



CITY OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS

**MEETING: SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL PERMITS
& LICENSING**

DATE: JUNE 10, 2026

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS IAN ABREU, CHAIR; NAOMI
CARNEY; LEO CHOQUETTE; SCOTT PEMBERTON**

ABSENT: COUNCILLOR JOSEPH LOPES

Councillor Abreu called the Special Committee on Special Permits & Licensing meeting to order, took attendance, and explained that the meeting was being recorded and live-streamed. The Clerk read a Communication into the record from Councillor Lopes explaining his absence. The Communication was received and placed on file by Councillor Choquette and seconded by Councillor Pemberton.

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, submitting an Application for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of Maria DePina, 28 Windsor Circle, Brockton, MA and Maria L. Pires, 60 Foster Street, Brockton, MA, d/b/a **SISTER EXPRESS TRANSPORT**, 109 Robeson Street, New Bedford, MA. **(Term of License July 01, 2026 – June 30, 2027.)** (Matter ID #0453) (Referred – April 09, 2026.) (May 11, 2026 – tabled.)

On motion by Councillor Choquette and seconded by Councillor Pemberton, the Committee VOTED: to remove the matter from the table.

The Chair recognized the applicants, Maria DePina and Maria L. Pires. Ms. Pires spoke on behalf of both applicants. She explained that they were seeking a livery license to start a transportation business that would provide both medical and school transportation services.

Councillor Carney asked how many vehicles the business would operate and where the vehicles would be parked. Ms. Pires stated that they planned to use two vehicles and that off-street parking was available for both.

The Chair noted that the application before the committee was for one vehicle only. A discussion followed regarding whether the committee could amend the application to include a second vehicle.

The Chair recessed the meeting at 6:37 p.m. while the Committee Clerk contacted the City Clerk to determine whether the request could be amended. The Clerk was advised that it would be appropriate for the committee to do so.

The meeting resumed at 6:39 p.m., and the Chair informed the committee that the application could be amended to include two.

On motion by Councillor Carney and seconded by Councillor Pemberton, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of Maria DePina, 28 Windsor Circle, Brockton, MA and Maria L. Pires, 60 Foster Street, Brockton, MA, d/b/a **SISTER EXPRESS TRANSPORT**, 109 Robeson Street, New Bedford, MA.

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, submitting an Application for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of Fabio J. Teixeira DaGraca, d/b/a **GRACA'S SOLUTIONS TRANSPORTATION**, 175 Hemlock Street, New Bedford, MA. (**License to Expire - June 30, 2026.**) (Matter ID #0649) (Referred – May 12, 2026)

The Chair explained that, since the application was submitted so close to the end of the **Private Livery License** term, the livery license expiration date would need to be revised from June 30, 2026, to a term of license of July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027.

The Chair recognized the applicant, Fabio J. Teixeira DaGraca. Mr. DaGraca explained that he plans to start a transportation company that would provide medical transportation and student transportation to and from school.

Councillor Carney asked how many vehicles the business would operate and where the vehicles would be parked when not in use. Mr. DaGraca stated that he would be operating two vehicles and both would be parked at his residence, which has adequate off-street parking. When Councillor Carney further asked who would be driving the vehicles, he replied that he would be driving them himself.

On motion by Councillor Choquette and seconded by Councillor Pemberton, the Committee VOTED: To amend the license expiration date from June 30, 2026, to a term of license of **July 01, 2026 through June 30, 2027.**

On motion by Councillor Choquette and seconded by Councillor Pemberton, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the Amended APPLICATION for a **NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE**, on behalf of Fabio J. Teixeira DaGraca, d/b/a **GRACA'S SOLUTIONS TRANSPORTATION**, 175 Hemlock Street, New Bedford, MA. (**Term of the License – July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027**)

The following item was not read, and No Further Action was taken:

COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, an Application for **RENEWAL of a PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE** on behalf of Fabio J. Teixeira DaGraca, d/b/a **GRACA'S SOLUTIONS TRANSPORTATION**, 175 Hemlock Street, New Bedford, MA. **(Term of License July 01, 2026 - June 30, 2027.)** (Matter ID #0650) (Referred – May 12, 2026)

On motion by Councillor Choquette and seconded by Councillor Pemberton, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to that the City Council take **"NO FURTHER ACTION"** on the COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, submitting an Application for **RENEWAL of a PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE** on behalf of Fabio J. Teixeira DaGraca, d/b/a **GRACA'S SOLUTIONS TRANSPORTATION**, 175 Hemlock Street, New Bedford, MA. **(Term of License July 01, 2026 - June 30, 2027.)**

Councillor Pemberton made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Councillor Choquette.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

ATTEST:

Denis Lawrence, Jr.
Clerk of Committees