

**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION  
FEBRUARY 16, 2010  
6:30 p.m.**

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Brannelly, M. McCarthy, Taylor-Moye, T. McCarthy, Lyons, Vizzo-Paniccia, \*Bonney, Blunt, Silva, M. Ayala, Martinez, Paoletto, Curwen, Baker, \*Holloway

\* = arrived after roll call

ABSENT: Council members: A. Ayala, Brantley, Walsh, Austin, dePara,

Council President McCarthy called the public speaking session to order at 6:30 p.m.

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

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSONS HAVE REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2010, AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.

**NAME**

**SUBJECT**

Charles J. Coviello, Jr.  
73 Willow Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06610

City Budget, Firing of Health  
Director, CDBG Funds, and  
Expansion of Black Rock School.

Mr. Coviello spoke about varied topics. He spoke about the city budget and commented that they already cost the city a lot in settlements. He contended that the city and the Mayor should end the Civil Service Commission and that they should be careful because they could be fined for just cause. He further mentioned the renewal of a contract. He also mentioned the search for a new health director. He went on to speak about the allocation block grant monies and the problem with allocating CDBG funds to too small a percentage of people. He also commented on the conflicts of interest in granting these funds.

He continued and spoke about the safety on Stratford Avenue and the issue of providing jobs for young people. He mentioned the disrespect shown by the BOE and he noted that high schools are in desperate need of help and many of them need to be replaced. He said it was important to remember that high school students and all people in Bridgeport should be treated equally and not do for just those to assure officials get reelected. He ended in speaking about the matter of Dr. Evans contract not being renewed in 2011.

Lillian Wade  
240 Adams Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06607

Allocation of the CDBG Funds.

Ms. Wade stated that she was President of the east end NRZ. She spoke about the unfairness of CDBG funds. She recalled that their proposal was to keep up the lights and help beautify Stratford Avenue. She expressed that this should be done just like every other side of town. She also mentioned the funds that Bridgeport has received from the state, compared to other cities. She emphasized that until they do right, Bridgeport will always be on the bottom.

Bishop Richardo Griffith  
707 Central Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06607

Allocation of the CDBG Funds.

Bishop Griffith stated that he was there to speak about CDBG funding. He expressed that he had a serious issue, with council members during the last actual budget funding, when it was stated that organizations should have at least \$100k in reserve to qualify for CDBG funds. He stressed that local communities in the east end and east side NRZ shouldn't have to raise their own funds, when they contribute to the community. He named specific organizations that were overlooked for funding. He pointed out that when they take \$700k and give it to a private organization, when another organization does a great service, it's not right that the city council doesn't do right by the people. He further stressed that the same people that elected them could replace them. He urged them to stop cutting back room deals and work together with integrity. He emphasized that people in the community are watching.

Ralph R. Ford, Jr.  
410 Mill Hill Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Block Grant Funding and the  
discharge of Dr. Marian Evans.

Mr. Ford stated that he had two issues to discuss. He requested that another person be allowed to speak on the second issue. Council President McCarthy acknowledged the request. Mr. Ford talked about the allocation of public funds for projects. He stated that if it was in the best interest of the city, he pointed out that many neighborhoods need monies for home improvements. He further noted that although he wasn't in favor of allocating funds for private homeowners per se, he felt that a separate fund could be created for that purpose.

Carolyn Nah  
44 Lewis Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06605

Dismissal of Dr. Evans

Ms. Nah spoke about the second issue Mr. Ford mentioned. She urged everyone to look at the flag that hung on the council podium that she said was symbolic of all of us being American citizens. She went on to say that she felt the rules have been violated as citizens in serving their needs and interests. She questioned how many more black people will have to be lynched in this city, in respect to fairness. She further stressed that members on the council should get rid of their plantation mentality. She emphasized that the Mayor was a hypocrite and a parasite politician. She said she was sick of the nonsense.

She continued and spoke about Dr. Evans and the issue of her appointment not being renewal position. She exclaimed that they should vote the hypocrite out of office.

Howard Gardner  
25 Cartright Street, Unit 8G  
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Dismissal of Dr. Marian Evans,  
Director of the Health Department.

Mr. Gardner stated that something was terribly wrong in Bridgeport with 67% of the population being people of color, yet if you walk through city hall and the annex; the people that work there don't comprise people of the city. He stated that they may want to do a disparity study on who the city hires and if it is in line with whom comprises the make-up of the city's population. He further noted that the recent wave of hiring consisted of those that are well connected and commute into the city. They don't reflect the true demographic of the city.

He spoke about Dr. Marian Evans that he said was exactly the antitheses of those being hired. As a resident and as a woman who genuinely cared for those being served; he repeated that she was the antitheses of those being hired. He further mentioned that open letter written to the Connecticut Post that wasn't ever printed - *he read the letter*. He went to say that they are acutely aware of the fact that the health director serves at the will of the Mayor and the Mayor should serve as the will to the people. However, someone went beyond expressing the will of the Mayor and drummed up frivolous charges to discredit Dr. Evans. And there is a question of whom should be held responsible for the termination of the health director. He pointed out that separate funds were used for the event. He continued to say that Dr. Evans worked tirelessly for Bridgeport for six years and she was crucial in helping those who didn't have a voice. She conducted herself in the highest level of professionalism and the people she served and she was a great role model for young people. He emphasized that this city needed Dr. Evans and she should be reinstated.

*\*It was noted that the letter was signed by Council members: Baker and Walsh, two other council members and other business people and entities in Bridgeport.*

Cecil C. Young  
99 Carroll Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06607

Taxes and Unethical Tactics by  
City Officials.

Mr. Young stated that it was a sad night in many ways. He mentioned that although the people that gave praise to Dr. Evans was respected and agreed with, however, in all these years he has come before the council to complain about what she did to him and his family was unfair. He stressed that he and his family are going through nightmares because of Dr. Evans unjust termination of his job, due to alleged complaints he made. He felt that Dr. Evans fed into the people saying that he made her look like a fool, so he was terminated with no benefits. And for four years he has been without a job and without proper medical insurance. He further said that he didn't get any joy out of saying what he said, but he has been looking for justice for years and fired five times from various positions. He mentioned the good things he tried to accomplish by speaking the truth and wanting justice done, but to no avail. He further noted that he has filed appeals, but he was still denied medical benefits. He turned around to face the audience and loudly asked when does he get his black card. Council President McCarthy asked Mr. Young to end his time for speaking.

The public speaking session ended at 7:10 p.m.

## CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, February 16, 2010

7:00 pm.

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

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Brannelly, M. McCarthy, \*A. Ayala, Taylor-Moye, Brantley, Walsh, T. McCarthy, Lyons, Vizzo-Paniccia, Bonney, Blunt, Silva, M. Ayala, Martinez, Paoletto, Curwen, Baker, Holloway

\* = arrived late

ABSENT: Council members: Austin, dePara

Council President McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance -the pledge was led by Rosa Correa.

Prayer -the prayer was offered by Carl Portman and his children in attendance.

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

Council President McCarthy noted that Mayor Finch had minor surgery on Friday. He intended to be at the meeting, but he was still feeling under the weather.

He also noted that Council member Austin's sister passed away and it was why he wasn't in attendance.

Council member dePara had a family illness he needed to attend to out of state.

*Moments of Silence were offered for the following:*

- Council member Austin's sister who recently passed away.
- Robert Beraducci who worked for thirty years in the Bridgeport school system. He passed away after a courageous battle with cancer.

Council member Blunt acknowledged William the junior councilman from the 135<sup>th</sup> District that was in attendance tonight.

Council President McCarthy called for a caucus at 7:15 p.m.

The council members came out of caucus at 8:25 p.m.

Council President McCarthy reconvened the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:**

Approval of City Council Minutes: January 19, 2010

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO REFER THE FOLLOWING  
ITEMS TO  
COMMITTEES  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER SILVA SECONDED**

**35-09** Communication from Tax Collector re Refund of Excess Tax Payment, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

**37-09** Communication from OPED re PILOT Agreement with the Owner of Wakeman Boys and Girls Club Smilow-Burroughs Clubhouse for Land and Building at 2468 Fairfield Avenue for a period not to exceed 8 years, referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.

**39-09** Communication from Central Grants and Community Development re Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development – Program Year 36 Annual Action Plan: CDBG, ESG, HOME, HOPWA Programs, referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:**

**36-09** Resolution presented by Council Members Curwen, Paoletto, Thomas C. McCarthy, Walsh and Baker re Resolution opposing proposed site of the girls' juvenile detention facility on Virginia Avenue, referred **FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE**  
**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN SECONDED**

Council member Curwen stated that the council may be aware along with the city, about the situation on Virginia Avenue where they are trying to build a detention center in the center of a residential neighborhood. The property has turned into an eyesore in past years and him and Council member Paoletto has taken the last seven years to try to get it cleaned up. But the proposal to build the center was put forth without their knowledge. So the reason for the resolution is to not build the center. And although there has been a call to move the location, he and Council member Paoletto do not want it in their district.

He asked which council members wanted to be added as co-sponsors to the resolution. It was indicated by a show of hands of all the council members present tonight would be a co-sponsor on the resolution.

Note: this excluded the council members that were absent.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

**BRANNELLY, M. MCCARTHY, \*A. AYALA, TAYLOR-MOYE, BRANTLEY, WALSH, T. MCCARTHY, LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA, BONNEY, BLUNT, SILVA, M. AYALA, MARTINEZ, PAOLETTO, CURWEN, BAKER and HOLLOWAY AS CO-SPONSORS TO THE RESOLUTION**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**\*COUNCIL MEMBERS: AUSTIN, DEPARA EXCLUDED AS CO-SPONSORS DUE TO THEIR ABSENCE AT THIS MEETING TONIGHT**

Council member Paoletto thanked Council member Walsh and Council member Baker for their leadership in working with them on this issue.

Council member Walsh stated that he spoke with the state representatives that work in the district for the proposed project and they were in agreement that the detention center shouldn't be in the district. He added that he was happy to help out Council members Curwen and Paoletto.

Council President McCarthy commended Council members Curwen, Paoletto and Walsh for their assistance in this matter.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED**  
**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Council President McCarthy recognized Senator Ed Gomes who was visiting tonight.*

**38-09** Communication from Police Department re Proposed Agreement with Switzer Associates for recruitment consultant for the Bridgeport Police Department referred **FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO APPROVE**  
**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED**

Assistant Police Chief Kerwin approached the council. She stated that she was leading the charge on this matter and she asked the council to take immediate action for the recruitment consultant. She explained that there were time constraints regarding the item and that they were working in conjunction with the Bridgeport Guardians. She read and reviewed the item that pertained to the matter of the city being on oversight regarding racial discrimination - *she read the policy dated March 12, 2009 as it was outlined.*

She stated that articulated steps must be put into place by September 1, 2010 for a dedicated recruitment effort. She further read the specific requirements that will be implemented to assure fair hiring and recruitment. She also noted the proper strategies that will be taken by hiring an outside consultant to point them in the right direction. She noted the firm was **Switzer Associates** who was found to be the right firm for recruitment and determined to be the best qualified and a good fit for Bridgeport. She further noted other parties that were instrumental in the agreement and the plan to assure that they comply with the federal government. She mentioned that they should have a class in place by September 1, 2010.

An officer from the Bpt. Police Department further reviewed the details regarding adherence to compliance in revamping the hiring practices. He noted the efforts were approved by Mr. Roberts. He emphasized that they intend to conform to all the guidelines that were outlined as they pertained to recruitment. And they will abide by the time lines set forth.

Council member Holloway stated that six or seven years ago, a former colleague entered a resolution and it was passed that Bridgeport residents receive residential points. Officer Kerwin said she wasn't sure about that policy. David Douglas responded that the policy is 5 points for residency.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Council President McCarthy expressed that Police Chief Gaudet and Assistant Police Chief Kerwin were doing a great job.

Assistant Chief Kerwin invited the council members to be part of the focus group when it's scheduled.

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

Council member Holloway requested to remove item 33-09.

Council member Lyons requested to remove item 29-09.

The city clerk read the remaining items into the record.

- \*03-09** Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re Application for Driveway Permit: #124-140 Logan Street.
- \*29-09** Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re Resolution to commit assistance through the adoption of Haitian city(ies). - **removed**
- \*30-09** Contracts Committee Report re Agreement with The Hartford Life and Accident Insurance Company for Group Life and Accidental Death and Dismemberment Benefits for City Employees.
- \*31-09** Contracts Committee Report re Agreement with Medco Health Solutions Inc. to provide prescription drug benefits to covered employees and retirees of the City and Board of Education (Term of Agreement is from 10/01/08 – 12/31/2011).
- \*33-09** Contracts Committee Report re Separation Agreement with City of Bridgeport and Ralph Jacobs, former Civil Service Personnel Director. - **removed**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO APPROVE**  
**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER A. AYALA SECONDED**

Council member Holloway stated that his reason for abstaining to item **\*31-09** was due to the fact that there are numerous drug stores around the city who benefit from prescription drugs. And since this company is not a local company, he doesn't want to deal with them.

Council President McCarthy questioned if this was a valid reason for Council member Holloway to abstain. City Attorney Anastasi relayed to Council President McCarthy that it wasn't a valid reason.

Council member Holloway stated that he would vote no then.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN VOTES IN FAVOR AND ONE VOTE IN OPPOSITION (COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY)**

The agenda returned to item **\*29-09 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re Resolution to commit assistance through the adoption of Haitian city(ies).**

Council member Lyons stated that she had an amendment to the resolution.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS MOVED TO AMEND RE: 2ND PAGE OF RESOLUTION, 2ND PARAGRAPH; where it reads CITIES; should be changed to read CITY**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER M. McCARTHY SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS MOVED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED**

She clarified that the resolution outlines that *nothing in this resolution shall be construed to commit the use of city funds for this purpose*. She added that this was only a gesture of good will to the people of Haiti on behalf of the city.

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

The agenda returned to the following item:

**\*33-09** Contracts Committee Report re Separation Agreement with City of Bridgeport and Ralph Jacobs, former Civil Service Personnel Director. - **removed**

Council member Paoletto stated that the item passed unanimously in committee

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN SECONDED**

Council member Holloway stated that he wasn't at the meeting when this item passed, but he received sixteen calls from his district and another from the 138<sup>th</sup> district on Success Avenue. They all complained about the sidewalks, taxes and one of the complaints from a lady questioned what the pay out for this individual will cost. He further noted that twenty-five to thirty years ago, a democracy existed in Bridgeport wherein the people paid taxes. So to attend a meeting and not know the outcome is one thing, but they shouldn't have a meeting until the negotiations are complete. He stated that he would vote no, until someone from the legal department lets him know the outcome of the deal. He stressed that their constituents also deserve to know.

City Attorney Anastasi addressed the issue. He said for those that weren't at the Contracts Committee meeting; the numbers were disclosed. And they agreed that since it was a public agency and public business, as a consequence, they would disclose the information to the city council. The amount settled upon is: **\$155,000** to Ralph Jacobs in two installments; \$90k is due within 10-days after the legal department approves it and \$65k is due in the next fiscal year during January 2011. In addition, \$15k is being paid to the representing attorney, Attorney Willinger, of Willinger, Willinger and Bucci. There is also an associated payment of \$7,585 for a total of **\$177,585.00** that will be paid over two years.

Council member Holloway stated that with that information submitted and what it's going to cost the taxpayers, so be it. However, he expressed that they needed to look hard for

solutions when they hire people to these positions, because when someone doesn't like someone else or for some other reason, the constituents need to know the outcome.

Council member Baker agreed with Council member Holloway. He asked where they were at from a budgetary standpoint, in view of the huge lawsuits and new hirings. He said he had a concern where they were at with the budget and where the monies were coming from.

City Attorney Anastasi stated that he couldn't respond to the overall city budget, but they do appropriate a certain amount each year to cover lawsuits and claims, but he wasn't sure where the budget would end up by year end. He clarified that generally speaking, resolving lawsuits is in the best interest of the city. Also paying for their own council is better than paying for lengthy litigation.

Council member Vizzo-Paniccia stated that Council member Holloway's issues were valid. She pointed out that the night the committee meeting was held he left early, so that was why he wasn't privy to the information. She further noted that Ralph Jacobs was following the rules by the charter. And if something is written in the media then it becomes public information, but the cost to the taxpayer needs to stop because it ultimately affects the budget.

City Attorney Anastasi stated the agreement was considered to be a voluntary resignation and a mutual separation.

Council member Curwen stated that the portion remaining on Mr. Jacobs salary of \$15k and \$55k will come out of the contingency. He clarified that in the discussion tonight, some remedies came out of the caucus session; such as training for individual to be clear on their roles. Overall, they are proposing to be more pro-active in the future.

Council member Walsh thanked Attorney Anastasi for letting them know the ramifications of the payout. He noted other lawsuit settlements in the past where Attorney Anastasi didn't know the impact of the cost. He stressed that he thought this happened because certain people in the administration don't like civil service, but everything should be defined by the city charter. And until it's changed, the rules are the rules and until then, they will be subject to the same thing happening with whoever is hired. He stated that it was a poor business decision, because they are taking money from the contingency fund. He further stressed that it seemed too cavalier at the way the city went about it and it's not a good thing all around.

Council member Lyons stated that having served on the Contracts Committee, she clarified that all the questions and concerns came up during the meeting and were discussed. Everyone on the committee concluded that they would put together a letter with recommendations how to change the process. She agreed there should be some type of training to clarify leadership roles.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH SIXTEEN VOTES IN FAVOR AND TWO VOTES IN OPPOSITION (COUNCIL MEMBERS VIZZO-PANICCIA and BAKER)**

## **MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:**

- 15-09** Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re Community Development Block Grant Program Amendment to Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development (2008-2013).

Council member Curwen stated that the item passed in committee for reprogramming funds for 2013.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**

Council member Baker stated that he talked to his colleagues regarding the CDBG process and they didn't feel it was a fair process. It was thought that reprogramming monies allocations overlooked many other programs. He further noted that he receives many calls from residents in his district who are very upset. They didn't feel that the Citizen's Union process was fair. He recommended that the item be returned to committee for review again.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BAKER MOVED TO RETURN THE ITEM TO COMMITTEE  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY SECONDED**

Council member Holloway stated that he previously explained why he was in favor of having the Citizen's Union input, because they know what their neighbor needs. But then there is staff who cut 8% of all the recommendations that CDBG approved. He stressed that it wasn't fair to have all the agencies come out and then not be approved. He used Marrionville as an example, noting that although they are a nice community, they have been the recipient of block grant money twice. He felt this results in paying through the mouth. He thought they should let the Citizens Union do their job. He recalled that he asked Alanna Kabel to look into whether or not they need a Citizen's Union, but she never got back to him. He reiterated that other towns throughout the country don't use a Citizen Union.

Council member Brannelly asked about any time constraints for CDBG Reprogramming funds. Ms. Kabel stated that these are reprogramming dollars that need to be allocated and spent no later than June 30 and preferably prior to May 1. According to HUD guidelines, they can't have more than 1 ½ times of grant monies left. She pointed out that they have met the time line in past years and they were looking to adhere to that to demonstrate to HUD good work done.

Council member M. McCarthy stated that the Citizens Union was selected the city council, so he felt that they had a right to make the recommendations. He also felt that by returning the item to committee was undermining what the Citizens Union was doing. Council member Holloway responded that since he was new tot he city council, he should know what he was talking about first.

Council member Walsh stated that sending the item back to committee was the prudent thing to do since there were a lot of reservations. He pointed out that they would still meet the May 1 deadline.

Council member Lyons stated that by attending the committee meeting, many questions were answered and for those that didn't attend, if they were there they would understand why the decisions were made. She clarified that they had a small list to recommendations from the Citizen's Union and the names on the list they had to pick from had to have projects done by May 1, so they were going on their recommendations.

Ms. Kabel stated that in fact, the reprogramming dollars for projects not allocated in previous years or funded for less, so it was prudent upon them to reallocate quickly and this actually needs to be done by April 15.

Council President McCarthy stated that essentially there was a 45-day turnaround. Ms. Kabel said that was correct. She clarified that the agencies were looking for funding to complete their projects.

Council member Brantley said that since the reprogramming of dollars, some of the projects funded were shovel ready, wherein others weren't ready to go. She explained the situation with a large amount that was funded to Marrionville. She clarified that they found a way to have Chinaka Real Estate put money up for some of the repairs. She stressed that these types of questions and concerns should be brought up during committee and not during a council meeting. Overall, she felt strong that they should keep the Citizen's Union intact.

Council member Walsh asked if it would help if they approved all but \$800k. Ms. Kabel said they factored \$700k into the reprogramming dollars. She explained that her department had a contractor go up on the roof at Marrionville to check the degree of repairs. It was found that when it rains, the roof continues to disintegrate and water pours in.

Council member Walsh asked if the deadline of May 1 was critical. He asked again if they took out \$800k, would the deadline be met. Ms. Kabel said the easiest manner to meet the deadline is by the approval of everything. Council member Walsh asked if there was any benefit to doing as he proposed. Ms. Kabel said no.

Council member Holloway commented to Ms. Kabel that she wasn't part of the city administration when the last roof was put on at Marrionville. He said that if the roof was put on without flashers, he disputed that the staff person went out to check the damage to the roof. He repeated that the roof at Marrionville was done previously and whoever did the contracting, was done incorrectly. Ms. Kabel said there wasn't anything on file with the city clerk to show a previous allocation to Marrionville. Council member Holloway disagreed and was adamant that there was a previous allocation. He expressed shame on her department if that information wasn't found.

Council President McCarthy stated that he disagreed with returning the item to committee. He expressed that the committee looks to the Citizen's Union recommendations for guidance. He further stated that if they wanted to be part of the decisions, then they should attend the committee meetings.

A roll call vote was requested.

It was clarified that a **yes vote = return the item to committee; a no vote = they will go forward with the vote**

**\*\* MOTION FAILED TO RETURN THE ITEM TO COMMITTEE WITH TWO VOTES IN FAVOR AND SIXTEEN VOTES IN OPPOSITION**

Council member President McCarthy explained the Conflict of Interest forms were filled out by the committee members to avoid any conflicts they might have with voting for an item.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO CONSOLIDATE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR APPROVAL WHERE THERE WEREN'T ANY CONFLICTS OF INTEREST : ITEMS (3, 5, 11, 124, 23 and 27)**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**

*\*The Conflict of Interest form was submitted to the city clerk for the file*

Council member Holloway questioned why he should have to sign the form when he didn't have any conflict with any of the items. He said he didn't have to sign a form in the past and there was nothing written to indicate that he had to sign.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN VOTES IN FAVOR AND ONE VOTE IN OPPOSITION (COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY)**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM#1**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED**

**\*It was noted that Council member Martinez had a conflict of interest with this item and would abstain from the vote.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN VOTES IN FAVOR AND ONE ABSTENTION (COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ)**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM#7**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**

**\*It was noted that Council members: A. Ayala, M. Ayala and Martinez had a conflict of interest with this item and would abstain from the vote.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH FIFTEEN VOTES IN FAVOR AND THREE ABSTENTIONS (COUNCIL MEMBERS: A. AYALA, M. AYALA and MARTINEZ)**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM #24**

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

**\*It was noted that Council member Vizzo-Paniccia had a conflict of interest with this item and would abstain from the vote.**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN VOTES IN FAVOR AND ONE ABSTENTION (COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA)**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BAKER MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA RE: REFERRAL AND SUBMITTAL OF TWO (2) NAMES TO SERVE ON THE CITIZEN'S UNION COMMITTEE**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BAKER MOVED TO SUBMIT AND REFER THE NAMES OF EDITH ANDERSON and RICHARDO GRIFFITH TO COMMITTEE (ITEM #13-09S)**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Council member Vizzo-Paniccia announced that a promotional ceremony for the firefighters was held on February 11; the ceremony was well organized and attended by friends. She thanked all the firefighters in Bridgeport on behalf of the city council for their dedication and service to the city.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham  
Telesco Secretarial Services