

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 3, 2010
REVISED**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Finch called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PRAYER

Mayor Finch asked Council Member Walsh to lead those assembled in a prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Finch asked City Clerk Fleeta C. Hudson to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Ms. Hudson called the roll. The following Council Members were present:

130th-Martin McCarthy, Susan Brannelly
131st- Denise Taylor-Moye, Anderson Ayala
132nd- M. Evette Brantley, Robert Walsh
134th- AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia
135th- Warren Blunt, Michelle Lyons
136th- Angel dePara, Carlos Silva
137th- Lydia Martinez, Manuel Ayala
138th- Robert Curwen, Richard Paoletto
139th- Andre Baker, James Holloway

Ms. Hudson stated that a quorum was present. Council Member Silva said that Council Member Austin was not able to be present due to illness and Council Member McCarthy was out of town on business.

**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION: DR. BANDARU REDDY THE VETERINARIAN
FOR THE BRIDGEPORT ANIMAL SHELTER FOR MANY YEARS OF
SERVICE**

Mayor Finch invited Dr. Reddy and his wife to the front of the council for recognition. Mayor Finch spoke about the history and importance of the animal shelter and said Bridgeport Animal Shelter has more adoptions than the New Haven and Hartford shelters combined.

Council Member Silva agreed. The Official Citation was offered to Dr. Reddy when Mayor Finch recognized that his office had not prepared him with the correct citation to give and explained to Dr. Reddy that he would get it to him at a later date. Dr. Reddy spoke in thanks to the city, the council, and his wife. Council Member Holloway spoke in thanks to Dr. Reddy.

MAYORAL PROCLAMATION: HONORING THE LATE JOSE CHICO RIVERA

Mayor Finch invited Rivera's family to come to the front of the council for recognition. He presented Rivera's wife with an Official Citation and declared May 3, 2010 as Chico Rivera Day in Bridgeport, CT. Council Member Anderson Ayala spoke in recognition. Council Member Holloway also spoke in recognition of Mr. Rivera.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL

Approval of City Council Minutes: April 5, 2010

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 5, 2010**
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER SILVA SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER DEPARA MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES.**

67-09 COMMUNICATION FROM LABOR RELATIONS RE PROPOSED TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WITH AFSCME, LOCAL 1303-272, CITY ATTORNEY'S UNION, REFERRED TO CONTRACT COMMITTEE.

72-09 COMMUNICATION FROM HUMAN SERVICES RE GRANT SUBMISSION: 2010 NEIGHBORHOOD ASSISTANCE ACT, REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

73-09 COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR RE APPOINTMENT OF ANNE PAPPAS PHILLIPS (D) TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

74-09 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RE SECTION 108 SEAVIEW PLAZA PROJECT: PROPOSED SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO THE CITY'S CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:

**** COUNCIL MEMBER DEPARA MOVED THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE TAKEN UNDER IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:**

68-09 COMMUNICATION FROM ENGINEERING RE AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, INSPECTION, AND MAINTENANCE OF PAVEMENT REHABILITATION IMPROVEMENTS ON IRANISTAN AVENUE AND CAPITOL AVENUE UTILIZING FEERAL FUNDS UNDER THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT OF 2009 PUBLIC LAW 111-5: STATE PROJECT # 15-343; FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. 1015(119)

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SILVA SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member Holloway discussed that he was concerned that it will meet the standards of the city. Mayor Finch explained that it was part of the resolution.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE TAKEN UNDER IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:**

69-09 COMMUNICATION FROM ENGINEERING RE SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT WITH VANASSE HANGEN BRUSTLIN, INC. FOR CONSULTING SERVICES FOR THE COMPUTERIZATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS: STATE PROJECT NO. 15-310, FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. STPB-000R(303)

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE TAKEN UNDER IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:**

71-09 COMMUNICATION FROM ENGINEERING RE SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL TO THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CONTRACT PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES FOR THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL MODERNIZATION AT VARIOUS LOCATIONS UTILIZING FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER THE URBAN COMPONENT OF THE SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM: STATE PROJECT NO. 15-310, FEDERAL-AID PROJECT NO. STPB-000R(303)

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, ETC.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED THAT THE FOLLOWING ITEM BE REFERRED TO THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE:**

70-09 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY RE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 8.76 ANTI-BLIGHT PROGRAM, AMEND SECTION 8.76.040 ENFORCEMENT SUBSECTION A, REFERRED TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

**** COUNCIL MEMBER A. AYALA SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:**

48-09(B) ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL COE OF ORDINANCES AMENDED TO ADD NEW CHAPTER 8.77 EAST SIDE NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION ZONE

47-09(PHO) ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE DISPOSITION OF CITY OWNED PROPERTIES (FIVE PARCELS) TO HABITAT FOR HUMANITY (REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING)

48-09(A) ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE EAST SIDE NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION ZONE PLAN

52-09 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF DIRECTORS OF HEALTH (CADH) FOR 2009-2010 CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION AND CONTROL CONTRACT.

55-09 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE RE GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR 2009-2010 PER CAPITA GRANT

35-09 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS

42-09 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE APPOINTMENT OF LIZETTE GARAY (D) TO THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

51-09 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE STATE REIMBURSEMENT OF LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING TAX

**** COUNCIL MEMBER DEPARA SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:

34-09 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CITY COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE ON STEEL POINT DENIED

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED THE ITEM.
** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY SECONDED.**

Council Member Holloway discussed why the procedure was to vote on a motion of deny. The committee is charged on referral with the power to act in the vested body. City Council Attorney Mark Anastasi answered that the committee makes the recommendation, and the council may not act on the matter absent a committee recommendation. A 2/3 vote is necessary when not a referral. The council votes by majority to sustain the recommendation of denial. Mayor Finch expressed intent to have

rules for the committee and structure clear. Council Member Baker discussed that he considers Bridgeport law and recommends the motion be overturned. He added that history makes clear why it should be overturned. He makes a plea to have the committee take oversight of the details. Council Member Holloway also pleads and makes the case that the committee helped in the case of the Bluefish Stadium and the Dog Track. Perhaps a standing committee is not needed but certainly a special committee or else the city will lose money on the project because of the disorganized and loss of time elements potential with the project.

Council Member Moye made discussion on why the council is not better informed on the project. The committee may not be necessary but the council should be getting regular reports on the project. She said she stands with the denial.

Council Member Martinez agreed with Council Members Baker and Holloway that creating a committee would not hurt but only add to the discipline of the project at the East Side is highly invested in this project. Council Member Moye made the point that it is not a geographic concern because it is a city project. Council Member Brantely expressed confusion with why the city is waiting. Mayor Finch offered a vote against the motion. The council was unsure whether it wanted to take a vote.

Council Member Holloway stressed that a special committee was necessary to get what was needed from the project. He made example of \$15 million lost on the Harbor Yard project and that this project is important enough to warrant a special committee. Mayor Finch said that debate on this topic was important but committees must be created at the beginning of the year. The council must adhere to council rules and established procedure or else it would go against itself. He requested that the council table the matter until President McCarthy return. Council Member Walsh supported tabling the debate. He stated that although the East Side and East End have a higher vested interest in this project than rest of the city, the council should be on top of this project. The council should be receiving progress reports as the procedural rules already establish. Council Member Brannelly agreed that the Economic Development Committee should be the one to receive the progress reports and have the project as a regular agenda item at its meetings.

Council Member Baker added that special committee would give leverage to this new project. Council Member Brantley again requested a roll call vote to deny the denial. Council Member Silva said only the President of the council can do that. Council Member Curwen corrected that the only the President of the Council can make a special committee but council can vote on the motion.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO QUESTION**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** CITY CLERK HUDSON CALLED A ROLL CALL VOTE:
** MOTION CARRIED WITH FIFTEEN VOTES IN FAVOR AND TWO
** VOTES IN OPPOSITION (WALSH AND BLUNT).**

NEW MATTERS FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION:

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES SO
** THAT THREE ITEMS THAT REQUIRE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION BE
** BROUGHT BEFORE THE COUNCIL
** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.
** MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**60-09 APPROVAL OF GENERAL OBLIGATIONS TAX ANTICIPATION
NOTICE TO PAY CURRENT EXPENSES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY
(\$95,000,000)**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE
** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member Walsh asked if the amount on this item was than last year. City CFO Michael Feeny stated that the amount was about the same as last year.

45-09 APPROVAL OF FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN (\$65,000,000)

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE
** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED WITH FOURTEEN VOTES FOR, TWO VOTES
** AGAINST (WALSH AND VIZZO-PANICCIA) AND ONE ABSTENTION
** (HOLLOWAY).**

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia argued that because there was no line by line approval on the plan, she wanted to make example of the Freeman Homes. She requested for board detailed report on how the money was spent and made clear her vote for no on the motion.

Council Member Walsh asked why the item was immediate. Council Member Curwen answered that it must be approved by May 6, 2010. He also responded to Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia that initial approval on Freeman Homes did not have all information and so more funds were being cleared to approve. Mayor Finch supported the Freeman Homes and mentioned that the council did not realize how deteriorate they were

before the restoration plan had initially been approved. Council Member Walsh made his vote of no clear for the council because the city, in his opinion, has not done a good enough job regarding what it is bonding.

APPROVAL OF BONDING AS LAID OUT IN FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE**
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER DEPARA SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED WITH FOURTEEN VOTES FOR, TWO VOTES AGAINST (WALSH AND VIZZO-PANICCIA) AND ONE ABSTENTION (HOLLOWAY).**

Mayor Finch assured the council that all the financials were properly audited. Council Member Curwen asks the City Council Attorney Mark Anastasi if there a conflict of interest in his making a motion for approval of the last item. Attorney Anastasi answered no.

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA**
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER SILVA SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

RESOLUTION TO PROHIBIT NITROUS OXIDE IN CITY PARKS

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO REFER TO THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE (ITEM # 75-09)**
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION TO APPROVE PASSED WITH 16 MEMBERS IN FAVOR AND ONE ABSTENTION (BLUNT).**

ADJOURNMENT

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erika Roliz
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular meeting
May 3, 2010
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