



# *Appointments & Briefings*

September 24, 2013 – 7:00 PM – **Minutes**  
City Council Chamber, Room 214, Municipal Building

**\*\*View Agenda \*\***

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS**  
**DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2013**  
**TIME: 7:05 P.M.**  
**PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214, MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS DENIS LAWRENCE, JR., CHAIRMAN; HENRY BOUSQUET; DEBORA COELHO (7:25); BRUCE DUARTE, JR.; BRIAN GOMES; JANE GONSALVES (7:07); JOSEPH LOPES (7:40); STEVEN MARTINS; JAMES OLIVEIRA; JOHN SAUNDERS**

**ABSENT: COUNCILLOR DAVID ALVES, VICE-CHAIRMAN**

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Councillor Lawrence called the meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read memo's from Councillors Gonsalves and Lopes stating they will be late in attending tonight's meeting and a memo from Councillor Alves stating he would not be in attendance into the record and were received and placed on file by Councillor Martins and seconded by Councillor Oliveira.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of LEO SCHICK, New Bedford, MA 02740, to the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, as an ASSOCIATE (ALTERNATE) MEMBER, replacing Arthur Glassman who has resigned; this term will expire December 2017 (Ref'd 7/18/13) was received and placed on file by Councillor Martins and seconded by Councillor Oliveira. (1)

Councillor Martins asked Mr. Schick why he would like to serve on this Board. Mr. Schick responded that he has served on several Boards of non-profit organizations and is very interested in helping the city in which he grew up and continues to live in.

On motion by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Martins, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of LEO SCHICK, New Bedford, MA 02740, to the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS, as an ASSOCIATE (ALTERNATE) MEMBER, replacing Arthur Glassman who resigned; this term will expire December 2017.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of COLLEEN PINA-GARRON, New Bedford, MA 02740, to the CONSERVATION COMMISSION, replacing Robert Morris, whose term has expired; this term will expire June 2015. (Ref'd 7/18/13) (2)

Councillor Lawrence announced that Colleen Pina Garron is sick and will not be in attendance this evening.

On motion by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Martins, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of GARY A. CORREIA, New Bedford, MA 02745, to the AIRPORT COMMISSION, replacing Michael Knabbe whose term has expired; this term will expire December 2014. (Ref'd 7/18/13) (3)

Councillor Oliveira informed the Committee that Mr. Correia would be late in attending tonight's meeting.

On motion by Councillor Saunders and seconded by Councillor Oliveira, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of **Lisa F. DeFrias, 875 Old Plainville Road, Unit C, New Bedford, MA 02745 d/b/a/ BLUE MOON LIMOUSINE, 875 Old Plainville Road, Unit C, New Bedford, MA 02745**, 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. (License previously granted in 12/2011.) (Ref'd 8/13/13) (4)

Councillor Lawrence announced that Ms. DeFrias would be late also.

On motion by Councillor Duarte and seconded by Councillor Saunders, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Lawrence, requesting that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meet with Fire Chief Gomes and a Representative of the Mayor's office to explain the strategy in place, if any, to retain the SAFER Grant Firefighters; and if a plan is not in place, when will the Administration begin layoffs for the positions unfunded in the Fiscal 2014 Budget, as it is this Council's understanding that the money was to have run out mid-September 2013 (Ref'd 9/12/13) was received and placed on file by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Saunders. (5)

The Clerk read a letter into the record from Ari Sky, CFO, stating he would not be in attendance and it was received and placed on file by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Duarte.

Councillor Gonsalves took the Chair so Councillor Lawrence could debate from the floor.

Councillor Lawrence stated that Mr. Sky's letter basically says nothing more than they are "waiting to see what happens with the grant", and does not tell us where the money will come from should the grant be denied.

Chief Gomes explained that the grant has been submitted and has even made it to the second phase of review in DC.

Bill Cabral, President of the Fire Fighters' Union concurred with the Chief stating that they are cautiously optimistic that the grant will be awarded and are confident in the case they made via the grant application.

On motion by Councillor Lawrence and seconded by Councillor Duarte, the Committee VOTED: That CFO Ari Sky provide this Committee with a detailed contingency plan explaining how the 70 firefighters

currently funded through the SAFER Grant will be funded if/when the Grant is not approved and where those funds will come from. This motion passed on a voice vote.

On the question, Councillor Lawrence expressed frustration that the Administration is not communicating anything to the Council about this at all. Councillor Gomes agreed with those comments, as did Councillor Saunders

On a Related Motion by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Coelho, the Committee VOTED: That the Committee on Appointments & Briefings send letters to the city's congressional Delegation in DC asking them to please do whatever they possibly can to support the city's application for the SAFER Grant. This motion passed on a voice vote.

On a Related Motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Gomes, the Committee VOTED: That CFO Ari Sky, provide the City Council with a complete financial analysis of the New Bedford Fire Department including the number of potential layoffs the department will be forced to do should the grant be denied, as well as a 1 to 3 year financial plan for the entire department. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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On motion by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Coelho, the Committee VOTED: To remove item three (3) from the table. This motion passed on a voice vote.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of GARY A. CORREIA, New Bedford, MA 02745, to the AIRPORT COMMISSION, replacing Michael Knabbe whose term has expired; this term will expire December 2014 (Ref'd 7/18/13) was received and placed on file by Councillor Duarte and seconded by Councillor Bousquet. (3)

Councillor Oliveira asked Gary Correia to explain his thoughts on how the new runway project will benefit Economic Development for New Bedford. Mr. Correia stated that with the increased safety zones, the runways can handle more planes of different varieties: corporate, cargo, commercial, etc. This will increase traffic in businesses of the city. Mr. Correia also explained his background and experience as an aviator in the military and commercial companies such as US Airways and JetBlue.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Gomes, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of GARY A. CORREIA, New Bedford, MA 02745, to the AIRPORT COMMISSION, replacing Michael Knabbe whose term has expired; this term will expire December 2014. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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On motion by Councillor Saunders and seconded by Councillor Martins, the Committee VOTED: To remove item number four (4) from the table. This motion passed on a voice vote.

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of **Lisa F. DeFrias, 875 Old Plainville Road, Unit C, New Bedford, MA 02745 d/b/a/ BLUE MOON LIMOUSINE, 875 Old Plainville Road, Unit C, New Bedford, MA 02745**, 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 (License previously granted in 12/2011.) (Ref'd 8/13/13) was received and placed on file by Councillor Saunders and seconded by Councillor Duarte. (4)

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Duarte, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council on behalf of **Lisa F. DeFrias, 875 Old Plainville Road, Unit C, New Bedford, MA 02745 d/b/a/ BLUE MOON LIMOUSINE, 875 Old Plainville Road, Unit C, New Bedford, MA 02745**, APPROVAL 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. (License previously granted in 12/2011.) This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Public Hearing, on an APPLICATION/PETITION, I.O.M.C. IRON ORDER MOTOR CYCLE CLUB, 812 Kempton Street, New Bedford, MA 02740, for a SPECIAL PERMIT FOR A CLUB OR LODGE – Non-Profit, at 812 Kempton Street (Duly advertised in the Standard-Times on Monday, September 16, 2013 and Monday, September 23, 2013) was received and placed on file by Councillor Saunders and seconded by Councillor Martins. (6)

Councillor Lawrence opened the Public Hearing. Letters from Rita Arruda, City Clerk, stating she would not be in attendance and Councillor Bruce Duarte recusing himself from the vote due to the fact that he is an abutter, were read into the record and received and placed on file by Councillor Saunders and seconded by Councillor Coelho.

Speaking in favor was Mr. Robert Cabral, President of the Motorcycle Club, who lives at 370 Park Street, New Bedford. He explained that the club would simply be a place for the seven (7) members and their wives to hang out. The club sponsors several benefits for various organizations. He himself is a High School Teacher and he stressed that they are not a “gang” or in any way violent or involved in any illegal activity.

Recorded in favor were the following people: Tom Colby of Jamestown, RI; Lynn Sousa of Lakeville, MA; Tim Christiansen of East Freetown, MA; Angeles Montalvo of New Bedford, MA; John Sousa of Lakeville, MA; Sergio DeFaria of Providence, RI; Christine Varella of New Bedford, MA; Karen Trianni of Lakeville, MA; Brenda Benique of New Bedford, MA; Courtney Entwistle of Providence, RI; Kerrie Barrington of Jamestown, RI

No one spoke or was recorded in opposition. The hearing was closed.

A question arose as to whether or not the abutters actually received the certified letters that were sent out as no one responded or attended.

On motion by Councillor Coelho and seconded by Councillor Oliveira, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter to October 15, 2013 Appointments & Briefings Meeting, in order to confirm whether or not abutters received notice of the public hearing. This motion passed on a roll call vote of Yeas 8, Nays 1, with Councillor Bousquet opposed and Councillor Duarte abstaining from voting.

Councillor Gonsalves made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Saunders.

This meeting adjourned @ 8:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Clerk of Committees