



Committee on Public Safety & Neighborhoods

April 22, 2015– 7:00 PM - **Agenda**

Chambers of the City Council, City Hall, Room 214

1. Written Motion, Councillors Gomes and Martins, requesting that the Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods meet with any teachers and Security Resource Officers from New Bedford High School, or the three Middle Schools in the City for the purposes of discussing exactly what is going on in our schools, exactly how significant is the disruptive behavior and violence against student and teachers; and further, that the Committee also set up a meeting with the students for the purposes of getting their input on exactly what is their perspective on what is going on in our schools; and further that Lou St. John, President, New Bedford Educator's Association, also be invited to said meeting. (Ref'd 02/13/14)

INVITEES: New Bedford High School Acting Headmaster Bernadette Coelho; New Bedford High School's 11-12th Grade Principal Mr. Sean Woodard-McNiff; New Bedford High School's 9-10th Grade Principal Mr. Michael Lazzareschi; Keith Middle School Principal Peter J. Sykes; Normandin Middle School Principal Stephen Farrell; Roosevelt Middle School Principal Margaret Mongiello; New Bedford Educators Association President Lou St. John; School Resource Officer Supervisor Sgt. Samuel Ortega; Area School Resource Officers

2. Written Motion, Councillors Coelho and Lopes, requesting that the Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods, invite the Department of Public Infrastructure Commissioner Labelle, to a meeting for discussion of the current conditions of the restrooms/bathhouses at our public beaches and possible options for improving the conditions for the convenience of patrons visiting the beaches and for health concerns in the neighborhoods near the beaches. (Ref'd 07/18/13, 03/19/15 – remain in Committee)

INVITEES: DPI Commissioner Ron Labelle

3. Written Motion, Councillor Bousquet, Council President Lopes, Councillors Martins, Gomes, Coelho, Morad, Carney, Alves, Winterson, Rebeiro and Oliveira requesting, on behalf of the Citizens of New Bedford, that Chief of Police David Provencher and his Community Police force appear before the Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods to discuss their neighborhood by neighborhood strategy to quell the eruption of violence in the City. (Ref'd 06/26/14)

INVITEES: Chief of Police David Provencher; Community Police Force Members

4. Written Motion, Councillors Oliveira, Lopes, Council President Gomes, Martins, Winterson, Alves, Carney and Rebeiro, requesting that the New Bedford School Department consider assigning a daily crossing Guard or Flag person at all City schools to control traffic and hinder the high rates of speed the daily commuters continue to travel during school hours. (Ref'd 2/12/15)

INVITEES: New Bedford Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Pia Durkin; School Committee Vice-Chairman Bruce Oliveira

Chairman suggests "Following the Recommended Action" on the following item:

5. Written Motion, Councillor Lopes, requesting, that Police Chief David Provencher provide the City Council with an update as it relates to any and all issues that might arise from Governor Baker's decision to reduce the Shannon Anti-gang Grant by \$1.25 million across the Commonwealth; and further, requesting by what percentage of funds will New Bedford's award be reduced by. (Ref'd 2/12/15) ***Refer to the Police Chief***

Chairman suggests taking “No Further Action” on the following item:

6. Written Motion, Councillor Coelho, requesting that due to the neighborhood shootings which occurred on September 9, 2013, resulting in the lockdown of the Sgt. William Carney Academy, that Police Chief Provencher and a representative from the Mayor’s Office be invited to a Committee on Public Safety and Neighborhoods meeting to discuss when the Police Department is going to bring back Community Policing and to discuss the overall decline of New Bedford’s neighborhoods, this Councillor has received many constituent calls, there is a sense of fear in the City about gang activity, juveniles with weapons, graffiti vandalism and the deterioration of our City’s neighborhoods and people something done about this. (Ref’d 09/12/13)
7. Written Motion, Councillor Gomes, requesting an explanation from the Mayor’s Office and DPI Commissioner Ron Labelle, as to the location of the cameras that were supposed to be installed along Acushnet Avenue at the intersection of Coggeshall Street, these cameras would have assisted in two recent criminal assaults, one with a gun and one with a knife. These cameras could have helped in the immediate arrest of the suspects; and further, requesting that an appropriation be made to install surveillance cameras in any newly revitalized main intersection or in business areas to assist the Police Department in deterring crime such as what has occurred in the past two weekends and assist in public safety throughout the City; and also to assist law-enforcement in solving the many crimes that are committed. (Ref’d 06/26/14)
8. Written Motion Councillor Gomes, requesting, that the Mayor, Licensing Board and the Police Chief, favorably consider asking all the bars and liquor establishments along Acushnet Avenue and Belleville Avenue within an eight block radius, north and south, east and west of the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament location to close at midnight, on all four nights of the Feast giving law enforcement the ability to control the crowds and provide a safe area for all residents and tourists and those visiting the area for this special event. (Ref’d 8/21/14)