

10th THROMDE TSHOGDE MINUTES

THROMDE COUNCIL



Thimphu Thromde
Gongzin Lam
2/27/2018

Abbreviation

DNB: Department of National Budget

AoB: Any Other Business

ADB: Asian Development Bank

AE : Assistant Engineer

AFD: Administration and Finance Division

APA: Annual Performance Agreement

DCD: Development Control Division

DCR: Development Control Regulation

Dy.EE : Deputy Executive Engineer

ID: Infrastructure Division

ICT: Information and Communication Technology

TEO: Thromde Education Officer

ToR: Terms of Reference

UPD: Urban Planning Division

10th Thromde Tshogde Meeting

Venue: Chuniding Resort Se,rbithang

Date: 27th February, 2018

Time: 9:30AM – 5:30 PM

Members present

1	Dasho Kinlay Dorjee	Thrompon	Chairperson
2	Mr. Pasang Dorji	Executive Secretary	Member Secretary
3	Mr. Namgay Tshering	Member	Deputy Chairperson/Babesa <i>Tshogpa</i>
4	Mrs. Phub Dem	Member	Olakha <i>Tshogpa</i>
5	Mr. Kuenga Yonten	Member	Absent
6	Mr. Rinzin Dorji	Member	Changangkha <i>Tshogpa</i>
7	Mrs. Dorji Dema	Member	Motithang <i>Tshogpa</i>
8	Mr. Ugyen Penjore	Member	Jungzhina <i>Tshogpa</i>
9	Mr. Ugyen	Member	Taba-Dechencholing <i>Tshogpa</i>

Invitees

1	Mr. Kinley Penjor	Specialist
2	Mr. Karma Jamtsho	Chief Engineer
3	Mr. Yeshe Wangdi	Offtg. Chief Environment Officer
4	Mr. Sonam Dorjee	Chief Adm. Officer
5	Mr. Thinley Norbu	Chief Urban Planner
6	Mr. Ugyen Dorji	Urban Planner
7	Mr. Ugyen Dorji Tshechu	Legal Officer
8	Mr. Palden Khandu	Chief DCD
9	Mr. Udeshe Chhetri	Sr. Accounts Officer
10	Mr. Oma Pati Puitel	ICT Officer
11	Mr. Dorji Phurpa	Asst. Adm. Officer

Opening Remarks

Chairperson welcomed and thanked all the members of the council and the officials from Thromde Office for their presence in the 10th Thromde Tshogde Meeting after Three months. Chairperson also informed the floor that the status and work progress of Thimphu Thromde within the Three months, The Urban Planning Division had a consultative meeting with the people of Simtokha on the Local Area Plan of Simtokha E4, which has been accepted by the people, the long delay of Bus Terminal at Olakha also had a meeting

Agenda 2. Revenue Collection and Budget for Financial year 2018-2019

The list of Tax defaulter of private and Government/ Private Institutions with revenue Head wise details collected, monthly consolidated till 15th February, 2018 and forecast of the revenue collection was presented to the House by the ICT officer for status of implementation and direction. Also the Current and capital Budget for the financial year 2018-2019 was presented to the members for endorsement.

Decision:

The Thromde Tshogde endorsed the budget proposal which needs to be submitted to Department of Budget for incorporation and with regards to the Tax defaulters, the Tshogde management directed Urban Planning Division and Land section to coordinate to find out the land acreage of those institutions who have not paid the tax so far to Thromde and forward to Ministry of Finance for incorporation of budget to the individual Institutions for yearly taxes.

The Tshogde directed the concern division that for next financial year 2018-2019, all tendering process should be out from March, 2018 and award the work by the beginning of the financial year 2018-2019. For time being the budget may be pre-financed for the works awarded from reserved fund and reimburse it later when budget release from DNB. The Tshogde also approved the decision made by the 13th Management with regard to inclusion of entertainment budget for all Division Chiefs and for Specialist at Nu 10,000 per year under FIC 18.01 starting 2018-2019 FY.

Agenda 3. Voucher allowance

The need for voucher allowance to all the Thromde officials was felt by the management looking at the nature of the work and asked the Administration and Finance Division to work out the details of every officials entitle to have the voucher allowance and directed to categories the entitlement of Nu. 700/-, Nu. 500/- and Nu. 300/- and it was presented to the Thromde Tshogde.

Decision:

The Tshogde in principle approved the voucher allowance for Division Chiefs and Tshogde Thuemi as Nu. 700/- and directed the AFD to rework the proposal by looking at the nature of the work for Nu. 500/- and Nu.300/-. This allowance will be effect from 1st July, 2018 of the 12th FYP.

Agenda 4: Balance amount of Nu. 22,350/- from the purchase of the gift to be refunded to Revenue

The Chief Administrative Officer informed the floor that this is in line with the proposal to provide farewell gift worth Nu.5,000 from Reserve Fund which was approved during the 9th Thromde Tshogde of 2nd Council. The gifts were provided to the 32 outgoing officials and had a balance amount of Nu. 22,350/-. The Administration and Finance Division seek approval to use the balance amount for dinner in the 12th Management Meeting. The management that this might not be the appropriate idea to use the amount for dinner, as it is

approved by the Tshogde and directed to put up to the coming Thromde Tshogde to reimburse back to the Revenue

Decision:

The Tshogde endorsed the balance amount to be refunded back to the Revenue.

Agenda 5:

The AFD has presented to the *Tshogde*, some of the old machineries and equipment for approval for auctioning. The *Tshogde* based on the condition of the machinery list, decided the following.

Sl.No	Vehivle No.	Type	Model	Remarks
1	BG-1-0383	Nissan Compactor Truck	1994	Running
2	BG-1-0490	Mazda Compactor Truck	1994	Running
3	BG-1-0381	Hino Compactor Truck	1994	Off Road
4	BG-1A-0666	Isuzu Compactor Truck	2002	Running
5	BG-1-0370	Dyna Compactor Truck	2002	Running but auto Transmission Gear is not working
6	BG-1A-2134	Thunder Electric Car	2012	Off Road
7	BG-1A-0617	Scooter 4 Stroke	2004	Off Road
8	BG-1-0297	Bike Yamaha RX100	1995	Running
9	BG-1A-1978	Revai Electric Car	2011	Off Road
10	BG-1A-1984	Revai Electric Car	2011	Off Road

Besides the above machineries, *Tshogde* also approved the list of office furniture and equipment as presented by AFD. *Tshogde* also approved and ordered to form a committee consisting of one *Thuemi*. The old scrapes in crematorium and in and around *Thromde* including old streetlight posts and accessories will have to be listed and auction together with the above list. The sitting fee for the committee member present during the auction is also approved.

Agenda 6: 50% of fines collected from cattle as incentives

Discussion: The Administration and Finance Division informed the floor, with regards to the stray animals roaming within the Thromde, which we impound and keep them at Changangkha cattle pound. The proposal to the house is that if the cattle catcher are entitled to have the 50% of fines collected from the stray cattle and horses as incentives, whereby this will help/boost them to work hard during the weekdays and off hour time too which could make our Thromde clean and green. The AFD inform the floor about the 2016-2017 collected and deposited from the stray cattle and Horses is about Nu. 117,500/-.

The Taba Dechencholing Tshogpa inform the floor that, as per the decision of the 9th Thromde Tshogde meeting that cattle pound at Dechencholing has been completed and is fully operational. The Tshogpa supports the proposal and initiative taken by the AFD, also asked the house that the decision taken in precious Tshogde meeting to be implemented hereafter.

Decision: The House deliberated the issue and decided to approve the proposal of 50% incentive from the fine collected from Nu. 500/- per cattle with effect from 1st March, 2018 and every month collection of fines to be presented to Thromde Tshogde for endorsement.

Agenda 7: Thai Pavilion and Ozone Park Management (Toilet/Cleaning/Greening/Security) to Dr. Toilet.

Discussion: The offtg. Chief Environment Officer inform the House that most of the agendas were discussed and approved in the management meeting but with regards to Thai Pavilion and Ozone Park for fully functional with park beautification, greening, cleaning of Toilet were accepted by Dr. Toilet, but there request for the increase in the fee for using the toilets.

Decision: Upon detailed deliberation the house approved the management of Thai Pavilion and Ozone Park by Dr. Toilet with the increase in the fee as Nu. 5/- and Nu.10/- respectively.

Agenda 8: Presentation on Bus Terminal land acquisition/Simtokha&Babesa E4 LAP and Norzin Lam Predestination.

Discussion: The Urban Planning Division presented to the house that the major works entrusted to UPD are Shifting of BOD's, Norzin lam Predestination, Bus Terminal and Simtokha/Babesa E4 LAP. This was presented to the Tshogde endorsement.

The Urban Planner presented the status of each project through presentation as follows:

1. Bus Terminal.

The House was presented with the detailed background of the proposed Inter Bus Terminal with TSP vision and objectives with chronology of past activities carried out by Thimphu Thromde with the Stakeholders and other relevant agencies. The Thimphu Thromde have conducted numerous Stakeholder meeting and agreed to the land acquisition proposal based on the PAVA rate of 2017.

2. Norzin Lam Predestination:

The House was presented with the detailed plan of the Norzin lam and recommended to carried out the plan phase wise as proposed, Phase I from BOD to Traffic keeping in mind to safeguard the corridor along Norzin Lam and is facing the risk of losing the element if failed to take action to preserve the corridor under the pressure of rapid urban development. Also doing away the car parking once the MLCP completed.

3. Simtokha/Babesa E4 LAP:

The House was presented with the detailed plan and scenario of before and after the E4 plan. The Detailed survey is completed and had numerous meeting with the landowners for implementation of the project.

Decision

The Tshogde endorsed the plans for construction of Bus Terminal, Norzin Lam pedestrianization and Semtokha/Babesa E4 LAP.

Action - UPD

Agenda 9: Estimates for the underground for shop behind Norling Parking (Nu. 1,000,000)

Discussion: Chief Engineer, Infrastructure Division informed the House that as instructed by the management the estimates for the underground shop behind Norling Parking is under process and request the House to approve the budget of Nu. 1.00 million for the shop which includes attached toilets also.

Decision: The House approved the estimates as proposed and directed the Infrastructure Division to expedite the design and tender out as soon as possible.

Action: Chief Engineer, ID

Agenda 10: Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite for Dechencholing Water Treatment Plant (Nu.158,400)

Discussion: Liquid Sodium Hypochlorite is required for Dechencholing Water Treatment Plant as the available stock is nearing exhaustion and since there is no adequate budget provision under the Operation and Maintenance of Water supply, it is proposed to purchase the liquid Sodium Hypochlorite amounting to Nu. 158,400.00 charged to the Reserved Fund.

Decision: The members supported and approved to use it from Reserved Fund.

Action: Accounts Section

Agenda 11: The need of Community Police at Dechencholing Dangrina

Discussion: The Dechencholing Thuemi inform the house that at present the Dechencholing area is very peace and harmony because of the Thimphu Thromde support. The situation will change when the development takes places in the LAPs with increase in crimes. With looking at the situation there is need to have a community police which will drastically decrease crimes and help people living there.

Decision: The Thrompon inform the floor that the 12th Five Year Plan is planned based on the priority of community so Thimphu Thromde can build the community house in 12th FYP and give it to Police. The Thromde can write to Chief of Police as Thromde is planning to build the community house at Neighborhood Nood which we need support from the Police Department. The plan and budget needs to be incorporated in the 12th FYP.

Agenda 12: Seeking clarification on the primary school at Dechencholing.

Discussion: The Dechencholing Thuemi inform the floor that when we are having the 12th FYP sensitization meeting, the Education sector inform that the for Army children school should not be far from the Army campus and Dhangrina was selected for the construction of School which is not as far as 1KM from the Army campus which will help and ease other school within the Thromde and request the Thromde Tshogde to approved the proposal.

Decision: After much deliberation, the committee felt that the need of primary school is necessary which will ease the Dechencholing Lower Secondary School and lots of private

buildings are coming up at the area. The Management will discussed with the Ministry of Education. The school might not be fulfilled in first five year plan but will make it happen in the second year of the 12th Five year plan.

Action: Education Section

Agenda 13: APIC Land Lease

Discussion:

Decision: The committee approved the land lease of APIC as per the decision of the 25th Thromde Tshogde at Nu.4/- per square feet. .

Agenda 14: How the charges of drinking water have been decided and on what basis it has been charged?

Is it as per the land pooling agreements at Babesa LAP and Simtokha LAP?

Sewerage tax has been imposed as well where there is no sewerage connections made.

Decision: The committee inform the floor that the detail discussion of the meeting to be reflected and conveyed to the general public. If it is not happening the concern thuemis can direct the public to the management for clarification. For Sewerage, with water meter connected the building owner can avail once free cleaning of their septic tank in a year. Sewerage tank will be provided as approved in the previous Tshogde minutes.

Agenda 15: Proposal for the allocation of the budget for Ex-country tour.

Discussion: The seven Thuemis proposed for an Ex-country tour which they can learn and implement the ideas for the development of their respective Demkhong and Thimphu Thromde at large.

Decision: Tshogde approved the tour for all seven thuemis to Malaysia or South Korea with 100% DSA from the internal revenue.

Agenda 16: As per the Local Government Act a copy of Tshogde meeting minutes shall be handed over to the Thuemis on time.

Decision: The committee all agreed that the minutes of the Thromde Tshogde will be circulated to all the Thuemis at the earliest.

Agenda 17: No result and outcome by those who went for Ex-country tour and training.

Discussion: The members shared their concerns with regard to ex-country training and tour opportunities availed by Thromde staff and there output here in Thromde. It has been observed that there are cases where the training opportunities are availed for no reason because no outcome has been observed. Therefore, the Tshogde cautioned the HRC that the training opportunities have to be provided in fair and just manner for those who work and make sure that such opportunities are not wasted.

Action - HRC

Agenda 18: The fee and charges collection report of respective Demkhongs to be given to the Thuemis

The Thuemis have reported to the Tshogde that people are complaining that they are made to pay taxes without having proper facilities like in any other City areas. In some of the areas, there are places where the roads are inaccessible and still the plot owners are made to pay taxes like vacant/under development taxes. The request of the people is to do away with the collection of certain service taxes where the services are not provided.

The Chair informed that people will have to be informed that compared to last five years, today people are enjoying one or more of Thromde services. Thromde has been trying to provide all basic services to the people but people will have to have patience as it takes time to develop the area. In supplement to this, the member secretary informed that according to the taxation policy, as a citizen of a Bhutan, we will have to bear in mind that it is not necessary to receive services in return of taxes. The people in Thimphu District and those in Tashigang districts pay equal land taxes but the land value in Thimphu is very high. These are some of the facts that people will have to bear in mind while paying taxes. The Legal Officer clarified that the vacant tax and under development tax are same in response to some members raising issues on the terminologies.

Decision

The Tshogde decided that Thromde will have to carry out a survey and find out why the plots have been left underdeveloped or vacant. If it is due to Thromde not providing basic services, Thromde will have to provide such services.

Action – UPD/ID

Agenda 19: The collection of fee or tax is not applicable for the areas where services are not available.

This was raised by the Thuemis with regard to collection of amenity fees. The Thuemis informed that it will have to be made very clear as what all things come under this amenity fees. The Chair informed that usually under this fee head, streetlights, footpath, drains, etc are included. The Thuemi informed that when people ask such clarifications, they are left with no answers. Therefore, it would be better if Thromde could spell out in detail the various heads of tax or fee collection at the time collection.

Decision:

Tshogde decided that people will have to be informed on various kinds of tax/fee structure for different areas within Thromde.

Action – AFD

Agenda 20: Preparation of Municipal Report

The member secretary submitted to the Tshogde that it is of paramount importance that Thromde should have its report published which would cover all kinds of Thromde related information including revenue, expenditure, budget and future projections of revenue and expenditure. This will help Thromde make informed planning. Therefore, this is submitted to Tshogde for budgetary support to outsource.

Decision

Tshogde decided to explore the possibilities of recruiting consultants, both national and international specialists and outsource the preparation of Municipal report in detail.

Action – Executive Secretary

Minute recorder – Dorji Phurba, ADM Officer