

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 23, 2011**

ATTENDANCE: AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia, Co-chair; Manuel Ayala, Denise Taylor-Moye, Council President Thomas McCarthy, Robert Walsh (6:20 p.m.)

OTHERS: Susan Richter; Peter Holecz, Gail Stephen, Susan Tabachnick, Tyrone McClellan, Mayor's Office; B. Edwards, Associate City Attorney, Mark Anastasi, City Attorney; John Bohannon, Associate City Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. A quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2011.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2011.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF APRIL 25, 2011 AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

72-10 Appointment of Gail Stephen (D) to the Historic District Commission #1 as an alternate.

Ms. Stephen came forward and greeted the Committee members. She said that she had grown up in the South End, moved away from Bridgeport, but came back to the city 27 years ago and now lives in Seaside Village. Ms. Stephen said that she would like to see the Seaside Village area avoid poor development.

Council President McCarthy then asked for clarification on the boundaries of Historic District #1. Ms. Tabachnick explained to the Committee that the Stratfield Historic District is one separate district and Historic District #1 encompasses all the remaining areas of the city, including other historic districts.

Council President McCarthy said that he would strongly recommend Ms. Stephen for appointment to Historic District #1. Council Member Taylor-Moye agreed and said that she knew Ms. Stephen and believed that Ms. Stephen would do a good job.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 72-10 APPOINTMENT OF GAIL STEPHEN (D) TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION #1 AS AN ALTERNATE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

86-10 Proposed Settlement of Claim for Attorney's fees in the matter of the Bridgeport Guardians, Inc., et., al vs. Arthur J. Delmonte.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION IN REFERENCE TO AGENDA ITEMS 86-10.**

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Committee and City Attorney Anastasi entered into Executive Session at 6:10 p.m. to discussion pending litigation.

Council Member Walsh joined the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

The Committee returned to public session at 6:25 p.m.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS 86-10 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF CLAIM FOR ATTORNEY'S FEES IN THE MATTER OF THE BRIDGEPORT GUARDIANS, INC., ET., AL VS. ARTHUR J. DELMONTE.**

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia requested that this be placed on the Consent Calendar.

130-09 Proposed Workers' Compensation Full and Final Stipulation with Michael Baucó.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 130-09 PROPOSED WORKERS' COMPENSATION FULL AND FINAL STIPULATION WITH MICHAEL BAUCO.**

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

69-10 Reappointment of Peter J. Holecz (R) to the Harbor Commission.

Mr. Holecz came forward and greeted the Committee members. He stated that he had been born and raised in Bridgeport and had been back in Bridgeport for the last 22 years. Council Member Taylor-Moye said that she could not think of anyone better to continue to serve on the Harbor Commission. Council President McCarthy said that he supported this re-appointment.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 69-10 REAPPOINTMENT OF PETER J. HOLECZ (R) TO THE HARBOR COMMISSION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia requested that this be placed on the Consent Calendar.

70-10 Appointment of Susan Tabachnick (D) to the Stratfield Historic District Commission.

Ms. Tabachnick came forward and greeted the Committee members. She stated that she had lived in her first Bridgeport home for 22 years and was on the Stratfield Historic District. She then briefly moved to Fairfield. Recently, she moved back to Brooklawn Place and was happy to be back in her old neighborhood.

Council Member Walsh spoke on behalf of Ms. Tabachnick and said that she was very concerned about the Stratfield Historic District. Council President McCarthy said that he did not personally know Ms. Tabachnick, but the homes in that area were beautifully maintained. Council Member Taylor-Moye said that she was very impressed with Council Member Walsh's recommendation of Ms. Tabachnick.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER WALSH MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 70-10 APPOINTMENT OF SUSAN TABACHNICK (D) TO THE STRATFIELD HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Co-chair Vizzo-Paniccia requested that this be placed on the Consent Calendar.

71-10 Appointment of Susan Richter (R) to the Historic District Commission #1.

Ms. Richter came forward and greeted the Committee. She said that she has lived in Bridgeport since she was five years old and raised a family in the city. Now that she is

retired from her job with the American Cancer Society, she is interested in working on the preservation of the City.

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that she would like thank Ms. Richter for her work with both St. Vincent's and with the American Cancer Society. Council President McCarthy said that he had known the family since high school and was pleased to support this nomination. Council Member Walsh introduced himself to Ms. Richter as her Council representative.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 71-10 APPOINTMENT OF SUSAN RICHTER (R) TO THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION #1.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Attorney Bohannon then requested that the Committee members consider suspending the rules to add an item regarding in order to discuss the legal case of Garcia vs. the City of Bridgeport. Council President McCarthy said that he was willing to move to suspend the rules, but wished to know why. Council Member Walsh asked if this item had been presented to the City Clerk. Atty. Bohannon said that it had not because the item had just happened earlier in the day. Council Member Walsh said that some committees had standing item on their agendas so that when issues came up suddenly, such as something in regards to Steel Point, it could be discussed. However, this is not the case in this instance.

The discussion then moved to whether or not the item could be discussed by the Committee before it had been presented to the Council in order to be referred to the Committee. Council President McCarthy expressed concerns about possibly violating the FOI regulations and Council Member Taylor-Moye agreed. Council Member Walsh said that he felt that the Committee was being used to grease the skids for the item.

Atty. Bohannon explained that the mediation is underway in New Haven and that June 1st is the deadline set by the court for the summary to be submitted. He stated that he was willing to go back to the court and request a modification, but in order to do so, he needed to let the court know that he had consulted with his clients. Atty. Edwards explained that sometimes in litigation, things move very quickly. She also pointed out that once a settlement has been reached, there is only a 30 day window to deliver a check to a client.

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that Atty. Bohannon should have notified the Council President immediately. Atty. Bohannon explained that he had only received the letter earlier in the day. Council President McCarthy said that he had a letter from Atty. Anastasi saying that it would be acceptable to add this item to the agenda for discussion

and based on that, he was willing to move for a suspension of the rules. He reminded everyone that it would require a 2/3rd majority to pass.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ALLOW A DISCUSSION REGARDING GARCIA VS. THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION FAILED TO PASS WITH TWO IN FAVOR (MCCARTHY AND AYALA) AND TWO AGAINST (TAYLOR-MOYE AND WALSH).**

Council President McCarthy left the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

83-10 Suit Settlement with Colin Young.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER WALSH MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION IN REFERENCE TO AGENDA ITEM 83-10.**

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The Committee entered into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation at 7:01 p.m. They returned to public session at 7:24 p.m.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 83-10 SUIT SETTLEMENT WITH COLIN YOUNG TO THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING ON JUNE 6TH FOR FURTHER DOCUMENTATION ON THE CASE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

RECESS

**** COUNCIL MEMBER WALSH MOVED TO RECESS THE MEETING UNTIL JUNE 6TH AT THE FULL COUNCIL MEETING.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting recessed at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services