

**CITY of BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION
NOVEMBER 7, 2011
6:30 PM**

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

ABSENT: Council members: Walsh, Bonney, Blunt, Holloway

Council President McCarthy called the public speaking session to order at 6:35 pm.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2011, AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.

NAME

SUBJECT

Robert E. Halstead
55 Sterling Place
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Community Gardens Property Lease and DEEP Grant.

Mr. Halstead spoke about due diligence regarding Bridgeport Community Land Trust. He mentioned that he was currently the director. He recalled the ECDE meeting when the committee discussed the grant money. He stated that no one from this group was informed about the meeting and according to City Attorney Anastasi; the resolution was tabled until January or February. He said the delay would affect the growing season for next year. He stated that the matter has been held up in city hall for months, noting they didn't receive any CDBG funds, so the grant is the only source of funding. He relayed that Attorney Anastasi also relayed during the meeting that there was some misrepresentation regarding the grant. He requested that Attorney Anastasi specifically address what the misrepresentation involved. He said that Attorney Anastasi informed Barbara Kelly that he misrepresented himself; he emphasized that information was completely false. He felt the statement equated to slander. Council President McCarthy asked Mr. Halstead to submit a copy of his statement was submitted to Tom White.

John Marshall Lee
30 Beacon Street
Bridgeport, CT 06605

signed up to speak prior to the session

Mr. Lee spoke about a variety of topics – *summarized below, statement submitted to the city clerk and council members.*

Mr. Lee read his statement that covered the following topics:

- The abandonment of streets through the creation of a new committee
- City of Bridgeport internal audit staff created by the Ordinance Committee and a proposal to make public an annual report from the Public Purchasing Department.
- City Council member's plans to attend a conference in Arizona to study subjects of municipal governance and related expenses– requested a written report of topics of importance to Bridgeport.
- Bridgeport tax anticipation notes repaid using funds raised from city bonding.

Clyde Nicholson

signed up to speak prior to the session

Mr. Nicholson spoke about the possibility of passing a new law that would require all homeowners to have a fire system installed in their home that would be directly linked to 911. He stated that this could easily be done and he recalled a recent fire tragedy where a child lost their life. He stressed that the incident might have occurred from people being unaware of what to do during a fire. He further mentioned that certifying students that are already in school should receive fire safety classes. He felt the classes would be effective, because the students could bring the information back home. He emphasized that elected officials have a duty to do something, noting that we can all work together to address the problem with urgency to save lives. He relayed the potential hazard from a fire that can quickly get out of control and destroy an adjoining property. He stated that the time is now to do something!

The public speaking session closed at 6:54 pm.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, November 7, 2011

7:00 p.m.

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

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

ABSENT: Council members: Walsh, Bonney, Blunt, Holloway

Mayor Finch called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Prayer - the prayer was offered by Council member Brantley.

Pledge of Allegiance- the pledge was led by Pete Keogh.

Roll Call - the city clerk took the roll and announced there was a quorum.

City Council Citation: Mike Modugno in recognition of service to active duty personnel.

Mayor Finch, Council President McCarthy and Council members A. Ayala and Silva approached the front of council chambers to present the citation.

Council President McCarthy stated that the city council usually recognizes good deeds done by residents in the city. He acknowledged Council member Walsh for sixteen years of service on the city council. He also acknowledged Council member A. Ayala for returning to serve on the city council two years ago - *he presented Council member Ayala with a plaque.*

Mayor Finch expressed his thanks to Council member Anderson Ayala, noting his history to service to the city along with his father Manuel Ayala. He asked him to keep up the good work.

Council member Silva mentioned a special bond he had with Council member Ayala. He recalled that he coached him in basketball as a youth and he expressed that he was glad that he returned to serve on the city council for two years. He wished him luck in the future.

Council member Anderson Ayala thanked the Mayor and council members. He expressed that he served great constituents and he thanked everyone for a great last two years. He said he looked forward to seeing the city move forward. He urged the council members to stay in touch.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Approval of City Council Minutes: October 3, 2011

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

152-10 Communication from City Attorney re Twenty day notice to Settle Litigation pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.10.130: Herbert Gullberg, **ACCEPTED AND MADE PART OF THE RECORD.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER M. McCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER T. McCARTHY SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:

153-10 Communication from Mayor re: Grant Submission: Greater Bridgeport Regional Council (GBRC) for a Regional Performance Incentive Program: Regional Geographic Information System Project **FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

154-10 Communication from Central Grants and Community Development re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut DECD – 2011 Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3 Substantial Amendment (NSP3) **FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER T. McCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AUSTIN SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

Mayor Finch asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent calendar.

There were none heard.

The city clerk read the items into the record.

***58-10** Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendment to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10.20, amend Section 10.20.080 – Qualified Towers – Storage Space, add new Subsection C. - *removed*

***111-10** Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendment to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, amend to add new Chapter to establish a fee for the preparation of an affidavit by the City of Bridgeport Office of Vital Statistics.

Council member Paoletto made a request to remove item *58-10 after the city clerk read the items into the record: ***58-10** Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendment to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 10.20, amend Section 10.20.080 – Qualified Towers – Storage Space, add new Subsection C.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO AMEND ITEM 58-10 AS READ INTO THE RECORD AND SUBMITTED TO THE CITY CLERK AS FOLLOWS:**

AMENDMENT RE: EFFECTIVE DATE

“Effective upon the later to occur of”:

(1) The publication of the ordinance amendment in accordance with Charter, Ch. 5, Sec. 9 (f) or

(2) The expiration of the thirty (30) days written notice to towers required by Code Sec. 10-20-200.

Council member Paoletto stated that the city attorney determined the amended language was required following the committee meeting.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BAKER SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BAKER SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- *112-10** Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendment to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, to add new Chapter to establish a fee for all genealogical searches in the Office of Vital Statistics.
- *146-10** Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Appointment of Reginald Norman (U) to the Police Commission.
- *65-10** Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State Department of Transportation for 2011-2012 Dial-A-Ride Program.
- *124-10** Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Disposition of City Owned Properties to Habitat for Humanity.
- *136-10** Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State Department of Social Services for 2011-2012 Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Grant (SNAP).
- *137-10** Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State Department of Social Services for 2011-2012 Social Services Block Grant (SSBG).
- *138-10** Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: Connecticut State Library for a 2012 Historic Documents Preservation Grant Program.
- *123-10** Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Jeffrey Burr (R) to the Harbor Commission.
- *150-10** Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: Budget Transfer for FY 2011-2012 for City Clerk From: City Required Reserve Account To: Salaries and Wages Account (\$47,859).

***151-10** Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: Resolution to establish the review of the Monthly Financial Report as a standing agenda item for the regular monthly meetings of the City Council.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER T. McCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE REMAINING CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:

148-10 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Change to Civil Service Commission Rule XV – Preference Points.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER A. AYALA MOVED TO APPROVE**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED**

Council member Baker stated the resolution was a well thought out gesture. He expressed it would be a good thing for kids coming out of college and it may provide an advantage for job opportunities to Bridgeport residents.

Council member Vizzo-Paniccia stated that the matter was discussed in committee. She noted that there was one council member in opposition and the item passed. She said details of the item were fully explained by the representative that attended the meeting. She urged approval of the item.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Other business:

Council member T. McCarthy wished everyone well on the election Tuesday.

Mayor Finch updated that the city held a clean up day over the weekend at Coleman Park and Pequonnock Park; he noted that plenty of trees were planted.

ADDED ADDENDUM ITEM:

MATTERS TO BE ACED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR)

147-10 Contracts Committee Report re: License Agreement with Community Health Network of Connecticut Foundation to occupy space on the third floor of the Department of Health and Social Services Building, 752 East Main Street.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER T. McCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AUSTIN SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER T. McCARTHY SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham
Telesco Secretarial Services