

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
MONDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2004**

ATTENDANCE: Thomas Mulligan, Co-Chair; Keith Rodgerson,
Ann-Marie Vizzo-Paniccia, Ed Gomes, Andres Ayala, Jr.,
Council President

STAFF: Robert Tetreault, Tax Collector

OTHERS: Elaine Pivirotti, Robert Walsh, Henry Webb,
Adrienne Farrar Houel, Leonor Guedes, Frank Adjisegebe

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

201-03 Re-appointment of Leonor Guedes to the Civil Service Commission

Mr. Mulligan stated that Ms. Guedes had problems attending the prior meetings, but has made contact with committee members.

Ms. Guedes introduced herself and thanked the committee for meeting tonight. She stated that she is committed to her seat on the Civil Service Commission. Ms. Guedes said that Mary Moran had voted her into the commission. She also noted that she has an impeccable track record. Ms. Moran said she was born and raised in the city of Bridgeport, has a business here as well. She said the city is very important to her and that its best interests should be kept in mind.

Mr. Ayala congratulated Ms. Guedes for her hard work and added that the committee has looked over her attendance record. He stated that she has done a good job and he is in favor of approval for re-appointment. Mr. Gomes affirmed that he had no problem with this and that he would be glad to have Ms. Guedes.

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED APPROVAL OF ITEM 201-03.
** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

09-04 Re-appointment of Frank Adjisegebe to the Fair Rent Commission

Mr. Adjisegebe stated that Mayor Ganim had appointed him to the commission. He said that he has never been absent from meetings and that he enjoys being a part of the commission. Mr. Adjisegebe stated that problems between landlords and tenants are big in

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
December 27, 2004**

the city of Bridgeport, and that he moved here in 1994 and has been living here ever since. Mr. Adjisegebe said that he graduated from the University of Bridgeport and currently has an organization called heroes, where he works with high school students. He stated that he would be taking some of the students to Africa, and that he was honored to receive his letter for re-appointment. He stated that he was a speaker at Wilbur Cross School's graduation ceremony.

Mr. Mulligan asked Mr. Adjisegebe whether he had ever missed a meeting. Mr. Adjisegebe said that there was once a miscommunication with time between himself and Mayor Ganim. Mr. Mulligan confirmed that the Ethics Commission report came back and was fine. He stated that there was a citation dated January 2002 in regards to the operation of an unregistered motor vehicle. Mr. Adjisegebe said that he had borrowed the vehicle from an attendant in order to transport some merchandise. He added that the owner of the vehicle was unaware that his insurance had been cancelled. The matter was taken care of the day after.

Mr. Mulligan asked about a car tax bill for \$52.04. Mr. Adjisegebe stated that he no longer has a bill and that the matter has been resolved. Mr. Mulligan asked whether the matter had been resolved from the tax office. Mr. Adjisegebe replied yes.

Ms. Pivirotti stated that she is very fond of Mr. Adjisegebe and that he is a dear friend of hers. She stressed the fact that he is an extremely community service-oriented person. She added that Mr. Adjisegebe is dedicated, punctual, and fair-minded. Mr. Gomes stated that he had met Mr. Adjisegebe at Wilbur Cross School's graduation. He said Mr. Adjisegebe had given a commencement speech that he was very impressed by.

**** MR. AYALA MOVED APPROVAL OF ITEM 09-04.
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

10-04 Refund of Excess Payments

Mr. Tetreault stated that the refund amount is \$37,741.28. He stated that money is actually being refunded back to his office for the Warnaco building that will be converted into condominiums. He said the money needs to be refunded to the tax collector in order to be reapplied to the Pilot payment. Mr. Ayala asked whether this is something that would always have to be done. Mr. Tetreault said this would be a one time thing.

**** MR. GOMES MOVED APPROVAL OF ITEM 10-04.
** MR. AYALA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

169-03 Appointment of Adrienne Farrar Houel to the Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Commission

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
December 27, 2004**

Mr. Mulligan stated that this item has been before the committee for a while. He said Ms. Houel had participated in a Bridgeport study for the east end. He said the project is complete. Ms. Houel read a letter she had written to Rafael Mojica into the record. (A copy of the letter was not available for attachment to these minutes.) She stated that the company she was working with reassigned the contract and everything was presented on December 1st. Ms. Houel stated that she is no longer involved in the contract and was asked to reassign the project. Mr. Mulligan asked whether the payment of services was the only thing left. Ms. Houel replied yes. Mr. Gomes asked what Ms. Houel's role in the other company was. She said she was the Executive Director. Mr. Rodgerson asked Ms. Houel whether she would be bidding on other contracts in the city. She said she would not if she could help it. Mr. Ayala asked whether any past projects would have to go before the GBC commissions. Ms. Houel said no. Mr. Gomes said that there was a contract between Ms. Houel and the city. Ms. Houel said that was how she understood it. Mr. Mulligan said there was an appearance of a conflict of interest with Ms. Houel serving in the agency and the consulting firm. That was the main issue. Per City Attorney Mark Anastasia, "There exists at least the appearance of a conflict of interest as a result of one individual serving in both capacities," (The Fairfield County Housing Partnership & Greater Bridgeport Regional Planning Agency). Ms. Houel said that she still writes grants for the city.

- ** **MR. AYALA MOVED APPROVAL OF ITEM 169-03 CONTINGENT UPON NANCY HADLEY CONFIRMING THAT ANY CONTRACTUAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY AND MS. HOUEL OR THE ENTITY SHE WORKS FOR HAS TERMINATED.**
- ** **MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

252-03 City Council Attendance

Mr. Mulligan read the attendance rule in record: "Be it resolved, that council members whose attendance on any particular city council committee falls below 50% during any six month period after appointment be removed from that committee and barred from serving on that committee for a period of one year."

Mr. Rodgerson said the item was self-explanatory with regard to appointments in the city council. He stated that sometimes there are individuals who do not pull their weight. He stated that he did not intend to have any special committee meetings included in the attendance rule. He said there are tools in the city to eradicate the issue of individuals not pulling their weight. Mr. Rodgerson asserted that individuals have a moral obligation to step down if they do not attend meetings 50% of the time in order to insure the most robust attendance possible. Mr. Gomes said he has never heard of any committee not having a quorum due to a lack of attendance. Mr. Rodgerson said the lack of quorum is not as much of an issue as the fact that some individuals are not pulling their weight in the committees. Mr. Gomes said the main point of the committee is appointments by the

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
December 27, 2004**

council president. Mr. Rodgeron said the council president has an obligation to address the issues.

Mr. Ayala said the ultimate job of each member is to respond to the needs of their constituents. He said that all council members should want to attend all meetings. He stated that there needed to be criteria for what is an acceptable absence for a committee member. Mr. Rodgeron stated that a committee member should leave their seat if they are not doing their job. Mr. Walsh said there was a person who had attempted to resign from a committee, but could not because the council president would not let them.

Mr. Rodgeron said it is his intention to hold people accountable for their attendance record. He said he would like to see safeguards in the law. He stated that the Budget Committee is an important committee and that broad representation is needed for all of the committees. Mr. Gomes said it is the council president's right to decide whom he wants to add or remove from a committee. He said the main purpose of the committee is to have a quorum and do the city's business. Mr. Rodgeron stated that he feels a sense of resistance from the council to hold itself accountable.

**** MR. RODGERSON MOVED APPROVAL OF ITEM 252-03.
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION FAILED WITH 2 VOTES IN FAVOR (MR. RODGERSON
AND MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA) AND 3 VOTES IN OPPOSITION
(MR. AYALA, MR. GOMES, AND MR. MULLIGAN).**

03-04 Requesting City Council President to assign to a committee or create a committee to conduct efficiency/quality of service hearings

Mr. Mulligan stated that the president has formed a task force. He said he would be withdrawing the resolution because this is something that has already been accomplished by the special committee. Mr. Mulligan stated that he would write a letter of formal withdrawal.

08-04 Re-appointment of Linda Bogos to the Water Pollution Control Authority

Mr. Mulligan stated that there was not problem with the Ethics Commission. The background check was fine and there are no areas of concern. He stated that Ms. Bogos has a small balance on an automobile tax due.

**** MR. RODGERSON MOVED TO TABLE 08-04.
** MR. AYALA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MS. PANICCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
December 27, 2004**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Joseph
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
JANUARY 24, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Raphael Mojica, Chair; Thomas Mulligan, Ann Marie Vizzo-Paniccia, Keith Rodgeron, Ed Gomes, Elaine Pivirotti

STAFF: Mark Anastasi, City Attorney

OTHERS: Andres Ayala, Council President; William Chanaca

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mojica called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- December 27, 2004

The following corrections were made to the minutes:

Page 1: Item 201-03, second paragraph: "Ms. Moran said" should be "Ms. Guedes said."

- ** **MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 27, 2004 WITH CORRECTIONS.**
- ** **MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8-04 Reappointment of Linda Bogos to the Water Pollution Control Authority

Mr. Mojica asked whether Ms. Bogos was on last month's agenda. Mr. Mulligan said Ms. Bogos had not attended last month's meeting. Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia stated that the bottom of the agenda indicates that the applicant should be in attendance. Mr. Mulligan added that a motor vehicle tax bill of \$309.24 is the only issue pertaining to Ms. Bogos. Mr. Mojica said they would move to the next item in order to give Ms. Bogos a chance to show up.

25-04 Proposed Amendment to City Council Rule II-Order of Motions

Mr. Mulligan asserted that there could be no debate when a committee member makes a motion after a resolution has been presented. With regard to the making of motions, Mr. Mulligan referenced his desire to have been able to comment on the reconfiguration of the annex. He suggested this matter be presented to the city attorney's office. He said committee members should be able to comment even after there has been a motion to

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
January 24, 2005**

table. Robert's Rule prevents a full debate. Mr. Mulligan read the City Council Rule II into record. Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia asked whether there would be a snowball effect if the committee elected to change certain rules at this point. Mr. Mulligan said this would probably only happen if members spend an excessive amount of time debating over a table. If a change is made with reference to tabling, it does not set precedence for any other motions. Mr. Mulligan said it was add that remarks could not be made after a motion to table has been established especially if there is a case when something is time-sensitive. Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia questioned whether or not the committee would know something was time-sensitive in advance. Mr. Mulligan said they might not.

Mr. Gomes said there might be a snowball effect if the committee decides to go outside of Robert's Rules. He added that tabling was just a strategy used and is a means for stopping a debate. Attorney Anastasi said a motion to table could be used aggressively if everyone reads Robert's rules carefully. He said a section from Robert's Rules regarding the making of motions. The motion to postpone indefinitely is debatable, which would address Mr. Mulligan's concerns. One could probably get their debatable points heard. Attorney Anastasi affirmed that committee members could do anything they desired within reason. Tabling is a practical means of moving business along. If there is no urgency to cut off discussion, the discussion should continue. Mr. Gomes said they should wait for the city attorney's written opinion.

Mr. Mojica said the council president would be having a meeting to go over city rules. He said the city attorney's offices would be contacting people about joining the committee.

Attorney Anastasi said that he could write the purpose of Robert's Rule, though it is really a judgment call. He informed the committee that they could deviate from Robert's Rules if they chose to do so. Mr. Mojica welcomed the opinion of the city attorney's office to be sent to this committee and forwarded to the Rules Committee.

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 25-04 PENDING REVIEW BY THE CITY ATTORNEY AND A LETTER FROM HIM TO THE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE, TO BE SENT TO THE RULES COMMITTEE.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

31-04 Tax Abatement for property located at 60 Gilmore Street, 151 Cedar Street, and Union Avenue

Mr. Ayala stated that Ms. Valle submitted the resolution. He said that there are districts that have been affected by the abatement that the city of Bridgeport has had with this property for over 20 years. He stated that the property owner was here to speak tonight.

Mr. William Chanaca introduced himself and stated that he is a managing agent for three cooperatives. He said that all three cooperatives were subsidized. He added that they had

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
January 24, 2005**

been set up in the 1960s. Mr. Chanaca read the January 2, 1968 adoption into the record. He stated that the initial approval was that the community development plan agency might enter into contract with the owner to abate the taxes. The city then entered into a tax abatement agreement on June 14, 1973 and read the condition into record. He said that the contract calls for the city to never receive any more than 100%. Also, the owner shall not receive an abatement during the time that the noncompliance of the housing code takes place. The city will notify the owner of the deficiency in advance. The city can withhold the tax abatement if the deficiency is not corrected. There is a contract that runs for 40 consecutive municipal fiscal years. Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia stated that there was documentation supporting the fact that it is time for Mr. Chanaca's property to be taxed. Mr. Chanaca said he was never notified about this. Mr. Ayala affirmed that the actual abatement of the properties was brought up. Mr. Chanaca stated that reimbursement was not a condition of the abatement.

Mr. Walsh said the city always had a right to tax the property and suggested the matter be sent to the Budget's committee before any approval. Attorney Anastasi said he had appreciated Mr. Chanaca's documentation and invited him to leave the committee a copy. Attorney Anastasi said that the tax collector's opinion had never been requested. He said it was the tax collector's job to abate. Attorney Anastasi added that tonight's agenda had not even been forwarded to the tax collector. Mr. Mojica stated that he would like something in writing from the city attorney, tax assessor, and tax collector before this issue is passed on to the Budgets Committee. Mr. Chanaca said he thought the tax assessor would have been at tonight's meeting. He submitted a copy of the abatement agreement for 151 Cedar Street.

Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia questioned whether anything had been done with the appeals process. Mr. Chanaca said no. Attorney Anastasi said this was an evaluation issue. Mr. Gomes asked what should be done next. Mr. Ayala said the proper manner would be to table since Mr. Mulligan's resolution has not been acted upon. He said Mr. Tetreau should have been at tonight's meeting. Ms. Valle said she had contacted Mr. Liscoff and Mr. Tetreau, but they did not reply. Attorney Anastasi stated that their opinions had not been requested. He requested to have this issue table for a later date so the issues could be discussed. According to Mr. Chanaca, the contracts states that the city must approve a transfer.

**** MS. VALLE MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 31-04 PENDING OPINIONS
IN WRITING FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY AND TAX COLLECTOR'S
OFFICE.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

08-04 Reappointment of Linda Bogos to the Water Pollution Control Authority

**** MR. GOMES MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 08-04.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.**

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
January 24, 2005**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Joseph
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
MARCH 9, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Thomas Mulligan, Co-Chair; Rafael Mojica, Co-Chair;
Amy Marie Vizzo-Paniccia, Ed Gomes, Keith Rodgerson

STAFF: Mark Anastasi, City Attorney; Robert Tetreault,
Tax Collector

OTHERS: Elaine Pivrotto, Henry Webb, Robert Walsh,
James E. O'Donnell, Richard Womic, Carl Kish,
Patricia Fardy, Barbara Danzy, Seaview Gardens
Cooperative, M. Golrick, Director City Librarian

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

49-04 Reappointment of Richard Womic to the Planning and Zoning Commission

Mr. Womic stated that he had been sworn in three years ago. He said he has a wife and three children. Mr. Womic reported having worked at Dupont for 38 years and is an assistant chemist. He stated that he has worked for the American Cancer Society and is a member of the NAACP. Mr. Womic is a trustee at the first Baptist Church in Stratford. He said he was looking out for the best interest of the city and is asking to be reappointed.

Mr. Mojica said they would handle three of the Planning and Zoning reappointments first so they can return to their meetings. Mr. Womic said he has been on the Planning and Zoning board for three years. He added that he did not foresee any further problems serving. Mr. Gomes said Mr. Womic is from the 139th district. Mr. Mulligan asked Mr. Womic when his term expires. Mr. Womic said his term expired in December of 2004 and it was a two-year term. Mr. Holloway asserted that Mr. Womic is a friend of his and is a part of his district. He said Mr. Womic is very active in their neighborhood and everyone knows him. Mr. Gomes said Mr. Womic is a very good friend of his as well.

**** MR. MOJICA MOVED APPROVAL.**

**** MR. GOMES SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

51-04 Reappointment of Patricia Fardy to the Planning and Zoning Commission

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
March 9, 2005**

Ms. Fardy said she was appointed to Planning and Zoning as an alternate. The position became permanent in 2003. The term expired in December 2004. Ms. Fardy reported having been elected as the Director of Planning and Zoning in the past. She said she has always been interested in the wetlands. Ms. Fardy asserted that she is currently a retired homemaker with MS, but she says it is not a hindrance at all.

Mr. Mojica said Ms. Fardy's attendance has been perfect thus far and asked whether she foresaw any problems serving on the board. Ms. Fardy said no. She said she would be taking classes at the University of Connecticut in order to further her education.

According to Ms. Piviroto, not all complaints are taken seriously by Planning and Zoning. She said she had filed on before. Ms. Fardy said her office has been overwhelmed, but there are two new inspectors who will be able to do inspections.

**** MR. MOJICA MOVED APPROVAL**
**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

50-04 Reappointment of Carl Kish to the Planning and Zoning Commission

Mr. Kish stated that he had been appointed in June of 2004 and came in as a replacement for someone. Mr. Mojica told Mr. Kish that there had been a question of whether he was a Democrat or a Republican. He said he was unable to get the paperwork from the clerk. He said he believed Mr. Kish had already been approved for Planning and Zoning. Mr. Holloway said he had paperwork. Prior to Kish's appointment, Mayor Fabrizi came to the council and asked that Mr. Kish be a part of the board. Mr. Holloway said the council had been asked provide the names of potential servers. The committee met in December 2004. Mr. Mulligan, Ms. Valle, Mr. Walsh, Mr. Gomes, Mr. Rodgerson, and Mr. Mojica had voted for Mr. Kish to serve a term that would expire in December of 2005. This item had been on the consent calendar. The item was 170-03 reappointment of Karl Kish to the Planning and Zoning Commission for July 6, 2004. Mr. Holloway provided documentation of reappointment. He said Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia was the only person that did not vote. Mr. Kish was appointed and interviewed. Mr. Walsh stated that people have the right to change their minds. Mr. Holloway said he understood that. Mr. Mulligan read the paperwork and past around the minutes that reflected Mr. Kish's appointment. He said they should not entertain this item since the expiration does not occur until December of 2005.

**** MR. GOMES MOVED APPROVAL.**
**** MR. MOJICA SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

31-04 Tax Abatement for property located at 60 Gilmore Street, 151 Cedar Street, and 141 Union Avenue

City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
March 9, 2005

Mr. Mojica said Mr. Andres Ayala had requested to table this item since he could not be here tonight. He said Mr. Andres Ayala had asked for the city attorney's office to attend in order to address the issue. Mr. Gomes asked whether there was material to be passed out today. Mr. Mojica said yes. There is paperwork from the tax collector's office. He asked whether the committee was in favor of a table. Mr. Mojica said there were some people who were asked to be here, that may not be able to attend the next meeting.

Mr. Tetreault said the wording to the resolution was incorrect. It is supposed to read as seven properties, as opposed to three. He said the council needed to review all properties identically. Ms. Pivrotto said she understood that the resolution was included for all properties. Mr. Mulligan asked Mr. Tetreault whether he could check on the status with the city. Mr. Tetreault said he would be happy to. Attorney Anastasi suggested a table in deference to City Council President Andres Ayala.

Ms. Danzy stated that she was from the Seaview Gardens Cooperative and reported being a managing agent for 49 Cannon Street. She said she had been through this process several times before. Ms. Danzy asserted that she had a copy of a tax abatement dated from 1972 for Seaview Gardens and Union Avenue. She read the abatement into the record. Mr. Mulligan said the committee would not be taking any action on this item tonight. He told Ms. Danzy to keep contact with the city clerk's office. He also told her that she was welcome to attend the next meeting.

- ** MR. MOJICA MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM UNTIL THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Mulligan stated that the letter from the tax collector's office dated February 18, 2005 would be labeled as Exhibit B and the abatement presented by Ms. Danzy as Exhibit A. Attorney Anastasi said he would modify the information and resubmit it. He said he would give it in one document. He said he would file with the city clerk. Ms. Danzy asked the committee how often they meet. Mr. Mulligan said they meet once a month or more. He said Ms. Danzy must keep contact with the city clerk's office.

08-04 Reappointment of Linda Bogos to the Water Pollution Control Authority

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED APPROVAL.**
- ** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

45-04 Reappointment of James E. O'Donnell to the Library Board of Directors

Mr. O'Donnell stated that he had been a member since 1983 and was elected president of the board. He served as in one officer capacity or another. He said he had sent out invitations to the common council. He stated that it was challenging to make all the

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
March 9, 2005**

resources available to the city of Bridgeport. Mr. O'Donnell said they had been able to get bonding approved. He said he wanted to have improvements to the Blackrock Branch improved. The library is a vehicle for the city to maintain opportunities for lifelong learning. Mr. O'Donnell said he has been practicing law for a long time and appreciates books. He said anyone could log on to the website with a library card. He added that he would be happy to answer any questions. He said people could place a hold on books and institute interlibrary loans. There is a hope to increase the regular hours of operation. Mr. Golrick presented Mr. O'Donnell's attendance for the last three years. He said Mr. O'Donnell has been stellar in his attendance. Mr. Mulligan said Mr. O'Donnell is a great resource for the city.

Mr. Walsh stated that he had a difference of opinion regarding Mark Holstead who is a member of the Board. Mr. Holstead moved to Fairfield and Mr. Walsh said he believed he should resign from the board. Attorney Anastasi stated that appointees needed to maintain residence in the city if they are going to serve on its boards. He said he had learned about this when Mr. Walsh had brought it to his attention. Mr. O'Donnell said the bi-laws of the Library Board are very direct in stating that the appointment to the board must be residents and electors. He said they were currently in the midst of renovations and Charles Jones has been hired. Mr. Holstead's three-year appointment expires in June. Attorney Anastasi said the bylaws would be subservient to the charter. He said it was clearly illogical for someone to live elsewhere after being appointed. He stated that he had been unaware of a successor being elected at this point. Attorney Anastasi said he did not think the language of the charter could be changed through the bylaws. Mr. O'Donnell said the matter had not been brought to his attention as an issue of concern. If it were known as an issue of concern, changes would be made.

Mr. Gomes said the city laws are subject to state laws and charter laws are subject to the entire city. Mr. O'Donnell said the city law is not clear in the interpretations given. Attorney Anastasi said it was not ideally written and the library board is not necessarily privy to that history. Mr. O'Donnell said the bylaws have been in existence since the 1930s. Mr. Mojica asked whether there were any questions. Mr. Walsh said that the reason why the charter says a person should be a city resident and elector is because Bridgeport's assets are being dealt with.

With regard to the Art's Port, Mr. O'Donnell said he is one of six initial directors. Mr. Walsh asked whether he did this on a pro bono basis. Mr. O'Donnell said he was a registered agent. Mr. Walsh asked if he did this on a pro bono basis again. Mr. O'Donnell said he has offered legal services and does not plan to get paid. Attorney Christine Brown is also a member. Mr. Walsh asked Mr. O'Donnell whether he thought this was a conflict of interest.

Mr. O'Donnell said they had been a budget allowing for lights, oils, and water. He said the common council never gave the Klein Auditorium money to operate. The past chief administrator had opted not to have anymore 5013cs. A decision was made to have funds given to a Bridgeport area foundation to be transferred to the Klein. The Klein

City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
March 9, 2005

Auditorium Foundation was formed in 1987 to assist the Klein Board. He said they receive benefits through funds provided by People's Bank. Mr. Walsh said he had been hearing rumors that the Arts Port has misused monies intended for the Klein Auditorium. Mr. O'Donnell said the Klein Auditorium and the Playhouse on the Green did not have access to the funds. He said they are paid by the city. There were two members involved in an informal committee. It had been decided to establish funding money through a Bridgeport area foundation. The chief administrative office had entered into an agreement to retain services from a consultant. The funds allocated from the Klein were used without permission. Ability to obtain these funds seems to be negligible. All value will be returned to the Klein. Mr. O'Donnell said this was a situation created by other people. A competent manager is now in control. He stated that the rumors were facts that have been addressed and the necessary steps have been taken to quantify the documentation.

Again Mr. Walsh questioned whether there was a conflict of interest and said he would feel more comfortable if Mr. O'Donnell resigned from one of the boards. Mr. O'Donnell stated that he did not think it would be appropriate to resign at this point because he has been asked to remain.

Mr. Mojica asked whether this matter should be tabled. Mr. Mulligan said there was no question that Mr. O'Donnell wants to remain on the library board. Mr. Mojica said he was willing to vote tonight if the rest of the committee feels they can. In terms of Mr. Klein's will, Mr. O'Donnell said the Library Board has nothing to do with the Klein. Mr. Mulligan said he did not see a conflict of interest and believed that Mr. O'Donnell would resign if he saw a conflict of interest.

Mr. O'Donnell said there was a connection with the Arts Port and the Klein Board. Attorney Anastasi asked Mr. O'Donnell whether he is a temporary member of the Klein Board. Mr. O'Donnell said he intended to reside in the city of Bridgeport. Attorney Anastasi said there was a need to further examine the relationship with the Arts Port. The Library Board and the Klein Board are no longer affiliated. The council must look at the relationship of the Arts Port as it exists. He said people could not be held accountable for being asked to serve on the board longer.

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED APPROVAL.**
**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

54-04 Workers Compensation Settlement for: William Carpenter

**** MR. RODGERSON MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.**
**** MR. MOJICA SECONDED.**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The committee entered into executive session at 7:50 p.m.

City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
March 9, 2005

**** MR. MOJICA MOVED TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.
** MR. RODGERSON MOVED APPROVAL.
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-JANUARY 24, 2005

**** MR. RODGERSON MOVED APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF
JANUARY 24, 2005.
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

29-04 City Council Members attendance

Mr. Mulligan stated that this was a proposal created by Mr. Rodgerston that was voted down. Mr. Rodgerston stated that he had already reported his disapprovals. He said he believes this would be a good government measure. He stated that he would continue to bring this matter up. Mr. Rodgerston asserted that a group would be contacting constituents about this matter. Mr. Gomes questioned what kind of group this was. Mr. Rodgerston said this group was mindful to governmental reform. Mr. Walsh asked Attorney Anastasi whether there was anything in the council rules about resubmitting an item. Mr. Mulligan said he could not find the existence of this in Robert's Rules. Attorney Anastasi also said he did not think there was anything in the council rules and he said he did not know about Robert's Rules either. He added that the committee might not find anything to bar this item.

Mr. Mojica said he had sat with Ann Murray and Fleeta Hudson. The council rules are very vague and four weeks must pass before an item is put on to the agenda. He said they could have an emergency meeting so the interested parties can lobby to have the item discussed. Attorney Anastasi said he did not think that relates to this particular issue. Mr. Mojica said this item was put on the agenda out of a courtesy to Mr. Rodgerston since he was unable to discuss this matter at the last meeting. Mr. Gomes questioned whether it would be considered harassment to keep bringing this matter to the committee over and over again. Attorney Anastasi said there are certain regulations and a rules committee is needed. There are problems being caused due to vagueness and issues not being addressed. Robert's Rules were not geared towards a deliberative elective body. There is language in Robert's Rules that prohibits debate and business that is not appropriate to the board.

**** MR. MOJICA MOVED TO DENY.
** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED WITH TWO VOTES IN OPPOSITION (MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA AND MR. RODGERSON).**

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
March 9, 2005**

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** MR. MOJICA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Joseph
Telesco Secretarial Services

**City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee
March 9, 2005**

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
MARCH 28, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Rafael Mojica, Co-Chair; Thomas Mulligan, Co-Chair; Amy Marie Vizzo-Paniccia; Maria Valle; Ed Gomes; Keith Rodgerson; Henry Webb (arrived at 6:55 p.m.)

STAFF: Mark Anastasi, City Attorney; Charlie Carroll, Chief of Staff

OTHERS: Council members James Holloway, Robert Walsh, Andres Ayala; William Chanaca

Co-Chair Mojica called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2005 TO THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

08-04: REAPPOINTMENT OF LINDA BOGOS

Co-Chair Mojica distributed relevant information about Ms. Bogos, who was being reappointed to the Water Pollution Control Authority. Ms. Bogos was not present to answer questions, and the Committee members agreed that she should have been, especially since she was aware of the meeting and that her reappointment would be voted on. Mr. Gomes wondered if the wording of 'reappointment' rather than 'appointment' caused confusion, and resulted in those individuals not attending the meeting. Council President Ayala said he advised the Mayor and the Administration that the Committee always wanted reappointees and new appointees to be present. Mr. Carroll said he would follow up on this, and remind the individuals, as appropriate.

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 08-04 TO THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING.**

- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

25-04: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CITY COUNCIL RULE II

Co-Chair Mojica said he thought this item was removed from the agenda because further information was needed.

- ** CO-CHAIR MULLIGAN MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 25-04 PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE REGARDING CITY COUNCIL RULES.
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED THE MOTION.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

50-04: REAPPOINTMENT OF CARL KISH

Co-Chair Mulligan said the Committee had already spoken to Mr. Kish and now needed to make a decision about his term of expiration, which was incorrectly stated as December 31, 2007. He said the Mayor's office found a letter indicating the date to be December 31, 2004, thus the reason for reappointment.

Mr. Walsh said he was vehemently opposed to the reappointment for a number of reasons, primarily related to Mr. Kish's family ties. His sister was an officer and owner of a business that owed \$50,000 in back lease fees and commissions to the City, and the lawsuit had progressed to Federal Court. Mr. Kish's former brother-in-law also owned a business, and Mr. Kish could use his influence to persuade P&Z to rule in the man's favor. Mr. Walsh felt strongly that this would be a conflict of interest. He felt reappointment of Mr. Kish sent a negative message to the City's residents, in light of its push to collect back taxes across the board.

Mr. Holloway spoke in favor of Mr. Kish's reappointment, saying Mayor Fabrizi sent a letter to all council members urging them to seek quality individuals to sit on boards and commissions. He felt that Mr. Kish served the City well for the past year and deserved the reappointment.

Council President Ayala wondered if the Committee was holding Mr. Kish to different standards than others were held to. He said he had not heard anything negative about Mr. Kish, and felt the Committee should use the merits of the person, and not be so concerned with their family life. He felt certain that Mr. Kish would recuse himself when necessary. Mr. Rodgerson agreed.

Mr. Kish spoke on his own behalf, saying he had no knowledge of his sister's litigation issue with the City.

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE REAPPOINTMENT OF CARL KISH TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

Mr. Walsh felt that according to City Charter, every effort should be made to ensure that appointments and reappointments reflected the ethnic diversity of the City. He questioned how anyone could concern themselves only with another's merits and dismiss other critically important factors. He asked what the breakdown was of those on the P&Z Commission relative to ethnic heritage and gender. Attorney Anastasi said the court case in question involved pay telephone permits, and it was being handled at the Federal Court level. He said it would be appropriate if Mr. Kish chose to convey in his own words that he was not an officer in or owner of any pay telephone company involved with the City.

Mr. Kish voluntarily revealed personal information about his relationship with his sister and former brother-in-law, all of which Council President Ayala said he felt uncomfortable hearing because it was not for the public's ears. He felt strongly that an individual's family dealings should not weigh into the Committee's decision, especially if the individual himself was an upstanding citizen, which he felt Mr. Kish to be. Attorney Anastasi asked the record to reflect that of his own volition, Mr. Kish stated that he is not now, nor has he ever been an officer or owner, or otherwise had any involvement with pay telephones during his business association with the City.

Mr. Kish said that he was on the P&Z Commission since June of 2004 and has watched Bridgeport move forward and grow, and has felt a sense of pride being a part of that accomplishment. He felt he could bring much "to the table" and said it was a rewarding experience that he hoped would continue.

Co-Chair Mojica asked that the racial breakdown of the P&Z Commission be provided to the Committee and to Mr. Walsh.

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE VOTE IN OPPOSITION (GOMES), WHO SAID HE VOTED IN OPPOSITION SO THAT THE ITEM WOULD NOT BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR TO BE SUBJECT TO FUTURE DEBATE.**

31-04: TAX ABATEMENT

Co-Chair Mojica said the information packet distributed from the City Attorney's office should have been dated March 28, 2005, not April 28, 2005. He said it was a legal response to the Tax Collector's memorandum of February 18th regarding the issue of tax abatement on a number of properties in the City; since 1968, all of the properties were used solely to house low or moderate-income families. Attorney Anastasi explained that many years ago the City entered into a contractual agreement with each owner of the properties in question whereby the City would (at its discretion) abate all or a portion of the taxes on the properties with the caveat that the State of Connecticut would thereafter reimburse the City. Of late, State reimbursement has been decreasing each year. Last year, the State's reimbursement to the City was only 30%. He said that this steady decline has made it necessary for property owners to be responsible for their own tax bills.

Mr. Gomes said that if the contractual agreements were for a term of 40 years, it was the City's obligation to uphold them for 40 years. He felt it would be an outrage to the property owners if the City were to renege on agreements it made 40 years ago and followed through on for 37. He said it could potentially force many to become homeless. He said he would not support an amendment and would vote against the item. Attorney Anastasi further explained that an amendment of the agreement was not being proposed but rather an amendment of the application by the City.

Mr. Carroll said this issue came to light during discussion at one of the Budget and Appropriations Committee meetings. He said Mayor Fabrizi has allocated funds for tax abatement and on Friday would speak to officials in Hartford about this matter.

Council President Ayala felt it would be a terrible injustice to take away the tax abatement from the property owners, many of whom had worked hard for the City and now the City had nothing to give them back. He said the City is in a housing crisis situation, with virtually no affordable housing. All new housing developments slated for the downtown area would not be affordable to most of Bridgeport's residents. He said that the ECDC Committee should be more cognizant about the decisions it made, and try to find a way to keep the City's residents in the City.

Co-Chair Mojica suggested it would be prudent to delay a decision until the Mayor had an opportunity to discuss this further with the Speaker of the House in Hartford. Tabling the matter now would provide an opportunity for the whole matter to be further digested

and give Mayor Fabrizi flexibility to leverage money from the State. He said that at minimum, additional information was needed.

Mr. Walsh provided background information about the tax abatement program. Years ago, property ownership was often contingent upon whether or not an owner qualified to receive a tax break. According to contract, the property designated as affordable housing only needed to remain as such for 40 years. Once the contract ended, anything could happen. He said that OPM reviewed this and said there would be no impact on Section VIII renters. Mr. Walsh said the truth needed to be known about exactly who would be hurt by this and how the City could get out from under it. Mr. Gomes agreed that the matter warranted further investigation. Attorney Anastasi said he would be in favor of the matter being tabled. The ultimate decision would not be an easy one to make and the presentation was a compelling one.

**** MR. GOMES MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 31-04 PENDING INVESTIGATION OF THE FACTS MADE BY MR. WALSH ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THIS ITEM, AND TO ALLOW MAYOR FABRIZI THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER WITH STATE DELEGATES.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

Mr. Rodgerston said he was in full support of not making a decision tonight. He asked that in addition to financial information, facts about the number of units in each of the buildings and exactly who would be impacted be made available for review.

Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia asked if there was audit information available about the residents who lived at the properties; Mr. Tetreault responded that information was only available if a corporation owned the property. He said the City has had to absorb more and more of the tax burden on these properties over the last several years. He asked how the City should handle other properties that could not meet their financial needs, saying there were many others that needed help and were not able to get it.

Mr. Chanaca said he was not sure if all of the properties were the same; some of them were co-operative housing units, not rentals. Each member paid a portion of the monthly carrying service charge, spread out over a 40-year period. Abatement would end once the unit was paid in full to the co-op. He said this was the original concept when developing the tax abatement plan. He said there was no reference in

the contract that the City's obligation to abate would be contingent on whether or not it received reimbursement from the State.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MR. RODGERSON MOVED TO INCLUDE FOUR ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES INTO ITEM 31-04, WHICH PROPERTIES ARE SHOWN IN THE FEBRUARY 18, 2005 MEMORANDUM FROM ROBERT G. TETREAULT, TAX COLLECTOR, AS FOLLOWS:**

(1) BRIDGEPORT ROTARY CLUB HOUSING CORP. - 285 MAPLEWOOD AVENUE

(2) FIRST BAPTIST HOUSING - 115 WASHINGTON AVENUE

(3) SEAVIEW GARDENS, INC. – 890 SEAVIEW AVENUE

(4) UNITY HEIGHTS CO-OPERATIVE – 200-436 LYON TERRACE

**** CO-CHAIR MULLIGAN SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MS. VALLE MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Wiggins for
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
APRIL 25, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Rafael Mojica, Co-Chair; Thomas Mulligan, Co-Chair; Amy Marie Vizzo-Paniccia; Maria Valle; Andres Ayala; Ed Gomes

STAFF: Mark Anastasi, City Attorney; Michael Goldrick, City Librarian; Robert Tetreault, City Tax Collector

OTHERS: Council members Robert Walsh and Henry Webb; Linda Bogos, Water Pollution Control Authority; Judge William Holden, Library Board of Directors

Co-Chair Mojica called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

08-04: REAPPOINTMENT OF LINDA BOGOS TO WPCA

Co-Chair Mojica said this item was appearing on the Committee's agenda for the third time, and that all of Ms. Bogos' paperwork was in order. Ms. Bogos said she has lived at 715 Frenchtown Road, Unit 3 for the past five years and has been a commissioner on the WPCA almost as long. She said she enjoys the experience, finds it challenging and hoped to be able to continue being a commissioner. Mr. Walsh said the WPCA was discussed at a Budget Committee meeting the other evening, and asked what the WPCA intended to do to decrease its operating expenses. Ms. Bogos said the WPCA has taken a giant step toward cutting overhead costs by moving the engineering services provided by the Casper Group to an "in-house" employee position. Additionally, more focus would be directed toward collection of delinquent accounts. She said the WPCA might be able to have its employees multi-task once their job functions were better understood. In response to Co-Chair Mulligan, Ms. Bogos said it was her intent as a commissioner to keep rates down for taxpayers and to attend meetings of the City Council on a frequent basis. This would increase awareness for both parties of what each entity did and would help create a better rapport between the two groups.

Co-Chair Mulligan asked Ms. Bogos for clarification of an outstanding tax invoice dating back to October 2004; Ms. Bogos said it had already been paid and she would provide the

receipt to the City Clerk's office. Simultaneously, Mr. Tetreault would check his records to be sure the debt was satisfied. Co-Chair Mojica said that if approved, this item would be placed on the Council's consent calendar.

- ** MS. VALLE MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 08-04: REAPPOINTMENT OF LINDA BOGOS TO THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY.**
- ** CO-CHAIR MULLIGAN SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

68-04: REAPPOINTMENT OF WILLIAM HOLDEN TO LIBRARY BOARD

Co-Chair Mojica distributed Mr. Holden's paperwork for review by the committee members. Judge Holden said he was a Bridgeport resident for about 20 years and currently lived at 627 Fairview Avenue for the past 15. He said he had been on the Library Board for many years and since he felt it a pleasure to serve as a director, was hopeful to continue for many more.

Mr. Walsh said he had an opportunity to visit the library recently and saw a book authored by Len Grimaldi in one of the glass display cases. He said this offended him deeply in light of the fact that Mr. Grimaldi was charged with municipal corruption. Judge Holden responded that he was not aware of this but would discuss it at the Board's next meeting, saying he understood Mr. Walsh's concern. Mr. Goldrick spoke in support of the reappointment, saying Judge Holden was modest about his term on the Board. He said Judge Holden had provided good advice over the years and was a valuable asset to the Board. Co-Chair Mojica said that if approved, this item would be placed on the Council's consent calendar.

- ** CO-CHAIR MULLIGAN MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 68-04: REAPPOINTMENT OF JUDGE WILLIAM HOLDEN TO THE LIBRARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2005

Co-Chair Mojica distributed the minutes of the last meeting for review by the committee members and said that the item was erroneously omitted from the agenda during preparation.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 28, 2005 MEETING OF THE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

31-04: TAX ABATEMENT

Co-Chair Mulligan said this item was discussed at length at the Committee's last meeting, and at that time was tabled pending additional information. He said he received a request from Mayor Fabrizi to table the item again, since the Mayor felt he might be able to leverage funds from the State; if not, the item could be pursued further.

Mr. Gomes asked the record to reflect that whether or not additional information was forthcoming, his opinion would not change. He said the City entered into a 40-year agreement with a 37-year practice that he did not feel should be cut short. He felt it would be out of line if the City decided not to honor its 40-year commitment and said he would vote against the item.

Mr. Walsh said the City is currently working through its budget, and tax revenue from the properties was included. Without knowing what the Mayor had in mind, Mr. Walsh said he could not understand how budget discussions could proceed on the assumption that tax revenue would not be included. Co-Chair Mulligan said based on the lengthy discussion at last month's meeting he would not make that assumption. He said he would attempt to have the tax revenue in question deleted from the budget if necessary and further felt it unnecessary to vote on this item at tonight's meeting. Attorney Anastasi said the point was well made and the OPM director should be asked how the budget deficit would be handled if no money was received from the State. He said the City did not budget for the money to be absent.

Co-Chair Mulligan asked Mr. Tetreault how much revenue would be realized if the City did not abate the taxes. Mr. Tetreault said he would provide this information to the Council President before Tuesday's meeting. Attorney Anastasi said he erroneously overstated the scope of the problem in his previous statement, and there would be no problem for the current budget year. Co-Chair Mojica said the next meeting of the Budget Committee would be tomorrow, and as a co-chair he would make sure that Mr. Sherwood had the exact figures. After that, he would speak with Mayor Fabrizi regarding the timeframe if the money needed to be included in the budget or not. An emergency meeting could be held if it was necessary.

- ** CO-CHAIR MULLIGAN MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 68-04: TAX ABATEMENT FOR PROPERTIES DISCUSSED AT THE LAST MEETING TO THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCA SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

RESOLUTION RE PENDING LEGISLATION ON FIREARMS

Co-Chair Mulligan said that this item was not put on the agenda for discussion, but council members Walsh, Gomes, DePara and Pivrotto put together a resolution on this subject. He asked if anyone wanted to comment. Co-Chair Mulligan suggested that a joint meeting of the Miscellaneous Matters Committee and Public Safety and Transportation Committee meeting be scheduled. Ms. Valle agreed, and she and Co-Chair Mulligan set the meeting for May 3, 2005 at 6:45 p.m.

76-04: SUIT SETTLEMENT

Attorney Anastasi asked that this item be tabled.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCA MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 76-04: SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR CAMILLE DAMATO TO THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING.**
- ** CO-CHAIR MULLIGAN SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCA MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** CO-CHAIR MULLIGAN SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Graham for
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING
PUBLIC SAFETY AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
MAY 3, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Thomas Mulligan, Co-Chairman; Maria Valle, Co-Chairman; Amy Vizzo-Paniccia; Keith Rodgerson; Henry Webb; Robert Walsh, Andres Ayala; Rafael Mojica, Co-Chairman; Ed Gomes

STAFF: Mark Anastasi, City Attorney

OTHER: Ron Pensiero, Co-Executive Director, CT Against Gun Violence

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mulligan called the meeting to order at 6:45 p.m.

**81-04 SUPPORT OF PENDING LEGISLATION BILL #6657 AN ACT REQUIRING
REGISTRATION OF LONG GUNS AND MANDATORY REPORTING OF LOST OR
STOLEN FIREARMS**

Mr. Gomes stated that he had testified for the Mayor on Mr. Pensiero's committee recently. He commented on a recent "60 Minutes" segment that showed a U.S. citizen had purchased over 500 50-caliber guns on the open market and shipped them overseas. The guns pierced armor and steel. He stated that these guns need to be registered because once they become second hand, they can't be traced and the owner can't be charged.

Mr. Walsh said that this gun registration requirement shouldn't be considered unconstitutional. It does not take away the citizen's right to bear arms. The mandatory reporting of lost or stolen firearms would eliminate the danger of having these guns out, unregistered, on the second-hand market.

Mr. Ayala said that currently long guns don't have to be registered.

Mr. Pensiero said that there is no waiting period to purchase a gun. An authorization number is issued, almost immediately, when an individual tries to purchase a gun. There are seven disqualifiers for long guns and four disqualifiers for hand guns. If you want to transfer ownership of a hand gun to anyone, you need to get an authorization number. You don't need an authorization number to transfer ownership of a long gun. There is no legislation currently in place for reporting a long gun lost or stolen. All gun sales start with a legal sale. The problem with gun trafficking is diversion, where a gun is bought by a trafficker or a straw purchaser, who won't be disqualified, and that person then sells the gun to an unregistered purchaser. In the period from 2000-2002, there were 169 murders, 2,000 aggravated assaults, and 4,500 robberies using a gun. 88% of those crimes were committed by people who were prohibited from owning

guns. Steps have to be taken to stop the illegal transfer of guns to people who commit crimes using those guns. All guns used in crimes committed in Connecticut are required to be traced to the original purchaser. The Department of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms follows that procedure. Since there is no requirement for the original owner to report their gun lost or stolen, the chain of possession stops there. That is the loophole that this organization wants to stop. The first offense is considered an infraction, with a \$500 fine, if the person didn't report the gun lost or stolen within 72 hours. The second offense is a misdemeanor, and the third offense is a Class D Felony.

There was some discussion regarding the placement of a gun in a glove compartment. Mr. Pensiero said that was allowed. Connecticut doesn't have conceal and carry rights.

Mr. Mulligan inquired about the registration transfer process. Mr. Pensiero said that the person transferring the gun is required to get the authorization number.

Mr. Pensiero stated that the criteria for criminal possession would now be made uniform for handguns and long guns. If a gun was used in a crime, the person can be charged with criminal possession.

Mr. Gomes clarified that there are now 7 disqualifiers for all guns.

After much discussion among the council members, it was determined that they didn't have the most current information regarding the existing laws and the pending legislation. It was agreed that some of the language would be changed. Mr. Pensiero said that the City of Hartford supported this bill in the original form. Last night, the New Haven City Council passed a resolution supporting the current bill. This is now a substitute bill that passed favorably out of Judiciary and now has to go to the Public Safety Committee before going to the floor.

**** MR. GOMES MOVED TO APPROVE BILL #6657 AS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

“Be it Resolved that the City Council of the City of Bridgeport Supports Proposed Bill #6657, As Amended by the Judiciary Committee on April 26, 2005 and Encourages the General Assembly to Pass Said Bill #6657 As Amended.

Be it Further Resolved that a Copy of this Resolution be Sent to the General Assembly.

**** MR. MOJICA SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE OPPOSITION (MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA)**

**** MR. WEBB MOVED TO APPROVE BILL #6657 AS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

“Be it Resolved that the City Council of the City of Bridgeport Supports Proposed Bill #6657, As Amended by the Judiciary Committee on April 26, 2005 and Encourages the General Assembly to Pass Said Bill #6657 As Amended.

Be it Further Resolved that a Copy of this Resolution be Sent to the General Assembly.

**** MR. WALSH SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE OPPOSITION (MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA)**

**** MR. GOMES MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** MS. VALLE MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marr
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
MAY 23, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Rafael Mojica, Co-Chair; Thomas Mulligan, Co-Chair (arrived at 6:35 p.m.); Amy Marie Vizzo-Paniccia; Keith Rodgerson; Maria Valle; Ed Gomes

STAFF: Mark Anastasi, City Attorney; Robert Tetreault, City Tax Collector

OTHERS: Council members Robert Walsh, Henry Webb, Carlos Silva;

CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chairman Mojica called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

March 28, 2005 / April 25, 2005 / May 3, 2005

The following correction was made: correct the spelling of Ron Pensiero in May 3, 2005 minutes.

- ** MR. GOMES MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MARCH 28, 2005 AND APRIL 25, 2005 AS SUBMITTED AND FURTHER MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2005 AS CORRECTED.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

31-04: TAX ABATEMENT FOR PROPERTIES

Co-Chairman Mojica said he was asked by the Mayor's office to table the item pending further information from the State regarding funds to be reimbursed. Attorney Anastasi said that tabling the item would allow an opportunity for the City Council to continue the dialogue of open issues. Mr. Tetreault said the list of properties should be expanded to include seven properties. For purposes of clarification, Hallott Street is referred to as Gilmore Street.

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO AMEND THE EXISTING ABATEMENT LIST TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING SEVEN PROPERTIES: 285 MAPLEWOOD AVENUE, 115 WASHINGTON AVENUE, 890 SEAVIEW AVENUE, 200-436 LYON TERRACE, 60 GILMORE STREET, 151 CEDAR STREET AND 141 UNION AVENUE.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MS. VALLE MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 31-04 TO THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING.**

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

104-04: REAPPOINTMENT OF GERARD EISENMAN TO ETHICS COMMISSION

Mr. Eisenman said that he worked as an attorney for the State for 22 years, and had been chairman of the Ethics Commission for the past two years. Mr. Walsh asked for a summary of what ethics commissioners did. Mr. Eisenman said that while there are not many complaints, probably due to the efficiency of the internal affairs group within the Police Dept., the commissioners investigate complaints that are lodged. He said the commissioners volunteer, and in his opinion it would be wise to have a few "appointees" so that there could always be a quorum. Attorney Anastasi said the OIA was always available on request of the commission, but some issues brought before them were either above or below their level. He said many issues were labor related and transferred to another department. He responded to Mr. Rodgeron that the Commission had jurisdiction over the BOE.

**** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED TO APPROVE 104-04, REAPPOINTMENT OF GERARD P. EISENMAN (U) TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION.**

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

105-04: REAPPOINTMENT OF T. WALTER PLUMMER TO CIVIL SERVICE

Mr. Plummer said that he lived at 32 Beachwood Avenue, and had been on the Commission for the past three or four years. Mr. Walsh said that the professional status had been abused in certain departments. Mr. Plummer said the Service does not make laws, they just enforce them. Many matters are discussed with the City Attorney's office.

Attorney Anastasi spoke about collective bargaining agreements, saying the Union and the City allowed some employees to remain in their positions and continue to receive a salary. Mr. Gomes said many issues were approved by the City Council, who did not at the time understand there had been violations. He said there is a general concern about civil service extending beyond the City Charter. Attorney Anastasi said that language in many agreements expressly allowed some of the situations, and they were used to fill temporary time frames. He said the Police and Fire chiefs each have five-year terms of office via collective bargaining agreements.

**** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED TO APPROVE 105-04, REAPPOINTMENT OF T. WALTER PLUMMER (D) TO THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION.**

**** MS. VALLE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

106-04: REAPPOINTMENT OF HENRY LUGO TO PORT AUTHORITY

Mr. Lugo of 385 Frenchtown Road said he lived his entire life in Bridgeport and worked at Peoples Bank for the past 35 years. He said he had been on the Authority for many years. Mr. Walsh asked Mr. Lugo for his opinion of the property at Seaview Avenue. He asked if Mr. Lugo felt he had a responsibility to weigh his duties for the Authority against the general good of the City. Mr. Lugo responded that the overall welfare of the City was important to him and felt that if a person wanted to be on the Authority they should be concerned about the welfare of the City and individual communities and render good balanced decisions. He said the City held the key to what happened to the parcel of property, and that he wanted the City to get the best value it could for the land. Mr. Gomes said that a specific neighborhood was being discussed, not the welfare of the entire City, and he was not as concerned about “best value” as he was about “best for the residents.” Mr. Lugo said he did not understand why the residential area flipped to become heavy industrial, and that he did not want any harm to come to the neighborhood residents. Co-Chairman Mulligan asked Mr. Lugo about his vision for the Port Authority as it related to development of City properties. Mr. Lugo responded that Bridgeport was once a thriving community, and strongly believed that commercial development brought economic value to the City, and that there was tremendous potential for developers to make good things happen. He said he felt strongly about having a thriving harbor area, and development of the property was long overdue.

**** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED TO APPROVE 106-04, REAPPOINTMENT OF HENRY LUGO, JR. (R) TO THE PORT AUTHORITY COMMISSION.**

- ** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

120-04: APPOINTMENT OF EDWARD MCLAINE TO P&Z

Attorney Anastasi said that Mr. McLaine might withdraw his application.

- ** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED TO TABLE 120-04 TO THE COMMITTEE'S NEXT MEETING.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

121-04: APPOINTMENT OF JOHN SWATKOWSKI TO PORT AUTHORITY

Mr. Swatkowski said he lived at 133 Belden Road, and wanted to volunteer his services to a group that would keep kids on the right track, not necessarily the Port Authority. Mr. Walsh spoke again about the Seaview Avenue property and the fact that City taxpayer dollars were used to purchase the land and the Port Authority did not repay its loan payment. Mr. Swatkowski said that he was not aware of all the facts, but felt strongly there should be a balance between commercial and residential developments in the City. He said he felt there were opportunities to redirect funds from commercial development into residential. Mr. Gomes said the balance of commercial to residential in the East End was 70% to 30%, and no balance existed.

- ** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED TO APPROVE 121-04, APPOINTMENT OF JOHN SWATKOWSKI (D) TO THE PORT AUTHORITY COMMISSION.**
- ** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE VOTE IN OPPOSITION (GOMES).**

122-04: APPOINTMENT OF ANDRE BAKER TO P&Z

Mr. Baker said he resided at 985 Stratfield Avenue for the past 12 years and was owner of Baker Isaac Funeral Home, and considered himself to be a visionary person. He said the community needed to band together to develop a plan that would coordinate some of the developments so that the balance between residential and commercial was able to continue. Co-Chairman Mulligan said the balance Mr. Baker spoke of was also necessary for the preservation of established neighborhoods, and asked how this could be accomplished. Mr. Baker said he did not have a ready-made answer; each property had its own set of nuances that needed to be dealt with individually. He felt that commercial

development would lead to future growth and said the Committee needed to bear this in mind. Mr. Walsh felt that all too often, commercial development destroyed residential neighborhoods. He asked how a determination was made as to whether or not there was enough commercial development, or too much or not enough. Ms. Valle said she had concerns about Jane Street and Kossuth Street where barbed-wire fencing was put on residential homes. She said that P & Z made many decisions that did not make sense. She said the City is trying to encourage less not more density on a site and could not understand why two-family houses were being turned into three or four-family dwellings. Mr. Gomes said he had heard that Mr. Baker's reputation was excellent. He said he agreed with Ms. Valle about site density and the need for a balance between commercial and residential development. He asked Mr. Baker to keep a watchful eye on this, and at the same time not lose sight of appropriate aesthetics.

Council President Ayala said that ULI required members of boards and commissions to be properly trained, and he was hopeful that Mr. Baker would attend the training sessions. Attorney Anastasi said the training seminar was scheduled for June 15 and would be heavily attended by the P & Z, the ZBA and others from City staff. He felt that members of the Port Authority should also attend. Mr. Webb asked Mr. Baker to be particularly careful about zoning. He said the City needed a visionary on P & Z and felt Mr. Baker would be a good candidate. He said there is no drug store or supermarket on the East End, and asked that Mr. Baker watch this closely.

- ** MR. GOMES MOVED TO APPROVE 122-04, APPOINTMENT OF ANDRE T. BAKER (D) TO THE PORT AUTHORITY COMMISSION.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

131-04: TAX ABATEMENT FOR PROPERTY AT 503 COURTLAND AVENUE

Mr. Tetreault said the property belonged to Barbara Eleanor Bordash, who applied for a tax deferral because her taxes exceeded 8% of her gross income. Ms. Bordash supplied appropriate documentation to qualify herself for the deferral. He said the Tax Department was asking approval to defer \$5,403.84 from the July 1, 2005 tax bill. In response to Mr. Rodgerson, Mr. Tetreault said he did not know the size of Ms. Bordash's loan, but her home was valued at \$165,000.

- ** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED TO APPROVE 131-04, TAX ABATEMENT FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 503 COURTLAND AVENUE.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**

- ** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED TO AMEND HIS MOTION SO THAT THE TAX ABATEMENT OF \$5,403.84 FOR PROPERTY LOCATED AT 503 COURTLAND AVENUE BE APPROVED.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY,**

132-04: REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS

Mr. Tetreault said that if an entity overpaid their taxes or if their property value was reassessed, they qualified for a refund. In this case, Santa Fuel was entitled to receive a refund of \$11,918.88.

- ** MR. RODGERSON MOVED TO APPROVE 132-04, REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$11,918.88, PAYABLE TO SANTA FUEL.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- ** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED THE COMMITTEE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ITEMS 76-04, 108-04 AND 109-04.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting entered executive session at 7:55 p.m.

- ** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED THE MEETING TO RE-ENTER PUBLIC SESSION.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting re-entered public session at 8:33 p.m.

- ** MR. GOMES MOVED TO APPROVE 108-04, WORKERS' COMPENSATION SETTLEMENT FOR STANLEY RUSZKOWSKI.**
- ** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

- ** MR. GOMES MOVED TO APPROVE 109-04, WORKERS' COMPENSATION SETTLEMENT FOR CRAIG KELLY.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 76-04, SUIT
SETTLEMENT FOR CAMILLE DAMATO, TO THE COMMITTEE'S
RECESSED MEETING ON JUNE 6, 2005 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** CO-CHAIRMAN MULLIGAN MOVED TO RECESS THE MEETING TO
JUNE 6, 2005.**

**** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED THE MOTION.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was recessed at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Graham for
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
JOINT MEETING OF PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE,
AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
JUNE 7, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Thomas Mulligan, Chairman; Maria Valle; Amy Vizzo-Paniccia; Henry Webb; Ed Gomes; Robert Walsh

STAFF:

OTHER: Mark Anastasi, City Attorney; Frank D'Andrea, D'Andrea's Gun Case; Captain Chapman, Bridgeport Police Department

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mulligan called the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m

**#81-04 – SUPPORT OF PENDING LEGISLATION BILL #6657 AN ACT REQUIRING
MANDATORY REPORTING OF LOST OR STOLEN FIREARMS**

Mr. Mulligan asked Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia to make the first comments, as she had made the motion to table this item from the previous meeting.

Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia said that at the previous special meeting of both committees, some people felt they needed more information about the long gun bill issue. She invited Mr. Frank D'Andrea, of D'Andrea's Gun Case on Barnum Avenue in Stratford, to speak to the committees and present another view. She said he is very involved on the state and federal level.

Mr. Frank D'Andrea said that there is currently long gun registration, similar to handgun registration. He presented the state form that is required to be filled out if the owner doesn't have a pistol permit or hunting license. It takes two weeks for the form to clear and receive authorization from the Department of Public Safety. He then presented the handgun form, which is also a state form and is required to be filled out with the authorization number on it. The federal form was then presented, which is required to be filled out as well. If a gun trace was to be conducted, they call the manufacturer, then the distributor, then the dealer, and then the individual. He felt that the paperwork was redundant, and that this amount of paperwork will continue to overburden the system. This procedure doesn't make it any easier to trace lost or stolen guns.

There was discussion between Mr. Gomes and Mr. D'Andrea regarding the proposed legislation and the current law. Mr. Mulligan asked Mr. D'Andrea if the bill now before the legislature is that the person has to report his/her gun missing within a certain period of time. Mr. D'Andrea responded that they are requiring more paperwork to be done for long guns. Mr. Anastasi clarified that the issue is about the tracing of lost or stolen firearms, not about banning them.

Captain Chapman said that people don't go hunting with assault weapons. Assault weapons are used to kill people. The same criteria for the handgun should be in place for the long gun. Chairman Mulligan said that the bill now only contains the requirement that you have to report a lost or missing firearm. Mr. Anastasi confirmed that there are not greater restrictions for long guns vs. the hand guns that have been presented before the committees. Mr. Mulligan confirmed what was expected of the committee this evening. Mr. Gomes said it is to approve the legislation as amended by the Legislature. Chairman Mulligan asked if the resolution is to endorse both items – the registration of long guns and the reporting of lost or stolen firearms guns, or is it to endorse the reporting of missing guns. Mr. Walsh said that the legislation in Hartford was changed to the reporting of lost or stolen guns, both long guns and handguns. It was changed to say that the committee was in support of the legislation as amended. Chairman Mulligan said that what is before the committee tonight is the issue of reporting lost guns.

Miscellaneous Matters Committee

- ** MR. GOMES MOVED TO APPROVE 81-04 – SUPPORT OF PENDING LEGISLATION BILL #6657 AN ACT REQUIRING MANDATORY REPORTING OF LOST OR STOLEN FIREARMS**
- ** NO SECOND.**
- ** MOTION DENIED WITH THREE OPPOSITIONS (VIZZO-PANICCIA, VALLE, MULLIGAN).**

Public Safety & Transportation Committee

- ** MR. WEBB MOVED TO APPROVE 81-04 – SUPPORT OF PENDING LEGISLATION BILL #6657 AN ACT REQUIRING MANDATORY REPORTING OF LOST OR STOLEN FIREARMS.**
- ** MR. WALSH SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION DENIED WITH THREE OPPOSITIONS (VIZZO-PANICCIA, VALLE, MULLIGAN)**

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Miscellaneous Matters committee lost the quorum to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Marr

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
JOINT MEETING MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE
JUNE 7, 2005
PAGE 2

Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
JUNE 27, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Mr. Thomas Mulligan, Co-Chair; Mr. Keith Rodgerson, Mr. Edwin Gomes, Mr. Anderson Ayala, Ms. Ann Marie Vizzo-Paniccia
(6:37 pm); Mr. Robert Walsh (6:40 pm)

OTHERS: Mr. Mark Anastasi, City of Bridgeport Counsel; Ms. Geri Evans, Workers' Compensation

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mr. Mulligan. After considering the agenda, Mr. Mulligan said that he would like to start with the two workers' compensation cases, as Ms. Evans was present. This was agreeable to all.

186-04 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION FOR: DEBORAH FIORILLO

- ** **MR. AYALA MOTIONED TO MOVE INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING 186-04 WORKERS' COMPENSATION FOR: DEBORAH FIORILLO.**
- ** **MR. GOMES SECONDED**
- ** **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Committee moved into Executive Session at 6:35 pm.

Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia arrived at 6:37 pm. Mr. Robert Walsh arrived at 6:40 pm.

- ** **MR. RODGERSON MOVED TO END THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.**
- ** **MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.**
- ** **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Committee ended their Executive Session at 6:50 pm.

- ** **MR. GOMES MOVED TO APPROVE 186-04 WORKERS' COMPENSATION FOR: DEBORAH FIORILLO**
- ** **MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.**
- ** **THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Mulligan noted the vote and announced it to be consent to calendar.

187-04 - WORKERS' COMPENSATION FOR: DOMINGO VEGA

- ** **MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOTIONED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

IN REGARDS TO AGENDA ITEM 187-04 WORKERS' COMPENSATION FOR: DOMINGO VEGA.

- ** MR. AYALA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Committee moved into Executive Session at 6:52 pm.

- ** MR. RODGERSON MOVED TO END THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Committee ended their Executive Session at 7:10 pm.

- ** MR. AYALA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE 187-04 WORKERS' COMPENSATION FOR: DOMINGO VEGA.
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Mulligan noted the vote and announced it to be consent to calendar.

Ms. Evans left the meeting at 7:12 pm.

After a brief re-examination of the remaining agenda items, the Committee decided to move back into Executive Session.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOTIONED TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION.
- ** MR. AYALA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Committee entered Executive Session at 7:15 pm.

- ** MR. AYALA MOVED TO END THE EXECUTIVE SESSION.
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Committee came out of Executive Session at 7:50 pm.

184-04 - SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: ANNE GALLAGHER

- ** MR. AYALA MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE 184-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: ANNE GALLAGHER
- ** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Mulligan noted the vote and announced it to be consent to calendar.

185-04 - SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR OLQUIEDA PENALO

This action was noted to include a settlement for Ms. Polenco, also.

- ** MR. RODGERSON MOVED TO APPROVE 185-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR OLQUIEDA PENALO AS AMENDED ABOVE.
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Mulligan noted the vote and announced it to be consent to calendar.

76-04 - SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: CAMILLA DAMATO

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE 76-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: CAMILLA DAMATO.
- ** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

255-03 NEW POSITION DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

- ** MR. AYALA MOVED TO TABLE 255-03 - NEW POSITION DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC FACILITIES
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

120-04 - APPOINTMENT OF EDWARD J. MCLAINE (D) TO ETHICS COMMISSION

Mr. McLaine was not present at the meeting.

- ** MR. GOMES MOVED TO TABLE 120-04 - APPOINTMENT OF EDWARD J. MCLAINE (D) TO ETHICS COMMISSION
- ** MR. AYALA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

155-04 - REAPPOINTMENT OF MARIE TEDESCO (R) TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION

Ms. Tedesco was not present at the meeting.

- ** MS. . VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE 155-04 - REAPPOINTMENT OF MARIE TEDESCO (R) TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION.

- ** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**202-03 - INSTALLATION OF A WAR MEMORIAL IN THE CITY OF
BRIDGEPORT**

Currently, the Committee has not received a report on the status of this project, but Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia was aware of a situation in regards to Mr. Jack Hennessey.

- ** MS. . VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE 202-03 - INSTALLATION
OF A WAR MEMORIAL IN THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
- ** MR. GOMES SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**31-04 STATE REIMBURSEMENT OF LOW AND MODERATE INCOME
HOUSING TAX.**

The members of the Committee have not received any paperwork or information on this issue.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE 31-04 STATE
REIMBURSEMENT OF LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING
TAX.
- ** MR. RODGERSON SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Mulligan stated he would entertain a motion to recess until July 5, 2005 to take up the matter of 76-04.

- ** MR. GOMES MOVED TO RECESS THE COMMITTEE UNTIL JULY 5,
2005 IN REGARDS TO THE MATTER OF AGENDA ITEM 76-04.
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANNICCIA SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting went into recess at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
JULY 5, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Councilmembers Tom Mulligan (130th); Rafael Mojica, Co-Chair (131st); Keith Rodgeron (133rd); Amy Vizzo-Paniccia (134th); City Council President Andres Ayala (137th)

STAFF:

ABSENT: Councilmembers Anderson Ayala (131st); Ed Gomes (135th); Maria Valle (137th)

OTHER: Mark Anastasi, Attorney

Chairman Mojica called the meeting to order at 5:57 p.m.

76-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR CAMILLE DAMATO

**** COUNCILMAN AYALA MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.
** COUNCILMAN RODGERSON SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The councilmembers entered into executive session at 5:59 p.m.

The councilmembers reconvened at 6:12 p.m.

Councilman Ayala noted that Councilwoman Amy Vizzo-Paniccia was present for the quorum.

**** COUNCILMAN RODGERSON MOVED TO APPROVE 76-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT
FOR CAMILLE DAMATO.
** COUNCILWOMAN VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCILMAN RODGERSON MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** COUNCILWOMAN VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Marr
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
JULY 25, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Thomas Mulligan, Co-Chair; Rafael Mojica, Co-Chair;
AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia; Andres Ayala; Angel dePara;
Ed Gomes; Robert Walsh; Elaine Pivirotto; Keith Rogerson
(7:25 p.m.)

STAFF:

OTHERS: Mark T. Anasasia, City Attorney; Ted Grabarz, Public
Facilities; Marie Tedesco, Ethics Commission.

Mr. Mojica called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**#120-04 APPOINTMENT OF EDWARD J. McLAINE (D) TO THE ETHICS
COMMISSION**

Mr. Mojica informed the Committee that Mr. McLaine has withdrawn his application for appointment to the Ethics Committee per a memo Mr. Mojica received from the Mayor's office from Ms. Fleeta Hudson, City Clerk, on July 21, 2005.

Mr. Mojica said the Committee would take the approval of the minutes at the end of the meeting.

**#31-04 STATE REIMBURSEMENT OF LOW AND MODERATE INCOME
HOUSING TAX**

Mr. Robert Tetreault, Tax Collector, said this item had been tabled for the last three or four meetings. It was for seven not-for-profit housing developments and moderate income housing. He said they have been asking for reimbursement for the last six years and that last year the Council, during the budget process, requested they reduce the amount that they were to be reimbursed by the State.

Mr. Tetreault said he had spoken to the Mayor that afternoon and the Mayor had gone to the State, and had asked him to convey his message to the council. The Mayor was unable to get new money to replace the money they were looking for from the State at the end of the fiscal year; however, the Mayor feels that the intent of this program has not changed and the City should be abating these taxes. The mortgages are predicated upon

the taxes paid and unpaid and it very seriously jeopardizes their existence if they record unpaid taxes prior to the end of the agreement. Mr. Tetreault asked the Council to approve the item at this time.

Mr. Mojica questioned that what Mr. Tetreault was saying was, that the Mayor's office wants to continue the abatement of the taxes, that the City will find the monies and that after the 40-year agreement is up, they will worry about the taxes at that time. Mr. Tetreault said the tax abatement was tied into the 40-year mortgages, so the mortgages expire at the same time as the abatement agreement, and then there will be sufficient cash to pay the taxes. Mr. Ayala said that as one of the authors of this resolution he was pleased to see that the Mayor has agreed and felt this was something that had been going on for a long time and was worthwhile.

Mr. Walsh said that since a number of Committee members had signed on to an historic abatement, he was asking that the item be tabled for a number of sessions in order to find a leverage on the State. He said he was not giving up on the motion but as he saw it, the money does not exist. Mr. Mojica told Mr. Mulligan that he had info from the City Attorney's office for resolutions on each individual tax abatement for each property and a copy of the March minutes when the item was tabled. Mr. Mulligan said that he recalled they were going to make application to the State for reimbursement to be sent, the State was going to give it to the City, and it was at that time that it was made clear the Committee wasn't endorsing the idea of taxing the balance, that was going to wait for a later time. He guessed that it was the later time now as they were deciding against it. Mr. Walsh said he was concerned that in the future the abatement would be taken away from the people who needed it and would be injured by its removal.

**** MR. AYALA MOVED TO APPROVE THE ABATEMENT AS WRITTEN.
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION (MR. GOMES).**

**#155-04 REAPPOINTMENT OF MARIE TEDESCO TO THE ETHICS
COMMISSION**

Mr. Mojica said that he had not received any paperwork on this item. He asked if anyone else on the Committee had received any paperwork on this item and they had not. Mr. Mojica recommended tabling the issue until paperwork was received and reviewed. Mr. Ayala asked that since Ms. Tedesco was in attendance she be allowed to speak to the Committee. Mr. Mojica recognized Ms. Tedesco.

Ms. Tedesco informed the Committee that she had been appointed to the Ethics Committee in 2003 to fill a vacancy. She stated that she had no problem continuing on the Committee should she be reappointed. Mr. Ayala remarked that there had been

ongoing issues about the Ethics Committee not having quorums due to either a lack of members or a lack of attendance of members. Ms. Tedesco said she has attended all meetings except one. Mr. Walsh said he had known Ms. Tedesco for years and that she does an excellent job. Mr. Ayala recommended approval of Ms. Tedesco's reappointment contingent on receiving and reviewing the paperwork. He recommended the reappointment be held off until the August 1, 2005 meeting.

- ** **MR. MULLIGAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF MS. TEDESCO TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION SUBJECT TO REVIEW OF ACCEPTIBLE REPORTS FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR, ETHICS COMMISSION AND POLICE DEPARTMENT.**
- ** **MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**#193-04 PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CITY COUNCIL RULE XV
COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Mojica said that this item has to do with joint meetings. Discussion followed as to what constituted joint meetings and it was determined that the item was new language meant to clarify actions taken between two separate committee meetings with the same members involving quorums. It was explained that there are two separate votes taken. Mr. Gomes said that he doesn't like the amendment as it stands written now. Mr. Mojica said the paperwork says a joint meeting is exactly what it is, basically two committees coming together where there won't necessarily be a quorum needed, that a group of four can be combined from both committees to get things started, that when a vote is taken on an item, two votes are not necessarily taken on the same item but two different committees are combined as one and that constitutes a joint meeting. Mr. Anastasia, City Attorney, explained joint committees further for the understanding of the Committee and said that it could be very difficult to get a quorum and the wording was confusing.

- ** **MR. GOMES MOVED TO TABLE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT #193-04 PENDING AMENDMENT OF THE LANGUAGE COMING FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.**
- ** **MR. AYALA SECONDED.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**#194-04 CHANGES TO THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE FLEET MECHANIC
CLASSIFICATION**

Mr. Grabarz said this change is so the City can accept applications from more Class B mechanics instead of spending time waiting for Class A mechanics which are difficult to

find now. He said that Class B mechanics have the ability to upgrade their status at any time by completing tests and certifications. Mr. Gomes asked if Class As were hired at a different pay rate than Class Bs. Mr. Anastasia, City Attorney, said he would like to bring Class B mechanics at a lower rate. Mr. Grabarz explained that this was already being done and that Class B mechanics' pay rate would change as their certifications changed and they moved up to Class A status.

- ** MR. MULLIGAN MOVED TO AMEND THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR FLEET MECHANICS.
- ** MR. AYALA SECONDED.
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**#195-04 PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL RULE TO ESTABLISH PRESIDENT PRO
TEMPORE POSITION**

Mr. Rogerson said he proposed this rule so the City Council has a line of succession for such time as the chair or co-chairs are unavailable to run the meetings. Mr. Gomes said there is nothing in the City Charter or Code that refers to a President Pro Tempore, there is no rule but there is a long-standing practice. Mr. Rogerson said yes, as there was a practice that a Majority leader was appointed by the City Council President which was an absolute, which basically disregarded the actual rules that govern this City. Mr. Gomes said that when he was made Majority leader, he was not elected to that position, he was appointed. Mr. Rogerson agreed and said that Mr. Gomes was appointed incorrectly because it had been practice to ignore the rules which govern the Council. Mr. Gomes asked Mr. Rogerson to clarify the rule which govern the Majority leader. Mr. Rogerson said the Majority leader is elected by the majority party. Mr. Gomes asked if that was in the charter. Mr. Rogerson said it was there in black and white. Mr. Anastasia, City Attorney, read the rule, Chapter 6, Section 13.

Mr. Anastasia said that the rule he just read does not preclude the City Council president from making a nomination; and it doesn't preclude anyone else from making one either. He said the Council president could say he was nominating, as opposed to appointing, and the rest of the Council could ratify the appointment. Mr. Anastasia said that if a President Pro Tempore is established now, the real question is what are the duties of a President Pro Tempore, would it be ceremonial? He said that if it was going to have duties of doing what a traditional President Pro Tempore does, which was presiding in the absence of the Mayor or Council president, then they have to deal with the language of Chapter 5, Section 4-A, which can be read several ways. He said the way he always read it was, in the absence of the Mayor or the President of the City Council at any meeting, the City Council may choose one of its members to act as President for the occasion. He said that tends to suggest that they do it on a meeting-by-meeting basis although they could, he supposed, take it to mean that they could vote in advance that

whenever there was an occasion where the Council president and the Mayor was unavailable, then the President Pro Tempore takes over, but he suspects that a better reading of that language is that if the Mayor and the Council President were absent, the Council from amongst its group votes on that night. He said they could have a practice of taking a vote and let a President Pro Tempore take over because that's a person who's carrying that designation. Mr. Anastasia said he wasn't saying the Council couldn't have a President Pro Tempore, he was just saying that they had to be careful to deal with that charter language as well.

Mr. Mojica asked if the appointments for President Pro Tempore and Majority and Minority leaders were ratified by the rest of the council. Mr. Rogerson said at the last meeting they separately ratified the Majority leader and the City Council President had listed his appointees. Mr. Mojica said it was voted on by the City Council as to yes or no, so the appointments were made and it was ratified by the entire council on all these positions. **He said he just wanted to clarify that because they had an appointment by the President I stopped here*****

Mr. Walsh said the idea of the proposed rule was petty and personal and he didn't like it. Mr. DePara said that Mr. Rogerson's point was valid but the language should be cleaned up and he suggested Mr. Rogerson look at the Council rules and clean up the language to avoid any further personalities coming into play.

**** MR. MULLIGAN MOVED TO TABLE THE PROPOSED RULE #195-05 UNTIL DEFINITION OF DUTIES OF THE POSITION CAN BE DETERMINED.**

**** MR. GOMES SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION (MR. ROGERSON)**

#199-04 REQUIRING EXPENDITURES IN EXCESS OF \$1,000.00 BY COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION OFFICES BE SUBMITTED TO BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR APPROVAL

Mr. Ayala said he agreed with the suggestion but asked why stop here with only the Council adhering to it, why not move ahead and make all departments follow the rule. Mr. DePara said he agreed with the sentiment of the resolution and commended Mr. Rogerson for his work and zeal. Ms. Pivrotto agreed with Mr. Ayala and said that if the rule is good for one, it is good for all. Mr. Mulligan said that money the Council appropriates for itself ought to go first to pay for an auditor and then should be used for other matters. Mr. Mulligan said that the "whereas" comments in Mr. Rogerson's rule are inflammatory and he was reluctant to vote for it because of those paragraphs although the last three were good suggestions. Mr. Gomes said that some of the items had been

City of Bridgeport

Miscellaneous Matters Committee

July 25, 2005

Page 5

discussed before, but no action such as this was ever considered until someone spent \$1,300.00 on a loveseat for their office. Mr. Anastasia read a portion of the City Code which discussed purchases to furnish the Council members' offices. Mr. Walsh said he agreed with Mr. Anastasia and the Code.

- ** **MR. GOMES MOVED THAT ITEM #199-04 BE TABLED UNTIL THE NEXT MEETING AND FURTHER DISCUSSION.**
- ** **MR. MULLIGAN SECONDED.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED WITH TWO OPPOSED (MR. ROGERSON AND MS. VIZZO-PALICCIA.)**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia requested the record reflect the correct spelling of her name as follows: AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia.

No actions were taken on the minutes of May 23, 2005; June 7, 2005; June 27, 2005 or July 5, 2005.

ADJOURNMENT

- ** **MOTION TO ADJOURN BY MR. AYALA.**
- ** **SECONDED BY MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA.**
- ** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Hayes
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 22, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Rafael Mojica, Co-Chair; Thomas Mulligan, Marie Valle,
AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia, Edwin Gomes,

OTHERS: Angel dePara, Jr., Robert Walsh, Jeffrey Kohut

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Mr. Mojica.

APPROVAL OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: JULY 25, 2005

Mr. Mojica distributed copies of the minutes for the Committee to review for changes or corrections. There were no changes.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS SUBMITTED.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

225-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: KIEVE CLARK

Mr. Mojica informed the committee that Attorney Anastasi was unable to attend the meeting and had requested that this item be tabled.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 225-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: KIEVE CLARK AS REQUESTED BY ATTORNEY ANASTASI.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

226-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: GERALDO RIVERA

Mr. Mojica informed the committee that Attorney Anastasi was unable to attend the meeting and had requested that this item be tabled.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 226-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: GERALDO RIVERA AS REQUESTED BY ATTORNEY ANASTASI.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**215-04 APPOINTMENT OF JEFFREY KOHUT (D) TO THE ETHICS
COMMISSION**

Mr. Kohut was present at the meeting and introduced himself to the Committee.

Mr. Gomes explained that Mr. Kohut had run on his ticket for the Town Committee and was the only one that was not elected to the Committee. Because Mr. Kohut had worked very hard for the campaign, Mr. Gomes had promised Mr. Kohut the first vacant seat on the Committee that becomes available. This might happen in the next few months. However, Mr. Kohut was concerned about a possible conflict of interest and would like to check with the City Attorney to avoid possible difficulties.

Ms. Valle also recommended Mr. Kohut and referred to a meeting with the Police Chief where Mr. Kohut had done an outstanding job.

Mr. dePara stated that he had attended a meeting with the police about a shooting death in which Mr. Kohut was participating. He felt that Mr. Kohut's concern with the possible conflict of interest spoke volumes about his character.

Mr. Walsh also stated his approval of Mr. Kohut.

Mr. Mojica suggested that Mr. Kohut speak to the Ethics Commission directly about the possible conflict of interest and he would ask the City Attorney for his opinion on the situation.

- ** MR. MULLIGAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. JEFFREY KOHUT TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION.
- ** MR. GOMES SECONDED.
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**214-04 CREATION OF A SPECIAL GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE TO MONITOR DEPARTMENTAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE
CITY BUDGET.**

Mr. Mulligan spoke about how he was increasingly concerned over the fact there were many unresolved financial issues, such as whether the City should have workmen's compensation insurance, or the labor negotiations, which result in a sudden financial crisis. He was suggesting this committee to prevent sudden budgetary surprises and to make sure that the various department stayed on course during the year. He stated that he personally preferred to be aware of financial short falls ahead of time.

Mr. Gomes was curious as to how this would be implemented.

Mr. Mulligan explained that he hoped it would provide the Committee members with more information about the budget before the budget meetings. He pointed out that it was

important to keep the mill rate down to allow the tax base to grow. This would be proactive rather than reactive.

Mr. Mojica expressed concern about establishing another committee.

Mr. Walsh pointed out that the Committee receives month reports from the OPM and reminded everyone that last year there was a 5 million budget gap. However, there was no explanation for the short fall, nor was there a plan for closing the budget gap. Mr. Walsh also observed that Budget and Appropriations had processed a number of budget transfers in the past, but no longer. He felt that might be because a practice of “lifting budgetary controls” which began in the Gannon administration, was still being used. The Budget and Appropriations Committee is the one that sets up the budget. It was important, Mr. Walsh felt, to work with the current standing committee rules.

Ms. Valle observed that it was important to start somewhere, perhaps with quarterly meetings to update the Committee.

Mr. dePara stated that it would be a huge task doing the budget work, but a necessary one as the tax base is not growing as fast as the City wants. Because of this, it is necessary to safe guard the money being spent. This would provide explanations, understanding, accountability and financial responsibility for the Committee. The City owes it to the tax payers to be careful with the finances and it is the next logical step.

Mr. Mulligan reminded everyone that the City Charter gives the right to the Committees to have department heads report to the Committee.

Mr. Mojica pointed out that the agendas have been light and a few times, meetings have been canceled for lack of agenda items. When that situation occurs, it would be an ideal time to utilize the opportunity. He suggested that Committees such as the Public Safety meet with the Fire Department and the Police Departments. He also stated that he would speak to Council President Ayala about this matter and encourage him to start the process of fiscal oversight in the various committees. Mr. Mulligan replied that it was fine with him as long as the project moved forward.

At this point, it was decided to table the idea of creating a new committee in favor of encouraging the various committees to have the OPM and Budgets and Appropriations report back to them in a regularly scheduled manner.

- ** MR. GOMES MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 214-04 CREATION OF A SPECIAL GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE TO MONITOR DEPARTMENTAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE CITY BUDGET.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**215-04 PROPOSED ART CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS FOR THE CITY'S
YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE READ'S ART SPACE**

Mr. Mojica reported to the Committee that the artists who live in the downtown area would like to have workshops and classes in the downtown area rather than in Black Rock or other out lying areas. The classes would be held in various places, the University of Bridgeport has expressed interest and so has Read's. They would not be limited to one location.

Mr. Walsh asked for clarification on what the proposal was actually asking for. As there was no one present from the group to answer the Committee's questions, Ms. Valle suggested tabling the proposal until more information was available.

- ** MS. VALLE MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 215-04 PROPOSED ART CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS FOR THE CITY'S YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE READ'S ART SPACE FOR CLARIFICATION AND MORE INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED.**
- ** MR. GOMES SECONDED**
- ** THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**222-04 SALARY AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR
LEGISLATIVE AIDE POSITION.**

Mr. Mojica informed the Committee that there had been a meeting at 5:30 on Friday regarding this issue at City Hall. Many ideas about choosing a candidate were expressed. Mr. dePara stated that he had attended that meeting and felt it was a good working session. Ms. Valle wondered why the various attendees had not submitted ideas in advance so that everyone could consider them before attending the meeting.

Mr. Mojica explained that the salary of \$35,000 will remain the same, but that securing a person who is really top notch would require at least an additional \$10,000 in salary.

Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia suggested that the information from that meeting being compiled and emailed to all the members of the Common Council. Mr. Mojica agreed, and said that all 20 Common Council members need to vote on this issue.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 222-04 SALARY AND QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR LEGISLATIVE AIDE POSITION UNTIL THE INFORMATION FROM THE EARLIER MEETING COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MS. VALLE MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 26, 2005**

ATTENDANCE: Thomas Mulligan, Co-Chair; Ralph Mojica, Co-Chair (6:43 p.m.); AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia; Robert Walsh; Maria Valle; Keith Rogerson; Ed Gomes.

STAFF:

OTHERS: Alan Kennedy; Mark Marko; Gerri MacMonagle; James Calvin Burwell; Robert Tetreau, Tax Collector.

Mr. Mulligan called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

263-04 APPOINTMENT OF ALAN R. KENNEDY (D) TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Mr. Mulligan stated the Committee would take this item out of order so that Mr. Kennedy could attend a P&Z meeting being held in another part of the building.

Mr. Mulligan stated that Mr. Kennedy was being proposed for appointment to the Planning & Zoning Commission as a permanent member. He asked Mr. Kennedy if he was currently on the Commission. Mr. Kennedy explained that he was an alternate on the Commission and had been so for almost four years. Mr. Mulligan asked Mr. Kennedy to explain his background and service.

Mr. Kennedy said he was a resident of Bridgeport with his wife and has lived here most of his life. He has been vice president of his previous condominium association, Cosgrove Condominiums for six years, and is now living in Madison Commons Condominium Association on Madison Avenue where he has been president for five years and vice president for one year. He worked as a supervisor in Accounts Receivable at Remington Products and currently works for an armored company. Mr. Kennedy started as an alternate on the Planning & Zoning Commission in January, 2001. He wants to see the city expand. He thinks the city needs a good, sound tax base; he thinks it is progressing in the right direction and he would like to see it continue to expand as much as it can, to increase the tax base.

Mr. Walsh asked Mr. Kennedy if he had a philosophy between commercial development and preservation of residential zoning as it is now. Mr. Kennedy said he knows that Bridgeport has been a very industrialized city. He doesn't think it will stay as industrialized as it once was, and that the city needs to look at other areas in which they can build up not only the tax base but what can be done to increase the ratio of housing to industry. He feels that this is something that will have to be taken sight-by-sight as presented to the Commission.

Mr. Walsh asked if Mr. Kennedy has ever been associated with any real estate companies or worked as a realtor. Mr. Kennedy said he had not.

Mr. Gomes said that, as an alternate, Mr. Kennedy has sat in on several meetings in which a twenty-three room motel was discussed for a residential area of the City. Mr. Kennedy agreed he had. He asked how that was allowed to happen, saying the matter greatly concerned him, since based upon what he had heard, it was not something that seemed to him to be bringing sound economical environment to the area, besides it being proposed for a residential area. Mr. Kennedy indicated there were some issues raised in the last P&Z meeting as to whether there is a legal right for the motel to be there.

Mr. Mojica arrived at the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Mr. Mulligan said that, in his view, one of the strengths of the city has been its residential neighborhoods. He asked if Mr. Kennedy felt that keeping the residential areas of the city was important. Mr. Kennedy said that he feels it is extremely important, and suggested that the rising cost of fuel and petroleum products may induce people to return to living in the cities they grew up in and moved away from, and if they were to return they would need to find the cities welcoming to them and their families.

Mr. Mulligan said he didn't realize that Mr. Kennedy was on the Commission now as an alternate. He said the Committee hadn't been given Mr. Kennedy's attendance record. He explained to Mr. Kennedy that when the Committee is asked to appoint someone to a commission, one of the things they examined was the appointee's meeting attendance record. He asked Mr. Kennedy to describe his attendance at meetings. Mr. Kennedy said he attended meetings on an on-call basis but that in addition to being on-call, he receives information given to the Commission even if he isn't called in for a meeting so he is kept up to date on all issues. Mr. Kennedy estimated that he attended every meeting he was called in for with the exception of only one or two times. He said he takes his work on the Commission as a very serious responsibility.

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE APPOINTMENT OF MR. ALAN R. KENNEDY TO THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION.**

**** MR. ROGERSON SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

217-04 PROPOSE ART CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS FOR THE CITY'S YOUNG PEOPLE AT THE READ'S ART SPACE

Council President Ayala said this was a resolution he had proposed along with several other council members. At one time they had been discussing the Read's Art Center and several of them have had the opportunity to speak with many of the artists in residence there. In these conversations the artists talk about wanting to give back to the school system, mentor in the after school programs and try to get involved in various ways. Mr. Ayala thought it would be a good idea to work with the after school program or maybe the Parks & Recreation Dept. to see if they

could begin a dialog between the City and the interested artists to facilitate a way to get them involved. He thinks it would be a great idea for the Committee to create the opportunity for these artists, who are ready to volunteer to come in work with the City and sees it as a win-win situation for both the City and the artists who are living in subsidized housing from the city, and it would be a great opportunity for them to pass along their skills to others. Mr. Ayala said that the way in which this would be implemented he would leave up to the people running the programs to decide, but these discussions would provide a framework and the opportunity to create the environment. He hoped the Committee would look favorably on the resolution.

Mr. Ayala said as far as funding was concerned, he didn't think it needed to be a budgetary line item; he thought the after school program could provide whatever resources are already being implemented since the artists would actually be adding some expertise that didn't currently exist. He said this would provide an option for the City to do something different.

Mr. Walsh said he was confused as to what Mr. Ayala's resolution was saying. He was not sure if there would be a financial commitment expected from the City. Mr. Ayala said the artists would be there just in a volunteer capacity and that this was an attempt to give people who want to be involved a chance to become involved.

Mr. Walsh asked if Mr. Ayala thought that the people running the programs would need prodding to accept the volunteers. Mr. Gomes was concerned about someone coming back to the City at some point in the future and expecting financing even though they may not want it at this time, and he was concerned that this might cause the program to get yanked out from under the kids if there was no expectation of funding. Mr. Mulligan asked if someone has been appointed to get this program under way.

Mr. Rogerson said he was in support of the idea but didn't think passing a resolution would do anything, he felt that opportunity already existed for the artists to just show up and volunteer. Ms. Valle said that in terms of people volunteering for the schools, there indeed was an organization called SVA, School Volunteers Association, which was already in place. She remarked that it had been found that when a violin program was added to one of the city's schools, the math scores in that school increased dramatically, and she was in favor of adding this program. Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia suggested opening the program to all of the schools in the city instead of just a single school. Mr. Ayala agreed that was a good idea and could do a tremendous amount of good all around.

Ms. Vizzo-Paniccia asked for an amendment to the resolution to go out into the general public to solicit funds. Mr. Ayala said it was not a problem if the Committee wanted to specify no City funds would be used.

**** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION TO READ THAT FUNDS WOULD BE SOUGHT FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND NOT SOUGHT FROM THE CITY DURING THIS BUDGET PERIOD.**

**** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE OPPOSED (MR. MOJICA).**

**** MR. ROGERSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AS AMENDED.
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

244-04 REAPPOINTMENT OF MARK MARKO (D) TO THE PARKS COMMISSION

Mr. Mulligan introduced Mr. Marko to the Commission and distributed information to the members. He asked Mr. Marko to describe his background to the Commission.

Mr. Marko said he had been a City resident all of his life and had been a Parks Commissioner for three years. He worked as a production supervisor. He said that his Parks and Recreation experience consisted of his involvement with Pop Warner Football and other similar organizations, and that it was his experience with these organizations that prompted his entry into the Parks Commission. Mr. Marko said that as far as his attendance record went, in the three years he has been on the Commission he had perfect attendance, which was backed up by the information the Commission had.

Mr. Mojica stated that he had known Mr. Marko personally for many years; he knew his family and gave his personal recommendation to Mr. Marko's reappointment to the Commission. He said that Mr. Marko was probably one of the better members on the Commission and would continue to do a good job for the City.

Mr. Walsh said that he met Mr. Marko about three years ago when there was a meeting and discussion about selling Fairchild-Wheeler Golf Course to Fairfield, and he and Mr. Marko were both opposed to that. He feels that Mr. Marko realized the tremendous asset the golf course was to the City, and he agreed with Mr. Mojica's comments as well.

Mr. Walsh asked Mr. Marko to explain what he felt were the biggest challenges for the Parks Commission or what innovations or new ideas did he have. Mr. Marko felt that the biggest challenge was the encroachment of the parks, that various people all seem to want a piece of the parks for various reasons, and he also felt that neighborhood issues involving the parks was important as the neighborhoods support the parks in their area. He said it was important to make people aware that the parks are there for everyone to enjoy, and that when he makes a decision as a Commissioner he does it with an eye to the benefit of all.

**** MR. MOJICA MOVED TO APPROVE MR. MARKO'S REAPPOINTMENT.
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

264-04 APPOINTMENT OF GERRI MACMONAGLE (R) TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY

Mr. Mulligan asked Ms. MacMonagle for her background and interest in the Redevelopment Agency.

Ms. MacMonagle said she had lived in the Brooklawn area of the City and became very active in the Historic District there in order to help keep the neighborhood intact. She said she has been very active in that organization over the years. Ms. MacMonagle stated that she owned her own business in Fairfield as a certified financial planner, and her husband works for General Electric. Ms. MacMonagle said her interests lie in Bridgeport where she pays her taxes and she would like to see the City move forward. She said it was important to preserve the past but also sees room for development for the future. She said she wouldn't pretend that she knows what the Redevelopment Agency does but that she was approached by John Strassner because she had some extra time and energy to put into a committee, and he suggested she take a look at this committee. She said she has no solutions or ideas to offer until she takes a look at the issues and familiarizes herself with them.

Mr. Rogerson asked if Ms. MacMonagle had to make a determination on any issues that involved General Electric would she be able to do that in an impartial way. Ms. MacMonagle said she could be impartial.

Mr. Walsh asked if Ms. MacMonagle was aware that the Redevelopment Agency is the mechanism by which the City exercises eminent domain. He asked if she had any thoughts that she would like to share with the Commissioners about eminent domain. Ms. MacMonagle said that she had been doing a lot of reading about the issue but at this time she didn't have an opinion, although her first reaction was that it was terrible for people to lose their homes. Mr. Ayala and Mr. Mojica briefly discussed the Redevelopment Agency's involvement with eminent domain issues. Mr. Mojica asked Ms. MacMonagle if she was aware of everything handled by Redevelopment. Ms. MacMonagle said she was not, but that she knew she had a lot to learn about the agency. Mr. Gomes stated that it was important for Ms. MacMonagle to be able to come up to speed on all the issues involved as soon as she could. Ms. MacMonagle said that she understood that there was quite a bit of involvement but that she felt she couldn't state an opinion about anything until she was more familiar with all the information. She said she was a quick learner.

- ** MR. MOJICA MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. MACMONAGLE TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED WITH ONE OPPOSED (MR. GOMES.)**

**265-04 APPOINTMENT OF JAMES CALVIN BURWELL (D) TO THE STRATFIELD
HISTORIC DISTRICT**

Mr. Mulligan asked Mr. Burwell for his background and reasons for seeking appointment to the Historic District.

Mr. Burwell said that he moved to the District a little over a year ago and was an interested homeowner who believes that the architecture of the City is one of the things that makes the city wonderful. He would really like to see the homeowners in the district share that view and believe that investment in their properties to preserve their character is something to be desired. He stated that he has lived in Connecticut for about ten years. He said he moved here to become an English teacher in Westport, which he has been for four years. He stated that he lived in Norwalk and Westport before moving to Bridgeport. He said he now works in New York for a marketing company that specializes in websites.

Mr. Gomes asked if Mr. Burwell has been involved in any organizations that would assist him in being appointed to the historic district. Mr. Burwell said that he would be the first one to say that being a public school teacher meant he was no stranger to public service, and he served on many committees at school until 9:30 at night, so he was used to evening meetings.

Mr. Walsh asked when Mr. Burwell purchased his house, if he was aware that it was in a historic district. Mr. Burwell said that he had been looking to purchase a house in Bridgeport for several months and this was the third house he had bid on. He said that by the time he had placed that bid, he had become pretty familiar with the districts in the City. Mr. Burwell said that when he first started the process he was less aware. He said he was surprised by the realtor's lack of awareness as to what the district was, where the boundaries were, what responsibilities a person assumed when buying a house there.

Mr. Mojica asked how would Mr. Burwell feel if the Historic District were to approach a buyer and attempt to limit what they could do with the property, such as building a wall or fence, painting the house a certain color, and so on, or who couldn't afford to keep their property up to certain standards that might be posed by the Historic District. Mr. Burwell said that he was in sympathy with people who wanted to make positive strides but weren't able to afford to do so and indicated that he himself was in that category. He also said that he sensed from his neighbors that the perception of the Commission was not positive and that the Commission has a public relations challenge, that people wanted to understand better about how the Commission operates, and he thought that was a fair expectation. He said if people violate the standards of the neighborhood, he wasn't sure they could fairly be penalized, and for people who really want to do something but believe that improving their properties is going to be cost-prohibitive, he would challenge the Commission to help those people find the means of doing it properly.

**** MR. MOJICA MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF MR.
BURWELL TO THE STRATFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT.
** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**240-04 CORRECTION OF STATE REIMBURSEMENT OF LOW AND MODERATE
INCOME HOUSING TAX FOR GRAND LIST OF 2003, ADOPTED ON AUGUST 1,
2005**

Mr. Tetreault asked to take this item first as the Commission had already passed it; however, when it was passed in resolution, the way it had been worded originally called for a “partial reimbursement,” and the Committee, when it did its vote, was trying to pass one hundred percent, and unfortunately when it was wording done by the secretary it wasn’t correct so the Town Clerk has asked that the Commission reword it to show what they were trying to do. Mr. Mulligan asked so this is just a technical change? Mr. Tetreault said yes.

- ** MR. ROGERSON MOVED TO CORRECT THE STATE REIMBURSEMENT OF LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING TAX FOR GRAND LIST OF 2003, ADOPTED ON AUGUST 2, 2005 TO READ “REIMBURSEMENT,” NOT “PARTIAL REIMBURSEMENT” AND APPROVE AS AMENDED.**
- ** MR. MOJICA SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**239-04 STATE REIMBURSEMENT OF LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING
TAX**

Mr. Tetreault said that this is this year’s request for the same set of properties, same wording, which is approval of the reimbursement of the low and moderate income housing tax beginning July 1, 2005.

- ** MR. MOJICA MOVED TO APPROVE THE REIMBURSEMENT OF LOW AND MODERATE INCOME HOUSING TAX.**
- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

272-04 REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS

Mr. Tetreault said there were two refunds the Committee was being asked to approve. The first one was in the amount of \$12, 461.99 in the case where a bank paid on the wrong parcel. The second one was in the amount of \$14,256.64 to the White Eagle Society.

- ** MR. MOJICA MOVED TO APPROVE THE REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**245-04 REAPPOINTMENT OF HARRY SEYMOUR (R) TO THE ETHICS
COMMISSION**

Mr. Mulligan requested a motion to table this item, as the appointee was not in attendance.

- ** MR. ROGERSON MOVED TO TABLE THE REAPPOINTMENT, AS MR. SEYMOUR WAS NOT IN ATTENDANCE.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

266-04 APPOINTMENT OF NANDI CUMMINGS (U) TO THE STRATFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Mr. Mulligan informed the Committee that Ms. Cummings had telephoned him to say she would be unable to attend the meeting as she was out of state.

Mr. Mulligan requested a motion to table this item, as the appointee was unable to attend.

- ** MR. ROGERSON MOVED TO TABLE THE APPOINTMENT OF MS. CUMMINGS TO THE STRATFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION, AS THE APPOINTEE WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND.**
- ** MS. VALLE SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

225-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: KIEVE CLARK
226-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: GERALDO RIVERA

Mr. Mulligan requested a motion for the Committee to go into Executive Session to discuss these two items.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED THE COMMITTEE GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ITEMS 225-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: KIEVE CLARK AND 226-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: GERALDO RIVERA.**
- ** MR. MOJICA SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Committee went into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m.

- ** MS. VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED THE COMMITTEE COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RESUME THE REGULAR MEETING.**
- ** MR. ROGERSON SECONDED.**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The regular meeting resumed at 8:12 p.m.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: AUGUST 22, 2005

**** MS. VALLE MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 22, 2005 AS WRITTEN.**

**** MR. MOJICA SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** MS. VALLE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.**

**** MR. MOJICA SECONDED.**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda J. Hayes
Telesco Secretarial Services

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE of the CITY COUNCIL
OCTOBER 24, 2005

ATTENDANCE: COUNCIL MEMBERS: MOJICA, RODGERSON, VALLE,
VIZZO-PANICCIA, MULLIGAN

ABSENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: GOMES, ANDERSON AYALA

OTHER(s) PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: HOLLOWAY
NANDIE CUMMINGS; COMMISSION CANDIDATE,
ROBERT TETREALT; TAX COLLECTOR

CITY ATTORNEY: MARK ANASTASI

Councilmember Mojica called the meeting to order at 6:47 p.m.

Minutes Approval - September 26, 2005

**** COUNCILMEMBER VALLE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES**
**** COUNCILMEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**266-04 Appointment of Nandi Cummings (U) to the Stratfield Historic District
Commission**

Councilmember Mojica stated that the paperwork was reviewed at the last meeting. He asked if there were any questions from the committee members.

Councilmember Rodgerson asked if Ms. Cummings lived in the district. Ms. Cummings said she resided at 825 Laurel Avenue and that she was a homeowner.

Ms. Cummings commented that she liked the idea of the Stratfield Historic District Commission guiding the preservation of historic homes. She felt this gave a neighborly feeling and encouraged pride by the owners.

Councilmember Mulligan asked the type of work she did. Ms. Cummings said she was a realtor in Bridgeport, Trumbull and Fairfield.

Councilmember Valle asked if this would be her first time serving on a committee. Ms. Cummings said yes.

**** COUNCILMEMBER VALLE MADE A MOTIN TO APPROVE
** COUNCILMEMBER RODGERSON SECONDED**

Councilmember Mojica commented that serving on the commission and keeping a historical sense to a property was important. But he noted that Ms. Cummings being a realtor and selling a house in the historic district to a first time home buyer, there may be instances when an owner may not realize the policy of the historic commission and the costs involved to do repairs or renovations. He asked how she felt about this. Ms. Cummings said when she first moved to the area, she didn't understand the policy either. She said she had to go through the Stratfield Historic District Commission to redo her porch. She thought a first time homeowner should be aware of the policies. She said that if someone buys a home, she tries to get the agent listing the home to offer that information.

Councilmember Mojica stated that he hoped she would be flexible in her decisions for those that come before the commission and to keep expenses in mind.

Councilmember Rodgeron stated that he hoped she could make the public more aware in regard to the historic district commission's policy.

Councilmember Holloway said there were guidelines already set by the Stratfield Historic District Commission, as well as the type of work that is required and approved. So if there is a new buyer and they are told their house is in an historic district, there are limitations to what they can do, as to not upset the structure. He noted they must keep in mind they need to check with the commission; because the owner is not always aware of what's allowed or what isn't.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The committee members offered Ms. Cummings congratulations on her appointment.

*It was noted this item would be scheduled on the full city council agenda.

283-04 Refund of Excess Payments

Mr. Tetreault said the bank (Chase Bank) overpaid in the amount of \$12,461.99 and they need to be reimbursed.

**** COUNCILMEMBER VALLE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE
** COUNCILMEMBER RODGERSON SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

285-04 Refund of Excess Payments

City of Bridgeport
Miscellaneous Matters Committee of the City Council
October 24, 2005
Page 2 of 4

Mr. Tetreault said this item involved AGI Rubber Company. There was a \$16,464.50 reduction in assessment from the year 2003.

- ** COUNCILMEMBER VALLE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE
- ** COUNCILMEMBER RODGERSON SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

226-04 Suit Settlement for: Geraldo Rivera

- ** COUNCILMEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION
- ** COUNCILMEMBER RODGERSON SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

The committee moved into executive session at 7:00 p.m.

- ** COUNCILMEMBER VALLE MOVED TO END EXECUTIVE SESSION
- ** COUNCILMEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

The committee came out of executive session at 7:17 p.m.

-
- ** COUNCILMEMBER RODERSON MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE 226-04 SUIT SETTLEMENT FOR: GERALDO RIVERA
 - ** COUNCILMEMBER VALLE SECONDED
 - ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

245-04 Reappointment of Harry Seymour (R) to the Ethics Commission

Councilmember Mojica stated that the candidate wasn't present.

- ** COUNCILMEMBER RODERSON MADE A MOTION TO TABLE
- ** COUNCILMEMBER MULLIGAN SECONDED
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNED

**** COUNCILMEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN
** COUNCILMEMER MULLIGAN SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOULSY**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham
Telesco Secretarial Services

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
JOINT MEETING
BUDGET COMMITTEE *and* MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 27, 2005

ATTENDANCE BUDGET COMMITTEE

COUNCILMEMBERS: CURWEN, MOJICA, McCARTHY, SILVA, WALSH,
CURRAN, VIZZO-PANICCIA

ATTENDANCE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE

COUNCILMEMBERS: MOJICA, VIZZO-PANICCIA, PAOLETTO, WALSH,
AYALA(sat in to make a quorum)

OTHER(s): COUNCILMEMBERS: LYONS, MULLIGAN, PIVIROTTO
ASSOCIATE CITY ATTORNEY TRACHTENBURG,
ED LAVERNOICH; OPED, CHARLES CAROLL; CHIEF OF
STAFF, CEFAB REPRESENTATIVES

Councilmember Curwen called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. He reviewed the ground rules for conducting the meeting. He stated that four (4) votes would be needed from each committee for the resolution to pass.

28-05 Real Estate Taxes on a Property Undergoing Environmental Remediation

Mr. Lavernoich stated he was from the Office of Planning and Economic Development. He stated that a resolution had been drafted to authorize the Mayor to forgive back taxes due at 552 Housatonic Avenue. He explained that the new owner would conduct the remediation. He said he would give a history of the property, an update on the current conditions, the tax situation and settlement. He went on to speak about property in question. He displayed an aerial map and pointed out the former Bridgeport Brass property that had been an active company in Bridgeport for 90 years. The property covered 28-acres in the center of the city. He noted that Bridgeport Brass abandoned the property in 1980 and there has been no productive use of the property since 1980, except for a trash hauling operation. The former buildings at 552 Housatonic Avenue consist of 400,000 + square feet were there are large pits in the ground and enormous foundations that will cause environmental problems cleaning it up. The buildings were removed in 1990 and 2000 and there have been various phases of clean up since then. He continued to speak about how Mr. DiNardo acquired the company from Capital Asset in 1998, after three years of them not paying taxes, Mr. DiNardo made a contract to pay back the taxes amounting to \$300k. Mr. DiNardo started the remediation and demolition in 1999 and began discussions with the city in 2000, however, he was unable to get a clear answer

from the prior administration and he started seeing the costs escalate. At the time the costs were approximately \$4million (*Mr. Lavernoich had a document indicating this*), but he noted that he wasn't sure if it could be considered an official accurate document. Subsequently, Mr. DiNardo provided a document from a licensed environmental professional that there was approximately \$1million + to be done in remediation costs, beyond what was already done.

Councilmember Curwen asked if Delta Environmental was a subsidiary of Capital Asset. Mr. DiNardo said no.

Mr. Lavernoich explained the settlement and said that under the 1997 law, there were two different options. There was a provision to allow a prospective purchaser to buy a property and get all or a portion of the back taxes waived, but this option wasn't considered by the city. So they took into consideration the documents and the letter from the professional engineer, as well as the total outstanding taxes due currently (*this was outlined in a listing he distributed*) in the amount of \$1.6 million. He further explained that the law passed in 1997, didn't allow taxes from 1996 and 1997 to be forgiven, so Mr. DiNardo paid the 1997 taxes as it was outlined in the document. He further noted the amount Mr. DiNardo would pay immediately, noting that the total principal amount was \$689,354.06, but that he would pay a little more than the outstanding amount of approximately \$695k.

Councilmember McCarthy asked if the proposal was to pay the 1995, 1996 and 1997 taxes. Mr. Lavernoich said yes and the subsequent years taxes would be forgiven.

Mr. Lavernoich reiterated that Mr. DiNardo would pay the \$695k immediately and complete the clean up as approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Commissioner. This will have to be shown by a document indicating the clean up has been done. But the interest and penalties will continue on top of the \$695k and he will have nine months to a one year to complete the cleanup. But if he doesn't complete it, then the foreclosure continues until the taxes are paid, otherwise he will lose the property.

Mr. Lavernoich said they would get the \$695k immediately, he mentioned that he hoped this would compel Mr. DiNardo to clean up the property in a reasonable amount of time.

Councilmember McCarthy asked then if they were forgiving years 1998 to 2004 taxes. Mr. Lavernoich said that was the intention, but again, if the clean up was not done within the next few months, then the old taxes will begin rationing up fees.

Councilmember Curwen asked if the reason the 1995, 1996 and 1997 taxes were not applicable, was because the law didn't predate paying those taxes. Mr. Lavernoich said that was correct.

Councilmember Ayala asked in regard to the clean up, what standard was the city requiring for cleaning up the property. Mr. Lavernoich said they were going by the state standards that are driven by the reuse of the property i.e., the more aggressive the use, there are more restrictive standards. This protects people from pollution surrounding a residential use.

Mr. Lavernoich summed up the process of what would happen if the resolution was approved.

Councilmember McCarthy asked Mr. Lavernoich to point out the area in question on the map. Mr. Lavernoich pointed out the area and said it was 12.5 acres south of Grand Street; there was 450,000 sq. ft. of building. Again, the property was purchased from Capital Asset in 1998 and has undergone clean up since then.

Mr. Lavernoich expressed the importance of encouraging this type of activity. He said they tried to get the state and city assistance for the clean ups, but it would cost between \$6 and \$7 million and probably would have been done less effectively by either. So they thought they would have to find the resources to demolish the buildings and clean them up. He further stressed that he wanted to encourage the clean up of brown fields, in that, perhaps other people might come forward to do so. Councilmember Curwen concurred with the statement that something was needed to do this, but he questioned whether each case should be taken case-by-case. Mr. Lavernoich said yes, but he noted the procedure should have a broad criterion, wherein, the city would consider tax breaks for those types of clean up.

Councilmember Mojica asked if Mr. DiNardo qualified for the tax break under the state statute. Mr. Lavernoich said that according to Attorney Trachtenburg he did.

Councilmember Mojica asked about assurances on the city side, that the clean up in fact gets done and what those assurances were. Mr. Lavernoich said they would get \$695k immediately and then it will be agreed that the taxes would continue for the part not forgiven and that Mr. DiNardo has proven that he has cleaned up the site in accordance with the Connecticut standards. And until he does, the remainder of the back taxes will continue.

Attorney Trachtenburg said the state statute Sec. 1281-R requires completion of the clean up prior to the power to forgive the taxes. That is, the statute gives the authority to make that assurance and the person must complete the remediation.

Councilmember Ayala questioned who Housatonic & Grand LLC were as it was outlined in the resolution. Mr. Lavernoich said they were another single purpose corporation established and controlled by Mr. DiNardo. He clarified that he has to transfer to another entity to meet the threshold requirement.

Councilmember Ayala also questioned if the property wasn't cleaned up, were there any restrictions that would be deemed inappropriate to put another business in that might be detrimental to the city. Mr. Lavernoich asked if he meant restricting activities and what is eventually built there. Attorney Trachtenburg said this would have to be legal and outlined in the plans of the city, but she noted that as a practicality there might be certain restrictions.

Councilmember Walsh asked about asbestos in the building. Mr. Lavernoich said asbestos removal would require special handling during demolition.

Councilmember Walsh asked if remediation of the ground was necessary, would asbestos removal be required. Mr. Lavernoich said that was fair to say.

Councilmember Walsh asked who actually owned the property at this time. Mr. Lavernoich said that Grand Brass LLC was on the Tax Assessor's record as of today.

Mr. DiNardo said he purchased the property under Grand Brass LLC and he subdivided it into Grand Brass and Grand Brass II. And then he had to create another entity to take the title.

Councilmember Walsh asked if the property currently had a gross assessment of \$2 million. Mr. Lavernoich said that seemed to be accurate.

Councilmember Walsh asked then if there was a negative net worth attached to the property, i.e., does the property owner owe more to the City of Bridgeport than the property was worth. Mr. Lavernoich said the property could be under water as far as the value of it, but he said he would have to research that point.

Councilmember Walsh questioned why they were approving a resolution and not a final legal document. He questioned why they didn't wait until the final document was drawn up. Mr. Lavernoich explained they had limited legal staff and the documents take time to put together. So they try to put strict parameters on the deal first and then if the council is supportive, they then dedicate the time to drawing up the final document.

Councilmember Walsh further questioned whether there were still negotiations going on, and if so, why was a resolution being proposed. Mr. Lavernoich said because there were all kinds of nuances to finalize the agreement. Attorney Trachtenburg added it could also be a matter of how the insurance is applied on the property and other minor details outlined in the contract. But there have to be some parameters to get the document into final form. She noted that small nuances don't always affect the substance of the deal.

Councilmember Curwen asked if the word "negotiate" would have to be included in the deal then. Attorney Trachtenburg said yes, it would have to be.

Councilmember Mojica asked if the resolution passed and the final agreement was made, did it have to come back to the full council. Mr. Lavernoich said no, they didn't plan for that.

Councilmember Mojica stated that in the event there was any language changed in the agreement, he felt the matter should come back to the council, just in case there was something contained in it that they didn't agree with. Mr. Lavernoich said if anything changed, such as the amount of taxes paid, then it would definitely come back to the council.

Attorney Trachtenburg explained that for insurance bonds, clauses are included in the contract to protect the city. And whether it be by bond or title insurance, it seemed repetitive to bring those issues to the council, because one they get the broad bones of the structure of the agreement, all protective measures to the city are incorporated into the contract.

Councilmember Walsh asked about the property being subject to a spill. Mr. Lavernoich said there was hazardous waste released in the past, but they relied on subparagraph 2 to address this (*Councilmember Walsh read the paragraph*). He asked if they had environmental protection for the property. Mr. Lavernoich said no, but again, Mr. DiNardo **must** provide that or the taxes will not be forgiven.

Mr. Lavernoich said Mr. DiNardo has to get the plan approved, implemented and completed. It must satisfy the DEP commissioner and the city has to see proof of this, and then and only then, will the taxes be forgiven.

Councilmember Walsh further stated that they should have had that information first before the tax is abated. Mr. Lavernoich said they could get the plan in place, but it will not get guaranteed until the environmental professional assesses the matter.

Councilmember Walsh questioned when the state drafted legislature, did they envision one LLC selling to the same LLC as impetus for remediation. He felt this was indicative of a sham transaction. Mr. Lavernoich said the goal was to get private parties to clean up properties.

Councilmember Walsh questioned the wording "Rather the Tax Forgiveness Act states that the municipality must "deem" the property to be "abandoned" as it was outlined in Mr. DiNardo's letter. Mr. Lavernoich said abandoned was a term in the statute, but here it's just a determination of the city council. But he represented that the property was abandoned and has the potential to be cleaned up.

Councilmember Walsh felt that if the agreement didn't meet the legislative intent, then he didn't think the resolution should be passed.

Councilmember Walsh questioned the property that was purchased in 1998 with tax liens. Mr. Lavernoich said that Mr. DiNardo bought the property with three years back taxes that Capital Asset didn't pay. He purchased it subject to back taxes and he thought the costs be absorbed and that he could control the costs, but they escalated and that's when he approached the city under the statute.

Councilmember Walsh asked about contemplation of warehousing that is the lowest use of the land and sees the lowest tax base. Mr. Lavernoich said there were appropriate places in the city for that type of use, although he didn't wish to see them dominate in the city.

Councilmember Walsh questioned the land being used for school swing space. Mr. DiNardo clarified that Bridgeport Machine was offered for that use, not Bridgeport Brass.

Councilmember Walsh asked about the Soccochi Plan. Mr. Lavernoich said the plan was recommended for water dependant uses and not industrial, but in the plan, some industrial would allowed. However, the dominate use was preferred.

Councilmember Walsh emphasized that unless the city came up with a structured way for plans to go forward, as well as having a manner to allow competitive bidding that would result in the best tax break for the city; he urged his fellow councilmember to push for developing a comprehensive plan by which to judge these types of agreements favorable.

Councilmember Curran commented that she found it hard to defend to the taxpayers that they would go in and help a private developer, with no guarantee of the type of product that will go on the property. She said she felt uncomfortable with the scope of the resolution and she thought it was shortsighted and not in the best interest of the city. She also mentioned that she was resentful that they didn't have an up to date master plan or an inventory of these types of assets. Overall, she thought it was a lot to digest and was a reactive not a proactive agreement.

Councilmember Curwen stated that it wouldn't cost the taxpayers anything, since it hasn't for the last 25 years. He stressed that if they don't take the brown-fields of land and put them back to use, then this would ultimately present a dilemma, in that these pieces of land wouldn't end back up on the tax roll.

Councilmember Mojica commented that they probably wouldn't find many bidders willing to spend on brown fields. This was a business transaction and for someone to offer to clean one up was a rarity.

Councilmember Mojica asked Mr. DiNardo's thoughts on the matter. Mr. DiNardo stated that Mr. Lavernoich pretty much covered everything. But he said that when he started the project, he was going to be next to the courthouse, that would have been a viable location then, but now the property is next to a crushing and steel plant, so

admittedly he made a mistake in not asking for a waiver from the city. He said that currently he pays \$1 million in taxes to the city on square footage he has in the city. He went onto say he began buying brown fields to try to make money from them and although he realizes that everyone pays taxes, if he has the opportunity to lower his taxes, it's a benefit to him. He further explained that he is in the leasing business to buy and build properties. Overall, he is in business to make money.

Councilmember Paoletto stated that they shouldn't lose sight of the issue, in that Mr. DiNardo is a businessman. And although buying brown fields is a new concept in Bridgeport, it's not throughout the state. He thought Mr. DiNardo's proposal would be beneficial to the city long term. He didn't think anyone else would be interested in the property until it was cleaned up, so he thought it was the best solution to go forward.

Councilmember Silva said he agreed with Councilmember Paoletto. He asked about the future of the site and if there could possibly be anything else put there where more taxes would be generated. Mr. DiNardo said if they let him have the steel mill, he believed he could put in the types of businesses that would be a viable asset to the city such as offices.

Councilmember Silva said the property was in his district and he had a concern about trucking and children in the area. So if he had a choice, he would rather see more retail and lofts, instead of a rock crushing or distribution center where there will be a lot of trucks emitting fumes that are hazardous to one's health. Although he understood Mr. DiNardo would build to the best of his use, he asked if he had any other angles for building. Mr. DiNardo said he couldn't just market a heavy retail use on the site, and he honestly didn't see the site as any other thing but warehousing and distribution. Councilmember Curwen asked if it was possible to add a clause stating that if the resolution was approved, the matter would have to come back to the committee or full council as to what is built on the parcel. Attorney Trachtenburg said it would be next to impossible to structure a deal on an uncertainty. But if they had a definitive parameter it could possibly be done. But they couldn't do it on an uncertain contingency.

Councilmember Mulligan asked about the Delta appraisal dated February 28, 2005 and if any work had been done since then. Mr. Lavernoich said there has been active remediation. Mr. DiNardo said he did a little work on the site to try to decide how to take on certain clean up measures.

Councilmember Curwen asked if any monies have been worked off in the remediation to date. Mr. DiNardo replied that a little bit has. He thought the city should help him out on the \$4 million he already spent, noting this was only reasonable.

Councilmember Mulligan asked if they were all third party suppliers. Mr. DiNardo said yes, he said he owned the companies that did the work, but all the hours were documented for the time spent doing it.

Councilmember Paoletto commented that because this was a joint meeting, he asked if two motions had to be made. Councilmember Curwen said yes.

**** COUNCILMEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE AS A MEMBER OF THE MISCELLANEOUS COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Paoletto withdrew his motion

Councilmember Ayala said he would like to see language in regard to the types of development already seen that are not deemed acceptable by the city, such as a rock crushing operation. Attorney Trachtenburg said as long as the request was for something **specific** it could be done.

The following is a piecemeal amendment to the resolution (*see the completed amendment on page 9*)

“AMENDMENT TO THE RESOLUTION TO RESOLVE THAT: IF ALL THE CONDITIONS ARE MET AS OUTLINED IN THE RESOLUTION, THAT ANY FUTURE DEVELOPER ON THES SITE, SHOULD NOT DEVELOP THE PIECE OF PREPRTY INTO AN ASPHALT PLANT OR ROCK CRUSHING OPERATION.

Attorney Trachtenburg added that the tax forgiveness should be specific to the potential purchaser, so the language should be indicative of any prospective purchaser or any subsequent recipient of benefits.

**** COUNCILMEMBER AYALA MOVED FOR THE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE THAT THE RESOLUTION BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:**

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT UPON THE EVENTS THAT THE DELINQUENT REAL PROPERTY TAXES, INTEREST AND LIEN FEES ON THE PROPERTY ASSOCIATED WITH THE GRAND LISTS OF 1995, 1996 & 1997 ARE PAID IN FULL ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2006; H&G ACQUIRES FEE TITLE TO THE PROPERTY; H&G OBTAINS AN ENVIRONMENTAL INVESTIGATION OR REMEDIATION PLAN APPROVED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OR A LICENSED ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONAL; AND H&G COMPLETES OR CAUSES TO BE COMPLETED SUCH REMEDIATION FOR AN ESTABLISHMENT AS DEFINED IN SECTION 22A-134 OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTE, ALL THE AFOREMENTIONED CONDITIONS TO BE MET TO THE REASONABLE SATISFACTION OF THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND THE

PROSPECTIVE PURCHASER AND/OR ANY SUBSEQUENT RECIPIENT OF THE BENEFITS OF THE TAX FORGIVENESS CONTEMPLATED HEREIN AGREE NOT TO DEVELOP, NOR TO ALLOW FOR 20 YEARS THE DEVELOPMENT, OF THE PROPERTY INTO ANY ASPHALT PLANT OR ROCK CRUSHING OPERATION, WHEREUPON THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT SHALL AND CONDITIONED AS ABOVE, FORGIVE THE REAL PROPERTY TAXES AND INTEREST REFLECTIVE OF THE GRAND LIST YEARS OF 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003 AND 2004, AS RELATING TO THE PROPERTY, BLOCK 1534 LOT 01.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor be and is hereby empowered and authorized to negotiate and execute, in consultation with the Office of the City Attorney, any and all documents reasonably necessary to effectuate completion of the remedial clean-up of the Property and effectuate the forgiveness of taxes as outlined above.

**** COUNCILMEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**

Councilmember Walsh stated that he would vote for the amendment to the resolution but not the resolution.

Councilmember Vizzo-Paniccia asked if the amendment would be across the board for all companies. Councilmember Curwen said it would be case-by case.

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

***Approved by Councilmember's: Walsh, Mojica, Vizzo-Paniccia and Paoletto**

**** COUNCILMEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AS AMENDMENEED FOR THE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE**

**** VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED WITH FOUR VOTES IN FAVOR AND ONE VOTE IN OPPOSITION (COUNCILMEMBER WALSH)**

***Approved by Councilmember's: Paoletto, Vizzo-Paniccia, Ayala, Mojica**

**** COUNCILMEMBER McCARTHY MOVED TO APROVE THE RESOLUTION AS AMENDED FOR THE BUDGET COMMMITTEE**

*** VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED**

**** MOTION PASSED WITH FIVE VOTES IN FAVOR AND TWO VOTES IN OPPOSITION (COUNCILMEMBERS: CURRAN and WALSH)**

***Approved by Councilmember's: Curwen, Vizzo-Paniccia, McCarthy, Silva,
Mojica,**

*It was stated that the following documents will be submitted to the City Clerks office by Councilmember Curwen:

- The final amended resolution
- The original resolution
- The questions asked by Councilmember Walsh during the meeting

ADJOURNED

**** COUNCILMEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO ADJOURN
** COUNCILMEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham
Telesco Secretarial Services

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 27, 2005

ATTENDANCE: COUNCILMEMBERS: MOJICA, VIZZO-PANICCIA,
PAOLETTO, ANDRES AYALA (sat in to make a quorum)

ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: RODGERSON, WALSH, GOMES,
BAKER

OTHER(s): ROBERT TETREAULT

Councilmember Mojica called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

01-05 Refund of Excess Payments

Mr. Tetreault stated that his was an excess payment for J.P. Morgan Chase in the amount of \$66,889.95. He noted it resulted in a stipulated court decision judgment.

**** COUNCILMEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ACCEPT
** COUNCILMEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Consent calendar

20-05 Refund of Excess Payments

Mr. Tetreault stated this was an excess payment in the amount of \$18,920.84 for ICON. He noted they paid the wrong account.

Councilmember Mulligan asked if they have since paid the correct account. Mr. Tetreault said yes.

**** COUNCILMEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ACCEPT
** COUNCILMEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Consent Calendar

ADJOURNED

**** COUNCILMEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN
** COUNCILMEMBER AYALA SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham
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