

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLIC SPEAKING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017
6:30 PM**

**Geraldine W. Johnson School, Auditorium
475 Lexington Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President McCarthy called the Public Speaking session to order at 6:48 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Lydia Martinez, City Clerk called the roll.

130th District: Kathryn Bukovsky, Scott Burns
131st District: Jack O. Banta, Denese Taylor-Moye
132nd District: M. Evette Brantley, John Olson
133rd District: Thomas McCarthy, Jeanette Herron
134th District: Michelle Lyons
135th District: Mary McBride-Lee, Richard Salter
136th District: José Casco, Alfredo Castillo
137th District: Aidee Nieves, Milta Feliciano
138th District: Anthony Paoletto
139th District: Eneida Martinez, James Holloway

A quorum was present.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017 AT 6:30 P.M., AT GERALDINE W. JOHNSON SCHOOL, AUDITORIUM, 475 LEXINGTON AVENUE, BRIDGEPORT, CT 06604.

NAME

SUBJECT

John Marshall Lee
30 Beacon Street
Bridgeport, CT 06605

Financial Status of City.

United, blessed, privileged, fearful, white and for too much of history, ignorant:

God Bless America... bountiful and beautiful.....sweet land of liberty...freedom... to assemble, speak and practice religion....and equal rights (initially white, literate men with property).....and

second chances for those from other lands who would work in the growing capitalist enterprise and hope for chances for an educated second generation?

Perhaps we know our family story and how and when it intersects those of other people with white skin particularly those from Western Europe. But do we know or have we reflected on those others who were initially present when the first Europeans landed and how the settlers dealt with those of color who were present? And the land was so fertile and large that more workers were required to make the land fruitful, especially in the Southern colonies (and States) so Africans captured were brought to the coasts for sale in chains, suffered the Middle Passage across the Atlantic, and about 8% of the 6 Million enslaved blacks were landed in the colonies/US before importation was made illegal in 1807, though slavery continued. By 1861 the number of blacks in the US had grown to about 4 Million people and perhaps 10% served in Northern or Southern armies during the Civil War with about 60,000 casualties.

After the Emancipation Proclamation 1863 and end of Civil War, 1865 plantations whose real wealth were humans indentured and controlled for life. So relations had to change to keep cotton, tobacco, rice, sugar cane crops flowing and segregation, Jim Crow and other measures to keep African Americans in an inferior place became common in the South, and in the North through limited education, housing, and workplace opportunities. Inferiority of blacks became a self-fulfilling eventuality over generations. But notable and exceptional people caused questions to rise among those who used their heart, minds, body and spirits to live life and grow in wisdom as Christians.

Country of opportunity for all....if fair chances and basic lessons are available to all. And God provided talent gifts of certain kinds may appear in athletic, musical, ingenuity, and comedic format, though talent at humor and comedy may be the gift to those who have lived with the absurd too long. Will privilege, if understood as a matter of chance, something unearned, when referenced and put in a rightful place, allow all people to identify how much our privilege has contributed to results in the journey so far, and how much is owed to that which is a gift at birth? Knowing the story of your family and listening to that of others will lead to connections of universal experiences by humans that transcend skin color. Now how do we address this gift or privilege in living out our years? Do we call upon the Spirit daily in prayer for grace and wisdom? Time will tell.

John Marshall Lee 10-2-17

Mr. Lee then read the following poem by Langston Hughes into the record:

BALLAD OF THE LANDLORD
By Langston Hughes
Landlord, Landlord,
My roof has sprung a leak.
Don't you 'member I told you about it
Way last week?
Landlord, Landlord,

City of Bridgeport
City Council
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October 2, 2017

These steps is broken down.
When you come up yourself
It's a wonder you don't fall down.
Ten Bucks you say I owe you?
Ten Bucks you say is due?
Well, that's Ten Bucks more'n I'll pay you
Till you fix this house up new.
What? You gonna get evic'on orders?
You gonna cut off my heat?
You gonna take my furniture and
Throw it in the street?
Um-huh! You talking high and mighty.
Talk on---till you get through.
You ain't gonna be able to say a word
If I land my fist on you.

Police! Police!
Come and get this man!
He's trying to ruin the government
And overturn the land!

Copper's whistle!
Patrol bell!
Arrest.

Precinct Station.
Iron cell.
Headlines in press:
MAN THREATENS LANDLORD

TENANT HELD NO BAIL

JUDGE GIVES NEGRO 90 DAYS IN COUNTY JAIL.
(LANGSTON HUGHES READER, 1957, P. 101)

Cecil C. Young
99 Carroll Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06607

Unjust termination cover-up.

Council President McCarthy called Mr. Young forward. There was no response. He repeated the call two more times. There was still no response. Council President McCarthy called Mr. Young a fourth and final time with no response.

Charles Coviello

Mr. Coviello said that he watches Channel 12 and they stated that the IRS is the most powerful collection agency in the world. However, Mr. Coviello disagrees with that statement because he believes it is actually Bridgeport WPCA. He then spoke about how he had almost lost his house. When all is said and done, he has paid over \$15,000 and there are still legal fees and interest being added. Mr. Coviello reminded everyone that during the last council session, a Republican Council member submitted a piece of legislation to curb this financial abuse and still nothing has been done. This needs to be addressed by the Council and the WPCA needs to be curbed.

Dasha Spell

Golden Hill Street
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Ms. Spell spoke about a letter she had received from the Mayor about education. She said that she would like to know how the Council members who had gone to school in Bridgeport and received a good education could let today's students receive such a poor education. She asked if they would be reaching out to the youth to prevent the violence. Some key problems that contribute to violence are poor educations, mental health issues and no support.

Ms. Spell said that she wanted everyone to help her help the Bridgeport students. She wants people to be invested. Next Thursday, she will be holding a meeting about this. It will be important to go into the schools and see what is happening. Some of the buildings are leaking and others have mold in them.

Ernest Newton

190 Read Street
Bridgeport, CT 06607

Mr. Newton came forward and said that he hoped that the City Council would pay attention to the agenda item 146-16, which involves the WPCA. He spoke about a resident who lived in Bridgeport for 30 years and then the WPCA foreclosed on his house. Now they are talking about how the WPCA will be putting an outside meter on the houses so that if the people wash their cars, they will have to pay for it. This is something that needs to have the Council pay serious attention to because it will affect the senior citizens. This is just another way to put people out with foreclosures.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President McCarthy adjourned the public speaking portion of the Council meeting at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular Meeting
October 2, 2017

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017
7:00 PM**

**Geraldine W. Johnson School, Auditorium
475 Lexington Avenue
Bridgeport, Connecticut 06604**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ganim called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

PRAYER

Mayor Ganim requested Council Member McBride-Lee lead everyone present in prayer, particularly remembering the victims of the Las Vegas shooting on October 1st. He also requested that following the conclusion of the prayer, there be a moment of silence.

Council Member McBride-Lee prayed for the victims of Hurricane Harvey and Maria in Puerto Rico and for the victims of the largest mass shooting in the history of the United States that happened on October 1, 2017 in Las Vegas.

This was followed by a moment of silence in honor of those who were injured or who died.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ganim then requested Council Member Olson to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Martinez called the roll.

130th District: Kathryn Bukovsky, Scott Burns
131st District: Jack O. Banta, Denese Taylor-Moye
132nd District: M. Evette Brantley, John Olson
133rd District: Thomas McCarthy, Jeanette Herron
134th District: Michelle Lyons
135th District: Mary McBride-Lee, Richard Salter
136th District: José Casco, Alfredo Castillo
137th District: Aidee Nieves, Milta Feliciano
138th District: Anthony Paoletto, Nessah Smith
139th District: Eneida Martinez, James Holloway

A quorum was present.

Mayoral and City Council Citation(s): Recognizing Mark Marko for his Service on the City's Parks Commission and Exceptional Leadership as its Chairman.

Council President McCarthy called Mr. Marko forward, along with his family and the Parks Department who were present. One thing that Mr. Marko was well known for asking was "Is it good for the kids?" and then finding a way to make events happen.

Mayor Ganim also spoke about how many things Mr. Marko has done for the City of Bridgeport and presented him with a certificate of recognition.

Mayoral and City Council Citation(s): Recognizing "Bridgeport Unidos Por El Mundo" for assisting with the Hurricane Harvey and Puerto Rico Relief Efforts by collecting supplies, donations and shipping them out.

Council Member Feliciano said that the group was not able to attend the meeting because they were still in New Jersey getting the containers.

Council Member Holloway left the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Approval of City Council Minutes: September 5, 2017

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2017.**

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO WITHDRAW AGENDA ITEM 152-16 COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR RE: APPOINTMENT OF JACK O. BANTA TO THE BRIDGEPORT ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE HAD BEEN WITHDRAWN FOR REFERRAL TO THE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE AND RESOLUTIONS TO BE REFERRED TO BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, ETC. :**

145-16 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY CLERK RE: ITEMS PENDING BEFORE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEES PURSUANT TO CITY COUNCIL RULES CH. XIII (11), ACCEPTED AND MADE PART OF THE RECORD.

146-16 COMMUNICATION FROM WPCA RE: PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 13.04 – UTILITIES, ARTICLE II. – WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY, AMEND TO ADD NEW SUBSECTION B TO SECTION 13.04.330 – ALLOWANCE FOR METERED WATER NOT DISCHARGED INTO THE CITY’S SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM, REFERRED TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

148-16 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: CIRCA MUNICIPAL RESILIENCE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE BRIDGEPORT RESILIENCY PROJECT (#18208), REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

149-16 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: CIRCA MUNICIPAL RESILIENCE GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE MIRROR LAKE COASTAL WETLAND RESTORATION (#18224), REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

150-16 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT FOR THE USE AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE BASEBALL FIELD, DIAMOND #1 LOCATED AT SEASIDE PARK, REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.

151-16 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT LETTER FOR FIRE CHIEF RICHARD THODE, REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.

153-16 COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR RE: APPOINTMENT OF KATHLEEN DONOVAN TO THE BRIDGEPORT ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

154-16 COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR RE: APPOINTMENT OF SHARON LEWIS TO THE BRIDGEPORT ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

155-16 COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR RE: APPOINTMENT OF ALMA MAYA TO THE BRIDGEPORT ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

156-16 COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR RE: APPOINTMENT OF JOSH PARROW TO THE BRIDGEPORT ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

157-16 COMMUNICATION FROM MAYOR RE: APPOINTMENT OF NICHOLAS ROUSSAS TO THE BRIDGEPORT ENVIRONMENTAL TASK FORCE, REFERRED TO MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE.

**RESOLUTIONS TO BE REFERRED TO BOARDS,
COMMISSIONS, ETC.:**

147-16 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE-LEE RE: REQUEST THAT THE HONORARY STREET NAMING OF “REVEREND WILLIAM BARBER SR. WAY” BE DESIGNATED WITH APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE TO BE PLACED AT A PORTION OF PLATT STREET FROM CHOPSEY HILL ROAD TO RYON STREET, REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

***71-16 Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2.02 – Administrative Regulations Generally, amend to add new Section 2.02.080 – Residency Reporting of all Municipal Elected Officials and Board and Commission Members.**

***128-16 Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Title 3 – Revenue and Finance, Chapter 3.70 – Event Admissions Surcharge, amend to add New Section 3.70.015 – Exemption.**

***131-16 Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Title 8 – Health and Safety, amend Chapter 8.88 – Municipal Clinics.**

***100-16 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Disposition of eleven (11) City-Owned Properties within the Seaview Avenue Industrial Park.**

***110-16 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Constance L. Taaffe.**

***113-16 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Refund of Excess Payments – 1700 SPE CT Park LLC.**

***114-16 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Refund of Excess Payments – Donna Siciliano.**

***138-16 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Kyle J. Hampton.**

***139-16 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Carlens and Evens Dorvelus.**

Mayor Ganim asked if there was any Council Member who would like to remove an item from the Consent Calendar. Council Member

Mayor Ganim requested that the City Clerk read the remaining Consent Calendar items into the record. Council Member Martinez requested that Agenda Item 71-16 be removed from the Consent Calendar. Council Member Bukovsky requested that Agenda Item 128-16 be removed from the Consent Calendar.

Mayor Ganim requested that the City Clerk read the remaining Consent Calendar items into the record.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS AS THE CONSENT CALENDAR:**

***131-16 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCES, TITLE 8 – HEALTH AND SAFETY, AMEND CHAPTER 8.88 – MUNICIPAL CLINICS.**

***100-16 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: DISPOSITION OF ELEVEN (11) CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES WITHIN THE SEAVIEW AVENUE INDUSTRIAL PARK.**

***110-16 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH CONSTANCE L. TAAFFE.**

***113-16 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – 1700 SPE CT PARK LLC.**

***114-16 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REFUND OF EXCESS PAYMENTS – DONNA SICILIANO.**

***138-16 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH KYLE J. HAMPTON.**

***139-16 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH CARLENS AND EVENS DORVELUS.**

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***128-16 Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Title 3 – Revenue and Finance, Chapter 3.70 – Event Admissions Surcharge, amend to add New Section 3.70.015 – Exemption.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BUKOVSKY MOVED TO REFER AGENDA ITEM 128-16 BACK TO COMMITTEE.**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER SALTER SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***71-16 Ordinance Committee Report re: Amendments to the Municipal Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2.02 – Administrative Regulations Generally, amend to add new Section 2.02.080 – Residency Reporting of all Municipal Elected Officials and Board and Commission Members.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO REFER AGENDA ITEM 71-16 BACK TO COMMITTEE.**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, BANTA, TAYLOR-MOYE, BRANTLEY, MCCARTHY, HERRON, MCBRIDE-LEE, SALTER, CASCO, CASTILLO, NIEVES, FELICIANO, PAOLETTO, SMITH, AND MARTINEZ) AND THREE OPPOSED (BUKOVSKY, LYONS AND OLSON).**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA REGARDING A REFERRAL TO THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.**
**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS MOVED TO REFER AGENDA ITEM TO THE ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REGARDING PROPOSED ORDINANCE CONCERNING HOLDING LANDLORDS ACCOUNTABLE FOR TENANT GENERATED NOISE RESULTING IN COMPLAINTS FILED/WARNING PROCESS AND FINES FOR REPEATED VIOLATIONS.**
**** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO SECONDED.**
**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (ITEM #158-16)**

Council Member Olson commented that he agreed with Mike Dailey's recent column regarding the casinos.

Council Member Martinez said that she was dismayed that the BOE would cut teachers, aides or student services before it would reduce administrator's salaries or positions.

Regarding the City Attorney's Office, she added that she was disappointed that there were two items presented without legal opinions.

Council Member Martinez said that she was also disappointed to see an off-duty detective directing traffic at a recent event before the traffic officers arrived to perform their job.

Council Member McBride-Lee said that she agreed with those who had spoken about the WPCA issues and said that it was wrong for the WPCA to charge people for watering their grass. The WPCA should be fired.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** COUNCIL MEMBER FELICIANO SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Service