

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT**  
**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MONDAY, MAY 9, 2016**  
**7:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ganim called the meeting to order at 8:20 PM.

**PRAYER**

Council Member McBride-Lee lead those present in prayer.

Council President McCarthy asked that those present hold a moment of silence for Judge Robert Burns, father of Council Member Burns, who passed away the previous day. He further commended Council Member Burns for his dedication to the budgetary process throughout this difficult time.

Mayor Ganim offered Council Member Burns his deepest condolences and commended his service.

**PLEDGE**

Council Member Salter lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

City Clerk Lydia Martinez called roll.

The following members were present:

130th District: Scott Burns; Kathryn Bukovsky  
131st District: Denese Taylor-Moye; Jack Banta  
132nd District: M. Evette Brantley  
133rd District: Jeanette Herron; Thomas C. McCarthy  
134th District: Michelle A. Lyons; AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia  
135th District: Richard D. Salter; Mary McBride-Lee  
136th District: Jose R. Casco; Alfredo Castillo  
137th District: Milta I. Feliciano; Aidee Nieves  
138th District: Anthony R. Paoletto; Nessah J. Smith  
139th District: James Holloway; Eneida L. Martinez

A quorum was present.

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## MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON

Mayor Ganim took a point of personal privilege in order to filibuster while staff members drew up accurate documentation. He thanked the members of the Council, particularly the co-chairs of the Budget and Appropriations Committee for their exceptional diligence throughout the budget process. He stated that he believed ultimately, despite challenges as a result of state cutbacks, that the budget has come a long way from where it was several weeks ago.

Council Member Brantley took a point of personal privilege to bring the Council and City's attention to National Foster Care Awareness Month. She stated that a member of the Council, Council Member Nieves, was herself a foster parent for a teenage girl, who just recently enlisted in the Marine Corps and is the daughter of her heart. She stated that it is challenging to get people to commit to being foster parents, especially for teenagers. She asked if anyone has time to spare, to consider becoming a foster parent. Council Member Brantley stated that they will be honoring the City's foster parents at the end of the month. She stated that the City's youth are faced with drug and opioid addiction as well as human trafficking. She stated on May 21st at Life Bridge Fairfield Avenue, they will be holding a workshop on Heroin and Opioid Addiction of Children in Foster Care who overcame addiction, featuring young women who overcame addiction and now work as advocates. The workshop will be held from 9 AM to 12 PM, and Senator Blumenthal will be present.

Council President McCarthy introduced those seated in the audience. The following individuals were present:

- A. Democratic Town Chair Mario Testa
- B. State Representative Charlie Stallworth
- C. Mr. Steve Nelson
- D. Former State Senator Ernest Newton
- E. Chief AJ Perez
- F. Former Councilman Joel Gonzalez
- G. Former Councilman Angel DePara

Council Member Brantley requested the Council take a group photo wearing t-shirts she distributed in honor of Foster Care Awareness Month.

The filibuster ended at 9:14 PM.

### 92-15 A, B, C, D, E BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017- VOTES AS FOLLOWS:

#### GENERAL FUND:

- A. REVENUE INCREASES
- B. REVENUE DECREASES

**C. APPROPRIATION INCREASES**  
**D. APPROPRIATION DECREASES**  
**E. GENERAL FUND BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 AS AMENDED**

Atty. Anastasi stated that they will need to amend the committee reports, then approve them.

Council President McCarthy stated that the Mayor submitted a budget to the Council, and at that point the budget committee reviewed and worked on it for several weeks before referring to the City Clerk. He stated that the basis of this evening's budget is to review the Council's Recommended Budget, which they based off of the Mayor's Budget. He stated that the following changes and agreements were made:

1. The Mayor expressed concern regarding relying on state revenue too strongly in the City, as the State has not passed their budget yet. Airing on the side of responsibility, the Council is recommending that they place any leftover funds into a new finance contingency designated 'Other Financing Contingency B'. In this way, the City can wait until the State passes its budget and then react and use the funds more responsibly once a clear picture of their fiscal future is revealed.
2. A few small changes with zero overall impact from what the budget committee recommended from the overall line.

Mayor Ganim asked that the City Clerk be given a clean copy of the report Council President McCarthy has.

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO CONSOLIDATE AND AMEND THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT AS FOLLOWS:**

1. **ITEM 92A: REVENUE INCREASES**
  - a. **INCREASING REVENUE LINE #01610000-41544 "SALE OF CITY OWNED PROPERTIES" FROM \$250,000 TO \$450,000.**
  - b. **INCREASING REVENUE LINE #01455000-41533 "BUILDING DEPARTMENT PERMITS" FROM \$285,000 TO \$485,000.**
2. **ITEM 92C: APPROPRIATION INCREASES.**
  - a. **INCREASE OTHER FINANCING CONTINGENCY FROM \$0 TO \$3,509,516. (CREATE NEW APPROPRIATION LINE CALLED "OTHER FINANCING CONTINGENCY B").**
3. **ITEM 92D: APPROPRIATION DECREASES**
  - a. **INCREASE APPROPRIATION IN LABOR RELATIONS SALARIES #01085000-5100 FROM \$455,158 TO \$567,158.**
  - b. **INCREASE APPROPRIATION IN CAO/CITISTAT SALARIES #01106000-51000 FROM \$759,292 TO \$894,292**
  - c. **INCREASE APPROPRIATION IN OPED SALARIES #01450000-51000 FROM \$1,144,506 TO \$1,235,506.**

**d. INCREASE APPROPRIATION IN EMERGENCY OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT OTHER SERVICES #01290000-56180 FROM \$143,000 TO \$205,000.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED THE MOTION.  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Atty. Anastasi noted that any one member of the Council is within their rights to ask for a roll call or individual vote for a line item.

Mayor Ganim asked that the record reflect both he and Council President McCarthy asked for any objections, and no one came forward.

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM #92-15A  
RE: BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GENERAL  
FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 RE: REVENUE INCREASES AS  
AMENDED.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO SECONDED THE MOTION.  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM #92-15B  
RE: BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GENERAL  
FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 RE: REVENUE DECREASES AS  
AMENDED.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED THE MOTION.  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM #92-15C  
RE: BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GENERAL  
FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 RE: APPROPRIATION INCREASES  
AS AMENDED.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON SECONDED THE MOTION.  
\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN (17) VOTES IN FAVOR AND ONE (1)  
VOTE IN OPPOSITION (VIZZO-PANICCIA).**

Mayor Ganim clarified for those present that the items being read are amended as a result of the initially passed resolution.

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM #92-15D  
RE: BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GENERAL  
FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 RE: APPROPRIATION DECREASES  
AS AMENDED.**

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

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN (17) VOTES IN FAVOR AND ONE (1) VOTE IN OPPOSITION (VIZZO-PANICCIA).**

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM #92-15E RE: BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 AS AMENDED.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

Mayor Ganim asked Atty. Anastasi if it would be possible for the Council to transmit the budget to his office by noon the next day, as opposed to this evening. Atty. Anastasi stated that it would be possible.

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO TRANSMIT THE APPROVED AS AMENDED GENERAL FUND BUDGET FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 TO MAYOR GANIM'S OFFICE BY NO LATER THAN 12:00 PM, TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting concluded at 9:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Catherine Ramos  
Telesco Secretarial Services