Ministry of Local Government and Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA). He also enquired about outstanding monies to the Corporation by Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA).
- (iv) He said that with respect to one million, seventy five thousand dollars (\$1, 750,000.00) Unspent Balances; Mr. Richardson indicated that all requests submitted would be approved.

- (v) He said that the Corporation was advised to utilize the Unemployment Relief Programme (URP) & Community-Based Environmental Protection & Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) to clean vacant lots in the Region and should follow the pattern used by the San Juan/Lavantille Regional Corporation on the newspapers. He added that the Corporation was also advised to liaise with the San Fernando City Corporation for assistance on the matter.
 - (vi) He indicated that a memorandum would be forwarded to the Corporation with respect to relocating Rates & Taxes staff.
 - (vii) He indicated that a meeting is to be held with Solid Waste Management Company Limited (SWMCOL) and Drainage Division to discuss further plans.
407. Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan apologized for not attending the meeting on Friday. He reported that water is being taken from Petrotrin Dam at approximately one hundred thousand gallons (100,000) per day. He reminded that at a meeting held at the Corporation and Mr. Allan Poon King had indicated that five hundred thousand gallons (500,000) of water would be treated and used within the region. He added that in his view he cannot see Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) setting up a treatment plant in Clarke Road Dam because they were utilizing the water for their own purposes at Pointe-a-Pierre.
408. Councillor Premchand Sookoo reported that the water situation has become a crisis in the region. He said that an emergency meeting was held last Friday with officials of the Budgets Division and the Ministry of Local Government where the Corporation pleaded with them to continue water trucking. He added that estimates were submitted in the sum of two million, nine hundred thousand dollars (\$2,900,000.00) for the continuation but no assurance were given to allow water to be distributed to residents of the region.
- Councillor Sookoo informed that the Corporation has actually removed three thousand, three hundred and sixty seven (3,367) trips of water as at 10/03/10 and one hundred and thirty-five (135) trips is needed on a daily basis. He added that because contractors now had to fill at the Malgretoute hydrant, they are unable to fulfill their

contracts. He said that the current allocation would be depleted by the end of March. He added that Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh pleaded for additional funds to continue water trucking. He indicated that there are new requests on a daily basis from Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) areas which the Corporation service. He added that a request was made for sixty-one thousand (\$61,000) per week from WASA to assist in distributing water in their areas but no one attended the meeting scheduled.

He reported that a site visit was done on Friday with Officials to Boodoo Trace, Mohess Road, Gopie Trace and the Penal Market. He added that all present indicated that they were happy with the work being done at the market and looked forward to its completion. He informed that at the tour of the market, a bed was discovered in the upper floor and it appears that someone was using the area as a home. He requested that the County Superintendent have the bed removed immediately and all valuable materials be removed and stored properly as a matter of urgency.

409. The Chief Executive Officer informed that at the meeting held yesterday, he was told that officers of the Budgets Divisions and Ministry of Local Government had to visit other Corporations before a decision will be given for approving supplemental funding for water distribution.

410. **PETITIONS:** NIL

QUESTIONS:

411. Councillor Ramnath indicated that oil sand and Road Building materials continue to be an issue through delivery. He questioned why the Corporation was waiting on 2-3 contractors to supply and deliver materials. He called for all contractors, across the board to supply materials at the same price so that at any one time any contractor could be called to supply materials and it would be delivered immediately.

412. Councillor Ramlakhan indicated that last year, before the end of the financial year, a lot a materials were purchased. He said that there were no materials at the Penal Stockpile and enquired if any materials were actually bought and if so the whereabouts.

The Chief Executive Officer replied that the purchasing of materials was up to date and a report would be submitted by the County Superintendent.

413. **PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS:**

Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy informed that he would be out of the country attending a WIBC Meeting and Councillor Premchand Sookoo would be acting in the position of Chairman for the three (3) days.

414. **MOTIONS:**

MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR DIPTEE RAMNATH

WHEREAS: Zalina Ali owns a parcel of land situated at Penal Rock Road near to the A.S.J.A. Mosque around 4 km mm as identified on Cadastral sheet with Layout Plan #G18G 73C 1/d for the purpose of developing residential lots .

AND WHEREAS: Zalina Ali developed the said parcel of land meeting all requirements which includes developing 600ft of roadway, lights, water and drainage and sold the said plots to twenty [20] families.

AND WHEREAS: Zalina Ali and the residents agree to name the said roadway Brandon Avenue which is supported by a petition signed by the residents.

BE IT RESOLVED: The Penal/Debe Regional Corporation name the said roadway Brandon Avenue.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT: The Penal/Debe Regional Corporation take over and maintain the said roadway.

- (i) Councillor Premchand Sookoo supported the motion ably moved by Councillor Ramnath. He said that the petition should have been circulated to all Members of Council and enquired whether the Road Officer had any input in the matter. He also enquired whether proper infrastructure was done by the developer. He indicated that when someone requests that the Corporation take over a road, the Road Officer investigates and if recommended, then the necessary approvals are granted. He further enquired whether the necessary permissions and approvals were granted from Town and Country Planning Division and County Medical Officer of Health respectively.

The Building Inspector informed that the plans had the Director of Surveys signature as well as approvals from Town and Country Planning and Drainage Division.

- (ii) Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan supported the motion for the naming of the roadway since people has been living there for a number of years.
- (iii) Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh supported the motion having looked at the Cadastral Sheet and saw that lots were sold to twenty (20) families and roads, lights, etc were provided. He said that approval should be granted to name the roadway due to its location.

The Building Inspector informed that over fifty percent (50%) of the houses were already constructed in the development.

- (iv) Councillor Rampersad Hardial supported the motion and indicated that the developer was just naming the roadway and requesting that the Corporation take over and maintain the roadway.
- (v) Councillor Roy Kissoon supported the motion. He indicated that people were already calling the road "Brandon Avenue" and it was just a matter of naming the roadway "Brendon Avenue".
- (vi) Alderman Roland Hall supported the motion moved by Councillor Ramnath.

- (vii) Councillor Diptee Ramnath thanked Members of Council for supporting the motion. He said that the Corporation should try to put systems in place for developments with regards to infrastructure as there were a lot throughout the Region. He added that there may be the need for developers to be given an amnesty to allow them to put things in place with respect to roads, etc. He called on Members of Council to put systems in place to assist the burgesses of the Region and indicated that if not for people breaking the law we would not be in the building that we are in. He said that if developers were not given amnesty there may come a time when we may regret not assisting. He added that the Corporation should do all that is necessary to approve plans and layouts for the burgesses of the Region and again thanked Members of Council for supporting the motion.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Diptee Ramnath and seconded by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh that the above motion be approved.

OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS

415. **Councillor Roy Kissoon made the following statements:-**

- (i) He indicated that WASA was not very serious about distributing water to the residents especially as the Corporation was now assisting with the requests from WASA areas. He thanked the operational gang of the Corporation who was doing their best to ensure that residents get water. He said that he has benefitted because he is living in an area where there are pipes but not receiving a water supply.
- (ii) He informed that crime has reached his door steps as yesterday a crime was committed opposite to his house. He said that the Government refused to re-instate the Mobile Unit that was removed. He added that La Romaine was no longer known for Paria Suites and Gulf City but for crime. He further added that the Prime Minister said that they will deal with crime but they were only having meetings with eats and drinks and nothing was being done.

- (iii) He said that Councillor Ramnath was asking that developers be assisted to make the region nice etc, but he wanted to remind Members of Council of the developer Chandroo who was not doing anything nice. He added that people were passing through other's property and enquired whether the Corporation was going to allow developers to continue to break the law. He further added that a Councillor was complaining of developers removing dirt, damaging the roadways and not restoring them while people were calling everyday for roads to be repaired.
- (iv) He indicated that the dumping of garbage along the M2 Ring Road has not stopped or eased up. He added that dumping was also being done in Murli Street and people were getting brave as they reverse and dump their garbage along the roadway.
- (v) He informed that with no rain, the Recreation Ground was cracking up. He added that on Saturday he had to visit the ground with the Under 19 Team and assisted with a few buckets of sand to full the cracks. He requested two (2) loads of backfill and indicated that if the Corporation cannot spread it, the club will do it to prevent losing a good play through damage or injury.
- (vi) He informed that a new temple was built at Alana Street and requested that Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) assist with lights and Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) assist with a water connection. He also requested that the Road Officer look at the possibility of extending the roadway.

416. **Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following statements:-**

- (i) He indicated that water was critical in his area and he thought that Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) was going to install a Treatment Plant at Clarke Road Dam but nothing was being done. He said that our officers were doing a good job but he has heard that truck borne water would cease soon. He added that this was very dangerous and he felt sorry for farmers who had no water to feed their animals. He further added that we were heading for serious times and Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) was hiding because they did not know what to tell the public.

- (ii) He indicated that there were two (2) springs in his area and another was discovered near the pond at Clarke Road. He said that water from these springs could be used for crops, farms and animals. He added that bottled water companies were being limited usage and this could lead to increased prices. He reminded that nothing has been done concerning the springs at Aquart Village and San Francique and requested a backhoe for spring at Clarke Road.
- (iii) He said that he has heard that the Work Supervisor I would be away from the job for the next six (6) months and employing a contracted person made no sense. He recommended that Soogrim Bellasario and Dhanraj Ramsubhag be assigned to the department until a replacement is sent.
- (iv) He requested that the Bus Shed at Teemul Trace be painted.
- (v) He requested that two (2) lights be installed at Apollo Recreation Ground before the Sports Day as the Leader of the Opposition would be attending the event.
- (vi) He informed that Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) had dug up the footpath at Oliverie Drive and nothing was done to repair it. He added that by good luck no one has been injured as yet. He said that when someone gets damaged, he would come to the Corporation to get compensated. He requested that the County Superintendent place planks over the area for the time being.
- (vii) He indicated that earthworks was taking place in the region and the Police was doing nothing. He added that mining was being done at Ganness Trace and truck drivers were shortcutting through Lachoos Road , Oliverie Drive and Ali's Avenue thereby damaging the roadways. He said that a Committee was set up to deal with persons cutting dirt and enquired what was being done by the Committee. He added that every Councillor was asking for dirt for Recreation Grounds yet to date not a single load was received by the Corporation. He requested that someone be assigned to enquire where the tractors were and expedite these requests.
- (viii) He invited everyone to the Sports Day on Easter Monday at Apollo Recreation Ground.

417. **Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the following statements:-**

- (i) He informed that there was a water crisis in Palmiste as supply has moved from daily to once in fifteen (15) days sometimes. He added that Penal/Debe was being called upon to assist but this impacts on our resources and financial constraints.
- (ii) He indicated that there was a serious issue of agricultural produce where effluent from Palmiste Development was entering the rivers and reaching Woodland where farmers were using the water for their plants. He said that the matter was raised by the Public Health Inspector who had serious issues with this practice. He also indicated the need for the sewer system to be repaired.
- (iii) He informed that residents of Jones Development have become victims of crimes. He added that there were a lot of good people living in La Romaine and Pricessmart has given its commitment to community projects.
- (iv) He informed that vending at Palmiste Park was causing chaos on daily basis. He said that the Corporate Secretary was supposed to deal with the matter but nothing was done. He added that Inspector King has indicated that he is unable to do anything. He said that the Municipal Police can act and he had made recommendations to deal with the matter.
- (v) He informed that a visit was made to Laltoo Trace where residents were extracting water from a cylinder. He said that people were suffering for water and had to use this water to bathe which was unacceptable. He added that \$2.4 million was given to supply water but a long dry season was not expected. He said that water trucking commenced in February and one can only imagine if it had started in December. He added that the Corporation was managing its resources well and hoped that the Minister approves additional funding so that people can get water.
- (vi) He reminded of the motion moved by him concerning Jones Development and indicated that the street sign was not installed as yet. He added that open spaces were yet to be identified and cleaned up while part of the roadway and drains were maintained. He said

that he was getting calls about the promises made by GENIVAR and hoped that something is done soon.

- (vii) He informed that over Seventy Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) was raised to establish a Recreation Ground in Block 7, Palmiste and requested the use of a grader, truck and backhoe to clear the ground to make it playable.
- (viii) He said that with respect to the request made for alternative routes being established in the region to allow traffic flow, none of the agencies responsible were responding. He added that he thinks that there is a plan to get rid of Penal/Debe.
- (ix) Wished all a Happy Easter and Shouter Baptist Holiday.

418. **Councillor Diptee Ramnath made the following statements:-**

- (i) He requested that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Tourism with the estimate re: Bunsee Trace Mud Volcano.
- (ii) A letter be sent to the Ministry of Public Utilities and the Ministry of Local Government requesting water supply to areas that have no pipes. He said that since 1992 to present day, Water and Sewerage Authority has not delivered on promises despite several meetings. He added that ten (10) wells were scheduled to be drilled to bring relief to residents but to date not one was done. He also said that a Treatment Plant was supposed to be established but that was only cheap talk. He said that Petrotrin was withdrawing water from the Clarke Road Dam for themselves and they have failed to have consultation with the Corporation. He reminded that at the last Statutory Meeting he brought up the idea of having a retention pond built at Rock Road. He said that in the dry season there are problems and in the rainy season there is flooding and establishing a retention pond would assist tremendously.
- (iii) He said that the Corporation should take a leaf from the Government concerning developments as Penal/Debe was in the best position to say whether any approvals were sought for the Housing Development Company (HDC) houses being built within the region.

He added that the Corporation was not being supported by various agencies at the regional level and the time has come for us to act now.

- (iv) He said that the Corporation should continue to work with the developers as houses cannot be built in lagoon. He added that there was need to establish some form or method to regularize homes and questioned why burgesses cannot get their plans and layouts approved.
- (v) He said that farmers continue to suffer from flooding and the compensation is small. He added that the time has come to put things in place to assist them as they depend on us for guidance.
- (vi) He requested the following:
 - (a) A congratulatory letter be sent to "Teacher of the Year" Mr. Devanand Sinanan of Penal Secondary School.
 - (b) A get-well card be sent to Mr. Joseph Marfan.
 - (c) Repairs to his cellular phone.

419. **Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following statements:-**

- (i) He said that the PNM promises never materialized. He recalled Mr. Jarrette Narine telling people to vote for the People's National movement (PNM) and they will get road, fixed access roads etc. and questioned what has the People's National Movement (PNM) done for the people of the region. He invited Councillor Diptee Ramnath to join the Untied National Congress (UNC) Party and indicated that there was an advertisement in the news paper for the position of Prime Minister where candidates must meet the requirements of dealing with Calder Hart.
- (ii) He recalled the days of Victoria County Council where funds were allocated for agricultural access roads which has been removed by the present Administration. He added that the bill for Local Government Reform is proposed to be laid in Parliament soon hence the reason

why hundreds of our workers have gathered at the Debe Recreation Ground. He said that with the new bill, the Permanent Secretary would have the responsibility to hire officers and it was jobs for friends and family. He added that all jobs would be on contract and apparently the union has discovered that they were going to lose members just like the workers of BIR and Customs Department.

- (iii) He indicated that he has heard several Members of Council speak on water and reminded that a meeting was held on January 15th, 2010 with Officials of Water and Sewerage Authority, Regulated Industries Commission, Dr. Roodal Moonilal and twenty-seven (27) residents where the minutes reflected their dissatisfaction of Water and Sewerage Authority. He said that Mr. Collin Nymn responded to some of the concerns and two (2) days after, it was alleged that he was suspended for speaking with a UNC Member of Parliament. He added that because of the minutes taken Mr. Nymn was able to get back his job but was transferred from South to North. He questioned whether this was not an act of the PNM's spite and vindictiveness.
- (iv) He said that the UNC Government was chastised for constructing a Desal Plant but that has become a savior today. He recalled when Dr. Roodal Moonilal marched from Debe to San Fernando in protest of water and indicated that only when residents protests, attempts are made to assist. He said that victimization was taking place and enquired whether only the people of Gulf View San Fernando (East), Valpark etc, were human beings as they were receiving water on a daily basis. He added that some residents of Penal/Debe had to revert to ponds and rivers for water and the Corporation was receiving complaints from all over the region about the non-availability of water. He enquired whether the Prime Minister was serious about anything as there were a lot of special purposes companies being set up. He also enquired what has the PNM done for the people of Penal/Debe and replied "Nothing".

He said that under the UNC Government, a lot was accomplished example, Debe High School, NAMDEVCO, Parvati Girls High School, Public Library, NESCS, Penal Market, Debe Post Office, etc.

- (v) He said with the proposed Local Government reform the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation will no longer exist as it would now be called Siparia/Penal Regional Corporation. He added that Penal/Debe continues to be victimized with respect to roads, bridges, agricultural access roads, etc and special purpose companies like PURE, RDC, PSAEL, CEPEP and URP would be responsible for carrying out works in the region after the reform takes place.
- (vi) He recalled when the Prime Minister toured several areas with the Leader of the Opposition after a flooding and the Corporation was asked to identify the problems. He said that estimates were prepared in the sum of \$42 million to clean drains etc but the Corporation only received \$1.2 million. He added that this money was not enough to spray overflowing cesspits and clear blocked cylinders.
- (vii) He said that the PNM Government has made human beings paupers. He added that they had promised Caroni workers VSEP and agricultural lands with no infrastructure or water. He said that some of these workers has actually died as a result of PNM's vision where nothing materialized.
- (viii) He asked that the Prime Minister announce the date for elections now.
- (ix) He hoped and trusts that with the new vision of Council, Penal/Debe would be in safe hands in the coming years.

420. **MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

- (I) Mr. Bachorie brought greetings on behalf of the M.P. for Oropouche (West), Ms. Mickela Panday. He indicated that he was here to observe the quality of the meetings. He congratulated the Chairman and Councillors on the way the meeting was conducted.
- (II) Mr. Ramdhanie introduced the President of the Trinidad and Tobago Agricultural Society, Ms. Dhanoo Sookoo
- (III) Ms. Dhanoo Sookoo informed that for the last few weeks their organization has been campaigning the cause of farmers and the crisis now being experienced was due to lack

of planning. She said that they were not in agreement of farmers having to pay for water used for their crops. She added that the problems experienced in the region are the same throughout the country. She said that the water crisis was not because of farmers using water for the past two weeks but the failure of past and present administration to manage water. She added that they will petition WASA if need be and the time has come to plan for the dry days as climatic changes is taking place all over the world.

She said that she was the President by election and not selection and the organization's Board consisted of twenty six (26) members. She added that the organization was a Statutory body under the Ministry of Agriculture, the only state board elected by farmers of the country and meetings are held monthly. She informed that she has been the President since 2008 and had to give up her business to serve in the agricultural sector.

She said that there was need to move agriculture away from politics as food prices affects all of us and each person had a role to play. She added that she is very passionate about the work they are doing. She said that there must be a way of providing sustainable food supply and believes that they can make a big difference in providing positive development for agriculture.

She said that she agrees with all Members of Council that problems exist and farmers are crying out for a voice hence the reason she took the challenge and takes her job seriously. She indicated that she was willing to visit again to work with the farmers of the Region. She said that Penal/Debe was one of the food basket of the nation and we must work together as each of us has a valuable contribution.

She said that she will serve her Country and serve it well. She added that food was not above politics but about sustainability and when we go to the market, our pockets are affected. She stated that they were hell bent in making a positive impact and "what the Minister of Agriculture failed to do so they were doing."

She said that he Agricultural Society with less than \$4 million has made several interventions on behalf of the farmers as follows:-

- (a) Rearing of Sheep & Goat Programme (brought in top breeding animals)
- (b) Citrus Growth Programme
- (c) Cocoa farming (pruning tools)
- (d) Provided tractors for farmers in Plum Mitan
- (e) Purchase Implements for Fishermen
- (f) Provided 500 Acres of land at Felicity for Mega Farm.
- (g) Irrigation
- (h) Provided crossings (bridges)
- (i) Agricultural Access Road Programme (Rio Claro - \$1.2m) etc

She indicated that Councillors needed to tell her of the problems affecting the Region in order for her to assist them to do better. She said she told WASA to take the blame for mismanagement over the years as it was the failure by those in authority that resulted in the problems being experienced today. She added that there were a lot of square pegs in round hole and Trinidad was the richest Country in the Caribbean. She informed that in Guyana, there is a sluice gate that allows water to be trapped to be used later and in china over ten billion gallons of water is trapped in a reservoir and released in the dry season.

She said that the Agricultural Society was the only plat form where farmers can voice their concerns and “power lies in the people”. She added that it was their intention to bring better infrastructure to the farmers and provide incentive for them. She further added that there was a lot to do the challenges were there but will help in whatever way possibility as “food is all of us business”. She concluded by saying that there was need to sit and indentify the problems and work at a solution.

421. The Chairman, Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy said that a meeting will be arranged with Councillors and thanked Mr. Ramdhanie for initiating this meeting. He also thanked everyone for their input in the meeting.

422. There being no further business the Chairman terminated the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

.....
Chairman
Statutory Meeting

354. Estimate in the sum of \$5,606.25 to carry out repairs to vehicle TBY-6614

RECOMMENDED:- Approved

355. **REPORTS AND REPLIES:-** N I L

356. **PETITIONS:-** N I L

357. **QUESTIONS:-** N I L

358. **PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS:- NIL**

359. **MOTION:-**

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Hardial Under Section 16 that Council accepts to have a motion to be moved by Councillor Ramnath entertained.

MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR DIPTEE RAMNATH

WHEREAS:- The burgesses of the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation continue to suffer for a proper potable water supply and flooding remains our major problems.

AND WHEREAS:- There are thirty-five [35] areas in the Penal/Debe Region with no water mains and receives a truck borne water supply and are unable to receive same because of a lack of water supply at the Debe Hydrant.

AND WHEREAS:- The Penal/Debe Regional Corporation clean and clear all springs in the region and requested testing and treatment on the said water, the Corporation was informed that the Water and Sewerage Act [1965] places the responsibility for the supply of potable water to the public on the Water and Sewerage Authority, which is required to treat this water to meet the required drinking water quality standards, did not recommend the domestic use of water from the springs.

AND WHEREAS:- The Water & Sewerage Authority indicated to the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation in the year 2008 that they were drilling ten [10] new water wells in the region which will solve the water crisis in the region, we are still awaiting the results of same.

AND WHEREAS:- Flooding remains a serious concern in the Penal/Debe Region causing serious damage to homes, roadways, livestock and food crops.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:- The Water and Sewerage Authority establish a retention dam at Haggard Trace, Penal Rock Road for the storage of millions of gallons of water for the purpose of solving the water crisis, flooding problems and to enhance the agricultural sector in the region.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:- That a water treatment plant be established at the said Haggard Trace, Penal Rock Road which will solve the water crisis in Trinidad.

[i] Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh supported the motion and indicated that it was an established fact that the areas of Penal/Debe have not been receiving a supply of water. He added that the Water and Sewerage Authority has been receiving numerous requests for water and in time of crisis he complimented Councillor Ramnath for bringing the motion.

He said that a similar request was made for a Desal Plant which was raised by Council and after numerous requests it was agreed that a Desal Plant would be established at Morne Diablo.

He said that W.A.S.A. was responsible for supplying water to residents within the region and those not receiving water in their pipelines should be compensated by having their bills reduced.

[ii] Councillor Premchand Sookoo supported the motion which was ably moved by Councillor Ramnath. He said that after 54 years of P.N.M. rule, people had to revert to ponds and rivers for water as this is how they cared. He added that St. Patrick had the highest number of dengue cases.

He said that thanks to the U.N.C. Government a Desal Plant was constructed and P.N.M. now wanted to establish several others in the region. He added that the water problem did not happen overnight and reminded of the former Member of Parliament for Siparia, Mr. Govindra Roopnarine, who camped out at W.A.S.A.'s Office at Syne Village demanding a better water supply for the Penal/Debe region.

He informed that for the year several residents have protested by burning tyres to get water and added that this was done in San Fernando recently. He said that the P.N.M. cannot see further than their nose as several houses were built and they did not cater for additional water for these households.

He recalled when the Member of Parliament for Oropouche, Dr. Roodal Moonilal walked to San Fernando in protest of water problems within the region. He also anticipated that someone would hear the pleas of the thirsty residents of the region and do something about their plight as the P.N.M. Government continues to discriminate and victimize the people of Penal/Debe and the U.N.C. controlled Council.

He indicated that it was not surprising that the Sunday Guardian pages indicated that areas would now be zoned and scheduled for supply. He said that the areas of Gulf City and San Fernando was getting a daily supply while Debe –Gopie Trace was scheduled for Monday night yet to date none was received.

He wondered whether the Minister of Public Utilities or person in authority was doing his work as an agreement was made where the Water & Sewerage Authority agreed to commence work on the dam at Clarke Road but to date nothing has been done. He said that he has pleaded on numerous occasions for the mains in Ramai Trace to be repaired but the matter remains the same. He also recalled when Members of Council journeyed to St. Joseph for a meeting with the Mr. Wayne Joseph and Mr. Poon King to resolve the matter to which none was attained.

He said that a month ago, a meeting was held at the Corporation with Senior Officers of W.A. S.A, the Member of Parliament Oropouche, Dr. Roodal Moonilal, Members of Council and residents of the region. He added that the matter was highlighted in the newspapers and two [2] days later, it is alleged that Mr. Colin Nymn was fired because he spoke to a "U.N.C. Parliamentarian."

He stated that W.A.S.A. laid pipelines in Ramai Trace, Temple Street, three [3] days before the last election and all that was needed is one [1] length of pipe and connection but to

date nothing has been done. He added that each household paid \$500.00 to get water but to date they cannot get a simple drop.

He said that it is alleged that the Prime Minister was spending millions of dollars to construct a church in Guanapo Heights, money that could have been used to provide water for the people of the Penal/Debe region.

He concluded by saying that he hoped that Councillor Ramnath uses his political connections to get a response from the relevant authority.

- [iii] Councillor Carl Dabideen supported the motion and indicated that the issue of flood control and agriculture was brought up at the last Environment Meeting. He said that he was happy that Councillor Ramnath included this in his motion and gave the assurance that through Environment Committee Meeting, he will give whatever support necessary.
- [iv] Councillor Roy Kissoon supported the motion and said “water everywhere and not a drop to spare.” He said that money was spent at the Debe Hydrant and overnight the Corporation was told that there was no supply. He said that the water is still reaching the Fun Splash Water Park but it is being told that there is inadequate water supply at the Hydrant.

He said that the region was always neglected and for many years not a finger was lifted to assist except for the Corporation to hire trucks to give residents water in the dry season. He added that he was happy that Councillor Ramnath would use his good office and political connections to alleviate the water problems.

He also said that he was happy that the motion dealt with alleviating flooding problems as his area is at the end and even when there is no rain water gushes down. He added that a lot of excavation works was being done in his area which would assist in saving farming and livestock.

- [v] Councillor Diptee Ramnath thanked his colleagues supporting the motion. He said that the Prime Minister’s response to the water problem was to shut off the sprinklers. He said that the Water & Sewerage Authority is responsible for water and that he needs water and was not going to use a spray can to water his plants. He added that his colleagues can support the motion by giving support to the following:-

- [i] The hire of an excavator to establish a water dam.
- [ii] To look at the model being used by Powergen in getting water from rivers and ravines and pumping it into the Mora Dam, then using a broiler system to generate water. He said that the same system can be used at the Dam at Haggard Trace where the water well can be used to generate steam.

He said that he had concerns with the amount of excavation work taking place in the region. He added that not one person has benefitted from the Housing Projects taking place and the Government should put things in place for the burgesses. He indicated that people were digging deep into their pockets to make Debe a city and enquired what the Corporation was doing to assist them. He added that this was the opportunity to bring things up to standard and ideas to fruition. He further added that Members of Council should look within their area and support these ventures.

He said for years farmers continue to suffer and implementation of the motion gives them opportunity of water to support their crops. He added that when it rains, it floods and this dam would give new hope by providing water when needed. He stated that Haggard Trace had a natural flow from the Godineau River and it was ideal to seize the opportunity to assist farmers. He added that this issue of the dam at Haggard Trace was raised with the Water & Sewerage Authority on numerous occasions with no response.

He concluded by saying that an invitation would be extended to W.A.S.A. once again but he was going ahead with the venture.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Diptee Ramnath and seconded by Councillor Carl Dabideen that the above mentioned motion be approved.

Adjourned: 11: 55 a.m.

Resumed : 1: 10 p.m.

360. Mr. Badall gave an update on the expenditure of Water Trucking to date.

The Chief Executive Officer indicated that the sum of \$530,000.00 is expected to be utilized up to the end of February. He suggested that contractors work this week-end only then ask for additional funding.

Councillor Sookoo indicated that the daily expenditure for water trucking was approximately \$56,000.00 and by his calculations the allocated funds would be utilized by the end of March. He added that a decision taken earlier on in the day was to dispatch trucks to the area where

no water was received. He urged Administration and Council to initiate a high-powered meeting with the Minister of Local Government and W.A.S.A. He also said that he has heard that water checkers were asked to report to base even though the contractor has fulfilled his obligations for the day.

Mr. Seunarine indicated that it was recommended that the checkers return to base until about 2 – 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Badall indicated that each checkers was issued a file with cartage receipts etc. and this file was handed in at the end of each day to avoid collusions etc.

Mr. Seunarine indicated that each truck completes the allocated trips by 3:00 p.m. and in the case where a truck breaks down, the checker returns to base where he may be re-assigned.

The Chief Executive Officer indicated that the explanation given by Mr. Seunarine makes sense as checkers were hired from 6:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Councillor Ramnath indicated that the most important thing to him is that people get water and for the Corporation get additional funds. He said that in order that they get an efficient service they have to work together and as a Council they had to seek additional funding to give people water.

Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh suggested that the Chief Executive Officer do a projection to determine how much longer they would be able to carry on with water trucking and to seek additional funding three [3] weeks before the money is exhausted. He also said that he has spoken with the I.T. Personnel with respect to the hotline and recording etc.

Councillor Diptee Ramnath indicated that his idea was to put a telephone number and the name of a contact person on all trucks contracted by the Corporation.

RECOMMENDED: The following be approved.

- [i] A hotline number be established and the telephone number and name of the contact person be placed on each truck contracted by the Corporation.
- [ii] Additional trucks be hired to be used as Booster trips and to replace contractors who gave up their contract.
- [iii] Immediately, trucks be dispatched to residents who have not received water to date.
- [iv] A urgent meeting be scheduled with the Minister of Local Government and W.A.S.A.

OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-

361. **Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the following statements:-**

- [i] He said that there were certain things to be done at Jones Development which remains outstanding. He requested that the grass be cut.
- [ii] He enquired whether the Corporation was prepared to handle a disaster. He said that in order to effectively handle a disaster there was need for a Disaster Plan and resources. He also wondered whether residents in the region knew what to do in the case of a disaster. He questioned the integrity of the building and said that sometimes while sitting his chair shakes.
- [iii] He said that the issue of the vendors at Palmiste has been a long outstanding one and needed information concerning the legality aspect. He said that this is creating conflict and people were approaching him with requests for stalls. He said that there is increased vending at night time and food is being cooked where there is no toilet facilities. He requested that Inspector King look into the matter.
- [iv] He requested that Inspector King investigate the matter of the accident involving members of staff and Councillor Manwah. He said that to date there was no official report on the accident and injury sustained. He added that it was his understanding that the driver was right in the accident yet it is alleged that he would be penalized. He hoped that the police has done an investigation.

Inspector King indicated that there was a problem in dealing with the vendors as they don't have the authority to charge anyone for selling in the park. With respect to the accident, he said that an investigation is being done which would be finalized in due course and was awaiting a request from Administration.

362. **Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following statements:-**

[i] He said that he has heard a lot of talk on water and the dam at Clarke Road. He added that last week Mr. Poon King indicated that measures would be put in place so that it would enable them to get 500,000 gallons per day and there was enough supply to last for 50 days. He indicated that to date places like Clarke Road, Goodman Trace and Lachoos Road cannot even get a supply. He added that they were told by W.A.S.A. that work would commence on Ash Wednesday but to date nothing has been done. He said that the water situation was very serious and gave an example of a man in Wallerfield who did not have water to feed his animals and another of farmers in Aranguez who had no water for their plants. He said that this would lead to increase prices and if the rains does not fall they were in for real, real trouble.

He said that there were advertisements everyday on how to conserve water and W.A.S.A. was sending Water Police around checking for offenders. He added that when water comes, everyone fights to get some as it was an essential commodity.

He informed that his contract workers cleaned up the area around the spring at San Francique.. He said that he has made requests but to date no one has visited the area to see how the water can be used. He added that he had suggested that a cylinder be placed so that people can use the water.

[ii] With respect to the comments made by Councillor Boodoosingh on disaster, he said that should something happen all of us would die as nothing was being done. He also said that he has worked for thirty [30] years in Local Government and there was nothing in place to deal with disasters.

He said that there is talk of an earthquake higher than the one which occurred in Haiti. He added that the Building Codes was never approved in Trinidad and asked that buildings in the region be looked at. Also, that measures be put in place eg. earthquake resistance in plans. He stated that this measure would not save the building but would enable occupants enough time to get out safely. He suggested that someone be hired to assist in the Building Section which would enable the Building Inspector to look at re-inforcement etc. on site visits.

[iii] He informed that excavation works was taking place in Gunnes Trace, Penal Rock Road resulting in a clogged drain. He said that earthworks was also taking place in Lachoos Road near Solomon Knox Road causing damage to roadways eg. Dabiedial Road and Ali's Avenue. He requested that the relevant Officers look into the matter.

[iv] He informed that he receives numerous calls on a daily basis concerning the broken bridge at Moolai Trace. He said that he has been calling for the use of beams and cylinders instead of timbers when building bridges.

363. **Councillor Roy Kissoon made the following statements:-**

[i] He said that they were not getting positive responses from W.A.S.A. concerning the water

issue.

- [ii] He informed that a man was robbed of his gold chain at a function held in a Temple in his area.
- [iii] He informed that people were destroying the street signs in his area.
- [iv] He hoped that Administration was pursuing the matter with respect to a letter to Mr. Chandroo. He said that as long as people continue to use others property, Mr. Chandroo would not provide the necessary roadway for his tenants.
- [v] He thanked the Planning Officer for assistance rendered on the Cemetery at Lagoon.
- [vi] He informed that there was a lot of streets in his area that are “dead ends” and garbage trucks are unable to reverse into the streets. He requested that communal bins be placed in these areas.
- [vii] He requested that Administration pursue the acquisition of Seepaul Development Recreation Ground.

364. **Councillor Diptee Ramnath made the following statements:-**

- [i] He requested that a broken cylinder be repaired near to **VMCOTT** in Union Hall.
- [ii] He stated that it was very difficult to identify an employee of the Corporation. He said that on Carnival Monday he observed an employee in Penal wearing three gold chains and a ¾ pants, with a cell phone to his ears at work casually shoveling garbage while a female employee was holding the garbage bag. He said that it was a laughable situation and it was Council’s responsibility to put things in place eg. signs “Men at Work.”
- [iii] He also suggested that the Corporation purchase coveralls with Pena/Debe Regional Corporation Logo on it so that employees can be identified, even if it meant having no Christmas Function and Heritage Week.
- [iv] He said that Penal Junction continues to remain a legal dump. He added that Clarke Street is the shortest street and had more garbage than Ciperio Street, which is the longest street. He questioned what was really happening and what was being done with funds allocated.
- [v] He reminded of the overgrown lot next to Giant Panda Restaurant. He requested that the Public Health Inspector close down the restaurant as there was a rat infestation. He also reminded of his request to have the old Post Office site cleaned.
- [vi] He complimented the Works Supervisor I on work done opposite the Penal Police Post and requested that some plants be used to reshape the “ P.D.R.C.” sign.
- [vii] He said that the beautification project at Batchyia Cemetery was a real disgrace and wondered what was meant by beautification if the walls were the same as Rock Road Cemetery. He enquired whether it was possible in the next financial year that a consultant be hired to look at perimeter designs etc. of the Penal Rock Road Cemetery

and the Batchyia Cemetery.

- [viii] He said that there were several broken down bridges and no effort was being made to bring relief to the burgesses and farmers of the region. He added that in the past there was a contract to grade roadway and each year the Corporation received \$200,000.00. He stated that the Corporation continues to lose money under agricultural access roads for which Caroni had assisted. He recalled raising the matter at a Statutory Meeting held in Clarke Rochard Community Centre and every year after that money was received. He enquired the status of that fund. He requested that a letter be sent to Princes Town Regional Corporation & Siparia Regional Corporation requesting assistance in grading roadway to the Bunsee Trace Mud Volcano.
- [ix] He reminded all of an incident where a stage arrived after the event [Kiddies Carnival] and indicated that we are not serious about what we are doing. He said that we have lost the passion of making Penal/Debe what we had intended. He added that everything has shutdown in Penal/Debe and because of buracracy, we cannot meet the demands of the burgesses. He called on the Building Inspector Section to ensure that the necessary approvals are granted because Penal/Debe Regional Corporation may be no more. He said that the Penal/Debe region is a low lying area and a lot of people are backfilling and the Corporation should give the burgesses a little “free hand” as the Government do projects and send reports later.

He concluded by saying that Administration do all that is necessary to pursue the matter with respect to the Water Treatment Plant.

365. **Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah made the following statements:-**

- [i] He said that meeting after meeting Councillors complains of no water in their district yet five [5] days ago they congratulated the Water & Sewerage Authority [W.A.S.A.] and Mr. Poon King saying that they were receiving water 5 & 6 days per week. He added that today they were saying that they are not getting water and enquired whether they lied or were trying to fool someone. He stated that there is so much water in this little country and people in the region were being given water from 11:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. 1 day per week and we are talking about competence. He said that if anyone had a business, his priority is to have all the necessary equipment but in this country the Government & W.A.S.A. cannot put down a Desal Plant to satisfy the people of Penal. He added that not one [1] but two [2] plants should be installed to distribute water because the country had a lot of money and the Government was only concentrating in building houses. He said that if the Government and W.A.S.A. work together, people of the region could receive water everyday. He said that they were only fooling themselves by building churches for people.

He requested that an investigation be done on the following:-

- [a] Perimeter lighting at Friendship Recreation Ground

- [b] Perimeter lighting at Union Hall Recreation Ground -the name of the contractor and type of lights installed.

366

Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following statements:-

- [i] He indicated that Councillor Ramnath spoke about the number of broken down bridges within the region but he wants all to know that the Ministry continues to give hope then take it away. He said that it was the same with PSAEL as nothing was being done. He reminded all of the last election when roads were being paved on the night before election.
- [ii] He hoped that the proposed meeting will be held as soon as possible with respect to Water, supplemental funding and all other outstanding matters.
- [iii] He asked that all work together as a team.

367.

Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy indicated that he would be out of the country from 3-10 March, 2010 on official cricket business and Councillor Sookoo would be acting as Chairman in his absence.

368.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting and terminated same at 2:25 p.m.

.....
Chairman
Statutory Meeting

269. Presentation

of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Sixth [6th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010 be accepted.

270. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Sixth [6th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Sixth [6th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010 be adopted.

[iv] FINANCE, PLANNING AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES
COMMITTEE

271. Adoption of Minutes of the Fifth [5th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2009 [inclusive of Special Finance held on December 08, 2009 respectively.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Fifth [5th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2009 [Inclusive of Special Finance held on December 08, 2009 be adopted].

272. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on January 19, 2010 [Inclusive of Special Finance held on January 05 & 12, 2010.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-7 of the Sixth [6th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on January 19, 2010 [Inclusive of a Special Finance held on January 05 & 12, 2010] be accepted.

273. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth[6th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on January 19, 2010- [inclusive of Special Finance held on January 05 & 12, 2010.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-7 of the Sixth [6th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on January 19, 2010 [inclusive of Special Finance held on January 05, & 12, 2010] be adopted.

[v] FESTIVALS, HERITAGE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE:-

274. Adoption of Minutes of the Fifth [5th] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on December 08, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Fifth [5th] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on December 08, 2009 be adopted.

275. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010 .

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-7 of the Sixth [6th] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010 be accepted subject to the undermentioned inclusion:
#5 to include “be approved pending it’s availability.”

276. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth[6th] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-7 of the Sixth [6th] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010 be adopted subject to the aforementioned inclusion.

[VI SPORTS, YOUTH AND GENDER COMMITTEE

277. Adoption of Minutes of the Fifth [5th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Fifth [5th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2009 be adopted.

278. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-17 of the Sixth[6th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010 be accepted.

279. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-17 of the Sixth [6th] Sports Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on January 14, 2010 be adopted.-

[VII] CITIZEN LIAISON, COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE

280. Adoption of the Fifth[5th] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Fifth [5th] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on December 10, 2009 be adopted.

281. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on January 19, 2010.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-34 of the Sixth [6th] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on January 19, 2010 be accepted.

282. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] Citizen, Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on January 19, 2010.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-34 of the Sixth [6th] Citizen, Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on January 19, 2010 be adopted.

[VIII] THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

283. Adoption of Minutes of the Fifth [5th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the Minutes of the Fifth [5th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on December 03, 2009 be adopted.

284. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on January 12, 2010.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Sixth [6th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on January 12, 2010 be accepted subject to the undermentioned amendment:

#2 To read “ A meeting be held on January 22, 2010 with the Forestry Division, Members of Council and the Planning Officer at 9:00 a.m. in the Council’s Hall with regards to the Digity Mud Volcano Project and to discuss a proposed Environment Project.”

285. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] The Environment Committee

Meeting held on January 12, 2010.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Premchand Sookoo that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the Sixth[6th] The Environment Committee Meeting held on January 12, 2010 be adopted subject to the aforementioned amendment.

[IX] BUILDING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE-

286. Adoption of Minutes of the Fifth [5th] Building Committee Meeting held on December 01,

2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Fifth [5th] Building Committee Meeting held on December- 01, 2009, be adopted.

287. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on January 05, 2010 .

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the Sixth [6th] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on January 05, 2010 be accepted subject to the undermentioned inclusions:-

To include:-

#10 – Building and Layout Plans Application dated January 26, 2010 #1-12 in favour of Dhaniram Ramcharan and ors.

#11 – Building Plans in favour of Rajmani Seepersad

288. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Sixth [6th] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on January 05, 2010

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the

Sixth [6th] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on January 05, 2010 be adopted subject to the aforementioned inclusions.

CORRESPONDENCE:-

289. Letter dated January 25, 2010 from Michelle Jaggernauth –Ramdeo #23 Batchyia Branch Trace #2, Penal to the Chairman Re: request approval for the installation of streetlights.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved.

290 Notice for Truck Borne Water from the Chairman Re: Commencement date of February 01, 2010 and continuing for a period of two [2] months.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved

291. Letter from Peter Dreyer, Senior Associate, STITT FELD HANDY Group, 112 Adelaide Street, East Toronto, Ontario Canada to the Chairman Re: Conflict Management Training.

RECOMMENDED:- Noted, due to lack of funding

292. “Thank You” card from Diamond Regional Mens’ Fellowship Re: Thanking the Corporation for use of the Lower Barrackpore Recreation Ground Pavilion to host their Fellowship Annual Christmas Dinner.

RECOMMENDED:- Noted

293. Letter dated January 11, 2010 from Dion Abdool, Chief Corporate Officer, Water & Sewerage Authority to the Chairman Re: Water Trucking Service - partnership

RECOMMENDED:- A proposal to be submitted for aa two [2] months projection.

294. **MATTERS REFERRED:-** N I L

PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS:-

295. - Proposed for the hiring of six [6] workers at the Main Office on a month –to- month basis

RECOMMENDED:- Approved

296. - List of vouchers as at 19th-26th January, 2010.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved

297. REPORTS AND REPLIES:-

[i] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy indicated that three [3] "Play- park" specimens were tabled earlier and was seeking approval for the purchase of same.

RECOMMENDED:- Approval granted to purchase one [1] Play-park under Development Programme and the same to be placed at Palmiste Park subject to the availability of funds.

[ii] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy sought approval from Council to engage in discussions with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce with the view of stimulating small Agriculture and Industries Development.

Councillor Carl Dabideen indicated that he would like to be part of the team and suggested that Mr. Ramdeo Rambalack be included.

[iii] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy suggested that a small Committee be set up to deal with the Debe Doubles Shed and the development of the Debe area.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved. Councillor Carl Dabideen to Chair the Committee and Mr. Joseph Marfan to be included as a member of the Committee.

[iv] Report submitted by Mr. Lutchme N. Ramphal on Unauthorized Development by Mr. Kumar Rajbally, of Golconda

RECOMMENDED:- Noted.

298. PETITIONS:- N I L

299. QUESTIONS:- N I L

300. PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS:- N I L

301. MOTIONS:-

MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR ROY KISSOON

Whereas the residents of Seepaul Development off Pond Street, La Romaine numbering approximately 1000.

And whereas the said development was owned by Mr. Seepaul.

And whereas the said development was given final approval by the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation.

and And whereas an open space was identified in the said development for educational recreational facilities.

the And whereas the said development was taken over approximately two years ago by Penal/Debe Regional Corporation.

roadway And whereas the residents have no place to play their Sports and now use the to play cricket, football and other Sports.

to Be it resolved that Penal/Debe Regional call upon the Ministry of Local Government to pursue the development of the said recreation ground.

was [i] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan supported Councillor Roy Kissoon on the motion and indicated that he had visited the area a few years ago and there dire need for the open space to be utilized.

[ii] Councillor Rampersad Hardial stated that sports played an integral part in everyone's life as exercise was good for the human body, especially for diabetics. He added that having recreational facilities is beneficial to the community as young people may be encouraged to move away from crime. He concluded by saying that he supported the motion.

[iii] Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh supported the motion and indicated that Councillor Kissoon had also moved a motion for the Corporation to take over Seepaul Development. He added that the motion was to re-emphasize the need for the Corporation to move swiftly to acquire the open space identified for recreation.

[iv] Alderman Roland Hall congratulated and commended Councillor Kissoon for his vision on such a brilliant move. He hoped that Administration pursues the motion and put all things in place to acquire the space as the area was very populated. He also supported the motion.

[v] Councillor Roy Kissoon stated that it was a privilege to move a motion two years ago for the Corporation to take over the development. He said that there was a lot of children in the development and he would like to see the open space be officially established as a recreation ground. He added that a site visit was conducted and thanked his colleagues for accompanying him on the tour. He said that a lot was said on sports and this acquisition would be a stepping stone for the youths. He then thanked his colleagues for supporting the motion.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy

Kissoon

and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the above motion be approved.

OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-

302. Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following statements:-

[i] He indicated that officials from the Water & Sewerage Authority had visited his area and the water situation was terrible. He hoped that this improves as residents were complaining. He also requested that a cylinder be placed at the spring at San Francique and the area around be cutlashed and cleaned.

[ii] He indicated that there was some improvement in the Building Inspector Section as computerization has begun. He also thanked Mr. Lutchme N. Ramphal for assisting Mr. Maharaj.

[iii] He indicated that the Corporate Secretary, Mrs. Julia Charles-Joseph was leaving the Corporation and wished her well in her future endeavours. He said that she has gained a lot of experience at the Corporation and hoped that a competent officer replaces her as there was a lot of outstanding work that needed continuation.

[iv] He requested that a congratulation card be sent to the Honourable Kamla Persad-Bissessar on her victory at the recent election.

303. 303 Councillor Roy Kissoon made the following statements:-

[i] He indicated that there were problems at the Woodland Recreation Ground where cows and dogs were entering and the ground was being damaged. He said that a lot of clubs played cricket on the ground and requested measures be taken to have same fenced. He also informed that the cover for the turf wicket needed to be replaced as it was in a bad state especially when rain falls.

[ii] He informed that mosquitoes were breeding in an earthen drain from Betsy Street to Dansteel lands and requested that the drain be cleaned.

[iii] He thanked Mr. Ramdeo Badall for responding to rat infestation at Betsy Street.

[iv] He thanked Mr. Grafton Alexander for dispatching the backhoe used to spread

dirt at Woodland Recreation Ground.

[v] He informed that a Women's Cricket Competition would be held at the Woodland Recreation Ground on Saturday January 30th 2010 and the electronic media would be present. He requested that the Canine Unit be dispatched to the area to deal with the stray dogs issue.

Councillor Rampersad Hardial made the following statements:-

304. [i] He congratulated Mrs. Charles-Joseph on her move to the Diego Martin Regional Corporation.
- [ii] He indicated that he observed that the Chairman was not wearing the Ceremonial chain and inquired whether it was an insult. He said that he hoped that there is no recurrence in the future.
- stationery Inspector King explained that the front of the vault was blocked with which had to be moved causing a delay.
- [iii] He said that the region was in a water crisis and hoped that Water Trucking commences on February 01, 2010. He also said that the new Property Tax was causing a serious situation.
- [iv] He indicated that the Government and the Minister of National Security was not serious about crime and did not care as while a robbery was taking place, police officers were making a cook in the Police Station. He hoped that people wake up and realize what is going on in the country.

305. Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the following statements:-

- [i] He congratulated Mrs. Kamla Persad-Bissessar on her victory at the UNC's Internal Election. He also congratulated all those who were successful in the various positions contested. He paid tribute to Mr. Basdeo Panday and indicated that what he has done would never go un-noticed.
- [ii] He extended sympathy to the husband and wife who passed away in an accident on the highway and indicated that they were burgesses of the region. He requested that a sympathy card be sent to the Samaroo family and the Municipal Police to be present at the funeral to assist with traffic.

- that
her.
- [iii] He thanked Mrs. Julia Charles-Joseph for her dedicated work. He indicated a close friendship had developed between them and he has learnt a lot from her. He hoped that the Palmiste Park issue would be completed.
 - [iv] He extended thanks to the Water & Sewerage Authority for providing water on Saturday to a family of eight children who had no drinking water.
 - [v] He informed that he visited Soomai Trace, off Debe Trace where families consisted of 8-10 children who were living in terrible conditions. He requested that the Corporation render assistance to these families.
 - [vi] He informed that rubbish was being burnt in Palmiste Park and a report was made. He asked that the matter be followed up. He also requested that Mr. Badall look into the matter of Garbage collection at the Park.
 - [vii] He extended sympathy to Mr. Chaythnath Maharaj on the recent passing of his brother.

306. Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah made the following statements:-

- Union
Sugar
- [i] He congratulated Mrs. Kamla Persad-Bissessar on her victory.
 - [ii] He enquired whether inspection of vehicles for Water Trucking was done.
 - [iii] He informed that the meeting scheduled for Thursday January 21, 2010 at Hall was re-scheduled for Thursday January 28, 2010.
 - [iv] He informed that he would be having a tour of his district with officials of Welfare and requested the sum of \$500.00 for refreshments.
 - [v] He requested a truck and backhoe to clear garbage at Jordan Hill.
 - [vi] He requested that the Corporation send Condolence Cards to the Ali and Samaroo Family of Hermitage Village.

307. Councillor Carl Dabideen requested a meeting with the Co-ordinator, O.D.P.M. on Tuesday February 02, 2010 at 9:30 a.m. and a meeting with the Works Supervisor I at 10:30 a.m. on the same day.

308. Alderman Roland Hall made the following statements:-

[i] He indicated that he supports all that was said by the previous speakers and he also had concerns with crime.

[ii] He indicated that he has issues with Administration, especially with Secretariat. He said that he was not seeing the Clerk IV at the meeting and that person had a duty to perform. He said that Councillors were looking for performance and when requests are made for letters to be written, someone needs to follow up these matters. He added that Councillors have to face the public and requested that Administration work with Council.

[iii] He congratulated the workers of the UNC's election.

309. Mr. Ramdeo Badall gave an update on Water Distribution.

Councillor Premchand Sookoo indicated that the inspection of trucks by the Workshop Foreman was un-acceptable as he had serious concerns about the health aspect. He said that the trucks were supposed to be inspected by a Public Health Inspector and he does not see the possibility of Water Trucking commencing on Thursday.

310. Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following statements:-

[i] He enquired whether anyone was serious about the business of the Corporation and replied in the negative. He said that the Corporation was about to spend a million dollars and the Works Supervisor was not present at the meeting. He added that some people believe that they were too big and he, Premchand Sookoo, was too small. He made reference to his request that the toilet facilities at Congo Village Recreation Ground be fixed but to date nothing has been done. He also reminded that he had given notice to move a motion of no confidence in certain officers.

[ii] He said that Councillor Manwah had indicated that he was not aware of what is going on with Water Trucking but as the Chairman of Public Health Committee he should be the first to know. He added at the present time no one knows what measures are in place for the commencement of water trucking.

[iii] He requested that the Corporation send a Sympathy Card to the Neebar Family on the passing of Ex-Councillor Paras Neebar.

[iv] He requested that the Road Officer II and the Works Supervisor I be present at Statutory Meetings.

[v] He congratulated all those who made a contribution towards the development of the Corporation and asked that all work as a team to recognize which direction needs to be taken to achieve the goals and objectives of the Corporation.

[vi] He thanked the Corporate Secretary for all she has done for the Corporation and wished her all the best in her future endeavours.

311. The County Superintendent, Mr. Steve Heru advised that the normal practice is for two inspections to be carried out on the water trucks-one by the Workshop Foreman and the other by the County Medical Officer of Health Department.

312. Mrs. Savistra Badall, Co-ordinator, O.D.P.M. informed that a meeting was held to discuss the Haiti Relief Fund. She also informed that South Importers Ltd., Jwalla Persad Supermarket and Sunrise Sports Club have contributed towards the venture by donating food stuff.

Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh requested that measures be taken to check this building's resistance to earthquakes.

313. Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy made the following statements:-

- [i] He requested that a letter be written to E.M.B.D. by Secretariat concerning eight [8] lots at Picton 2, to be incorporated in the Diamond Recreation Ground.
- [ii] He informed that normal meeting days were changed due to Carnival being held on 15 & 16 February, 2010.
- [iii] He informed that the Sonny Ramadhin Statue would be ready by June 2010.

Councillor Boodoosingh indicated that it was because of his recommendation to move \$67,500.00 from Hillpiece Recreation Ground to the Sonny Ramadhin Project that resulted in the Statue being built. He also wanted all to know that the funds utilized was from Palmiste District's Allocation.

314. There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending the day's meeting and terminated same at 12:00 noon.

.....
Chairman
Statutory Meeting

239. Letter dated December 10, 2009 from Megastar International Ltd. Re:
Letter seeking permission to park four [4] 20ft trailers at 239 Mohess Road, Penal.

DIVISIONAL VOTING

FOR

Councillor P. Sookoo
-do- P. Boodoosingh
-do- W. Ramlakhan

ABSTAINED

Councillor Carl Dabideen

-do- R. Hardial
 -do- R. Kissoon
 -do- D. Ramnath
 Alderman R. Hall

MAJORITY CARRIED

RESOLVED:- Approved. Also, the applicant be advised that he needs to seek approval to change property use from residential to commercial.

240. Letter dated November 10, 2009 from Scotts & Mendez Village Council to Chief Executive Officer Re: Request permission to use Scotts Road Recreation Ground to host their Annual Children's Christmas Treat on December 20, 2009.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved.

241. Letter dated December 04, 2009 from Secretary to the Committee, Parliament Re: Invitation to attend a meeting concerning Joint Select Committee on the Local Government Bill, 2009.

RECOMMENDED:- Noted, the Chairman of Council made comments in document.

242. Greeting Cards from Chief Executive Officer, Arima Borough Corporation, and Chief Executive Officer, Princes Town Regional Corporation.

RECOMMENDED:- Noted. Also, Christmas Greeting Cards be sent to all Corporations.

243. MATTERS REFERRED:- N I L

PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS:-

244. List of Vouchers as at 10th-15th December, 2009 #2

RECOMMENDED:- Approved, with the exception of the contracts works where the Councillor for the area indicates that the job was completed to his satisfaction after which payment can be made.

245. List of Vouchers as at December 10, 2009

RECOMMENDED:- Same as #244

246. Estimate in the sum of \$846.63 for repairs to Union Hall Recreation Ground Toilet Facility.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved.

247. REPORTS AND REPLIES:-

[i] Councillor Rampersad Hardial informed that the Clarke Rochard Sports Club held the finals of the Windball Cricket Competition on December 12, 2009 which was a great success. He requested the sum of \$1,000.00 for the event. He also indicated that he had asked the Works Supervisor to repair toilet facilities before the event but nothing was done.

[ii] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan thanked the Road Officer Section, especially Mr. Azim Bassarath and Mr. Zaffar Ali for constructing a foothpath at Ramjohn Trace, Penal in the vicinity of the Vedic School. He said that the job was done very well. He asked that the foothpath be continued in the new year.

[iii] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy informed that the End of the Year Function will be held on December 18, 2009 from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m. whilst the Annual Christmas Function will be held on December 21, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. He added that all Members of Staff were invited to the event on December 18, 2009.

248. QUESTIONS:-

Councillor Premchand Sookoo enquired whether Administration made any arrangements with respect to Truck Borne Water 2010.

Mr. Badall informed that a survey was conducted by Mr. Enol Bellasario which revealed a lot of flaws. He said that the new survey would be completed by next week and Councillors could peruse the document for changes before tendering process begins.

Councillor Ramnath asked that areas where lines were laid but not receiving a water supply should be included in the document.

Councillor Sookoo said that he hoped that the document would be ready by early January so that Councillors can inspect it. He also requested that Administration do whatever it requires for the commencement of Truck Borne Water 2010. He added that Administration should take measures to reclaim spot near to Fun Splash Water Park where the Corporation previously used for Water Trucking.

Inspector King informed that the land was owned by Caroni Ltd. and the present occupier did not have permission from the owner to use it. He added that the needed to discuss their matter with the Corporate Secretary.

Councillor Dabideen advised Councillor Sookoo that filing a question seven [7] days in advance does not necessarily prove anything as he had asked a question months ago and was still awaiting an answer.

The Corporate Secretary responded that with respect to the question of filing for Judicial Review, she was advised that it can be done but it would be seen as an abuse of process.

Councillor Dabideen returned that it was Udecott who abused the process and he would do what is necessary at the next Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting.

[ii]Councillor Diptee Ramnath enquired about the broken down bridges in the Penal/Debe region.

Mrs. Badall informed that there were fifty-eight [58] wooden bridges in the region and she had embarked on an exercise with a document supplied to her by the Chairman. She said that the information gathered was shared with the Road Officer I.

RECOMMENDED:- After exercise is completed, a listing of all wooden bridges in need of repair to be submitted to the Ministry of Local Government for assistance. Also, all impassable bridges to be advertised in the newspaper cautioning users.

2009 from Mrs. Fazeeda Mohammed Re: Statements made by Mr. Lauman Espinoza, Chief Executive Officer, Penal/Debe Regional Corporation.

RECOMMENDED:- Noted. Also Mrs. Fazeeda Mohammed was advised to take whatever action she deemed necessary to clear her name.

187. Letter dated November 13, 2009 from Telecommunication Services of Trinidad and Tobago [T.S.T.T.] Re: Request approval to install on Electronic Digital Switch along Penal Rock Road to upgrade services for customers in the areas of Morne Diablo Road, Crawford Trace, Best Trace and Penal Rock Road between Morne Diablo Road and Crawford Trace.

RECOMMENDED:- Councillor Diptee Ramnath to investigate and if he is comfortable with it approval is granted.

188. Letter dated November 05, 2009 from T.S.T.T. Re: Request approval for the construction of their Ducts and Manholes Systems along Penal Rock Road between Morne Diablo Road and Best Trace.

RECOMMENDED:- Noted. Not under the Corporation's jurisdiction.

189. Letter from PACE Construction Services Ltd. Re: seeking approval to park 1999 Mack Concrete Pump Truck at their La Romaine site.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved.

190. Letter dated 16th November, 2009 from Jimeel Ali, Advanced Haulers Company Limited - Re: Request for approval to park two (2) ERF Trucks and eight (8) Trailers at 173 Scotts Road, Penal.

191. **MATTERS REFERRED:-** N I L

PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS:-

192. List of Vouchers as at 19th to 26th November, 2009

RECOMMENDED:- Approval

193. List of Outstanding commitments for the Financial Year 2009-2010 as at November 26, 2009.

RECOMMENDED:- Accepted

194. **REPORTS AND REPLIES:-** N I L

195. PETITIONS:- N I

196. QUESTIONS:-

[i] Councillor Premchand Sookoo enquired whether permission was granted for trailers to park along the M2 Ring Road near to the Corporation's Stockpile and if so by whom.

Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan said that he supports Councillor Sookoo and something needs to be done concerning the traffic pile up.

The Planning Officer indicated that no application was submitted to the Corporation for approval.

RECOMMENDED:- Inspector King to investigate and report. Also, for him to include in his investigations the area by water hydrant.

[ii] Councillor Carl Dabideen indicated that he had asked a question two [2] months ago and was yet to receive an answer. He enquired whether he will get a response.

Corporate Secretary to pursue.

197. PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS:- N I L

198. MOTIONS: N I L

OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-

199. Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following statements/requests:-

[i] The County Superintendent, to investigate and take the necessary action with respect to the spring at Old Railway Line, San Francique.

[ii] He informed that he attended a funeral on Sunday at the Batchyia Cemetery where the grave diggers dug the hole in the wrong place. He said that upon making enquiries he got information that Boodoo's Funeral Home handles all burials. He added that there was no control over the cemetery and the Cemetery Keeper was not doing her job.

Alderman Dr. Sammy suggested that an advertisement be placed in the newspaper asking relatives of the deceased to identify unmarked graves/plots.

Councillor Carl Dabideen stated that the Works Supervisor I should deal with the matter since cemeteries and Cemetery Keepers fall under his purview.

iii] He welcomed back Mr. Grafton Alexander who was away from the job due to illness.

[iv] He informed that he went to Port-of-Spain yesterday and noticed that everywhere was very clean. He said that money was being spent like sand on CHOGM yet there were potholes and slippage of roadways throughout the country. He added that water and drainage remains the same.

[v] He said that health care was the worst of all and informed that a lady suffering from heart problems told him that she went to the hospital and had to sit on a chair for two days and two nights due to lack of beds. He added that people were forced to lie on the floor yet the Government spent \$2M on a flag that was estimated at \$300,000.00. He also informed that a child he knew went to England for a minor surgery that was costing £70,000.00 He said that when the parents approached the Mr. Hope Hospital for assistance they were told that funds for the year were already exhausted. He added that he felt sorry for the parents because they had to sell their car and mortgage their house to be able to afford the surgery. He further added that there were huge buildings all over the country that can be used when foreign doctors visit Trinidad to perform surgery.

[vi] He said that the cost of food stuff was very high yet the Government was saying that there was no recession. He added that the poor were getting poorer whilst the rich were getting richer. He indicated that things were not right as several businessmen and doctors were not paying taxes. He added that people need to get up and do something before it's too late.

200. Councillor Roy Kissoon made the following statements:-

[i] He endorsed the comments made by Councillor Ramlakhan.

[ii] He welcomed Mr. Ramphal to the Corporation and said that he knew he was as good worker.

[iii] He said that crime continues in his district as a contractor was robbed last Friday while he was paying his workers. He added that a mini-mart in Temple Street was also robbed and

crime was entering deeper into south Trinidad.

[iv] He thanked the Clerk IV, Mr. Harridath Ramnarine for sending a letter to the Water & Sewerage Authority [W.A.S.A.] concerning a request for water supply at New Lands, Woodland. He indicated that he received a response from an officer and residents were happy they would be getting water.

[v] He informed that excavation works is still taking place by a company opposite the cinema in La Romaine and requested an investigation into the matter. He also informed that outfall drains in Caroni Lands behind La Romaine High School, Hector Street, remains the same as water from the box drains were backing up in the villages. He requested that the Building Inspector investigate the matter.

[vi] He pleaded with Council to do something about the Chandroo issue.

Inspector King and the Road Officer I to follow up.

[vii] He informed that a temple was being built at Alana Street and there was need for an extension of the roadway and the supply of water and electricity.

[Letter from the temple needed].

201. Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah made the following statements:-

[i] He wished Mr. Grafton Alexander a speedy recovery and all the best in his health.

[ii] He welcomed Mr. Ramphal, his past teacher, to the Corporation.

[iii] He said that meeting after meeting, they cry that crime cannot be solved but it seems as though upkeep of recreation grounds in Penal/Debe is worst than crime as it cannot be solved. He informed that there were eighteen [18] loads of dirt at Diamond Recreation Ground to be spread and overgrown grass that needs to be cut. He stated that there were officers in high positions at the Corporation yet requests are not acceded to.

202. Councillor Carl Dabideen said that in response to the comments made by Councillor Manwah, he would like to indicate that the recreation grounds in his area are being well maintained.

203. Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following statements:-

[i] He said that having heard the comments made by Councillor Manwah on Diamond Recreation Ground and being Chairman of Physical Infrastructure Committee, he cannot recall the matter being brought up at any meeting. He gave his commitment that every recreation ground would be visited, especially the ones where contracts were awarded. He reminded Councillors that it was their responsibility to sign forms when work is completed in their district.

[ii] He informed that a tour was held last Friday with himself, Councillors Kissoon and Ramlakhan, Officers of Ministry of Works and Traffic Division, the purpose of which was to look at the access roads in several areas throughout the region, especially in the Debe area. He added that there was severe traffic on the roadways and with these roads being made as alternative routes, traffic would ease up. Some of these are as follows:-

Linking Hermitage Road, Debe Trace, Gandhi Village, Suchit Trace, Railwayline Trace, Gopee Trace, Batchyia Trace.

Temple Street to Pond Street, La Romaine

Wellington Road

Tin Pan Alley via Lalbeharry Trace

Linking Tasker Road from Picton to Wilson Road Junction

Round-about at Clarke Road, Junction

[iii] He said that it was the Corporation's intention to commence Water Distribution 2010 by the 1st-2nd week in February, depending on the weather. He asked that Administration put all things in place to ensure that Water Distribution 2010 is successful in Penal/Debe.

[iv] He said that it was his intention to visit every single box drain under construction before payment is made. He added that he have heard that there were a lot of sub-contractors in the Corporation and also that contractors were filling blocks with red sand and using a little cement on top [yet to be verified].

[v] He hoped that all recreation grounds are prepared before the cricket season commences.

[vi] He said that in response to Recommendation #6 of the Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting concerning a request for the inspection of new electrical installations, he wondered if the officer to make these requests really cares. He added that up to this day nothing was done concerning the burnt out cable at Congo Village Recreation Ground. He indicated that he was told that in order for the ground to have lights, a transformer was needed but the Works

Supervisor I Section submitted an estimate for the changing of cable. He added that he had hoped that the Works Supervisor I was present to explain.

[vii] He said that he made several requests at the Committee stage for a list of names & wages of 272 permanent employees of the Corporation on a fortnightly and monthly basis. He questioned why was Administration hiding information from Council. He added that if his calculations were right, the Corporation was only paying 239 workers on a permanent basis. He stated that Draft Estimates are submitted every year where we have to justify the budget and quarrel and beg for funds.

He said that there were several roads and traces within the Penal/Debe region and whenever there is a health nuisance it was the Corporation's responsibility to abate the nuisance. He added that he had asked for a Gang Structure and was given 1 or 2. He stated that these gangs sometimes had two [2] workers and one checker and contract workers were used to supplement the gangs.

[viii] He stated that the vision for Penal/Debe was to make the Corporation a premium Corporation yet it was the first to be closed down. He wondered whether the Corporation did not perform by satisfying the needs of the burgesses. He added that despite the pitfalls, Penal/Debe did well and there appears to be a hidden driving force who decides for Penal/Debe.

[ix] He referred to a letter received from Ms. Joann Jaggernaut, of the Serenity Heights Community Enhancement Committee requesting assistance for a Christmas Treat and a "Concrete strip" where it was recommended that the "Works Supervisor I assist." He said that he hopes that each Head of Section goes through the recommendations and takes the necessary action because they become legal after Statutory approval.

[x] He requested that Administration make a vehicle available to him to visit recreation grounds throughout the region.

204. Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy made the following statements:-

[i] He indicated that there were some outstanding issues from last Statutory Meeting for example the hosting of the National Cricket Team and estimates for bridges.

[ii] He thanked Councillor Sookoo and all other Members of Council for their contribution at the meeting.

[iii] He reminded all of the budget in the sum of Three Hundred and Fifty Seven Thousand Dollars [\$357,000.00] which was approved at the Festivals Meeting which includes the Christmas Function, End of the Year Function and Christmas Treat for each electoral district.

RECOMMENDED:- On a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000.00) be approved for each Councillor to host a Christmas Treat in his district.

205. There being no further business, the Chairman thanked all for attending the meeting and terminated same at 11:25 a.m.

.....
Chairman
Statutory Meeting.

2 - 2nd Line t insert “on flood alleviation” after the word “report.”

Item 11 – To read “Ridgewood Gardens Re: Scavenging Details.”

182.

Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-13 of the Second [2nd] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009 be adopted.

[VII] CITIZEN LIAISON, COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE

77. Adoption of the First [1st] Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the First [1st] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 be adopted.

78. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-19 of the Second[2nd] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 be accepted.

79. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-19 of the Second [2nd] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 be adopted.

[VIII] THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

80. Adoption of Minutes of the First [1st] The Environment Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the First [1st] The Environment Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 be adopted.

81. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] The Environment Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-14 of the Second The Environment Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 be accepted subject to the following inclusions:-

He extended a cordial welcome to Mrs. Kaloutie Patrick who was acting in the position of

Chief Executive Officer whilst Mr. Lauman Espinoza was on 66 days Vacation Leave. He said that Mrs. Patrick would be with the Corporation until November 18, 2009 after which she would be proceeding on pre-retirement leave until December 05, followed by Compulsory Retirement with effect from December 06, 2009. In welcoming her said that the Penal/Debe region is different socially, economically etc. yet the challenges were similar to those experienced in Diego Martin. He added that the Corporation has failed to make a breakthrough with the

Ministry of Local Government concerning flooding in the region and hoped that the new Chief Executive Officer would pursue the matter. He also hoped that the Chief Executive Officer would attend the upcoming Civic Reception and Award Ceremony and that arrangements would be made for her to overnight in South.

[c] In his opening remarks the Chairman read the following statement.

“For years I have been complaining that the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation has been a victim of a political system which is cunning, wicked and cleverly crafted to bring our Local Government body to its knees. The evidence overwhelmingly supports this view. For example, the refusal to appoint an Engineer and Medical Officer of Health was calculated to render their respective departments functionally powerless. Central Government could then say that we are not delivering in the areas of building control and health care and proceed to spawn the R.D.C’s and PSAEL’s to do their political bidding. The refusal to also appoint such an important person as a Public Health Inspector appears to be part of this sinister plan.

So are we victims or is it that we are merely chronic complainers? Victimhood is usually a product of a system which deliberately sets about to reduce or eliminate the structures which provide an individual and collective sense of security and self worth to a person, community or region and renders them vulnerable to discrimination and oppression. There is always the fear that the aggressor could strike again at any time.

In Trinidad and Tobago both races view themselves as victims of some oppressor. The Historical enemy was the colonial master and now our oppressors are each other. In both cases, it appears, the victimhood has become generational, passed down overtime, thus locking into our minds that the other side is responsible for our poor infrastructure, cultural deprivation and economic suppression.

Both races now feel helpless to change their situation with a corresponding decline in self esteem and self worth. Even the educational system has been so myopic that it has failed to climb out the victimhood syndrome and acknowledge that our youth are more probing, perceptive and bursting to engage in dialogue, debate and the shaping of a more relevant system of engagement. They want to control their own lives and their future but the elders are refusing to let go.

What does this have to do with us a Penal/Debe and what does this mean for us as a Corporation in this our final year of existence? Are we victims of central government’s machinations or are we seeing ghosts where there none? Are the two aces fighting equally hard for an equal place in the political sun or is there really a diabolical plot to finish off each other?

I will explore these thoughts at the October Statutory Meeting and offer some solutions for the way forward.”

57. ANNOUNCEMENTS:-

[i] Councillor Rampersad Hardial informed that Councillor Premchand Sookoo asked to be excused from the day's meeting.

Informed that up to last week no garbage was taken up in the Lengua area.

[ii] Councillor Carl Dabideen informed that the Anti-Virus on Members of Council laptops expires at the end of the month.

[iii] Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh stated that on several occasions he has made requests for commitment to be struck off yet they are still outstanding and it was becoming very difficult for him to function in the role of Chairman of Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee. He said that the financial year was coming to an end and asked that the scavenging accounts be paid before the end of the month, failure of which these payments would have to be paid from the new financial year's budget. He added that outstanding accounts before June 2009 would not be honoured. Councillor Boodoosingh said that the people of the region was struggling to have roads and drains repaired and Administration failed to deliver on Council's requests. He added that he takes responsibilities very seriously and requested that his comments be reflected in the Minutes more so when he has to appear before a hearing as the Chairman of Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee. He said that the Accounts Section were not to be blamed and has become frustrated because they cannot reflect correctly the amount of money spent to date due to non-response of outside officers.

[iv] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan informed that no garbage was collected last Friday in the Clarke Road area.

He said that the project done by the Ministry of Works at Clarke Road and Oliverie Drive was not working as the area still floods.

[v] Mrs. Tara Deodath, informed that Mr. Vishnu Seunarine father had passed away and Members of Staff requested the use of the Corporations Maxi Taxi to attend the funeral.

RECOMMENDED:- A bereavement card be sent to the Seunarine family.

[vi] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy informed that the Penal Secondary School was having a field trip on Wednesday October 07, 2009 and requested the use of the Corporations Maxi Taxi.

58. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:-

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the First [1st] Statutory Meeting held on August 25, 2009 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings subject to the following inclusion:

Item 3 to insert [v] “On a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the meeting be reverted to committee stage to deal with an urgent matter with respect to use of Francis Seupaul Recreation Ground on 29th and 30th September, 2009.

Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh informed that two events were being held at the Francis Seupaul Recreation Ground and with brings a magnitude of people to the Penal/Debe region. He said that discussions were held and the Corporation gave its commitment to assist. He suggested that a contract be given to workers of the Corporation to gather and bag garbage after each event and another contract be given to the Solid Waste Contractor to remove garbage before Monday morning.

RECOMMENDED:- A contract be awarded for the removal of garbage for the two [2] events on 29th & 30th September, 2009 not to exceed the sum of \$10,000.00

On a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kisson that a contract be awarded for the removal of garbage for the two [2] events to be held on 29th & 30th September 2009.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:-

[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE:-

Adoption of Minutes of the First [1st] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [1st] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009 be adopted.

Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on September 08, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-21 of the Second[2nd] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on September 08, 2009 be accepted.

Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on September 08, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports & Recommendations Nos. 1-21 of the Second [2nd] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on September 08, 2009 be adopted.

[ii] PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

62. Adoption of Minutes of the First [1st] Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the First [1st] Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 be adopted.

63. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Public Health Committee Meeting held on September 03, 2009.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-14 of the Second [2nd] Public Health Committee Meeting held on September 03, 2009 be accepted.

64. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Public Health Committee Meeting held on September 03, 2009

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-14 of the Second [2nd] Public Health Committee Meeting held on September 03, 2009 be adopted.

iii] PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

65. Adoption of Minutes of the First [1st] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the First [1st] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be adopted.

66. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Personnel Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the Second [2nd] Personnel Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009 be accepted.

67. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Second [2nd] Personnel Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the Second [2nd] Personnel Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009 be adopted.

[iv] FINANCE, PLANNING AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES
COMMITTEE

68. Adoption of Minutes of the First [1st] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009 [inclusive of Special Finance held on August 04, & 11, 2009 respectively].

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Minutes of the First [1st] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009 [inclusive of Special Finance held on August 04, & 11, 2009 respectively] – be adopted.

69. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 inclusive of Special Finance held on August 25, & September 03, 08, 17, 2009 respectively.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-11 of the Second [2nd] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 with the inclusion of the Special Finance held on August 25, & September 03, 08, & 17, 2009 respectively be accepted subject to the following amendments.

- [i] Special Finance held on August 25, 2009.
To include:
[11] Contract be awarded for clean-up of Francis Seupaul Recreation Ground.

[12] Document to be provided for claims before April 2009.
- [ii] Special Finance held on September 17, 2009
To include
[5] All commitments prior to June 2009, not be honoured.

70. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 inclusive of Special Finance held on August 25, & September 03, 08, & 17, 2009 respectively.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-11 of the Second [2nd] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 inclusive of Special Finance held on August 25, & September 03, 08, & 17, 2009 respectively be adopted subject to the aforementioned amendments.

[v] FESTIVALS HERITAGE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE:-

71. Adoption of Minutes of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be adopted.

72. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009 .

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-12 of the Second [2nd] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009 be accepted.

73. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of the Second [2nd] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009 be adopted.

[VI SPORTS, YOUTH AND GENDER COMMITTEE

74. Adoption of Minutes of the First [1st] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Willvan Ramlakhan Kissoon that the Minutes of the First [1st] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be adopted.

75. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-13, of the Second [2nd] Sports, Youth & Gender Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009 be accepted.

76. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-13 of the Second [2nd] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on September 10, 2009 be adopted.

[VII] CITIZEN LIAISON, COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE

77. Adoption of the First [1st] Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the First [1st] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 be adopted.

78. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-19 of the Second [2nd] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 be accepted.

79. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-19 of the Second [2nd] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 be adopted.

[VIII] THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

80. Adoption of Minutes of the First [1st] The Environment Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the First [1st] The Environment Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 be adopted.

81. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] The Environment Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-14 of the Second The Environment Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 be accepted subject to the following inclusions:-

15. A letter be sent to Petro Andina [Trinidad} Ltd. #29 Long Circular Road, Port-of-Spain

informing that that after consideration of the Draft Terms of Reference for the CEC submitted we concup and accept the said Draft Terms of Reference.

16. Proposal for consultancy for the conduct of a Flood Identity and Mitigation control Study does not reflect the requirements of this consultancy. The terms of Reference of this consultancy is:-

[i] Using the i.d. of flood prone areas develop a questionnaire and go into the communities to get their view on causes and possible solutions.

[ii] Using data collected above to draw up an action plan to solve problems.

[iii] Using action plan, develop a Programme of Works, complete with budget.

82. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] The Environment Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-14 of the Second [2nd] The Environment Committee Meeting held on September 15, 2009 be adopted subject to the aforementioned inclusion:

[IX] BUILDING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

83. Adoption of Minutes of the First [1st] Building Committee Meeting held on August 04, **2009.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the First[1st] Building Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009.

84. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on September 08, 2009 .

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-24 of the Second [2nd] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on September 08, 2009 be accepted subject to the undermentioned inclusions:-

[i] List of Building plans #1-4 in favour of

[ii] Building Plan in favour of Kurt & Mitchell Ramlal, Duncan Village.

[iii] Deoraj Chatoor

85. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Second [2nd] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on September 08, 2009.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-27 of the Second [2nd] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on September 08, 2009 be adopted subject to the aforementioned inclusions:

CORRESPONDENCE

86. Letter dated September 17, 2009 from the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Local Government Re:
Kalawatee Patrick, Administrative Officer II to act as Chief Executive Officer.

RECOMMENDED:- Noted.

87. Letter from Penal Rock 4 Mile Mark. Re: Request for stage forms and one 30'x30' tent for Divali Celebrations.

RECOMMENDED:- Approval granted for stage forms pending its availability. Request for tent to be dealt with at Special Finance Meeting to be later in the day.

88. MATTER REFERRED:- N I L

PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS:-

[i] List of Vouchers as at 17th – 22nd September 2009

RECOMMENDED:- Approved with the exception of Invoice order #12310, 12311 and 12312 in favour of R & K Seecharie for supply of earthfill pending queries.

[ii] List of Vouchers as at September 22, 2009

RECOMMENDED:- Approved.

[iii] Estimate of Income and Expenditure of Statutory Boards and similar Bodies - 2010

RECOMMENDED:- Approved

89. REPORTS AND REPLIES:- N I L

90. PETITIONS:- N I L

QUESTIONS:-

91.Councillor Carl Dabideen asked the following question:-

[i] In light of the action taken by UDECOTT for Judicial Review does this set a precedent for other state owned agencies.

Written response to be provided at next Statutory Meeting.

92.PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS:- N I L

MOTIONS:-

93.MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILOR PREMNATH BOODOOSINGH

WHEREAS:- The residents of Jones Development have signed a Petition for the roads, drains and open spaces to be vested in the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation.

AND WHEREAS:- The Developer has not been maintaining the said roads, drains and open spaces.

AND WHEREAS:- The Penal/Debe Regional Corporation has been providing services to maintain the drains and roadway.

AND WHEREAS:- Pursuant to the provisions of The Municipal Corporations Act Ch:25:04 and the power vested in the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation to take over developments on the request of burgesses that are not serviced.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:- The said Jones Development in pursuance of the power vested by Act 21/1990 to the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation be vested in the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:- That the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation prepare Street Signs, and Survey, and identify all drains, roadways and open spaces.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:- That all roads, drains, open spaces be vested in the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation so that residents can have satisfactory services to improve their quality of life.

[i] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan said that the motion was long overdue. He recalled that when residents bought their property in the 80's there were problems and these still existed. He said that resources were limited but the residents deserved what was due to them. He then congratulated Councillor Boodoosingh for moving the motion.

[ii] Councillor Roy Kissoon indicated that the previous speaker could not have said it better. He said that Council was having problems with developers in the region and gave an example of Mr. Chandroo. He said that developers were doing as they pleased and their tenants were suffering for proper roads, drains, lights and water supply. He said that under the Municipal Corporations Act Chapter 25:04 the Corporation can take action against these developers and urged Administration to do something for the people who are suffering year after year. He then congratulated and supported Councillor Boodoosingh on the motion.

[iii] Councillor Diptee Ramnath supported Councillor Boodoosingh for regularizing Jones Development. He said that this should be done to all other developments. He said that when developers commence work they come to the Corporation seeking the necessary approvals but as soon as they are paid for the lots, they forget about the buyers. He said that developers use the cheapest of materials to construct drains and roads and would like the Corporation to put measures in place so as to not allow residents to suffer hardships. He congratulated Councillor Boodoosingh and the residents of Jones Development and stated that he hoped that assistance be given to other developments.

[iv] Alderman Roland Hall supported Councillor Boodoosingh on the motion. He recalled that 25 years ago he was about to buy land in Jones Development but ended up purchasing land in Palmiste Development instead. He also recalled walking throughout the area before the last elections. He said that whenever he visits the area he feels pain for the residents.

[v] Councillor Carl Dabideen said that there was a precedent with taking over developments and gave examples of Palmiste Development and Seepaul Development which are now maintained by the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation.

[vi] Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh thanked Members of Council for supporting the motion. He said that it was long overdue and thanked the residents for getting together to bring about the motion. He said that two [2] meetings were held which got heated at times but he gave a commitment that if the residents formed a group he would assist. He added that at the last meeting held, an Interim Committee was formed to bring relief to residents of the area.

Councillor Boodoosingh recalled moving a motion for Palmiste Development in his first term of office. He said that through the support of Council he was able to get work done in the area which is ongoing. He said that through togetherness, they can move forward to bring Jones Development up to par. He added that if this development is uplifted, the outskirts would automatically increase to a higher level.

Councillor Boodoosingh urged Administration to follow up on all the procedures necessary when a motion is moved as most of the times these are not carried to the extent that it should go. He said that a lot of motions were moved and could only recall seeing the motion on Mowassie Avenue on the newspapers. He enquired whether these motions are gazetted.

Councillor Boodoosingh said that the taking over of a development should start with the installation of a street sign, the area should be surveyed and open spaces be cleaned and be assigned for recreation.

Councillor Boodoosingh thanked the residents for coming and extended his hand in support to them. He said that at the first meeting held, he received over one hundred complaints concerning roads, drains, garbage, mosquitoes etc. He said that he asked the residents to prioritize their complaints and gave his assurance that he would deal with the first 10 and after this was achieved he would continue along the list until each complaint is dealt with.

Councillor Boodoosingh thanked Members of Council for supporting the motion and indicated his willingness to work with Councillor Roy Kissoon on the Chandroo Development matter.

[vii] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy said he welcomed the partnership forged between the Corporation and residents of Jones Development. He stated that resources were so slim that residents have to resort to Self Help Projects to get things done in their area. He added that the La Romaine area has been stigmatized and whenever the Corporation workers go into the area to clean drains they are blocked by gangs because guns and drugs are hidden there.

Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy indicated that there are over 11,000 residents in the La Romaine area and only one public play park. He said that a request was made for lands for recreation purposes but it was ignored. He added that the only available land is in the M2 Ring Road, where one side is occupied by the Army and on the other side, houses were built. He suggested that a request be made to PSAEL.

Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy advised the residents of Jones Development to register their group with the Ministry of Community Development, the Self Help Agency, have minutes of meetings, a bank account as well as to have constitution.

On a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the above motion be approved

VOTING

FOR

Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy
 Councillor Carl Dabideen
 -do Willvan Ramlakhan
 -do Rampersad Hardial
 -do Sonnylal B. Manwah
 -do Roy Kissoon
 -do Premnath Boodoosingh
 Alderman Roland Hall

ABSTAINED

Councillor Diptee Ramnath

MAJORITY CARRIED

OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS

94. Councillor Roy Kissoon made the following comments/requests:-

[i] He reminded of his request for backfill for La Fortune Recreation Ground and indicated that he was still awaiting backhoe to level ground.

[ii] He informed that last Monday he opened a Football Tournament. He thanked Mr. Azim Bassarath and Mr. Joseph Marfan for turf wicket at Woodland Recreation Ground. He also thanked Mr. Grafton Alexander for cutting the ground and hoped it continues on a regular basis.

[iii] He said that La Romaine was well recognized for crime and not for Paria Suites, Pricesmart, pretty houses etc. He said many pleas were made for the Police Post to be reinstated in the area and since its removal La Romaine just went wild with house break-ins and robberies.

[iv] He reminded Council that at the last Statutory meeting he pleaded that action be taken against Mr. Chandroo who has failed to provide a proper roadway for his tenants. He added that people were passing on the side of his house resulting in court matter which was dismissed. He said that landlords are only interested in selling land and refuse to provide proper roadways, drainage, water etc. He added that he has spoken to the County Superintendent in detail concerning the matter and hoped that a letter is sent to Mr. Chandroo instructing him to provide a proper roadway for his tenants.

[v] He indicated that there were no approvals for the school in Debe and the country is only about partying and lawlessness. He pleaded again that they join hands to help people as our watchword says "To make people happy."

95. Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah made the following comments/statements:-

[i] He recalled that the Chairman told him he must not speak harshly to officers of the Corporation but he is very hurt and would mention a few matters that has been outstanding for the past few months. He said that over two months ago, a contract was awarded to shape and grade Golconda Recreation Ground and the Works Supervisor I gave instructions to pile up the dirt in the middle of the ground. He added that two football teams use the ground and they now have to go to Skinner Park or other ground to practice. He said that some of the players has left their teams and has joined the Wellington Road Team. He said that when he calls officers he is told "too much rain etc." but for the past two months there was a lot of sun. He stated that he is very hurt and will attend meetings once in every three months.

[ii] Councillor Manwah said that he sympathized with the Building Inspector and wished his child a speedy recovery but when one reports for duty he must do his job. He said that he took it upon himself to go to the Town & Country Planning Division seeking information which

revealed that two [2] plans were copied and put together as one. He added that Mr. Rajbally has applied for a liquor licence and enquired whether the

letters were sent to the relevant authorities. He further added that information received by the Building Inspector was inaccurate eg.3 different plan number on the same document.

[iii] He informed that Fun Splash Water Park in Debe did not have the required approvals and enquired whether the Corporation was going to wait for four years before any action is taken.

[iv] He indicated that people were constructing buildings 3-4ft from the roadway and all he is hearing is “notice served” to the offenders. He said that people were laughing at the Corporation and requested that the Corporation do what is necessary so that the burgesses can be happy.

The Chairman of Council, Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy indicated that he will speak to the Ag. Chief Executive Officer on the three matters - Golconda Recreation Ground, Chandroo’s Development and Mr. Rajbally’s building.

96. Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following statements:-

[i] He welcomed the Chief Executive Officer to one of the best Corporations in the country, after which she will be going home to enjoy her retirement.

[ii] He believed that Councillor Manwah is hurt and has every right to be. He said that he spoke to him that morning and it seemed that nothing right was happening to him but urged him on.

[iii] He commended Mr. Azim Bassarath and Mr. Soogrim Bellarsario for a very good job they are doing in his district. He said that Mr. Bellarsario should be promoted as he is a very dedicated worker. He added that carefully using little funding, road works were done and the roads were now in a good condition. He stated that whenever residents made complaints, Mr. Bassarath responds immediately and congratulated him and his staff for doing a very good job.

[iv] He also congratulated Mr. Joseph Marfan for work being done in his area. He said that a jogging track was done at the Govindra Roopnarine Recreation Ground, a turf wicket was now being done and residents and the club members were happy.

[v] He indicated that Mr. Grafton Alexander goes out of his way to assist Councillors and hoped that this continues.

[vi] He requested use of a backhoe for 2-3 hours to alleviate flooding at Teemul Trace.

[vii] He requested that a letter be written to the Engineer, South, informing that a job was done at Oliverie Drive but the problem remains. He also requested a site visit.

[viii] He referred to a Junior Minister's statement that "Trinidadians were drinking more rum than water." He said that it was a foolish statement to make as it was easier to get rum than water. He added that 60 years ago, people used water from springs etc. and are now forced to go back to those days as water remains scarce despite the Water & Sewerage Authority doing some work at the dams. He suggested that a Desal Plant be constructed to alleviate water woes. He said that there is a good God because he provides rain water. He indicated that the spring in Arquart Village was producing and requested that arrangements be made for the grass on walkway to be cut.

[ix] He indicated that at the Post-Budget Speech at the Twin Towers, a selected few were invited to the forum to have an input. He said that after the first person spoke [Mr. Stephen Cadiz], the Minister shot him down and it appears that everyone was afraid of her because everyone thereafter congratulated her on the budget. He wondered if those people had gone crazy or mad. He said he got the impression that people were afraid of the Minister which was very bad because they should be able to voice their opinions.

[x] He enquired whether anyone knew the reason why houses were to be re-valued. He said that it was a very difficult situation, had thought that the budget would provide relief but the Government would be getting billions of dollars through these taxes. He added that people would now have to hold their heads and bawl. He said that he was not paying the new taxes and advises people to do the same. He added that the rich man would be able to pay but if the poor man paid, they would have to wrap their bodies around the balisier because they would not have money for anything else.

[xi] He recalled that at the Regional Co-ordinating Meeting, the Chairman said that "Nobody Cares" and he thought of "Health." He said that if one goes to the San Fernando General Hospital, he has to wait for a day and a night before he can get a bed. He said that the building on Chancellery Lane should be an extension of the hospital and the Brian Lara Stadium be used for government offices instead.

[xii] He said that the Minister of Works said that a 50 tonne crane passed over the bridge in Toco. He added that there were no 50 tonne cranes in Trinidad but there were cranes that can move up to 50 tonnes in weight. He further added that the Minister was short and small, just like his brains. He stated that some of the worst roads, drains and bridges were right here in the Penal/Debe region.

[xiii] He indicated that he was glad for the people of Puzzle Island but enquired whether PSAEL could do something about the roadway at the beginning of Suchit Trace. He questioned why develop the inside and leave the outside in dis-repair. He said that if they are doing something, do it right so that the people can benefit.

[xiv] He stated that food prices were increasing each day and chicken price has risen to almost \$10.00 per pound despite the decrease in food prices. He said that crime remain a problem by itself as Police had guns, drugs and "no vehicles." He added that the Police Department should have no vehicles, and a contractor should supply vehicles who will maintain these vehicles when needed. He said that the Police vehicles were a disgrace to look at and there was a saying that "a vehicle says a lot about it's owner."

[xv] He informed that Mr. Ramlal from Insect Vector Control Division [I.V.C.D.] had passed away and requested that a condolence card be sent to the bereaved family.

He thanked all and hoped that people take heed to what is going on.

97. Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the following statements:-

[i] He reminded of the following matters that were raised at last Statutory Meeting which remains the same:

[W.A.S.A.] -Water problems and no response from the Water & Sewerage Authority

-Water Park in Debe which is still operating without approvals.

-Issue of Palmiste Vendors Booth.

-The Corporation's failure to contact the person who contacted dengue [his neighbor]

[ii] He stated that in the list of complaints from 9-18th September, there were over 25 complaints and no responses were forthcoming from the Corporation. He said that there were two [2] simple requests, one by Mr. Bissessar of Laltoo Trace for the removal of two [2] timbers, and another by Joyce Sirju of Lachoos Road for the cleaning of a drain where slush is entering a temple. He enquired into whether the Corporation's vehicles were being used effectively.

[iii] He said that the Safety Committee was now-existent and the safety aspect left a lot to be desired. He added that if there was a fire, everyone would be trapped. He said that he had requested a letter to be sent to Fire Services seeking their assistance in formulating a "Fire Plan." He said that there were no sprinklers, Fire Extinguishers, and not even a Muster Point at the Corporation's building.

[iv] He informed that he was invited to a Night Football Match at Monkey Town where four [4] teams participated. He said that the lights were focused on the walking track and enquired what was the purpose of lights in a recreation ground. He also said that when requests are made for use of the grounds, approval should be granted as these clubs believe that they own the ground. He added that there were two [2] practice strips overgrown with grass.

[v] He stated that money was allocated under Development Programme for the Sonny Ramadhin Statue which was approved by the Budgets Division. He hoped and trust that this money would not be lost as he had made the request over five months ago and it was now at a late stage to be hustling to have it done. He said that he did not want to blame anyone but the persons responsible know who they are and had up to the end of the month to make arrangements.

[vi] He said that he had requested a report on garbage collection and that a P.A. System be used to advise residents on new scavenging days etc. He said that the money was available but

no one seems to know how to do it. He said that Council makes the decisions and Administration implements these decisions and failure to implement, Council must be informed why it was not done.

[v] He said that Councillor Manwah was right on what he said about outstanding issues. He added that the Corporation has not delivered on what was allocated for this financial year and money was being sent back. He further added that when this happens, it would appear as Penal/Debe has no use for an increase in allocation for the new financial year. He said that he had serious concerns about this because requests are made and they are told that there are no funds available. He said that the information received fluctuates and it was no fault of the Accounts Section because they have to work on what information sent to them.

[vi] He indicated that he had previously requested that after thirty [30] days has passed and Invoice Orders were not honored, they were to be cancelled and brought to Council's attention.

[vii] He informed that he had attended a meeting on behalf of the Chairman where the Minister of Local Government said that Mayors, Chairmen, Chairman of Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee and Accounting Staff would have to appear before the Parliamentary Committee. He said that being the Chairmen of Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee, he wanted to make sure that the Minutes were documented "How the financial issues are dealt with at the Corporation." He added that no Member of Council can spend a cent, they can recommend how but Administration implements. He reminded of a simple decision where a driver was not paid for work done and enquired who was responsible.

[viii] He stated that some contractors are never invited to tender yet others were invited over and over. He said the contractors should be given a chance to perform and enquired whether the Corporation was getting value for money.

[ix] He stated that the Government plans to save \$150M on garbage collection which was dominated by a clique. He said that it was unfortunate that Mr. Lauman Espinoza was not present at the meeting but knew that he would hear of it. He added that he and Mr. Espinoza has a good relationship. He said that it was unfortunate that the Ag. Chief Executive Officer had to close up the financial year but knew that she was committed and knows the issues.

[x] He said that the Public Health Inspector being a contract worker was having problems instructing officers. He stated that if scavenging contractors failed to fulfill the terms of contract three [3] warning letters should be issued after which the Chief Executive Officer has the right to terminate the contract and go to the next person on the list. He added that each vehicle should have the Area # displayed and the Corporation's personnel should be on the truck while the area is being scavenged. He enquired as to why the contractor in Councillor Hardial's area was not dismissed and said that the situation was un-acceptable.

[xi] He said that he would like to see a policy developed with regards to vending. He said that fish vendors were parked all over the place and he suggested that vendors should be registered and by this they would be able to know how many vendors were in the region.

[xii] He thanked Members of Council for supporting the motion and the residents of Jones Development for being present.

98. Councillor Diptee Ramnath made the following statements:-

[i] He welcomed the new Chief Executive Officer and hoped her stay would be enjoyable and productive.

[ii] He said that Trinidad and Tobago had so many problems on hand and the recent budget gave some more. He said that water continues to be a major problem in the Penal/Debe region as there was no potable water in lines and severe flooding. He informed that there was no water in Haggard Trace for weeks, there was area for damming, the process had started and we are not making any further headway. He added that Mr. Wayne Joseph was no longer at the Water & Sewerage Authority [W.A.S.A.] and suggested that a meeting be set up with W.A.S.A., State Lands, E.M.B.D. and NAMDEVCO to look at damming in Haggard Trace and solving flooding by irrigation.

[iii] He requested that a letter be sent to PSAEL informing of an open manhole where a resident fell sustaining injuries.

[iv] He said that wooden bridges throughout the region remains a major problem. He requested that signs be installed at Goodman Trace and Seemungal Trace bridges. He said that damaged bridges should be repaired as soon as possible, even if it meant closing the roadway to carry out works.

[v] He said that earthworks also remains a major problem as soon as the sun shine, excavators and trucks are in the area. He called for dialogue with developers and a policy put in place so that roads will be repaired or restored back to its original condition.

[vi] He stated that there was a lot of Sportsmen and Sports Women in the area. He added that the Debe High School were Football Champs after putting a licking of 17-0 on its opponent. He indicated that Shiva Boys College was using the David Williams Recreation Ground and emphasis should be placed on all grounds. He said that use of grounds are a little difficult to get as clubs feel they own them. He called for a policy to be put in place so that as long as a ground is available it should be approved. He also suggested that clubs provide an itinerary to the Corporation for the year so that they would not be able to prevent other clubs and school from using it.

[vii] He said that he supports the movement for change and will only vote in critical matters. He informed that he was invited to a meeting last Saturday with the Indian High Commission and the Penal/Debe of Commerce but did not attend because it was being held at

the Water Park in Debe which had no approvals. He said that the Corporation's purpose was to make the Penal/Debe region a better place for its burgesses.

[viii] He stated that garbage collection should be twice per day in Penal Junction. He said that in the new scavenging contracts, the days were reduced from 4 days per week to 3 days. He added that there were two shifts operating in San Fernando and enquired whether the days were cut in Port-of-Spain. He suggested that a letter be written to the Ministry of Local Government requesting an increase in the number of scavenging days per week.

[ix] He stated that Rambalack's building is a dump as well as the Old Post Office. He said that there were no car parks in Penal and the police were issuing tickets. He asked where the people should park. He said that all vacant lots should be cleared and the Corporation should clean up the lots they own and develop them into car parks.

[x] He said that the Government was coming down on the small man, the man who Caroni had retrenched, the same man who invested in Hindu Credit Union and Clico, who now could only get a 10-days contract. He said that the Corporation could only assist ten workers every three months at a salary of \$166.00 per day. He asked how would these people survive now that we have to pay house tax.

[xi] He stated that houses built by Housing Development Company in Wellington Road, Debe had no approvals, failed to meet the requirements and had no recreational facilities. He said it's the same in the Picton area where there were no proposals to build schools or recreational facilities. He added that thousands of houses were being built and no one would be able to get into a school. He said that the time had come to make some serious proposals and send it to the Government.

[xii] He informed that Mr. Birju of the Dayanand Memorial Vedic had been passed away and requested that a card be sent to the bereaved relatives.

[xiii] He wished the Chief Executive Officer all the best in her stay at the Corporation and the Chairman all the best for the rest of the term. He also apologized if he had hurt anyone in the past six [6] years.

99. Councillor Dabideen made the following statements:-

[i] He indicated he had heard of Councillor Roy Kissoon's serious issue with Mr. Chandroo and Councillor Sonnylal Manwah's issue with earthfill piled up at Golconda Recreation Ground and he cannot understand why they cannot find a legal and lawful way to deal with these issues. He said that the relevant committees were not working where the recommendations were made. He added that at the Statutory Meeting, Councillors only talk about the issues but are not telling Administration to take action. He said that recommendations are also made at Committee Meetings and not showing up as recommendations for the Statutory Meeting. He added that Committee Chairmen needs to "get working." He advised that the matters be brought back to the relevant Committee Meeting and that the Chairmen ensure that action is taken.

[ii] He said that Councillor Diptee Ramnath's concerns were very informative and relevant although he was on the other side of the table. He said the issues of schools and recreational facilities arose because of poor planning and the P.N.M. had poor planners. He added that there was need to get rid of managers who cannot plan and replace them with ones capable of doing the job.

100. Mr. Edwards, Member of the Public, thanked Councillor Boodoosingh for his response to the people of Jones Development and the method used to sit and discuss burning issues affecting residents. He said that he admired that and the Councillor was thick skinned. He indicated that he lived in the area for over 10 years but villagers were having problems for over 20 years.

He said that there is need to have agencies to supervise these developments as infrastructure are badly done and the Corporation has to spend endless money to straighten out these problems.

He said that some of the Councillors knew the area well so he does not have to explain the problems. He added that land developers need to be supervised because they do shoddy work, get it approved and had it over to the Corporation for maintenance.

He said that his group comprised of intelligent people who were very serious and willing to sit with Council to find solutions. He added that the country had an abundance of resources and Council had problems getting sufficient funds.

He thanked Members of Council for supporting the motion moved by Councillor Boodoosingh and assures them that Jones Settlement develop into something Council will be pleased about as there was s saying "where there is a will, there is a way."

101. Mr. Andrew Suphal, Public Health Inspector, informed that problems were being experienced in Areas 13 and 14. He said that the contractor for Area #13 has not taken up his contract and Area #14 was scavenged on only two [2] days last week. He added that he wrote the Chief Executive Officer indicating the areas not scavenged and a listing is on a daily basis.

102. Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh gave notice of a Special Finance Meeting to be held later on in the day followed by a Special Statutory Meeting immediately after.

103. The Chairman thanked all Heads of Section for attending the meeting and especially thanked the Chief Executive Officer for ensuring officers attend. He thanked everyone for their patience and valuable contribution and terminated the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

.....
Chairman
Statutory Meeting

“There is an expression that has crept into our daily vocabulary when, enquiring on how a person is going, his or her response is usually “good, for now.” Up to two years ago this expression was not common in our idiom of responses. Why is the general population now putting a condition on their response by saying “for now”? Clearly, what is happening in our society is that our people are expecting the worse to happen to them at any time. The worse includes robbery, rape, murder, vehicular accidents, spousal abuse and the general misbehavior and disrespect for law.

Our Society is being reshaped politically without consultation with the general population.

The institutions of the State such as the health, education, national security, agricultural and the social services sectors are in various states of collapse. Helplessness is setting in. Imagine people are not even reporting robberies and assaults and I am told that many rape cases are not mentioned outside of the family circle because the victim is made to feel that she is a slut and invited the rapist to conduct his dastardly act.

Our quality of life is in severe decline. Quality of life “reflects the difference, the gap, between the hopes and expectations of a person and their present experience. It may be measured by the extent to which people’s happiness requirements are met” [Janssen Quality of life Studies]. Our people are no longer happy. They live in fear from day to day continuously looking over their shoulders and expecting the worse. The home and neighborhood have become battlefields where survival is the first priority rather than the enjoyment of the community and the physical and social environment. People go outside of their community only to transact urgent business and are scared to linger and enjoy the friendships of the friends whom they meet, friendships which have been cultivated over many years. We are losing the art of social interaction and an appreciation of each other as a people and a nation.

Our responsibility in Local Government is to make people happy by creating the right conditions of a clean and wholesome physical and social environment. We may be succeeding to some degree in the former and trying very hard with our annual heritage festivals and civic award functions in the latter. But we cannot do it alone. I am aware that Councillors hold regular meetings with their various constituents groups in an effort to keep their communities on an even and balanced keel. Quite frankly, without the Councillors’ intervention with the various N.G.O.s we will be in serious trouble. I am urging my colleagues to keep up the good work in order to ensure that our society doesn’t collapse around us.”

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS:-

- [i] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy informed that the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Lauman Espinoza had asked to be excused for the day’s meeting and the Administrative Officer II, Mrs. Tara Deodath would be deputising in his absence.

[ii] Councillor Diptee Ramnath informed that the Commonwealth Sports Club will be having a Curry Duck Celebration and Members of Council and staff were invited. Date of event to be announced when it becomes available.

[iii] Councillor Premchand Sookoo did the following:-

- expressed his disappointment with Administration concerning his request for two Parc Disposal Units for Ganesh Utsav being held at the Gajanan Bhavan Sabha Temple, Ramai Trace, Debe.
- expressed his disappointment with Administration concerning the Roads & Bridges Programme. He said that he had requested a listing of the projects, commencement Date, Completion Date, the names of the contractors etc. He said that the Corporation would have to perform magic so that these projects can be completed on time.
- informed that he heard that the Corporation had received \$1.9M for the Penal Market and Barrackpore Market and nothing was in place to utilize this money. He said that it appears that someone was too busy with personal issues and not doing what he is supposed to do.

[iv] Alderman Roland Hall informed that he attended an O.D.P.M. Meeting in Port-of-Spain and another will be held next week.

[v] Councillor Roy Kissoon informed that the recently concluded Health Clinic was a success. He said that the total number of persons seen was between 4500 and 5000 and the Clinic was a perfect replacement for the Ministry of Health.

[vi] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy commended Members of Council and Staff for an excellent job in making the Clinic a success. He indicated that the sum of \$10,000.00 was donated towards the Clinic.

[vii] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan informed that flooding at Oliverie Drive remains the same. He said that there were improvements at Wilson Road and Jagmohan Street.

He informed that a meeting was held last Friday with National Gas Company [N.G.C.] at Mr. Seth's residence, Clarke Road, Penal and approximately 15 persons attended. He said that the evacuation exercise was very good.

4.. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:-

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [

36th] Statutory Meeting held on July 09, 2009 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings subject to the following amendment:-

Item 2016 [iii] to insert “ and roads” after the word “drainage” and delete “residence” and insert “development.”

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:-

[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE:-

Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009 be adopted.

6. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1- 26 of the First [1st] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009 be accepted.

7. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the First[1st] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premchand Sookoo and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports & Recommendations Nos. 1-26 of the First [1st] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009 be adopted.

[ii] PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

8. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009 be adopted.

9. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8 of the First [1st] Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 be accepted.

10. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-8 of the First [1st] Public Health Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 be adopted.

iii] PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

11. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on July 06,2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

12. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4 of the First [1st] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be accepted.

13. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of First [1st] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4 of the First [1st] Personnel Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be adopted.

[iv] FINANCE, PLANNING AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES COMMITTEE

14. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 be adopted.

15. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009 inclusive of Special Finance held on August 04, & 11, 2009 respectively.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-10 of the First [1st] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009 with the inclusion of the Special Finance held on August 04, & 11, 2009 respectively be accepted subject to the following amendments.

[i] Special Finance held on August 04, 2009

Item 3 to delete “The Chief Executive Officer is to have a meeting with the Accountant I to discuss matter.”

[ii] Special Finance held on August 11, 2009.

- Item 3 To insert “deadline date.”

- Item 6 To delete “Ghandi” and insert “Gandhi”

- Item 7 [a] to read “Mohess Road Cemetery roadway”
[b] to read “Rock Road Cemetery fencing”

- Item 8 1st line to read “Parc Disposal”
2nd line to insert “Bhavan” after “Gajanan”

Item 9 to delete from the word “which.....”

16. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the First[1st] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009 inclusive of Special Finance held on August 04, & 11, 2009 respectively.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-10 of the First [1st] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009 inclusive of Special Finance held on August 04, & 11, 2009 respectively be Adopted subject to the aforementioned amendments.

[v] FESTIVALS HERITAGE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE:-

17. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on

July 06, 20 09.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded By Alderman Roland Hall that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Festivals Committee

Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

18. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

19. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 .

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-5 of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be accepted.

20. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-5 of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be adopted.

[VI SPORTS, YOUTH AND GENDER COMMITTEE

21. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 be adopted.

22. Adoption of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009 be adopted.

23. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

24. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-8, 1-7 and 1-2 respectively of the First [1st] Sports, Youth & Gender Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be accepted.

25. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-8, 1-7 and 1-2 respectively of the First [1st] Sports, Youth and Gender Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be adopted.

[VII] CITIZEN LIAISON, COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE

26. Adoption of the [Thirty-Sixth [36th]] Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009 be adopted.

Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-11 of the First [1st] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009 be accepted.

28. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-11

of the First [1st] Citizen Liaison, Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on August 18, 2009 be adopted.

[VIII] THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

29. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Planning, The Environment & Regional Development Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Planning, The Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 be adopted.

30. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] The Environment Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 .

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-7 of the First [1st] The Environment Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 be accepted subject to the following amendment:-

To delete items 3 & 4

31. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] The Environment Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Carl Dabideen and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-7 of the First [1st] The Environment Committee Meeting held on August 11, 2009 be adopted.

[IX] BUILDING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

32. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Building Committee Meeting held on July 02, **2009.**

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Building Committee Meeting held on July 02, be adopted.

Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009 .

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-27 of the First [1st] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009 be accepted.

34. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-27 of the First [1st] Building and Planning Committee Meeting held on August 04, 2009 be adopted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

35. Letter dated August 24, 2009 from Andre Mohamed, Americas Marketing Company Ltd. Ramjohn Link Road, Penal Re: Request for the Corporation to take over maintenance of box drain.

RECOMMENDED:- Referred to Public Health Committee Meeting.

36. Letter from Kelly Bahadur, Wilson Road Womens Group Re: Request permission to use Wilson Road Recreation Ground on Sunday August 30, 2009 for a Sports and Family Day.

RECOMMENDED:- Councillor Rampersad Hardial to pursue

37. **MATTERS REFERRED:-** N I L

38. **PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS:-**

- [i] List of Vouchers as at 18th-25th August, 2009
- [ii] List of Outstanding Development Programme Commitments for Financial Year 2008-2009- as at August 24, 2009
- [iii] List of Outstanding Commitments for Financial Year 2008-2009 as at August 24, 2009.
- [iv] Details of Expenditure as at August 24, 2009 -
- [v] Seventy-Five [75] Day Event Calender for Civic Award 2009.

RECOMMENDED:- Referred to Special Finance to be held later on the day.

39. Building & Layout Plan Applications as at August 25, 2009 in favour of
Benedict Mc Call and ors.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved

40. Building & Layout Applications as at August 25, 2009 in favour of Stephen Swanson
and ors.

RECOMMENDED:- Approved

REPORTS AND REPLIES:-

- 41.[i] Councillor Rampersad Hardial reported that Tataree Trace was flooded and a concrete slab had broken off and fallen into the river. He said that he had requested assistance from the Roads Section since March. He added that a jackhammer was needed to break up the slab before it can be removed and requested the use of a backhoe to assist in removal.

[ii]Councillor Hardial reported that Mr. Hosein of Mansingh Trace was awaiting the Surveying Technician and a report was outstanding.

RECOMMENDED:-County Superintendent to investigate and take necessary action with respect to matter at Tataree Trace.

42. Councillor Roy Kissoon reported that there was a blockage at Bhagmania River, Woodland. He said that Councillor Diptee Ramnath had made arrangements to assist and the Member of Parliament for Oropouche West as well as the Drainage Division was trying to assist.

Councillor Diptee Ramnath to give the contact number of Mr. Jagdeo for assistance.

43. Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh reported that two meetings were held with residents of Rahaman Development and Jones Development and he would be moving a motion soon for the Corporation to take over both developments. He said that these meetings were to build communities and to educate them about monies allocated.

Councillor Boodoosingh said that under the Development Programme and at a Committee stage meeting, funds from Hillpiece was transferred to Sonny Ramadin Statue and Palmiste Pond. He added that these projects were now denied by the Ministry and he believed that the paper work was not sent and remains outstanding. He requested a report on the matter.

44. Councillor Diptee Ramnath reported on the following:-

[i] The 20/20 Cricket Competition held recently was a success and was won by the Hillpiece Team with the runners up being the San Francique Team. He requested the sum of \$1,000.00 for refreshments for the Award Ceremony.

[ii] The Commonwealth Sports Club was celebrating it's 50th Anniversary on Sunday August 30, 2009 and he requested the sum of \$1,000.00 for refreshments for the event. He also requested that the Corporation provide transport on the day.

45. PETITIONS:- N I L

46. QUESTIONS:- N I L

47. PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS:- N I L

48. MOTIONS:- N I L

OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-

49. Councillor Roy Kissoon made the following statements/requests:-

[i] He informed that he was awaiting trucks to transport earthfill from Picton to Woodland Recreation Ground and requested the use of the Corporation backhoe to level same.

[ii] He informed that Councillors were very dissatisfied with E.M.A. & E.M.B.D. for their inaction against developers throughout the region. He said that developers continue to break the law and gave an example of Chandroo's development in La Romaine. He stated that because of this development, a court matter arose where he had to attend the San Fernando Magistrate Court on August 14, 2009. He added that the outcome was the matter being dismissed but he appealed to the Corporation to take action against the developer by sending a strongly worded letter indicating that he needs to provide a proper roadway for his tenants.

RECOMMENDED:- A Committee be set up comprising of Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan, Chairman Building Committee, Corporate Secretary, County Superintendent, Surveying Technician, Municipal Police, Building Inspector, Road Officer I, Debe and any other Member of Council. In addition, a meeting be scheduled on Friday August 28, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. to deal with matter.

50. Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah made the following statements/requests:-

- [i] Informed that the residents of Union Hall Gardens will be holding it's First Family Fest on August 30, 2009 at Apricot Circular and all was invited.
- [ii] Informed that the Friendship Village Council will be celebrating it 50th Anniversary and all was invited. He requested that the Corporation purchase a plaque for the event.
- [iii] Informed that developers were selling lots in the Union Hall/Bronte District and the roadways were not up to standard. He requested a backhoe to remove debris at Mac Pancham Street.
- [iv] Informed that construction work was being carried out at Mr. Kumar Rajbally's residence at Golconda Junction and pleaded that the Corporation take the necessary action to prevent him from continuing with the illegal structure. He said that the relevant notices were served and the Building Inspector had indicated that nothing can be done. He requested that a letter be sent to the court and the County Medical Officer Health Department preventing the relevant licence from being issued.

Corporate Secretary to provide additional information by Friday and two letters from County Medical Officer of Health & Penal/Debe Regional Corporation to be refreshed.

51. Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the following statements/requests:-

- [i] Stated that the Public Relations Department of the Water & Sewerage Authority [W.A.S.A.] was discriminating against the people of the Penal/Debe region. He said that previously the residents of Palmiste District enjoyed a 24hr water service and Hillpiece was now receiving water one day per week. He added that the country was moving backwards instead of forward.
- [ii] Stated that he has concerns about the recently opened Water Park in Debe, especially with respect to the Health & Safety aspect. He questioned whether the relevant approvals were sought. He said that it was the responsibility of the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation to advise residents and users that the Corporation is not liable for any loss of death, injury etc.
- [iii] Hoped that the matter concerning the Palmiste Park Vendors Booth is resolved as soon as possible since he has been getting calls constantly from interested persons. He said that the legal path was taking too long and hoped that the policy for acquiring these booths is made available soon.
- [iv] Expressed his dissatisfaction with the Health aspects of the region as there were rat infestation, dengue and other health issues. He informed that his neighbour, Mr. Abdool Jameer had contracted Dengue and thanked Dr. Avinash Sawh for making a house call. He said that he was told by the doctor that he had treated over 80 persons in the Palmiste area for Dengue and this information was not reflected in the County Medical Officer of Health Department's data.

- [v] Requested a Special Finance Meeting later in the afternoon with all Heads of Sections.
- [vi] Indicated that there would be a lot of Outreach Meetings in the upcoming month concerning GENIVAR Projects.

Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy requested that another letter be sent to the Ministry of Agriculture concerning Palmiste Park.

Adjourned: 12:15 p.m.

Resumed : 1:15p.m.

52. Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following statements/requests:-

- [i] Informed that work was being carried out at Wilson Road and Jagmohan Street and hoped that something could be done at Oliverie Drive to prevent flooding before the new school term commences.
- [ii] stated that a lot of money was spent on Lachoos Road to get it back to a normal state but there is need for additional work to be done in the area being developed by Billy Ramdeen. He said that a resident purchased a load of hotmix but needs assistance to repair the roadway before a wedding takes place. He thanked Mr. Soogrim Bellarsario for work done in the area and hoped that no work would commence until an agreement is made by the developer to repair roadway.
- [iii] Stated that the Government plans to spend millions of dollars on Maracas Beach, a hotel at the airport and the purchase of four helicopters but nothing was done for flooding in the dry season.
- [iv] Stated that crime throughout the country is increasing as thieves and burglars continue their trade. He informed that a farmer in Sunrees Road recently lost four cows while another at Wilson Road lost three cows worth thousands of dollars. He made reference to drugs and ammunitions found at a Police Station and the only action taken against the officers were transfers.

53. Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following statements/requests:-

- [i] He said that he wondered if there were different policies for some people. He said that approval, which is lawful and legal, was granted by the Council for the Corporation to provide two [2] Parc Disposal Units to the Gajanan Bhavan Sabha Temple in Ramai Trace, Debe for its Ganesh Utsav. He informed that when he enquired why it was not provided he was told that the Chief Executive Officer said that the Corporation was unable to assist due to the lack of funds. He added that the temple has been making this request for the past 3-4 years and it was granted on each occasion. He stressed that if arrangements cannot be made by tomorrow he does not want it.

- [ii] He wondered whether an incident like the one which occurred in Balandra over the weekend has to happen before something can be done to the bridges in the Penal/Debe region.
- [iii] He recalled the fateful day when the Minister of Local Government and her entourage visited the Sanahie Trace bridge and promised that something would be done in the dry season. He also informed that two [2] timbers in the Chitar Trace bridge were broken and requested that Administration purchase timber to repair the bridge.
- [iv] He stated that last Tuesday the Corporation was asked to submit a list of all drains and water courses to be cleaned. He said that a listing was submitted in the sum of \$1.3M and after an emergency meeting held earlier this week he hoped something would be done urgently to prevent flooding. He informed that Mr. Lalman Jagmohan of Lower Barrackpore residence was flooded on three [3] occasions and the Fire Services had to be called in to assist in clean-up of the house.
- [v] He stated that the Corporation had submitted several projects to the Ministry of Works and PURE and wondered whether anything was done for the people of the Penal/Debe region.
- [vi] He stated that last week the Corporation received the sum of \$1.9M and wondered whether it would be spent in the Penal Market or the Barrackpore Market. He asked whether there was a hidden agenda that Members of Council not be made aware of what is being done. He enquired whether the Corporation was able to spend this money before the end of the financial year as he did not want any to go to the Consolidated Fund.
- [vii] He enquired whether a letter was sent to Mr. Isphani Ali requesting a meeting and if it was sent what was the response.
- [viii] He stated that he received the information requested with respect to Time Book for all Daily Rated Employees and he checked it repeatedly and the number of employees did not exceed 352. He said that of the \$23.5M allocated for wages only \$22.1M would be utilized and there would be a surplus. He added that if the Corporation continued in the same vein there would be a decrease in the budget allocation for the new financial year.
- [ix] He requested a meeting on September 07, 2009 with the Chairman, County Superintendent, Road Officer I, Penal Road Officer I, Debe, Circulatory Road Officer for Penal & Debe, Transport Foreman and the Workshop Foreman to discuss issues related to his portfolio as Chairman of Physical Infrastructure Committee. He said that they had a responsibility to collectively find a solution to problems being experienced and at the end of the day they can safely say measures were put in place to ensure that Penal/Debe region is a better place as well as a better Corporation.

He enquired whether all things were in place for the 37 projects under the Roads and Bridges Programme, whether they were contracted or being done in-house and will the Corporation be able to complete these projects on time.

[xi] He stated that after eleven 11 months in 2008/2009, it can safely be said that they have worked hard and well, despite there being room for improvement. He hoped that the goals and aspirations set out would be achieved.

54. Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy thanked all for attending the meeting and terminated same at 1:50 p.m.

Chairman
Statutory Meeting

24. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

19. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 .

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-5 of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be accepted.

20. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-5 of the First [1st] Festivals, Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on August 13, 2009 be adopted.

[VI SPORTS, YOUTH AND GENDER COMMITTEE

21. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 be adopted.

22. Adoption of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009 be adopted.

23. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

Penal/Debe Regional Corporation's initiative, foresight and commitment to planned Regional and Local-Area growth and improvements in the quality of life of its public, are the basic incentives to promote and commission efficient planning functions. The Corporation views itself as a primary stakeholder and participant in the review exercise of the Spatial Development Plan.

The Penal/Debe Regional Corporation possess an excellent knowledge of the area which they represent. They understand the problems, the urgency of matters, and the need for immediate change. In addition, there are close relationships between the Councillors and the Administration of the Corporation. They have an understanding of the major problems and know what needs to be done to rectify these problems and strengthen the weaknesses within the community. Additionally, they are aware of the National Standards set out by Vision 2020 on the goals of efficient Governance and are keen on meeting these goals.

For instance, it is evident that the Corporation lacks the appropriate tools and equipment to undertake some basic routine functions, which are necessary for the sustainable development and maintenance of the region. There is a clear shortage of public relations, which is essential for coordination with community members.

All of which is necessary to facilitate the dissemination of information and to assist in the mobilization efforts of the people. Additionally, there is insufficient liaison with the business community. There is little or no marketing orientation and there is a lack of a division of the Corporation into specialized units. This, coupled with a lack of funding, manpower,

equipment and technology hinders the growth of the Corporation in all aspects of its development.

As such, the services that the Corporation offers are threatened because the Government may have a division more fit to tend to these issues. Nonetheless, members of the Corporation possess the will to advance with the development of the region, but without the essential resources, they lack the capacity to reach their goal of evolving into a self-sufficient Regional Corporation, who is capable of ensuring successful and sustainable growth of the community and enhancing the lives of its people.” (GENIVAR – Situation Report I, Penal Debe Draft Regional Development Plan 2009, pages 127-129).

1971. ANNOUNCEMENTS

[i] Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy made the following announcement:-

Minutes - That the retreat held at Mayaro from July 03rd - 05th 2009 was a success and the will be produced at the next Committee Meeting.

[ii] Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following announcement:-

- That he attended a meeting at the Ministry of Local Government on July 08, 2009 with Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh, Chief Executive Officer, Accountant I, Planning Officer, and the County Superintendent, re: Draft Estimate 2009/2010.

[iii] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following announcement:-

- That a meeting was held and work commenced at Lachoos Road.

1972. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:-

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Roy Kisson that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Statutory Meeting held on June 25, 2009 be confirmed and signed as a true record of the proceedings subject to the following amendment:-

[i] Page 4 item 1919 [V] delete “and the Police”

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:-

[i] PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE:-

1973. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on June 02, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on June 02, 2009 be adopted.

1974. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-16 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009 be accepted.

1975. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-16 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Physical Infrastructure Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009 be accepted.

[ii] PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1976. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on June 09, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on June 09, 2009 be adopted.

1977. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-7 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009 be accepted with the following amendment:-

[a] Item #4 delete “red sand” and insert “red gravel.”

1978. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-7 of Thirty-Sixth [36th] Public Health Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009 be adopted with the above amendment.

[iii] PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

1979. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on June 16, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on June 16, 2009 be adopted.

1980. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be accepted with the following amendment:

[a] Delete item #3.

1981. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of Thirty-Sixth [36th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-12 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Personnel Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted with the above amendment.

[iv] FINANCE, PLANNING AND ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

COMMITTEE

1982 Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2009.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2009 be adopted.

1983. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 inclusive of Special Finance held on July 01, & 06, 2009 respectively.

RESOLVED:-Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1-10 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 with the inclusion of the Special Finance held on July 01, & 06, 2009 respectively be accepted.

1984. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 inclusive of Special Finance held on July 01, & 06, 2009 respectively.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-10 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Finance, Planning & Allocation of Resources Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 inclusive of Special Finance held on July 01, and 06, 2009 respectively be adopted.

[v] FESTIVALS COMMITTEE:-

1985. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth[35th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on June

16, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on June 16, 2009 be adopted.

1986. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth[36th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

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 Thirty-Sixth [36th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be accepted.

1987. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

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 Thirty-Sixth [36th] Festivals Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

[vi] HERITAGE AND TOURISM COMMITTEE.

1988. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on June 16, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on June 16, 2009 be adopted.

Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations No. 1 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be accepted.

1990. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Heritage & Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Rampersad Hardial and seconded by Alderman Roland Hall that the Reports and Recommendations No.1 of the Thirty-[36th] Heritage and Tourism Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

[vii] YOUTH, CITIZEN LIAISON & ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1991. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 09, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on June 09, 2009 be adopted.

1992. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports & Recommendations Nos.1-6 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009 be accepted.

1993. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Youth, Citizen Liaison and Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Alderman Roland Hall and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports & Recommendations Nos. 1 – 6 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Youth, Citizen Liaison & Advisory Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009 be adopted.

[viii] COMMUNICATION, SECURITY & SAFETY COMMITTEE.

1994. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on June 02, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on June 02, 2009 be adopted.

1995. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Communication, Security and Safety Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports Recommendations Nos. 1-9 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009 be accepted.

1996. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Communication, Safety and Security Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Communication, Security & Safety Committee Meeting held on July 01, 2009 be adopted.

[ix] SPORTS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE:-

1997. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on June 18, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Rampersad Hardial that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on June 18, 2009 be adopted.

1998. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009.

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 Thirty-Sixth [36th] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 be accepted.

1999. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Sports and Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009.

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 Thirty-Sixth [36th] Sports & Recreation Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 be adopted.

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

2000. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Planning, the Environment & Regional Development Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on June 12, 2009 be adopted.

2001. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Planning, the Environment & Regional Development Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009.

RESOLVED: -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos.1-4 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 be accepted.

2002. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Planning, the Environment & Regional Development Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009.

RESOLVED: -Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Roy Kissoon and seconded by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-4of the Thirty-Sixth[36th] Planning, the Environment and Regional Development Committee Meeting held on July 03, 2009 be adopted.

[xi] GENDER DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

2003. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on June 15, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on June 15, 2009 be adopted.

2004. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 06 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Report and Recommendation Nos. 1-2 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be accepted.

2005. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations No.1-2 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Gender Development Committee Meeting held on July 06, 2009 be adopted.

[xii] BUILDING COMMITTEE:

2006. Adoption of Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Building Committee Meeting held on June 09, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth [35th] Building Committee Meeting held on June 09, 2009 be adopted.

2007. Presentation of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Building Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009.

RESOLVED:- Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Building Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009 be accepted with the following inclusion:

- [i] List of Building and Layout Plan Nos. 1-9 for July 09, 2009
- [ii] Lochan Willy sub division plan 93/09, Lot C Mohess Road, Penal Residential Plot

And the following amendment:

- [a] Item #3 insert after date “Nos. 1-3”

2008. Adoption of Reports and Recommendations of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Building Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009.

RESOLVED: - Unanimously on a motion moved by Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan and seconded by Councillor Roy Kissoon that the Reports and Recommendations Nos. 1-6 of the Thirty-Sixth [36th] Building Committee Meeting held on July 02, 2009 be adopted with the above inclusions and amendment.

2009. CORRESPONDENCE:-

- [i] Letter dated June 29, 2009 from Mr. Ispahani Ali, Deputy Programme Manager, Ministry of Works and Transport Unemployment Relief Programme South Operation.
Re: Hurricane Season – Manpower Support

RECOMMENDED:- Clerk IV to schedule a meeting with Mr. Ispahani Ali and Members of Council as early as possible.

- [ii] Letter dated June 30, 2009 from Ms. Florita E. Kentish, Food and Agriculture Organization Representative of the United Nations. Re: World Food Day October 16, 2009 - Noted.
- [iii] Letter dated June 16, 2009 from Mr. Darren Miller, Executive Director, SPORTT. Re: Apology letter for not attending the meeting held on April 16, 2009 to discuss the Policy for the upgrade of Recreation Grounds and construction of Play Parks due to the late receipt of the letter.

RECOMMENDED:- Clerk IV to re-schedule a meeting with Mr. Darren Miller and Members of Council.

[iv] Letter from Mr. Steve Dipnarine, General Manager, Trinidad Broadcasting. Re: Request the use of Francis Seupaul, Debe Grounds on August 30, 2009 to host Sangeet 106.1F.M. 14th Anniversary Celebrations.

RECOMMENDED:- Approval granted.

[v] Letter dated July 06, 2009 from Mr. Elphege Joseph, Chief Executive Officer, National Training Agency. Re: Request for Transportation for Secondary School students for Career and Recruitment Fair on October 20th & 21st October, 2009

RECOMMENDED:- Approval granted for the P.D.R.C Maxi Taxi.

[vi] Letter from Mr. Dhanraj Ramsubhag Forman II, C.M.E., Penal/Debe Regional Corporation Re: Exhumation of corpse at Monkey Town, Public Cemetery C/O Mr. Kelvin Ragbir.

RECOMMENDED:- Approval granted.

[vii] Letter dated July 08, 2009 from Mr. Kevin Ratiram, President of Rotary Club of Penal. Re: Request for permission to erect a bill-board at Francis Seupaul Recreation Ground.

RECOMMENDED:- Chairman to arrange a meeting and site visit with Mr. Kevin Ratiram and Councillor Premchand Sookoo.

2010. MATTERS REFERRED:- NIL

2011. PAPERS AND DOCUMENTS:-

1. Local Government Bill, 2009 - Noted
2. The Report on the Draft White paper on the Local Government Boundaries Review Exercise dated June 2009. - Noted
3. The Directors of Alisha's Marketing.

The Corporate Secretary informed that she received the Vat Certificate of Registration for Alisha's Marketing, in the name of Ivan Seurattan and since he is a Sole Trader there is no Board of Directors of the Company.

4. Stores Department Report dated July 09, 2009 from, Stores Keeper I

The Stores Department of the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation was in a very chaotic state, records were neither up to date nor accurate. Presently the stock cards were updated in

respect of issues and receipts. This information is in the process on being entered on the computer of the Stores Department and is about 40% completed. In order for the Stores Department to function more efficiently and accurately there is the need to improve the working conditions of the Stores Personnel. Presently the staff is affected by chemicals fumes, rat infestation and the shortage of

proper storage facilities. There is also the need for reviewing and restructuring the methods of receiving and issuing of materials on job sites. The Storekeeper should be present on these job sites to verify the receipt and issue of materials there. A stock check is being done presently about 75% is completed.

Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh stated that there was a perception that the Stores Department was corrupt and requested that an investigation be conducted and the matter be rectified as a matter of urgency. He added that if there was no proper accountability the Stores Department should be shut down.

5. List of Outstanding Commitments for the Financial Year 2008-2009 as at July 09, 2009 – Noted.
6. List of Outstanding Development Programme Commitments for the Financial Year 2008-2009 as at July 09, 2009 – Noted.
7. Details of Expenditure as at July 09, 2009 - Noted
- 8 Details of Expenditure as at July 09, 2009 –Development Programme 2008-2009. – Noted.
9. Draft Development Estimate 2009/2010 stage“A” Estimate with changes to be made to items:-
 - Item #3 Sirju Trace in La Romaine.
 - Item #4 Renn Avenue is completed, Seemungal Trace to be placed instead.
 - Item #5 Katwaroo Trace Bridge – Sunrees Road #1 placed instead.
10. List of Vouchers as at July 06th – 09th 2009 – Approved.

2012. REPORTS AND REPLIES:-

Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh reported the following:-

- [i] Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh reported that it was embarrassing and disturbing at yesterday’s meeting [July 08, 2009] to learn of the exorbitant price difference of materials compared to the market price, especially in relation to the quality of Disaster Unit Materials.

The County Superintendent explained that quotations were submitted in November 2008 using old documents and old prices and that these figures had to be adjusted in 2009 using the new quotations and prices..

The Chief Executive Officer explained that projects under the Development Programme were prepared by estimates and not by tender documents and only when releases of funds are received, the tender procedure be in effect.

[ii] Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh reported that Penal/Debe Regional Corporation is ahead of planning and congratulates all involved for the good work. He added that the Unspent Balances payment to Genivar is not to be taken from the allocation for the market.

2. The County Superintendent reported the following:

[i] The County Superintendent reported on the successful meeting with officials at the Ministry of Local Government, with the Permanent Secretary, and staff of the Budget Division on July 08, 2009 to present and discuss the Draft Estimate for 2009/2010.

[ii] That the balance of one million, five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000.00) had been allocated for Penal Market.

[iii] That all Projects under Drainage and Irrigation Projects were completed.

[iv] That four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) was allocated under the Local Roads and Bridges Programme but no bridges were included.

[v] That the Ministry requested the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation prepare and submit a list of Bridges in the sum of six million dollars (\$6,000,000.00).

[vi] That the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation request for four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) had increased to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00) to reinforce concrete bridges.

[vii] That under the Holistic Development Plan one million, two-hundred thousand dollars (\$1,200,000.00) was requested for Tourism and Heritage Plans but was increased to two million dollars (\$2,000,000.00).

[viii] That the Ministry be invited to visit Penal/Debe Regional Corporation Heritage and Tourism Sites.

[ix]] The National Disaster Preparedness plans were discussed.

3. The Chief Executive Officer reported the following:-

The Chief Executive Officer informed that by next year the Permanent Secretary will inform us of the status of Unspent Balances for the Penal Market.

Councillor Premchand Sookoo reported the following:-

4. Councillor Premchand Sookoo expressed his dissatisfaction that under the Roads and Bridges Programme, Penal/Debe Regional Corporation's request for funds did not include Bridges. He added that all Roads and Bridges would cost approximately sixty million dollars (\$60,000,000.00) and the Ministry agree to increase its allocation from four million dollars (\$4,000,000.00) to ten million dollars (\$10,000,000.00)

RECOMMENDED: a. Administration to submit a list of Road and Bridges to be repaired and the list to be circulated to Members of Council.

b. That no sums from Unspent Balances be paid to Genivar.

c. Officials at the Ministry of Local Government to visit the sheds at Digny Mud Volcano and Bara City in Debe.

d. That under the Development Programme that estimates be done for all Roads, Bridges and landslips.

e. That a list of wooden bridges be submitted to Mr. Sarwan of the Rural Development Company.

2013. QUESTIONS:-

[a] Councillor Premchand Sookoo enquired whether if under the Roads and Bridges Programme, contracts were awarded, to whom they were awarded to and at what cost for the following jobs:-

- [i] Deonarine Trace
- [ii] Crawford Trace
- [iii] Lowkie Trace

[b] Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan enquired into the purchase and distribution of weed wackers.

OTHER PUBLIC BUSINESS:-

2014. [i] Chairman Dr. Allen Sammy welcomed Mr. Harrydath Ramnarine as the new Clerk IV and expressed his thanks to Ms. Ramawatee Ganga Persad who always went beyond the call of duty after hours and holidays to assist Members of Council and Staff.

2015. Councillor Roy Kissoon made the following comments:-

[i] That three hundred [300] loads of backfill was given by Estate Management Business Development [E.M.B.D] and he was still experiencing difficulties for the transport of the backfill. He requested the use of the backhoe, trucks and excavator to transport of the backfill to the La Fortune Recreation Grounds and stockpile.

[ii] That the level of crime is increasing in the La Romaine area and he has been a victim of crime on numerous occasions. He would like more police patrols in La Romaine and more favorable response from the Police when called upon for assistance.

2016. Councillor Willvan Ramlakhan made the following comments:-

[i] That the dump truck was transporting grass cuttings while other trucks were parked up at the Debe Sub Office.

[ii] That some of the problems at Dabiedial Road were partially resolved.

[iii] That the problems at Lachoos Road are still outstanding especially the drainage problems at Mr. Ramdeen's residence.

[iv] That the flooding problems at Oliviere Drive and Clarke Road are still unresolved and there are constant huge puddles of water and mud at the R.C. School in Oliviere Drive.

[v] He thanked the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Bassarath [Road Officer II], Ms. Ramawatee Ganga Persad and other staff members for their support.

[vi] He advised the staff especially the younger employees to do extra studies to uplift themselves and to maintain their jobs.

[vii] That the Government was spending money like nothing as the opening of the overpass on the Highway cost over \$450,000.00.

[viii] That there are over 60 bridges – Penal/Debe Regional Corporation to be repaired .

[ix] That the Health situation in this country is very poor especially at the San Fernando General Hospital, there are insufficient wheel chairs and beds for emergency cases.

[x] That Penal/Debe Regional Corporation is the Corporation that knows how to go forward and is the first to be removed in the Local Government re-structuring exercise. He added that the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation is the best Corporation comparing to the Siparia Regional Corporation which has nine million dollars (\$9,000,000.00) and does not know how to spend it.

[xi] He gave his commitment to work to the best of his ability in the upcoming year.

2017. Councillor Sonnylal B. Manwah made the following comments:-

[i] Thanked all officers of the Roads, Health, Works, Corporate Secretary, Officer of Disaster Preparedness [O.D.P.M.] and all other departments for their support. He also thanked Councillor Diptee Ramnath for his advice in 1999.

[ii] He hoped that the Recreation Grounds and Cemeteries in the Union Hall/Bronte district be upgraded with more improved facilities.

[iii] That Administration and the Building Inspector do follow-up after Notices have been served.

2018. Councillor Premnath Boodoosingh made the following comments:-

[i] That he did not expect to be here for an additional year but based on the extension of the Council's Term of Office and as the Electoral Representative of the people, he will continue to serve to the best of his abilities.

[ii] He gave his support for Alderman Dr. Allen Sammy to continue as Chairman of Council, for Councillor Premchand Sookoo to continue as Vice Chairman and Alderman Roland Hall to continue as Alderman.

[iii] He thanked the Corporate Secretary, Ms. Julia Charles-Joseph for motivating people to work and getting work done.

[iv] He thanked Ms. Leela Lalgee [Financial Officer], Mr. R. Mahadeo [Accountant I] and the entire accounts staff for their support.

[v] He complimented Mr. C. Maharaj, the Building Inspector for doing a very good job despite the large areas he served and the limited resources available to him. He added that he knew Mr. C. Maharaj will have lots of challenges in the future due to changes in the Local Government Boundaries Review Exercise.

[vi] He complimented Inspector King and the entire staff of the Municipal Police for doing their best despite their limited resources.

[vii] That comparing Mr. J. Marfan [Works Supervisor I] to other Work Supervisors in other Ministries he did a very good job and should be given an award for good performance.

[viii] He thanked Ms. T. Deodath Administrative .Officer II and Ms. S. Badall [O.D.P.M.] for always being co-operative.

[ix] He thanked the Chief Executive Officer and expressed his satisfaction that the situation between them has improved a lot.

[x] He also complimented the Road Section, the Health Section, the P.I.R.O. Section and all other departments for their support.

[xi] That during this year Implementation Policies and Plans will be extremely difficult to deliver and Members of Council will need the full support of staff.

[xii] He thanked all Members of Council, who work as a team and worked extremely well in terms of delivery.

[xiii] He complimented Alderman Roland Hall for his extremely good job done especially in terms of partiality when called upon to do anything.

[xv] He thanked Chairman Dr. Allen Sammy who never pulled rank on anyone.

2018. Councillor Diptee Ramnath made the following comments:-

[i] He sincerely apologized to Members of Council and staff if he offended anyone in the past.

[ii] He thanked Members of Council and the Chief Executive Officer, The Building Inspector, Corporate Secretary, O.D.P.M., Health Section, Roads Section, Accounts and all Administrative Staff for their support and efforts they put out in making Penal/Debe Regional Corporation a better place for our burgesses.

[iii] That the work ahead for this year's extension is a serious burden given the lack of resources to rectify the serious problems of water distribution, flooding, maintenance of traces roads and bridges and Agricultural Roads.

[iv] That the Chairman call Water & Sewerage Authority [W.A.S.A.] on a proposal to dam the Penal Rock Road area.

[v] That it was a pleasure to work with the Chairman Dr. Allen Sammy and gave his support in the interest of the burgesses, that Dr. Allen Sammy be given the opportunity to continue to serve for another year.

[vi] He also supports Alderman Roland Hall who always showed interest and went the extra mile to assist anyone.

[vii] He had serious concerns with the Building Inspector and would like him to look further into the situation that the rich people are breaking the law and getting away with building plans being approvals while the poor people are suffering. There are no approved building plans for the houses along the M2 Ring Road but the burgesses of the region are being pressured. He asked the Building Section to use its heart and judgment when there is a "conflict of interest" especially concerning the poor obtaining plans to build sheds.

[viii] He was concerned about the ownership of the houses of the Housing Development Company [H.D.C.] in Wellington Road, Debe. He stated that the people of La Brea are given priority for these houses in Debe and not the people of the Penal/Debe Region that all petitions have gone unnoticed and to waste since no one was given a house.

[ix] He stressed that we must not let our recommendations and proposal go unnoticed and unheard.

2019. Alderman Roland Hall made the following comments:-

[i] He endorsed everything that Members of Council said and stated that he attended a lot of meetings with the Chairman and Members of Council at the Ministry who always listen to their good and professional suggestions.

[ii] That Councillors are here to serve the burgesses and they get things done with limited resources.

[iii] That the Implementation Plans discussed at the Retreats must be filtered to junior employees by their supervisors.

[iv] That when Members of Council made constructive criticism it is to help the staff and himself to improve and not to attack anyone or listen to local gossip.

[v] That more Supervisory and Managerial skills are needed to supervise employees in order to improve delivery of services. Taking for example:

[a] grass cutting by C.E.P.E.P. compared to Penal/Debe Regional Corporation workers.

[b] that one year ago he requested the Corporation to paint the sign "Block 5 Palmiste" which was never done, he had to ask employees of the City Corporation to assist with a tape sign.

[vi] He complimented Members of Council for their dedication, commitment and honesty in their roles and function of duty.

2020. Councillor Premchand Sookoo made the following comments:-

[i] That he will continue to work as a team with Members of Council and Administration Staff and do what is required given whatever resources is allocated to the 8 Region of Penal Debe.

[ii] He ask Councillor Diptee Ramnath to use his authority in his functions as the Representative for the ruling party to assist with the Local Roads and Bridges Programme and with Agriculture with the assistance of agencies such as C.E.P.E.P., P.U.R.E. , PSAEL and R.D.C. for the electorates of Penal/Debe Region.

[iii] He thanked Ms. S. Badall O.D.P.M. Co-ordinator and her support staff for working and being on call for over seventy-two [72] hours during the Summit of the Americas Conference week-end.

[iv] That Penal/Debe Regional Corporation have the Manpower Resources available. Contract Drivers and tractor drivers and still the John Dere Tractors and other vehicles are parked up at Debe Sub Office.

[v] He questioned why can't the Hiab Truck be used to transport cement, solid waste and other materials to the various job sites and stockpiles instead of paying the \$1,000.00 to transport same?

[vi] That at the meeting with the Minister, he requested funds for the prevention of the flu virus and questioned why pay for the hire of trucks and not for preventative measures of the swine flu and other diseases?

[vii] That Penal/Debe Regional Corporation receive no money to continue with the Roads and Bridges Programme.

[viii] He questioned whether the recommendations made at the various Committee Meeting really be taken serious and be implemented.

[ix] That at the end of the fiscal year Penal/Debe Regional Corporation will have Unspent Balances and a surplus balance under wages. That in the 2009/2010 Draft Estimates 363 employees, are catered for instead of 404 employees, as such 41 employees are denied job security. He added that 4.5 Million dollars was requested under Short Term Employment and only 1.1 million dollars was allocated and questioned if Penal/Debe Regional Corporation vision is to hire contract, casual and regular workers instead of permanent workers.

He conclude that nobody can point a finger at him and accused him of being involved in any corrupt practice, he has no enemies and he give his commitment to work for the betterment of Penal/Debe Regional Corporation for the next term.

2021. There being no further business the meeting terminated at 12:10 p.m.

Chairman
Statutory Meeting