

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

PUBLIC SPEAKING FORUM

TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021

6:30 P.M.

This meeting will be conducted by Zoom/Teleconference.

CALL TO ORDER

Council President Nieves called the Public Speaking portion of the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Assistant City Clerk Frances Ortiz called the roll.

- 130th District: Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy
- 131st District: Denese Taylor-Moye, Jorge Cruz
- 132nd District: Marcus Brown, M. Evette Brantley
- 133rd District: *Michael DeFilippo*, Jeanette Herron
- 134th District: Michelle Lyons, AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia
- 135th District: Rosalina Roman-Christy, Mary McBride-Lee
- 136th District: *Alfredo Castillo*, Avelino Silva
- 137th District: Maria Valle, Aidee Nieves
- 138th District: Maria Pereira, *Samia Suliman*
- 139th District: *Eneida Martinez*, Ernest Newton

During the roll call, there appeared to be no response from the individuals whose names are listed in italics.

Council President Nieves announced that there was a 3-minute time limit for each speaker and explained how to mute and unmute their devices.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021 AT 6:30 P.M.

NAME

SUBJECT

Jonathan Shaer
1917 Boston Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06608

Flavored tobacco ban
on behalf of Boston Shell

Mr. Shaer said that he was the president of The New England Convenience Store & Energy Marketers Association (NECSEMA). He said that he was speaking in opposition to the flavor tobacco ban. He thanked the Council Members for voting against the ban. He said that he understood those who were in opposition, but once the emotional component was removed, it only concerned a small part of the population. Banning products that are in demand simply pushing them into the shadows. He said that the State had just approved the sale of marijuana and banning the flavored tobacco was wrong. He spoke about how Massachusetts lost a great deal of revenue when it was banned. If there is to be a ban, it should be a national ban, not a local or state ban.

Brian Fojtik

National Assoc. of Tobacco Outlets
2738 Main Street
Bridgeport, CT 06606

Proposed resolution for amendment to City Code Chapter 8.90 – Regulation of the Sales and Marketing of Tobacco Products (Ban on Sale of flavored Tobacco Products).

Mr. Fojtik said that he was representing the National Association of Tobacco Outlets and was against the flavored tobacco ban. He spoke about how the COVID ban affected the gas station revenues. He added that in Massachusetts and San Francisco simply resulted in people finding other sources elsewhere and the subsequent loss of revenue for the retailers where the item was banned. He cited statistics and recent Federal

Council Member Suliman joined the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Maria Pereira

206 Bradley Street
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Fifth State Distillery & egregious conduct of Bill Coleman, Dennis Buckley & Attorney Russel Liskov at P&Z meeting.

Council Member Pereira said she represents the interest of her constituents and only her constituents. She does not nor will she ever represent the interest of any mayor, powerbrokers or any wealthy out of town developers. Others would not approve of a 3000 square patio to host activities four nights a week with live entertainment and DJs without a single parking space on-site in their neighborhood, so why should Council Member Pereira's constituents? She asked where someone could lease 3000 sq. ft. of space outdoors for eight months for \$4500 per year. That is an absurd \$563 per month for a developer who has received the massive tax break of 20% for their real estate and personal property taxes for the last five years and has only created one part-time Bridgeport job.

During the City Council meeting held on May 13th, a Council Member made a motion to table the legally noticed public hearing listed on the agenda regarding the Fifth State Distillery lease with the City stating "Planning and Zoning would be holding an 8-24 hearing on the item on June first." Mr. Bill Coleman then pull the item from the Planning and Zoning agenda in order to prohibit Council Member Pereira and her constituents from speaking in opposition to the proposed lease. There were only three items on the June 28th meeting. None of the items included Attorney Tom's legal opinion regarding the 8-24 report for a public hearing in violation

of the Freedom of Information Act. At the end of the meeting, Atty. Russell Liskov, Mr. Dennis Buckley, the Zoning Official, and Mr. Coleman, the Deputy Director of OPED, began to discuss the legal opinion and encouraging the Planning and Zoning commissioners to adopt the opinion in order to prevent any public comment for all 8–24 reports.

Several Commissioners raise concern about not allowing the public to have input, along with Chairman Riley specifically asking if public hearings would be held. Both Atty. Liskov and Mr. Buckley assured them that the public would have an opportunity for public hearing while Mr. Coleman sat there without saying anything. No attempt was made to correct the record. There will no longer be public hearings held on 8–24 reports based on the false information provided by Mr. Buckley, Atty. Liskov and Mr. Coleman.

Council Member Pereira claimed that the situation gets even better because OPED Deputy Director Coleman directed the City Attorney to draft a legal opinion on behalf of the Schultens addressed to their high powered attorney which stated that Council Member Pereira has no authority to represent her constituents interest as their duly elected City Council member without the authority of the City Council. People cannot just make this stuff up.

[Inaudible] sat in on a four hour remonstrance hearing to on City time to give testimony against Council Member Pereira’s constituents who pay the taxes that pay his salary. Mr. Coleman testified that he does not reside or own any property in Bridgeport yet he testified against those that do. This behavior is egregious. Mr. Coleman and several others will be held accountable in December 2023 when elections have consequences.

Council President Nieves took this opportunity to remind everyone that political and election statement were not allowed by the Council rules for Public Speaking.

Helen Olga Losak
306 Bradley Street
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Fifth State Distillery & conduct of Bill
Coleman at Remonstrance Hearing.

Ms. Losak of Bradley Street, in the 138th District, said that seven of her group offered compelling testimony at a Liquor Commission hearing last week regarding Mr. Schulten’s statements about bachelor and retirement parties in violation of the Zoning permit. She recounted the recent incident when Mr. Schulten revved his pick-up truck in a threatening manner at a group on the sidewalk following a City meeting. She said that he demonstrated a further lack character by testifying under oath that the group made this incident up without a supporting witness. She asked if Mr. Schulten would have done the same action at his predominantly white neighbors in Southport. It is not acceptable there or in Ms. Losak’s neighborhood.

Mr. Coleman can write all the recommendation letters he wishes to but the residents live there, shop there and pay their taxes. This is not Mr. Coleman’s neighborhood. The liquor is hard liquor and includes moonshine, gin, and flavored vodka. This is not beer tasting. This is not for their neighborhood, which has children, handicapped individuals, and hardworking adults who

do not want their quality of life interrupted by this. It will not bring in money for the neighborhood or the City, just Mr. Schulten.

Ms. Losak said she was upset by his behavior, particularly as they testified under oath.

Michele Smalls
10 Mencil Circle
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Fifth State Distillery including
Remonstrance Hearing & conduct of Bill
Coleman.

Ms. Smalls said that she lives on Mencil Circle and was a homeowner that pays taxes to Bridgeport, unlike Mr. Coleman. She said that she pays Mr. Coleman's salary from her taxes. Ms. Smalls said that she was appalled that Mr. Coleman defended Mr. Schulten's action. Mr. Coleman was not there at the press conference. Mr. Schulten should put his distillery in his own neighborhood and if Mr. Coleman defends Mr. Schulten, it should be in Mr. Coleman's neighborhood. Bridgeport has a lot of crime and cars, but the residents receive nothing. Now they want outside people to come in with tax breaks. Ms. Smalls would like a tax break rather than having outsiders coming in and destroying the neighborhood.

Andre Whaley
181 Wessels Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Fifth State Distillery including
Remonstrance Hearing & conduct of Bill
Coleman.

Council Member Pereira said that Mr. Whaley had a family emergency and would not be joining the call.

Jessica Michaca
98 Emerald Street
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Fifth State Distillery & conduct of Bill
Coleman.

Ms. Michaca said that she lives at Emerald Street and wants to be clear that they are allowing Mr. Schulten wealth and business at the taxpayers' expense. Also, the extension preys on the residential community. She said that she was a taxpayer and a voter, but also has been involved in the community since she moved to Bridgeport. People vote for individuals to represent their community. Rules don't change based on who is representing the District. Her neighbors have the same concerns and they are tired of rehashing the same issues that do not benefit them. The Distillery should be relocated in an area that would not impact the quality of the resident's lives.

Daniel Vadi
38 Cogswell Street
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Fifth State Distillery & Remonstrance
Hearing.

There was no response from Mr. Vadi.

Carmen Ramos
50 Goddard Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Fifth State Distillery & conduct of Bill
Coleman.

Ms. Ramos said that she lived on Goddard Avenue in Bridgeport. She is a homeowner and raised her children here and they attended neighborhood schools. She would like the children in her neighborhood to enjoy the neighborhood like her children did. It will affect the way of living in community. She works for non-profits and is concerned about crime, drunk driving, and the quality of life.

Ms. Ramos said that she was present when Mr. Schulten revved his truck at the group on the sidewalk. She had never witnessed anything like that and how close he came to Mr. Reccia. This needs to be controlled and if the owner can't control himself while sober, how will he control his customers who are drinking. She said that she was very afraid when Mr. Schulten did that.

Alfredo Aristy
Executive Director, Dominican
American Coalition of CT
73 Pennsylvania Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Fifth State Distillery & conduct of Bill
Coleman at Remonstrance Hearing.

Mr. Aristy said he was calling on behalf of the Dominican American Coalition of Ct and also as a Bridgeport homeowner and resident. He said that they would stand behind any Council member who is concerned about their constituents. She was elected by the residents to be their voice and Mr. Artistry was very disappointed with Mr. Coleman who said that Council Member Pereira was not their representative.

As a concerned Bridgeport resident, he was concerned about the owner's actions on the day of the public hearing when the owner revved his truck. His wife was very frightened.

Mr. Aristy said that there had been a similar business on the corner near where he lived. It was a major problem, and that business had their own parking lot.

Council President Nieves called for Mr. Vadi. There was no response.

Council President Nieves closed the Public Speaking Session at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Bridgeport
City Council Meeting
Regular Meeting
July 6, 2021

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 6, 2021

7:00 P.M.

This meeting was conducted by teleconference.

The public was able to listen to this meeting by calling a conference line.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ganim called the Regular Meeting of the City Council to order at 7:07 p.m.

PRAYER

Mayor Ganim asked Council Member McBride-Lee to lead the Council in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ganim asked Council Member Lyons to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk Lydia Martinez called the roll.

130th District:	Scott Burns, Matthew McCarthy
131st District:	<i>Denese Taylor-Moye</i> , Jorge Cruz
132nd District:	Marcus Brown, M. Evette Brantley
133rd District:	Michael DeFilippo, Jeanette Herron
134th District:	Michelle Lyons, AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia
135th District:	Rosalina Roman-Christy, Mary McBride-Lee
136th District:	<i>Alfredo Castillo</i> , Avelino Silva
137th District:	Maria Valle, Aidee Nieves
138th District:	Maria Pereira, Samia Suliman
139th District:	Eneida Martinez, Ernest Newton

During the roll call, there appeared to be no response from the individuals whose names are listed in italics.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia requested a moment of silence for Police Officer Michael Rodriquez (ret.) who died May 13th. He was a Marine along with Sgt. Losak (ret.) who died on June 17th.

Council Member Newton noted that Mr. Gaudett's grandmother had also died. Council Member Brantley noted that Ms. Marge Cackett who also died. Mayor Ganim said that another prominent Bridgeport resident had also died and the wake was being held that evening.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

• **May 17, 2021**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PEREIRA MOVED THE MINUTES OF MAY 17, 2021 WITH THE AMENDMENT SHE HAD EMAILED EARLIER IN THE DAY.**

**** THERE WAS A SECOND.**

Council Member Pereira said that she submitted amendments to the minutes from Rep. Jack Hennessey.

Council Member Martinez requested to abstain from the minutes because she did not receive the documentation in a timely manner.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 17, 2021 WITH THE AMENDMENT COUNCIL MEMBER PEREIRA EMAILED EARLIER IN THE DAY PASSED WITH SIXTEEN (16) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, BRANTLEY, HERRON, DEFILIPPO, LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, PEREIRA, SULIMAN AND NEWTON); ONE (1) OPPOSED (BROWN) AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION (MARTINEZ).**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

84-20 Communication from Central Grants re: Grant Submission: Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging (SWCAA) – Title III Funding Older Americans Act Grant Program – Elderly Hispanic Program (#22270), referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.

85-20 Communication from Central Grants re: Grant Submission: Southwestern Connecticut Agency on Aging (SWCAA) – Title III Funding Older Americans Act Grant Program – Bridgeport Senior Center Recreational Activities Program (#22533), referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.

86-20 Communication from Central Grants re: Grant Submission: Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Port Security Grant Program (#22369, #22388, #22390, #22392, #22393), referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.

87-20 Communication from Mayor re: Appointment of Johana Dorgan (D) to the Planning & Zoning Commission, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

88-20 Communication from Mayor re: Appointment of Jacqueline Martoral (U) to the Planning & Zoning Commission, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

90-20 Communication from OPED re: Proposed Resolution Authorizing Driveway Variance, Right of Way Modification and Johnson Street Conversion to Two-Way Traffic – Windward Apartments, 20 Johnson Street, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.

92-20 Communication from OPED re: Proposed Resolution Authorizing an Affordable Housing Tax Incentive Development Agreement for the Reads Artspace Affordable Housing Development, referred to Joint Committee on Economic and Community Development and Environment and Contracts.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO CONSOLIDATE AND REFER THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES:**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

84-20 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: SOUTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT AGENCY ON AGING (SWCAA) – TITLE III FUNDING OLDER AMERICANS ACT GRANT PROGRAM – ELDERLY HISPANIC PROGRAM (#22270), REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

85-20 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: SOUTHWESTERN CONNECTICUT AGENCY ON AGING (SWCAA) – TITLE III FUNDING OLDER AMERICANS ACT GRANT PROGRAM – BRIDGEPORT SENIOR CENTER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES PROGRAM (#22533), REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

86-20 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) PORT SECURITY GRANT PROGRAM (#22369, #22388, #22390, #22392, #22393), REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

87-20 COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR RE: APPOINTMENT OF JOHANA DORGAN (D) TO THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

88-20 COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR RE: APPOINTMENT OF JACQUELINE MARTORAL (U) TO THE PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

90-20 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING DRIVEWAY VARIANCE, RIGHT OF WAY MODIFICATION AND JOHNSON STREET CONVERSION TO TWO-WAY TRAFFIC – WINDWARD APARTMENTS, 20 JOHNSON STREET, REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

92-20 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING TAX INCENTIVE DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE READS ARTSPACE AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT, REFERRED TO JOINT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT AND CONTRACTS.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:

89-20 Communication from OPED re: Proposed Resolution with the Connecticut Department of Transportation – Rails Division to enter into Railroad License Agreements to beautify the Railroad Underpasses throughout the City, FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT NIEVES MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES IN ORDER TO WAIVE REFERRAL IN IMMEDIATE ON THE FOLLOWING IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION ITEMS:**

89-20 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – RAILS DIVISION TO ENTER INTO RAILROAD LICENSE AGREEMENTS TO BEAUTIFY THE RAILROAD UNDERPASSES THROUGHOUT THE CITY, FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.

91-20 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION TO ENTER INTO HIGHWAY ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENTS TO BEAUTIFY THE HIGHWAY UNDERPASSES OF I-95 AND ROUTES 8 AND 25 LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY, FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said that there were 30 pages in the document and she did not understand why this was immediate consideration and not referred to committee. Mayor Ganim said that when there was only one meeting a month during the summer, he understood why this was done.

Council Member Newton agreed with Mayor Ganim about having one meeting during the summer. He then requested that when there was something from OPED that the staff be present when these items are on the agenda.

Council Member Martinez requested that the question be moved. She noted that these projects would beautify the City.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE WAIVING REFERRAL ON IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION ITEMS # 89-20 AND 91-20 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 89-20 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – RAILS DIVISION TO ENTER INTO RAILROAD LICENSE AGREEMENTS TO BEAUTIFY THE RAILROAD UNDERPASSES THROUGHOUT THE CITY, FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 89-20 PASSED WITH SIXTEEN (16) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, BRANTLEY, BROW, HERRON, LYONS, VIZZO-PANICIA, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, SULIMAN AND NEWTON) AND TWO (2) OPPOSED (PEREIRA, DEFILIPPO).**

91-20 Communication from OPED re: Proposed Resolution with the Connecticut Department of Transportation – Highway Division to enter into Highway Encroachment Agreements to beautify the Highway Underpasses of I-95 and Routes 8 and 25 located within the City, FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.

Ms. Rowena and Atty. Toms gave a brief overview of the agreement.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 91-20 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION WITH THE CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – HIGHWAY DIVISION TO ENTER INTO HIGHWAY ENCROACHMENT AGREEMENTS TO BEAUTIFY THE HIGHWAY UNDERPASSES OF I-95 AND ROUTES 8 AND 25 LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY, FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said that this was a 35-page contract without any of the specific items included.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 91-20 PASSED WITH SIXTEEN (16) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, BRANTLEY, BROW, HERRON, LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, SULIMAN AND NEWTON) AND TWO (2) OPPOSED (PEREIRA, DEFILIPPO).**

[Inaudible discussion]

Council Member McCarthy asked about the underpass painting. Rowena said that they were not allowed to do designs directly under the underpass, but they wish to do a color pallet on the walls next to the underpass.

Council Member Brantley said that she wished to encourage her colleagues to support this type of project. She has worked downtown for the last 30 years and visitors noted how drab downtown area was.

Mayor Ganim said that the vote would remain the same.

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

***21-20 Ordinance Committee Report re: Proposed Amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, amend Chapter 8.90 – Regulation of the Sales and Marketing of Tobacco Products, DENIED.**

***77-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Accepting Gift of Grant-Funded Bicycle Racks from Metropolitan Council of Governments (MetroCOG).**

***48-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Luis Nunez.**

***61-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Refund of Excess Payments – Home Depot USA, Inc.**

***62-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Refund of Excess Payments – Penske Leasing and Rental Co.**

***63-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Refund of Excess Payments – Primrose Companies.**

***70-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Klyde Jacques.**

***78-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Louis Cafora, Administrator of the Estate of Frederick Cafora.**

***81-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Appointment of Charles Griggs (D) to the Ethics Commission.**

Mayor Ganim asked if any Council Member wished to have an item removed from the Consent Calendar. Council Member Cruz requested Agenda Item 21-20 be removed. Council Member Pereira requested Agenda Items 48-20, 70-20, and 78-20 be removed.

The City Clerk then read the remaining items into the record.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

77-20 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GIFT OF GRANT-FUNDED BICYCLE RACKS FROM METROPOLITAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (METROCOG).

61-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – HOME DEPOT USA, INC.

62-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – PENSKE LEASING AND RENTAL CO.

63-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – PRIMROSE COMPANIES.

81-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES GRIGGS (D) TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

21-20 Ordinance Committee Report re: Proposed Amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, amend Chapter 8.90 – Regulation of the Sales and Marketing of Tobacco Products, DENIED.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN MOVED TO CONFIRM THE COMMITTEE DENIAL OF AGENDA ITEM 21-20 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, AMEND CHAPTER 8.90 – REGULATION OF THE SALES AND MARKETING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Cruz said that he would respect the Committee's decision to deny it.

Council Member Pereira said that the Council had raised the age for smoking to 21 before the State did.

Council Member Newton requested his fellow Council Members to support the Committee's report. He said that if the City was to pass this ban, the residents would be going to Fairfield, Stratford, and Trumbull to buy their products. He asked who would monitor it. The police can't do it.

Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia said that she was pleased to see the Committee deny the ban. The City shouldn't take the role of Big Brother. It is not the job of the officials, politicians and others to rule over people's personal lives.

Council Member Martinez requested that the question be moved. She said that she agreed with Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia and the Council does not have jurisdiction over people's private lives.

Council Member Lyons said that she had called Atty. Anastasi about this and she was told that the State of Connecticut has jurisdiction on this matter. Council Member Lyons said that she was against menthol cigarettes.

Atty. Anastasi said that it was an open question and noted that there was no other municipality that had taken this action, which would leave the City open to a lawsuit. The State will be looking into this matter.

Council Member Lyons said that she would be fighting this if the State was going to do this.

**** THE MOTION TO CONFIRM THE COMMITTEE DENIAL OF AGENDA ITEM 21-20 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, AMEND CHAPTER 8.90 – REGULATION OF THE SALES AND MARKETING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN (17) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, BRANTLEY, BROWN, HERRON, DEFILIPPO, LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

48-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Luis Nunez.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 48-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH LUIS NUNEZ.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira asked if this was police related. There was no docket number included. She asked if it would be paid out of the Bridgeport Police Department overtime, which was passed last summer.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 48-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH LUIS NUNEZ PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN (17) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, BRANTLEY, BROWN, HERRON, DEFILIPPO LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

70-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Klyde Jacques.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED AGENDA ITEM 70-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH KLYDE JACQUES.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira asked if it was a police matter related to civil rights or physical assaults.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 70-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH KLYDE JACQUES PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN (17) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, BRANTLEY, BROWN, HERRON, DEFILIPPO LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).**

78-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Louis Cafora, Administrator of the Estate of Frederick Cafora.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED AGENDA ITEM 78-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH LOUIS CAFORA, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF FREDERICK CAFORA.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira asked if it was a Federal Court Case. Atty. Anastasi said it was a State Court matter.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 78-20 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH LOUIS CAFORA, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE OF FREDERICK CAFORA PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN (17) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, BRANTLEY, BROWN, HERRON, DEFILIPPO LYONS, VIZZO-PANICCIA,**

MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (PEREIRA).

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:

64-20 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Refund of Excess Payments – People’s United Bank.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED AGENDA ITEM 64-20 – MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – PEOPLE’S UNITED BANK.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE PASSED AGENDA ITEM 64-20 – MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – PEOPLE’S UNITED BANK UNANIMOUSLY.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

58-20 Joint Committee on Economic and Community Development and Environment and Contracts Report re: Resolution Authorizing a Lease Agreement for a portion of 80 Hastings Street to allow for an Outdoor Tasting and Picnic Area for Fifth State Distillery.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VALLE MOVED TO WITHDRAW AGENDA ITEM 58-20 JOINT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT AND CONTRACTS REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR A PORTION OF 80 HASTINGS STREET TO ALLOW FOR AN OUTDOOR TASTING AND PICNIC AREA FOR FIFTH STATE DISTILLERY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED.**

Mayor Ganim asked if the matter was being withdrawn from the agenda. Council Member McBride-Lee said that she couldn’t hear the answer. Mayor Ganim said that the matter was closed unless they file a new application.

Council Member Pereira said that City Council Rule 31 [inaudible].

**** THE MOTION TO WITHDRAW AGENDA ITEM 58-20 JOINT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT AND CONTRACTS REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR A PORTION OF 80 HASTINGS STREET TO ALLOW FOR AN OUTDOOR TASTING AND PICNIC AREA FOR FIFTH STATE DISTILLERY PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

59-20 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Disposition of Three (3) City-Owned Properties.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VALLE MOVED TO TABLE AGENDA ITEM 59-20 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF THREE (3) CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE-LEE SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services