

CITY of BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION
AUGUST 1, 2011
6:30 PM

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Vizzo-Paniccia, Bonney, dePara, M. Ayala,
Martinez, Paoletto, Baker, Holloway

Majority Leader Council member Bonney called the public speaking session to order at 6:36 pm.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, AUGUST 1, 2011, AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.

NAME

SUBJECT

Cecil Young
99 Carroll Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06607

The Board of Education being
turned over to the State.

Mr. Young mentioned the raw sewage problem at P.T. Barnum Apartments. He recalled that a promise was made that the problem would be resolved and three to four months later, he hasn't heard anything about it.

He went on to talk about the Board of Education take over. He expressed that it was a sad day that the city council sits back to see them wiped out without a chance to defend themselves. He emphasized that the schools have been failing for a long time and many of the students are semi-illiterate and they don't know where to turn or what they will do and many of them aren't equipped to attend college. He further stressed that it was sad and a shame to take away three or four dedicated board members, just because of the other six board members that didn't perform on the board well. He stated that Council member Walsh is the only one out of the twenty council members that spoke up about the issue. He said he was surprised that people haven't been able to sit down and discuss what can be done for the kids in the city; especially those that aren't able to focus and learn. He relayed that he was one of those students that had a learning disability. And as a result, he ended up acting out in class and he was teased. He thought the problem was the need for a new curriculum that will help improve the education system. He ended in saying that there is a need to address the neglect in the schools.

The public speaking session was closed at 6:45 pm.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, August 1, 2011

7:00 p.m.

City Council Chambers, City Hall - 45 Lyon Terrace
Bridgeport, Connecticut

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Brannelly, M. McCarthy, Taylor-Moye, Brantley, Bonney, Blunt, dePara, M. Ayala, Martinez, Paoletto, Baker, Holloway

ABSENT: Council members: A. Ayala, Walsh, T. McCarthy, Austin, Lyons, Silva, Curwen, Baker, Holloway

Mayor Finch called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Prayer - the prayer was offered by Council member Brantley.

Pledge of Allegiance - the pledge was led by Council member dePara.

Roll Call - the city clerk took the roll and announced there was a quorum.

Update to the City Council on the Mayor's Conservation Corp. by William Murphy, Director. – *no update was presented.*

Council member Baker requested a point of personal privilege. He spoke about the Board of Education in reference to the right to vote. He stated that some of his constituents perceive the situation as an attack and a violation of the right to vote. There is also the issue that there wasn't a public hearing held concerning the matter. He felt the matter could have waited until the Board of Education election changes took place. He mentioned that with the upcoming elections, there are things that he's running up against; however, he said he encouraged the people to come out and vote and he emphasized that democracy does work and the city council will keep utmost, the best interest of the people.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Approval of City Council Minutes: June 20, 2011 (Regular) & June 20, 2011 (Special Informational Session).

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

- 113-10** Communication from Planning Department re Request for the Abandonments of Ocean Place and Anthony Street Associated with the Improvements to Longfellow Elementary School, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.
- 114-10** Communication from City Attorney re Twenty day notice to Settle Litigation pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.10.130: Howayne Brown, **ACCEPTED AND MADE PART OF THE RECORD.**
- 115-10** Communication from Mayor re Reappointment of Thomas A. Lyons (D) to the Police Commission, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.
- 116-10** Communication from Central Grants and Community Development re Grant Submission: 2011-2012 Substance Abuse Prevention Program, referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.
- 117-10** Communication from Central Grants and Community Development re Grant Submission: 2011-2012 YSB Enhancement Grant, referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.
- 118-10** Communication from Central Grants and Community Development re Grant Submission: U.S. Department of Justice 2011 Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant Program, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO REFER COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED**
**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:

119-10 Communication from Central Grants and Community Development re Grant Submission: State Department of Economic and Community Development Financial Assistance Grant Program: Brooklawn Avenue Streetscape Improvement Project **FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

****** **COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 119-10**
****** **COUNCIL MEMBER dePARA SECONDED**
****** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

120-10 Communication from Central Grants and Community Development re Grant Submission: State Department of Economic and Community Development Financial Assistance Grant Program: Columbia Elevators Remediation Project **FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

****** **COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE**
****** **COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED**
****** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

121-10 Communication from Central Grants and Community Development re Grant Submission: State Department of Economic and Community Development Financial Assistance Grant Program: Seaview Industrial Park Project **FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

****** **COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE**
****** **COUNCIL MEMBER dePARA SECONDED**
****** **MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

Mayor Finch asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent calendar.

There were none heard, so the city clerk read the items into the record:

***81-10** Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Application for Driveway Permit: #1775 Reservoir Avenue – Wilber Cross Elementary School.

***93-10** Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: 2010 Long Island Sound Futures Fund Grant.

- *106-10 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: 2012 Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging (SWCAA) for an Elderly Hispanic Grant Program.
 - *107-10 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: 2011-2012 Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging (SWCAA) for a Senior Transportation Services Grant.
 - *108-10 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: 2011-2012 Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging (SWCAA) for an East Side Senior Services Grant.
 - *109-10 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut OPM Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Pilot Program.
 - *110-10 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: (Ref. #35-10) Consolidated Plan for Housing and Community Development Program Year 37 Annual Action Plan Community Development Block Grant Program Substantial Amendment.
 - *91-10 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Jack O. Banta (D) to the Harbor Commission.
 - *100-10 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Michael Andre (U) to the Harbor Commission.
 - *102-10 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Worker's Compensation Full and Final Stipulation with Thomas Lombard.
 - *92-10(PHO) Contracts Committee Report re: Public Hearing Ordered for September 6, 2011 re: Lease Agreement with Green Village Initiative, Inc. (GVI) for the contiguous city-owned property located at 1469 Reservoir Avenue and 20 Yaremich Drive.
 - *105-10 Contracts Committee Report re: License Agreement with State for space on the first floor of the Department of Health and Social Services building, 752 East Main Street, to be used by the State Department of Veterans Affairs.
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- COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE
COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY SECONDED
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Other Business:

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION (ITEM # 122-10).**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY MOVED TO WAIVE REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Council member Holloway mentioned the agreement between The East End Neighborhood Revitalization Zone and Samson Associates, LLC located at 147 Davenport Street, Bridgeport, CT. He recalled that this matter goes back to the last September, when the matter was presented to the zoning board regarding an agreement between the East End NRZ and the development of 147 Davenport Street.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY MOVED TO APPROVE
** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Council member M. McCarthy extended congratulations to the Black Rock Softball Little League. He noted that they will participate in the West Haven Little League softball world series and he mentioned that a fundraiser will be held this week to support the team.
- Council member Brannelly took a moment to say that some of the council members have recently endured varied health issues. She further expressed that Council President McCarthy recently had surgery and he was recuperating well.

She also noted that Council member Taylor-Moye is continuing treatment and is doing well.

- Council member Taylor-Moye thanked all the council members for their support during her treatment; she especially thanked the female council members for all their help.
- Council member Martinez stated that a community meeting was held today regarding the Board of Education situation. She expressed that people from the Latino community have requested to keep them involved of what's going on. She further noted that mixed feelings were expressed about the issue, as to why the Board of Education got to where it is right now. She stressed that they are aware there are some problems and they are trying to do the best thing for the children.

Mayor Finch noted that a Hazardous Waste Collection Day would be held on August 6 at Blackham School. He commented that it's a popular service and he urged everyone to pass on the word to friends and neighbors. He also noted that they would accept technology waste; such as computers etc.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO ADJOURN
** COUNCIL MEMBER HOLLOWAY SECONDED
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham
Telesco Secretarial Services