



**VISION:** We will be a vibrant, dependable and clean city where services are delivered innovatively and effectively.

**MISSION:** To provide effective operations of the city through collaboration of members, management and staff.

**Corporation of Hamilton Board Meeting, City Hall, Hamilton - 9 January 2019 - 12.30pm**

- Present:** Rt. Wor. Charles R. Gosling, JP, Chairman  
Councillor John Harvey, MBE, JP  
Councillor Dennis Tucker, JP  
Councillor Lawrence Scott, JP  
Councillor RoseAnn Edwards  
Councillor Carlton Johnson (PART)
- Staff:** City Engineer - Patrick Cooper (Acting Secretary)  
HR Manager - Lindell Foster  
Event Project Manager - Jessica Astwood  
Communications Manager - Zoe Mulholland  
Deputy Treasurer - Siobhan Fubler
- Apologies:** Councillor George Scott, JP  
Councillor Nicholas Swan

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**1. Confirmation of Notice:**

The Acting Secretary confirmed that the appropriate notices of the meeting were duly given according to the meeting guide.

**2. Role of the Chairman:**

The Mayor confirmed his role as the Chairman.

**3. Open Meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 12.34pm.

**4. Apologies:**

The Acting Secretary confirmed that apologies had been received from Councillor Nicholas Swan and Councillor George Scott.

**5. Public Participation/Presentation:**

The Mayor welcomed Major (Ret'd) Allan Wayne B. Smith, Head of the FinTech Business Unit of the Ministry of National Security. He was accompanied by Dr. Gina Tucker, Director of Education (FinTech) and Mr. Dennis Pitcher, Technical Consultant/Advisor (FinTech). All contributed to the presentation which was followed by a questions and answers session.

Major Smith introduced the FinTech Business Unit and their vision and mission. He spoke on the opportunities available via the FinTech Business Unit, the implications for Bermuda and Bermudians, education, training and the types of jobs that are available in this emerging industry.

Major Smith said that the FinTech Business Unit had been formed in October 2018. The objective was to promote Bermuda in the fintech industry with a view to establishing Bermuda as an attractive jurisdiction for companies to set up fintech businesses in order to encourage economic growth and job creation. The focus would be to promote new careers and opportunities for the unemployed within a new sector of industry. Fintech will change how we live and work, as the internet had done. He said that blockchain technology will change crypto-currencies and other emerging mediums that are already via fintech. In particular, financial transactions that would be available without the need for a bank or central authority.

Dr. Tucker spoke about the plans and thinking in terms of preparing Bermuda and Bermudians for this new industry by education and training. She said that fintech will make our world more efficient and effective in the way we do business, especially financially. The objectives of education would be to facilitate certification and further training of untapped talent in Bermuda. To ensure that business managers, executives and Government officials understand the implications of fintech and how it can enhance the efficiency of their organisations. Oxford University courses and blockchain online courses were also available. Over the next six (6) to eight (8) months, the FinTech Business Unit would use sponsored funds to prepare a non-technical workforce ready to move into this. She said that fintech is the way forward.

Councillor Harvey said that the community would need a slow educational process to ensure that everyone fully understands fintech.

The Mayor said he understood that fintech means 'financial technology'. Whilst the presentation gave the vision and mission of the FinTech Business Unit, there had been little information about what fintech actually is and how it works.

Mr. Pitcher said that the application of the technology was a tool which takes existing complex and expensive processes and lowers the cost, increases efficiency and reduces the duplication of processes. The FinTech Business Unit is an intermediary for global finance and trade via digital communication. Further discussion was held.

Councillor C. Johnson left the meeting at 1.15 pm.

Major Smith, Dr. Gina Tucker Mr. Dennis Pitcher left the meeting at 1.20 pm.

**6. Correspondence:**

**7. Minutes of Previous Board Meeting dated 5 December 2018:**

**Proposed:** Councillor L. Scott                      **Seconded:** Councillor J. Harvey

The Minutes were accepted as read with the amendments.

**8. Matters Arising from the Previous Board Meeting of 5 December 2018:**

(i) **An email pertaining to any outstanding Matters Arising be sent to the Member responsible on 2 January 2019, as a reminder for action. These items would be included in the Agenda for the next full Council Board Meeting on 9 January 2019.** Action item completed.

(ii) **Contact the owners of the bronze sculpture of a lady on a bench by Desmond Fountain, with a view to incorporating it in a City Park. (Councillor D. Tucker)** Action item still to be completed.

(iii) **A meeting is scheduled within a week for the City Engineer and the Parks Superintendent to meet with Mr. Fowle as it relates to the status of the trees at the west end of Dundonald Street. (City Engineer)** Action item still to be completed.

(iv) **A lease to be drawn up between Localmotion Limited and the Corporation of Hamilton. The City Engineer had met with Localmotion Limited and agreed the area for rent. Localmotion have a date for commencement of their business in three (3) months' time. The City Engineer would now instruct the lawyers to draft a lease. (City Engineer)** Action item still to be completed.

**9. Minutes of Special Corporation Board Meeting dated 21 December 2018**

**Proposed:** Councillor L. Scott                      **Seconded:** Councillor J. Harvey

The Minutes were accepted as read.

10. **Matters Arising from Special Corporation Board Meeting dated 21 December 2018:**

(i) **The Resolution that the Board approve the Corporation of Hamilton 2019 Budget as presented.** The City Engineer said that the Resolution had been approved with an exception. The Permanent Secretary told the City Engineer that the Minister had a reservation regarding the sewerage projects, in particular, sewage treatment. The Minister had not approved the \$4.5 million sewage treatment project for 2019. The City Engineer said that the Government had its own plan for an Island-wide sewerage plant. The possible reason for the non-approval might be that the Government would not want the cost to be duplicated. Councillor L. Scott was surprised that this issue had not been raised by the Government in light of regular meetings and previous discussions which resulted in its willingness to assist the COH with funding for the project. The City Engineer had discussions in the summer of last year with the Technical Officers of the Works & Engineering Department. He was told that a larger sewerage plant was planned and discussion took place on how it could be tied in with the City. The City Engineer said that from a single sewerage issue in St. George's, the Government's plan had evolved into an Island-wide concept. The COH's Minister was also the Minister of the Environment responsible for regulations for effluent quality, etc. However, it was in the infancy stages as a concept with no detailed drawings or costs and it would take many years to complete.

Councillor Harvey asked if the sewage treatment was a current concern and could the COH afford to wait for the Government's plan for be implemented. The City Engineer said that the COH's 2019 sewage treatment budget was necessary to improve the quality of waste water. Councillor L. Scott said the funding for the pipelines for the outfall was in the budget for 2020. The City Engineer said that whether it was the COH's plan or the Governments plan, a budget for the outfall pipelines will be required in 2020. The City produces 600,000 gallons per day of waste water and there was no storage tank with that capacity.

The Mayor recommended that this issue be forwarded to the Infrastructure Committee for discussion at the next Infrastructure meeting. The City Engineer had written a response to the Minister to be circulated to the Infrastructure Committee. Also photographs of water, before and after, the COH treatment process. This would be for comparison with the Government's processed water. The Mayor said that the COH's treatment had a minimal impact on the environment. However, the Government's intended treatment would have a huge adverse impact on the environment, using carbon technology to create energy at a huge cost, which would be met by the ratepayers in the City and Island-wide.

Councillor Harvey said that the response to the Minister should state the approval of the COH Board, for \$4.5 million in the 2019 Budget for the sewage treatment project in the City, and that it was necessary to proceed with the work in 2019. The City Engineer said that the COH's project should go ahead, even if the Government's project goes ahead at a later stage. The COH's project could be fully functioning by the beginning of 2020. Also, the Government financing for its project was estimated at \$200 million to set up a separate utility to run waste water on the Island. This would require legislation and set up of rates and a charging infrastructure connected to the utility.

The Mayor said that perhaps the Minister should state that he was uncertain about approving the Sewage Treatment Project and that discussion should take place with the City Engineer. As the COH's Minister he would be expected to support the COH. If the Minister could not support the COH, an explanation would be appreciated.

**ACTION:** Forward the Sewage Treatment Project to the Infrastructure Committee for discussion at the next Infrastructure Meeting. **(City Engineer)**

**ACTION:** Write a letter to the Minister and await his response, as it relates to the 2019 Budget for Sewage Treatment. **(City Engineer)**

**ACTION:** Circulate the letter to the Minister and photographs of water, before and after, the COH treatment process, and the Government's processed water, for comparison. **(City Engineer)**

#### **11. Recommendations for Review:**

There were no Recommendations for review.

#### **12. Resolutions Approved by the Minister:**

The Mayor motioned that the Corporation of Hamilton fully supports the Government and the National Museum of Bermuda in their efforts to increase the UNESCO boundary of Fort Hamilton and its inclusion as a Bermuda UNESCO Site Designation.

That the Board approve for the Corporation of Hamilton (COH) to thank the Bermuda Triathlon Association for their proposal for partnership and offer the charge of \$193,000, at cost, representing all services provided by COH which would include \$30,000 labour outlay for the tent costs, together with a schedule of City branding, marketing and logistical requirements.

That the Board approve the Corporation of Hamilton 2019 Budget, with the exception of the Sewage Treatment Project.

That the Board approve that Non-COH parking privileges in 2019 (for all City Car Parks except behind City Hall) be extended to:

- Minister of Municipalities
- Permanent Secretary for Minister
- Mayor of St George
- Secretary of St George
- Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Consultant

That the Board approve that Non-COH parking privileges in 2019 (for behind City Hall) be extended to:

- Bermuda National Gallery
- Bermuda Society for the Arts
- Great Sound - Theatre Consultant
- Auditor General (paid space)
- Parliamentary Registrar (paid space)

**13. Committees and Recommendations for Review:**

**(i) Residents Advisory Committee - 6 December 2018**

There were no Recommendations for Review.

**(ii) Infrastructure Committee - 12 December 2018**

There were no Recommendations for Review

**(iii) Finance Committee - 13 December 2018**

There were no Recommendations for review.

**(iv) Staff, Legislative & Governance Committee - 18 December 2018**

There were no Recommendations for review.

**14. Any Other Business:**

(i) Councillor L. Scott raised the issue of paving outside of the BIU building and congratulated the City Engineer for addressing the issue so promptly.

(ii) Councillor Tucker asked when work at the pedestrian crossing would commence. The City Engineer said that it would be the next project. The work had been published via all methods of communication and the Government's technical staff were also aware.

(iii) The City Engineer said the Events Project Manager had provided him with a letter regarding a counter-offer to their offer. This would be for the sponsorship of the Triathlon and the letter had been forwarded to the Triathlon Association for their review. A response is awaited.

(iv) Councillor Edwards noted that work for the paving on Court Street, by Swinging Doors, was underway. The City Engineer said that there were trip hazards by Dundonald Street. This was preparatory work for paving to be done this year on Court Street, from Angle Street to Dundonald Street. Councillor Edwards noted an extremely large opening around one of the trees.

**ACTION:** Investigate the large opening around one of the trees near Swinging Doors. (City Engineer)

(v) Councillor L. Scott referred to an article in the newspaper regarding the Washington Properties renovation, including the COH moving sidewalks. The article also stated that parking bays would be altered. Councillor L. Scott was concerned that the Minister would contact the City's Engineering Department to find out about these or any other changes in the City. He asked whether the Minister had been informed of this and whether the COH sidewalks and Washington Properties planning permissions were in line with each other. The City Engineer said that the Minister had not been informed as the COH does not require planning permission for road works, including sidewalks and parking bays. He said that two (2) or three (3) parking bays had been lost in the same vicinity as the seating platform. The City Engineer said that this item was presented as a Recommendation and approved by the Board. The Resolution had then been approved by the Minister. The Mayor said that the Minister could appoint his Ministry or any Ministry representative to attend any Board meeting. Also, the Minister received a copy of the Minutes and there were recordings of all meetings available to him. The Mayor also said that the Minister could request weekly or monthly update meetings with the COH.

15. **Motion to Move to Restricted Session:**

**Proposed:** Councillor L. Scott

**Seconded:** Councillor J. Harvey

The Public Session concluded at 1:54pm.

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Date

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Mayor

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Acting Secretary