

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT  
CONTRACTS COMMITTEE  
REGULAR MEETING  
OCTOBER 11, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE:** Co-chair Jeanette Herron; Jorge Cruz; Frederick Hodges; Council President Aidee Nieves; Ernest Newton; Rosalina Roman-Christy; Matthew McCarthy, Co-chair

**OTHER:** Council Member(s): Tyler Mack, Scott Burns & Maria Valle; Thomas Gaudett, Deputy Chief of Staff; C. Peterson; Craig; Abigail; Anthony Paoletto, Mayor's Office; Brian Alicea; James Maye, Associate City Attorney; Ronald Pacacha, City Attorney's Office; Elizabeth Rodriguez; Mark Anastasi, City Attorney

**CALL TO ORDER**

Co-chair Herron called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M. There was a quorum present.

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES: JUNE 13, 2023 (REGULAR MEETING)**

This item was not handled at this time.

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES: JUNE 20, 2023 (SPECIAL MEETING)**

This item was not handled at this time.

**APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES: JULY 11, 2023 (REGULAR MEETING)**

This item was not handled at this time.

**110-22**

**PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GRIFFIN & STRONG  
P.C. REGARDING THE CREATION OF A NEW DISPARITY STUDY.**

Mr. Gaudett came forward to discuss this item. He suggested letting this item be abandoned as it would be reintroduced in December.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 110-22 PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH GRIFFIN & STRONG P.C. REGARDING THE CREATION OF A NEW DISPARITY STUDY.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

134-22

**PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BERRY, DUNN, MCNEIL & PARKER, LLC TO PERFORM A PERMITTING PROCESS STUDY FOR CITY DEPARTMENTS.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOVED TO TABLE ITEM 134-22 PROPOSED PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH BERRY, DUNN, MCNEIL & PARKER, LLC TO PERFORM A PERMITTING PROCESS STUDY FOR CITY DEPARTMENTS.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

124-22

**NOMINATION OF ELIZABETH RIVERA-RODRIGUEZ FOR THE APPOINTMENT TO THE CITY'S DIRECTOR OF HEALTH POSITION.**

Atty. Anastasi came forward to discuss this item. He has submitted paperwork to the Council on behalf of the administration. Ms. Rivera-Rodriguez came forward to discuss this item. She provided information about herself. Council Member Cruz asked her about her ability to deal with drug addiction, homelessness, and mental health issues. Ms. Rodriguez provided her history of dealing with those items for review. Council Member Cruz asked if she was familiar with harm reduction. Ms. Rodriguez said she was not entirely familiar with it, but she could reach out to gain more information. Further discussion followed her responsibilities. She was asked about ways to reduce high asthma rates and other environmental issues. She provided some possible suggestions to address such issues and reaching out to other communities with programs in place. The question of whether she would address emergencies directly or delegate them arose. Ms. Rodriguez said she would address emergencies directly. Council Member Cruz asked for more information regarding her plans for leadership. Ms. Rodriguez said that she would need to follow rules and regulations set by the State. She said she would try to act in the best interests of the community as well. Discussion followed regarding community outreach plans.

Atty. Anastasi brought attention to the referral letter and executive summary that had been submitted. A proposed motion was included within. Further discussion followed regarding the letter.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOVED TO AMEND THE MOTION FOR THIS ITEM TO READ 'THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR'S NOMINATION OF MRS. ELIZABETH RIVERO RODRIGUEZ TO A FOUR-YEAR STATUTORY TERM, COMMENCING ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ULTIMATE OFFICE, AND UNTIL CHOSEN AND QUALIFIED TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT IS HEREBY CONFIRMED.'**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER ROMAN-CHRISTY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MOTION OF 'THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE MAYOR'S NOMINATION OF MRS. ELIZABETH RIVERO RODRIGUEZ TO A FOUR-YEAR STATUTORY TERM,**

**COMMENCING ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ULTIMATE OFFICE, AND UNTIL CHOSEN AND QUALIFIED TO THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH FOR THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT IS HEREBY CONFIRMED.'**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER ROMAN-CHRISTY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

**125-22**

**PROPOSED SITE ACCESS AGREEMENT WITH THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF NEW POLES AND POWER LINES ON CITY AND PARK PROPERTIES.**

Atty. Pacacha came forward to discuss this item. The following items were reviewed:

- The details of the request.
- What the upgrade would entail.
- What would happen at the various sites. That the
- fairways will be protected by timber mats and internal roads and car paths will be restored promptly.
- The movement of monuments at Veterans Park.
- The potential lost revenue and impact on various parks.
- The agreement is an access agreement and not an easement agreement.
- Protections included in the agreement.
- Repair to golf cart paths.
- Height of the poles.
- Requirement to repair damage done to course.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 125-22 PROPOSED SITE ACCESS AGREEMENT WITH THE CONNECTICUT LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY, D/B/A EVERSOURCE ENERGY FOR THE INSTALLATION OF NEW POLES AND POWER LINES ON CITY AND PARK PROPERTIES. AS SUBMITTED.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

**126-22**

**PROPOSED TOWER CELL SITE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH DISH WIRELESS, L.L.C. FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ANTENNAS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT AT KENNEDY STADIUM.**

Atty. Pacacha came forward to discuss this item. He reviewed the details of the proposed equipment installation for those present. The nature of the agreement is a long-term lease.

It has approval from the Parks Board already. The agreement is for a period of five years with several renewal periods. He reviewed the details of how much they would be paid for rent.

Co-chair Herron asked for information regarding potential health risks. The protocols on radio frequency use were reviewed to show there would be no health risks.

Council Member Newton asked for more information regarding the amount being paid. Atty. Pacacha reviewed the details of the payment plan for him. Further discussion followed. It was noted that, if refused to be allowed on public property, they would likely go to the Siting Council to get approval to place the antennas. Council Member Newton said he recalled a lot of opposition to a similar tower in the past. Discussion followed regarding said tower.

Council Member Cruz asked how many towers servicing cable companies there were in Bridgeport. Atty. Pacacha said he didn't know. Council Member Cruz asked where the money being paid would go. Atty. Pacacha said it would be going into the general fund. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of a discount for Bridgeport residents.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO ACCEPT ITEM 126-22 PROPOSED TOWER CELL SITE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH DISH WIRELESS, L.L.C. FOR THE INSTALLATION OF ANTENNAS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT AT KENNEDY STADIUM. AS SUBMITTED.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MCCARTHY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

**133-22**

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION AND SMALL CELL WIRELESS FACILITIES RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND ACCESS AGREEMENT INCLUDING CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING UNIFORM DEPLOYMENT OF 5G FACILITIES WITHIN CONNECTICUT CITIES.**

Atty. Pacacha came forward to discuss this item. He said this agreement didn't involve the installation of cell towers or the like. Instead, this deals with the Governor's plans to have more uniform cell access. He has put together representatives from the five largest cities. The cities were represented by their own attorneys and by representatives, whether they were planning officials or town, other town officials. Further discussion followed regarding the details including the impact on light poles. Atty. Pacacha reviewed the details of the resolution for those present. He felt that it would not affect them much as the City does not own their own light poles.

Council Member Newton asked why they were the only municipality to write an ordinance pertaining to the situation.

Atty. Pacacha said that there was a limited period of time to adopt ordinances which had passed for the other cities. He further reviewed the reasons why this was the case and further discussion followed.

Mr. Burns asked why an NDA was required. Atty. Pacacha said it was because the carriers did not wish to inform other carriers what their plans were.

Mr. Burns asked about guidelines and parameters regarding the construction of the poles. Further discussion followed regarding said guidelines and parameters.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 133-22 PROPOSED RESOLUTION AND SMALL CELL WIRELESS FACILITIES RIGHTS-OF-WAY AND ACCESS AGREEMENT INCLUDING CONFIDENTIALITY AND NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF FACILITATING UNIFORM DEPLOYMENT OF 5G FACILITIES WITHIN CONNECTICUT CITIES. AS SUBMITTED.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED THE MOTION.**

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

*The meeting adjourned at 7:31 P.M.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Ian A. Soltes

Telesco Secretarial Services