



# Appointments and Briefings

July 15, 2014 – 7:00 PM – **Revised Agenda**  
Chambers of the City Council, Room 214

**\*\*View Minutes\*\***

1. Citizen's Input Time – Not to exceed the first thirty (30) minutes of the meeting.
- 1a. Jacqueline Pina, 325 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02740, speaking on water meters.

***INVITEES: Jacqueline Pina***

2. Continued Public Hearing, on a COMMUNICATION/DEMOLITION, New Bedford Historical Commission, to City Council, re: BUILDING DEMOLITION REVIEW, 4026 ACUSHNET AVENUE, Map 136, Parcel 252, advising that “the structure was built circa 1800 and retains some of its original exterior architectural features including setting and massing; the structure is associated with members of the Tobey family who were early settlers of Old Dartmouth; the subject structure is reminiscent of a “Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn” farm complex found in many colonial American communities; the structure is found to be historically significant because of its historical representative of New Bedford’s early rural character and therefore, “the NBHC has determined that 4026 Acushnet Avenue is a historically significant structure and preferably preserved.” (Ref’d 5/22/14, advertised in the Standard-Times on Tuesday, June 3, 2014, 6/17/14 – hearing continued until 7/15/14) ***To be continued to a date specific in August as the Petitioner is out of the Country (will be re-advertised)***

***INVITEES: New Bedford Historical Commission Chairperson Diana Henry; City Planner Jill Maclean; Preservation Planner Anne Louro; DIS Commissioner Danny Romanowicz***

3. 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, 7/16/13 - tabled)

***INVITEES: NSTAR Vegetation Management/Senior Arborist Paul Sellers***

4. Written Motion, Councillor Gomes, requesting, that a Representative from the Mayor’s Office, Temporary City Planner Jill Maclean and Preservation Planner Anne Louro, meet with the Committee on City Property to discuss exactly what the future plans are at this present time to address the Congdon House at Hazelwood Park that has for some time gone with no plans of action, which is only deteriorating more and more as year pass, there is a historical significance to this building that should be preserved for the City of New Bedford. (Ref’d 4/11/13)

***INVITEES: Rep. of the Mayor Christina Connelly; City Planner Jill Maclean; Preservation Planner Anne Louro***

5. Written Motions, Councillors Lopes, Martins, Alves, Gonsalves, Oliveira, Lawrence, Bousquet and Council President Duarte, requesting that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, meet with a Representative of the Mayor’s Office and the Director of Parks and Recreations, Mary Rapoza, to

discuss the feasibility of establishing a “Crowd funding” campaign as a means of soliciting private funds to maintain the level of year round programs across our City. (Ref’d 6/13/13)

***INVITEES: Rep. of the Mayor Christina Connelly; Parks and Recreations Director Mary Rapoza***

6. Written Motion, Councillors Lopes and Martins, requesting that the Director of Parks and Recreation, notify the Council in writing, of the policy changes regarding the granting of Special Permits. (Ref’d 12/19/13)
- 6a. Communication/E-mail, Parks and Recreations Director Mary Rapoza, RE: Special Permit Event Process. (Rec’d 6/4/14, copy all Councillors, attachments)

***INVITEES: Parks and Recreations Director Mary Rapoza***

7. Written Motion, Councillors Coelho, Alves, Morad, Carney, Martins, Gomes and Bousquet, given that the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council decided in 2010, to **NOT** fund recreational project in the final round of its grants, projects like the 2.1 million for Riverside Park in the City’s North End, which included the restoration of the 1.5 miles of North End shoreline, the installation of a pedestrian walkway, a boat house and boat ramp among other projects, requesting, that members of the New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council be invited to a Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting to discuss what, if any future plans or recommendations they have for that site and to update the City Council on said matter. (Ref’d 1/23/14)

***INVITEES: New Bedford Harbor Trustee Council Members***

8. Written Motion, Councillor Lopes, requesting, that DPI Commissioner Labelle, on behalf of the property owners on Jenkins Street and Bolton Street, review the City’s Engineering changes made to the sewer interceptor, eighteen months ago, which is now causing multiple homes on Jenkins Street and Bolton Street to be flooded with raw sewage; and further, requesting, that DPI Commissioner Labelle provide this Councillor with copies of the existing plan on file for the said intersection, along with the City Engineering plans and a timeline for the corrections of the problem. (Ref’d 8/16/12, 12/10/13 – Remain in Committee)

***INVITEES: DPI Commissioner Ron Labelle***

9. Written Motion, Councillors Coelho, Bousquet and Gonsalves, once again, requesting, that the Mayor’s Office look into hiring a “Baby Advocate” for the City of New Bedford to address the needs of the growing baby population in the City, the advocate would assess the needs of both mothers and babies and bring in, if necessary, State agencies to provide proper services for the wellbeing and safety of the City’s babies and possibly obtain grants or needed funding for the vital assistance needed for the welfare of these children; and further, requesting that Diane Bolton be invited to a Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting, along with Cynthia Wallquist, Department of Community Services Director, to discuss if the City can add a person or have someone pick up this work as a Baby Advocate for the City. (Ref’d 3/14/13, 2/19/14 – tabled, letters)

***INVITEES: Diane Bolton; Rep. of the Mayor Christina Connelly***

***Chairman suggests “Following the Recommended Action”, on the following:***

10. Written Motion, Councillor Alves and Lopes, requesting, on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne S. Martin, that the City Council change the Zoning of the Vacant Lot Property they own (City Plot 16-Lot 140 and

Plot 14-Lot 223) being approximately 16,000 square feet, from Residential to Mixed-Use Business. (Ref'd 6/26/14) *To be referred to the Ordinance Committee and the Planning Board*

*Chairman suggests "Following the Recommended Action", on the following:*

11. Written Motion, Councillor Coelho, requesting, that in light of the recent incidents where the theft of copper resulted in dangerous house fires, that the Committee on Ordinance revisit the existing Ordinances, Chapter 15, License and Permits; Business Regulations, Section 33-51, in order to strengthen the guidelines and the enforcement of same; and further, requesting that a representative from the Police Department attend the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting to inform the Council as to what is being done in other communities regarding this problem. (Ref'd 5/23/13) *Refer to the Committee on Ordinances*
  
12. Written Motion, Councillor Martins, requesting, that the Committee on Finance meet with a representative of the MIS Department, City Auditor, CFO and City Treasurer for the purpose of having the City of New Bedford's checkbook placed online for all taxpayers and Citizens to view; and further, that the City has a large budget, monies being transferred, items being bought and salaries being paid for that although the City Budget is posted on the web, it's not easy to follow and doesn't give them the information needed to follow the monies being spent, nor the access to see what they pay for and what we do with City funds; and further; that this process would increase transparency of local government and we should have our books open to the public to show the people of New Bedford what is being done with their tax dollars; and further, this process should include the School Department's budget, especially during times like these when so many Citizens and taxpayers want answers to their questions and rightfully so. (Ref'd 5/9/13, 2/19/14 - tabled) *Refer to the Committee on Finance*