

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

At one o'clock p. m. Monday, June, 23, 1924, the Colonial Council of St. Croix held its last ordinary meeting for the elective period 1923-1924 in the Colonial Council Hall in Christiansted.

Present: The Chairman (Robt L. Merwin), F. Andersen, Halvor Berg, W. S. Abramson, F. Coulter, Holger Jessen, D. Hamilton Jackson, Robt. W. Skeoch, Thos. Ramsay, G. B. Fleming, D. C. Canegata, and William Clarke.

4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) absent from the island; 5th Appointed Member (McIntosh) and 3rd Member for Frederiksted Country District (M. M. Skeoch) absent from illness, and 3rd Appointed Member (Armstrong) and 2nd Member for Frederiksted Country District (Curry) sent in excuse of their inability to attend the meeting.

Government Secretary (Z. m.), Despatching Secretary (Barrett) and Assistant Despatching Secretary (Hines) were present.

The following prayers were offered by the Chaplain, Rev. J. P. Christensen:

Our Heavenly Father we desire to return thanks unto Thee who are the giver of all good and perfect gifts. We are mindful of Thy grace and mercy which are new toward us at every sunrise. We thank Thee for the privilege of service and pray that our work may be acceptable in Thy sight and that Thy benediction may rest upon us and our lives.

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the Communion of the Holy Ghost be with us all. Amen.

The Chairman remarked: Honorable Members, since the last meeting I have received the following communications:

1. Letter from His Excellency the Governor dated May 28, 1924 reading: The Honorable,

The Chairman of the Colonial Council
Municipality of Saint Croix,
Saint Croix, Virgin Islands.

Sir:-

In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 36 of the Colonial Law, the following dates are hereby fixed for the Colonial Council for the Municipality of Saint Croix to assemble for the ordinary meetings during the coming year:

Monday, 18 August, 1924. 1:00 p. m.
Monday, 20 October, 1924. 1:00 p. m.
Monday, 22 December, 1924. 1:00 p. m.
Monday, 16 February, 1925. 1:00 p. m.
Monday, 13 April, 1925. 1:00 p. m.
Monday, 15 June, 1925. 1:00 p. m.

Respectfully

PHILIP WILLIAMS
Governor.

2. Letter from His Excellency the Governor dated June 10, 1924, acknowledging receipt of six letters of June 3, 1924, advising the Government of the results of the elections held at the meeting of the Colonial Council on June 2, 1924, to the various Boards, Committees, etc. and of the resignation of the Second Appointed Member Denzil Noll.

3. Letter from 4th Appointed Member (Blackwood) dated June 5, 1924, reading:

Hon. Robt. L. Merwin,
Chairman Colonial Council,
Frederiksted, St. Croix, V. I.

Dear Sir:-

I hereby beg to inform you that I expect to be absent from the Island for a period not exceeding four months, on a trip to the United States of America.

Respectfully

A. J. BLACKWOOD,
4th Appointed Member.

4. Letter from His Excellency the Governor to the Chairman of the Colonial Council dated June 20, 1924, reading: The Honorable,

The Chairman of the Colonial Council,
Municipality of St. Croix,
St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

Sir:-

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of June 3, 1924, in which you advise the Government that the resignation of the Second Appointed Member of the Colonial Council of St. Croix, Mr. Denzil Noll, was accepted by the Colonial Council at its meeting held on June 2, 1924.

By virtue of the power conferred on me by the Colonial Law, I have this date appoint Mr. William H. Clarke as SECOND APPOINTED MEMBER of the Colonial Council for the Municipality of St. Croix, for the unexpired term of Mr. Denzil Noll, resigned.

I have the honor to request that the examination of the patent of appointment of Mr. William H. Clarke be added to the order of the day for the meeting of the Colonial Council scheduled for Monday, June 23rd, 1924.

Respectfully

PHILIP WILLIAMS
Governor.

The (Chairman) remarked: This matter was received too late to be placed on the order of the day but was put on a supplementary order of the day. This matter is down as the sixth item, but it shall be dealt with first.

3rd Member for Christiansted Town (Alexander) entered the meeting at this stage of the proceedings.

Item 1.

Production of and examination of letter of appointment of the 2nd Appointed Member (William Clarke).

The Appointed Member (William Clarke) was present and had handed in his Letter of Appointment, which after having been examined by the Council, was declared in order by 2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) as speaker.

The Member thereupon took his seat and signed the oath prescribed in Paragraph 47 of the Colonial Law.

The Chairman then on behalf of the Council declared that the Member was entitled to take his seat and vote in the Council.

The Chairman then read a letter from Despatching Secretary (Barrett) dated June 18, 1924, transmitting copies of General Order No 3, regarding Rules and Regulations concerning appointment to positions under the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States with the request that they be circulated among members, and which he said had already been done.

The Chairman remarked: At the last meeting of the Council the Honorable 2nd Member for Christiansted District (Berg) raised the question as to the status of the 5th Appointed Member (McIntosh), and considering that he, the 5th Appointed Member, has not attended meetings of the Council for more than six months, and as it is very likely that he will not be able to attend meetings in the near future I wrote him the following letter.

June 17, 1924

My Dear Mr. McIntosh:

At the last meeting of the Council a member raised the question during discussion of the resignation of 2nd Appointed Member (Noll) as to your seat in the Council.

In reply I stated that it has been the custom in the past, when absence has been caused by illness, not to adhere strictly to Paragraph 34 of the Colonial which reads:

"Dep route for a longer period than four months or other temporary hindrance which lasts beyond this period, shall likewise cause the withdrawal of a member."

As you have, most unfortunately, been absent from the Council much beyond four months and further I am sorry to learn you are not likely to be able to attend meetings of the Council in the near future, I feel it my official duty to put the question under the circumstances and that you would be so good as to advise me as to your desire and ability to attend the meetings of the Council; or to tender your resignation in conformity.

Yours very truly,

ROBT. L. MERWIN,
Chairman.

Honorable A. R. McIntosh,
Member Colonial Council,
Christiansted.