FOURTH SITTING OF THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE THIRD HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS



TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, 27TH NOVEMBER, 2018 AT THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ROAD TOWN, TORTOLA AT 10:00 A.M.

ORDER OF THE DAY

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1) Prayers

2) Confirmation of Minutes

- Confirmation of Minutes for the Meeting of Thursday 13th September, 2018
- Confirmation of Minutes for the Meeting of Tuesday 2nd October, 2018
- Confirmation of Minutes for the Meeting of Thursday 15th November, 2018

3) Announcements by the Speaker

4) Statements by Ministers

5) **Presentation of Papers**

- a) The Premier and Minister of Finance to lay on the table the following documents:
 - i) British Virgin Islands Financial Services Commission Annual Report 2016;
 - ii) British Virgin Islands Financial Services Commission Revenue and Expenditure Budget 2018;
 - iii) British Virgin Islands Financial Services Commission Strategic Work Plan 2018;
 - iv) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 50 Stamps, Souvenir Sheet and First Day Cover (Royal Wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex) Order, 2018;
 - v) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 16 Financial Services (Fees)(Amendment) Regulations, 2018;
 - vi) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 17- Financial Services (Fees)(Amendment) (No.2) Regulations, 2018;
 - vii) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 18-BVI Business Companies Act (Amendment of Schedule 1) Order, 2018;
 - viii) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 19 Anti-Money Laundering (Amendment) Regulations, 2018;
 - ix) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 24 Micro Business Companies (Amendment of Schedule 1) Order, 2018;
 - x) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 45 Financial Services (Fees) (Amendment)(No.3) Regulations, 2018;

- xi) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 46 BVI Business Companies Act (Amendment of Schedule 1)(No.3) Order, 2018;
- xii) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 48 Segregated Portfolio Companies (Mutual Funds)(Amendment) Regulations, 2018;
- xiii) Statutory Instrument 2018 No. 49 Segregated Portfolio Companies (BVI Business Company)(Amendment) Regulations, 2018;
- xiv) Statutory Instrument 2016 No. 77 BVI Business Companies Act (Amendment of Schedule 1)(No.2) Order, 2016;
- xv) Statements of Reallocation Between Votes Reallocation Warrants Schedule No. 1 of 2009, Reallocation Warrants Schedule No. 1 of 2010, Reallocation Warrants Schedule No. 1 of 2011, Reallocation Warrants Schedule No. 1 of 2012, Reallocation Warrants Schedule No. 1 of 2013, Reallocation Warrants Schedule No. 1 of 2014, Reallocation Warrants Schedule No. 1 of 2015, Reallocation Warrants Schedule No. 1 of 2016, Reallocation Warrants Schedule No. 1 of 2017; and
- xvi) Office of the Auditor General Special Report Elmore Stoutt High School Perimeter Wall.

6) Notices of Motions Given Orally

- a) The Premier and Minister of Finance to give notice that, at a later stage in the proceedings, he would seek leave to move the Motions standing in his name under Item 8(1)(i) through (iii) on the Order of the Day.
- b) The Leader of the Opposition and Member for the First District to give notice that, at a later stage in the proceedings, he would seek leave to ask the Questions standing in his name under Item 7(i) through (iii) on the Order of the Day.
- c) The Member for the Third District to give notice that, at a later stage in the proceedings, he would seek leave to ask the Questions standing in his name under Item 7(iv) on the Order of the Day.

7) **Questions and Answers to Questions**

i) The Leader of the Opposition and Member for the First District to ask the Honourable Premier and Minister of Finance the following questions:

Question 1

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House of the total sum paid or to be paid in settlement by the Central Government and all Statutory Bodies and privately held companies owned by the Government of the Virgin Islands of all civil and/or criminal matters related to contractual obligations for the period November 2011 through 2018 and further;

- i) Provide a detailed listing by name, amount, date and purpose;
- ii) State whether or not there exists any unsettled claims awaiting hearing or judgment as at October 31st, 2018; and
- iii) If yes, provide a listing of all unsettled claims.

Question 2

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please state and then present this Honourable House with:

- i) A list of all consultants hired under his Ministries and Statutory Bodies and their respective amounts for the years 2012 to 2018; and,
- ii) A copy of each contract/agreement for the consultants indicated on the list in (i) above.

Question 3

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House, to date, of all agencies or persons acting as collecting agencies on the behalf of the Government of the Virgin Islands that were engaged or contracted by his Government from December 2011 to present?

- i) List the amount paid to each whether through contracts or purchase orders or otherwise;
- ii) The reason for hiring each;
- iii) If the Central Tender Process was used, and if not why not?

Question 4

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House of all agencies or persons acting as collecting agencies that were engaged or contracted by each Statutory Body and wholly owned private companies of the Government of the Virgin Islands from December 2011 to present?

- i) List the amount paid to each whether through contracts or purchase orders or otherwise;
- ii) The reason for hiring each;
- iii) If the Central Tender Process was used and if not, why not?

Question 5

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House of the amount drawn down, to date, from the \$65 million dollars CDB loan approved in the House of Assembly in December 2017?

- i) State what projects, to date, have been or will be charged to the current drawn down funds, and the amounts budgeted to each project? and
- ii) State the name of the bank in which the drawn down funds have been deposited?

Question 6

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House if all government and statutory bodies projects to be charged to the \$65 million dollars CDB loan will be conducted in full and complete compliance with the Virgin Islands Recovery and Development Agency Act, 2018 that was recently passed in the House of Assembly?

- i) If not, why not?
- ii) From (i), above please list the projects?

Question 7

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House, to date, of the total interest expense billed and / or paid to date by the Government of the Virgin Islands on the \$65 million dollars CDB loan since being approved in December 2017?

Question 8

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House of the current procedures to be followed prior to the drawdown of funds from the \$65 million dollars CDB loan, and state?

- i) The names of the offices or officers empowered or authorized to instruct drawdowns?
- ii) What is the total interest paid, to date, by the Government of the Virgin Islands on the draw down amount?

Question 9

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House in full detail of his government's plans for the current vacant spot which once was the location for the Palm Grove Plaza? and i) State what agreement has been made for the return of the current lessees?

iii) The Leader of the Opposition and Member for the First District to ask the Honourable Minister for Communications and Works the following questions:

Question 1

Madam Speaker, would the Minister for Communications and Works please state for this Honourable House, to date, both the approved budgeted sum for the Georgie Hill project inclusive of commitments for land payments; and further, to date, provide a comprehensive listing of all contracts, purchase orders, and land payments issued for this project by names, amounts and purpose?

Question 2

Madam Speaker, would the Minister for Communications and Works please inform this Honourable House what date will the West End/Sopher's Hole Ports facility be reopened to accommodate ferries and their passengers coming from the United States Virgin Islands?

Question 3

Madam Speaker, would the Minister for Communications and Works please inform this Honourable House when the public road approaching the West End/Sopher's Hole Jetty will be repaired and resurfaced?

Question 4

Madam Speaker, would the Minister for Communications and Works please inform this Honourable House when the Zion Hill public road on the northern and southern sides will be repaired and resurfaced?

Question 5

Madam Speaker, within the last three years, would the Minister for Communications and Works please inform this Honourable House of the total number of contracts/works issued by the BVI Ports Authority that required the BVI Ports Authority Board's approval but did not receive such approval?

- i) List the total amount of the aforementioned in dollars? and
- ii) List each contract/work order, its respective amounts, the contractor for each, the date each was issued, and whether or not the tender process was used for each, and if not why not?

Question 6

Madam Speaker, would the Minister for Communications and Works please inform this Honourable House of each project submitted from the Ministry of Communications and Works to the Ministry of Finance/CDB to be funded by the \$65 million CDB loan that was approved by the House of Assembly in December 2017? and state

- i) The date each project was submitted?
- ii) The date Cabinet approved each project?
- iii) The projected cost of each project?
- iv) The commencement date of each project?
- v) If the tender process will be used for each project and if not, why not? And if yes, describe the process to be used.

iv) The Leader of the Opposition and Member for the First District to ask the Honourable Minister for Education and Culture the following questions:

Question 1

Madam Speaker, would the Minister for Education and Culture please inform this Honourable House of each project submitted by the Ministry of Education and Culture to the Ministry of Finance and by extension CDB to be funded by the \$65 million CDB loan that was approved by the House of Assembly in December 2017? and state

- i) The date each project was submitted?
- ii) The date Cabinet approved each project?
- iii) The projected cost of each project?
- iv) The commencement date of each project?
- v) If the tender process will be used for each project and if not, why not? And if yes, describe the process to be used.

Question 2

Madam Speaker, would the Minister for Education and Culture please inform this Honourable House when the basketball courts at Capoon's Bay and Carrot Bay will be fully repaired so that the public, especially the First District community, can use the recreational facilities once again? and

i) State the commencement date when each Government owned recreation facility in the Territory will be repaired?

Question 3

Madam Speaker, would the Minister for Education and Culture please inform this Honourable House if the certificate received upon successful completion of the G.E.D. will be recognized by his Ministry and the Government of the Virgin Islands to have the same value as the school leaving certificate of the Virgin Islands?

- i) If not, why not?
- ii) If yes, please explain?

v) The Member for the Third District to ask the Honourable Deputy Premier and Minister for Natural Resources and Labour the following questions:

Question 1

Madam Speaker, could the Deputy Premier and Minister for Natural Resources and Labour please tell this Honourable House:

- a) The current number of Work Permits issued to skilled workers since Hurricane Irma?
- b) How many family members accompanied these skilled workers?

Question 2

Madam Speaker, could the Deputy Premier and Minister for Natural Resources and Labour please provide a breakdown of the relationships, spouse, child etc. and indicate how many have Work Permits, and how many are attending school.

8) Public Business

1) Government Business

Introduction and First Reading

- (i) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a motion for the Introduction and First Reading of the Bill entitled, **"Police (Amendment) Act, 2018";**
- (ii) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a motion for the Introduction and First Reading of the Bill entitled, "Criminal Code (Amendment) Act, 2018";

Second and Third Readings

 (iii) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a motion for the Second and Third Readings of the Bill entitled, "Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 2018".

- 2) Private Members Business
- 9) Other Business
- 10) Adjournment