



Special City Council Celebration Meeting – **Minutes**

CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR

Chambers of the City Council Municipal Building
Thursday, March 3, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

SPECIAL MEETING

Chambers of the City Council

Thursday, March 03, 2016

CITY COUNCIL

Municipal Building

7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Council President Morad, Councillors Abreu, Bousquet, Carney, Coelho, Lopes, Martins, Oliveira, Rebeiro and Winterson.

LATE: No One

ABSENT: Councillor Gomes

Council President Morad called the meeting to order and presided.

Prayer Led By: Reverend Kenneth Beres First Congregational Church at Lund's Corner.

Councilor Rebeiro led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

CITATIONS, Councillor Bousquet, honoring HANNAH TRUDEAU, RYAN TRUDEAU, CHELSEA SOUSA-REZENDES and EMILY LEMIEUX, in recognition of their helping the children of New Bedford by donating your time and effort to the SafeZones "Fill the Bus Christmas Toy Drive."

Adopted.

(#0341)

CITATIONS, Councillor Coelho, honoring ABIGAIL DANIELS, CANDACE GARCIA, AVA GOMEZ, JAKELIN QUIROA, ALYSSA RICARDO, ALYIAH STEVENS, AUBREY TAVARES and MADISON TAVARES, Global Learning Charter Public School, in recognition of their good work in volunteering to sew dresses to be donated to the non-profit organization "Little Dresses for Africa."

Adopted.

(#0342)

CITATION, Councillor Coelho, honoring POLLY ZAJAK, Teacher, Global Learning Charter Public School, in recognition of your organizing the volunteer program "Little Dresses for Africa" and for serving as an example to your students.

Adopted.

(#0343)

CITATION, Councillor Lopes, honoring JILL HORTON-SIMMS, New Bedford Local Cultural Council, in recognition of her Leadership Circle Award for excellence in individual contributions to community arts and culture – 2016.

TABLED – February 11, 2016.

Removed from Table and referred to the Special City Council Meeting on March 03, 2016 - February 25, 2016.

Referred to the Special City Council Meeting on April 07, 2016. (#0214)

CITATIONS, Councillors Winterson, Abreu, Oliveira and Martins, Lopes and Gomes, honoring FELIX FERNANDEZ, CHAD RIBEIRO, JARRED MEDEIROS, RONNIE AGUIAR, Street and Sewer Foremen, CHANCERY PERKS, Administrative Specialist/Arborist and JASMINE GOMES, Principal Clerk, Department of Public Infrastructure, in recognition of their many years of dedicated service to the City of New Bedford and for going beyond the responsibilities of their jobs.

Adopted. (#0344)

The following resolution was presented by Councillors Lopes, Martins and Council President Morad.

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 03, 2016

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MULTIPLE MYELOMA AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2016

WHEREAS, Multiple Myeloma, the second most common blood cancer worldwide, is a cancer of plasma cells in the bone marrow, called “multiple”, because the cancer can occur at multiple sites; and

WHEREAS, Multiple Myeloma currently affects more than one thousand people in the United States, with an estimated twenty thousand new cases diagnosed each year and ten thousand losing their battle with this disease each year; and

WHEREAS, Once a disease of the elderly, it is now being diagnosed in increasing numbers in people under sixty-five; and

WHEREAS, Because Multiple Myeloma is a rare disease there can be a delayed diagnosis, leading to delayed treatment, for this reason an increased awareness of the disease for clinicians and the general public will lead to earlier diagnosis allowing people to live longer; and

WHEREAS, Continued funding and research is critical in achieving early diagnosis and implementing the most effective and safest treatments for Myeloma patients; and

WHEREAS, Although we have seen important advances in the last decade, there is still no cure for Multiple Myeloma; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1990, the International Myeloma Foundation (IMF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to the education, research and treatment of Multiple Myeloma, committed to finding a cure, they support the treatment of its Citizens that suffer from Myeloma and encourage private efforts to enhance research funding and educational programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Bedford City Council hereby recognizes **MULTIPLE MYELOMA AWARENESS MONTH 2016**, encourages all residents to participate in voluntary activities that support funding of research programs to find a cure for Multiple Myeloma.

Adopted.

(#0345)

The following resolution was presented by Councillors Carney, Coelho, Council President Morad and Councillor Rebeiro.

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 03, 2016

RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION OF NATIONAL WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

MARCH 2016

WHEREAS, American women of every race, class and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our Nation in countless recorded and unrecorded ways and have served as early leaders in the forefront of every major progressive social change movement in the United States; and

WHEREAS, American women have played and continue to play a critical economic, cultural and social role in every sphere of the life of the Nation by constituting a significant portion of the labor force working inside and outside of the home; and

WHEREAS, Founded in 1980, the National Women’s History Project is a non-profit educational organization committed to recognizing and celebrating the diverse and significant historical accomplishments of women by providing information and educational materials and programs and led the drive to write women back into history by recognizing the achievements of women in all facets of life; and

WHEREAS, The THEME for 2016, and the Thirty-Sixth Anniversary Celebration is “Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government” pays tribute to women who have shaped America’s history and its future through their public service and government leadership, often overlooked and undervalued, collectively women have dramatically influenced our public policy and the building of viable institutions and organizations, from championing basic human rights to ensuring access and equal opportunity for all Americans, women in government have led the way in establishing a stronger and more democratic nation, each of these public leaders succeeding against great odds; and the diversity of their experiences demonstrates both the challenges and the opportunities women in public service have faced, their ability to use the art of collaboration to create inclusive solutions and non-partisan policies, as well as their skill and determination, serve to inspire future generations, underlining the fact that women from all cultural backgrounds in all levels of public service and government are essential to the continuing work of forming a more perfect union; and

WHEREAS, When women sought to question inequalities in their own lives, they turned to history to understand that if a woman’s role could be socially constructed within a specific historical context, rather than natural and universal, then women could argue that it was open to change; and

WHEREAS, American women have played a unique role throughout the history of the Nation by providing the majority of the nation’s volunteer labor force; American women were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic and cultural institutions in the United States; and

WHEREAS, American women have been leaders, not only in securing their own rights of suffrage and equal opportunity, but also in the abolitionist movement, the emancipation movement, the industrial labor movement, the civil rights movement and other movements, especially the peace movement, which created a more fair and just society for all; and

WHEREAS, Women’s history is now far more embedded in the curriculum of higher education than half a century ago, the number of professors in women’s history has increased and it remains important to promote research into women’s history, both inside academia and in the wider community; and

WHEREAS, Despite these contributions, the role of American women in history has been consistently overlooked and undervalued, in the literature, teaching and study of American History:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Bedford City Council hereby recognizes March as **NATIONAL WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH**, thanks all the women locally and nationally who have made a mark on our City, State and Country’s culture, government and society.

The following resolution will be presented by Councillor Oliveira at the Recognition Day Ceremony on March 26, 2016.

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

MARCH 03, 2016

**COMMEMORATING VIETNAM VETERAN'S DAY AND
THE FORTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR**

WHEREAS, The Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 499, will be hosting their annual "RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY" commemorating Vietnam Veteran's Day of Remembrance and the FORTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY of the End of the Vietnam War, to show support for our once neglected heroes, enabling a now grateful public, to separate the War from the Warriors, to finally give them the recognition and "homecoming" they deserve; and

WHEREAS, The Ceremony is scheduled to take place on Saturday, March 26, 2016, at 1:00 p.m., at the Kennedy Building, Fort Taber Park, and offers everyone the opportunity to visit the Fort Taber Military Museum directly following the Ceremony to view the prominently displayed photographs of our Vietnam Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice by giving their "ALL" for their Country and its Citizens; and

WHEREAS, New Bedford's original Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Monument is a plaque located outside of City Hall; however, through the efforts of Chapter 499 POW-MIA Vietnam Veterans, the City's Legislators and Administration, departments and workforce, as well as public fundraisers and support, the stunning granite "Welcome Home" Memorial was dedicated on September 17, 2006, at this beautiful site facing Clark's Cove in Fort Taber Park, where everyone may visit more freely and where it serves as a fitting tribute for all Vietnam Veterans; and

WHEREAS, Along with our own Vietnam Welcome Home Memorial, there are now many tributes to our Vietnam Veterans, namely, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., honoring the nearly 58,200 Americans who died or are still Missing in Action by having each and every name inscribed on the Wall, the half-size replica "Moving Wall," which has been crisscrossing the Country for over 30 years, built by Vietnam Veteran Volunteers who were deeply touched by the positive power of "THE WALL" and vowed to share that experience with those who could not go to Washington, D.C. to view the original, the traveling tributes known as the "Quilts of Tears," made by loved ones to honor and remember our Vietnam Veterans who still suffer, or have lost their lives, as a result of their tour of duty in Vietnam AFTER they returned home and many others – all of which when viewed provide a truly heartbreaking and moving experience, but serve to honor the men and women who served when their Nation called; and

WHEREAS, On April 30, 1975, Communist North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces captured the South Vietnamese capital of Saigon, forcing South Vietnam to surrender and brought about an end to the Vietnam War, this April 30, 2016, marks the forty-first anniversary of that historic event; and

WHEREAS, The American people have finally acknowledged the sacrifices made by our servicemen and women in Vietnam, and, on Vietnam Veterans Day, we take the time to honor all Vietnam and Vietnam-era Veterans for their courage and loyalty to God and Country during turbulent times, and to those who are or were Prisoners of War, to remember those still Missing in Action and to those soldiers who loved peace, but willingly laid down their lives to protect and preserve freedom throughout the world, as well as honoring and respecting those who still suffer the remnants of the war, be it physically or psychologically and offer them support, gratitude and respect for their pain and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, The Veterans of the Vietnam War have formed a “Band of Brothers” to show their support for our present-day Veterans, especially those serving in active combat, and to ensure that they are given the welcome home and tributes so greatly deserved by all our fighting forces; and that the New Bedford City Councillors strive to ensure that the poor treatment our Vietnam Veterans received is NEVER repeated, by honoring and showing their appreciation to returning New Bedford Servicemen and Servicewomen, citing them for their service at City Council meetings, at the City’s LIGHTS FOR PEACE events and at this now annual “RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY;” and

WHEREAS, The Veterans of the Vietnam War deserve our gratitude and respect for the time, effort and dedication they have given in the service of our Country, and on this FORTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY of the Vietnam Veterans Day of Remembrance, may we always deeply appreciate and never forget the men and women who have given so much to ensure our freedom that no words, no standing ovation, no ceremony, no ribbon, no medal could adequately honor them and their service in Vietnam, even as we seek to, by using their inspiring and popular slogan “ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL:”

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Bedford City Council proudly Salutes our **VIETNAM VETERANS** and those who have passed into eternity, Commemorates the **FORTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF THE VIETNAM WAR** and the **VIETNAM VETERANS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE**, sends its best wishes for a once again well-attended and successful “**RECOGNITION DAY CEREMONY,**” by our own **VVA, CHAPTER 499**, at the beautiful “**WELCOME HOME MEMORIAL,**” in Fort Taber Park, and sincerely hopes that all Citizens of the world will never forget that our freedom does not come free, but with the sacrifices that were made by those who fought, and continue to fight so valiantly to preserve our way of life.

Adopted, to be read at a later date.

(#0347)

On a motion, the Council then adjourned at 8:00 pm.

ATTEST:

DENNIS W. FARIAS, CITY CLERK/
CLERK OF THE CITY COUNCIL