

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 27, 2022**

ATTENDANCE: Tyler Mack, Co-chair; AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia, Co-chair; Aikeem Boyd, Rolanda Smith

OTHERS: Council Member(s): S. Burns, M. Pereira & M. Valle; Raymond Collette; iPhone, 203-673-7218

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair Mack called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES:

• **November 28, 2022.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 28, 2022 MEETING.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 28, 2022 MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

01-22 Refund of Excess Payments – BLD Waterfront Upland Owner LLC.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 01-22 REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – BLD WATERFRONT UPLAND OWNER LLC. PENDING A REVIEW BY FINANCE DIRECTOR AND THE TAX ASSESSOR.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 01-22 REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – BLD WATERFRONT UPLAND OWNER LLC PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

06-22 Appointment of Raymond Collette (D) to the Water Pollution Control Authority.

Mr. Collette came forward, greeted the Committee and said that he was a lifelong Bridgeport resident and was an accountant. He mentioned the fact that he had briefly served on the Council and noted that he had worked for the Housing Authority. Due to his prior time with the Housing Authority, he was familiar with their billing structure.

Council Member Mack asked if Mr. Collette was replacing someone. Mr. Collette said that he did not know, but it was Mr. James Holloway that had contacted him about the position.

Council Member Newton said that previously Ms. Thomas had been on the Committee but was not being re-appointed.

Council Member Pereira said that she was sad to hear that Ms. Thomas had not been reappointed.

Council Member Pereira said that Mr. Collette had been on the CDBG Committee and he had blocked an application from the Housing Authority. She asked if he would be able to act without retaliation. She also noted that he had opposed her on a different issue in her district.

Mr. Collette said that the particular property was actually privately owned and he had been involved in managing it. There was funding available for the project from the private organization. This was why he objected to the Housing Authority being given funding for the project.

Mr. Collette added that he did disagree with Council Member Pereira's stance regarding the situation at the property in her district and stated his goal was to do what was best for the residents.

Council Member Newton reminded everyone that the WPCA was about to rebuild two facilities and wanted to be sure that Mr. Collette was aware of the bylaws. Mr. Collette said that he had not had a chance to review those bylaws, but stated that his job was to abide by those policies and bylaws. He said that he had always disagreed with having outside contractors coming into the City and taking the projects.

Council Member Newton said that the City had hired an outside contractor for this project, but he would like to see more Bridgeport companies hired. Council Member Newton said that he did not have a vote on the WPCA but was the liaison for the Council. Discussion followed.

Council Member Pereira said that she had been consistent about the fact that Bridgeport has over 60,000 voters but continually appoint DTC candidates to Boards and Commissions. Therefore, she will be voting against this appointment on the Council floor.

Council Member Burns asked how many Commissioners were supposed to be appointed to the WPCA Board. Council Member Newton said that there were about five members open and there was still one more vacancy on the Board. Council Member Mack said that the website states there are five Mayoral appointees and four other Commissioners.

Council Member Burns said that he had received some communications from the P.T. Barnum resident who were disappointed that Ms. Thomas had not been re-appointed.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED AGENDA ITEM 06-22 APPOINTMENT OF RAYMOND COLLETTE (D) TO THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 06-22 APPOINTMENT OF RAYMOND COLLETTE (D) TO THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY PASSED WITH THREE (3) IN FAVOR (VIZZO-PANICCIA, BOYD AND MACK) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (SMITH).**

Council Member Mack said that he would be voting against this appointment on the Council floor because he was disappointed that Ms. Thomas was not re-appointed.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Telesco Secretarial Services