

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
PUBLIC SPEAKING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019
6:30 PM
City Council Chambers, City Hall
45 Lyon Terrace
Bridgeport, CT**

CALL TO ORDER

Council Majority Leader Eneida Martinez called the Public Speaking Session to order at 6:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk Lydia Martinez called the roll.

130th District: Christina Smith, Pete Spain
131st District: Denese Taylor-Moye
132nd District: Marcus Brown, Kyle Langan
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
137th District: Maria Valle, Aidee Nieves
138th District: Karen Jackson, Nessah Smith
139th District: Ernest Newton, Eneida Martinez

A quorum was present.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019 AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.

NAME

SUBJECT

John Marshall Lee
30 Beacon Street
Bridgeport, CT 06605

Fiscal Governance.

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

Greetings to my fellow citizens in the gallery and in the Council Chamber tonight. My topic will be a little different from usual, as I just returned from two week travel to Portugal and Spain. Three plane trips, two rail trips, one boat ride, and almost a dozen

different buses for long distance as well as hop-on hop-off travel in different cities. We visited seven cities in the two countries with blue skies and sun ever day but one, and white clouds were welcome on that day.

No newspapers. No smart phone. Just hotel TV with few English language choices. Allows you to place in memory current impressions that bounce against the usual here in CT. In Porto, the tourist bus route that took about one hour fifteen to complete revealed lots of Museums, parks, statues and art, historical spots, etc. as well as fashion shopping districts and restaurants and many squares and plazas where you can sit with a cup of espresso or a glass of wine. Relaxed. Welcoming. People watching. Just like each of the cities subsequently. But one lesson from keeping my eyes open.

Council Member Lyons and Council Member Roman Christy joined the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

For a city of about 290,000 it doubles Bridgeport in population but it had more than 40 industrial cranes currently building that could be counted on the 90 minute bus route. Economic development was everywhere. Tourism was everywhere.

The last city we visited was Barcelona. Not everyone there was happy as you can see on international TV today. Three million in this area of Catalan. People have been seeking their independence with a referendum that got them close to 50 % in the last two years. Some of the peaceful day time protests became violent at night while we were there with burning garbage in the streets set afire by Molotov cocktails and rock throwing along with legal convictions for protest. But in the daytime, the fashion shops opened, the cruise ships let tourists off safely and food and wine was plentiful, fairly priced and welcoming. Public safety employees kept visitors safe.

Council Member N. Smith joined the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

Bridgeport has salt water with beaches, parks, bike routes and bridges. We have some historic sites and museums. We also have many universities, galleries, and event sites for entertainment. Where is the plan that will cause the other attractions to enliven our City, develop a solid financial base for further development? Why does it depend on a single gambling site, for instance? We have been patient for 30-40 years waiting? For what? Have we made any measured progress that legislators can point to with pride?

Finally you folks who are elected, especially those in this Chamber need to better prepare yourself for good governance, rather than wait for any Mayor or advisors and consultants to place “eye candy” in front of you. You need to have your own financial consultants to help you make choices on operating budgets, borrowing and repayments, and capital budgeting.

When you travel to other US cities I fail to hear what impressed you from one or more of those communities that would be applicable here. Why is that? Your travel, hotels and food are paid by the taxpayers. Don't they deserve to hear what is impressive? Many of them travel also. How do you hear what they have to say if you fail to have open forums with listening and speaking alternating?

There are many areas in your current budget for applying taxpayer funds to the most pressing problems, rather than to the status quo. We spend too much on a department like the Print Shop for the value received; on an airport where deficits operated against taxpayers for more than 10 years; as well as a public safety budget that has too many contracted duties, over compensating for least important trained work responsibilities at overtime rates, and now included in lifetime pension plans.

Council Member McBride-Lee joined the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

Looking at our local priorities to the old, the youngest and the average, we need a new view and some excitement on the part of all. We can grow from unjust, unfair and unequal governance to a better future for all. Time will tell.

Dasha Spell
284 Beechwood Avenue
Bridgeport, CT 06604

BOE.

Council Majority Leader Martinez called Ms. Spell forward. There was no response.

Chris Taylor
155 Davenport Street
Bridgeport, CT 06607

Wheelabrator Waste to Energy Plant
and Tax on out of state garbage
being dumped in Bridgeport.

Mr. Taylor came forward and said that he had a heavy heart. He said that he works with designated developers. He spoke about how Wheelabrator denied his company's credit account after the company found out that the administration of Mr. Taylor's company were minorities. He said that approximately 85% of the garbage that Wheelabrator receives comes from out of state, yet he has to take his debris to Pennsylvania and pay the out of state charge even though his company is only 2 miles away from the Wheelabrator site.

Mr. Taylor then told a joke about a helicopter pilot that was flying the Presidential helicopter when the President said that he could throw a thousand dollar bill out and make one person happy. The security team said they could throw out ten \$100 bills and make ten people happy. The pilot then stated that he could crash the helicopter and make 250 million people happy.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Majority Leader Martinez adjourned the public speaking portion of the Council Meeting at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular Meeting
October 21, 2019

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2019

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers, City Hall - 45 Lyon Terrace

Bridgeport, Connecticut

Council President Nieves called the meeting of the City Council to order at 7:05 p.m.

PRAYER

Council President Nieves requested Council Member McBride-Lee to lead those present in prayer. Following the conclusion of the prayer, there was a request for a Moment of silence for Council Member Taylor's brother; Council Member Valle's niece; Council President Nieves uncle and Council Member McBride-Lee's former husband and her son.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Nieves requested that Council Member Martinez 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: Denese Taylor-Moye
132nd District: Marcus Brown, Kyle Langan
133rd District: Michael Defilippo, Jeanette Herron
134th District: Michelle Lyons, AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia
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136th District: Alfredo Castillo
137th District: Maria Valle, Aidee Nieves
138th District: Karen Jackson, Nessah Smith
139th District: Ernest Newton, Eneida Martinez

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Approval of City Council Minutes: September 16, 2019 and October 7, 2019

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOVED THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 AND OCTOBER 7, 2019.**

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**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2019 AND OCTOBER 7, 2019 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMUNICATION TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

159-18 Communication from OPED re: Proposed Resolution to Support the Resilient Bridgeport Project, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEM:**

159-18 COMMUNICATION FROM OPED RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE RESILIENT BRIDGEPORT PROJECT, REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE REFER THE ITEM TO COMMITTEE PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

***112-18 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Supporting Participation in the Sustainable Connecticut Municipal Certification Program.**

***121-18 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution Authorizing the Disposition of Certain City-Owned Properties (4) by Auction, by Sale to Abutter or by Sale to Community Based Housing Development Corporations.**

***140-18 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution adopting the 2019 Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.**

***141-18 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Grants-In-Aid Program for Capping of Seaside Landfill (#9C206).**

***142-18 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Grants-In-Aid for Demolition of Pleasure Beach Bridge (#9C133).**

***143-18 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families – Youth Services Bureau Enhancement Grant (#20540).**

***144-18 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: State of Connecticut Department of Children and Families – Youth Services Bureau Grant (#20532).**

***155-18 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Grant Submission: Connecticut Department of Public Health – Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) in Connecticut Communities.**

Council President Nieves asked if there were any Council Members who would like to remove an item from the Consent Calendar. There were no requests from the Council Members to remove any item at that time.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED THE FOLLOWING CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

***112-18 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PARTICIPATION IN THE SUSTAINABLE CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.**

***121-18 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN CITY-OWNED PROPERTIES (4) BY AUCTION, BY SALE TO ABUTTER OR BY SALE TO COMMUNITY BASED HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS.**

***140-18 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2019 NATURAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN UPDATE.**

***141-18 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEEP) GRANTS-IN-AID PROGRAM FOR CAPPING OF SEASIDE LANDFILL (#9C206).**

***142-18 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (DEEP) GRANTS-IN-AID FOR DEMOLITION OF PLEASURE BEACH BRIDGE (#9C133).**

***143-18 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT (#20540).**

***144-18 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU GRANT (#20532).**

***155-18 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH – OVERDOSE DATA TO ACTION (OD2A) IN CONNECTICUT COMMUNITIES.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:

09-17 Special Committee on Rules Report re: Amendments to the City Council Rules of Order (LAID OVER UNDER THE RULES ON 10/07/2019).

Council Member Spain thanked Council President Nieves for allowing the Rules Committee to be formed at the beginning of the Council Session. He then highlighted some of the specific changes that the public should be aware of, such as the increase in the number of public speakers at the beginning of the Council Meetings or the move to gender neutral language.

Council President Nieves thanked the Council Members for their contributions and noted that Council Members had worked hard at adjusting the language.

Council Member Newton said that many of the Committee members were Committee Chairs and felt that it was wise that he was there as the Contracts Committee Chair.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED TO ACCEPT AGENDA ITEM 09-17 SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON RULES REPORT RE: AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY COUNCIL RULES OF ORDER.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER N. SMITH MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN AGENDA ITEM FOR REFERRAL TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN (17) IN FAVOR (C. SMITH, SPAIN, TAYLOR-MOYE, LANGAN, HERRON, DEFILIPPO, VIZZO-PANICCIA, LYONS, ROMAN-CHRISTY, MCBRIDE-LEE, CASTILLO, NIEVES, VALLE, N. SMITH, JACKSON, NEWTON AND MARTINEZ) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (BROWN).**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER N. SMITH MOVED TO REFER AN ITEM TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REGARDING THE HONORARY NAMING OF PEARL HARBOR WITH APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE TO BE DESIGNATED AS “BARBARA AND STANLEY POWELL WAY”.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON SECONDED. (ITEM #160-18)**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN (17) IN FAVOR (C. SMITH, SPAIN, TAYLOR-MOYE, LANGAN, HERRON, DEFILIPPO, VIZZO-PANICCIA, LYONS, ROMAN-CHRISTY, MCBRIDE-LEE, CASTILLO, NIEVES, VALLE, N. SMITH, JACKSON, NEWTON AND MARTINEZ) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (BROWN).**

ADJOURNMENT

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

**** COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services