

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2024**

ATTENDANCE: Aikeem Boyd, Co-chair; Alfredo Castillo; Richard Ortiz; Tyler Mack; Rolanda Smith

OTHER: Council Member(s): Aidee Nieves (6:08), City Council President; Scott Burns, Maria Pereira (6:22), Jazmarie Melendez (6:23), Eneida Martinez (6:08); J. Bohannon, Jr., Deputy City Attorney; L. Ouellette, Jr., Associate City Attorney; John Stevens; Jennifer Rocha; Linda Lubin; Ali Akba; Ada Gloria Hernandez;

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair Aikeem Boyd called the meeting at 6:06 p.m. There was a quorum present at the time of the roll call.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

- DECEMBER 26, 2023 (REGULAR MEETING)

****COUNCIL MEMBER MACK MOTIONED APPROVAL THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 26,2023.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO.**

****THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOUR (4) IN FAVOR (BOYD, CASTILLO, MACK, AND SMITH) AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION (ORTIZ).**

- JANUARY 2, 2024 (RECONVENE MEETING)

****COUNCIL MEMBER MACK MOTIONED APPROVAL THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 02,2023.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO.**

****THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOUR (4) IN FAVOR (BOYD, CASTILLO, MACK, AND SMITH) AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION (ORTIZ).**

26-23 APPOINTMENT OF JOHN STEVENS (U) TO THE HARBOR COMMISSION.

Mr. Stevens introduced himself as being a resident of Bridgeport for over 40 years, currently living in the Black Rock area. With much love for the water, he has his coast guard license and has a few friends on the Bridgeport Harbor commission.

Council member Mack asked if he has served on any boards or commission before. Mr. Stevens replied no, he hasn't.

Council member Burns asked if there would be any conflict of interest with a neighbor of his looking to extend further into the harbor. Mr. Stevens said the way the harbor plan is organized, that plan will not be approved. His concern moving forward would be those looking to create longer decks and boardwalks. He doesn't want to restrict them but more so the limitations.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JOHN STEVENS TO THE HARBOR COMMISSION.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

****PRESIDENT NIEVES JOINED THE MEETING AT 6:08 PM****

****COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ JOINED THE MEETING AT 6:08 PM****

33-23 APPOINTMENT OF JENNIFER ROCHA (D) TO THE COMMISSION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

Ms. Rocha introduced herself as a social worker for the City of Bridgeport, she has been a resident of Bridgeport for over 8 years, and would like to serve the less fortunate.

Council member Mack asked if a city employee can serve on a board or commission. President Nieves replied yes, they can.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JENNIFER ROCHA TO THE COMMISSION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

34-23 APPOINTMENT OF LINDA LUBIN (D) TO THE COMMISSION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

Ms. Lubin introduced herself as a social worker who has been in the field for the last 10 years. She would like to help get resources out to the community

Council member Burns asked if she had any concerns or advocacy she would like to promote. Ms. Lubin responded that she would like to help with housing equality and recommending services that are available to community members. Council member Burns followed up by asking if these are issues that have come up in her professional career. Ms. Lubin replied they have, there is a disservice within the community.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JENNIFER ROCHA TO THE COMMISSION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

35-23 APPOINTMENT OF ALI AKBAR (U) TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION.

Mr. Akbar introduced himself as a 20 year resident of Bridgeport who would like to serve the community, he believes planning and zoning is the first step to making the community look nicer.

Co-chair Boyd asked why he would like to join the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mr. Akbar replied if you want anything done for the community you must go through Zoning.

Council member Ortiz asked if he had any experience with Planning and Zoning. Mr. Akbar said he has experience back home with Planning and Zoning.

Council member Burns asked since he doesn't have experience within the city, what would he anticipate doing to get qualified or up to speed. Mr. Akbar said (inaudible), if he is allowed on the commission then he can help people not suffer. Council member Burns followed up by asking if there are any policies or standards in the code he would like to see change. Mr. Akbar replied once he is on the commission he will be able to learn about all the policies and then figure out what needs to be changed.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF ALI AKBAR TO THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

36-23 APPOINTMENT OF ADA GLORIA HERNANDEZ TO THE FAIR RENT COMMISSION.

Ms. Hernandez introduced herself as a retired property manager in Florida who moved back to Bridgeport 3 years ago. As she is retired, she is looking for volunteer work and helping with fair housing and elderly care.

President Nieves thanked her for applying and coming back to serve the community of Bridgeport.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JENNIFER ROCHA TO THE COMMISSION FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

37-23 APPOINTMENT OF JOHN STEVENS (U) TO THE HARBOR COMMISSION.

****CO CHAIR BOYD ACKNOWLEDGED ITEM 37-23 AS A DUPLICATE OF 26-23. THE ITEM 37-23 WAS NOT DISCUSSED OR ACTED UPON.****

45-23 PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL RULE AMENDMENTS.

Council member Burns explained this proposal is to update the City Council Rules regarding language and matters that need to be updated. One amendment would be to abbreviate public speaking at committee meetings. It may not be an easy process but it would be the appropriate thing to do. He believes they would add or tweak some of the rules with the recommendations from the committee.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO TO TABLE ITEM 45-23.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

46-26 PROPOSED RESOLUTION CALLING FOR RESCISSION OF NO. 20-23 (RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE DE-ESCALATION AND PERMANENT CEASEFIRE IN ISRAEL, GAZA, AND THE WEST BANK) BASED UPON VIOLATION OF APPLICABLE PROCEDURAL RULES AND VIOLATIONS OF FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES OF PARLIAMENTARY LAW.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO TO TABLE ITEM 46-23 .**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

*****EXECUTIVE SESSION*****

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 6:21 PM WITH CITY ATTORNEY BOHANNON, CITY ATTORNEY OUELLETTE AND CITY ATTORNEY TOM .**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO LEFT THE MEETING AT 7PM DURING THE EXECUTIVE SESSION****

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ TO END THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:47 PM WITH CITY ATTORNEY BOHANNON, CITY ATTORNEY OUELLETTE AND CITY ATTORNEY TOM .**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MACK.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

28-23 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF MEGHA JAIN DOCKET NO. 3:22-CV-00874 (VDO).

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ TO APPROVE ITEM 28-23.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MACK.**

****THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

44-23 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF MICHAEL LAURO V. CITY OF BRIDGEPORT ET AL DOCKET NO. FBT-CV19-6091138-S.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH TO APPROVE ITEM 44-23.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ.**

****THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

10-23 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF JONATHAN JOHNSON DOCKET NO. FBT-CV-21-611245-S.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MACK TO APPROVE ITEM 10-23.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ.**

****THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

18-23 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF KIANA GALLIMORE DOCKET NO. FBT-CV-6111992-S.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH TO APPROVE ITEM 18-23.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ.**

****THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

43-23 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION IN THE MATTER OF STATE FARM INSURANCE COMPANY A/S/O ALPHA MAMIDANNA DOCKET NO. FBT-CV24-6130747-S.

****MOTIONED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ TO APPROVE ITEM 43-23.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH.**

****THE MOTION WAS APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

****COUNCIL MEMBER MACK MOTIONED TO ADJOURN.**

****SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ.**

****MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Vianca Rivera,

Telesco Secretarial Services.