

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLIC SPEAKING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018
6:30 PM
City Council Chambers, City Hall
45 Lyon Terrace
Bridgeport, CT**

Council Deputy Majority Leader Herron called the Public Speaking Session to order at 6:37 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk Lydia Martinez called the roll.

130th District: Christina Smith, Pete Spain
131st District: Jack O. Banta
132nd District: Marcus Brown, Kyle Langan
133rd District: Michael Defilippo, Jeannette Herron
134th District: Michelle Lyons
135th District: Rosalina Roman-Christy, Mary McBride-Lee
136th District: Alfredo Castillo
137th District: Maria Valle
138th District: Karen Jackson, Nessah Smith
139th District: Ernest Newton

A quorum was present.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018 AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.

NAME

SUBJECT

Dasha Spell

CSMA/Young Adults.

284 Beechwood Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

Ms. Dasha Spell came forward and introduced herself. She said that it would be important for the City and the BOE to work together. She said that she was a resident, tax payer and a parent. Her concern was that the City should provide the resources for the BOE such as custodians, electricians, and plumbers. She asked why there were no police officers where the students cross the street. One of the students was almost abducted last week. There are many things that the City does not want to talk about in public. While there is a budget crunch, funds for bonuses and new positions in the City are available, but the money for the students just isn't available.

Ms. Spell said that she would like to speak about the meetings on the fourth Wednesday every month at the Burroughs from 9-11 a.m. To discuss issues that are happening in the community. Ms. Spell requested that the Council Members attend. The Police have been attending along with the Juvenile Detention Officers. The City Council Members need to be at these meetings, also.

Johnny Ray Moore
75 Baldwin Street
Bridgeport, CT 06607

City ordinance requirement
of affidavit to be filed
regarding Land Records.

Council Deputy Majority Leader Herron called Mr. Moore's name. She then announced that Mr. Moore was not able to be present at the meeting.

John Marshall Lee
30 Beacon Street
Bridgeport, CT 06605

Fiscal & Governance Issues.

Mr. Lee came forward and read the following statement into the record.

Members of the City Council.....

Election Day 2018 is in less than 15 days out from us. What has caught your attention as Bridgeport legislative representatives, residents and taxpayers? Personally I have been wondering just what the various candidates for Executive Office will be doing about financing our budgets, responsibilities and obligations when elected. I am not hearing much that makes sense, have you? Now there is a candidate for State Treasurer, Shawn Wooden. He was President of the Hartford City Council, a lawyer and pension expert. He claims to have overcome their \$50 Million budget deficit in his run for Treasurer. I guess his reference is to MARB where he got the State to eat current and some future Hartford fiscal issues? Why are not 11 of you as interested on behalf of Bridgeport? We guess that MARB would be in town if Joe Ganim wanted it, and it could be here if you asked for it, too. What's your holdup? Open government? Transparency in finances? Accountability for Capital Projects?

It's not that you are not voting on big issues. Look at the \$100 Million of financing authorization that faces you. \$25 Million for and another \$75 Million for. Some funds will be grants. Some will be bonded and require repayment. And some...time will tell. Beyond the numbers do you know what is proposed for the future, in what time frame, and whether that creates any changes in the quality of the environment where you live? Have you visited the pipe in Cedar Creek where effluent flows out from the West Side Plant? If you haven't looked into it, why vote on it immediately. Are we on the right course? Does the concept of placing huge cold water "bottles" under City property to be filled when the rain runoff is too much from storm sewers seem like a handy idea. What are the alternatives? Why is CSO separation throughout the entire City as a plan changing? How about a voluntary hearing? A meeting one month ago brought out over 70 people at the Aquaculture School. There is interest.

At a previous meeting I indicated that the Police Department budget is running about \$100 Million with half of that amount funding healthcare, pension, and other fringes.

With overtime earnings in your three highest years becoming the critical factor rather than base earnings, it does not matter whether it is internal overtime or external overtime that creates the excess factor that is paid at retirement. Who is keeping track of external overtime today? How much reimbursement is being earned under the current Police Department contract, or the one that is being negotiated? Why is this important? If you don't know, ask someone who does? There is no profit in overtime charged to contractors as used to be claimed. Is Bridgeport following "best practices" in this regard? If not, why not?

It's has been four months since I met Linda Lee who had her Econoline Van removed from in front of her home because of a PD sticker and cooperation of a towing company the following day June 6. On June 16th she signed up to speak to you. And I introduced her to Chief Perez. Two weeks ago we sat in the Chief's office and went over the paper work. Lots of anomalies that might have caused a value conscious officer to question the original snickering, like car registered, plates on vehicle, insurance in place and funded, and even though the registration had a Stratford address, the taxes had been paid in Bridgeport. Slow leak???? Come on folks. Under "Non Consensual Towing Procedures, Notification and Vehicle Disposal" it says, "If the vehicle remains unclaimed, the tower must notify the owner.....that the vehicles remains in the tower's possession prior to the filing of DMV "Notice of intent to Sell or Artificer's Lien" That did not happen. Who can tell what became of this serviceable vehicle taxed at \$3,000 and bearing about the same value of parts and service completed in the previous month?? How many "non-consensual" events have to happen before taxpayers are listened to? What are the consequences to those who are making up the rules instead of attending to them? Time will tell.

Tony Barr
Pennsylvania Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06610

Schools, jobs, policing and 141
members of council.

Mr. Tony Barr came forward and asked to pray for the Council. Council Deputy Majority Leader Herron said that he could pray for the Council during the designated opening portion of the Council meeting. Mr. Barr declined because he wanted to pray for the residents in attendance. Mr. Barr said that he wanted to speak about the WPCA and Atty. Bohannon's legal opinion. He asked if the City Council would be following the rules of the WPCA moratorium. He said that the all the home owners should have the same practice.

He then spoke about students who were buying alcohol during their lunch breaks and suggested that the City put liquor store outlets in the schools so that the students can purchase liquor in school.

Mr. Barr said that in order to fix Bridgeport, they need to address the issues. Year after year, it is wrong, wrong, wrong. The Council is a Democratic Council. He wanted to know when they are going to start fixing the issues. Mr. Barr mentioned two elderly women who are in danger of losing their home to the WPCA. He said that if people live right and do the things one should, they should be okay.

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular Meeting
October 15, 2018

Faith Jackson
56 Grove Street
CT 06605

Prostitution over-running the
corner of (Grove & Fairfield) Bridgeport,
across from Bassick High Schools, etc.

Council Deputy Majority Leader Herron called Ms. Jackson's name. There was no response. She repeated her call two more times with no response.

Stephen Nelson
24A Stoneridge Road
Bridgeport, CT 06606

135th Community Concerns.

Mr. Stephen Nelson came forward and said that he would be speaking about his two City Council Members, and he appreciated his constituents getting some of the streets paved. He thanked the representatives from the 135th, Council Member McBride-Lee and Council Member Roman-Christy, for their efforts.

Crystal Mack
Bridgeport, CT

Ms. Crystal Mack came forward and said that she had been coming to these meetings for many years and she was present about the WPCA. She said that the WPCA bill was piggy backed on the water bill. She then explained that she uses 2 units of water a month, which works out to about \$7 or \$8 dollars a month. The re-evaluation is going to happen and Connecticut is becoming the new California because people are losing their homes. She asked how someone could take residents homes when there is a warranty deed on them. She used to work in the Assessor's Office. There are 33,000 attorneys in the State. In California, they have people living on the street. Connecticut has a \$15.00 hour minimum wage, but it costs \$42.00 an hour to make a living wage. So, the lawyers are taking the homes. The Council works for the residents, not the residents working for the City. The children need their homes. Would a slave master want their slaves to know the law? It is time for the residents to learn the laws. The WPCA is a fraudulent law and the residents should never have gotten the bill in the first place.

Georgia Simonelli
Old Town Road
Bridgeport, CT

Ms. Simonelli said that she had been evicted from her home and at 61 years old, she has no place to go. A friend rented a hotel room for her to use for three days. She said that she wanted to discuss the corruption in Superior Court. There are no shelters available.

She spoke about her second mortgage and how it was purchased by a bank and sold by the bank. She was one month behind in her mortgage and was approached by an attorney when she went into court. The lawyer then told Ms. Simonelli she would handle the case who never filed any motions or objections. The lawyer later withdrew the case and advised Ms. Simonelli to file bankruptcy. She went on to give the details of the situation. she asked how this was possible and said that the Superior Court attorneys are running rampant with these foreclosures.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Deputy Majority Leader Herron closed the public speaking portion at 7:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2018

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers, City Hall - 45 Lyon Terrace

Bridgeport, Connecticut

Council Deputy Majority Leader Herron called the City Council to order at 7:13 p.m.

She announced that Council President Nieves was not present due to a scheduling conflict, Council Member Taylor-Moye was not present due to health issues and Council Member Martinez was dealing with family issues.

PRAYER

Council Deputy Majority Leader Herron requested Council Member McBride-Lee to lead those present in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Deputy Majority Leader Herron requested Council Member Brown to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL.

The City Clerk called the roll.

130th District: Christina Smith, Pete Spain
131st District: Jack O. Banta
132nd District: Marcus Brown, Kyle Langan
133rd District: Michael Defilippo, Jeannette Herron
134th District: Michelle Lyons
135th District: Rosalina Roman-Christy, Mary McBride-Lee
136th District: Maria Zambrano Viggiano, Alfredo Castillo
137th District: Maria Valle
138th District: Karen Jackson, Nessah Smith
139th District: Ernest Newton

A quorum was present.

Mayor Gamin joined the meeting and assumed the chairmanship at 7:15 p.m.

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular Meeting
October 15, 2018

Mayoral and City Council Citation(s): Recognizing Dr. Rafael Squitieri, Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at St. Vincent's Medical Center for introducing a number of Innovative and Minimally Invasive Procedures.

Council Member McBride-Lee called Dr. Squitieri forward and presented with both Mayoral and City Council Citations recognizing his contributions to the patients of St. Vincent's Medical Center

Mayoral and City Council Citation(s): Recognizing the Dedicated Nurses and Staff of the St. Vincent's Medical Center Intensive Care Unit (ICU) for their Compassion, Commitment and Dedication to Patients.

The representatives of the "St. Vincent's Medical Center Intensive Care Unit (ICU)" were called forward and presented with both Mayoral and City Council Citations recognizing their Compassion, Commitment and Dedication to Patients.

157-17 Public Hearing re: Disposition of City-Owned Properties (5) by Auction, by Sale to Abutter or by Sale to Community Based Housing Development Corporations.

Mayor Ganim opened the hearing for the Disposition of City-Owned Properties (5) by Auction, by Sale to Abutter or by Sale to Community Based Housing Development Corporations at 7:35 p.m. He asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak in favor of the item. No one came forward. He repeated this request two more times. No one came forward. Mayor Ganim then asked if there was anyone present who wished to speak in opposition to the item. No one came forward. She repeated this request two more times. Hearing none, Mayor Ganim closed the public hearing on Agenda Item 157-17 at 7:37 p.m.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Approval of City Council Minutes: September 17, 2018

**** COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON MOVED TO APPROVE THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2018.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 17, 2018 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

185-17 Communication from Board of Education re: Grant Application Authorizations for School Construction Work at Luis Munoz Marin School located at 479 Helen Street for Roof Replacement, referred to Education and Social Services Committee.

186-17 Communication from City Attorney re: Twenty Day Notice to Settle Pending Litigation Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.10.130 with Ernesto Castro, ACCEPTED AND MADE PART OF THE RECORD.

187-17 Communication from Tax Collector re: Refund of Excess Payments – Re: Victory Bible Church International, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

188-17 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation with Ana DeJesus, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

189-17 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation with Jazmarie DeJesus, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

190-17 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation with Janessa Berrios, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

191-17 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation with Kelly Jaramillo, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

***182-17 Contracts Committee Report re: Energy Consulting Services Agreement with Titan Energy New England, Inc. for consulting services with respect to Managing Renewable Energy Credits.**

***183-17 Contracts Committee Report re: Energy Master Service Agreement with Enerwise Global Technologies, Inc. D/B/A CPower to provide On Peak Demand Energy Response Management.**

***178-17 Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: Resolution Approving Financing in the amount of \$25,000,000 for the Design, Rehabilitation, Upgrading and Construction of Various Improvements to the Combined Sewer Overflow Facilities.**

***179-17 Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: Resolution Approving Financing in the amount of \$75,000,000 for the Design, Rehabilitation, Upgrading and Construction of Various Renovations and Improvements to the City’s Wastewater Treatment Plants.**

***180-17 Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: Approval of Tax Anticipation Notes (TANS) – To Pay Current Expenses and Obligations of the City – FY 2019.**

***181-17 Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: Approval of Grant Anticipation Notes (GANS) – To Pay Certain School Building Project Expenses in Anticipation of State Grants.**

***176-17 Joint Committee on Miscellaneous Matters & Budget and Appropriations Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Urban Enterprise Zone Assessment Deferral for a Qualified Development located at 515 West Avenue.**

Mayor Ganim asked if there was any Council Member who would like to remove an item from the Consent Calendar. Council Member N. Smith requested that Agenda Item 176-17 be removed. Council Member Langan requested that Agenda Items 178-17 and 179-17 be removed.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN MOVED THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

***182-17 CONTRACTS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: ENERGY CONSULTING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH TITAN ENERGY NEW ENGLAND, INC. FOR CONSULTING SERVICES WITH RESPECT TO MANAGING RENEWABLE ENERGY CREDITS.**

***183-17 CONTRACTS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: ENERGY MASTER SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH ENERWISE GLOBAL TECHNOLOGIES, INC. D/B/A CPOWER TO PROVIDE ON PEAK DEMAND ENERGY RESPONSE MANAGEMENT.**

***180-17 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: APPROVAL OF TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES (TANS) – TO PAY CURRENT EXPENSES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY – FY 2019.**

***181-17 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: APPROVAL OF GRANT ANTICIPATION NOTES (GANS) – TO PAY CERTAIN SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT EXPENSES IN ANTICIPATION OF STATE GRANTS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

176-17 Joint Committee on Miscellaneous Matters & Budget and Appropriations Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Urban Enterprise Zone Assessment Deferral for a Qualified Development located at 515 West Avenue.

Council Member N. Smith stated that the Joint Committee on Miscellaneous Matters & Budget and Appropriations had met just before the Council meeting and had amended the item.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER N. SMITH MOVED TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE BRIDGEPORT CITY COUNCIL
AUTHORIZING THE URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE ASSESSMENT
DEFERRAL FOR A QUALIFIED DEVELOPMENT AT 515 WEST AVE.**

WHEREAS PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 585 OF THE CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES AND CHAPTER 3.28 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT (THE "ORDINANCE"), THERE IS ESTABLISHED WITHIN THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT (THE "CITY ") AND URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE (THE "ENTERPRISE ZONE");

WHEREAS THE ORDINANCE PROVIDES THAT, WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY IMPROVEMENTS CREATED BY CERTAIN QUALIFYING REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS ("QUALIFIED PROJECT") WITHIN THE ENTERPRISE ZONE, THE ASSESSMENT SHALL BE FIXED EACH YEAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SEVEN-YEAR ASSESSMENT DEFERRAL AS MORE SPECIFICALLY DETAILED IN THE ORDINANCE ("ENTERPRISE ZONE BENEFIT");

WHEREAS THE ORDINANCE REQUIRES THAT "TO QUALIFY FOR ASSESSMENT DEFERRAL... THE PROPERTY OWNER MUST FILE AN APPLICATION... WITH THE CITY NO LATER THAN THE DATE OF THE ISSUANCE OF A CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY FOR THE... NEWLY CONSTRUCTED BUILDING... [AND] AND WITHIN 90 DAYS OF ISSUANCE OF A BUILDING PERMIT" (THE "TIMELY FILING REQUIREMENT"); AND

WHEREAS THE BRIDGEPORT NEIGHBORHOOD TRUST, ACTING THROUGH ITS OWNERSHIP ENTITY, DOWNTOWN WESTGATE APARTMENT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP (THE "OWNER"), HAS DEVELOPED A QUALIFIED PROJECT AT 515 WEST AVENUE., WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN THE ENTERPRISE ZONE BUT DID NOT MEET THE TIMELY FILING REQUIREMENT AND SEEKS APPROPRIATE RELIEF FROM THE CITY COUNCIL;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

THE OWNER HAS DEVELOPED A QUALIFIED PROJECT AT 515 WEST AVENUE THAT HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY OPED BUT FAILED TO MEET THE TIMELY FILING REQUIREMENT THROUGH AN INADVERTENT MISTAKE.

OPED HAS DETERMINED THAT THE QUALIFIED PROJECT IS ENTITLED TO THE ENTERPRISE ZONE BENEFIT AND WOULD HAVE BEEN ENTITLED TO THE SAME IF IT HAD SATISFIED THE TIMELY FILING REQUIREMENT.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE OWNER'S FAILURE TO MEET THE TIMELY FILING REQUIREMENT, THE OWNER IS REQUESTING THE CITY COUNCIL TO CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE ENTERPRISE ZONE BENEFIT FOR THE QUALIFIED PROJECT.

THE CITY COUNCIL UNDERSTANDS AND ACCEPTS THE FACT THAT THE OWNER MADE AN UNINTENTIONAL MISTAKE AND THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE DEPRIVED OF THE ENTERPRISE ZONE BENEFIT AND FURTHER BELIEVES THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT TO SUPPORT THE QUALIFIED PROJECT BY AUTHORIZING THE ENTERPRISE ZONE BENEFIT.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BRIDGEPORT HEREBY AUTHORIZES THE ENTERPRISE ZONE BENEFIT FOR THE OWNER'S QUALIFIED PROJECT AT 515 WEST AVENUE.

WITH THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING LANGUAGE TO THE FINAL PARAGRAPH:

AND AUTHORIZES OPED TO WORK ON 10, 15, AND 20-YEAR ABATEMENT SCHEDULES GOING BACK TO OCTOBER 1, 2017 AND RETURN SUCH SCHEDULES TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR ACTION.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER N. SMITH MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 176-17 JOINT COMMITTEE ON MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS & BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE URBAN ENTERPRISE ZONE ASSESSMENT DEFERRAL FOR A QUALIFIED DEVELOPMENT LOCATED AT 515 WEST AVENUE AS AMENDED.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***178-17 Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: Resolution Approving Financing in the amount of \$25,000,000 for the Design, Rehabilitation, Upgrading and Construction of Various Improvements to the Combined Sewer Overflow Facilities.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN MOVED THE ITEM.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

Council Member Langan said that while he was at the first meeting, he was not able to make the second one. He asked Mr. Flatto to verify that the WPCA uses the City as a bond agency. Mr. Flatto confirmed that this was the procedure used for the WPCA to bond money.

Council Member Langan also wished to know about the proposed amounts for bonding. Mr. Flatto said that the larger amount was geared toward the west side sewer repairs.

Council Member Newton said that the West Side needs a study done due to the fact that the sewage system is very out dated. There also needs to be adjustments in order to bring that project up to code.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***179-17 Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: Resolution Approving Financing in the amount of \$75,000,000 for the Design, Rehabilitation, Upgrading and Construction of Various Renovations and Improvements to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plants.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER N. SMITH MOVED THE ITEM.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council Member Newton announced that Council Member Martinez was not able to attend due to family issues.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Service