

**CONTRACTS COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
JULY 12, 2016**

**ATTENDANCE:** Jeanette Herron, Co-chair; Richard Salter, Sr., Milta Feliciano,  
Alfredo Castillo

**STAFF:** Richard Weiner, Benefits Manager,  
David Dunn, Personnel Director, Civil Service  
Mark Anastasi, Associate City Attorney  
Tom Gaudett, Mayor's Office

**CALL TO ORDER**

Co-Chair Herron called the meeting to order at 6:25 PM. A quorum was present.

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2016**

\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO APPROVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF JUNE 14, 2016.  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER, SR. SECONDED.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES OF JUNE 29, 2016**

\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER, SR. MOVED TO APPROVE COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF JUNE 29, 2016.  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO SECONDED.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**AGENDA ITEM 93-15**

**MASTER STATE/MUNICIPALITY AGREEMENT FOR THE READJUSTMENT,  
RELOCATION AND/OR REMOVAL OF MUNICIPAL FACILITIES ON HIGHWAY  
PROJECTS.**

\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 93-15, MASTER  
STATE/MUNICIPALITY AGREEMENT FOR THE READJUSTMENT,  
RELOCATION AND/OR REMOVAL OF MUNICIPAL FACILITIES ON  
HIGHWAY PROJECTS FOR THE NEXT MEETING.  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO SECONDED.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

**AGENDA ITEM 101-15**

**DRAFT LEASE AGREEMENT RE: A SITE AT TRUMBULL GARDENS TO SERVE AS  
A SUBSTATION FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND COMMUNITY CENTER  
FOR RESIDENTS AND STAKEHOLDERS IN THAT COMMUNITY.**

- \*\* COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER, SR. MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 101-15, DRAFT LEASE AGREEMENT RE: A SITE AT TRUMBULL GARDENS TO SERVE AS A SUBSTATION FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND COMMUNITY CENTER FOR RESIDENTS AND STAKEHOLDERS IN THAT COMMUNITY WITH THE STIPULATION THAT ITEM 101-15 BE BROUGHT BACK AT A LATER TIME.**
- \*\* COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO SECONDED.**
- \*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**AGENDA ITEM 140-15**  
**PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ST. VINCENT'S**  
**MULTISPECIALTY GROUP, INC.**

Mr. Weiner began the discussion by stating that, last month, a question was raised about why one of the City's nurses is not being used to do pre-employment physicals. He said that Mr. Dunn, who is responsible for public safety and general government, will highlight the issue.

Mr. Dunn said there is a nurse practitioner located at the Health Department on East Main Street who does the FIT testing for the Fire Department, in addition to other things she does such as the Well-Baby Clinic and the STD Clinic. His main point was that the nurse practitioner is not qualified to carry out all aspects of performing pre-employment physicals, particularly for policemen and firefighters, in addition to the fact that the City does not have the testing equipment, the lab or the space. He said that, in the past, these medical services have been bid out to Bridgeport Hospital and then to the Industrial Medical Complex which was out-bid by St. Vincent's. He said the pre-employment exams are very sophisticated, cost between \$1,500 and \$2,000 and having a nurse practitioner carry these out would not be the way to go.

Mr. Dunn then reviewed the City's bidding process in regard to the out-sourcing of the pre-employment exams.

Council Member Feliciano said that her recommendation at the last meeting was for Mr. Weiner to go back to the Health Dept. and see if this can be done. She said she does not understand why the nurse practitioner, who is already doing physicals, cannot perform the physicals for new hires. She stressed that the City is strapped financially and she is focusing on things that will save the taxpayers money. She believes that, if the nurse practitioner is doing FIT testing, she can do the pre-employment physicals.

Council Member Feliciano reiterated her question to Mr. Weiner as to whether he went back to the Health Dept. and questioned whether this can be done or not. Mr. Weiner stated that he had passed the question to Mr. Dunn, to which Council Member Feliciano answered her own question by saying that he did not go back and ask, and that Mr. Weiner cannot say that this cannot be done if he did not actually go and find out. She said that what is being pushed is for the City to pick one of these hospitals to do the physicals, and her concern is that the nurse practitioner is being paid \$92,000 and she does not want the City to pay another \$101,000 to bid-out physicals for new hires.

Attorney Anastasi brought up the issue of liability and he said the pre-employment physicals are different from the FIT testing for already-hired employees, and he added that the purpose of pre-employment physicals is to determine pre-existing conditions which would preclude employment

with the City.

Co-Chair Herron commented about the nurse practitioners who take care of her at her doctor's office. She said they are highly educated, are the second to the doctor, but she reiterated the Committee's request for information about the workload of the City's nurse practitioner and whether this can be handled by her. She said the Committee still needs more information.

Council Member Feliciano reiterated her request made at the last meeting, the purpose of which is to help the Committee to make the best decisions for the taxpayers in the City of Bridgeport and to support their best interests. She also restated the request which was to go back and figure out whether the nurse practitioner can do the job or not. She said that she understands the bidding that is going on between Bridgeport and St. Vincent's hospital because of their interest in the money that comes with a contract.

Attorney Anastasi summarized Council Member Feliciano's question in two parts:

1. Does the nurse practitioner have all the facilities available to her in terms of skill, training and equipment necessary to perform stress tests and other testing which a hospital would be able to provide?
2. Does she have the time available?

Council Member Feliciano stated that when she was at the Health Dept. in regard to another issue on the table, the supervisor told her that the nurse practitioner only sees firemen, and only two or three per week. She said that, at that time, her question was whether the nurse practitioner could also do the policemen, but she complained that now a completely different contract is being put forward.

Mr. Weiner then read from a list of items requiring special equipment which were priced in regard to these pre-employment physicals, adding that these items would have to be outsourced anyway. Mr. Dunn added that the nurse practitioner is part of the Well-Baby Clinic and the STD Clinic, and she had been given these FIT physicals to increase her workload. He said it seems to be suggested by the Committee that she is only doing the FIT testing. Council Member Feliciano said that the STD Clinic is being manned by two nurses with the nurse practitioner being on staff there. Council Member Feliciano said she spoke with Michelle before she left to which Michelle answered that it is possible for the nurse practitioner to do the exams for new hires.

Co-Chair Herron asked who the supervisor of the Health Dept. is to which Mr. Gaudett answered that it is Albertina Baptista. Council Member Herron suggested that Mrs. Baptista come in and speak on this, so the Committee can get some clarity and to find out what medical tests are outsourced.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 104-15, PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ST. VINCENT'S MULTISPECIALTY GROUP, INC., FOR FURTHER INFORMATION FROM CIVIL SERVICE AND FROM ALBERTINA BAPTISTA, THE HEAD OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO SECONDED.**

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

Mr. Dunn noted that Civil Service was not asked last time to get this information to which Council Member Feliciano said that whichever department this falls under is who will produce the requested information. Mr. Dunn asked for clarification on exactly what is being requested, and the Committee clarified.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO SECONDED.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nerina Kagan  
Telesco Secretarial Services