

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015  
6:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council President McCarthy called the Public Speaking Session to order at 6:37 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

City Clerk Hudson called the roll.

The following members were present:

130<sup>th</sup> District:  
131<sup>st</sup> District: Denese Taylor-Moye, Jack O. Banta  
132<sup>nd</sup> District: Patricia Swain, Robert Halstead  
133<sup>rd</sup> District: Thomas McCarthy  
134<sup>th</sup> District: Michelle Lyons  
135<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Mary McBride Lee  
136<sup>th</sup> District: Josè Casco, Alfredo Castillo  
137<sup>th</sup> District: Lydia Martinez, Milta Feliciano  
138<sup>th</sup> District:  
139<sup>th</sup> District: Eneida Martinez, James Holloway

A quorum was present. Council President McCarthy announced that Council Member Brannelly was called away on a medical emergency and Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia was hosting a National League of City's event in Bridgeport.

**THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015 AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.**

**NAME**

**SUBJECT**

**John Marshall Lee**  
30 Beacon Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06605

City Financial Status.

Good evening City Council members,

One or more of you may have attended the Diocese of Bridgeport Synod services last Saturday at Webster Arena to hear about the journey of renewal of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of

City of Bridgeport  
City Council  
Regular Meeting  
September 21, 2015

Bridgeport. Bishop Frank Caggiano spoke eloquently to the 8,000 people gathered there about the journey they were on. A scripture reading for the service, from St. Paul to the Philippians related: ***“Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but (also) everyone for those of others.”*** It was a reminder to me of my journey with Tyisha Toms to become members of this body, our City Council, providing non-conflicted service to the public as part of Open, Accountable, Transparent and Honest governance. Last week’s results were the culmination of months of speculation and door knocking and fewer than 400 votes separated Democrats City wide. In the 130<sup>th</sup> we received 46% of the vote. Somebody is paying attention to our questions.

A Sunday reading at my community of faith also caught my attention from Letter of St. James: ***“Where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every foul practice.”*** Nearly 2,000 years after these lines of scripture were first set down, the affairs of men and women unfortunately continue to feature selfishness, disorder and “every foul practice”. Is it just human nature, or is it continuing failure of our institutions to put into practice and maintain Open, Accountable, Transparent and Honest process?

A voter gets one chance in our system to vote every two or four years. But how have they become informed? When a registered voter fails to vote we criticize them, but what is done to encourage them to come out to learn what you do and how important this work is to providing adequate services, public safety, reasonable spending and fair taxation in this City?

*Council Member Torres joined the meeting at 6:42 p.m.*

Do you invite people to come to your Committee meetings and speak up? Can they receive all documents and records as you do electronically? How are they solicited per the Charter as annual participants in the Capital Budget process? Can you show them that you are more careful with their taxpayer funds than with your personal financial interests? Why are there so many questions that go unanswered? Is that someone else’s duty, not yours?

When you face the voters in your district this year, assuming you are running, how will you answer their questions? Our operating budget may be around \$525 Million but by Fiscal year end close to \$700 Million including all grants and capital funding will be spent. Can you show them where your careful and informed participation made a difference? And if you are leaving the Council, as five members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee indicate, what legacy have you left to be followed? On primary day, a former CT mayor standing at our polls for a few hours to support a friend asked about the “conflicted City employees as Council people” situation; about what the elimination of an Internal Auditor seven years ago as part of City internal controls process meant and the subsequent failure by the City to follow a Council ordinance on annual purchasing reports and triennial audits. He was startled to understand that not only does this Council have no research support or service assistance but that the City has no Finance Board or body outside your B&A Committee to monitor fiscal matters. His instant response to me? Where are your checks and balances? Exactly. And profound.

Will voters be concerned this year in similar fashion? Time will tell.

John Marshall Lee

Council President McCarthy stated that there was no one else signed up to address the Council at this time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Council President McCarthy adjourned the meeting at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015**

**7:00 PM**

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Finch called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**PRAYER**

Mayor Finch then requested Council Member Halstead lead those present in prayer.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Finch then requested Council President McCarthy to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

City Clerk Hudson called the roll.

The following members were present:

130<sup>th</sup> District: Enrique Torres  
131<sup>st</sup> District: Jack O. Banta, Denese Taylor-Moye  
132<sup>nd</sup> District: Patricia Swain, Robert Halstead  
133<sup>rd</sup> District: Thomas McCarthy  
134<sup>th</sup> District: Michelle Lyons  
135<sup>th</sup> District: Rev. Mary McBride-Lee  
136<sup>th</sup> District: Josè Casco, Alfredo Castillo  
137<sup>th</sup> District: Milta Feliciano, Lydia Martinez  
138<sup>th</sup> District:  
139<sup>th</sup> District: Eneida Martinez, James Holloway

A quorum was present.

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:**

**Approval of City Council Minutes: July 13, 2015 (Special Meeting) and August 3, 2015**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER L. MARTINEZ MOVED THE JULY 13, 2015 (SPECIAL MEETING) AND AUGUST 3, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 13, 2015 (SPECIAL MEETING) AND AUGUST 3, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MINUTES AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER SWAIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ITEMS LISTED BELOW TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:**

**173-14 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH MARK ANTHONY FEBRES, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.**

**175-14 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE 2011 FERRY BOAT DISCRETIONARY PROGRAM – WATER STREET DOCK PROJECT; 15-355, REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.**

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):**

**\*107-14 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Disposition and Redevelopment of City-Owned Property to Abutter Located at 138 Clifford Street.**

Mayor Finch indicated that there was only one item on the Consent Calendar.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER L. MARTINEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS PRESENTED.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:**

**174-14 Special Committee Report re: (Ref. #121-13) Discontinuance of a Portion of Morris Street: Adopted on September 15, 2014.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER E. MARTINEZ MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 174-14 SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT RE: (REF. #121-13) DISCONTINUANCE OF A PORTION OF MORRIS STREET: ADOPTED ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER L. MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**\*98-14 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing an Affordable Housing Tax Incentive Agreement for Crescent Crossing II, A Mixed-Income Affordable Housing Development Located at 252 Hallett Street.**

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 98-14 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING TAX INCENTIVE AGREEMENT FOR CRESCENT CROSSING II, A MIXED-INCOME AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT LOCATED AT 252 HALLETT STREET.**

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

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA MOVED TO SUSPEND THE AGENDA TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA.**

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

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**158-14 Grant submission: re Connecticut State Library for Upper East Side Public Library Construction located at 2534-2548 East Main Street. (Project #16268).**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA MOVED AGENDA ITEM 158-14 GRANT SUBMISSION: RE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY FOR UPPER EAST SIDE PUBLIC LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION LOCATED AT 2534-2548 EAST MAIN STREET. (PROJECT #16268).**

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

Mayor Finch asked if this project was to replace the current Old Mill Green Library. Council Member Banta said that it was.

Council Member Holloway asked why this was being brought forward now. Council President McCarthy explained the item was approved by the Committee just before the Council meeting and there was a timing issue.

Council Member Holloway asked if the Old Mill Green library was going to move to this facility. Mr. Scott Hughes, the City Librarian, came forward to confirm this. He also reviewed

the details of the plan with the Council Members. Mr. Hughes added that this item was to authorize the Mayor to sign the grant application for submission to the State.

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER E. MARTINEZ MOVED TO SUSPEND THE AGENDA TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA.**

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER E. MARTINEZ MOVED AGENDA ITEM 116-14 "PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCES, CH. 13-12 PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR COGENERATION SYSTEMS INCORPORATED INTO A MICROGRID AND SERVING MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS AND TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING ON OCTOBER 5, 2015.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER SWAIN MOVED TO SUSPEND THE AGENDA TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA.**

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER SWAIN MOVED TO REFER THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF MISCELLANEOUS LAWSUITS AS OUTLINE IN THE MEMO DATED SEPTEMBER 21, 2015 FROM CITY ATTORNEY MARK ANASTASI RE: PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH GULSEN BERRIOS AND PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH CECIL YOUNG TO THE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.**

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

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (ITEM #176-14) & (ITEM #177-14).**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

S. L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services

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