

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

**6:30 P.M.**

This meeting will be conducted by Zoom/Teleconference.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council Member Brown called the Public Speaking portion of the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The Assistant City Clerk Frances Ortiz called the roll.

- 130th District: Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy
- 131st District: Denese Taylor-Moye, Jorge Cruz
- 132nd District: Marcus Brown, *M. Evette Brantley*
- 133rd District: Jeanette Herron, Raymond Collette
- 134th District: Michelle Lyons, *AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia*
- 135th District: Rosalina Roman-Christy, Mary McBride-Lee
- 136th District: *Alfredo Castillo, Avelino Silva*
- 137th District: Maria Valle, *Aidee Nieves*
- 138th District: *Maria Pereira, Samia Suliman*
- 139th District: *Eneida Martinez*, Ernest Newton

During the roll call, there appeared to be no response from the individuals whose names are listed in italics.

**THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M.**

**NAME**

**SUBJECT**

**James V. Meszoros, Sr.**  
NAGE Local R1-200 President  
3510 Main Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06606

American Rescue Plan Act COVID 19

Mr. Meszoros greeted the Council and said that he was the president of the largest union in the City. He stated that he had sent a letter to the Mayor to have a meeting about the fact that the union members had come in to work during the pandemic.

He thanked Council Members Herron, Burns and Newton for their support.

The membership is asking about what the status was of the American Rescue Plan Act and he was publicly asking the Mayor to schedule a sit-down meeting to discuss this. The information is moving very slowly. He said that he hoped to hear from the Mayor through Labor Relations.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council President Nieves adjourned the meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2021**

**7:00 P.M.**

This meeting was conducted by teleconference.

The public was able to listen to this meeting by calling a conference line.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ganim called the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order at 7:05 p.m. He noted that this was the last meeting for this Council.

**PRAYER**

Mayor Ganim asked Council Member Brantley to lead the Council in prayer.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Ganim asked Council Member Brown to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Member Newton requested that the points of personal privilege be saved until the end of the meeting.

**ROLL CALL**

The Assistant City Clerk Ortiz called the roll.

130<sup>th</sup> District: Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy  
131<sup>st</sup> District: Denese Taylor-Moye, Jorge Cruz  
132<sup>nd</sup> District: Marcus Brown, M. Evette Brantley  
133<sup>rd</sup> District: Jeanette Herron, Raymond Collette  
134<sup>th</sup> District: Michelle Lyons, *AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia*  
135<sup>th</sup> District: Rosalina Roman-Christy, Mary McBride-Lee  
136<sup>th</sup> District: *Alfredo Castillo, Avelino Silva*  
137<sup>th</sup> District: Maria Valle, *Aidee Nieves*  
138<sup>th</sup> District: *Maria Pereira*, Samia Suliman  
139<sup>th</sup> District: Eneida Martinez, Ernest Newton

During the roll call, there appeared to be no response from the individuals whose names are listed in italics. Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia was on medical leave.

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:**

• September 7, 2021

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS MOVED THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2021.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER ROMAN-CHRISTY SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2021 AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

**\*134-20 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Grant Submission: U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – American Rescue Plan Act Airport Rescue Grant Program (#22375).**

**\*116-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution urging State Senators and State Representatives to pass necessary legislation to implement the Transportation and Climate Initiative Program (“TCI-P”).**

**\*133-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: Connecticut State Library – Historic Documents Preservation Program (#22213).**

**\*129-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Marcus Stewart, et al.**

**\*130-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with William Gomez-Perez, et al.**

**\*135-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Marciano Gomez-Salazar.**

**\*126-20 Contracts Committee Report re: Agreement with Interpersonal Frequency regarding the Acquisition of a New City Website.**

Mayor Ganim asked if any Council Member wished to have an item removed from the Consent Calendar. Council Member Pereira requested the following Agenda Items be removed from the Consent Calendar. 129-20, 130-20, 135-20, and 126-20.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA:**

**\*134-20 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Grant Submission: U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) – American Rescue Plan Act Airport Rescue Grant Program (#22375).**

**\*116-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution urging State Senators and State Representatives to pass necessary legislation to implement the Transportation and Climate Initiative Program (“TCI-P”).**

**\*133-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: Connecticut State Library – Historic Documents Preservation Program (#22213).**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED**

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

**129-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Marcus Stewart, et al.**

Council Member Burns gave a brief summary of the case.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED AGENDA ITEM 129-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH MARCUS STEWART, ET AL.**

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

Council Member Pereira said that she would be voting no on all the items because the items were discussed in Executive Session. She is not a rubber stamp and does not approve anything where she does not have the documentation.

Council Member Newton reminded everyone that previously, all the Council Members had access to Executive Sessions, but due to a certain individual, only the Committee members were now allowed into Executive Session.

Council Member Brantley said that this was unfortunate that there were some that lacked trust in their fellow Council Members and the work that the Committee members have done.

**\*\*THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 129-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH MARCUS STEWART, ET AL. PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, COLLETTE, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, VALLE, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ, AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

**130-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with William Gomez-Perez, et al.**

**135-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Marciano Gomez-Salazar.**

Council Member Burns suggested that they consider consolidating the two Agenda Items as the cases were related.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED TO CONSOLIDATE THE FOLLOWING TWO AGENDA ITEMS AS THE CASES WERE RELATED:**

**130-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE:  
SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH WILLIAM GOMEZ-  
PEREZ, ET AL.**

**135-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE:  
SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH MARCIANO  
GOMEZ-SALAZAR.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said that she would be voting no on all the items because the items were discussed in Executive Session. She is not a rubber stamp and does not have any documentation.

**\*\* THE MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE THE FOLLOWING TWO AGENDA ITEMS AS THE CASES WERE RELATED:**

**130-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE:  
SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH WILLIAM GOMEZ-  
PEREZ, ET AL.**

**135-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE:  
SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH MARCIANO  
GOMEZ-SALAZAR.**

**PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, COLLETTE, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, VALLE, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ, AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED THE FOLLOWING TWO AGENDA ITEMS THAT WERE RELATED:**

**130-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE:  
SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH WILLIAM GOMEZ-  
PEREZ, ET AL.**

**135-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE:  
SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH MARCIANO  
GOMEZ-SALAZAR.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said that she would be voting no on all the items because the items were discussed in Executive Session. She is not a rubber stamp and does not approve anything where she does not have the documentation.

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TWO AGENDA ITEMS AS THE  
CASES WERE RELATED:**

**130-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE:  
SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH WILLIAM GOMEZ-  
PEREZ, ET AL.**

**135-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE:  
SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH MARCIANO  
GOMEZ-SALAZAR.**

**PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-  
MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, COLLETTE, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE,  
ROMAN-CHRISTY, VALLE, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ, AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1)  
OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

**126-20 Contracts Committee Report re: Agreement with Interpersonal Frequency  
regarding the Acquisition of a New City Website.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOVED AGENDA ITEM 126-20 CONTRACTS  
COMMITTEE REPORT RE: AGREEMENT WITH INTERPERSONAL FREQUENCY  
REGARDING THE ACQUISITION OF A NEW CITY WEBSITE.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

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

**MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:**

**131-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation  
with Jordan Taylor.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 131-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH JORDAN TAYLOR.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said that she would be voting no on this item because the items were discussed in Executive Session. She is not a rubber stamp and does not have any documentation. The Council was approving thousands of dollars on these settlements.

**\*\*THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 129-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH MARCUS STEWART, ET AL. PASSED WITH FOURTEEN (14) IN FAVOR (BURNS, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, COLLETTE, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, VALLE, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ, AND NEWTON) AND TWO (2) OPPOSED (MCCARTHY, PEREIRA).**

Council Member Newton asked a moment of personal privilege. He noted that the election was the following day and some of the colleagues will not be returning. He said that he hoped that the former Council Members could stay involved by being placed on Committees and Commissions.

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that it was a pleasure working with the Mayor and she was honored to have that opportunity. She said that the Mayor had done a great deal for Bridgeport.

Mayor Ganim said that it was a privileged to work with Council Member Taylor-Moye and see her work with her constituents. Because of her commitment to public life, the South End is a better place to live, along with the rest of the City. She will be missed. The City still needs her and if she has the time and energy.

Council Member Herron then read Council Member Taylor-Moye's following statement into the record:





# CITY COUNCIL BRIDGEPORT

*COUNCILWOMAN DENESE TAYLOR-MOYE*  
*131<sup>ST</sup> CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT*

*CO-CHAIR COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC  
SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION*  
*COMMITTEE ON MISCELLANEOUS  
MATTERS*  
*LIAISON TO HOUSING AUTHORITY*  
*PAST PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE*

November 1, 2021

To the Honorable City Council President and Council Members:

It's an honor to have served my fellow neighbors in the 131st Council District and the City of Bridgeport. I have never hesitated to speak up when it's the right thing to do, even if others don't think so. I am proud to have worked with my fellow City Council Members to bring people together and focus on building relationships to create a cohesive and healthy community and to provide a sense of place for our residents where affordable housing, clean and safe neighborhoods, and economic development thrive in Bridgeport.

I want to thank my fellow City Council Members (present and past) and city staff for your collegiality and your civility — it has made doing a difficult job a lot easier and a lot more pleasant. We all share a common bond which is that we love our community and only want the best for it. I ask you to remember all are equal here, no one is more special than anyone else, please work together for the good of the community. In closing I wish each of you the very best. May you and your families be safe and blessed in the future.

Thank you,

*Denese Taylor-Moye*

Denese Taylor-Moye  
Councilwoman  
131st Council District

Council Member Lyons thanked Council Member Taylor-Moye for all her help over the years, particularly during their trips to Washington, D. C. and her support for public housing. She fought hard for the residents of Bridgeport. Council Member Lyons said that she hopes Council Member Taylor-Moye would continue to work on the public housing and added that Council Member Taylor-Moye was a good friend to Council Member Lyons

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Council Member Brantley said that Council Member Taylor-Moye was going to be sorely missed and she hoped that Council Member Taylor-Moye would continue the fight for public housing. Council Member Taylor-Moye's ear is to the ground and Council Member Brantley said that Council Member Taylor-Moye would continue to work for the City. She's been a strong advocate for the children, also.

Council Member Burns said he wanted to acknowledge that Council Member Taylor-Moye was a mentor and asset to him when he joined the Council.

Council Member Herron said that it was an honor to have known Council Member Taylor-Moye. She was a mentor to everyone and will be missed a great deal.

Council Member McBride-Lee said that she had a relationship before Council Member Taylor-Moye was elected to the Council. Council Member Taylor-Moye will be missed. She thanked Council Member Taylor-Moye for all her help. Time after time, Council Member Taylor-Moye was a help to Council Member McBride-Lee. She has worked hard to help the community. She was there when they needed help with the housing. Council Member McBride-Lee thanked Council Member Taylor-Moye for that and over the years. Council Member McBride-Lee said that she was sure Council Member Taylor-Moye would continue to work with the community, and Council Member McBride-Lee was looking forward to continuing to work with her.

Council Member Cruz said that he had worked with Council Member Taylor-Moye as co-representative for the South End. He always admired her fighting spirit and felt that she would continue to work for the community. There were times when Council Member Taylor-Moye had to help Council Member Cruz calm down and learn the ropes. He said that he had learned a lot on the Council. May God bless her as she continues in her life because she is a very special woman.

Council Member Newton recognized that the Council Member from the 138th and said he hoped that she would continue to be an asset to the City. He said that he hoped the Mayor would find areas for them to both work for the City in other roles.

Mayor Ganim thanked Council Member Suliman for her work.

Council President Nieves apologized for being late and said that she wanted to acknowledge the work that Council Member Taylor-Moye and Council Member Martinez had done over the years. As they transition on to the next events, she said that she was only saying farewell for now. Council Member Taylor-Moye was a sounding board and a rock during the difficult times. Council Member Martinez helped Council President Nieves contain her temper and work with the WPCA. She thanked them for their service.

Council President Nieves thanked Council Member Collette for his time on the Council and said that she felt that he would be back in the future to serve in another capacity.

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that she appreciated all the comments that everyone made. She said that she had fought for people. She thanked everyone.

Council Member Martinez said that she wasn't going to make a comment because Council Member Taylor-Moye was family. She applauded her for her commitment and the level of love that she has for the City. She won't be leaving the children, either. They will always be in contact.

Council Member Martinez said that she would be on the ballot tomorrow and asked for prayers. She congratulated the newcomers who would be taking the vacant seats on the Council.

Council Member Roman-Christy thanked Council Member Suliman for all the time that she had committed to her District.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER ROMAN-CHRISTY SECONDED.**

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services