

SECOND LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

FOURTH SESSION

1960

MINUTES of the Proceedings of a Meeting of the Legislative Council of the Colony of British Guiana under the British Guiana (Constitution)(Temporary Provisions) Orders in Council, 1953 and 1956, held in the Chamber of the Legislature at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.  
on

THURSDAY, 22ND DECEMBER, 1960.

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Sir Donald Jackson.

Ex-Officio Members

The Honourable the Chief Secretary, Mr. D.M. Hedges.  
The Honourable the Attorney-General, Mr. A.M.I. Austin, Q.C.  
The Honourable the Financial Secretary, Mr. W.P. D'Andrade.

Ministers

The Honourable Dr. C.B. Jagan,  
Minister of Trade and Industry.  
The Honourable B.H. Benn,  
Minister of Natural Resources.  
The Honourable Janet Jagan,  
Minister of Labour, Health and Housing.  
The Honourable Ram Karran,  
Minister of Communications and Works.  
The Honourable B.S. Rai,  
Minister of Community Development and Education.

Elected Members, Majority Party

Mr. S.M. Saffee  
Mr. Ajodha Singh

Other Elected Members

Mr. W.O.R. Kendall  
Mr. L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C.  
Mr. S. Campbell  
Mr. A.L. Jackson  
Mr. Jai Narine Singh

Nominated Members

Mr. R.B. Gajraj  
Mr. R.C. Tello  
Mr. R.E. Davis  
Mr. A.M. Fredericks  
Mr. H.J.M. Hubbard

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. I. Crum Ewing.  
Assistant Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. E.V. Viapree.

Absent:

Mr. E.B. Beharry.  
Mr. F. Bowman.  
Mr. A.G. Tasker, O.B.E. - on leave.

The Clerk read prayers.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday, the 21st of December, 1960, as printed and circulated, were taken as read and confirmed.

GOVERNMENT NOTICESMotion

The Financial Secretary gave notice of the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That pending the passing of the 1961 Estimates, this Council approves of such expenditure for Recurrent and Development Expenditure in 1961 as may be required for the maintenance of existing services and the continuance of works in progress on the basis approved by this Council in the Annual and Supplementary Estimates for the year 1960.

PUBLIC BUSINESSORDER OF THE DAYBILL - Second and Third Readings.Item 1 - ELECTRICITY (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1960 - Bill No. 33/1960.

Mr. Jai Narine Singh resumed and concluded his speech on the motion for the second reading of the BILL intituled AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE.

After discussion, the question was put and the Bill was read a second time.

Council then resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 - Short Title - was passed as printed.

Clause 2 - Mr. Burnham moved the following amendment to the definition at (b):-

Deletion of the words "defined by the Georgetown Town Council Ordinance" and substitution of the words "may from time to time by Order be declared by the Minister".

After discussion, the amendment was put and negatived.

Clause 2 was then passed as printed.

Clause 3 - was passed as printed.

../ Clause 4

Clause 4 - as printed was deleted and the following new Clause 4 substituted:

"Insertion of sections 9A and 9B in Ordinance No. 34 of 1957.

4. The Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by the insertion of the following sections after section 9 thereof -

'Inspectors.

9A. (1) The Corporation may appoint such number of inspectors as may be necessary for the purpose of inspecting installations and electrical plant, apparatus and works and of performing such other duties as may be required by the Corporation.

(2) An inspector appointed under the preceding subsection shall have all the powers vested in an inspector by this Ordinance and any regulations made thereunder, together with the powers of the Government Electrical Inspector under the Electric Lighting Ordinance.

Cap. 237.

Protection of persons acting under this Ordinance.

9B. The Justices Protection Ordinance shall apply to any person acting in the execution of his office or duty under the provisions of this Ordinance or any regulations made hereunder."

Cap. 18.

Clause 4 as substituted was then passed.

Clause 5 - was amended as under and passed:-

- (a) Inserted: a comma after the word "COMPANY" in the heading thereof.
- (b) Inserted: a comma after the word "Company" at the end of the first line of the definition of "Company" in the new section 12A(1).
- (c) Inserted: The following new definition in section 12A(1) after the definition of "completion date":-  
 "'contract period' means the period from the contract date until the date on which the purchase price and the interest thereon payable under the agreement shall have been paid in full;".

../ (d)

4.

(d) Corrected: the spelling of the word "purpose" in line 4 of section 12A(4).

Clause 6 - was passed as printed.

Clause 7 - was amended as under and passed:

Substituted: The following for section 14F:

"Power to locate and work generating or power station outside areas of supply.	14F. The Corporation may, in the case of its undertaking, locate and work and have its generating or power station and all or any works which may be considered necessary in connection therewith, outside the areas of supply."
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Clauses 8 and 9 - were passed as printed.

Clause 10 - was amended as under and passed:

- (a) Deleted: the word "electrical" in sub-paragraph (e).
- (b) Inserted: a semi-colon after the word "supply" in sub-paragraph (j).

Clauses 11 to 13 - were passed as printed.

New Clause 14 - The following was inserted after Clause 13:

"Insertion of third and fourth schedules. Schedule. 14. The Principal Ordinance is hereby amended by the insertion of the third and fourth schedules set out in the schedule to this Ordinance."

SCHEDULE - Inserted. SCHEDULE section 14.

THIRD SCHEDULE - was amended as under and passed:

- Part 1 - Paragraph 2 - (i) Substituted: the words "During the contract period" for the words "Until such time as the purchase price payable under the agreement and interest thereon shall have been paid in full" at the commencement thereof;
- (ii) Substituted: the word "electrical" for the word "electric" in the second line of sub-paragraph (c).

Paragraph 3(1) - Substituted: the words "During the contract period" for the words "Until such time as the purchase price and interest thereon under the agreement shall have been paid in full" at the commencement thereof.

5.

Paragraph 3(2) - (i) Inserted: a comma after the word "shall" in line 1, and

(ii) Deleted: the comma after the word "law" in line 2.

Paragraph 3(3) - Inserted: commas after the bracket in line 8 and after the word "sell" in line 9.

Paragraph 4 - Substituted: the following:-

"4. Subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (c) of paragraph 1 of Part 3 of this schedule, the following provisions shall have effect -

(a) notwithstanding the provisions of the contracts made by the Company and subsisting on the contract date for the supply of energy for the purpose of power only (termed "Power Contracts"), the charges payable for energy consumed after the contract date under every such contract and every similar contract entered into by the Company or the Corporation shall, during the contract period, be increased by an amount calculated in accordance with the fuel surcharge applicable to the current contracts of the Company on the contract date for the supply of energy for lighting and appliances (termed "Commercial Contracts");

(b) every tariff, rate of charge and surcharge in respect of the supply of energy by the Company which is current on the contract date shall remain in force during the contract period."

Part 2 - Inserted: a comma after the word "COMPANY" in the heading.

Paragraph 2 - Deleted: the comma after the word "notice" in the last line.

Part 3 - Inserted: a comma after the word "COMPANY" in the heading.

Paragraph 1 - (i) Inserted: a comma after the word "works" in sub-paragraph (b);

(ii) Substituted: a semi-colon for the fullstop after the word "date" at the end of sub-paragraph (b);

../ (iii)

(iii) Inserted: the following new sub-paragraph:

"(c) during the contract period, not prescribe or cause to be prescribed any tariff, rate of charge or surcharge for or in respect of the supply of energy which will produce respectively less revenue than any tariff, rate of charge or surcharge payable under the provisions of paragraph 4 of Part 1 of this schedule:

Provided that the Corporation may prescribe or cause to be prescribed a tariff, rate of charge or surcharge which will produce revenue in excess of that produced respectively by any tariff, rate of charge or surcharge payable under the said paragraph 4 of Part 1."

Paragraph 2(1)(a) - Inserted: the words and brackets "(as defined in the agreement)" after the word "Company".

Paragraph 2(1)(b) - Substituted: the words "during the contract period" for the words "until any remaining balance of the purchase price with interest thereon payable under the agreement has been fully paid".

Paragraph 4 - Substituted: the figure "(8)" for the figure "(7)" therein.

FOURTH SCHEDULE - was amended as under and passed:

Inserted: a comma after the word "COMPANY".

Council resumed.

### Third Reading

On a motion by the Minister of Communications and Works, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended in Committee.

### Arrangement of Sittings

Before the adjournment was taken, the Chief Secretary intimated that it was proposed to sit the following week as follows:-

Wednesday, 28th December: 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.  
8.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

Thursday, 29th December: 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.  
8.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

Friday, 30th December: 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m.  
8.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

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ADJOURNMENT

At 5.20 p.m. the Speaker adjourned the Council to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, the 23rd of December, 1960.

Confirmed,

*Donald Jackson*  
Speaker.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,  
Georgetown.

23rd December, 1960.