

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 29, 2010**

**ATTENDANCE:** Angel dePara, Chair; Robert Curwen, Co-chair;  
Carlos Silva, AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia, Susan  
Brannelly, Lydia Martinez

**OTHERS:** Council Member Robert Walsh; Dr. John Ramon,  
Superintendent of Schools, Mary Pat Healy,  
Laura Olick, Barbara Bellinger, BPS BOE Chair

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council Member dePara called the meeting to order at 6:25 p.m. Council Member dePara introduced the members of the Committee.

**PUBLIC HEARING ON THE GENERAL FUND**

Superintendent John Ramos came forward and greeted the Committee on behalf of the Board and himself. He said that he wanted to acknowledge the new spirit of cooperation between the City government and the District. The information that was requested on Tuesday night would be delivered to Council Member Curwen on Friday.

Ms. Mary Pat Healy came forward and said that the Bridgeport Child Advocacy Coalition appreciates to give input on the Mayor's budget. She said that the Coalition realizes that these were difficult financial times. She urged the City and the District to work together to prevent any harm to the Bridgeport students. The proposed budget does not have an increase and this means that there will be deep cuts in the District. Ms. Healy said that the cost savings outlined in the Gibson report may take some time. She urged the District to take immediate steps to save as much as possible because the current budget does not take inflation into account. Parents realize that the City does not have many funds. She also commented that it was difficult to find out about the meeting as it was not posted on the City website.

Ms. Laura Olick came forward and said that education was important to Bridgeport. She said that this was important to give the Bridgeport students the best. She said that there were many people who were working on

Ms. Barbara Bellinger, the Bridgeport BOE Chair, came forward and said that people who are involved with the process knows how difficult it is to make room for additional items. She said that she felt very encouraged with the cooperation between the City and

the District. She said that she was hoping that the City and the District could work together to make the dollars go as far as possible. She then thanked everyone for their hard work.

Council Member dePara asked if there was any one who wished to address the Committee. No one came forward.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CURWEN MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE GENERAL FUND.**

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

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

The public hearing was closed at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Sharon L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services