

NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

MEETING: COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS
DATE: MARCH 11, 2019
TIME: 7:00 P.M.
PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214, MUNICIPAL BUILDING

PRESENT: COUNCILLORS DEBORA COELHO, CHAIRPERSON; NAOMI CARNEY, VICE CHAIRPERSON; IAN ABREU; HUGH DUNN; MARIA GIESTA; SCOTT LIMA; JOSEPH LOPES; LINDA MORA; DANA REBEIRO (7:02)

ABSENT: COUNCILLORS BRIAN GOMES; WILLIAM BRAD MARKEY

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Councillor Coelho called the Appointments & Briefings Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. The Clerk read Communications from Councillors Gomes and Markey explaining their absence from the meeting. These Communications were received and placed on file by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Carney.

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The Chair announced the start of Citizens input time not to exceed the first half hour of this meeting. (1)

Ronald McKeon, 187 Durfee Street, speaking on Rehabilitation Centers. (Ref'd 1/14/19) (2/25/19-tabled) (1a)

Mr. McKeon was not present again for this meeting.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lopes, 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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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of PAUL CHASSE, New Bedford, MA to the REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, replacing Attorney Peter Paul, Jr., who has resigned; this term will expire July 2021 (Ref'd 11/20/18) (2/25/19-tabled) was removed from the table by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lopes. (2)

Paul Chasse, 25 James Street, New Bedford, MA, was present to answer questions from the Committee.

Councillor Lima asked about what he believes his accomplishments would be if he was on the Authority. He was told he has been familiarizing himself with the guidelines of this authority. Looking to see how the city will grow paying close attention to mixed use issues in the city as it relates to commercial and residential zoning. He was

approached by the Administration to serve on a Commission. He wanted the opportunity to give back to his community and thought with his real estate background, this authority would be a good fit. He is currently the President of the Southeastern Massachusetts Realtors Association.

Councillor Abreu asked if he felt his background in realty would help in this position and he was told yes. Councillor Abreu asked that since the Authority could meet during the day or evening, would this be an issue for him and he was told no.

Councillor Morad shared her concerns with the applicant that this authority has been non-existent in her fourteen (14) years on the Council. She asked when the Administration reached out to him for the position if they shared any pre-determined plans. She was told no, that he was approached late fall to see if he would be interested in the position and said he would be. She asked him if he would be willing to stand up for things that may be proposed by the Administration if he felt they were wrong, or would he be a rubber stamp. She was told he would not be a rubber stamp.

Councillor Lopes expressed similar concerns about the resurrection of this Authority. In his ten (10) years on the Council it was revived once for a short time. He cautioned the applicant that the Authority will be dealing with more than just land issues, that it also involves quality of life, wind and rail issues.

On motion by Councillor Dunn and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPOINTMENT of PAUL CHASSE, New Bedford, MA to the REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, replacing Attorney Peter Paul, Jr., who has resigned; this term will expire July 2021. 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 Pedro A. Medeiros, 1629 Padanaram Avenue New Bedford, MA 02744, d/b/a PETER'S BUS, INC. 1629 Padanaram Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02744, hereby submits a copy of the Application requesting a RENEWAL of a PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford (Current License expired 09/14/18.) (Ref'd 11/20/18) (2/11/19-tabled) was removed from the table by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Abreu. (3)

Pedro Medeiros, 1629 Padanaram Avenue, New Bedford, MA was present to answer questions from the Committee.

Councillor Morad asked why the six (6) month delay in renewing his licenses. She was told he renewed his license a few months ago. He said when he received a call from the City clerk's Office he came in and brought everything up to date. He was asked if he is aware of the new rules as it applies to livery licenses and he said he was. He explained he has been in business for thirty-two (32) years; he is a small bus company, he owns seven (7) yellow buses and four (4) vans. They are parked at the business property on Taylor Street.

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL on behalf of Pedro A. Medeiros, 1629 Padanaram Avenue New Bedford, MA 02744, d/b/a PETER'S BUS, INC. 1629 Padanaram Avenue, New Bedford, MA 02744, of the Application requesting a RENEWAL of a PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford. (Current License expired 09/14/18.) 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 Victor Garcia, 18 Walker Street, Apt 2W, New Bedford, MA 02746 d/b/a Victor Garcia, 18 Walker Street, Apt 2W, New Bedford, MA 02746, hereby submitting a copy of the Application requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford (Ref'd 1/24/19) (2/11/19-tabled) was removed from the table by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Lopes. (4)

Mr. Victor Garcia was not in attendance for the second time. He was called after the first meeting on 2/11/19 and he said he would be in attendance for the next meeting.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Abreu, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to take "No Further Action" on the COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of Victor Garcia, 18 Walker Street, Apt 2W, New Bedford, MA 02746 d/b/a Victor Garcia, 18 Walker Street, Apt 2W, New Bedford, MA 02746, hereby submitting a copy of the Application requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE 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 COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of Edward Pacheco, 188 Hixville Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747 d/b/a PLACES TO GO, LLC, 1 Wamsutta Street, New Bedford, MA 02745, hereby submitting a copy of the Application requesting a RENEWAL OF A PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford (Expired June 08, 2018.) (Ref'd 2/14/19) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Carney. (5)

Ed Pacheco, 1 Wamsutta Street, New Bedford, MA was present to answer questions from the Committee.

Councillor Morad asked Mr. Pacheco why he did not renew his license in June of 2018 when they expired. He said the City Clerk had the wrong business address and he was not receiving the notifications in the mail. He said that he was told the city made three (3) calls to him, he said he never got them, and he handles all the inhouse business calls. He has been in business for eight (8) years in the city. He thought the licenses were good for two years but was wrong. Councillor Morad expressed her frustration that the applicant was very vocal as the livery license ordinance was being rewritten and that you would think the applicant would know when his licenses were up and in need of renewal. She asked if the applicant was current on all city and state licenses, she was told yes.

Councillor Morad urged her colleagues to not approve the petition, that the kind of business the applicant is running shows disrespect to the city and the city needs to put a stop to those types of businesses. She believes that the City Clerk made all proper attempts to contact the applicant and that they were ignored.

On motion by Councillor Dunn and seconded by Councillor Lopes, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL on behalf of Edward Pacheco, 188 Hixville Road, Dartmouth, MA 02747 d/b/a PLACES TO GO, LLC, 1 Wamsutta Street, New Bedford, MA 02745, of the Application requesting a RENEWAL OF A PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE to carry passengers for hire over the streets of New Bedford. (Expired June 08, 2018.) This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 6, Nays 3, with Councillors Giesta, Morad and Rebeiro opposed.

Councillor Lopes made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Abreu.

This meeting adjourned @ 7:25 p.m.

ATTEST:

Denis Lawrence, Jr.,
Clerk of Committees