

ORDINANCE

Providing a Schedule of Fees for use of Slaughter Houses in St. Croix.

Be it enacted by the Colonial Council in session assembled: That

1. From and after July 1st, 1924, the fees charged for use of slaughter houses shall be such as are herein provided and payable in advance before the time of inspection of the animal:

For slaughtering of cattle.....	Frs. 1.25 per head.
For slaughtering of sheep and goats ..	0.50 " "
For slaughtering of hogs.....	0.50 " "

2. All fees accruing hereunder shall be payable at the Sanitation Office and be by them paid into the Colonial Treasury each month.

Thus duly passed at the last ordinary meeting of the Colonial Council held Monday, June 23 1924.

WM. H FLEMING ROBT. L MERWIN
Asst. Secretary. Chairman.

Christiansted, June 24, 1924.

The above Ordinance is hereby sanctioned and approved in whole.

Witness my Hand and the Seal of the Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States, this 26th day of June 1924.

[SEAL]

PHILIP WILLIAMS
Governor.

A CARD OF THANKS

The Henderson Family desire through this medium to express their thanks for the kind attention and sympathy shown to them in their late bereavement.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COLONIAL COUNCIL FOR ST. CROIX.

(Continued from yesterday's Avis.)

JUDICIARY DEPARTMENT:

Government Secretary (Zane) remarked: Mr. Chairman. Government has an amendment to offer to Item 5, Salaries, Judge of District Court, now placed at Frs. 10,000. It is moved that Frs. 10,000 be stricken out and there be substituted Frs. 12,000. The reason for this is

of course, apparent. The salary of the Judge of the District Court is Frs. 24,000, according to the Code; the Municipality of St. Thomas and St. John has passed their budget finally with Frs. 12,000 and, of course, this Municipality should provide its full share.

The speaker handed in the following amendment:

AMENDMENT TO ST. CROIX BUDGET.

Judiciary Department, Salaries.

Judge of the District Court; strike out "Frs. 10,000" and substitute "Frs. 12,000".

Proposed by Government.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I don't quite agree with the Honorable Government Secretary that because St. Thomas has passed Frs. 12,000 as its share towards the Judge's salary St. Croix should do likewise. I have a copy of the laws of Porto Rico, an island which produces more revenues than St. Croix, and I find that the salary of the District Judge of that island is \$1,000. If Porto Rico can pay its District Judge \$4,000 I don't see why St. Croix with a big deficit on its budget should pay its judge more than Porto Rico. The present incumbent has resigned and we have reduced the salary with the hope of employing the new appointee at a lower salary. The Honorable 1st Member for Frederiksted Town says that we will have to change the law; that has been done in this Council and was done in a very short time. I will quote an instance in 1921 the ordinance stood that the salaries of the Director and other officers of the Police Department should be so much I can bring proof that an ordinance was passed in this Council in less than five minutes changing the salaries of the employees of that department. We have a deficit of \$14,000 on the budget if it can be made up I will have no objection.

1st Member for Frederiksted Town (Jackson) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I am certainly in favor of a reduction in the salary of the judge of the District Court because we can get a very good man down here for \$3,600 a year, a man trained in law and has been practicing law for over thirty or forty years. It is not that I am contending about, but it is the breaking of the law. This body as a law making body should respect the law. Not because the law has been broken once that we should continue to break it. If the Honorable 2nd Member for Christiansted Town will bring in an amendment to change the law now I will vote on it.

Government Secretary (Zane) remarked: Mr. Chairman. May I state that the matter of amendments to the Code is a separate matter to pass upon. There is nothing on the order of the day having to do with amendments to the Code. This

one particular item certainly appears to me as not fitting in with our work today. If you are going to consider a reduction in salaries, if you feel that public officials are overpaid, that should be a matter of investigation by persons competent to determine that and not to handle it piecemeal, and I therefore submit that this proposition of amending the code to take care of this one particular item is not a proper matter for discussion this afternoon.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata): Mr. Chairman. I want to put this question up to the Honorable Government Secretary: If subsequent to the appointment it is found that the salary is excessive and it is recommended that it be reduced what would the Government do?

Government Secretary (Zane): Mr. Chairman. It is proposed, I take it seriously, to amend the Code for the purpose of legalizing a budget item which is now contrary to the Code. In other words, it is a clear case of having the cart before the horse. The Honorable Member said that if this reduction is agreed to there will follow an amendment to the Code, which, of course, must mean, to my mind, that at present it has not been presented in the generally recognized manner in which amendments to the Code are presented and therefore, it would require the Governor to seriously consider not approving it. To answer the gentleman specifically as to what the Governor would do if it is recommended that the salary be reduced subsequently, the Governor would simply state to the incumbent that on and after such a date his salary would be less and he would have to take it or resign.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata): Mr. Chairman. After you once place a man in an office at a certain salary you cannot tell him you are going to cut that salary.

Government Secretary (Zane): Mr. Chairman. There is another small consideration I might mention. It is perfectly true that the present incumbent has tendered his resignation to take effect August 18 and will be on accrued leave from July 1 to that date, and we would make a breach of contract by giving him lesser salary than is now provided.

2nd Member for Christiansted Town (Canegata): Mr. Chairman. Is it the intention that we vote additional salary? Can a man claim leave after he has resigned?

Government Secretary (Zane): Mr. Chairman. In answer to that question the Judge of the District Court has tendered his resignation effective August 18th and has requested leave between July 1 and that date.

1st Member for Frederiksted Country District (Fleming) remarked: Mr. Chairman. I am in full sympathy with the