

**SEVENTH SITTING OF THE SECOND SESSION  
OF THE THIRD HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS**



**TO BE HELD ON  
THURSDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2017  
AT THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY  
ROAD TOWN, TORTOLA  
AT 10:00 A.M.**

**ORDER OF THE DAY**

# **ORDER OF THE DAY**

- 1) **Prayers**
- 2) **Confirmation of Minutes**
  - Confirmation of Minutes for the Meeting of Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2017
- 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) Statutory Instrument 2016 No. 79 – Statutory Rates, Fees and Charges (Amendment of Schedule) Order, 2016; and
    - ii) Accountant General – Fourth Quarter Financial Report Year Ended December 31, 2016.
- 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 Items 8(1) (i), (ii) and (iv) through (x) on the Order of the Day.
  - b) The Attorney General to give notice that, at a later stage in the proceedings, he would seek leave to move the Motion standing in his name under Items 8(1) (iii) on the Order of the Day.
  - c) 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 Items 7 (i) through (iii) on the Order of the Day.
  - d) 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 Items 7 (iv) through (vii) 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 Premier and Minister of Finance the following questions:**

**Question 1**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House, to date, of the total amount outstanding in arrears to BVI Electricity Corporation by all Government Statutory Bodies? and;

- i) List the outstanding amounts owed by each Government Statutory Body.
- ii) When will the outstanding amounts owed by each Government Statutory Body be paid in order for each respective account to be made current?
- iii) For each Government Statutory Body, please state what was the cause for the arrears?

**Question 2**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House, to date, of the total amount outstanding in arrears to the Water and Sewage Department by Government Statutory Bodies? and;

- i) List the outstanding amounts owed by each Government Statutory Body.
- ii) When will the outstanding amounts owed by each Government Statutory Body be paid in order for each respective account to be made current?
- iii) For each Government Statutory Body, please state what was the cause for the arrears?

**Question 3**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House, to date, notwithstanding that provided at the Sixth Sitting of the Second Session of the Third House of Assembly, of the total amount expended from the \$25,000,000 loan facility from First Caribbean Bank that was approved by the House of Assembly and please state the current balance to be drawn down?

**Question 4**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House the total amount of monies paid to Price WaterHouse from January 2012 to present by Central Government and all Statutory Bodies combined? and

- i) State the amount paid by Central Government.
- ii) Give a detailed breakdown of all payments made by each Ministry/Department inclusive of dates, description of works, amounts, and variations.
- iii) For each Government Ministry/Department hiring of Price WaterHouse, state if the tender process was used and, if not, why not?
- iv) State the amount paid by Government Statutory Bodies combined.
- v) Give a detailed breakdown of all payments made by each Statutory Body inclusive of dates, description of works, amounts, and variations.
- vi) For each Statutory Body hiring of Price WaterHouse, state if the 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 the total amount of monies paid to Baker McKenzie from January 2012 to present by Central Government and all Statutory Bodies combined? and

- i) State the amount paid by Central Government.
- ii) Give a detailed breakdown of all payments made by each Ministry/Department inclusive of dates, description of works, amounts, and variations.
- iii) For each Government Ministry/Department hiring of Baker McKenzie, state if the tender process was used and, if not, why not?
- iv) State the amount paid by Government Statutory Bodies combined.
- v) Give a detailed breakdown of all payments made by each Statutory Body inclusive of dates, description of works, amounts, and variations.
- vi) For each Statutory Body hiring of Baker McKenzie, state if the tender process was used and, if not, why not?

**Question 6**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House the total amount of monies paid to Indigo Engineering Caribbean Group Limited from January 2012 to present by Central Government and all Statutory Bodies combined? and

- i) State the amount paid by Central Government.

- ii) Give a detailed breakdown of all payments made by each Ministry/Department inclusive of dates, description of works, amounts, and variations.
- iii) For each Government Ministry/Department hiring of Indigo Engineering Caribbean Group Limited, state if the tender process was used and, if not, why not?
- iv) State the amount paid by Government Statutory Bodies combined.
- v) Give a detailed breakdown of all payments made by each Statutory Body inclusive of dates, description of works, amounts, and variations.
- vi) For each Statutory Body hiring of Indigo Engineering Caribbean Group Limited, state if the tender process was used and, if not, why not?

**Question 7**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House if the Government of the Virgin Islands conducted a business case study for the proposed service to the Government of the Virgin Islands for direct flight to Miami from the Virgin Islands and vice versa by BV/BVI Airways or any other company? and

- i) If yes, please state who did the work on behalf of government and, if paid, how much?
- ii) Providing that the business case was conducted, provide this Honourable House with copies?

**Question 8**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House if BV/BVI Airways owns or leases the aircraft(s) that it plans to conduct direct flights to Miami from the Virgin Islands and vice versa with? and

- i) If BV/BVI Airways owns the aircraft(s), why does the airline's application to the Department of Transportation in the USA states that it is leasing them?
- ii) If BV/BVI Airways is leasing the aircraft(s), why has government represented in the past that they own the aircraft(s)?

**Question 9**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House, if indeed BV/BVI Airways is leasing their aircrafts, the entity that they are leasing them from? and

- i) State who are the beneficial owners, directors, and executives of that entity?

### **Question 10**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House how much of BV/BVI Airways' total assets consist of private equity and debt? and

- i) State who are the officials in BV/BVI Airways?
- ii) What is the Government's percentage stake in BV/BVI Airways?
- iii) List the name of each shareholder in BV/BVI Airways and the percentage of shares for each shareholder?
- iv) Give a detailed breakdown of how the seven million dollars received by BV/BVI Airways was spent?

### **Question 11**

Madam Speaker during the Sixth Sitting of the Second Session of the Third House of Assembly, the Premier and Minister of Finance informed that at different intervals in 2016 BV/BVI Airways was paid in excess of seven million dollars and given that the contract between the Government of the Virgin Islands and BV/BVI Airways has a completely different payout schedule that spans three years and is conditional that the airline must satisfy certain performance in order for each payment to be made, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House if the aforementioned terms of the contract that would allow payments to be made were satisfied? and

- i) If they were satisfied, please indicate the terms that were satisfied and in what manner that allowed for each payment of the seven million dollars to be paid out in full in 2016 rather than as scheduled in the contract?
- ii) If the terms of the contract were not fulfilled, then why was the seven million dollars paid in full in 2016 rather than how it was scheduled in the contract?
- iii) Explain what was the purpose of the escrow account and who were the escrow agents/persons on the account?
- iv) How much money did BV/BVI Airways pay into the escrow account?

### **Question 12**

Madam Speaker given that the Freedom of Information Act in America through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) shows, through the filings made to the Department of Transportation in the USA by BV/BVI Airways, a change in shareholder control in BV/BVI Airways which signifies that signatories to their contract with the Government of the Virgin Islands no longer have controlling interest in the airline; could the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House why did this happen and where is the evidence of transfer and

for what consideration?

**Question 13**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House the date the addendum agreement to the original contract with BV/BVI Airways and the Government of the Virgin Islands was signed? and

- i) Other than the financial information pertaining to the setting up of the escrow account between the two parties, please state the content of the addendum agreement.
- ii) Please state if the signatories on the addendum agreement for BV/BVI Airways are the same as those on the original contract.
- iii) If they are the same then please list their names; and if they are different please state the signatories on each agreement.

**Question 14**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House, to date, if any more funding, equity or investment of any kind is presently being considered to be given to BV Airways/BVI Airways by the Government of the Virgin Islands or any of Government's Statutory Body separate to the initial investment of seven million dollars? and

- i) If yes, for what purpose, how much and by whom; and, in what form would the investment be made into BV Airways/BVI Airways and when?
- ii) If no, would any more investment be made by any of the aforementioned entities during this year 2017? and; if yes, when?

**Question 15**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House if to date, BV Airways/BVI Airways has requested for any more funding or investments from or by the Government of the Virgin Islands or any Government Statutory Body? and

- i) If yes, when was the request received, for how much and/or for what form of investment?
- ii) Would their request be honored in any form and if yes please explain in detail?

**Question 16**

Madam Speaker, would the Premier and Minister of Finance please inform this Honourable House if the discussions with Delta Petroleum and the Government of the Virgin Islands in

reference to the Privy Council's ruling on the cases that Government lost to Delta Petroleum has commenced? and

- i) If yes, what date did it commence?
- ii) State who is representing the Government of the Virgin Islands in these discussions?
- iii) If a negotiation team exists on behalf of the Government of the Virgin Islands, please inform this Honorable House of its composition and who approved the composition of the negotiation team and the criteria used to select each member?
- iv) State what all Cabinet was informed of, as well as all decisions made by Cabinet from its inception in the courts at all levels?

### **Question 17**

Madam Speaker, since the Sixth Sitting of the Second Session of the Third House of Assembly, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please now inform this Honourable House of the status of the Audit on the Cruise Pier Project commissioned by the Minister of Finance? and

- i) state if the Audit is completed? and if not;
- ii) the reasons for the on-going delays.
- iii) when will the audit be completed?

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

### **Question 1**

Madam Speaker, would the Honourable Minister for Communications and Works provide for this Honourable House a current comprehensive report of the expenditure to date (whether through contracts, work orders or purchase orders inclusive of all variations) of the proceeds of the sixteen million dollars loan facility, authorized by this Honourable House from the Social Security Board inclusive of contractor, contract amount and purpose (labor material and services)? and further;

- i) State the balance of the loan fund and the intended purpose?
- ii) Explain in detail how the development and execution of this project satisfied the tenets of the Protocols for Effective Financial Management?



## **Question 2**

Madam Speaker, would the Minister for Communications and Works please confirm for this Honorable House whether or not the Drainage Project in the Capoon's Bay/Little Apple Bay area of the First District will resume this year and if yes; when? and, if not, why not? and

- i) What is the cost of the project?
- ii) State in detail the scope of the project?

## **Question 3**

Madam Speaker could the Minister for Communication and Works please inform this Honorable House when the public meeting to discuss the new Sopher's Hole Jetty/facilities design will be held in the First District? and

- i) What is the proposed cost of the project? and;
- ii) What is the scheduled commencement time for the project?

## **Question 4**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister of Communications and Works please inform this Honorable House when the public meeting to discuss the new Virgin Gorda Port/Jetty facilities design will be held in the Ninth District? and

- i) What is the proposed cost of the project? and;
- ii) What is the scheduled commencement time for the project?

## **Question 5**

Madam Speaker, given that the Frenchman's Cay Bridge is currently still in need of urgent attention, could the Minister for Communications and Works please inform this Honorable House when this matter will be meaningfully addressed by his Ministry?

## **Question 6**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister for Communication and Works please inform this Honorable House, to date, the total cost of the Cruise Pier Project including all construction, legal, Project Management, specialist, materials, civil works, contracts and all other professional fees? and

- i) Explain in detail how the development and execution of this project satisfied the tenets of the Protocols for Effective Financial Management?

- ii) List all outstanding monies owed to date on this project and the respective vendor, contractor, etc. and the description of what the outstanding funds are to be paid for?

**Question 7**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister for Communication and Works please inform this Honorable House, to date, the total cost of the Marine phase of the Cruise Pier Project? and;

- i) List each contract let under this phase of the project, along with the amount and contractor selected.
- ii) Indicate how this phase of the project was in keeping with the Protocols for Effective Financial Management?
- iii) Indicate if each contract under this phase was tendered and if not why not?
- iv) List each work order, purchase order, and all other awarding of works other than contracts under this phase of the project with the amounts and the person(s) and/or Company(s) awarded and the dates awarded.
- v) Explain in detail how the development and execution of this phase of the project satisfied the tenets of the Protocols for Effective Financial Management?

**Question 8**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister for Communications and Works please inform this Honorable House, to date, the total cost of the land phase of the Cruise Pier Project? and;

- i) List each contract let under this phase of the project, along with the amount and contractor selected and the process used to select each contractor.
- ii) Indicate how this phase of the project was in keeping with the Protocols for Effective Financial Management?
- iii) Indicate if each contract under this phase was tendered and if not why not?
- iv) List each work order, purchase order, and all other awarding of works other than contracts under this phase of the project with the amounts and the person(s) and/or Company(s) awarded and the dates awarded.
- v) Explain in detail how the development and execution of this phase of the project satisfied the tenets of the Protocols for Effective Financial Management?

### **Question 9**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister for Communications and Works please inform this Honorable House, to date, the total amount of monies paid out as variation on the Marine phase of the Cruise Pier Project inclusive of contractor/vendor, the amounts, description of the payment and dates?

### **Question 10**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister for Communications and Works please inform this Honorable House, to date, the total amount of monies paid out as variation on the land phase of the Cruise Pier Project inclusive of contractor/vendor, the amounts, description of the payment and dates?

### **Question 11**

Madam Speaker, would the Honourable Minister for Communications and Works inform this Honourable House if the Tortola Pier Park 2016 annual report is completed?

- i) If yes, please furnish this Honourable House with a copy?
- ii) If no, please inform when will it be made available to the public?

### **Question 12**

Madam Speaker, would the Honourable Minister of Communications and Works please inform this Honourable House if all the contractors that worked on the project spearheaded by Water and Sewage in the installing of pipes among other works, in December 2016, in the Fort Recovery have been paid? and

- i) If not, please inform this Honourable House when will they be paid?
- iii) **The Leader of the Opposition and Member for the First District to ask the Minister for Education and Culture the following questions:**

### **Question 1**

Madam Speaker, in the Question and Answer segment of the Sixth Sitting of the Second Session of the Third House of Assembly, the Minister for Education and Culture informed that two buildings are presently being constructed at the Elmore Stoutt High School referred to as Building A and Building B, could the Minister for Education and Culture please inform this Honourable House when were the drawings for these two buildings submitted by his Ministry to the Land Development Control Authority for approval? And

- i) What date(s) were Building A and Building B approved by the Land Development Control Authority?

- ii) What date(s) were the other buildings to be built at the Elmore Stoutt High School campus, inclusive of auditorium, submitted by his Ministry to the Land Development Control Authority for approval? and, the date(s) that they were approved by the Land Development Control Authority?

### **Question 2**

Madam Speaker, in the Question and Answer segment of the Sixth Sitting of the Second Session of the Third House of Assembly the Minister for Education and Culture informed that a similar building(s) to those currently being constructed at the Elmore Stoutt High School campus would be constructed at the Bregado Flax Educational Complex Secondary Division. Could the Minister for Education and Culture, please inform this Honourable House when were the drawings for the building(s) submitted by his Ministry to the Land Development Control Authority for approval?

- i) State what date(s) were the building(s) approved by the Land Development Control Authority?
- ii) State what date(s) were the other buildings to be built at Bregado Flax Educational Complex submitted to the Land Development Control Authority for approval? and, what date(s) were they approved by the Land Development Control Authority?
- iii) The proposed time for when the erection of the building is slated to commence?

### **Question 3**

Madam Speaker, in the Questions and Answers segment of the Sixth Sitting of the Second Session of the Third House of Assembly the Minister for Education and Culture informed that the steel frame structure to be erected for the buildings being constructed at the Elmore Stoutt High School and soon at the Bregado Flax Educational Complex Secondary Division were purchased by the Government of the Virgin Islands from Isla Trading Corporation in Florida because they were found to be the cheapest (among other reasons stated). Given that this project was announced a few years ago and the tendering process was not used, could the Minister for Education and Culture please inform this Honorable House;

- i) If each of the manufacturers contacted received the same drawings, specifications, deadlines among other required information, as was in the correspondence and documents provided to Isla Trading Corporation?
- ii) Provide a listing of all such companies that were contacted around the world inclusive of a copy of the correspondences sent to each of them detailing the deadlines, specifications among other needed information being required in the RFP or whatever form of tendering or competitive bidding that was used.
- iii) Furnish a copy of the response from each company inclusive of their costs and time frame to manufacture the structure.

iv) Given the methodology used in this process, inform how this satisfies the tenets of the Protocols for Effective Financial Management?

**iv) The Member for the Third District to ask the Premier and Minister of Finance the following questions:**

### **Question 1**

Madam Speaker, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House whether it is correct that the Governor required \$800,000 from the Consolidated Fund and announced his intention to issue a warrant under his hand for the withdrawal of such funds from the Consolidated Fund? and

a) When he learned of the Governor's intent, and how?

### **Question 2**

Madam Speaker, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House whether it is correct that the \$800,000 figure referred to in Question 1, had increased to a staggering \$1,880,000 to be withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund? and

a) When he learned of the Governor's intent, and how?

### **Question 3**

Madam Speaker, the Governor issuing a warrant suggests that those funds were not budgeted for, because a voucher would have sufficed; could the Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House:

a) How he plans on making up for this shortfall? and

b) If he intends to reduce any sub-heads to cover the Governor's warrant, which sub-heads and by how much, giving specifics.

### **Question 4**

Madam Speaker, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House if any of the money withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund by the Governor by warrant under his hand is being used for:

a) The fit out of a hearing room for the courts? and

b) If the answer to a) is yes, where is this space, who holds the lease to the space and what are the terms and conditions under which this space is being fitted out?

### **Question 5**

Madam Speaker, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House:

- a) Exactly what the moneys withdrawn from the Consolidated Fund by the Governor by warrant under his hand is being used for, giving details as to how it's being spent? and
- b) Provide this Honourable House with a copy of all warrants intended to withdraw Funds from the Consolidated Fund by the Governor under his hand.

### **Question 6**

Madam Speaker, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House:

- a) The sub-heads and Departments from which these funds are to be disbursed? and
- b) Provide this Honourable House with a copy of all Vouchers used to facilitate the various disbursements?

### **Question 7**

Madam Speaker, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House whether the Governor had asked him to include in the 2017 Budget his \$1,880,000 request as a condition for signing the Appropriation Act 2017, which he signed on March 20<sup>th</sup>, only days after stating his intentions to issue a warrant?

### **Question 8**

Madam Speaker, could the Premier and Minister of Finance please tell this Honourable House when legislation will be brought to this Honourable House aimed at liberating Local Companies, especially small Local Companies, from the raft of onerous Regulations aimed at non-resident offshore companies, and the investment of offshore funds, whose sole purpose for being here are the benefits derived from the Territory being an Offshore Financial Center?

- v) **The Member for the Third District to ask the 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 Labor please tell this Honourable House:

- a) If he has a program in place to deal with the nuisance of cattle roaming the streets and worst, destroying people's property? and
  - b) Explain in detail how the program works, from the moment a call for help is made until the animal is reunited with its owner, or slaughtered?
- vi) The Member for the Third District to ask the Minister for Health and Social Development the following questions:**

**Question 1**

Madam Speaker, as we celebrate elders' month I am reminded of those in our community who are no longer able to be up and out and are homebound, and wonder if the Minister for Health and Social Development could please tell this Honourable House whether:

- a) He has given thought to creating a program that could bring needed attention and relief to these individuals and their families? and
- b) If the answer is yes, what exactly might such a program be like?

**Question 2**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister for Health and Social Development please tell this Honourable House if my observation is correct, that there has been a paradigm shift recently in the focus on elders, considering that not so long ago senior citizens month was declared with a major luncheon following a church service for the seniors, compared to the more low-keyed ceremonies of today.

- vii) The Member for the Third District to ask the Minister for Communications and Works the following questions:**

**Question 1**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister for Communications and Works please tell this Honourable House whether:

- a) He is aware that despite my request of last year for urgent action, the usefulness of the Sea Cows Bay / Chalwell Road continues to be diminished to a single lane for traffic due to the continued buildup of spilled concrete, especially at the steepest part of the road as you approach that dangerous corner at the Sea Cows Bay end? and
- b) When can we expect to see what has now become a hazardous situation remedied?

## **Question 2**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister for Communications and Works please tell this Honourable House whether:

- a) He is aware that despite my request of last year for urgent action, that the people living in the hills of Duffs Bottom are still plagued by the menace of huge pot holes and large eroded sections of the road leading to their homes? and
- b) When can we expect to see what has now become a hazardous situation remedied?

## **Question 3**

Madam Speaker, could the Minister for Communications and Works please tell this Honourable House whether:

- a) He is aware that the people of Sea Cows Bay, Duffs Bottom, Hannah's, Pleasant Valley, Palestina, Havers, and Pockwood Pond only receive water on certain days for a few hours in the mornings only?
- b) When can they realistically expect a long-term fix to this vexing problem? and
- c) What measures does he have in place this coming August to avoid the repeat of last August's situation with lack of water, especially at the Horse Track on August Tuesday?

## **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, "**Disaster Management Act, 2017**";
- (ii) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a motion for the Introduction and First Reading of the Bill entitled, "**Development Bank of the Virgin Islands (Transfer of Assets and Liabilities) Act, 2017**";
- (iii) The Attorney General to move a motion for the Introduction and First Reading of the Bill entitled, "**Human Rights Commission Act, 2017**";



### **Suspension of Standing Order 52(2) and (3)**

- (iv) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a Motion for the Suspension of Standing Order 52(2) and (3) to allow for the Second and Third Readings of the Bill entitled “**Development Bank of the Virgin Islands (Transfer of Assets and Liabilities) Act, 2017**”

### **Second and Third Readings**

- (v) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a Motion for the Second and Third Readings of the Bill entitled, “**Development Bank of the Virgin Islands (Transfer of Assets and Liabilities) Act, 2017**”
- (vi) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a motion for the Second and Third Readings of the Bill entitled, “**International Tax Authority Act, 2016**”;
- (vii) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a motion for the Second and Third Readings of the Bill entitled, “**Cruising Permit (Amendment) Act, 2017**”;
- (viii) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a motion for the Second and Third Readings of the Bill entitled, “**Customs Management and Duties (Amendment) Act, 2017**”;
- (ix) The Premier and Minister of Finance to move a motion for the Second and Third Readings of the Bill entitled, “**Secure Search (Beneficial Ownership) System Act, 2017**”;
- (x) **The Premier and Minister of Finance to move the following motion:**

**WHEREAS** section 3(1) of the Statutory Rates, Fees and Charges Act, 2005 (No. 28 of 2005) (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) provides that the Cabinet may, by means of an Order amending the Schedule, exercise a power given to the House of Assembly, the Governor, Cabinet, a Minister or any other person or statutory body

- (a) to impose or vary rates, fees, or other charges,
- (b) to grant exemptions with respect to rates, fees or other charges,
- (c) to approve the imposition or variation of rates, fees or other charges or the granting of exemptions with respect to rates, fees and other charges,

whether by resolution, regulations, Order or other statutory instrument and whether on the advice or recommendation of, or after consultation with, any person, body or authority;

**WHEREAS** section 3(2) of the Act provides that where such an Order is made it shall be subject to an affirmative resolution of the House of Assembly;

**WHEREAS** the Cabinet in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 3(1) of the Act, made the Statutory Rates, Fees and Charges (Amendment of Schedule) Order, 2016 (“the Order”) on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016 to repeal and replace Part 45 of the Schedule to specify the fees to be paid for every application for, grant, renewal or extension of a work permit under the Labour Code, 2010 (No. 4 of 2010);

**WHEREAS** the Order was published in the Gazette on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016 by way of advanced notice;

**AND WHEREAS** the Order is laid on the Table of the House of Assembly on the 19<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the House of Assembly of the Virgin Islands approves the Order laid on the Table of the House of Assembly on the     day of                             , 2016 and the said Order shall come into force on the     day of                             , 2016.

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