

LC Paper No. FC301/15-16

Ref : FC/1/1

Finance Committee of the Legislative Council

Minutes of the special meeting held at Conference Room 1 of the Legislative Council Complex on Friday, 15 April 2016, at 5:45 pm

Members present:

Hon CHAN Vin non DDC ID (Chairman)
Hon CHAN Kin-por, BBS, JP (Chairman)
Hon CHAN Kam-lam, SBS, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Hon Albert HO Chun-yan
Hon LEE Cheuk-yan
Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP
Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP
Hon Abraham SHEK Lai-him, GBS, JP
Hon Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan, GBS, JP
Hon Frederick FUNG Kin-kee, SBS, JP
Hon Vincent FANG Kang, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-hing, BBS, MH
Prof Hon Joseph LEE Kok-long, SBS, JP, PhD, RN
Hon Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung, GBS, JP
Hon Andrew LEUNG Kwan-yuen, GBS, JP
Hon WONG Ting-kwong, SBS, JP
Hon Starry LEE Wai-king, JP
Dr Hon LAM Tai-fai, SBS, JP
Hon CHAN Hak-kan, JP
Dr Hon Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun, SBS, JP
Hon WONG Kwok-kin, SBS
Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP
Hon Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee, GBS, JP
Hon Alan LEONG Kah-kit, SC
Hon LEUNG Kwok-hung
Hon Albert CHAN Wai-yip
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Hon WONG Yuk-man Hon Claudia MO Hon Michael TIEN Puk-sun, BBS, JP Hon NG Leung-sing, SBS, JP Hon Steven HO Chun-yin, BBS Hon Frankie YICK Chi-ming, JP Hon WU Chi-wai, MH Hon YIU Si-wing, BBS Hon Gary FAN Kwok-wai Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP Hon Charles Peter MOK, JP Hon CHAN Chi-chuen Hon CHAN Han-pan, JP Hon CHAN Yuen-han, SBS, JP Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, BBS, JP Hon KWOK Wai-keung Hon Dennis KWOK Hon Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung, SBS, JP Dr Hon Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung Hon SIN Chung-kai, SBS, JP Dr Hon Helena WONG Pik-wan Hon IP Kin-yuen Dr Hon Elizabeth QUAT, JP Hon Martin LIAO Cheung-kong, SBS, JP Hon POON Siu-ping, BBS, MH Hon TANG Ka-piu, JP Dr Hon CHIANG Lai-wan, JP Ir Dr Hon LO Wai-kwok, SBS, MH, JP Hon Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun, BBS, MH, JP Hon Tony TSE Wai-chuen, BBS Hon Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu

Members absent:

Hon James TO Kun-sun Hon LEUNG Yiu-chung Dr Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan, JP Dr Hon LEUNG Ka-lau Hon CHEUNG Kwok-che Hon Paul TSE Wai-chun, JP Hon James TIEN Pei-chun, GBS, JP Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok Hon Kenneth LEUNG Dr Hon KWOK Ka-ki Hon CHUNG Kwok-pan

Clerk in attendance:

Ms Anita SIT

Assistant Secretary General 1

Staff in attendance:

Mr Ken WOO Mr Keith WONG Mr Raymond SZETO Miss Queenie LAM Ms Michelle NIEN Miss Yannes HO Senior Council Secretary (1)5 Council Secretary (1)5 Council Secretary (1)6 Senior Legislative Assistant (1)2 Legislative Assistant (1)5 Legislative Assistant (1)6

<u>Action</u>

Item No. 3 – MOTION SEEKING THE FINANCE COMMITTEE TO EXPRESS NO CONFIDENCE IN THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: "THAT THIS COMMITTEE HAS NO CONFIDENCE IN THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, HON CHAN KAM-LAM"

<u>Mr Andrew LEUNG</u>, the member who presided at the meeting, said that the Finance Committee ("FC") would continue to deal with the motion of no confidence in the Deputy Chairman, Mr CHAN Kam-lam, moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG.

2. <u>Mr Alvin YEUNG, Mr CHAN Chi-chuen, Mr Albert CHAN, Mr LEE</u> <u>Cheuk-yan and Ms Emily LAU</u> spoke in support of the motion moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG. These members suspected that the Deputy Chairman, Mr CHAN Kam-lam, had been given a political task of approving the application for additional funding for the Hong Kong section of the Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong Express Rail Link ("XRL"). This could be demonstrated by his decision to limit the number of questions on the item that could be raised by members and the number of motions that could be proposed by members under paragraph 37A of the Finance Committee Procedure ("37A motions") as well as the hasty manner in approving the funding application

despite the fact that some members had raised their hands both in support of and in opposition to the funding proposal. These members considered that the FC should express no confidence in the Deputy Chairman because he failed to adopt an impartial approach in presiding at the deliberation of the additional funding application for the Hong Kong section of the XRL and he distorted the interpretation of the Rules of Procedure and the Finance Committee Procedure, thereby depriving members of their rights to monitor the Government. Mr Alvin YEUNG pointed out that after gaining a seat in the Legislative Council through the by-election in March 2016 and becoming a member of the FC, he had written a letter to the Deputy Chairman and requested to raise questions on the item, and the Deputy Chairman replied that he would only be given seven minutes to ask questions when the FC finished dealing with the He was dissatisfied with the decision made by the Deputy 37A motions. Chairman as well as the Deputy Chairman's failure to provide justification for imposing the relevant time limit.

3. <u>Ms Starry LEE, Mr YIU Si-wing, Mr TAM Yiu-chung, Mr IP</u> <u>Kwok-him, Mr WONG Ting-kwong and Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok</u> spoke against the motion moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG. These members said that during the deliberation of the additional funding application for the Hong Kong section of the XRL, members from the opposition camp had clearly indicated that they would drag on and defeat the item and these members, therefore, suspected that there would be criticisms from members from the opposition camp regardless of who presided at the deliberation of that item and no matter how sufficient time was given to the deliberation process. These members commended the Deputy Chairman, Mr CHAN Kam-lam, for showing dedication and courage in face of the highly controversial item as well as the personal attacks made by members from the opposition camp. They also gave recognition to the impartiality of the Deputy Chairman in presiding at meetings and his judgment.

4. In response to the remarks of members, <u>the Deputy Chairman</u>, <u>Mr CHAN Kam-lam</u>, reiterated that he had acted in full compliance with the Rules of Procedure and the Finance Committee Procedure when presiding at the deliberation of the additional funding application for the Hong Kong section of the XRL . He was disappointed that some members had made unreasonable accusations against him. He indicated that he would continue to discharge his duty as the Deputy Chairman in a fearless manner and he would continue to safeguard the justice and order of the Council.

5. Dr Fernando CHEUNG criticized in his concluding remarks that the pro-establishment members who had spoken on the motion were confounding He also criticized the Deputy Chairman, Mr CHAN right with wrong. Kam-lam, again for imposing restrictions on members to speak when presiding at the deliberation of the additional funding application for the Hong Kong section of the XRL, which seriously deprived members of their rights to monitor the use of public money by the Government.

6. Mr Andrew LEUNG put the motion of no confidence in the Deputy Chairman, Mr CHAN Kam-lam, moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG, to vote. At the request of Dr CHEUNG, Mr LEUNG ordered a division and the division bell was rung for five minutes. Mr LEUNG announced that 17 members voted in favour of and 33 members voted against the motion. The votes of individual members were as follows -

For: Mr LEE Cheuk-yan Mr Frederick FUNG Kin-kee Mr Alan LEONG Kah-kit Mr Albert CHAN Wai-yip Ms Claudia MO Mr Gary FAN Kwok-wai Mr CHAN Chi-chuen Dr Helena WONG Pik-wan Mr Alvin YEUNG Ngok-kiu (17 members)

Against: Mr TAM Yiu-chung Mr Tommy CHEUNG Yu-yan Mr WONG Kwok-hing Mr WONG Ting-kwong Mr CHAN Hak-kan Mr WONG Kwok-kin Mrs Regina IP LAU Suk-yee Mr NG Leung-sing Mr Frankie YICK Chi-ming Mr MA Fung-kwok Miss CHAN Yuen-han Miss Alice MAK Mei-kuen Mr Christopher CHEUNG Wah-fung Dr Elizabeth QUAT Mr Martin LIAO Cheung-kong Mr TANG Ka-piu

Ir Dr LO Wai-kwok

Ms Emily LAU Wai-hing Prof Joseph LEE Kok-long Mr LEUNG Kwok-hung Mr WONG Yuk-man Mr WU Chi-wai Mr Charles Peter MOK Dr Fernando CHEUNG Chiu-hung Mr IP Kin-yuen

Mr Abraham SHEK Lai-him Mr Vincent FANG Kang Mr Jeffrey LAM Kin-fung Ms Starry LEE Wai-king Dr Priscilla LEUNG Mei-fun Mr IP Kwok-him Mr Michael TIEN Puk-sun Mr Steven HO Chun-yin Mr YIU Si-wing Mr CHAN Han-pan Mr LEUNG Che-cheung Mr KWOK Wai-keung Mr POON Siu-ping Dr CHIANG Lai-wan Mr Christopher CHUNG Shu-kun Mr Tony TSE Wai-chuen (33 members)

7. <u>Mr Andrew LEUNG</u> announced that the motion moved by Dr Fernando CHEUNG was negatived by the FC and that the meeting be adjourned.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 pm.

Legislative Council Secretariat 1 September 2016