



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF

The Honourable the House of Assembly

At a meeting of the House of Assembly at the Parliament Buildings on Friday the 16th day of February, 2024, at 3.00 o'clock p.m.

PRESENT

- His Honour A. E. Holder, S.C., B.Sc. (Hons.), MSW, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Speaker*)
Her Honour Miss C. Y. Forde, J.P., L.C.P. (*Deputy Speaker*)
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| Hon. D. D. Marshall, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C.
(<i>Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs</i>) (<i>Senior Minister</i>) | Mr. R. A. Thorne, K.C., LL.B., L.E.C., Dip.
Theology (<i>Leader of the Opposition</i>) |
| Mr. T. A. Prescod, J.P., B.A. | Hon. A. R. Forde, Rph. (<i>Minister of Environment and National Beautification and the Green and Blue Economy</i>) |
| Hon. K. D. Symmonds, B.A., LL.B. (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade</i>) | Hon. C. McD. Griffith, B.Sc. (<i>Minister of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment</i>) |
| Hon. D. G. Sutherland, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.B.A. (Dist.) (<i>Minister of Housing, Lands and Maintenance</i>) | Mr. P. R. Phillips, J.P. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>) |
| Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid, J.P., B.D.S., F.D.S., F.D.R.C.S., M. Min. (<i>Senior Minister</i>) (<i>Minister of Planning and Development in the Prime Minister's Office</i>) (<i>Acting Prime Minister</i> wef 15th February, 2024.) | Hon. C. E. Jordan, B.Sc. (Hons.) (<i>Minister of Labour, Social Security and Third Sector</i>) |
| Hon. W. A. Abrahams, S.C., LL.B. (<i>Minister of Home Affairs and Information</i>) | Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey, B.Sc., M.Sc., M.P.A. (<i>Minister of People Empowerment and Elder Affairs</i>) |
| Hon. Ms. C. S. V. Husbands, B.A. (Hons.), M.Sc. (<i>Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Technological and Vocational Training</i>) | Hon. R. R. Straughn, B.Sc., M.Sc. (<i>Minister in the Ministry of Finance</i>) |
| | Ms. T. N. S-A. Moore, J.P., M.B.A. |
| | Hon. Miss K. S. McConney (<i>Minister of Education, Technological and Vocational Training</i>) |
| | Hon. D. I. Ishmael, M.B.A., M.Sc. (<i>Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Wellness</i>) |
| | Mr. C. D. L. Gibbs |

ABSENT

Hon. Miss M. A. Mottley, S.C., LL.B. (*Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs, Culture, Security, Public Service, CARICOM and the Development Commissions*), Mr. E. G. Hinkson, S.C., LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C., LL.M., Hon. Miss S. J. O. Bradshaw, LL.B. (Hons.), L.E.C. (*Deputy Prime Minister*) (*Senior Minister*) (*Minister of Transport and Works*) (*Leader of Government Business*), Hon. I. A. Weir, M.B.A. (*Minister of Agriculture, Food and Nutritional Security*), Hon. G. P. I. Gooding-Edghill (*Minister of Tourism and International Transport*), Dr. S. E. Browne, M.B.B.S., Hon. Ms. M. K-A. Caddle, B.A., M.Sc. (*Minister of Industry, Innovation, Science and Technology*), Mr. N. G. H. Rowe, J.P., Dr. R. O. Springer, J.P., Ph.D. (*Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Transport and Works*) and Hon. C. A. Lane, J.P. (*Minister of State in the Office of the Attorney General*).

PRAYERS

Prayers were taken by Rev. Father Mark Harewood.

MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of Tuesday, 23rd January, 2024 were taken as read and were confirmed on the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael.

The Minutes of the meetings of Tuesday, 6th February, 2024 and Tuesday, 13th February, 2024 were deferred on the the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall, seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael.

PAPERS

Hon. C. E. Jordan by command laid the following :

- Instrument Convention 155 – Occupational Safety Health, 1981 (No. 155) and Recommendation R164 – Occupational Safety and Health, 1981 (No. 164).
- Instrument Convention 187 – Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health, 2006 (No. 187) and Recommendation R197 – Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health, 2006 (No. 197).
- Recommendation R147 – Occupational Cancer Recommendation, 1974 (No. 147).
- Recommendation R160 – Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Recommendation, 1979 (No. 160).
- Recommendation R171 – Occupational Health Services Recommendation, 1985 (No. 171).
- Recommendation R175 – Safety and Health in Construction Recommendation, 1988 (No. 175).
- Recommendation R192 – Safety and Health in Agriculture Recommendation, 2001 (No. 192).
- Recommendation R194 – List of Occupational Diseases Recommendation, 2002 (No. 194).
- Recommendation R207 – Safe and Healthy Working Environment (Consequential Amendments) Recommendation, 2023 (No. 207).
- Recommendation R004 – Lead Poisoning (Women and Children) Recommendation, 1919 (No. 4).

GOVERNMENT NOTICES

Hon. D. D. Marshall gave notice of the following:

- Resolution that the Honourable the House of Assembly concur with the Honourable the Senate that:
- (a) the Cybercrime Bill, 2024 and Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (Amendment) Bill, 2024 be referred to the Joint Select Committee (Standing) on Governance and Policy Matters;
- (b) Standing Order 28(4) of the Standing Orders of the Honourable the House of Assembly be suspended for the duration of the deliberations of the Committee on the Bills and any matters connected thereto;
- (c) the Committee be empowered to consider the principles and merits of the Bills and to report no later than three months from the date of its reference.
- Queen Elizabeth Hospital (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

FIRST READINGS OF BILLS

On the separate motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall seconded by Dr. the Hon W. F. Duguid the following Bills were read a first time:

1. The Queen Elizabeth Hospital (Amendment) Bill, 2024; and
2. The Caribbean Community (Movement of Skilled Nationals) (Amendment) Bill, 2024.

ORDERS OF THE DAY
SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

On the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall, seconded by Hon. D. I. Ishmael, Standing Orders 6, 16, 18, 20, 42(5), 43 and 44 were suspended for the remainder of the Sitting.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

ORDER NO. 9

On the Order being called for, the Hon. D. D. Marshall to move the passing of a Resolution that the Honourable the House of Assembly concur in the amendments made by the Honourable the Senate to the Debt (Natural Disaster and Pandemic Deferment of Payment) (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, 2024, the Hon. Member spoke and moved, seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams that the Resolution be passed.

The motion was passed.

ORDER NO. 10

On the Order being called, Hon. D. D. Marshall moved seconded by Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid that the Resolution following be passed:

Resolution that the Honourable the House of Assembly concur with the Honourable the Senate that:

- (a) the Cybercrime Bill and Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters (Amendment) Bill, 2024 be referred to the Joint Select Committee (Standing) on Governance and Policy Matters;
- (b) Standing Order 28(4) of the Standing Orders of the Honourable the House of Assembly be suspended for the duration of the deliberations of the Committee on the Bills and any matters connected thereto;
- (c) the Committee be empowered to consider the principles and merits of the Bills and to report no later than three months from the date of its reference.

The motion was passed.

ORDER NO. 7

On the Order being called, Hon. D. G. Sutherland spoke on the following Resolution:

Resolved that Parliament in accordance with section 5 of the *Crown Lands (Vesting and Disposal) Act*, Cap. 225 approve the vesting in National Housing Corporation of two parcels of land situate at Castle Grant Plantation in the parish of Saint Joseph in this Island, more particularly described in the *Schedules* hereto for a public purpose, namely for housing development.

FIRST SCHEDULE

ALL THAT land situate at Castle Grant Plantation in the parish of Saint Joseph in this Island and being the Lot 01A containing by admeasurement 0.747 hectares or thereabouts (inclusive of 0.031 hectares in road) abutting and bounding on the lots numbered 108, 31, 29, 27, 25, 23, 21, 19, 17 and 15 now or formerly of Branchbury Tenantry on lands now or formerly of Retreat Plantation (Lot LS01) on a cart road which leads to St. Ann's Church in one direction and on a road which leads to Highway 3A in the other direction or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified on the 22nd day of February, 2022 by Gregory StC. Hutchinson, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 4th day of March, 2022 as Plan No. 328/2022.

SECOND SCHEDULE

ALL THAT land situate at Castle Grant Plantation in the parish of Saint Joseph in this Island and being the Lot 01C containing by admeasurement 4.142 hectares or thereabouts (inclusive of 0.025 hectares in road) abutting and bounding on Lot A1 on a buffer zone 5 metres wide on lands now or formerly of Castle Grant Plantation (Lot 01B) on lands now or formerly of the Estate of T. E. Aurelien, deceased on land now or formerly of Lammings Plantation on lands now or formerly S & S Investments Ltd. on a public road known as Highway 3A which leads to Blackmans in one direction and to Airy Hill in the other direction or however else the same may abut and bound as shown and delineated on a plan certified on the 22nd day of February, 2022 by Gregory StC. Hutchinson, Land Surveyor and recorded in the Lands and Surveys Department on the 4th day of March, 2022 as Plan No. 328/2022,

and moved seconded by Dr. the Hon. W. F. Duguid that the Resolution be passed.

Hon. D. D. Marshall spoke.

Hon. R. R. Straughn spoke.

Hon. W. A. Abrahams spoke.

Mr. T. A. Prescod began to speak.

Mr. Speaker spoke.

Mr. T. A. Prescod concluded his speech.

Hon. K. D. M. Humphrey spoke.

Hon. D. G. Sutherland spoke in reply.

The Resolution was passed.

ADJOURNMENT

On the motion of Hon. D. D. Marshall seconded by Hon. W. A. Abrahams the House was adjourned at 6.14 p.m. to Tuesday, 20th February, 2024 at 3.00 p.m.

N. R. JONES, Q.C.

Deputy Clerk of Parliament.

The Minutes were certified correct and confirmed the
, 2024.

day of

Speaker.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
BRIDGETOWN.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FIRST SESSION OF 2022 – 2027

MINUTES

Tuesday, 16th February, 2024.

Government Printing Department.