



POLITICS

Jordina Bringué takes the oath of office as Councilor of the Municipality of Ordino

In last Thursday's session, the different commissions and the holders who make up each one were appointed

Dolsa is waiting for the response of the Constitutional Court to bring Grifols to Strasbourg

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Last Thursday, the first session of the Municipal Council of the new mandate (2024-2027) and of the year was held in which all the positions were present. The minister of the minority, Jordina Bringué, took the oath of office, since she could not attend the day of the oath. During the session, the new Board of Governors was approved, which will integrate the new majority made up of eight councilors, the various commissions and their holders were appointed, and the communal auditor, Joan Anglada, was sworn in. The Consul Major, Maria del Mar Coma, expressed the desire to start working immediately on the budget that is expected to be approved during the first quarter of the year. One of the most outstanding novelties is the creation of the

One of the novelties is the creation of the Ministry of Participation to give more voice to citizens

Department of Participation and Associationism to give more voice and involve citizens.

With regard to the composition of the permanent commissions and the presidencies, they highlight the importance of Works, Urbanism and Cadaster, chaired by Maria del Mar Coma with the junior consul of Ordino, Eduard Betriu, as vice-president. Betriu will repeat the Agriculture, Environment and Sustainability commission, which will once again be in charge, another of the pillars on which the municipal management will be based for the next four years.

The Works, Urbanism and Cadaster commission is made up of Coma as president, Betriu as vice-president, and Àlex Gaspà, Ludovic Albós, Monica Armengol and Enric Dolsa as members. Gaspà is also the president of the Maintenance and Services committee, Betriu as vice president and M. Cristina Montolio, Jordi Serracanta and Dolsa as members. As for the Circulation commission, Be-



► The councilor for the minority, Jordina Bringué, greeting councilor Enric Dolsa after he had taken the oath of office in the Municipal Council session.

«What I don't understand is why we cling to Grifols in this way»

► In the statements following the session of the Ordino Municipal Council, the councilor of the minority, Enric Dolsa, was asked about the latest news that has come out about Grifols. This is an issue that everyone has been talking about for a few days, «except for the head of government who still thinks it's not like that. But maybe it has privileged information that the other media don't have», commented Dolsa. What the minority councilor really doesn't understand «is why we cling to Grifols in this way, there are things that people in general don't know and I, in par-

ticular, don't know either», detailed Dolsa. «We are against the project, but not Grifols», specified the councilor of the minority. But what is clear, as expressed by Dolsa, is that at this moment, «those of us who do not want Grifols or Laboratory P3, this benefits us». In fact, at this moment, Dolsa has entered the process of appeal to the Constitutional Court, because it seems that «I am not legitimized by anything» and as soon as the Constitutional Court gives him the answer, he will take it to Strasbourg. «Because I keep thinking and the lawyers from outside here too, that the contract that was

signed with Grifols and the Government, at that time could not be signed because it contradicted three laws and other things», shared Dolsa. The Executive at that time, hurriedly, asked the General Council to change the three laws and they were changed. At that time it was not possible to do so and Dolsa made it clear that this is the issue that he has always claimed, but «that no court has wanted to get into the bottom of the matter». Regarding this issue, the Consul Major, Maria del Mar Coma, expressed that «we have to be very careful with what is happening»

triu is the president, accompanied by Gaspà as vice-president and Serracanta, Coma and Dolsa as members. Armengol heads the commission for Education, Culture, Youth and Social Welfare, Meritxell Rabadà is the vice president and she is accompanied as members by Coma, Montolio and Jordina Bringué. The Agriculture, Environment and Sustainability committee is chaired by Betriu, Gaspà as vice-chairman and Albós, Coma and Dolsa as members. In the Tourism, Revitalization and Sports commission the president is Serracanta, Rabadà as vice president and Albós, Armengol and Bringué as members. Finally, the Finance and Budget committee has Albós as president, Coma as vice president and Serracanta, Betriu and Dolsa as members. ≡

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POLITICS

Special agents may retire early after 25 years of service

The majority want pensions of up to twice the minimum wage to be revalued by 4.6%

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Members of the special forces will be able to request early retirement at 25 years of service, and not at 30 as it was until now. This was explained by the general counsel of the Democratic Parliamentary Group, David Montané, at the presentation of the amendments to the Budget project for the year 2024 by the majority groups (Democrats and Ciutadans Compromesos). Going into detail, the amendment will allow special forces (Banders, Customs, Penitentiary, Police and Firefighters) to apply for early retirement after 25 years of service, provided they have made an uninterrupted contribution to the function's pension plan public of 3%.

In total, the majority parliamentary groups have introduced 29 amendments to the budget bill, many of them of a technical nature or to make some corrections, among which is the revaluation of pensions with the Consumer Price Index of all those benefits that are twice below the minimum wage. As explained by the general counsel, the grid establishes that pensions ranging from



► The general counselors of the Democratic Parliamentary Group and the president of the Ciutadans Compromesos Parliamentary Group.

the minimum wage (1,376.27 euros gross monthly) to those higher than twice the minimum wage, will be increased with the CPI, which has been in 4.6%. Those equal to or greater than twice the minimum wage, and up to three times the minimum wage, will increase 50% of the CPI. Those equal to or greater than th-

ree times the minimum wage, and up to four times this minimum wage, will increase by 25% of the CPI. Finally, those equal to or greater than four times the minimum wage (more than 5,000 euros) will not be revalued.

Within this amendment, they have specified that people who are resi-

dents of Andorra or who can prove a minimum of 15 years of contributions to the retirement branch will be able to benefit from these increases.

Another of the amendments is to modify the land law, to extend the term of temporary suspension of urban planning licenses by another six months, «as long as it is justifi-

DAVID MONTANÉ
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARLIAMENTARY GROUP
«We will extend the period of temporary suspension of planning licenses to another six months»

ed and motivated». Currently, it is a maximum of one year while the modifications are made to the Parish Urban Planning Plan.

On the other hand, Councilor Meritxell López reported that they have amended the item for the management of the Kennel to increase it by 18,376 euros. Finally, the president of the Ciutadans Compromesos group, Carles Naudi, underlined the amendments related to the expansion of the item for the National Slaughterhouse, by 6,600 euros; the one that expands, with one more person, the Department of Statistics; and the amendment that exempts employers and self-employed people who invoice less than 150,000 euros from the presentation of the account deposit. ≡

The PS wants to invest in a mental health center

They believe it is an urgent project due to the increase in cases

MARIA LOZANO
ANDORRA LA VELLA

The Social Democratic Parliamentary Group wants to allocate the amount of the multifunctional to a care center for different chronic mental health conditions. This was explained by the president of the group, Pere Baró, when presenting the 21 amendments to the Bill for the budget for the year 2024. Thus, the bill invests 33,940,000 euros in the construction of the multifunctional complex in multi-year installments for 2025, 2026

and 2027, in which 16 million euros are also to be allocated to the Building project for chronic mental illnesses. From the PS they believe that this is an urgent project due to the increase in cases of peo-

ple with mental health problems: «We are at a time when mental health is very important, and there are many cases of young people and adults with problems», detailed Baró. The councilor of the par-

liamentary group, Judith Salazar, also gave her opinion on this issue: «The resources allocated are not enough, the situation will get more and more complicated», adding that «for us, people are more important than a multifunctional project».

HOUSING// On the other hand, the social democrats propose adding a new article to the Budget for 2024, which contains Resolution proposals that they presented during the monographic debate, approved as the creation of the Housing Fund for affordable public protection, the expansion of the public park, in addition to establishing a new call for aid for housing. And it is that the councilor of the parliamentary group, Susanna Vela, added that the change of attitude regarding housing in the General Council has been because «we have recently had two quite vigorous de-

monstrations, and this is evidence of what we have been doing for some time saying», and added that «we are asking to make public policies with some advance notice».

PENSIONS// The social democratic parliamentary group wants to give priority to pensions. Thus, they consider that the remuneration received for widowhood cannot be subject to the age of the surviving spouse, but to the contribution of the deceased person. In fact, Salazar recalled that «eliminating this discrimination is one of the recommendations of the CEDAW established in the study 'Final observations on the fourth periodic report of Andorra'. They also emphasize from the PS that disability pensions must return to their calculation, based on the global average monthly salary of the last two months worked before the causatiHve event. ≡



PERE BARÓ

PRESIDENT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP OF THE PS

«We are at a time when mental health is very important, and there are many cases of young people and adults with problems»

JUDITH SALAZAR

COUNCILOR OF THE PARLIAMENTARY GROUP OF THE PS

«It is not enough with the resources allocated, the situation will get more and more complicated»

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