

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024
City Council Chambers, City Hall
45 Lyon Terrace
Bridgeport, CT 06604**

CALL TO ORDER

City Council President, Aidee Nieves called the Public Speaking session of the City Council to order at 6:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk, Lydia Martinez called the roll.

130th District: Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy
131st District: Tyler Mack
132nd District: Dasha Spell
133rd District: Aikeem Boyd, Jeanette Herron
134th District: Michelle Lyons
135th District: Mary McBride-Lee, Richard Ortiz
136th District: Frederick Hodges
137th District: Aidee Nieves, Maria Valle
138th District: Maria Pereira, Jazmarie Melendez
139th District: Eneida Martinez, Ernest Newton

A quorum was present.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024 AT 6:30 P.M. IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT 06604.

There were a total of ten speakers, ten were registered to speak and due to one speaker being absent, one speaker was asked to speak from the sign-up sheet.

NAME	SUBJECT
John Marshall Lee - 30 Beacon Street Bridgeport, CT 06605	Municipal Governance, Participation, Voting, and Civics.

Mr. Marshall Lee came forward and read into the record:

Disciples of democracy, I greet you tonight to explore two quotes from American history. Ben Franklin born in 1706 in Boston spent many years in France and Philadelphia, where he died in 1790, was known as a Founding Father. In 1754 during the French and Indian War, 20 years

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular Meeting
February 20, 2024

before the American revolution, imaged the serpent with the message, **JOIN, OR DIE** in his Philadelphia paper. It is not one of his most famous quotes.

Context is critical. The colonies were growing, settlers pushing west but the state boundaries for New York and Pennsylvania were unknown. Indigenous people were settled to the west. They were not contemplated in the governance by Colonials as folks with rights or land ownership and other practices from English royal tradition. The colonies two decades later included Delaware, then a part of Maryland, and Georgia, but the four New England states did not include Maine, a part of Massachusetts, or Vermont. which was the Vermont Territory during the Revolutionary War but became the 14th State in 1791. See the banner, study the context of colonials without the rights of free white men across the Atlantic in England, subject to taxes or commercial regulations ‘without being at the table,’ and responsible for safety of family and person as well as security of their property in frontier locations. Franklin’s advice to fellow colonists, **JOIN, OR DIE**, becomes more clear. In 1864 at the lowest point of the Civil War Abraham Lincoln said: **“We cannot have free government without elections;”** Lest we forget, secession and separation of the States into warring parties in his first term with 620,000 casualties known to all caused some to question the Union. Since that time, rights around voting have been extended to people of color and to women as well as to naturalized immigrants like my father. If you believe Lincoln’s words and act as believers, why are 75 to 80% of registered voters in Bridgeport absent from the polls? Is our local government authentically free when it provides such a minimal mandate from the governed? Where is your City Council systematic effort as those responsible today to answer these questions with democratic action? Do you believe that the words of these famous Americans are of value and ring true today? What do you say in response to the Founders? Time will tell.

Lisa Haut -
1525 Noble Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Resolution for ceasefire.

Ms. Haut came forward and read into the record:

As a longtime Bridgeport resident, I am here to state my strong opposition to the biased and factually inaccurate ceasefire resolution you have passed. It is not the city council’s place to debate or pass resolutions regarding international policy. This kind of purely “political” legislation only serves to fan the flames of diversity, discord, and hatred. It does not promote peace in any way. The council’s mission is to focus on Bridgeport matters, not to take controversial or offensive positions on global matters of great complexity and nuance. Furthermore, this resolution fails to take into consideration the values and views of all residents. Bridgeport is a diverse community and this resolution is objectionable to many residents for a number of reasons. Israel is a sovereign nation-state with the moral right and obligation to protect and defend the lives of its citizens. There was a ceasefire in place on October 6, which Hamas broke in the most brutal and barbaric way imaginable. There are still 132 innocent hostages being held in Gaza in hellish subhuman conditions. All of these actions, including, using human shields, using schools, hospitals, mosques as military bases complete with lethal weaponry, violate international law. I call up upon you to respect the varied opinions and sensitivities of the diverse community you represent and stop encouraging division, and animosity for no ultimate purpose, except to be exploited to further rising scourge of hate, violence, and antisemitism which is growing exponentially everywhere, including in our own state.

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular Meeting
February 20, 2024

Carin Savel -
Jewish Federation
4200 Park Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Ceasefire Resolution.

Ms. Savel came forward and read into the record:

There are 4 questions to ask tonight.

1. Do you believe that Israel has the right to exist? If you do, then you recognize that Israel has been in existence for 4,00 years, since the time of the Kings, and that the modern Jewish State of Israel was declared in 1948. But in 2024, anti-Zionism is a shrewd cloak for antisemitism.

2. Do you believe that Hamas is a terrorist organization? If you do, then you recognize that ceasefire that existed on October 6 was broken by Hamas on October 7th, when they savagely butchered, murdered and mutilated over 1200 people, brutally raped and mutilated women and stole 250 men, women and children from their homes. When you passed this resolution, no speaker acknowledged the atrocities of Hamas that triggered this war. In fact, Hamas was never mentioned at all. But you will see for yourself on March 12, when you will be invited to screen 47 minutes of Hamas atrocities from their own video footage.

3. Are you a citizen of the United States? If you are, today, the United States—for the third time—vetoed a widely supported U.N. resolution demanding an immediate cease-fire in the Israel-Hamas war, saying it would interfere with negotiations on a deal to free hostages abducted in Israel. When I was here last time, you made it clear that you were not interested in civil discourse and that opinions other than yours should be shouted down. These are not the values of America, and it brings me to the 4th question:

Do you want to live and work in a cohesive, safe, communal Bridgeport? If you do, then tonight we have an opportunity to begin to work towards it. We can begin by creating a new resolution for real peace, crafted with the Jewish and Muslim communities and guided by the City Council. A new resolution would take the place of the existing cease-fire resolution, which does not call for peace. It calls for the destruction of Israel. For decades the Jewish Federation has worked with and supported the Muslim community. We've helped fight period poverty here for a very long time with an effective program called Dignity Grows. Now, there are no more totes filled with feminine hygiene supplies for young women. Now, there is nothing between us but hate and anger. Do you know what would happen if all of Hamas put down their weapons for good right now? There would be no more war - there would be peace. Do you know what would happen if Israel put down all of her weapons right now? There would be no Israel. This is your opportunity to do good. Call us to the table and we will be there. Am Israel Chai. The people of Israel live.

Marc Donald -
Executive Director of RYASAP
2470 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Public Safety.

Mr. Donald greeted the council and wanted to explain what his program does for the City of Bridgeport. Street safe helps with gun violence intervention and hospital response, actively working closely with the police department and other programs since 4 years ago. Bridgeport is one of the six cities to decrease youth gun violence in the country. He has shared a statistical report to show how his program contributes to the youth and they are looking to get approved for another yearly grant to continue their work in the city. He noted they have done this work since

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular Meeting
February 20, 2024

July without a contract as a result of good faith and relationship with the police department and City of Bridgeport.

Rabbi Richard Eisenberg
Congregation Rodeph Sholom
2385 Park Avenue
Bridgeport, CT06604

Resolution 20-23 calling for a ceasefire in
Gaza.

Rabbi Eisenberg came forward and read onto the record:

Mayor Ganim, Council President Nieves, City council members: Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. I am Rabbi Richard Eisenberg of Congregation Rodeph Sholom. I was born in Bridgeport, grew up in Rodeph Sholom where I received my religious education and became Bar Mitzvah. I am not here to defend Israel or to debate the Palestinian cause. I am here, recognizing that we all pray for peace in Israel and Gaza, to express my concern about the resolution passed on 1/2, not to comment on its content or its positions. The majority of us here descend from the Judeo-Christian-Muslim tradition. We are children of Abraham. Some of us call him "Avraham", some call him "Ibrahim". But he is still our father and patriarch. We share a common heritage. Some of our children of Isaac, some are children of Ishmael. But we are all brothers and sisters, the fruits of a great and noble ancestry. I will now read a Joint Statement endorsed by major organizations of the Bridgeport Jewish community. This statement reflects an agreed upon consensus and does not touch upon the controversies surrounding the war in Gaza. For there are differences of opinion among Jews about how the war is being prosecuted. But that is besides the point. We are not here to solve the problems of the Middle East. We are here to advocate for the goal of maintaining the City Council and municipal government as safe spaces for people of all national, cultural and religious persuasions. And here now the Statement:

JOINT STATEMENT FROM MEMBERS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY

“We, the clergy and lay leadership of the Bridgeport Jewish community, express our profound concern and disappointment with the Bridgeport City Council's approval of Resolution No. 20-23 calling for an immediate de-escalation and permanent ceasefire in Gaza, Israel and the West Bank. This Resolution, approved on January 2, 2024, had no rightful place on the agenda of the City Council, a municipal body of officials who are elected to safeguard, protect and enhance the quality of life of Bridgeport's citizens. It is not the business of the City Council to editorialize and comment on international matters. Once this is allowed to happen, the Council is on a slippery slope, charged with assessing all international issues of concern, thereby diverting its attention from its true and necessary charge, to address municipal affairs. We call upon the Mayor and City Council to either annul, withdraw or rescind Resolution No. 20-23 and we respectfully ask for the Mayor and the City Council to issue a Proclamation condemning antisemitism, Islamophobia and all forms of racism and intolerance as they manifest in the City of Bridgeport. Such a Proclamation would unify the community and would fulfill the Council's mission to improve the lives of Bridgeport's citizens.”

Tony Barr -
141 Pennsylvania Avenue #8
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Addressing the City council members on how
they should work for the people of Bridgeport.

Mr. Barr came forward to the podium and shared he is an American Muslim. He remembers watching the news while growing up regarding the Middle East. He stated we should consider the children in the Middle East, at least. As a nation, we get involved in many international affairs and this should be another concern to be involved in. As a black man, his people have been oppressed for hundreds of years and they still survived. He would like for everyone to live in peace. He ended off by saying this is about being human and civilized with each other.

Mohamed Ali -
BICC
2370 Fairfield Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

History of Palestine.

Mr. Ali came forward and read onto the record:

Here's a chronological list of the descendants of sam (Shem), the son of Noah, leading up to Ibrahim (Abraham), according to biblical accounts:

Sam (Shem) - Son of Noah. Arpachshad - Son of Shem. Shelah - Son of Arpachsh. Eber - Son of Shelah.

Peleg - Son of Eber. Reu - Son of Peleg. Serug - Son of Reu. Nahor - Son of Serug. Terah - Son of Nahor. Ibrahim (Abraham) - Son of Terah. Ibrahim is the father of Ismail and Isaac: Ismail is the ancestor of the Arabs and Isaac is the Father of Jacob/ Israel the father of Jews. So, both the Arabs and the Jews are the descendants of Sam the son of Noah. So they are both Semites. Conclusion: The genocide that is committed now in Gaza by the IDF against Arab Palestinians is an antisemitic and Islamophobic act and is crime against humanity.

Mohamed Hamada
665 Boston Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 066010

Partnerships between Bridgeport Organizations.

Mr. Hamada was called to the podium but was not in attendance for the public speaking session.

Aziz Seyal -
BICC
703 State Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Ceasefire Resolution.

Mr. Seyal came forward and read onto the record:

My name is Aziz Seyal. I am a Bridgeport taxpayer and Board member of BICC at 703 State Street. When God Almighty created human beings, He put a conscience in everyone, that works as a sensor, giving him a signal which tells him if his actions are good or bad. It does not matter what religion, race or color you are, your conscience will tell you what is right or wrong. Bridgeport Council members have done something great after listening to their conscience, after

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular Meeting
February 20, 2024

listening to the voices of millions of people around the world, calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, where about 30,000 innocent children, women, and men have been killed. Now Rafah is under fierce attack, where Israel had forced them to go to take shelter, and now, are bombing them there too. Believe me, the world is watching. Thousands of people are on the streets of each major capital of the world demanding an immediate ceasefire. Here in the U.S, many congressmen who are not on the AIPAC payroll are demanding a ceasefire. Congressman of California, Ro Khanna, recently demanded an immediate ceasefire. He said that every hour more children and women are being killed, every hour more are suffering from hunger and disease. It should stop now. He warned Pres. Biden told Israel not to attack Rafah where over a million refugees are living in tents, but Biden did nothing. An American international relations scholar, John Mearsheimer, said that what Israelis are doing is far beyond going after Hamas and rather, are inflicting massive pain and punishment to the innocent civilian population that is unacceptable to decent people all over the world. Brazilian President Luiz da Silva compared Israel's war in Palestine to the Holocaust, saying Israel is committing "genocide" against Palestinian civilians and the only historical equivalent is "when Hitler decided to kill the Jews." "It's not a war of soldiers against soldiers. It's a war between a highly prepared army and women and children." I salute Bridgeport Council members for listening to their conscience and passing the Ceasefire Resolution approved unanimously by Muslims, Christians & Jews for peace in the world. I am surprised that some people just woke up and are asking the council to ignore the voice of their conscience, ignore the voice of millions of people around the world and only listen to those whose conscience has become dead, who enjoy watching killings of innocent children and are against a ceasefire. Imagine one day your city is under attack. You lose your one-year-old baby. You run to the next city to protect your other children, but bombs are chasing you and you lose two more children there. You run to the third city and bombs kill your whole family there. How will you feel if your neighbors celebrate this and demand "keep on bombing, keep on bombing, no ceasefire?" We should consider every child in the world like our own child! Believe me, our conscience is alive, and our will is strong. We will never give up. We will not let this group misguide these noble and brave members of the Bridgeport City Council who have made history in Connecticut by uniting the people of Bridgeport and passing the Ceasefire Resolution with the goal to save humanity.

Maria Pereira -
80 Granfield Avenue, A1
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Ceasefire and Censure.

Ms. Pereira shared that in the 14 years of her being a public servant, she has never received so many emails regarding personal safety for joining a public speaking session due to having a contrary opinion. After reciting an oath under Connecticut general statute, she shared that all the council members who voted in favor for the resolution have violated their oath to the constitution and state of Connecticut. Lastly, she asked what the council was doing for the residents of Bridgeport.

President Nieves called Mr. Shaham from the floor sign-up sheet to speak since there was one absence.

Mohammad Shaham -
866 Beechmont Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06606

Ceasefire Resolution.

Mr. Shaham greeted the council and thanked everyone who voted in favor of approving the ceasefire resolution. He wanted to explain why it was essentially the best trouble solver for both states. First, it would bring people home, death tolls would stop increasing, and it would stop the fight to talk. Bridgeport supporting the ceasefire has brought the most packed meeting at the chambers thus far. He shared that the Bridgeport Islamic Community Center feeds many people every Sunday. Imagine coming together between each religion and what they can do for the community.

President Nieves ended the public speaking session letting everyone know this chamber is for all the people and if anyone ever feels unsafe being there to reach out to the City Clerk's Office and they will have police officers be more alert than what they already are during the meetings. It has never been brought to her attention that someone has felt unsafe, she deeply apologized and thanked everyone for coming.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President Nieves closed the public session at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vianca Rivera,

Telesco Secretarial Services.

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers, City Hall - 45 Lyon Terrace

Bridgeport, Connecticut

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ganim called the meeting to order at 7:24 p.m.

PRAYER

Mayor Ganim asked councilmember McBride-Lee to lead them into prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ganim asked councilmember Newton to lead them in the pledge of allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Councilmember Melendez asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Joshua Bell, 41 years old who was recently murdered by three Bridgeport police officers.

Council President asked for a moment of silence for Ms. Beverly who unexpectedly passed away. She was an avid supporter of the social services department and very active in reaching out to the council and city.

Council Pro Tempore Newton added to keep Danny Roach in their prayers as he is not doing well.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk, Lydia Martinez called the roll.

130th District: Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy
131st District: Tyler Mack
132nd District: Dasha Spell
133rd District: Aikeem Boyd, Jeanette Herron
134th District: Michelle Lyons
135th District: Mary McBride-Lee, Richard Ortiz
136th District: Frederick Hodges
137th District: Aidee Nieves, Maria Valle
138th District: Maria Pereira, Jazmarie Melendez
139th District: Eneida Martinez, Ernest Newton

A quorum was present.

Mayor Proclamation: In recognition of Kavan Weise for his contributions to the Re-Entry Community in Honor of Black History Month.

Councilmember Herron asked Mr. Weise to make himself present with his family and recited the proclamation.

Councilmember Herron added she has known Mr. Weise forever, from when they were both working for the lighthouse program. Re-entry does work and she is proud to call him her friend.

Council Pro Tempore Newton mentioned he is proud of Mr. Weise, he watched him work on Stratford Avenue. He thanked him for his work.

Councilmember Hodges said he wanted to congratulate Mr. Weise for not only the work he has just begun but the work he has been doing. In regards to support and gun violence, he hopes to see the constituents attending for more reasons that affect the city; food and clothes drives are not enough.

Council president congratulated Mr. Weise and shared he has called in to sponsor high school sports which shows his dedication. She also knows his sister, their family has a drive between commitment and community.

Mayor Ganim recited the proclamation.

Mr. Weise thanked God for blessing him with spiritual guides from (inaudible), his mother and family for being there with him, the City of Bridgeport and Mayor Ganim. He added it is not easy waking up every day not having the answer but you have to show up for yourself. Always put your best foot forward, believe in yourself and do the work. He thanked Bridgeport and the home of second chances, they are just getting started.

01-23 Public Hearing re: Proposed Lease Agreement with Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut regarding vacant land at the Fairchild-Wheeler Golf Course for the purpose of installing a Water Pump Station along with any related Infrastructure or Appurtenances to the Facility.

****MAYOR GANIM OPENED A PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ITEM 01-23 AT 7:39 PM****

Council member Pereria approached the podium to share her opinions on the matter. Mayor Ganim said due to the rules of the council, under any capacities is council member Pereria eligible to speak on behalf of any matter.

****MAYOR GANIM CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE ITEM 01-23 AT 7:43 PM****

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

- **Approval of City Council Minutes: January 2, 2024**

****COUNCIL PRESIDENT NIEVES MOTIONED TO TABLE THE JANUARY 2, 2024 COUNCIL MINUTES TO ALLOW MORE TIME TO REVIEW DUE TO SCRIBAGE.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ.**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

43-23 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of State Farm Mutual Insurance Company a/s/o Alpa Mamidanna – Docket No. FBT-CV24-6130747-S, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

44-23 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Michael Lauro v. City of Bridgeport, et al – Docket No. FBT-CV19-6091138-S, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

RESOLUTIONS TO BE REFERRED TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, ETC.:

45-23 Resolution presented by Council Member Burns re: Proposed Resolution regarding Amendments to the City Council Rules, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

46-23 Resolution presented by Council Member Burns re: Proposed Resolution calling for Rescission of Item No. 20-23, (Resolution calling for an Immediate De-escalation and Permanent Ceasefire in Israel, Gaza, and the West Bank) Based upon Violations of Applicable Procedural Rules and Violations of Fundamental Principles of Parliamentary Law, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

****COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ MOTIONED TO CONSOLIDATE TO ONE VOTE ALL COMMUNICATIONS, PETITIONS, AND RESOLUTIONS TO ALL BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES, BOARDS. COMMISSIONS, ETC.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL PRO TEMPORE NEWTON.**

****THE MOTION WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

***02-23 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Court Support Services Division – Youth Violence Prevention Initiative (#24399).**

***16-23 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Grant Submissions: State of Connecticut Department of Transportation (FY24-FY28); Speed and Aggressive Driving Enforcement (#24323-#28323); Click it or Ticket Enforcement (#24326-#28326) and Distracted Driving – High Visibility Enforcement (#24327-28327).**

***17-23 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management – FY24 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program (#24604).**

****COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR).**

****SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER ORTIZ.**

****THE MOTIONED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

01-23 Contracts Committee Report re: Lease Agreement with Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut regarding vacant land at the Fairchild-Wheeler Golf Course for the purpose of installing a Water Pump Station along with any related Infrastructure or Appurtenances to the Facility.

****COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 01-23.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL PRO TEMPORE NEWTON.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Councilmember Burns asked how the taxes would get worked out for this property, and would Bridgeport or Fairfield be collecting the taxes.

Attorney Anastasi asked what taxes he was referring to, personal or real estate taxes.

Councilmember Burns said yes to both taxes. Attorney Anastasi replied he is not sure about real estate property taxes as it will be considered the parks department property. If there would be any taxes, they would be paid to Fairfield since it is sited in Fairfield.

Councilmember Burns confirmed if they will only be getting the lease money since taxes will be paid out to Fairfield. Attorney Anastasi said they will be getting \$300,000 or \$350,000 dollars for this deal.

****THE MOTIONED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Creation of Special Committee on Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG).

****COUNCIL PRESIDENT NIEVES MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE CREATION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AS THE FOLLOWING:**

CO-CHAIRS: JAZMARIE MELENDEZ & MATTHEW MCCARTHY.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: AIKEEM BOYD, MICHELLE LYONS, MARY MCBRIDE-LEE, RICHARD ORTIZ, AND AMYMARIE VIZZO PANICCIA.

**** COUNCILMEMBER LYONS REVOKED POSITION DUE TO CONFLICT.****

****COUNCIL PRESIDENT NIEVES MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE CREATION OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AS THE FOLLOWING:**

CO-CHAIRS: JAZMARIE MELENDEZ & MATTHEW MCCARTHY.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: AIKEEM BOYD, MARY MCBRIDE-LEE, RICHARD ORTIZ, JORGE CRUZ, AND AMYMARIE VIZZO-PANICCIA.

****SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ.**

****COUNCIL PRESIDENT NIEVES MOTIONED TO AMEND REMOVING MATTHEW MCCARTHY FROM CO-CHAIR AND ASSIGNING MARY MCBRIDE-LEE.**

CO-CHAIRS: JAZMARIE MELENDEZ & MARY MCBRIDE-LEE.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: AIKEEM BOYD, MATTHEW MCCARTHY, RICHARD ORTIZ, JORGE CRUZ, AND AMYMARIE VIZZO-PANICCIA.

****SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ AS AMENDED.**

Councilmember Burns said due to this interfering with his work and personal life he won't be able to make any meetings so he cannot sit on the committee.

****MOTION WAS APPROVED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, MACK, SPELL, BOYD, HERRON, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, ORTIZ, HODGES, NIEVES, VALLE, MELENDEZ, MARTINEZ, AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

ADJOURNMENT

****COUNCILMEMBER MARTINEZ MOTIONED TO ADJOURN.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL PRO TEMPORE NEWTON.**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Vianca Rivera,

Telesco Secretarial Services.