

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023
City Council Chambers, City Hall
45 Lyon Terrace
Bridgeport, CT 06604**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Pro Tempore Newton called the Public Speaking session of the City Council to order at 6:38 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk Lydia Martinez called the roll.

130th District: Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy
131st District: Jorge Cruz, Tyler Mack
132nd District: Rolanda Smith
133rd District: Aikeem Boyd, Jeanette Herron
134th District: Michelle Lyons, AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia
135th District: Mary McBride-Lee, Rosalina Roman-Christy
136th District: Frederick Hodges, Alfredo Castillo
137th District: Aidee Nieves, Maria Valle
138th District: *Maria Pereira, Samia Suliman*
139th 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, NOVEMBER 6, 2023 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

City Governance – Cognizant Reporting.

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

Fellow citizens of the Bridgeport City Council, this is the last time I have the opportunity to address you this term. Thank you for your past attention in the two years since COVID reached our community and changed the way things are organized.

Three subjects have occupied many of my conversations with you since the CT Post termed me a “financial watchdog” Two red boots representing the City Operating Budget and Balance Sheet, showing our net worth became famous. Since then, I have concentrated on Mayoral powers, not well exercised in recent years, to appoint neighbors to join good governance on Boards and Commissions. Absence of appointee evaluation, and reliance on service by appointees beyond the expired current term creates conditions unfavorable to good rule.

- I have pointed to specific failures by neglect: Fair Housing and Fair Rent Commissions. As they did not meet quorum requirements for holding meetings with agendas or minutes, they died in place. You did something about part of this concern this year. When the budget you set out and the Fair Rent Commission appointments are completed, why is the program delayed in providing service to the public, today? Special thanks to Council members Jorge Cruz and Tyler Mack for 24 months of meetings and support for the residents of Stratfield Apartments to create a democratic set of by-laws and process for HUD subsidized residents since November 2021.

- Attention to Education Funding- When an important guardian of City youth programs indicates to me that he has seen multiple youths, passing through our primary grades, failing to read beyond first or second grade levels when advanced to the fifth and sixth grades, why is such data denied your financial focus for the broad public? Do we require anything more than confirming that fact for the focus of the entire community to begin to protest such waste? Of youth lives and public funds?

- What action can you take to improve our election process in Bridgeport? Is scandal what we seek? How do we raise and spend about \$1 million to see the results of 20% total voting of a specific party, so far? What can we change about each registered citizen’s duty to inform and share their opinion about candidates every year or so? Do we need additional carrots or sticks to support increasing results of voting?

Good luck tomorrow. Results likely will not answer all our questions. As observers with oversight and legislative powers I have raised the three above issues to those who will return to perform the authentic work of representation. Time will tell.

Joseph Sokolovic
334 Burnsford Avenue
Bridgeport, CT. 06606

Board of Education, etc.

Mr. Sokolovic came forward and greeted the Council Members. He then played an audio recording of one of the Council Members speaking about the Board of Education. He said that the statements that were made by the Council Member were false and then asked the Council Members if they had done any research or reached out to the Board of Education Chairman about the issues. Mr. Sokolovic then stated that the Council Members had not reached out to the Board about the issues. If the Council Members have an issue with the Board, they should reach out to the Board to discuss the matter.

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The BOE has power invested by the state to make decisions. He the spoke about an issue concerning a false arrest and would like to have the arrest investigated.

Mr. Sokolovic then went on to speak about the details of the issue and suggested that the Council Members think carefully when they speak about the Board of Education.

Council President Nieves reminded everyone that during Public Speaking, there should be no campaigning even though the election was scheduled for the following day. She noted that Council Member Cruz had indicated that he wished to speak about the upcoming election.

Council Member Jorge Cruz

249 Black Rock Avenue, #2-L
Bridgeport, CT. 06605

Council Member Cruz said that he wanted to talk about the atmosphere in Bridgeport over the elections. It had created a negative atmosphere. He said that he had grown up with neighborhood who were black, but now people call him a racist because he supports a Puerto Rican for Mayor.

He said that he knew that there had been problems with voting for years, but this has come forward because it was videoed.

Council Member Cruz went on to give details of the situation where Council Member Cruz was called a "racist". He said that it was time to stop this nonsense. It's sad that things have come to this.

Larry Hunter

79 Williams Street
Bridgeport, CT

V.A. building condition

Mr. Hunter came forward and greeted the Council Members. He said he was a Vietnam veteran and was at 752 East Main Street. The building has been condemned for over 15 years. While they say that they support veterans, they have allowed them to stay in the building that needs many repairs. A female volunteer was hurt recently when she fell in the building. The Council Members say they support the veterans but they don't do anything about the situation. The Council Members know about this, but don't do anything about it. The veterans are all right in front of the Council but the Council still does nothing. He said that he doesn't understand why this is. None of the Council Members have come into the building.

Jermaine Rogers

1188 Main Street
Bridgeport, CT

F.O.I.

Mr. Rogers came forward to speak about the FOI documents. The City Attorney's Office has a large budget but they still haven't addressed the 2,000 requests for documentation that have been submitted. The Council is letting the City Attorney's Office violate the residents' civil rights. The Council Members can go and protest. What the Council does is a reflection of the residents. He

said that there should be black power in Bridgeport and have someone who lives in Bridgeport. come to advocate the residents rather than the officials. It's time to make a change.

George Torres
333 Vincelette St.
Bridgeport, CT

Veterans Building

Mr. Torres came forward and greeted the Council Members. He said that he was a Navy veteran. The veterans dedicated their lives to protect the citizens. There is so much opportunity to support the veterans. They need help and don't want to be abandoned. The Health Department says that the funds were unavailable to repair the building where the Veteran's Affairs Office is. Veterans suffer from PTSD and they have lived together and died together.

Mr. Torres asked the Council Members what they would have to do to address the problem. They have been in an abandoned and condemned building. They need to be moved from the building into a safe place. This is sad. Don't forget the veterans. While the Council Members were home sleeping, the vets were fighting wars.

Eve Parsons
Dewey Street
Bridgeport, CT

City Concerns

Ms. Parson came forward said that while she heard what the Council President said, but the residents have the right to speak. She said that when people go to the Police Department to protest what they saw, it affects everyone. She said that she was ashamed to say that she lives in Bridgeport. Don't prey on the vulnerable. She is in her community doing what the community needs. She asked what people were afraid of and there were people who were in need of help. God is watching each and every one.

Denise Ellis
Carroll Street
Bridgeport, CT

Ms. Ellis said that she had been here it was about parking for a handicapped person. She said that Ms. Martinez had helped her with the Handicapped application. When she went to file the application, she had to go to the Veteran's Office. There were mouse dropping, water stained ceilings and cracked walls. The City can do better than this.

Council Member Mary McBride-Lee
125 Hillcrest Road
Bridgeport, CT

Council Member Mary McBride-Lee came forward and said that she usually doesn't speak at meetings. In 1964, she was with Dr. Martin Luther King in Selma. She believes in equality and she never said that anyone was guilty or innocent. She said that she felt offended, disrespected and not appreciated. She said that no one has the right to question her role.

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Rev. Willie Medina
Iglesia Bautista El Calvario
Bridgeport, CT

Rev. Medina came forward and said that they had sworn an oath to protect the country from enemies both foreign and domestic. He said that he had concerns about the video that was released from the Police Department. There were people at the Board of Education meeting and made foolish statements. The Board of Education has an elected Chairperson for a reason. The BOE will do better and will work with the new Mayor, Council and other. Officials. He thanked Council President Nieves for speaking from her heart, with honor, and respect and dignity. There were others who made threats.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Nieves closed the public session at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2023
7:00 PM**

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRAYER

Council President Nieves asked Council Member Hodges to lead those present in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Nieves asked Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

At the conclusion of the Pledge of Allegiance, Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia requested a moment of silence in honor of retired Bridgeport Police Detective Sabatino "Sam" Cortello.

Council Member McBride-Lee requested a moment of silence to honor two of her nephews who recently passed away in a short span of time.

Council Member Hodges requested a moment of silence in honor of a Bridgeport resident who passed away on November 3rd.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk Lydia Martinez called the roll.

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

A quorum was present.

PUBLIC HEARING

138-22 Public Hearing re: Proposed Resolution Authorizing a PILOT and Tax Incentive Development Agreement for the Fuel Cell Development Project located at 1225 Central Avenue.

Council President Nieves opened the public hearing at 7:29 p.m.

Council Member Newton said that he supports the project and felt that this was a good use for the property. He said that it would be good to train Bridgeport residents to work in Bridgeport. He displayed a copy of a document about the project.

Mr. Keith Williams came forward and said he was the president of the East End NRZ. This project would give jobs to the community. He hopes that people would see that it gives potential to the community.

Council Member McBride-Lee said that she was supporting this project.

Council Member Burns said that he had been on the Council and had discussions about the property. He was supporting the project.

Council Member Herron said that McBride Electric hires local people and trains them. She supports this project.

Council Member Castillo said that this would be the third fuel cell in the City and Bridgeport has the most fuel cells in the nation. He said that McBride Electric takes care of the City.

Council Member Hodges said that he knew McBride for a long time and that Willie McBride works with the Second Chance program.

Council Member Lyons said that she felt that this project speaks for itself. If the City had more people like Wille McBride, the City would be in a better place.

Council President Nieves closed the public hearing at 7:38 p.m.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

• **September 18, 2023**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 MINUTES.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 MEETING AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

***93-22 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition of chronically Vacant and Blighted Properties in accordance with the Hollow Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Plan as amended.**

***94-22 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition of a chronically Vacant and Blighted Property at 330 Myrtle Avenue in accordance with the South End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Plan as amended.**

***135-22 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: National Park Service Save America's Treasures – Perry Memorial Arch (#24868).**

***138-22 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing a PILOT and Tax Incentive Development Agreement for the Fuel Cell Development Project located at 1225 Central Avenue.**

***117-22 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Charles G. Breland (D) to the Zoning Board of Appeals.**

***128-22 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Reappointment of James O'Donnell (D) to the Library Board.**

***129-22 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Reappointment of Kenya Osborne Gant (D) to the Library Board.**

***131-22 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Agata Kotapka – Case #3:18-cv-1660-(RNC).**

Mayor Ganim joined the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Council President Nieves asked if anyone would like to remove an item from the Consent Calendar. Council Member McCarthy requested that Agenda Item 131-22 be removed.

It was then noted that Agenda Items 117-22, 128-22 and 129-22 were votes involving appointments to Boards and would require a roll call vote.

The City Clerk then read the following consent agenda items into the record:

***93-22 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition of chronically Vacant and Blighted Properties in accordance with the Hollow Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Plan as amended.**

***94-22** Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Acquisition of a chronically Vacant and Blighted Property at 330 Myrtle Avenue in accordance with the South End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone Plan as amended.

***135-22** Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: National Park Service Save America's Treasures – Perry Memorial Arch (#24868).

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO MOVED THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS:**

***93-22 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF CHRONICALLY VACANT AND BLIGHTED PROPERTIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HOLLOW NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION ZONE PLAN AS AMENDED.**

***94-22 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF A CHRONICALLY VACANT AND BLIGHTED PROPERTY AT 330 MYRTLE AVENUE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SOUTH END NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION ZONE PLAN AS AMENDED.**

***135-22 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: NATIONAL PARK SERVICE SAVE AMERICA'S TREASURES – PERRY MEMORIAL ARCH (#24868).**

***138-22 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PILOT AND TAX INCENTIVE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE FUEL CELL DEVELOPMENT PROJECT LOCATED AT 1225 CENTRAL AVENUE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The following items were then read by the City Clerk. City Attorney Anastasi announced that the items would require a roll call vote and would need 11 members of those present to approve in order to pass.

***117-22** Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Charles G. Breland (D) to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

***128-22** Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Reappointment of James O'Donnell (D) to the Library Board.

***129-22** Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Reappointment of Kenya Osborne Gant (D) to the Library Board.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOVED TO COMBINE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS IN A ROLL CALL VOTE:**

***117-22 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES G. BRELAND (D) TO THE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS.**

***128-22 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF JAMES O'DONNELL (D) TO THE LIBRARY BOARD.**

***129-22 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REAPPOINTMENT OF KENYA OSBORNE GANT (D) TO THE LIBRARY BOARD.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMBINED ITEMS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

131-22 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Agata Kotapka – Case #3:18-cv-1660-(RNC).

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD MOVED AGENDA ITEM 131-22 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF AGATA KOTAPKA – CASE #3:18-CV-1660-(RNC).**

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, CRUZ, MACK, SMITH, HERRON, BOYD, LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, HODGES, CASTILLO, VALLE, NIEVES, AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (MCCARTHY).**

Council Member Burns said that he would like a moment of personal privilege and mentioned the intern that had worked with him to create many reports.

Council Member Newton agreed and said that the intern was able to sort out a number of key items. He said that this is an example of what could happen if they had a proper staff. He said that they wanted to hire someone to help the Council move forward.

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:

136-22 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Establishment of a Municipal Energy Security Authority (MESA) for the City.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED THE ITEM.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

A staff member came forward and presented a friendly amendment for Agenda Item 136-22 as follows:

**AMENDMENT
To
Proposed Resolution
Item 136-22**

WHEREAS, MESA (Municipal Energy Security Authority) a public benefit corporation to be established by City of Bridgeport as the first municipal energy security authority in the nation with a mission to make clean energy and investment accessible to underserved ratepayers in high-cost urban areas subject to climate risk and carbon impact; and

WHEREAS, MESA is about deploying clean energy and clean technology rather than maximizing profits and recycles energy savings back to institutions that install and consume clean energy; and

WHEREAS, MESA's mission is to accelerate clean energy transition to reduce monthly utility costs, mitigate climate risks and reduce carbon impact within vulnerable, lower-income neighborhoods of municipalities; and

WHEREAS, MESA accelerates the transition to clean energy by using limited public dollars to attract multiples of private capital investment. In doing so, clean energy is more affordable and accessible; and

WHEREAS, MESA directs public-private partnerships and market-based programs, sustainable financing, that result in energy security for a municipality as cost savings, resiliency, sustainability, and workforce; and

WHEREAS, MESA expects to identify and secure U.S. Department of Energy resources committed by the Inflation Reduction Act (GHGR Fund) as signed by President Joseph Biden which is the largest climate investment in U.S. history, designated to mobilize private capital to achieve U.S. climate goals; and

WHEREAS, MESA is recognized by the City Council as an essential tool for the City of Bridgeport to meet its climate goals as aligned with The Paris Climate Agreement. The Paris Agreement is an international treaty on climate change that was adopted in 2015. The agreement

covers climate change mitigation, adaptation, and finance. It sets out a global framework to avoid dangerous climate change; and

WHEREAS, MESA is the only green authority within United States that officially recognizes The Paris Climate Agreement for its solutions toward climate change specifically in its impact on urban populations who are underserved, or vulnerable and residing in municipalities unprepared and threatened by expected crisis; and

WHEREAS, MESA recognizes the importance of diversity and inclusion and voice in all representations, and as such, is committed to transparency, accountability and reporting to City Council and Mayor's Office; and

WHEREAS, MESA manages the Green Energy Market Securitization (GEMS) Program in the State of Connecticut. <https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2014/GEMS-FAQs-general-updated-2.5.25.pdf>

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT THAT

RESOLVED, to make clean energy and investment accessible to high-cost, underserved ratepayers who are subject to climate risk and carbon impact in Bridgeport, that the Committee on Economic and Community Development and Environment establish a public benefit corporation which will be a Municipal Energy Security Authority (MESA) for the City of Bridgeport; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sustainability Office along with the Office of the City Attorney assist the Committee on Economic and Community Development and Environment in developing an [sic] implementing strategy for the creation of a public benefit corporation which will be a Municipal Energy Security Authority (MESA) for the City of Bridgeport; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED once the framework is develop [sic] by that the Sustainability Office and the Office of the City Attorney, and paperwork associated with the development of the Municipal Energy Security Authority (MESA) shall be presented to the City Council for final approval prior to the filing and/or distribution of the formation paperwork.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia noted a grammatical error in the final paragraph of the resolution.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOVED TO AMEND THE DOCUMENT BY SUBSTITUTING REFERENCES TO THE "OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT" WITH "OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY".**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO SECONDED.**

Council Member McCarthy asked City Attorney Anastasi to speak. City Attorney Anastasi said that he had a concern with the first resolve which appears to establish a Board when it was intended to be an advisory entity.

Council Member McCarthy said that this appears to be creating an independent entity like the WPCA that the residents will have to pay for. Discussion followed regarding whether the Council should wait until after the election to approve the item.

Council Member Suliman joined the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

Council President Nieves noted that the business of the City continues despite the fact that the election is the following day.

A discussion followed regarding a number of changes to the document.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 136-22 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MUNICIPAL ENERGY SECURITY AUTHORITY (MESA) FOR THE CITY WITH THE AMENDMENTS AS DISCUSSED.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BOYD SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member Burns reminded everyone that there were a number of other green energy initiatives in the City.

Council Member Castillo said that minorities are often mistreated. He said that this was for his people, not for Black Rock. He said that the Hispanic and blacks were the majority in the Council and they would take out the Black Rock representatives.

Council Member McCarthy requested a roll call vote.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE WITH THE AMENDMENTS AS DISCUSSED PASSED WITH THIRTEEN (13) IN FAVOR (CRUZ, SMITH, HERRON, BOYD, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, HODGES, CASTILLO, VALLE, NIEVES, SULIMAN AND NEWTON) AND FOUR (4) OPPOSED (BURNS, MCCARTHY, MACK, VIZZO-PANICCIA).**

132-22 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Wayne Williams – Docket No. FBT-CV-20-6096034-S.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED AGENDA ITEM 132-22 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF WAYNE WILLIAMS – DOCKET NO. FBT-CV-20-6096034-S.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH SIXTEEN (16) IN FAVOR (BURNS, CRUZ, MACK, SMITH, HERRON, BOYD, LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, HODGES, CASTILLO, VALLE, NIEVES, SULIMAN AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (MCCARTHY).**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

112-22 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Soledad Nunez (D) to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ MOVED AGENDA ITEM 112-22 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: APPOINTMENT OF SOLEDAD NUNEZ (D) TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SULIMAN SECONDED.**

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia announced she had received notification that the pending litigation had been settled. It was announced that a 2/3rd majority would be needed in order for approval. A roll call vote was taken.

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH SIXTEEN (16) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, MACK, SMITH, HERRON, BOYD, LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, HODGES, CASTILLO, NIEVES, SULIMAN AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (VALLE).**

Council President Nieves then announced that Council Members Suliman and Roman-Christy were not running for re-election.

Council Member Boyd then spoke about Council Member Roman-Christy and her leadership as a Co-chair.

Council Member Mack said that Council Member Roman-Christy had received a lot of pressure about the decisions when she was Co-chair. He added that Council Member Roman-Christy had helped him be there for his family.

Council Member Mack said that Council Member Suliman had served the City.

Council Member Lyons thanked Council Member Suliman for her business knowledge. She added that Council Member Roman-Christy had worked hard on Economic Development Committee.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia said that Council Member Roman-Christy had worked hard to bring information to the Committee. She also thanked Council Member Suliman.

Council Member Newton thanked both Council Member Roman-Christy and Council Member Suliman.

Council Member Castillo said that when Council Member Roman-Christy was silent, it said a great deal.

Council Member Newton left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Council Member McBride-Lee spoke about how she had run against Council Member Roman-Christy at one point in time, but they worked together well.

Council President Nieves presented both Council Member Roman-Christy and Council Member Suliman with flowers and a certificate of appreciation.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER ROMAN-CHRISTY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE-LEE SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services