



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable the House of Assembly

At a meeting of the House of Assembly at the Worthing Corporate Centre on Tuesday the 22nd day of September, 2020, pursuant to the adjournment.

PRESENT

- His Honour A. E. Holder, B.Sc. (Hons.), MSW, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Speaker*)
His Honour G. A. Clarke, J.P., B.Sc., Dip. Ed. (*Deputy Speaker*)
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| Mr. G. W. Payne, Q.C. | Hon. W. A. Abrahams, LL.B. (<i>Minister of Home Affairs, Information and Public Affairs</i>) |
| Hon. R. St. C. Toppin, LL.B. (Hons.) (<i>Minister of International Business and Industry</i>) | Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade</i>) |
| Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley, Q.C., LL.B. (<i>Prime Minister; Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment, Minister of National Security and the Civil Service</i>) | Mr. R. A. Thorne, Q.C., LL.B., L.E.C., Dip. Theology |
| Hon. Miss C. Y. Forde, J.P., L.C.P. (<i>Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs</i>) | Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (<i>Minister of Agriculture and Food Security</i>) |
| Hon. D. D. Marshall, Q.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (<i>Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs</i>) | Hon. A. R. Forde, RPh. (<i>Minister of Environment and National Beautification</i>) |
| Mr. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A. | Hon. C. McD. Griffith, B.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Water Resources</i>) |
| Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (<i>Minister of Energy, Small Business and Entrepreneurship</i>) | Hon. P. R. Phillips (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security</i>) |
| Lt. Col. the Hon. J. D. Bostic, MVO, B.A. (Hons.) (<i>Minister of Health and Wellness</i>) | Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill (<i>Minister of Transport, Works and Water Resources</i>) |
| Mr. E. G. Hinkson, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C., LL.M. | Hon. C. E. Jordan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (<i>Minister of Labour and Social Partnership Relations and the Third Sector</i>) |
| Hon. D. G. Sutherland, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A. (Dist.) (<i>Minister of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment</i>) | Dr. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>) |
| Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (<i>Minister of Education, Technological and Vocational Training</i>) | Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.A. (<i>Minister of Maritime Affairs and the Blue Economy</i>) |
| Bishop J. J. S. Atherley, J.P., B.A., B.Sc., PgD. (<i>Leader of the Opposition</i>) | Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Finance</i>) |
| Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, J.P., B.D.S., F.D.S., F.D.R.C.S., M. Min. (<i>Minister of Housing, Lands and Maintenance</i>) | Hon. Miss M. K-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Investment</i>) |
| | Mr. N. G. H. Rowe, J. P. |

ABSENT

Hon. J. A. King, BSS (*Minister in the Prime Minister's Office with Responsibility for Culture and the National Development Commission*).

Mr. Speaker took the Chair at 10.15 a.m.

Prayers were taken by Rev. Father Mark Harewood.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meetings of Tuesday, August 4th, 2020, Friday August 7th, 2020 and Tuesday September 15th, 2020 were taken as read and were confirmed on the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER

Mr. Speaker announced that he was in receipt of the Annual Reports of the Ombudsman of Barbados for the years 2007–2019.

MESSAGES FROM HER EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Mr. Speaker read the following Proclamation:



By Her Excellency Dame Sandra Prunella Mason, Dame Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Dame of St. Andrew, Queen's Counsel, Governor-General of Barbados.

S. MASON
Governor-General

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS it is provided by section 60(1) of the *Constitution* that each session of Parliament shall be held at such place and commence at such time as the Governor-General may appoint:

AND WHEREAS by Proclamation dated the 7th day of September, 2020 the Governor-General appointed the Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre, Two Mile Hill, Saint Michael as the place at which a session of Parliament shall be held at 10:00 hours in the morning:

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to continue the session of Parliament at the Worthing Corporate Centre, Worthing, Christ Church with effect from the 22nd day of September, 2020:

NOW THEREFORE by virtue and in exercise of the power and authority in me vested, I, Dame Sandra Prunella Mason, Dame Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Dame of St. Andrew, Queen's Counsel, Governor-General of Barbados, **DO HEREBY APPOINT** the Worthing

Corporate Centre, Worthing, Christ Church as the place at which the session of Parliament shall continue to be held and 10:00 in the morning as the time at which the said session shall commence.

Given under my hand and the
Public Seal of Barbados, this 7th day of
September, 2020, and in the sixty-ninth
year of Her Majesty's Reign.

PAPERS

The Hon. R. R. Straughn by command laid the following:

1. Securities (Republic Wealth Management Limited) (Exemption) Order, 2020.
2. Securities (Maurice and Ylagan) (Exemption) Order, 2020.

The Hon. W. A. Abrahams by command laid the following:

Annual Report of the National Council on Substance Abuse for the Year 2019.

CONGRATULATORY AND/OR OBITUARY SPEECHES

Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley spoke paying tribute to the late Professor the Rt. Hon. Owen S. Arthur, Honourable Prime Minister of Barbados.

Bishop J. J. S. Atherley spoke.

Mr. G. W. Payne spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands the Sitting was suspended to 2.30 p.m.

At 1.02 p.m. Mr. Speaker suspended the Sitting.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

OBITUARY SPEECHES (resumed)

Mr. R. A. Thorne spoke.

Mr. T. A. Prescod spoke.

Hon. R. St. C. Toppin spoke.

His Honour G. A. Clarke spoke.

Hon. K. D. Symmonds spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. R. R. Straughn the Sitting was suspended to 5.55 p.m.

At 5.40 p.m. Mr. Speaker suspended the Sitting.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

GOVERNMENT NOTICES (recommitted)

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw gave notice of the following:

The Public Service (Appointment) Bill, 2020.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS (recommitted)

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. Miss C. Y. Forde the Public Service (Appointment) Bill, 2020 was read a first time.

OBITUARY SPEECHES (resumed)

Hon. Miss C. Y. Forde spoke.
 Hon. D. G. Sutherland spoke.
 Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke.
 Hon. R. R. Straughn spoke.
 Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands spoke.
 Mr. E. G. Hinkson spoke.

SUSPENSION

On the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall seconded by Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey the Sitting was suspended until 8.55 p.m.

At 8.15 p.m. Mr. Speaker suspended the Sitting.

RESUMPTION

On resumption Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

OBITUARY SPEECHES (resumed)

Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey spoke.
 Hon. D. D. Marshall spoke.
 Lt. Col. the Hon. J. D. Bostic spoke.
 Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill spoke.
 Mr. N. G. H. Rowe spoke.
 Hon. C. McD. Griffith spoke.
 Hon. P. R. Phillips spoke.
 Hon. C. E. Jordan spoke.
 Mr. Speaker spoke.

The House observed a minute of silence in the passing of the following Resolution:

WHEREAS Professor the Right Honourable Owen Seymour Arthur and one of Her Majesty's Counsel passed this life on the 27th July, 2020;

AND WHEREAS Professor Arthur was a Member of this House from 1984 to 2018, a Member of the Honourable the Senate from 1983 to 1984, Leader of the Opposition 1993 to 1994 and 2010 to 2013, Prime Minister of Barbados from 1994 to 2008 and independent Member of Parliament from 2014 to 2018;

AND WHEREAS this distinguished economist, longest serving and highly successful Prime Minister achieved unprecedented success in transforming the socio and economic landscape of Barbados;

AND WHEREAS this brilliant economist presided over the longest period of economic stability the country had experienced evidenced by record levels of foreign reserves, substantial tax breaks and wage increases coupled with massive foreign and local investments;

AND WHEREAS that brilliance shone on the tapestry of the political economy where he sought to address the toughest issues facing the country, one such issue was the vexing one of unemployment which stood at 24% when he took office and by the time he left it had been wrestled down to a new low of 7.4% prompting scholars to ask what was the natural rate of unemployment in Barbados;

AND WHEREAS this strident regionalist in his relentless pursuit and advocacy for the advancement of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy would be propelled into the role of chief architect and intellectual guide of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy in 2006 and a champion of its cause with vigour, clarity and determination;

AND WHEREAS the father of the House having served those 34 years as the constituency representative for his beloved parish of St. Peter – boasting of being the only Prime Minister to represent the constituency of his birth, that constituency would also feel his transformative touch as the son of a carpenter and a plantation labourer would go on to transform his Northern parish from the proverbial backwater to a modern hub of architectural heritage and tourism with improved public services and improved quality of life that would thereafter be the exemplar of constituency politics;

AND WHEREAS this son of humble origins brought to the political stage the quintessential intellectual mix of economics and politics which represented a shift from the traditional law and politics and to a lesser extent medicine and politics, a unique mix of skills that would serve him well in the period into which he was to be immediately thrust consequent upon the 1994 election campaign and for which he would thereafter receive extraordinary regional and international acclaim for his management of the economy;

AND WHEREAS the nature of the Late Professor Arthur's service in his several endeavours was characterised by the generous employment of his prodigious gifts of a transcendent intellect, ebullient charm, remarkable leadership elevated by the ability to motivate and inspire by example wedded to economic proficiency;

AND WHEREAS his service was an amalgam of these skills with visionary ideas, clarity of purpose, pragmatism, meticulous preparation and sheer hard work along with a Barbadian aesthetic and Caribbean ideal to forge unimaginable and unprecedented success for Barbados giving it an altogether new lustre in the world;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House shares the sorrow felt by a Grateful Nation and extends its deepest sympathies to his widow Julie, children Sabrina and Leah, siblings Valmay, Richard and Patricia and relatives of the Late Professor the Right Honourable Owen Seymour Arthur and expresses its wish that they be confronted by the memory of a life lived selflessly and in the service of his Nation and his people.

Dated this 22nd day of September, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY HIS HONOUR THE SPEAKER (recommitted)

Mr. Speaker read the following Letter from His Honour G. A. Clarke and spoke:

21st September 2020

His Honour Arthur E. Holder, M.P.
Speaker of the House of Assembly
Parliament of Barbados
Worthing Corporate Centre
Worthing
Christ Church

Your Honour

Resignation as Member of Parliament of St. George-North

In accordance with section 45(1) (b) of the Constitution of Barbados, I hereby give notice that I shall resign my seat as Member of Parliament for the Constituency of St. George-North with effect from 30th day of September, 2020 at 4.30 p.m.

Please be guided accordingly.

Yours faithfully

Gline A. Clarke
Member of Parliament – St. George North

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw read the following motion which was passed on her motion seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams:

Resolved by this Honourable House that an humble Address be presented to thank Her Excellency for the most gracious speech which it has pleased Her Excellency to deliver to the Parliament last Tuesday 15th day of September, 2020.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the House was adjourned to Tuesday, 29th September, 2020 at 10.00 a.m.

At 11.20 p.m. Mr. Speaker adjourned the Sitting.

N. R. JONES, Q.C.
Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the _____ day of _____, 2020.

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
WORTHING CORPORATE CENTRE
WORTHING
CHRIST CHURCH

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION OF 2018 – 2023

MINUTES

Tuesday, 22nd September, 2020.

Government Printing Department.