



# *Appointments and Briefings*

December 13, 2016 – 7:02 PM – **Minutes**  
Chambers of the City Council, Room 214

**MEETING: COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS & BRIEFINGS**

**DATE: DECEMBER 13, 2016**

**TIME: 7:02 P.M.**

**PLACE: CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, ROOM 214, MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

**PRESENT: COUNCILLORS BRIAN GOMES, VICE-CHAIRMAN; IAN ABREU; NAOMI CARNEY; JOSEPH LOPES; STEVEN MARTINS; LINDA MORAD; JAMES OLIVEIRA; KERRY WINTERSON**

**ABSENT: COUNCILLORS HENRY BOUSQUET, CHAIRMAN; DEBORA COELHO; DANA REBEIRO**

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Councillor Gomes called the Appointments & Briefings Committee Meeting to order and took attendance. Councillor Gomes asked that the Committee stand for a Moment of Silence of the passing of Councillor Coelho's mother. The Clerk read Communications from Councillors Bousquet, Coelho and Rebeiro explaining their absences. These Communications were received and placed on file by Councillor Abreu and seconded by Councillor Winterston.

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Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Public Hearing, on APPLICATION, Imad Saker, for a SPECIAL PERMIT for Motor Vehicle Sales and Rentals at 384 Dartmouth Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 (Duly advertised in The Standard-Times on Wednesday, November 30, 2016 and Wednesday, December 7, 2016) (Ref'd 11/15/16) was received and placed on file and the hearing opened by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Carney. (1)

Imad Saker, 25 Donald Street, Dartmouth, Ma, gave an overview of his business. He is buying the old Capitol Motors property on Dartmouth Street in New Bedford. He has over twenty-five years of experience in car sales, the last five was for a business in Norwood Ma. He has decided to go into business for himself. He will be doing just sales for now, no rentals at this time. There will also be no repairs done on the property. He will have at least twenty-five (25) vehicles on the lot, there will be no vehicles parked on the street.

The Chair asked if there was anyone who would like to speak in favor of the Special Permit, there were two, as follows:

Bernadette Silva, 106 Sagamore Street, told the Committee that she did not object to the business but was just concerned about the lots lighting shining into her bedroom window and the hours of operation.

Mr. Saker assured the lighting would shine away from the home and the hours of operation would be 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Beverly Souza, 388 Dartmouth Street, did not object to the business but was concerned about the twenty-five cars listed on the petition.

Commissioner Romanowicz was present to answer questions. He stated that the plan presented can accommodate the twenty-five vehicles. The only outstanding issue was the MDC trap, which the building did not have one, so the owner would not be able to do repairs on the property. Mr. Saker understood this.

The Chair asked if there was anyone who wished to be recorded in favor of the Special Permit, there was none. He then asked if there was anyone who wished to speak in opposition of the Special Permit, there was none. He asked if there was anyone who wished to be recorded in opposition of the Special Permit there was none. The hearing was closed.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Martins, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION, Imad Saker, for a SPECIAL PERMIT for Motor Vehicle Sales and Rentals at 384 Dartmouth Street, New Bedford, MA 02740. 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 **Imad Saker, 25 Donald Street, Dartmouth, MA 02748, d/b/a I DRIVE, 384 Dartmouth Street, New Bedford, MA, 02740**, hereby submits a copy of the Application requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, 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 11/22/16) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Winterson. (2)

Imad Saker, 25 Donald Street, Dartmouth, MA, was present and addressed the Committee. He explained he would run his business in conjunction with his Auto Sales business just approved by the Committee in the previous matter.

Mr. Saker told the Committee that the livery cars would not increase the number of vehicles for sale on his lot; it will stay at twenty-five. He will be doing mostly non-medical transportation to the Boston area. He is going to start out with two vans.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Winterson, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION of Imad Saker, 25 Donald Street, Dartmouth, MA 02748, d/b/a I DRIVE, 384 Dartmouth Street, New Bedford, MA, 02740, requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 159A, Section I, and amendments thereto, and MGL 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 COMMUNICATION, City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council, to City Council, on behalf of **NASAR M. BOKHARI, 347 North Street, New Bedford, MA, 02740 d/b/a MY WHEELS, LLC, 347 North Street, New Bedford, MA, 02740**, hereby submits 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 11/10/16) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Abreu.

Mr. Bokhari was present and addressed the Committee; he told them that he recently was employed by Princess Limos in New Bedford as a driver for many years. He has decided to go into business for himself. He intends to start with three (3) vehicles, which will be standard vehicles, not vans and will not have a reverse beeping mechanism in them.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Winterson, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION of **NASAR M. BOKHARI, 347 North Street, New Bedford, MA, 02740 d/b/a MY WHEELS, LLC, 347 North Street, New Bedford, MA, 02740**, 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. 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 **Joseph Vargas, 60 Highland Drive, Centerville, MA, 02632, and Dean Murphy, 50 Son Hill Road, Barnstable, MA, 02668, d/b/a AIRPORT TAXI LLP, P.O. Box 36, Centerville, MA, 02632**, hereby submits a copy of the Application requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws,

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 11/22/16) was received and placed on file by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Abreu.

Joseph Vargas and Dean Murphy were present and addressed the Committee. They have operated in the greater Cape Cod area for fifteen years. They primarily do airport runs and medical appointment runs and they are looking to expand to New Bedford. They were approached by GATRA to see if they had an interest in expanding to New Bedford and decided it would be a good step for their company. The drivers use company vehicles which stay with them. All the cars go home with their employees and they are vehicles not vans. The clients call them to secure services. All drivers are vetted and go through the CORI process. They will do the same for New Bedford employees. They hope to start with three drivers and expand to ten by the end of 2017.

On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Oliveira, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council APPROVAL of the APPLICATION of **Joseph Vargas, 60 Highland Drive, Centerville, MA, 02632, and Dean Murphy, 50 Son Hill Road, Barnstable, MA, 02668, d/b/a AIRPORT TAXI LLP, P.O. Box 36, Centerville, MA, 02632**, requesting a NEW PRIVATE LIVERY LICENSE, under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, 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. This motion passed on a voice vote.

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On motion by Councillor Morad and seconded by Councillor Oliveira, the Committee VOTED: To waive the reading of items number five (5) and six (6) and follow the Chair's recommendation and take "No Further Action" at this time. They are as follows:

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Council President Gomes, Councillors Winterson, Alves, Carney, Morad, Coelho and Oliveira, requesting that the Committee on Appointments and Briefings, meet with SGS Holding c/o Steven Sheldon, 20 Jaconnet Street, Newton, MA, for the purpose of discussing exactly what is the intention and plans for 49 Hawthorne Street, Plot 41/ Lot 6, presently zoned Residence A; further, if the intent is to locate a sober house at this location it will be met with resistance due to the history, tourism and historical significance of this area and of the City; furthermore, that all residents who attended the neighborhood meeting on October 20<sup>th</sup>, be invited to attend the Committee on Appointments and Briefings meeting; and further, that Congressman Keating or a Representative, Senator Montigny and State Representative Cabral be invited to said committee meeting for their assistance in changing the laws on a Federal and State level in order to give Cities and Towns the opportunity for a Special Permitting Process or options to locating these facilities in Cities and Towns in the Commonwealth, especially when it effects the quality-of-life, the business district, surrounding schools or the historical integrity of the area. (Ref'd 10/22/15, 11/10/15- tabled 30 days) (5)

Notice, City Clerk of reference of a Written Motion, Councillors Martins, Oliveira and Bousquet, requesting, that Hands Across the River Coalition, Inc., and South Coast Neighbors United Organization be invited to attend a Committee on Appointment and Briefings meeting to discuss their opposition to the Access Northeast LNG expansion project and to present a fifteen minute presentation. (To be Referred to the Committee on Appointments and Briefings.) (Ref'd 2/25/16, 4/12/16- table for 90 days) (6)

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

This meeting adjourned @ 7:32 p.m.

ATTEST:

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Denis Lawrence, Jr.,  
Clerk of Committees