

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 24, 2024**

ATTENDANCE: AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia, Co-chair;
Aikeem G. Boyd, Co-chair; Rolanda Smith;
Denese Taylor-Moye; Matthew McCarthy;
Richard Ortiz.

OTHERS: Maria H. Pereira (6:08), 138th District
Eneida Martinez (6:22), 139th District

John Mitola, Associate City Attorney
John Bohannon, Deputy City Attorney
Andy Toledo, Director of Community Relations
Anthony Paoletto, Mayor's Office
Thomas Masanotti, Appointee to Parks Commission
John Hosier, Appointee to Parks Commission
Lillian Ortiz, Appointee to Parks Commission
Denise Clemons, Appointee to Library Board
Kathleen Elizabeth Turner, Appointee to Library Board
Kathryn Bukovsky, Appointee to Board of Public
Purchase

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m. There was a quorum present at the time of roll call.

64-23 Refund Excess Payments – Phoenix Petro Corporation.

Ms. Jones explained the company is requesting to roll over the funds to the tax bill in July.

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia asked if this was okay with the department.

Ms. Jones replied yes, they can just roll it over for the next bill.

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia asked the city attorneys if they should table the item or approve it.

City Attorney Bohannon added it would be a refund of excessive asking to be allocated to the next bill. It would be best practice to receive something in writing per his request to then give him a receipt of the payment.

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

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia asked to submit the paperwork before the next city council meeting.

****COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOTIONED TO APPROVE AS AMENDED**

- **ALLOCATING REFUND EXCESS FUNDS TO JULY TAX BILL.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

91-23 Refund of Excess Payments – Webster School Realty LLC.

Ms. Jones explained the company is requesting their excess payments of \$21,346.34 to be refunded to them as they sent in their payment to the lockbox service but they also sent another payment to city hall.

****COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 91-23.**

Council member Pereira asked if this was related to the old Webster school and if they get many tax abatements.

Ms. Jones replied no, not to her understanding.

****COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

85-23 Appointment of Thomas Masanotti (D) to the Parks Commission.

Mr. Masanotti shared he grew up in Bridgeport city as a resident of 66 years. He has spent much time at Seaside, Beardsley and at Fairchild Wheeler playing golf. He would like to learn about the back end on how the parks are managed, he would like to contribute to the parks as someone who is always here. He has concerns that he would like to bring up regarding the parks and has the time to contribute to the commission.

Council member Taylor-Moye shared she was on the commission before and the meetings are long and include park visits and working with others. She asked how well he would work with other commissioners.

Mr. Masanotti replied he would work well with anyone interested in the city parks. He is looking to offer his observations to better the parks, and learn how to commission works; he has no intention to take over.

Council Member Pereira asked if he changed his political party affiliation in September from unaffiliated to democrat due to any request.

Mr. Masanotti replied that it was something he did on his own.

****COUNCIL MEMBER ENEIDA MARTINEZ JOINED THE MEETING AT 6:22 PM****

Council Member Pereira asked Mr. Toledo why Mr. Cotto and Mr. Labrador are not on the commission anymore and the commission is required to have 8 members on the board.

Mr. Toledo replied he only manages the applications and their term expired.

Co-Chair Vizzo-Paniccia added that Council Member Pereira should contact the administration in regards to the nominations as internal affairs shouldn't be discussed at the moment.

****COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOTIONED TO MOVE COUNCIL MEMBER PERIERA'S QUESTION.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 85-23.**

****CO-CHAIR BOYD SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

86-23 Appointment of John Hosier (U) to the Parks Commission.

Mr. Hosier shared he has been a Bridgeport resident most of his life. He is very honored to serve the city of Bridgeport and would appreciate being reappointed to the board as he has served 3.5 years so far. He has seen a lot of progress during his time and advocates for hiring more workers on the park grounds and a park director.

Co-Chair Vizzo-Paniccia added she has worked with Mr. Hosier on issues of the parks and he is very responsive. He sees his passion and dedication to the parks of the city.

Mr. Hosier added he believes the commission should work together with the council as with them they can accomplish more.

Council Member Taylor-Moye added she had the pleasure to work on the commission with Mr. Hosier and he was always willing to help and get people in the loop. His objective was just to make operations work right for the parks.

Mr. Hosier replied thank you.

Council Member Martinez added she cannot vote on the committee level but will be in favor of his reappointment once it goes to the council.

Mr. Hosier replied thank you.

Council Member Pereira asked if it is his intention to be chair of the commission.

Mr. Hosier replied it is up to the park commission as a whole, he isn't something he is actively seeking out.

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 86-23.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

87-23 Appointment of Lillian Ortiz (D) to the Parks Commission.

Ms. Ortiz shared she is a lifelong resident of Bridgeport who has recently retired in February from the Norwalk Housing Department. She would like to use her passion and love of Bridgeport. She has reviewed the charter, minutes of the meetings, and learned about all 35 parks in the city. She would like to advocate the laws and regulations that have been set.

Council Member Pereira asked why she didn't apply to the fair rent or housing commission with her excellent experience and knowledge.

Ms. Ortiz replied she was tired of the industry and was looking to volunteer in another public sector.

Council Member Pereira added it is impressive for her to read minutes and the park section of the charter since you don't hear that too often.

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 87-23.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

100-23 Reappointment of Denise Clemons (D) to the Library Board.

Ms. Clemons shared she is an educator and would like to be reappointed to continue advocating education and literacy. She would like to keep the commission and library facility viable with diversification of worldly changes. She would like to bring social workers for mental health awareness.

Council Member Pereira added she highly recommended Ms. Clemons as she has experience as the superintendent of Bridgeport Public Schools.

Ms. Clemons replied thank you.

****COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 100-23.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER SMITH SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

101-23 Appointment of Kathleen Elizabeth Turner (D) to the Library Board.

Ms. Turner shared she is a social worker and has experience with nonprofit development for 10 years. She moved to Bridgeport 4 years ago and decided to join the commission to learn more about where she lives and support the community.

Council Member Pereira asked what district she resided in.

Ms. Turner replied she is unsure of the district but lives in the north end.

Co-Chair Vizzo-Paniccia added she lives in the 134th district.

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 101-23.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

102-23 Appointment of Kathryn Bukovsky (D) to the Board of Public Purchases.

Ms. Bukovsky replied she was on the city council with some of the committee back in 2015 due to the time committee required at the job that she committee to the council at the best capacity. She would like to serve on the Board of Public Purchase as a way to give back to the community and make sure all actions follow the codes and regulations.

Co-chair Boyd asked if she serves on any boards or commissions.

Ms. Bukovsky replied no.

Council Pereira added she sees this as a conflict of interest as she has two relatives working in the City of Bridgeport.

Co-Chair Vizzo-Paniccia said she does not see any conflict of interest and this is a volunteer position she is inquiring about.

Council Member Taylor-Moye added they should cause any conflicts.

Council Member Martinez added she served with Ms. Bukovsky during her time on the council and she was very neutral on making motions. She would be in support of this when it reaches the floor.

****COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 102-23.**

****CO-CHAIR BOYD SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Mr. Toledo shared that Ms. Anderson and Mr. Ahmed were not in attendance for the following items.

103-23 Appointment of Lisa Anderson (D) to the Water Pollution Control Authority.

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO TABLE ITEM 103-23.
**COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

104-23 Appointment of Mdsufian Ahmed (U) to the Historic District Commission.

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 104-23.
**COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

****COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ LEFT THE MEETING AT 6:48 PM****

****CO-CHAIR VIZZO-PANICCIA CALLED A FIVE (5) MINUTE BREAK****

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

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION WITH ASSOC. CITY ATTORNEY MITOLA AND DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY BOHANNON REGARDING ITEMS 74-23, 92-23, 99-23, 106-23 AT 6:53 PM.
**COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

74-23 Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation in the matter of Kaitlyn Edwards v. City of Bridgeport Docket No: 3:23-CV-00089(VAB).

****COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOTIONED TO TABLE ITEM 74-23.
**COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

92-23 Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation in the matter of Maria Pires v. City of Bridgeport Docket No: 3:23-CV-00138(VDO).

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 92-23.
**COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

99-23 Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation in the matter of Tamara J. Titre v. City of Bridgeport Docket No: 3:22-CV-01452(KAD).

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 99-23.
**COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

106-23 Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation in the matter of James Nardozzi v. City of Bridgeport Docket No: FBT-CV20-5044032-S.

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 106-23.
**COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ SECONDED THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIVE (5) IN FAVOR (VIZZO-PANICCIA, BOYD, SMIT, TAYLOR-MOYE, AND ORTIZ) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (MCCARTHY).

ADJOURNMENT

****CO-CHAIR BOYD MOTIONED TO ADJOURN.
**COUNCIL MEMBER ORTIZ SECOND THE MOTION.
THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vianca Rivera
Telesco Secretarial Service