

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2016**

ATTENDANCE: AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia, Co-Chair; Richard Salter, Co-Chair;
Nessah Smith, Milta Feliciano, Anthony Paoletto, Rev. John Olson,
Denese Taylor-Moye (6:05 p.m.)

OTHERS: Council Member Jack Banta, Council Member Michelle Lyons,
Council Member Aidee Nieves, Council Member Jeanette Herron, Council
Member Mary McBride-Lee; Council Member M. Evette Brantley; Philip
White, Labor Relations Officer; Atty. Russell Liskov, Associate City
Attorney; Atty. Mark Anastasi, Associate City Attorney; Atty. R.
Christopher Meyers, City Attorney; Angel dePara, CAO's Office; Atty.
John Bohannon, Deputy City Attorney; David Kooris, OPED Director;
Atty. J. Epstein; Charles Coviello; Atty. M. Driscoll; Kristin duBay
Horton, Health & Social Services Director

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 5, 2016 (SPECIAL
MEETING)**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER OLSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF
JANUARY 5, 2016. (SPECIAL MEETING)**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 5, 2016. (SPECIAL
MEETING) AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia said that none of the Committee members had received any information on the candidates for appointment. Atty. Anastasi suggested that the committee go ahead and conduct the interviews and not vote on the appointments until the paperwork is provided.

Council Member Taylor-Moye and Council Member Banta joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

42-15 Appointment of Charles Coviello (D) to Board of Assessment Appeals.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia called Mr. Coviello forward. Mr. Coviello said that he had served a number of years in the past and was a realtor, so was familiar with the assessment appeals process.

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that she had known Mr. Coviello for a number of years and that he was always up front and honest.

Mr. Coviello said that in the past there had been times when the Board was informed of how they would vote. He said that he did not think that would happen again.

Council Member Salter said that he had just gotten to know Mr. Coviello and felt he would be a good choice.

Council Member Feliciano asked about the length of terms. She was told it was a three year term. Council Member Feliciano asked about the size of the Board members. She was told that there were 15 people in total on the Board.

Council Member Olson said that he had served on the Assessment Board in the past and they were never told how to vote.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER OLSON MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 42-15 APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES COVIELLO (D) TO BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS PENDING THE RECEIPT OF THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

30-15 Appointment of Cruz Manuel Cotto (D) to Parks Commission.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia noted that the candidate was not present and the Committee members had not received the relevant documentation.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 30-15 APPOINTMENT OF CRUZ MANUEL COTTO (D) TO PARKS COMMISSION PENDING THE RECEIPT OF THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AND THE PRESENCE OF THE CANDIDATE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

39-15 Appointment of Pearl Brooks (U) to the Commission of Persons of Disabilities.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia noted that the candidate was not present and the Committee members had not received the relevant documentation.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 39-15 APPOINTMENT OF PEARL BROOKS (U) TO THE COMMISSION OF PERSONS OF DISABILITIES PENDING THE RECEIPT OF THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AND THE PRESENCE OF THE CANDIDATE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

40-15 Appointment of Joseph Almedia (D) to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia noted that the candidate was not present and the Committee members had not received the relevant documentation.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 40-15 APPOINTMENT OF JOSEPH ALMEDIA (D) TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS PENDING THE RECEIPT OF THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AND THE PRESENCE OF THE CANDIDATE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

41-15 Appointment of Obiro Nkwo (D) to the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia noted that the candidate was not present and the Committee members had not received the relevant documentation.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 41-15 APPOINTMENT OF OBIRO NKWO (D) TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS PENDING THE RECEIPT OF THE OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AND THE PRESENCE OF THE CANDIDATE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

07-15 Proposed Approval of a new Job Classification with NAGE Local RI-200 for Senior Housing Code Inspector/Enforcement Officer.

Mr. White came forward to present the item. He said that this proposal had been presented in November and that there had been a question about the job description.

Ms. Kristen duBay Horton, the Health & Social Services Director, came forward and introduced herself. Ms. duBay Horton then gave a brief overview of the job description. She said that there were some complicated issues such as working with someone who is a hoarder.

Council Member Paoletto asked if this could be given to an employee rather than creating a new position and hiring more staff. He also wanted to know if there would be a raise involved. Ms. Horton said that there would be a raise involved. She added that there was some departmental restructuring underway.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 07-15 PROPOSED APPROVAL OF A NEW JOB CLASSIFICATION WITH NAGE LOCAL RI-200 FOR SENIOR HOUSING CODE INSPECTOR/ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER OLSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

45-15 Proposed Approval of a new non-competitive job classification for a Legal Assistant to the City Attorney.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia said that she had received some questions from Council Member Scott Burns, who could not be present at the meeting regarding the position.

Attorney Anastasi came forward and said that previously the department had a legal assistant but then the position was cut. That role was filled by the CAO's office. City Attorney Meyer has suggested the creation of this position to help with the basic administration. City Attorney Meyer came forward to speak about the need for an organization person to assign lawyers and paralegal to different issues. That person will be responsible for overseeing the support staff and be a paralegal.

Council Member Michelle Lyons joined the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia said that Council Member Scott Burns had several questions about benefits and retirements. Attorney Anastasi said that the position would be with NAGE, which is what it was in the past. The benefits would be the same as any other City employee. Another question was whether the candidate was already chosen. City Attorney Meyer said that they had someone already in the department in mind.

Council Member Feliciano asked for a job description. Attorney Anastasi said that Civil Service had sent a copy of the description to the Council Members. He gave his copy of the job description out for the Committee members to see.

Council Member Feliciano asked how this would work. She said that she was happy to hear that someone was being chosen from the department. City Attorney Meyer reviewed the details with her.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 45-15 PROPOSED APPROVAL OF A NEW NON-COMPETITIVE JOB CLASSIFICATION FOR A LEGAL ASSISTANT TO THE CITY ATTORNEY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

35-15 Proposed Workers Compensation Partial Stipulation with Daniel Domkowski.

44-15 Proposed Settlement of taxes related to 889 Barnum Avenue and other matters including but not limited to a certain pending U.S. Bankruptcy Case: Remgrit Realty, Inc. Debtor Ch. 11, Case No. 14-51542.

48-15 Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation with Thomas C. McCarthy.

Council Member Brantley joined the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

**** MF MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION.**

**** RS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Members Michelle Lyons and Milta Feliciano left the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

The Committee members, Council Members and following people entered into the Executive Session: City Attorney Meyer, Assoc. Attorney Anastasi, Atty. M. Driscoll, Atty. J. Epstein, Attorney Liskov, Atty. Bohannon and OPED Director David Kooris at 6:37 p.m.

Council Members M. Lyons and M. Feliciano returned to the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

The Committee and others returned to public session at 9:33 p.m. No actions were taken during the Executive Session.

35-15 Proposed Workers Compensation Partial Stipulation with Daniel Domkowski.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 35-15 PROPOSED WORKERS COMPENSATION PARTIAL STIPULATION WITH DANIEL DOMKOWSKI.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

44-15 Proposed Settlement of taxes related to 889 Barnum Avenue and other matters including but not limited to a certain pending U.S. Bankruptcy Case: Remgrit Realty, Inc. Debtor Ch. 11, Case No. 14-51542.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 44-15 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF TAXES RELATED TO 889 BARNUM AVENUE AND OTHER MATTERS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO A CERTAIN PENDING U.S. BANKRUPTCY CASE: REMGRIT REALTY, INC. DEBTOR CH. 11, CASE NO. 14-51542 SUBJECT TO NEGOTIATION OF THE TWO TERMS DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER OLSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

48-15 Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation with Thomas C. McCarthy.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE MOVED TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE TO FINALIZE NEGOTIATE WITH AGENDA ITEM 48-15 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH THOMAS C. MCCARTHY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DISCUSSION IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

A discussion followed about whether it would be necessary to recess the meeting in order to receive a report before the next City Council meeting. It was agreed that the meeting be adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services