

**CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION  
MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2011  
6:30 pm**

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Brannelly, M. McCarthy, A. Ayala, Taylor-Moye, \*Brantley, \*Walsh, T. McCarthy, \*Austin, Lyons, dePara, \*Silva, M. Ayala, \*Martinez, Paoletto, Curwen, Baker, Holloway

\*= *arrived late*

ABSENT: Council members: Vizzo-Paniccia, Bonney, Blunt

Council President McCarthy called the public speaking session to order at 6:40 pm.

The city clerk took the roll call and she announced there was a quorum.

*Council President McCarthy announced that one other person signed up tonight to address the council (see below):*

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSONS HAVE REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2011, AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.

**NAME**

**SUBJECT**

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Helen Olga Losak  
304 Bradley Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Investigation of actual residency of all people serving on the City's Boards and Commissions

Ms. Losak spoke about the problem of non-Bridgeport residents serving on the City's boards and commissions. She suggested a council sub-committee be created to conduct residency and voter registration background checks for all members currently serving on city boards and commissions. She felt that non-residents who serve on city boards and commissions directly affect the lives of the people in Bridgeport by their decisions without having their best interest in mind. She cited **The Bridgeport City Charter-Chapter 2 - Section 2: Municipal Elections** that outlined officers to be residents and registered voters of the City of Bridgeport. She concluded to say that actual residency background checks of all board and commission members should be conducted and have non-residents removed to uphold Bridgeport's Charter. She expressed that doing so will prove that Bridgeporter's are of the utmost concern of our elected officials- *statement submitted into the record.*

Clyde Nicholson  
54 Wallace Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06606

Zoning

Mr. Nicholson spoke about being targeted since he spoke out at the last public speaking session. He commended Council member Baker for standing up to Mayor Finch regarding matters that come before the council. He stressed that he pays a lot in taxes every month, yet he's being targeted for a parking issue.

Council President McCarthy suggested that he talk to him after the meeting.

Crystal Mack  
671 Old Town Road  
Bridgeport, CT

Board of Education  
(signed up to speak tonight)

Ms. Mach spoke about crime in the schools. She expressed that there is a fear of the schools becoming a ticking time bomb. She emphasized that there aren't enough teachers to identify with the kids and there aren't enough teachers to teach black history. Her plea was to ask that survival skills be implemented in the schools, quoting that *"If you teach a child how to fish, they'll fish for life"*. She pointed out that there are twenty-eight jails; they have kids that are on medication for mental illness and then they are put in jail for mental illness related issues. She stressed that they needed to look at the system. She further expressed that all children should have an equal opportunity chance and that we all need to stop and reassess ourselves and treat each other like we want to be treated.

Cecil Young  
99 Carroll Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06607

Update of the Attorney General's  
investigation of whistle blowing complaint  
and status regarding sewage condition

Mr. Young stated that for those that recognize him as being an immigrant, he made it clear that he is an American citizen. He went on to say that time after time, he has asked the council to look into the matter of the raw sewage problem in P.T. Barnum, he exclaimed shame on Mayor Finch. He further emphasized that he paid his dues and he has always worked and served the community. He shared that he came from P.T. Barnum Apartments and ran a cadet corp with sixty boys and girls. He stated that he was one of the children left behind because he was off the Richter scale. He mentioned Charles Tisdale and the problem he had with him, because he didn't address the issues they wanted to hear. He further noted that it was a shame that they hired a new health department physician that told them one in five people will come down with asthma associated with the conditions of toxic piles in the city.

He once again mentioned that he never received an apology for the incident that occurred during a city council meeting last year. He emphasized that they have a lot of nerve marching in parades, but they can't seem to address the injustices that occur. He noted that Dr. King would roll over in his grave due to the injustices that occur. He stressed that it wasn't about black or white, it's about wrong and injustices are wrong. Such as the raw

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sewage issue that has never been addressed. He further spoke about filing a grievance for denial of his medical benefits.

The public speaking session ended at 7:10 pm.

# CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, January 3, 2011

7:00 pm.

City Council Chambers, City Hall - 45 Lyon Terrace  
Bridgeport, Connecticut

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Brannelly, M. McCarthy, A. Ayala, Taylor-Moye, Brantley, Walsh, T. McCarthy, Austin, Lyons, dePara, Silva, M. Ayala, Martinez, Paoletto, Curwen, Baker, Holloway

ABSENT: Council members: Vizzo-Paniccia, Bonney, Blunt

Mayor Finch called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Prayer the prayer was offered by Council member Lyons.

Pledge of Allegiance -the pledge was led by Martha Santiago.

Roll Call The Assistant City Clerk took the roll call and she announced there was a quorum.

\*Council member M. McCarthy requested a personal privilege to take a moment of silence for Carlos Bolta who passed away Christmas Eve. It was noted that he was the father of Bonnie Roach.

## MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

### Approval of City Council Minutes: December 6, 2010

\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER A. AYALA SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

\*Council President McCarthy noted that the following council members weren't in attendance tonight: Council member Vizzo-Paniccia; Council member Bonney had a family illness and Council member Blunt.

## COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

**18-10** Communication from Central Grants and Community Development, re U.S. EPA 2010 Greenscaper Grant Program, referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE COMMUNICATION TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE:  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER M. McCARTHY SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

\*Council President McCarthy announced that they were starting a new program in the city council to create a Junior City Council Member Corp. he asked all the council members to identify a member of their district that may be interested in getting involved with the work. He noted that one name per council member should be submitted however, if there is more than one name they wish to submit, it will be discussed. He said the names should be submitted to him.

\*Council member Martinez reminded everyone about a celebration that will take place on January 6, 2011, all are invited.

Mayor Finch recalled that Council member Martinez and members of her social club passed out hundreds of gifts throughout the holiday season. Council member Martinez responded that it was a great event and everyone was happy that they got involved. They had a lot of fun and she thanked all the council members that participated.

\*Council member Paoletto submitted his son's name Anthony Paoletto for a junior council member. The name was acknowledged by Council President McCarthy.

\*Council member A. Ayala stated that he hoped everyone had a good holiday. He announced that he and Council member Taylor-Moye were hosting a gathering at Franklin School Tuesday, January 4 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, where there will be cultural music and food. He invited everyone to attend.

*Council President McCarthy expressed how nice it was to have Council member Taylor-Moye present tonight. All the council members kindly acknowledged her presence.*

Presentation by the National Environmental Hall of Fame Honoring Mayor Bill Finch

Mayor Finch approached the front of council chambers. Carolyn Humphreys who was accompanied by Daphne Dixon and Bob Wall; presented the Mayor with a plaque highlighting all the good work he has initiated for the environment. It was noted that he was worthy of the award and the amazing things that have been accomplished through environmental initiatives and helping to save the planet. *The city council members stood to acknowledge the honor.*

Mayor Finch expressed that the environmental changes were necessary for the children. He thanked the Parks Department, Public Works Department and the education system that teach the kids these lessons daily. He further spoke about fossil fuels and the challenges related to the environment. He commented that this was an opportunity to reach out in the community to implement new green jobs that will enhance the quality of life for everyone. He mentioned that there are many cities in the country doing this and it's

nice for Bridgeport to be recognized. He noted that there are some alternative methods being produced for the betterment of the environment and the future of the planet. Overall, it's a triple bottom line for everyone and he hoped to show the rest of the country the right way to do things. He thanked everyone very much for the honor!

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY MOVED TO ADJOURN  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham  
Telesco Secretarial Services