



Appointments & Briefings

July 16, 2013 – 7:00 PM – **Agenda**

City Council Chamber, Room 214, Municipal Building

****View Minutes ****

1. Citizens Input Time – Not to exceed the first thirty (30) minutes of the meeting.
 - 1a. Conrad St. Gelais, 137 Dawson Street, New Bedford, MA, 02745, speaking on trash violations.
 - 1b. Donna Motta, P.O. Box 939, Assonet, MA, 02702, speaking on a City-wide social media campaign geared towards community involvement and small business development.
 - 1c. Diane Bolton, 49 Orchard Street, New Bedford, MA, 02740, speaking on vicious dogs, regarding the attack on a toddler in the City and the lack of law enforcement regarding the leashing/tagging of dogs.

INVITEES: Conrad St. Gelais; Donna Motta; Diane Bolton

2. REPORT, Committee on Appointments & Briefings recommending to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of ROBERT SCHILLING, New Bedford, MA 02740, to the NEW BEDFORD HOUSING AUTHORITY, replacing Reverend Leona Fisher, whose term has expired; this term will expire December 2014. (Ref'd 3/27/13)

INVITEES: Robert Schilling

3. Communication, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of MANDY ABOUCHANAB, New Bedford, MA 02746, to the HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION, replacing Reverend Richard Wilson, whose term has expired; this term will expire in December 2014. (Ref'd 12/20/12, 2/19/13 – tabled, applicant not present, 3/21/13 – tabled)

INVITEES: Mandy Abouchanab

4. COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of **Noel P. Ciminello, 22 Shannon Way, North Dartmouth, MA 02747 d/b/a/ YES! WE VAN LLC., 167 Butler Street, New Bedford, MA 02740**, hereby submit a copy of the Application requesting a **NEW** Private Livery License, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 159A, Section 1 and amendments thereto, and M.G.L. Chapter 270, Section 22 (Smoke Free Workplace Law) and all other laws applicable to such operation, to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford. (Ref'd 5/23/13)

INVITEES: Noel P. Ciminello

5. Related Motion, Councillor Lopes, requesting that Paul Sellers, Senior Arborist Vegetation Management for NSTAR be invited to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting to discuss NSTAR tree and power line maintenance policies and provide a list of all the Contractors that NSTAR uses. (Ref'd 3/8/12)

INVITEES: NSTAR Vegetation Management/Senior Arborist Paul Sellers

6. Written Motion, Councillors Lawrence, Lopes, Bousquet, Martins and Gonsalves, requesting that Mayor Mitchell and City Solicitor Markey immediately place a Cease and Desist Order on the selling of Butler's Flat Lighthouse until the ownership of said Lighthouse can be proven. (Ref'd 6/13/13)

INVITEES: Representative of the Mayor Christina Connelly; City Solicitor John A. Markey; Harbor Development Commission Executive Director Jeff Stieb; GSA Public Affairs Officer Patrick Sclafani

7. Written Motion, Councillor Gonsalves, requesting on behalf of the residents of Rotch Street, between Union Street and Hawthorn Street, that SRTA bus route be moved from Rotch Street, in light of the extension of bus service into the evening hours. (Ref'd 5/9/13)

INVITEES: Area residents

8. Written Motion, requesting that the City Council consider the DISCONTINUANCE of a portion of KENYON STREET on the west side of North Front Street, running westerly to its' terminus along the side of lots 113 and 112 as shown on the Assessor's Map. (Ref'd 2/9/12)

INVITEES: Acting City Planner Jill Maclean; City Engineer Dave Fredette

9. Written Motion, Councillors Bousquet, Duarte and Gonsalves, requesting that the AHA! Steering Committee consider taking up an application in order to make Downtown New Bedford a designated Cultural District as defined by the State of Massachusetts in order to qualify the Downtown area for several tax incentives to small businesses, preserve and re-use historic buildings and enhance property values, and tourist outreach, all while fostering local cultural development in a district where it makes much sense to take advantage of this opportunity. (Ref'd 3/22/12)

INVITEES: Aha! Steering Committee Co-Chairpersons Tracy Furtado and Stacie Charbonneau-Hess

10. Written Motion, Councillors Coelho, Martins, Gonsalves, Alves, and Lopes, requesting that New Bedford School Department Superintendent, Mary Louise Francis, Ed. D., attend a meeting of the Committee on Appointments and Briefings to discuss why the New Bedford School System has only one drop-out specialist, considering the high drop-out rate in our City. (Ref'd 6/23/11)

INVITEES: Superintendent of Public Schools Pia Durkin

Chairman suggests taking "No Further Action", on the following items:

11. Written Motion, Councillor Duarte, requesting that the Committees and Briefings meet with the EPA, Representatives of CLEAN, Environmental Stewardship, the Administration and the Housing Authority to discuss the Parker Street dump site and the affect it has had on Westlawn Housing Development and the surrounding areas. (Ref'd 4/14/11)

12. Written Motion, Councillor Duarte, requesting that Representatives of NOAA, meet with the Committee on Appointments & Briefings to discuss/explain our concerns with our local Fishermen and their families and further requesting that our local fishermen be invited to said meeting. (Ref'd 5/12/11)

13. COMMUNICATION, Councillor Gonsalves, submitting letter from Joyce Rowley, New Bedford, MA regarding the Buttonwood Zoo Expansion. (Ref'd 8/18/11)

14. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Martins, Alves, Dehner, Lopes, Gonsalves, Coelho, Lawrence, Duarte and Council President Gomes, requesting that Department of Public Facilities Commissioner Lawrence D. Worden and Department of Public Infrastructure Commissioner Ronald Labelle, be invited to a Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting, to discuss when Mayor Lang's tree replacement plans will be put into place, which is the replacement of two (2) trees for every one (1) tree lost during Tropical Storm Irene; and further, that the Committee be provided with a list of trees that were removed due to the storm, by street address. (Ref'd 9/8/11, 10/18/12 - Letters)

15. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillors Alves and Martins, requesting, on behalf of the Bus Riders United, Coalition for Social Justice, the City's elderly and the working people of New Bedford who rely on public transportation, that the City Council support an increase in public transportation, specifically, that SRTA consider increasing the current level of bus service by offering bus service on Sunday, Holidays and Evenings as necessary for improving the access to and the quality of public transportation in Southeastern Massachusetts, currently bus service does not run past 6:00 p.m., there has

not been evening service since the 1960's, SRTA does not provide Sunday or Holiday bus service at all, this lack of service has left many bus riders without needed transportation for employment, especially in these difficult economic times. (Ref'd 9/8/11)

16. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Duarte, requesting, that NSTAR/Electric Company, be invited to a Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting to discuss the efforts in restoring power to City Residents during a storm situation and what can be done to restore power in a quicker manner; and further, requesting information about plans of upgrading infrastructure in the City of New Bedford. (Ref'd 9/8/11)

17. Written Motion, Councillors Alves, and Duarte, requesting, on behalf of the residents of Olympia Towers, that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meet with representatives of First Transit of Cincinnati, the Southeastern Regional Transit Authority in our area, to determine what their intentions are as to night and weekend service, and to discuss the problem many elders have had when trying to get on a bus in the past with shopping push carts. (Ref'd 10/13/11)

18. Related Motion, Councillor Morad requesting that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meet in Executive Session with Marianna DeSouza, Director of Public health, to address the City Council as it relates to her daily direction and interaction with the Health Inspectors; and further requesting that Angela Natho, Director of Personnel, be invited to Executive Session Meeting. (Ref'd 10/27/11)

19. Written Motion, Councillor Gonsalves, Lopes, and Alves, on behalf of Darrin Ramos, 324 Brock Avenue, requesting to address the City Council at the next Committee on Appointments & Briefings meeting, relative to the installation of a BMX Pump Track located in the City of New Bedford. (Ref'd 10/27/11)

20. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Alves, requesting that the Committee on Appointments & Briefings meet with DPI Commissioner Ronald Labelle and Mr. Joseph Mello and any other Representatives of Mar-Lee's Seafood facility to discuss the problem and potential solution to the excessive flooding at said facility during rain storms and that the committee meeting be scheduled as soon as possible to ensure the problem does not become a safety issue in the area of North Front Street and Wamsutta Street in the upcoming months. (Ref'd 11/10/11)

21. Written Motion, Council President Gomes, requesting that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meet with State Representative Keiko Orrall, to discuss any issues/concerns regarding the City and the Commonwealth; and further, requesting that the Chairman place this item on the next Committee on Appointments and Briefings agenda. (Ref'd 11/22/11)