

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022  
City Council Chambers, City Hall  
45 Lyon Terrace  
Bridgeport, CT 06604**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Council President Nieves called the Public Speaking session of the City Council to order at 6:42 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The City Clerk Lydia Martinez called the roll.

130<sup>th</sup> District: Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy  
131<sup>st</sup> District: Jorge Cruz, Tyler Mack  
132<sup>nd</sup> District: *Marcus Brown*, Rolanda Smith  
133<sup>rd</sup> District: Aikeem Boyd, Jeanette Herron  
134<sup>th</sup> District: *Michelle Lyons*, AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia  
135<sup>th</sup> District: Mary McBride-Lee, Rosalina Roman-Christy  
136<sup>th</sup> District: Frederick Hodges, *Alfredo Castillo*  
137<sup>th</sup> District: Aidee Nieves, Maria Valle  
138<sup>th</sup> District: *Maria Pereira*, Samia Suliman  
139<sup>th</sup> District: Ernest Newton

A quorum was present. Names shown in italics did not respond when the roll was called.

**THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT 06604.**

**NAME**

**SUBJECT**

**John Marshall Lee**  
30 Beacon Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06605

COB – Finances & Governance.

Mr. Lee came forward and read the following statement into the record:

Ladies and Gentlemen of the City Council

As you know in recent months, I have persevered in bringing the long comas and death of two City Boards to your attention. And I thank you for your response to approve

ordinances to re-establish life and vigor to these panels even if the Mayor does not. They have work to do because we have so many folks living in rental units.

Did you mean to have all residents in rental units able to address concerns to FAIR RENT, for instance. Does the language in your Ordinance allow for that? Will you hold a meeting where you allow members of the public with some experience to participate. I am aware of a tenant problem featured on Channel 12 last year but moving to solution by nominations and elections for local leaders to deal with local issues in their own building and with management first?

Fair Housing is another story. Dead group with vacancies that do not allow for a quorum, or agenda, meetings, or minutes. Who is supposed to record the data, and stand up to act? When will you complete an alternative? Who is the City executive responsible for reporting to the State? Why are you not provided staffing expenses to do the job? What is happening with City personnel issues in recent times? Do we still have one person wearing multiple hats for Civil Service, Labor Relations, or other personnel activity? Why? Conflicts of interest that lead to corruption, as we have witnessed, can happen. Who is working with "best practices" in mind?

Has Civil Service process been followed to the letter for new employees in all departments? For employees outside of Civil Service, so called political employees, who are they? What are their titles, and expectations of valuable work product from them by the taxpayers who pay their way? Is this proudly posted on the City site? Why not? What powers do they have to make employment decisions, supervise workers under Civil Service system, or authorize allocation of resources by the City? Which of your committees can answer such questions as part of their purpose?

Why is a taxpayer contributing to a system that today offers the highest compensation, total cash, and benefits, for work that does not necessarily need a gun, or a college education, but competes for necessary hours for an understaffed Police Department? Review the data that the OPM keeps but is not sharing with the taxpayer. Do the numbers yourself. Time will tell.

**Joel Gonzalez**  
347 Lenox Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06606

Nightmare at 247 Colorado Avenue. My experience after purchasing city owned property in 2016-2015.

Mr. Gonzalez was not present at the meeting.

Council President Nieves announced that Ms. Eneida Martinez had signed up to speak.

**Eneida Martinez**  
819 Connecticut Avenue, #2  
Bridgeport, CT 06607

Ms. Eneida Martinez came forward and said that she was present to address comments made by Council Member Pereira at the last meeting. Ms. Martinez said that Council Member Pereira had no right or jurisdiction to address any Council Members about 139th District. While Council Member Pereira has the right to free speech, she also continually calls Ms. Martinez a "felon" because she is facing minor misdemeanors charges which will most likely only result in a fine.

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Ms. Martinez said her case was before the court and reviewed the status of that case with the Council Members.

Ms. Martinez then pointed out that that Council Member Pereira had been arrested for setting her ex-husband's Cottage Street house on fire and arrested at Success Village. Ms. Martinez went on to add that DCF removed Council Member Pereira's child from her home because Council Member Pereira was unfit and a drug addict.

Ms. Martinez said that she had been campaigning for Marcus Brown and several residents told her that Council Member Pereira had stopped by and Ms. Martinez said that she had been working with Council Member Brown and when she was knocking on doors, some residents told them Council Member Pereira had been there and told them not to vote for Council Member Brown because he was gay and had proposed to another man.

Ms. Martinez also noted that Council Member Pereira has major contacts with the City of Bridgeport and this needed to be discussed rather than discussing Ms. Martinez. She also noted that the Council should also discuss Council Member Pereira's attacks on Wanda Jeter and others. The same actions that Council Member Pereira is accusing others of are the very same ones she is also doing.

Ms. Martinez asked whether it was true that Council Member Pereira was going to Senior homes to collect their ballots. She said that Council Member Pereira should talk about her own dirt and not anyone else's. People make mistakes and no one is perfect, but Council Member Pereira will never be able to walk in Ms. Martinez's shoes and she will have to take that to her grave.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council President Nieves closed the Public Speaking Session at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2022**

**7:00 PM**

**City Council Chambers, City Hall - 45 Lyon Terrace**

**Bridgeport, Connecticut**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ganim called the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PRAYER**

Council Member McBride-Lee led those present in prayer.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Ganim asked Council President Nieves to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The City Clerk Lydia Martinez called the roll.

130<sup>th</sup> District: Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy  
131<sup>st</sup> District: Jorge Cruz, Tyler Mack  
132<sup>nd</sup> District: *Marcus Brown*, Rolanda Smith  
133<sup>rd</sup> District: Aikeem Boyd, Jeanette Herron  
134<sup>th</sup> District: *Michelle Lyons*, AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia  
135<sup>th</sup> District: Mary McBride-Lee, Rosalina Roman-Christy  
136<sup>th</sup> District: Frederick Hodges, *Alfredo Castillo*  
137<sup>th</sup> District: Aidee Nieves, Maria Valle  
138<sup>th</sup> District: *Maria Pereira*, Samia Suliman  
139<sup>th</sup> District: Ernest Newton

A quorum was present. Names shown in italics did not respond when called.

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:**

• **September 6, 2022**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 MEETING.**

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**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:**

**133-21 Communication from City Clerk re: Items Pending before City Council Committees Pursuant to City Council Rules Ch. XIII Subsection (11), ACCEPTED AND MADE PART OF THE RECORD.**

**134-21 Communication from Central Grants re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Department of Public Health FY23 Per Capita Funding Allocation (#23220), referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.**

**135-21 Communication from OPED re: Proposed Resolution Authorizing the Discontinuance of a section of Lafayette Street between Atlantic Street and University Avenue and the section of University Avenue between Lafayette and Broad Street, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE LEE MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:**

**133-21 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY CLERK RE: ITEMS PENDING BEFORE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES PURSUANT TO CITY COUNCIL RULES CH. XIII SUBSECTION (11), ACCEPTED AND MADE PART OF THE RECORD.**

**134-21 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH FY23 PER CAPITA FUNDING ALLOCATION (#23220), REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.**

**135-21 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISCONTINUANCE OF A SECTION OF LAFAYETTE STREET BETWEEN ATLANTIC STREET AND UNIVERSITY AVENUE AND THE SECTION OF UNIVERSITY AVENUE BETWEEN LAFAYETTE AND BROAD STREET, REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.+**

**\*\* COUNCIL PRESIDENT NIEVES SECONDED.**

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

**ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:**

**136-21 Resolution presented by Council Member(s) Nieves, Mack, Burns & Vizzo-Paniccia re: Proposed Resolution to Establish a Charter Revision Commission,**

**FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED AGENDA ITEM 136-21 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) NIEVES, MACK, BURNS & VIZZO-PANICCIA RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION, FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

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

Council Member Newton requested that his name be added to the Resolution as a co-sponsor.

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 136-21 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) NIEVES, MACK, BURNS & VIZZO-PANICCIA RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION WITH THE ADDITION OF COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON AS A CO-SPONSOR PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

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

**\*120-21 Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: Resolution to create a Capital Projects Reporting System for Public Use.**

**\*123-21 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Grant Submission: Connecticut Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection – Auto Theft and Violence/Gun Tracing Task Force/Violent Crime Task Force Grants.**

**\*125-21 Contracts Committee Report re: Agreement with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 1303-468, Council 4, concerning their Collective Bargaining Agreement.**

**\*129-21 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Mesa Greenidge – Docket No. FBT-CV-21-6111475-S.**

**\*130-21 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Leopold Bamouni – Docket No. FBT-CV-21-6105768-S.**

**\*132-21 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Christopher Goulden, as Administrator of the Estate of Jayson Negron – Docket No. 3:20cv00400 (JBA).**

Mayor Ganim asked if any member of the Council would like to remove an item from the Consent Calendar.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia requested Agenda Item 132-21 be removed.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

**\*120-21 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION TO CREATE A CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORTING SYSTEM FOR PUBLIC USE.**

**\*123-21 PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES & PUBLIC PROTECTION – AUTO THEFT AND VIOLENCE/GUN TRACING TASK FORCE/VIOLENT CRIME TASK FORCE GRANTS.**

**\*125-21 CONTRACTS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: AGREEMENT WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY, AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME) LOCAL 1303-468, COUNCIL 4, CONCERNING THEIR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT.**

**\*129-21 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF MESA GREENIDGE – DOCKET NO. FBT-CV-21-6111475-S.**

**\*130-21 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF LEOPOLD BAMOUNI – DOCKET NO. FBT-CV-21-6105768-S.**

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

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

Council Member Burns requested a moment of Personal Privilege. He announced that there will a be celebration of the St. Mary's by the Sea Centennial on October 30th which will be open to the public.

**132-21 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Christopher Goulden, as Administrator of the Estate of Jayson Negron – Docket No. 3:20cv00400 (JBA).**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING PENDING LITIGATION INVOLVING AGENDA ITEM 132-21 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF CHRISTOPHER GOULDEN, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF JAYSON NEGRON – DOCKET NO. 3:20CV00400 (JBA).**

The Council Members present and Atty. Anastasi entered into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 7:10 p.m.

*Council Member Castillo joined the Executive Session at 7:22 p.m.*

The Council Members returned to public session at 7:36 p.m. No actions were taken or motions made during the Executive Session.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 132-21 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF CHRISTOPHER GOULDEN, AS ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF JAYSON NEGRON – DOCKET NO. 3:20CV00400 (JBA).**

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

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

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

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

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services