

**CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2010
6:30 pm**

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Brannelly, M. McCarthy, A. Ayala, Brantley, T. McCarthy, Vizzo-Paniccia, M. Ayala, Martinez, Paoletto, Curwen, Baker, Holloway

ABSENT: Council members: Taylor-Moye, Walsh, Austin, Lyons, Bonney, dePara, Silva

Council President McCarthy called the public speaking session to order at 6:50 pm.

The city clerk took the roll call and she announced there was a quorum.

Council President McCarthy announced that the following persons signed up tonight to address the council:

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSONS HAVE REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2010, AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.

NAME

SUBJECT

Joy Purdy

School Resource Officers

Ms. Purdy spoke about school safety affecting many schools in Bridgeport and the removal of the school resource officers. She expressed that everyone was concerned about safety and she emphasized that everything is always being taken away from the children. She thought the safety of kids was the number one priority. She questioned why the school resource officers can't continue being paid the same way as they've been in past years. She relayed incidences of fights that have escalated due to the lack of officers. She pointed out that they are more than just mediators for the kids, because they serve many other purposes, such as being a mentor. She urged the city council to help keep the schools safe.

Ted Meekins

School Resource Officers

Mr. Meekins stated that the School Resource Officers are highly trained officers to assure a safe environment. He urged the city council to help keep them in schools and keep the kids safe.

Mr. Coviello spoke wished everyone a Happy New Year. He went on to congratulate everyone for the stand they took last week, in regard to questioning where the money was coming from and where it's being spent; this pertained to an agenda item that was up for approval. He said he hoped they would take a similar stand in the new year when questions arise. He further noted that there has been a lot of disrespect among the administration and he again congratulated the city council for handling the matter well. He asked them to focus on young people next year, in regard to the leadership group that has been restructured. He noted that the group in place is not being run like it used to. He stressed that there are many youth issues that need to be addressed, such as alcohol and drugs that need to be addressed. He emphasized that the program is needed. He encouraged council members to contact the Board of Education and request that they reinstate the program the way it was.

He also mentioned that the School Resource Officers should be reinstated in the schools. He stressed that next year should be the year of the youth!

The public hearing session ended at 7:00 pm.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, December 20, 2010

7:00 pm.

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

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Brannelly, M. McCarthy, A. Ayala, Brantley, Walsh, T. McCarthy, Bonney, Blunt, dePara, M. Ayala, Martinez, Paoletto, Curwen, Baker, Holloway

ABSENT: Council members: Taylor-Moye, Austin, Lyons, Silva

Mayor Finch called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

Prayer the prayer was offered by Ted Meekins.

Pledge of Allegiance the pledge was led by Coach Wiggins.

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

Council President McCarthy announced that the following council members weren't in attendance tonight due to the following reasons:

Council member Austin's wife was ill; Council member Taylor-Moye was still not feeling well; Council member Silva had a family member that was in a car accident and Council member Lyons had a family illness.

Mayoral Citations: Bridgeport Chargers Football Team for winning the American Youth Football National Championship.

City Council Citations: Bridgeport Chargers Football Team Members and Staff in recognition of their winning the American Youth Football National Championship.

Mayor Finch and Council President McCarthy asked all the team members and coaches to approach the front of council chambers to receive the citations. All the team members and coaches approached with the trophies that were won.

Mayor Finch acknowledged the seventh grade Bridgeport Chargers Football Team and Coach Epps for their accomplishment winning the American Youth Football National Championship – *to applause*. He relayed a story of how the kids worked hard at a time

when others are making fun of the city. He expressed that they worked hard and made us proud. He mentioned that they played and won at the stadium in Bridgeport and they went on to Florida where they won the national championship, as well as the state championship. He further expressed that the eight graders came in third – *to applause*.

He read the citation highlighting the history of the Chargers Football Team that has only been in existence for four years and are now national champions. The citation read how they pride themselves and were awarded for good sportsmanship during 2010. Mayor Finch further noted that the team helped with the parks clean up effort this summer.

He declared December 20th as Bridgeport Chargers Day!

Names of the players were called out for recognition as the **2010 National Champions**.

Council President McCarthy spoke on behalf of the city council. He expressed the sentiment that “there are great kids in the City of Bridgeport”!

The citation was read for each team member to accept.

Council President McCarthy highlighted that the citation outlined sincerest congratulations to the Bridgeport Chargers 2010 National Champions and extended very best wishes and hope for continued success.

He thanked all the parents and supporters, noting the sentiment of what Bridgeport is really about and who we really are, despite what they say about us! *All the team players and coaches chanted the team's motto in unison – to applause!*

A group picture was taken with all the council members, team players and coaches who held up the trophies.

Council President McCarthy called for a caucus at 7:35 pm.

The caucus ended at 8:15 pm.

Mayor Finch reconvened the meeting at 8:16 pm.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Approval of City Council Minutes: November 15, 2010

** **COUNCIL MEMBER M. McCARTHY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES**
** **COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY SECONDED**
** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

** **COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY MOVED TO REFER COMMUNICATIONS TO COMMITTEES**

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COUNCIL MEMBER T. McCARTHY SECONDED

- 10-10** Communication from Labor Relations and Benefits Administrations, re Proposed Agreement with Anthem Health Plans to Provide Medicare Advantage Health Plan to covered Medicare-eligible retirees of the City and BOE for the period of January 1, 2011 thru December 31, 2011, referred to Contracts Committee.
- 11-10** Communication from Airport Manager, re Supplement No. 1 to Lease Agreement No. DTFANE-06-L-00025 with USA Federal Aviation Administration ATCT/AFS for Space at Sikorsky Memorial Airport, referred to Contracts Committee.
- 12-10** Communication from Mayor, re Appointment of Giselle DelValle (D) to the Zoning Board of Appeals, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.
- 13-10** Communication from Mayor, re Appointment of Roger Wilmot Weldon (R) to the Historic District Commission #1, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.
- 14-10** Communication from Mayor, re Appointment of Edwin Scott Powley (R) to the Planning and Zoning Commission, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.
- 15-10** Communication from OPED, re Authorizing the Acceptance of Grants from the Federal Transit Administration and the State DOT for the Construction of Bridgeport Intermodal Transportation Center, Project ID No. CT-04-0024-00, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.
- 16-10** Communication from Central Grants and Community Development, re Grant Submission: State Department of Public Health and the Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH) for 2010-2011 Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Control Contract, referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.

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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 was none heard. The city clerk read the items into the record.

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COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE

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COUNCIL MEMBER A. AYALA SECONDED

- *154-09** Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re Appointment of Edgar Rodriguez (D) to the Fire Commission.

*156-09 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re Grant Submission: State of Connecticut OPM 2010 Police Youth Grant Program.

*04-10 Contracts Committee Report re Professional Services Agreement with Environmental Land Solutions, LLC for Consultant Services to the Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Agency.

** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mayor Finch recognized Edgar Rodriguez, who was in the audience; on his appointment to the Fire Commission.

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:

06-10 Contracts Committee Report re Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Board of Education and Council of Administrators and Supervisors for the period of September 1, 2011 thru August 31, 2014. **DENIED**

Council member Paoletto stated that the item was heard in committee and it was originally denied.

** **COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM AND RETURN IT TO COMMITTEE**

** **COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED**

** **MOTION PASSED WITH SIXTEEN VOTES IN FAVOR AND FOUR VOTES IN OPPOSITION (COUNCIL MEMBERS: WALSH, dePARA, BAKER, CURWEN)**

Other Business:

** **COUNCIL MEMBER WALSH MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFERRING AN ITEM TO THE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE**

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

** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

** **COUNCIL MEMBER WALSH MOVED TO REFER (ITEM # 17-10) RE: FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ANALYSIS FROM ALL SOURCES EXCEPT FROM MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO THE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE**

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

** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Council President McCarthy wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Kwanzaa!

He announced that the next scheduled city council meeting will be held on January 3, 2011.

Mayor Finch announced that there was a citywide Holiday Party being held on Thursday, December 23 from noon until at the Barnum Museum. He noted that children were invited.

Council member Martinez announced that there would be a "Three Kings Day" celebration held on January 3, 2011 in council chambers following the city council meeting.

Mayor Finch announced that he swore in the new Police Chief Joseph Gaudett. He updated that they had three candidates and they chose Gaudett. They had the official swearing in and a larger ceremony will be planned. He encouraged the city council members to see him to help plan the ceremony if they're interested.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER M. McCARTHY MOVED TO ADJOURN
** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham
Telesco Secretarial Services