

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SAFETY and TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 7, 2010  
6:00 PM

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Lyons; co-chair, Taylor-Moye, M. Ayala, Bonney,  
Brantley, A. Ayala

NON-COMMITTEE: Council member: Baker

STAFF: A. McGoldrick; Grant Writer

OTHERS: Lieutenant Lonnie Blackwell; Police Department, Brian Dickerson

Co-chair Lyons called the meeting to order at 6:23 pm.

She stated that they will add a resolution to the agenda for approval.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO ADD AN ITEM TO  
THE AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION RE: PROPOSED  
RESOLUTION APPROVING CENTRAL AVENUE SIGNAGE  
TO INCLUDE THE CEREMONIAL NAME OF BISHOP MOALES  
WAY (ITEM # 09-10)**

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

Approval of Committee Minutes: October 18, 2010  
(Special Meeting)

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE  
MINUTES**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER M. AYALA SECONDED**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**154-09** Appointment of Edgar Rodriguez (D) to the Fire Commission.

Co-chair Lyons distributed the paperwork pertaining to the appointment.

Council member A. Ayala asked if the Ethics Commission did all the background work. Co-chair Lyons said yes, it was included in the information she had for review.

Council member Brantley asked if the procedure was for the appointment to go before the Ethics Commission first. Co-chair Lyons said that was correct.

Council member A. Ayala stated that he has known Mr. Rodriguez for years. He expressed that he works hard in the community and he's involved with fund raisers etc. He commented that Mr. Rodriguez always asked to get involved and he felt this was a good appointment for him becoming a member of the Fire Commission. He stated that he was in approval of the appointment.

Council member Baker stated that he also knows Mr. Rodriguez as a funeral colleague. He said he found him to be very professional, involved in the community and he heard a lot of good things about him. He also found him to be trustworthy and dedicated to the city. He further noted that it was important to try to bring new blood into the arena of the city's boards and commissions. Overall, he said he was excited about the appointment and he highly recommended approval of the appointment.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BONNEY MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT APPOINTMENT OF EDGAR RODRIGUEZ (D) TO THE FIRE COMMISSION.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER A. AYALA SECONDED**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**156-09** Grant Submission: State of Connecticut OPM 2010 Police Youth Grant Program.

Ms. McGoldrick stated that Lieutenant Lonnie Blackwell from the Police Department and Brian Dickerson who assisted with the application were present to address the committee.

Ms. McGoldrick explained that this was a grant for the police and youth activities. The goal is to connect the police to the youth to increase communication and address youth-at-risk in the city. And the program is technology related. It's a \$10k grant and there is no city match. The grant will be used towards overtime for the police officers and to implement the technology portion of the program.

Council member Taylor-Moye asked the ages of the youth that will participate in the program. Ms. McGoldrick said the ages will be 12 years old to 18 years old.

Council member Taylor-Moye asked if this program had anything to do with sports. Lieutenant Blackwell stated that it was a new program called "Played by the Rules" - *he distributed a booklet with information about the program*. He stated that it's a national program that originated in Georgia. The purpose of the program is to be more community-friendly oriented.

Council member Taylor-Moye asked if the youth will come to the program, or if they will recruit them. Lieutenant Blackwell said they receive a lot calls per week with interest to participate in the program. The program will specifically address bullying and other issues that affect youth.

Council member Taylor-Moye asked if the program will be conducted during school and after school hours to address at-risk-youth during those hours. Lieutenant Blackwell said they were looking to do the program after school as well.

Council member Taylor-Moye suggested that Marina Village Community Center Unique & United would be a good candidate for the program. Lieutenant Blackwell clarified that the program was more like a PILOT program. He said they were in the process of providing training and then they will teach it to the students.

Council member Taylor-Moye also suggested that they go to RYSAP for additional grant money and to also contact Nick Colace for the block by block grant.

Council member A. Ayala asked if they would be required to report a certain number of participants, in order to be eligible to apply again. Ms. McGoldrick said yes.

Lieutenant Blackwell stated that Bridgeport has never been involved in the training before. Currently, they qualify for the grant and he hoped they will continue to qualify year after year.

Council member Brantley asked exactly what they will be doing technology wise. Mr. Dickerson stated that in view of recent problems, such as sext-ing, cyber bullying, harassment and the illegal downloading of DVD's, they were looking to use the training as a feeder program to draw the interest of the kids to get involved. He said they also plan to sponsor other activities.

Council member Taylor-Moye asked the number of youth they expect to participate. Lieutenant Blackwell said they plan to accept between 10 and 12 kids. Council member Taylor-Moye thought that was a good number to start with.

Council member Taylor-Moye asked if any trips will be planned. Lieutenant Blackwell said the grant requires one field trip, but it won't be any type of sports related event like a basketball game etc.

Council member Taylor-Moye asked if they planned to take the kids to see how another program works; she felt it would give them an idea of how it works. Lieutenant Blackwell said they needed to be careful about doing that, because each program is geared differently based on the area or the city they service.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER A. AYALA MOVED TO APPROVE**  
**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER M. AYALA SECONDED**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Co-chair Lyons took up the added agenda item # 09-10 regarding RE: Proposed Resolution approving Central Avenue signage to include the ceremonial name of Bishop Moales Way.

Council member Brantley noted that the way the information read, it appeared that the street to be named will cover from Central Avenue down to Boston Avenue to Seaview Avenue. Co-chair Lyons read the resolution into the record.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO APPROVE**

Council member Baker stated that there was some conversation with the Mayor concerning what will be the appropriate street to name. He said it was mentioned that it could possibly be Union Avenue, but he felt the family would be pleased with whatever street was considered.

Council member Bonney asked if there was any hurry to name the street. He suggested that they table the matter to find out who the maker of the resolution is and to find out exactly what street will be named. Council member Brantley agreed. She noted that there may also be other council members who want to sing onto the resolution.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BONNEY MOVED TO TABLE  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER A. AYALA MOVED TO ADJOURN  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BONNEY SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham  
Telesco Secretarial Services