

CITY CLERKS OFFICE
NEW BEDFORD, MA

COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS – OCTOBER 19, 2017
MEETING @ 7 PM, IN CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER – ROOM 214
AGENDA

2017 OCT 13 P 2:54

- CITY CLERK
1. COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of JOSEPH M. TAVARES, New Bedford, MA to the HARBOR DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION, Mr. Tavares will be replacing James Boyle whose term has expired; this term will expire December 2019. (Ref'd 9/14/17)

INVITEES: Joseph M. Tavares

2. COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting the APPOINTMENT of HEATHER HEFFERNAN, New Bedford, MA to the ELECTION COMMISSION, Ms. Heffernan will be replacing Celeste Paleologos who has resigned from the Commission; this term will expire April 2021. (Ref'd 9/14/17)

INVITEES: Heather Heffernan

3. COMMUNICATION, Mayor Mitchell, to City Council, submitting a ONE-YEAR WAIVER OF RESIDENCY for SUSAN BRUCE, Plymouth, MA 02360, our selection for PURCHASING DIRECTOR for the City of New Bedford. (Ref'd 10/12/17)

INVITEES: Susan Bruce

4. WRITTEN MOTION, Council President Gomes, requesting, that the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT), meet with the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, for the purpose of discussing replacing the signage along Route 18 North and South, which has become old and has sustained reflective deterioration especially in the nighttime hours; and further, to also discuss possible signage changes that would announce attractions, placed at main intersections along with the present directions on the signage; and further, that our State Representative for that area be requested to attend said meeting along with a representative from the Mayor's Administration. (Ref'd 5/14/15) (10/28/15-tabled) (4/20/17-tabled)

INVITEES: State Representative Antonio F. D. Cabral; Mary-Joe Perry, District Highway Director, District 5, Massachusetts Department of Transportation; State Representative William M. Straus; Representative, Mayor's Office

5. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Gomes, requesting, that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meet with Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) for the purpose of discussing the immediate action to be taken on Exit 15 Downtown New Bedford, on both Exits off of 195, east and west; and further, immediate action has to be taken on both these exits due to the present conditions, this is not the first time the issue of these two exits have been addressed, they have been in deplorable condition for some time; and further, these are the exits that welcome you to the City of New Bedford, also requesting that MassDOT fix all the lights on North Front Street, between Kenyon Street and Cedar Grove Street, on Belleville Avenue, between Kenyon Street and Cedar Grove Street located on the support wall under 195 east and west, on Logan Street, between Acushnet Avenue and Purchase Street, located on the support wall under Rt. 18, north and south of JFK Memorial Highway, these areas are very dark and are the responsibility of the MassDOT. (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, with a request that a letter be sent to Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT). (Ref'd 10/13/16) (4/20/17-tabled)

INVITEES: Mary-Joe Perry, District Highway Director, District 5, Massachusetts Department of Transportation

6. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Martins, requesting, that Attorney Richard Manning, 167 William Street, who represents Empire Loan, be invited to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, to address concerns with the regulatory provisions related to pawnbrokers recently adopted by the City Council in 2013; and further, requesting, that Empire Loan be given the opportunity to address their concerns with the Council and provide additional information which, hopefully, will result in the recommendation of some changes. (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings) (Ref'd 4/14/16) (9/11/17-tabled)
- 6a. COMMUNICATION, Councillor Martins, submitting a letter dated March 15, 2016, from Attorney Richard Manning Jr., regarding regulatory provisions related to Pawnbrokers. (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings) (Ref'd 4/14/16) (9/11/17-tabled)

INVITEES: David Gerwatowski, Legal Counsel Attorney; Attorney Richard Manning

7. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Gomes, requesting, that a letter be sent to the owner of the old HESS Gas Station or Speedway franchise located at the corner of Cove Road and Crapo Street, asking for immediate action as to what their intentions are for this location; and further, that City Solicitor McDermott begin the process of making sure that this company is held accountable for the deterioration and underground gas tanks and any other contaminants at said location; and further, that the Department of Inspectional Services and the Treasurer's office inform the City Council if there are any problems at this location or any taxes due. (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings.) (Ref'd 11/10/16) (11/30/16-returned unsigned by the Mayor)

INVITEES: Mikaela McDermott, City Solicitor; Danny D. Romanowicz, Director, Inspectional Services; Representative, Marathon Petroleum Corporation / Speedway

8. COMMUNICATION, Councillors Dunn, Abreu, Winterson, Gomes, Council President Lopes, Councillors Morad, Oliveira and Martins requesting that Mayor Mitchell provide assistance to any evacuees from Puerto Rico in the wake of Hurricane Maria. (Ref'd 9/28/17)

INVITEES: Representative, Mayor's Office

Chairman Suggests 'No Further Action' and 'Report Out to the Full City Council'

9. WRITTEN MOTION, Council President Gomes, requesting, that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meet with local banks, mortgage institutions and credit unions, along with all local realtors, for the purpose of putting together a strategic plan of action to maintain and protect any deterioration in the neighborhoods across the City dealing with the over 1000 bank-owned or homes in foreclosure; and further, more importantly to protect those homes from becoming part of a growing number of properties deteriorating within our neighborhoods across the City. (Ref'd 9/24/15) (3/8/16-Remain in Committee)
10. WRITTEN MOTION, Councillor Coelho, requesting that Eversource Gas be invited to a meeting of the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, to brief the City Council regarding policy requirements on the placement of residential meters inside and outside residential buildings. (Ref'd 3/9/17)

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if any accommodations are needed, please contact the Clerk of Committees Office at 508-979-1482. Requests should be made as soon as possible but at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.