



Appointments and Briefings

May 26, 2015 – 7:07 PM – **Minutes**
Chambers of the City Council, Room 214

MEETING: COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS
DATE: MAY 26, 2015
TIME: 7:07 P.M.
PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214, MUNICIPAL BUILDING

PRESENT: COUNCILLORS DAVID ALVES, CHAIRMAN; DEBORA COELHO, VICE-CHAIRPERSON; HENRY BOUSQUET; NAOMI CARNEY; BRIAN GOMES; JOSEPH LOPES (7:08); LINDA MORAD; JAMES OLIVEIRA; DANA REBEIRO; KERRY WINTERSON

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR STEVEN MARTINS

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Councillor Alves called the Appointments & Briefings Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read a Communication from Councillor Lopes explaining that he would be late in attending tonight's meeting due to a previously scheduled work commitment, and a Communication from Councillor Martins explaining his absence from tonight's meeting due to a prior commitment. These Communications were received and placed on file by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Carney.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Communication, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of SEAN COLLINS, Westport, MA to the New Bedford Airport Commission, replacing James Reid, this term will expire December 2016; further requesting a WAIVER OF RESIDENCY to enable him to serve; Mr. Collins' nomination as a New Bedford Regional Airport Commission member is submitted in consideration of airport stakeholders' expressed desire to have greater representation from the general aviation community on the Commission (Ref'd 04/23/15) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Oliveira. (1)

Sean Collins of 4 Romano Village Drive, Westport, MA, was present to answer questions from the Committee.

Councillor Rebeiro asked Mr. Collins of his qualifications and he gave an extensive briefing of his background as a pilot and as a representative for a number of airlines in the area. He believes that these are qualifications that would assist the Airport Commission.

Councillor Oliveira asked Mr. Collins how he found out about the appointment. He explained that he was approached by the Airport Manager who made him aware of it and openly reached out to him to see if he would be interested in serving on the Commission due to his level of experience as a pilot. Councillor Oliveira asked what he sees as the challenges for pilots and fixed base operators. Mr. Collins explained that they are the same across the nation there is a declining pilot population and that he would work to try to get those numbers up specific to New Bedford. He also said that the airport operations are decreasing but with his experience he can help it to grow with the resources he knows and would be a valuable asset to the airport.

Councilor Oliveira also asked Mr. Collins what he believes the long range health with the airport progressing in the next five years. Mr. Collins explained that this is an important time demand for air travel as it is increasing and he will work to get companies to expand their operations as it related to the New Bedford Airport.

Councillor Winterson explained that he is a stickler on waiver of residencies but he was impressed with his resume and is pleased with the appointment.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Bousquet, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of SEAN COLLINS, Westport, MA to the New Bedford Airport Commission, replacing James Reid, this term will expire December 2016 and GRANTING a one (1) Year WAIVER OF RESIDENCY, to go along with the appointment. 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 MEGHAN KISH, New Bedford, MA, 02740, to the HISTORICAL COMMISSION, as an Alternate Member, replacing Jennifer White Gonsalves Smith whose term has expired; this term will expire March 2018 (Ref'd 03/26/15, 04/14/15 - tabled) was removed from the table by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro. (2)

Ms. Kish was present to answer questions from the Committee.

Councillor Rebeiro asked Ms. Kish about her interest in the Commission. She explained that she has been a member of the National Park Service for ten years and is interested in the National Parks and preservation.

On motion by Councillor Winterson and seconded by Councillor Bousquet, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of MEGHAN KISH, New Bedford, MA 02740 to the HISTORICAL COMMISSION, as an Alternate Member, replacing Jennifer White Gonsalves Smith whose term has expired; this term will expire March 2018. 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 JENNIFER CLARKE, New Bedford, MA, 02740, to the HISTORICAL COMMISSION, as an Alternative Member, replacing Anne Louro; this term with expire March 2018. (Ref'd 03/26/15, 4/14/15 - tabled)

The Clerk informed the Committee that they received a phone call today explaining that Ms. Clark recently had surgery and would not be in attendance this evening, however, she is still interested in the appointment.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To table this matter for thirty (30) days. 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 Michael Souza, d/b/a SOUZA TRANSPORTATION, 91 Clifford Street, 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 (Ref'd 04/23/15) was received and placed on file by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Winterson. (4)

Michael Souza of 91 Clifford Street was present to answer questions from the Committee.

Councillor Winterson asked Mr. Souza about what kind of operation he would be having. He was told it would be a private student transportation van. He explained that he has done this work for other similar companies for the past five to six years, but is branching out on his own.

Councillor Morad asked how many vans does he have, and where he would park them. He told her that right now it would be one passenger van which he would park in his driveway at home; it is a ten (10) passenger van. He would be backing the van into his driveway so as not to activate the backing up sensor. He would be leaving his home around 6:30 a.m.

Councillor Carney asked how many passengers would be in the van. Mr. Souza informed her there would be eight (8) students and a chaperone and the driver.

Councillor Bousquet asked if he was going to expand the business at some point, and he replied that he would like to but nothing is certain, he would like to see how it goes with just one van for now.

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Winterson, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL on behalf of Michael Souza, d/b/a SOUZA TRANSPORTATION, 91 Clifford Street, New Bedford, MA 02745, of an Application requesting a NEW Private Livery License, under the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 159A, Section 1 and amendment

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. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Gomes, requesting that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, or the Committee on City Property meet with the New Bedford Veterans Council along with Dog Tags Navigator, Inc., the Commander of Andrews Dahill, VFW Post 1531, and one of the founding members of the Veterans Council, for the purposes of accommodating their Outreach Veterans Program, and to also assists thirty to forty Veterans families per month with VA benefit claims and this would give them a permanent location for their Outreach Programs (Ref'd 11/13/14, tabled until next meeting 04/14/15) was removed from the table by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Winterson. (5)

On motion by Councillor Gomes and seconded by Councillor Winterson, the Committee VOTED: To take "No Further Action" on this matter at this time. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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On motion by Councillor Bousquet and seconded by Councillor Rebeiro, the Committee VOTED: To table items six (6), seven (7), eight (8) and nine (9). This motion passed on a voice vote. They are as follows:

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillors Alves, Coelho, Morad, Oliveira, Carney, Gomes, Bousquet, Martins, Council President Lopes and Councillor Winterson, requesting, that the Administration reconsider the current allocation of trash collection containers used for trash collection allocated to duplex (side-by-side) homes which presents a problem different than the standard two-family homes in New Bedford, in that duplex units in most cases are independent with separate access entrances, driveways and in many cases, limited contact with neighbors, yet these facilities are only allocated ONE trash container for the building, making it a problem for placing trash in what would be considered "Your Neighbors" trash container. (Ref'd 06/12/14, 08/12/14 – Letter to the Administration asking for a written response, 03/31/15 – remain in Committee) (6)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillors Alves, Coelho, Morad, Carney and Gomes, requesting that the Administration provide the City Council with the names of City and Non-City individuals that were members of the "Trash Committee" that advised the Mayor and the Administration as to the new garbage pick-up service/system and who developed the rules, requirements and guidelines which were used in the development of the program implemented this week, and that the list be provided to the Chairman of the Committee on Appointments and Briefings within ten days so those members can be invited to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting at which the Trash program is scheduled to be discussed to brief the Council members on the process of being utilized and how it was developed; and further, that this request be followed-up by the Council Clerk within ten days. (Ref'd 06/26/14, 08/12/14 – Letter to the Administration asking for a written response, 03/31/15 – remain in Committee) (7)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Morad requesting, that six months from approval of the revised Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Ordinance and implementation of Chapter 17, Section 17-18, Non-Criminal Disposition of Violations of Certain Ordinances, that the City Council Committee on Appointments and Briefings be provided with a detailed listing of every fine issued in conjunction with said revised Ordinance and fee schedule, to include specific violation, a photograph of said violation and the final disposition of the item. (Ref'd 07/17/14, 03/31/15 – remain in Committee)
(8)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillor Carney, requesting, that the City address the trash situation on the City street, with the warm weather coming the City needs to be aware of the rodent issue that will occur if garbage is not removed and contained properly; and further, requesting that the City Council be informed of what measures the City is taking to remove the abundance of TV's, mattresses and other bulky items consistently piled on City streets. (Ref'd 04/09/15)
(9)

Councillor Morad made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Oliveira.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Clerk of Committees