

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
PUBLIC SPEAKING  
MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017  
6:30 PM  
City Council Chambers, City Hall  
45 Lyon Terrace  
Bridgeport, CT**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Majority Leader Martinez called the Public Session to order at 6:38 p.m. She reviewed the procedure for public speakers.

An informal attendance was taken.

The following members were present:

130<sup>th</sup> District: Kathryn Bukovsky, Scott Burns  
131<sup>st</sup> District: Jack O. Banta  
132<sup>nd</sup> District: M. Evette Brantley  
133<sup>rd</sup> District: Jeanette Herron  
134<sup>th</sup> District: Michelle Lyons, AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia  
135<sup>th</sup> District: Mary McBride-Lee, Richard Salter  
136<sup>th</sup> District: José Casco, Alfredo Castillo  
137<sup>th</sup> District: Aidee Nieves, Milta Feliciano  
138<sup>th</sup> District: Anthony Paoletto, Nessah Smith  
139<sup>th</sup> District: Eneida Martinez, James Holloway

A quorum was present.

**THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017 AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.**

**NAME**

**SUBJECT**

**Clyde Nicholson**  
54 Wallace Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Taxes.

Mr. Nicholson came forward and said that tonight was Bassick High School night and that it showed Bridgeport pride. He said that he was happy to see all the Bassick students present.

Mr. Nicholson said that the City does not need a second City Hall and that Bridgeport was the only city in the nation that had two city halls. Greenwich, the richest town in Connecticut, only has one Town Hall. He added that it wasn't fair to the school students to go without while the City was paying for two City Halls. It is also important to have a gun free zone and provide the students with activities after school. There should be jobs available to anyone who needs one. Mr. Nicholson said that he was asking the City Attorney to look into these problems because the school buildings need a lot of work. He said that tonight he wasn't going to yell or scream, but it is wrong to take money away from the kids who need the services and programs.

**Jorge Cruz**

251 Black Rock Avenue, Apt. 2-R  
Bridgeport, CT 06605

Community Rally.

Mr. Cruz came forward and announced he was a member of the 131st District and the Vice President of an organization. A few months ago, he distributed flyers to everyone on the Council to come and support his Rally for Peace, but only a few Council Members attended. He said that he was a man of his word and that if you can't take the heat, get out of the kitchen. Mr. Cruz reminded everyone that he ran for Council in 2015, but did not win the election. He said that he had spoken with Council Member Banta prior to run in the primary but that Council Member Banta had betrayed his trust. He went on to give the details of the issue.

**Cecil C. Young**

99 Carroll Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06607

Asking that James Holloway resign his position as councilman or retire from city job as Tom McCarthy had to do.

Mr. Cecil Young came forward and said that he was a community activist for the last 50 years and had been in the City service for many years. He encouraged everyone to visit his website to find out all the details. Mr. Young said that Council Member Holloway should resign. He said that Council Member Holloway had been his supervisor and fired him on March 13, 2006. Mr. Young stated that his wife became ill because of this. Mr. Young then turned to address the audience and gave the details of the situation. He displayed an enlarged copy of a document that was turned towards the audience and claimed that he cared about people.

**John Marshall Lee**

30 Beacon Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06605

City Finances.

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

Women and men of the City Council, let's revisit the operation of the City Print Shop and its financial operation. City Financial Director Kenneth Flatto wrote to you regarding my last Council address on Friday past with his observations to Council President Tom McCarthy. and copies to you.

First he questioned the source of my information and then said that the amounts referred to don't reflect the way the shop works. Is it that simple? The info, I used, comes from

Purchasing Order records, available in the City Clerk office during the past six years. Purchasing Order records show the amounts spent by a Department over a year through Purchase Orders and from 2011 to 2015 the excess of those orders to Print Budget were \$830,000 in excess of those balanced budgets....chart is attached to my report for Finance to mull over, reconcile and explain to the public.

Monthly financial reports and purchasing reports should balance, be easy to understand, and be available to the taxpaying public in electronic and/or print form for others to pursue as I have until we have better check and balance practices and official watchdogs.

The fact is that the Print Shop is in the Finance Department chain of command. You reviewed their budget and their Mission Statement last year as did Mr. Flatto who is the responsible supervisor overall:

- City services were selectively provided to some citizens or groups without informing anyone else. To what purpose do you suppose? Those human, capital equipment, and paper/ toner services were paid for fully by taxpayers. Why was public money spent on private work? Who authorized this? How long has this been going on? City Department records?
- Mr. Flatto can find no authority for the private business of the Print Shop. Why is this authority for what is a private and illegal practice, according to their own Mission, difficult to find? Is this subject worthy of City Council investigation on behalf of taxpayers?
- Finance goes on to report that outside work is a small part of the Print Shop activity, perhaps \$15,000 in the recent year. But he quickly has doubled the charges for Shop services, though neither past nor current pricing takes into consideration the total cost of personnel, capital equipment and necessary operational items and services as a private printer would require, so Finance control of “costs” relative to “pricing” is not reliable at this time. Was any work done gratis??
- A glance at other Purchase Orders shows City departments making requests for printing services to private companies. I am researching amounts at this time. However, is there a policy, protocol, or process to be sure that any and all possible Print Shop services are used in house if, as Mr. Flatto answers me, “The Print Shop is of course only a City municipal operational service. The Print Shop does saves (sic) the City budget a significant amount through its much lower print costs (than if the city and BOE had to seek to print all materials outside by private printers).....” Why is there any outsourcing if this is so? When was the last time a study was done to see whether the Print Shop is as cost efficient as stated remembering to factor in all personnel, fringe benefit, capital and operating expenses?
- BOE print orders are minimal according to info I have accessed, probably less than the work that has been performed for private individuals and groups. Should the names of the private customers and groups be released with the costs they have paid historically? Why should these be a select protected group going forward?
- The BOE may have a school-to-work program going on at one of the high schools that may be receiving some of the BOE work. Is it possible for all parties to back that forward

looking use of educational training with far less personnel expense to save taxpayer dollars?

- Where do the dollars earned show up in City records as Revenue? Why have they been unseen or unknown by so many for so long?

Does this activity, right under the nose and practical supervision of Finance Department create a deeper trust in City operations by taxpayers? What is the Council to do, without staffing to continue such research? Aren't these questions reasonable as we face another budget season? Will you ask for and receive all the important and necessary baseline info you request upon which to make your decisions and choices? Time will tell.

Adrienne F. Houel, Greater Bpt.  
Community Enterprises, Inc.  
459 Iranistan Avenue  
Bridgeport, CT 06605

CDBG Contract: delays and  
non-communication.

Majority Leader Martinez called Ms. Houel to come forward three times. There was no response.

**Luis Luna**  
Make the Road CT  
850 State Street  
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Support of Sanctuary City Initiative.

Mr. Luna came forward and introduced a young woman who said that she resided on Laurel Avenue. The young lady spoke about making Bridgeport a sanctuary city. There were several people holding up signs saying "Resist Trump", "Cuidad sanctuary Ahora" and others during her remarks.

Bridgeport is an incredible city to call home and there is great diversity where everyone could tell their own stories. These voices should be heard. She asked the local law enforcement officers to protect the residents and not report them to ICE despite what they are being told by the government. She claimed that only 83% of the residents were citizens, but everyone needs to be protected. The City could have applied to become a sanctuary city months ago and the Congressional representatives have already supported the move. She then asked those to support sanctuary cities to stand. Approximately 20 people in the audience stood in response to her request.

### **ADJOURNMENT.**

Majority Leader Martinez adjourned the public speaking portion of the Council meeting at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Bridgeport  
City Council  
Regular Meeting  
April 3, 2017

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017**

**7:00 PM**

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ganim called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

**PRAYER**

Mayor Ganim led those present in prayer.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Ganim lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Assistant City Clerk Frances Ortiz called the roll.

The following members were present:

130<sup>th</sup> District: Kathryn Bukovsky, Scott Burns  
131<sup>st</sup> District: Jack O. Banta  
132<sup>nd</sup> District: M. Evette Brantley  
133<sup>rd</sup> District: Jeanette Herron  
134<sup>th</sup> District: AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia, Michelle Lyons  
135<sup>th</sup> District: Mary McBride-Lee, Richard Salter  
136<sup>th</sup> District: José Casco, Alfredo Castillo  
137<sup>th</sup> District: Aidee Nieves, Milta Feliciano  
138<sup>th</sup> District: Anthony Paoletto, Nessah Smith  
139<sup>th</sup> District: Eneida Martinez, James Holloway

A quorum was present.

Mayor Ganim stated for the record that Council President McCarthy was absent due to family obligations; Council Member Taylor-Moye was involved in a graduation; Council Member Lyons had just been called away and Council Member Olson was out of town.

**Mayoral and City Council Citation(s): Commending Bassick High School and Honoring its various teams, for an exemplary program of extracurricular activities provided to students.**

The Mayor and Council Member Martinez called the Bassick High School Sports Coaches forward. All the members of the various teams present in the audience including the soccer, basketball, volleyball, baseball, football, softball, lacrosse and cheer leading teams came forward. Council Member Brantley announced that she was a Bassick graduate and spoke to the athletes about their remarkable performance.

Council Member Martinez read the City Council Citation. Several of the sports coaches came forward and thanked the Mayor and the Council for their recognition.

Mayor Ganim then presented the coaches with Mayoral Citations and congratulated them on their exemplary program of extracurricular activities provided to students.

Following the conclusion of the recognition ceremony, Council Member McBride-Lee requested a point of personal privilege. She said that when a black man disrespects a black woman, it is a poor reflection on the entire black man's family from his mother bringing him up to his grandmother and so on. She then said that she would like to apologize to the Council and the Mayor, but that she could not allow Mr. Young or Mr. Nicholson to be disrespectful. Their comments from the previous week had been very disrespectful and reflected poorly on the black community.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA REGARDING REFERRING THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 TO THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

Mayor Ganim said that each Council member would receive a copy of the 2017-18 budget. His proposed budget holds the line on taxes and in some cases improves the services for the residents. It is a flat budget that based on the Governor's budget and that if the Governor's budget remains stable, the BOE will get \$10 million dollars. If the budget is passed as is, there would also be a drop in the mill rate for automobiles.

Mayor Ganim said that he would like the Council to recognize the hard work that has gone into the budget. The City's budget is predicated on the State's budget. He asked that they go through the process slowly because they are running a parallel path with the State and the State budget is far from certain at this time. Some items are enhanced while others are burdens.

**\*\* THE MOTION TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA REGARDING REFERRING THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL**

**YEAR 2017-2018 TO THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED TO REFER THE PROPOSED MAYOR'S GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 TO THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO REFER THE PROPOSED MAYOR'S GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 TO THE BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (ITEM #59-16)**

**MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:**

**Approval of City Council Minutes: March 6, 2017**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED THE MARCH 6, 2017 AS SUBMITTED.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO CORRECT THE MARCH 6, 2017 AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO REFER THE FOLLOWING AGENDA ITEMS TO THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES:**

**46-16 COMMUNICATION FROM BOARD OF EDUCATION RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION CONCERNING GRANT APPLICATION AUTHORIZATION FOR SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION WORK AND DESIGN INITIATION FOR THE CATHOLIC CENTER LOCATED AT 238 JEWETT AVENUE, REFERRED TO EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE.**

**53-16 COMMUNICATION FROM LABOR RELATIONS RE: PROPOSED TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS ASSOCIATION REGARDING THEIR BARGAINING UNIT CONTRACT FOR THE TERM OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2015 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2021, REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.**

**54-16 COMMUNICATION FROM WPCA RE: FINAL AUDIT REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015-2016 PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE SECTION 13.04.160, ACCEPTED AND MADE PART OF THE RECORD.**

**55-16 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION SECTION 5310 PROGRAM – BUS PURCHASE (PROJECT #17230), REFERRED TO**

**ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.**

**56-16 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH LONNIE BLACKWELL, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.**

**57-16 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH JESUS MANUEL PEREZ, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.**

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

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

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

Mayor Ganim asked if there was any Council Member who would like to remove an item from the Consent Calendar. Council Member Martinez requested that Agenda Item 45-16 be removed from the Consent Calendar.

Mayor Ganim requested that the Assistant City Clerk read the Consent Calendar into the record.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**\*35-16 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT FOR A SURDNA GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE SUB-GRANT (PROJECT #16263).**

**\*42-16 (PHO) ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: PUBLIC HEARING ORDERED FOR APRIL 17, 2017: DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES (6) BY AUCTION, SALE TO ABUTTER OR BY SALE TO COMMUNITY BASED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS.**

**\*70-15 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: APPOINTMENT OF CLEMENT YOUNG (D) TO THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY COMMISSION.**

**\*48-16 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH JANE DOE.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

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



**MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:**

**45-16 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: Small Business Administration for the Aspire challenge Grant (Project #18243).**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED AGENDA ITEM 45-16 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FOR THE ASPIRE CHALLENGE GRANT (PROJECT #18243).**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY SECONDED.**

Council Member Martinez said that she had missed the committee meeting when this item was discussed and wished to know what the grant funding was for. Council Member Brantley gave her a brief overview of the scope of the Small Business Administration Aspire Challenge program grant request.

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

**COMMUNICATION TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE:**

**58-16 Communication from Housing and Community Development re: (Ref. #37-12 & #96-15) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program Proposed Amendment to the City's Consolidated Plan for Housing & Community Development (2013-2018) and PY 42 Annual Plan, including fund balance from FY 2012, referred to Special Committee on CDBG Program.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO REFER AGENDA ITEM 58-16 COMMUNICATION FROM HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT RE: (REF. #37-12 & #96-15) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) PROGRAM PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CITY'S CONSOLIDATED PLAN FOR HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (2013-2018) AND PY 42 ANNUAL PLAN, INCLUDING FUND BALANCE FROM FY 2012, REFERRED TO SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CDBG PROGRAM.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

Attorney Anastasi stepped forward and explained that copies of the amended resolution had been distributed to the Council Members earlier in the evening. He added that the Conflict of Interest statements would be available in the Democratic Caucus Room following the conclusion of the Council Meeting.

Council Member Feliciano asked if there would be any action on the item tonight. Attorney Anastasi said that the only action would be referring the item to the Special Committee on the CDBG program. The amended document would be reviewed by the Committee.

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

**ADJOURNMENT.**

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

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BUKOVSKY SECONDED.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO ADJOURN PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes

Telesco Secretarial Services