

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2020

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 Council Meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

PRAYER

Mayor Ganim asked Council Member Suliman to lead everyone in a prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Ganim asked City Clerk Lydia Martinez to lead those present in reciting the Pledge.

ROLL CALL

The City Clerk called the roll.

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

Council President Nieves said that both Council Members Roman-Christy and McBride-Lee were at a Zoning meeting and would be joining the call later. She added that Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia was not present due to family obligations.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:
Approval of City Council Minutes: June 18, 2020 (Public Hearing)
& July 28, 2020 (Special Meeting)

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON MOVED THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18, 2020 PUBLIC HEARING.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VALLE SECONDED.**

Council Member Lyons said for the record that she wanted to clarify that she had asked for a point of clarification and her request was denied.

Council Member Pereira said that there was only one page of minutes from the June 18th Public Hearing and she had asked having the minutes corrected. Council President Nieves said that since there was no stenographer present, she was having a video created of the June 18th Public Hearing and there were some formatting issues.

**** A MOTION WAS MADE TO TABLE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 18TH PUBLIC HEARING.**

**** THERE WAS A SECOND.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOURTEEN (14) IN FAVOR (BURNS, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BRANTLEY, DEFILIPPO, HERRON, LYONS, VALLE, NIEVES, PEREIRA, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ, AND NEWTON) AND ONE (1) OPPOSED (BROWN).**

• July 28, 2020 (Special Meeting)

**** A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 28, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING.**

**** THERE WAS A SECOND.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 28, 2020 SPECIAL MEETING PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ITEMS FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION:

165-19 Communication from Central Grants re: Grant Submission: Connecticut Health Foundation (CT Health) – Utilizing Community Health Workers in COVID-19 Response Efforts (#21478), FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ITEM 165-19 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: CONNECTICUT HEALTH FOUNDATION (CT HEALTH) – UTILIZING COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS (#21478).**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOVED AGENDA ITEM 165-19 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: CONNECTICUT HEALTH FOUNDATION (CT HEALTH) – UTILIZING COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS (#21478).**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said that she would like to know who would be hired for these positions. Mr. Nkwo said they met with the Health Director and Central Grants. They will be hiring independent contractors. Council Member Pereira asked about the length of time the independent contractors will be employed. Mr. Nkwo said that as independent contractors, when the contract runs out or the job is completed, the contractors are finished.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 165-19 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: CONNECTICUT HEALTH FOUNDATION (CT HEALTH) – UTILIZING COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS IN COVID-19 RESPONSE EFFORTS (#21478) PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

154-19 Communication from Fire Department re: Proposed Request by the Fire Chief Pursuant to and in accordance with C.G.S. §7-430 and their Collective Bargain Agreement, Fire Fighters Local 834 that Dennis Rodgerson having or soon to attain the age of sixty-five years or more to remain employed by the City for another year, referred to Contracts Committee.

160-19 Communication from Finance re: Proposed Approval of Tax Anticipation Notes (TANS) To Pay Current Expenses and Obligations of the City – FY2021, referred to Budget and Appropriations Committee.

161-19 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Resolution for the University – Agency Affiliation Agreement regarding Social Work Field Placement with Sacred Heart University, Inc., referred to Contracts Committee.

162-19 Communication from Public Facilities re: Proposed Resolution regarding the 2020 Sidewalk Repair Pilot Program, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.

163-19 Communication from City Attorney re: Proposed Resolution for the Assignment, Assumption, Subordination and Modification Agreement with Maplewood School Apartments Limited Partnership and Maplewood Court Limited Partnership regarding Maplewood Court located at 434 Maplewood Avenue, referred to Contracts Committee.

164-19 Communication from Central Grants re: Grant Submission: U.S. Department of Justice FY 2020 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program (#21312), referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.

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

155-19 Resolution presented by Council Member(s) Cruz, Brantley, Silva, Pereira & Newton re: Proposed resolution Declaring Gun Violence as a Public Health Crisis, referred to Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee.

156-19 Resolution presented by Council Member(s) Martinez, Newton, Cruz, Brantley & Herron re: Proposed resolution requesting that the Honorary Naming of John Street be designated as “Joseph J. Kaliko Way” with appropriate signage placed on the intersecting corners along John Street from Water Street to Fairfield Avenue, referred to Public Safety and Transportation Committee.

157-19 Resolution presented by Council Member(s) Valle & Co-sponsor Nieves re: Proposed resolution requesting that the installation of “Speed Humps” with sufficient number, height and distance with appropriate street markings and signage be placed along Pembroke Street, Barnum Avenue and Waterview Avenue, referred to Board of Police Commissioners.

158-19 Resolution presented by Council Member Cruz re: Proposed Resolution for an Informational Meeting on University of Bridgeport Merger with Sacred Heart University, Goodwin University and Paier College, referred to Education and Social Services Committee.

159-19 Resolution presented by Council Member(s) Valle, Nieves, Martinez & Newton re: Proposed resolution Supporting Railroad Track Safety Curriculum, referred to Education and Social Services Committee.

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

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

154-19 COMMUNICATION FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT RE: PROPOSED REQUEST BY THE FIRE CHIEF PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH C.G.S. §7-430 AND THEIR COLLECTIVE BARGAIN AGREEMENT, FIRE FIGHTERS LOCAL 834 THAT DENNIS RODGERSON HAVING OR SOON TO ATTAIN THE AGE OF SIXTY-FIVE YEARS OR MORE TO REMAIN EMPLOYED BY THE CITY FOR ANOTHER YEAR, REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.

160-19 COMMUNICATION FROM FINANCE RE: PROPOSED APPROVAL OF TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES (TANS) TO PAY CURRENT EXPENSES AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE CITY – FY2021, REFERRED TO BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE.

161-19 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY – AGENCY AFFILIATION AGREEMENT REGARDING SOCIAL WORK FIELD PLACEMENT WITH SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY, INC., REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.

162-19 COMMUNICATION FROM PUBLIC FACILITIES RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION REGARDING THE 2020 SIDEWALK REPAIR PILOT

PROGRAM, REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

163-19 COMMUNICATION FROM CITY ATTORNEY RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR THE ASSIGNMENT, ASSUMPTION, SUBORDINATION AND MODIFICATION AGREEMENT WITH MAPLEWOOD SCHOOL APARTMENTS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP AND MAPLEWOOD COURT LIMITED PARTNERSHIP REGARDING MAPLEWOOD COURT LOCATED AT 434 MAPLEWOOD AVENUE, REFERRED TO CONTRACTS COMMITTEE.

164-19 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FY 2020 EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM (#21312), REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

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

155-19 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) CRUZ, BRANTLEY, SILVA, PEREIRA & NEWTON RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION DECLARING GUN VIOLENCE AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS, REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

156-19 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) MARTINEZ, NEWTON, CRUZ, BRANTLEY & HERRON RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE HONORARY NAMING OF JOHN STREET BE DESIGNATED AS “JOSEPH J. KALIKO WAY” WITH APPROPRIATE SIGNAGE PLACED ON THE INTERSECTING CORNERS ALONG JOHN STREET FROM WATER STREET TO FAIRFIELD AVENUE, REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE.

157-19 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) VALLE & CO-SPONSOR NIEVES RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE INSTALLATION OF “SPEED HUMPS” WITH SUFFICIENT NUMBER, HEIGHT AND DISTANCE WITH APPROPRIATE STREET MARKINGS AND SIGNAGE BE PLACED ALONG PEMBROKE STREET, BARNUM AVENUE AND WATERVIEW AVENUE, REFERRED TO BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

158-19 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER CRUZ RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR AN INFORMATIONAL MEETING ON UNIVERSITY OF BRIDGEPORT MERGER WITH SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY, GOODWIN UNIVERSITY AND PAIER COLLEGE, REFERRED TO EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE.

159-19 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) VALLE, NIEVES, MARTINEZ & NEWTON RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION SUPPORTING RAILROAD TRACK SAFETY CURRICULUM, REFERRED TO EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

***36-19 Ordinance Committee Report re: Resolution concerning Municipal Code of Ordinance Section 2.02.080 – Residency Reporting of all Municipal Elected Officials, Boards and Commission Members, DENIED.**

***84-19 Ordinance Committee Report re: Resolution that an Ordinance be drafted requiring the Zoning Department to forward all Zoning & Zoning Board of Appeals Applications to City Council Members.**

***113-19 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Resolution condemning police brutality evidenced in the George Floyd death and other recent incidents across the country and support for taking necessary steps to change the culture to prevent similar occurrences.**

***144-19 Economic and Community Development and Environment Committee Report re: Resolution regarding Metro-North Railroad Vegetation Management.**

***140-19 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Carmelo Mendez, PPA Minor #1.**

***141-19 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Carmelo Mendez, PPA Minor #2.**

Mayor Ganim asked if any Council Member wished to have an item removed from the Consent Calendar. Council Member Pereira requested the following Agenda Items: 36-19, 84-19, 140-19, 141-19 be removed from the Consent Calendar.

City Clerk Martinez read the remaining items into the record.

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

113-19 PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION CONDEMNING POLICE BRUTALITY EVIDENCED IN THE GEORGE FLOYD DEATH AND OTHER RECENT INCIDENTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND SUPPORT FOR TAKING NECESSARY STEPS TO CHANGE THE CULTURE TO PREVENT SIMILAR OCCURRENCES.

144-19 ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION REGARDING METRO-NORTH RAILROAD VEGETATION MANAGEMENT.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOURTEEN (14) IN FAVOR (BURNS, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, DEFILIPPO, HERRON, LYONS, VALLE, NIEVES, PEREIRA, SULIMAN, MARTINEZ, AND NEWTON) AND TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS (ROMAN-CHRISTY AND MCBRIDE-LEE).**

36-19 Ordinance Committee Report re: Resolution concerning Municipal Code of Ordinance Section 2.02.080 – Residency Reporting of all Municipal Elected Officials, Boards and Commission Members, DENIED

Council Member Brown said that the item had been voted out of Committee as denied.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE THE DENIAL OF AGENDA ITEM 36-19 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION CONCERNING MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCE SECTION 2.02.080 – RESIDENCY REPORTING OF ALL MUNICIPAL ELECTED OFFICIALS, BOARDS AND COMMISSION MEMBERS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira [inaudible] said that she had prepared a statement she wanted to read and would request a roll call vote.

Council Member Martinez requested the item be called. Mayor Ganim asked Council Member Pereira to submit a written copy.

Council Member Pereira said that she could not understand why anyone would oppose verification for the residency of all Council Members, elected officials and Commission members.

Council Member Brown explained that a vote in favor of the motion indicated that the Council Member agreed with the Ordinance Committee's recommendation. A vote in opposition indicated that the Council Member did not agree with the Ordinance Committee's recommendation.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE DENIAL OF AGENDA ITEM 36-19 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION CONCERNING MUNICIPAL CODE OF ORDINANCE SECTION 2.02.080 – RESIDENCY REPORTING OF ALL MUNICIPAL ELECTED OFFICIALS, BOARDS AND COMMISSION MEMBERS PASSED WITH ELEVEN (11) IN FAVOR (BURNS, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BRANTLEY, BROWN, HERRON, MCBRIDE-LEE, ROMAN-CHRISTY, SILVA, MARTINEZ AND NEWTON) AND SEVEN (7) OPPOSED (MCCARTHY, DEFILIPPO, LYONS, VALLE, PEREIRA, SULIMAN AND NIEVES).**

84-19 Ordinance Committee Report re: Resolution that an Ordinance be drafted requiring the Zoning Department to forward all Zoning & Zoning Board of Appeals Applications to City Council Members.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 84-19 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION THAT AN ORDINANCE BE DRAFTED REQUIRING THE ZONING DEPARTMENT TO FORWARD ALL ZONING & ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPLICATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Brown said that he would like to make some amendments but was having difficulty locating the appropriate paperwork. Mayor Ganim said that the Council would move on and come back to the item later. This was agreeable to all.

140-19 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Carmelo Mendez, PPA Minor #1.

141-19 Miscellaneous Matters Committee Report re: Settlement of Pending Litigation with Carmelo Mendez, PPA Minor #2.

Council Member Burns said that the Committee approved the settlements of \$15,000 per item.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS MOVED TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TWO ITEMS:**

140-19 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH CARMELO MENDEZ, PPA MINOR #1.

141-19 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH CARMELO MENDEZ, PPA MINOR #2.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

Council Member Newton said that he would be voting against all settlements because the attorney says that when they go to trial, nothing ever happens to the individuals that cause the problems. There was a time when Council Members could go to all the meetings, but now they can't. The full Council should be able to hear the entire case. Police brutality and inappropriate behavior should not be paid from the Police budget. He said that there was an individual who was driving a city vehicle after hours.

Council Member Pereira said that this particular Colorado Avenue incident cost the taxpayers about \$450,000 in settlements. She spoke about legislation that would require some of the payments be made out of the Police Overtime.

Council Member McBride-Lee said that she did not believe in voting for something that she did not know about. It is not right to ask the Council Members to vote on something where they don't have the information. The residents are paying for this. She said that she would not be voting for any settlements.

Mayor Ganim said that the payments would be coming out of the Claims Account.

Council Member Brantley said that the money would most likely come from the normal accounts. She pointed out that they have to stop discussing details of legal cases that were handled in Executive Session.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TWO ITEMS:**

140-19 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH CARMELO MENDEZ, PPA MINOR #1.

141-19 MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH CARMELO MENDEZ, PPA MINOR #2.

PASSED WITH TWELVE (12) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, DEFILIPPO, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, SULIMAN, AND MARTINEZ) AND SIX (6) OPPOSED: (NEWTON, MCBRIDE-LEE, LYONS, CRUZ, ROMAN-CHRISTY AND PEREIRA).

84-19 Ordinance Committee Report re: Resolution that an Ordinance be drafted requiring the Zoning Department to forward all Zoning & Zoning Board of Appeals Applications to City Council Members. CONT'D

Council Member Brown said that there was a "Now Therefore be it resolved" phrase indicates that the Council can determine the signage size. The Council does not have jurisdiction over the signage. That falls within the Zoning regulations and can only be changed by the Planning and Zoning Commission. This phrase should be stricken from the resolution.

Council Member Brown said that notifying the Council Members within 3 days is not possible because Mr. Buckley does not often have the full list until a month after the application is submitted.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 84-19 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION THAT AN ORDINANCE BE DRAFTED REQUIRING THE ZONING DEPARTMENT TO FORWARD ALL ZONING & ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS APPLICATIONS TO CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

Council Member Pereira said [inaudible] people fill out a two page application and that application should be sent to the Council Members. [Inaudible] She said that the Council Members need to know about this so they can come out and support or oppose the application.

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 84-19 PASSED WITH SIXTEEN (16) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, LYONS, ROMAN-CHRISTY, MCBRIDE-LEE, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, NEWTON, SULIMAN, AND MARTINEZ) AND TWO (2) OPPOSED (DEFILIPPO AND PEREIRA).**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON:

85-19 Ordinance Committee Report re: Resolution that an ordinance be drafted regarding Bonding and Long-Term Debt, DENIED.

Council Member Brown said that this item was submitted to the Ordinance Committee and the Committee denied it. A vote in favor of the motion indicated that the Council Member agreed with the Committee's recommendation. A vote in opposition indicated that the Council Member did not agree with the Committee's recommendation.

Council Member Pereira said that the Committee vote was a tie and Council Member Brown had broken the tie as a Chair. Council Member Pereira said that if there was excess funding from an abandoned project, the City Council must be notified within 30 days and the funding used to pay down debt. She said that she did not see why providing information to the Council in a timely matter was so difficult.

Council Member Newton said that these items had already been brought to the Council's attention. The Council may approve a project that is delayed. They receive the information on the projects every time they approve bonding.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN MOVED TO APPROVE THE DENIAL OF AGENDA ITEM 85-19 ORDINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION THAT AN ORDINANCE BE DRAFTED REGARDING BONDING AND LONG-TERM DEBT.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 85-19 PASSED WITH SIXTEEN (16) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, CASTILLO, ROMAN-CHRISTY, MCBRIDE-LEE, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, NEWTON, SULIMAN, AND MARTINEZ) AND THREE (3) OPPOSED (DEFILIPPO, LYONS AND PEREIRA).**

90-19 Public Safety and Transportation Committee Report re: Resolution requesting that the City Council supports and authorizes if and as necessary, the City Administration procuring reasonable and necessary COVID-19 testing equipment directly with City funds, up to the amount of appropriated funds available for such purpose.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER CASTILLO MOVED TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEM 90-19 PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT RE:**

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTS AND AUTHORIZES IF AND AS NECESSARY, THE CITY ADMINISTRATION PROCURING REASONABLE AND NECESSARY COVID-19 TESTING EQUIPMENT DIRECTLY WITH CITY FUNDS, UP TO THE AMOUNT OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR SUCH PURPOSE.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

149-19 Resolution presented by Council Member(s) Pereira & Co-Sponsors Cruz, DeFilippo & Castillo re: Proposed resolution for the Director of Health & Social Services to attend an Ordinance Committee Meeting, referred to Ordinance Committee.

Council President Nieves said that she had received an email from the City Attorney's Office and their recommendation was that this item should not be referred to the Ordinance Committee. She said that they would have to suspend the rules to add to the agenda for immediate consideration. Then the Council can vote on the item. The previous vote at the last meeting was not taken correctly. There are currently grievances on the item.

Mayor Ganim said that he had never seen unfinished business on the agenda. Atty. Anastasi said that there was not a favorable vote to send it to Committee. The Council can waive the referral to Committee.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT NIEVES MOVED TO ADD THE FOLLOWING ITEM TO THE AGENDA FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION AND TO WAIVE REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE IN ORDER TO ACT ON IT:**

149-19 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) PEREIRA & CO-SPONSORS CRUZ, DEFILIPPO & CASTILLO RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES TO ATTEND AN ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, REFERRED TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO ADD AGENDA ITEM 149-19 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) PEREIRA & CO-SPONSORS CRUZ, DEFILIPPO & CASTILLO RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES TO ATTEND AN ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, REFERRED TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION AND TO WAIVE REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE PASSED WITH EIGHTEEN (18) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, DEFILIPPO, CASTILLO, ROMAN-CHRISTY, MCBRIDE-LEE, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, NEWTON, PEREIRA, SULIMAN, AND MARTINEZ) AND ONE (1) ABSTENTION (LYONS).**

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT NIEVES MOVED TO DENY AGENDA ITEM 149-19 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) PEREIRA & CO-SPONSORS CRUZ, DEFILIPPO & CASTILLO RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES TO ATTEND AN ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, REFERRED TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Cruz said that he saw that they were at the end of the agenda. Mayor Ganim said that all the previous items had been considered.

Council Member Cruz said he reached out to the new Health Director and discussed his concerns. He said that he would like to remove his name from the resolution. He was not here to tell her how to run the department.

Council Member Newton thanked the Ordinance Committee for understanding that it was not the City Council's job to interfere with Labor Relations. It is the right move to deny this item and the Council is not like the BOE.

Council Member Pereira said that Roberts Rules of Order does not allow for a negative motion to be made. The motion must be made in affirmative and fail to pass.

Council Member Martinez said that she was Co-chair of Ordinance and that the Council should not take on Labor Relation issues. She said that they have Labor Relations, CHRO and a variety of other resources for dealing with issues.

**** THE MOTION TO DENY AGENDA ITEM 149-19 RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY COUNCIL MEMBER(S) PEREIRA & CO-SPONSORS CRUZ, DEFILIPPO & CASTILLO RE: PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR THE DIRECTOR OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES TO ATTEND AN ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING, REFERRED TO ORDINANCE COMMITTEE FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION AND TO WAIVE REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE PASSED WITH FIFTEEN (15) IN FAVOR (BURNS, MCCARTHY, CRUZ, TAYLOR-MOYE, BROWN, BRANTLEY, HERRON, CASTILLO, ROMAN-CHRISTY, MCBRIDE-LEE, SILVA, VALLE, NIEVES, NEWTON, AND MARTINEZ); TWO (2) OPPOSED (PEREIRA AND DEFILIPPO) AND TWO (2) ABSTENTION (LYONS AND SULIMAN).**

Council Member McBride-Lee said that this summer they had a hard time with summer camp. She thanked the Mayor for his help for looking out for the children. School started today and she asked that everyone pray for those in the classrooms.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE-LEE MOVED TO ADJOURN.
** COUNCIL MEMBER NEWTON SECONDED.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services